

**Just another conference – this time it was the State Labor Party’s, at the Casino, in Launceston. Here’s one or two pix taken from the outside.**



**This man, told me a number of interesting things, including that he is against the Gunns Pulp Mill on the Tamar.**



**These are two policemen, providing security for the Prime Minister, who is opening the Conference. The woman has come to let the PM know that locals don't want the pulp mill.**



In the good old days before Rudd and Garrett, child labour was swept under the carpet. In fact, there were a lot of people standing around in these shirts. The back of the shirts said "**RIGHTS on SITE**" and on the front:

**"CONSTRUCTION WORKERS DESERVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS ALL WORKERS."**

As a matter of fact, I took them to be all construction workers, and paid up members of the CFMEU. I was holding a very small **stop the pulp mill** sign which was about the size of a pip-squeak and I was standing waiting for Godot in the shape of Mr Rudd. I was outside the Casino doors and milling around were numbers of these T-shirted people. I was keeping a safe distance. One of them came out the revolving door and walked straight to me.

"Gooday Mate" said I.

'Good on you,' said he and 'Looks like it's dead, doesn't it?' But I didn't agree.

'Nah mate, they're never gonna give up. They're never gonna give up and neither are we'.

'Stinking thing' he said. I kid you not, I was talking to another anti-pulp-mill person.

'So are you from the CFMEU? He shook his head. 'So where'd you get the T-shirt?'

'Aw, they're given them away in there' he said, looking back through the revolving doors and the milling crowds of Labor Conference Delegates.



Inside, Godot was about to be given a sixty second standing ovation, while outside they were running a check on that unauthorized black vehicle you can see. It could have held a bomb or anything. Actually it turned out to belong to one of the delegates, who couldn't be bothered parking in the car park.  
[Spot the T-shirt!]



**This man is paid by Timber Communities Australia, one of whose sponsors had to suspend trading on the ASX, didn't it? He gave evidence to the same Senate Committee as did Bill Manning. There was a major difference: Manning knew what he was talking about. This man told the Committee that streamside reserves in Tasmania were 40 metres wide. The Class 4 streams under scrutiny allowed logging to within 2 metres. His job is to lobby and as you can see, he is wearing a Conference Badge. He is a man being paid to do a job. Money talks.  
[Spot the T-shirts]**



**I remember when I looked to unionism to provide the answers. I never got my pix of Godot, apparently he snuck into the Casino the night before. Other conference delegates came out and spoke to me, expressing opposition to the pulp mill, one telling me that a meeting had occurred with the PM the night before, in which a strong anti-pulp mill view was expressed to the PM. We live on half-remembered dreams and fruitless hopes. At the same time as this Conference, Peter Garrett was preparing to issue the press release which would give Gunns an extension on supplying a pulp mill EIMP into next year, 2009.**

**Paul Lennon was granted Life Membership of the Labor Party that Saturday, and in the evening, the Conference Dinner was in honour of this former Premier. Monday morning Garrett made his announcement and Gunns Director, Paul Teisseire, bought another 60,000 shares in the company. As Chairman of Auspine, Mr Teisseire said that the takeover by Gunns was 'Good for business'. It didn't turn out so good for the Auspine workers.**