



Far North Branch NZ Farm Forestry Assn.
May 2013 Newsletter

Your Committee

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THE PRESIDENT WRITES

At the recent Branch AGM a new committee was formed to take us through 2013 and we have decided on an interesting programme of field days and the usual mid- winter dinner. After a long stint as treasurer Catherine Mackenzie has relinquished the position and it is now in the capable hands of Tony Achtzehener. Many thanks, Catherine. The newsletter editor is now Dean Satchell, who takes over from Gaye Simms. Thank you Gaye for your valuable service.

It was a shock to learn of the passing of Ian Nicholas, scientist, consultant and passionate farm forester who had a particular interest in special purpose timber trees. Just a few months ago he was in our area gathering material for a Far North workshop due to take place next year. I understand it will still go ahead, though perhaps later than planned.

After an outcry last year from farmers and foresters at the unfairness of their proposed “fairer” rates, the Far North District Council came back recently with a slightly modified version, still based, in my opinion, on very faulty data. We once again made a submission expressing our opposition to this latest proposal. All submissions can be read on the council’s website, though some of them, ours included, are pretty hard to access. Let me know if you need help.

To finish on a positive note for foresters, here are a couple of quotes from Allan Laurie in the latest Tree Grower magazine: “Global wood fibre shortages are an emerging reality and wood fibre commodities are enjoying a sustained period of price growth as a result.” “There can be no doubt the only way forward for climate and country is to get out there and plant more trees, and quickly.”

Brian Simms

FIELD DAY IN WAITANGI FOREST WITH SPEAKERS!

This field day is on the 29th of June at 10am in the Waitangi Forest in Kerikeri. Rendezvous will be at Mt Bedisloe (Paihia end) and exit via Inlet Rd (Kerikeri end) at conclusion. MARK THIS IN YOUR CALENDER NOW!

John Beachman is a DOC rep for Waitangi Trust and will be speaking on kiwi, kauri dieback and other subjects.

Maurice Williamson will talk about the sewage system which has been in operation for some time as well as the history of the blackwood stand.

Hope you can make it! Any questions or suggestions ring Maurice on 405 9593.



FAR NORTH BRANCH AGM

Held Saturday 23 February 2013

This was held at Dean Satchell's property near Kerikeri. Dean has a plant nursery and one hectare of land where he collects trees, especially fruit trees. Attendees were subjected to a tour of the property and viewed seedling eucalypt, cypress and native plants in the nursery and saw many exotic species of fruit tree such as Japanese raisin trees, Brazilian tree grapes, custard apples and lucuma, along with heirloom varieties of traditional summerfruits. Some ripe apples were even sampled.

Minutes of Far North Farm Forestry Assn. AGM

Saturday 23 February 2013 at 12:00

Venue: Dean Satchell's nursery, 33b Skudders Beach Rd, Kerikeri

Attendance: Alan & Yvonne Robinson, Li Legler, Catherine McKenzie, Brian Simms, Dean Satchell, Richard Renwick and Wendy Sporle.

Apologies: Robin Walters, Gaye Simms

Catherine/Li

Minutes of Previous AGM read and accepted:

Catherine/Richard

Matters arising:

- ⤴ Is merging with another branch a good idea?
- ⤴ The communication is going well between branches.
- ⤴ Public Liability for field days is covered by head office.
- ⤴ Will stop auditing as it's not necessary.
- ⤴ On-line database is accessible by secretaries.
- ⤴ On-line timber marketplace is up and running.

President's report: Read and Moved by

Brian/Li

Treasurer's report: Read and Moved by Catherine

Richard/Yvonne

End of year balance 2012: **\$2038.14**

Election of Offices: Brian vacated the chair.

President: Brian Simms

Alan/Richard

Secretary: Li Legler

Catherine/Dean

Treasurer: Tony Achtzehener

Brian/Li

Councilor: Richard Renwick

Catherine/Dean

Newsletter Editor: Dean Satchell

Li/Richard

Committee Members: Dean Satchell, Tom Wigley, Tony Achtzehener, Maurice Williamson, Les Carr.

Motion: Write a letter to thank Owen Lewis for services rendered. No longer a member.

Brian/Dean

Motion: Present committee remains with the option to co-op other people at any time.

Richard/Li

Motion: Branch Levy to remain at \$10

Li/Richard

General Business:

Increased and unfair forestry block rates in latest FNDC Plan. Brian has already put a submission in last year. He has started making another submission this year and is wanting other members to participate in the drafting process.

Wendy Sporle is now the National Kiwi Mentor. Gave us a rundown of initiatives in place around the country. Far North Branch of NZFFA is lagging behind in Kiwi care during harvest. We will be working towards remedying this.

Meeting closed at: 1:30
