



Northern United Forestry Group

Monthly Meeting. Raywood Golf Clubhouse, 8pm Wednesday 23 August 2006

1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:05pm.

Present: Ian Rankin, Prue Borschmann, Rob Comer, Darren Bain, Mal Brown, Darren Kerr, Tim Johns, Don Brown, Shaun Quayle, Trevor Barker, Andrew Wall, Darren Perry, Ben Boxshall.

Apologies: James Williams, Paul Turnbull, John Toll, Lindsay Cail, Ken Wellard, Louise Wellard, Phil Dyson.

Motion: "That the apologies be accepted." Moved Darren Bain. Seconded Prue Borschmann. Carried.

2 Minutes of previous meeting held 26 July 2006

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held at the Raywood Golf Club 26 July 2006, be accepted as a true and accurate record of what took place at the meeting." Moved Mal Brown. Seconded Don Brown. Carried.

3 Business arising

- ♦ Chainsaw operators course discussion. Ian Rankin not able to contact Vincent Lakey. Has asked Tim Johns to arrange course through Inglewood Community resource Centre, other details as per previous minutes. Karl Liffman to run the course.
- ♦ Trevor Barker forwarded applications for NUFG members to attend the international Landcare conference for free. There are 4 free places available in total. Currently Ian Rankin and Mal Brown will apply. Any other interested parties to contact Ian Rankin for application forms.
- ♦ Sign for Leichardt not competed as yet.
- ♦ More good work on the website has been done by Phil Dyson, many members commented that they were pleased with the improvements.
- ♦ NLP innovation funding; Darren Bain has forwarded his biodiversity idea to Phil Dyson. No word as to other member's ideas.

4 Correspondence In

- ♦ Australian Forest Grower publication.
- ♦ Rowan Reid – Agroforestry News (e mail).
- ♦ City of Greater Bendigo – Community forum Thurs 21 September 2006.
- ♦ 20 years of Landcare, September 2/3 at St Arnaud town hall. Interested parties to let Trevor Barker know by 24/8/06.
- ♦ Smarttimbers newsletter August 2006.
- ♦ Loddon Landcare leaflet, edition 3 July 2006.
- ♦ Primary voice (DPI newsletter) – article by Paul Turnbull quoted mentioning NUFG favourably.

5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ Mal Brown completed and sent survey to Ben Kroker
- ♦ Mal Brown sent Paula Camenzuli (NCCMA) a 2006/07 funding proposal

Motion: "That the correspondence be accepted." Moved Darren Bain. Seconded Ben Boxshall. Carried.

6 Reports

- ♦ President's report – no major activity reported.
- ♦ Treasurer's report – Rob Comer reported on NUGF's income and expenditure as at 23 August 2006.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's report at 23 August 2006 and that accounts received be approved for payment." Moved Rob Comer. Seconded Andrew Wall. Carried.

- ♦ Social Secretary report – not present.
- ♦ Kamarooka report – Mal Brown gave a comprehensive report on the status of the proposed animal monitoring trial comparing 200 lambs on the revegetated saline land against 200 lambs on the normal farm regime. The trial is still waiting final approval. A sheep monitoring station has been purchased by the NUGF. The station will allow accurate weighing of sheep as well as being useful for drafting sheep. The use of the station is open to NUGF members outside of trial requirements.

Motion: "That the Kamarooka trial report be accepted." Moved Ben Boxshall. Seconded Trevor Barker. Carried.

7 General Business

- ♦ Trevor Barker announced that the 2nd generation Landcare grants are now open (until 23 October, 2006). Grants are up to \$2K for individual and up to \$10K for integrated projects. Contact Trevor for further details.
- ♦ Mal Brown re-opened discussions on NLP innovation grants started at the July meeting. Mal presented an idea that the group could go one of two ways namely widening the Kamarooka project to include the upper catchment or heading more into innovative ways of looking at water balance on multiple NUGF member properties with respects climate change. The grants close in the second week of September.
- ♦ Ian Rankin forwarded information from John Toll And Lindsay Cail that they will be holding a saw milling demonstration at John's property using Lindsay's Lucas mill, on Sunday 10 September starting at 10:30am. The demonstration is open to interested parties by contacting John Toll. Ian Rankin will send out an e mail with more details prior to the event.
- ♦ Shaun Quayle made mention of an up-coming Farm Forestry field day at Charlton. The day's activities will include milling of acacia salicina by Graham Baldock. For more info contact Shaun.
- ♦ Ian Rankin put forward a proposal for NUGF to run a field day in 2007. Ian is seeking some ideas from members with regards content. Please contact Ian with your ideas.
- ♦ Ben Boxshall gave a brief description of his proposed activities during his 2 week visit to Victoria. These include working with Rob Comer and Tim

Barden on introducing Sandalwood. The work is largely about increasing the knowledge base about host systems in the north central region for sandalwood. Acacia 2006 will be visiting Ben's property and he will also be speaking at the event.

- ♦ Shaun Quayle suggested that with the nature of information being presented at the meeting – up-coming events and so on, that the minutes would be of more use if disseminated earlier. Noted – thanks Shaun!
- ♦ Mal Brown noted that a Pottiputki 55 and kidney tray had been purchased using money remaining from the education/forestry tour fund. These items are now available to members along with other NUFG property via Lindsay Cail.
- ♦ Guest speaker – Darren Perry gave a thought provoking presentation about his personal and cultural history. Darren was present as part of his role as an Indigenous facilitator with NCCMA. He discussed the indigenous use of the local area by 3 different tribes, the extensive trade networks, land tenure, practices, sacred sites and some of the customs of the aboriginal nation, which existed long ago. Darren spoke of his people's deep need to reconnect with the land and with it's more recent inhabitants. Darren's overall message was that through stronger ties between indigenous and more recent Australians, the land and people will benefit.

8 Meeting closed at 9:50 pm

9 Next Meeting

Raywood Golf Club, 8pm Wednesday 27 September 2006.