

Wilderness Society Pulp Mill Information Night Tue 28 April 2009 - Launceston Tailrace Centre.



It was a meeting at short notice. 6:00pm. Not yet winter. But cold and just about dark. No time for tea. Get home, chill out, hit the West Tamar Hwy. Look out for the cameras. Stay at 70kph. News comes on. Someone drives past in a hurry. You know where they're going. You can tell by the stickers. You're going to the same place - The Tailrace.

When: 6pm-7:30pm Tuesday 28 April. Where: Tamar Room, Tailrace Centre, West Tamar Highway, Riverside. Meet at the Tailrace cafe at 5:30pm for an informal cup of coffee prior to the meeting.

We are holding an information night for our members and supporters so you can find out more about Gunns' attempts to secure finance and about the company's plans for a 50% joint venture partner.

Discover how Tasmanian Government agreements for the pulp mill mean that Gunns and any potential foreign investment partner will effectively own our forests and water resources for the next twenty years. And find out how this could jeopardise Tasmania's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and minimise the regional impacts of climate change.

Speakers include:

- Vica Bayley, Tasmanian campaign director
- Paul Oosting, pulp mill campaigner
- Gemma Tillack, climate change and forests campaigner

Come along and find out how you can help to protect our forests and our water, and what you can do to help secure a safe and prosperous Tasmania for your children and future generations.

I hope to see you there.

Vica Bayley
Tasmanian Campaign Director



Tom, a TAFE Polytechnic Student



Sven, anti-pulpmiller and petitioner, & **Tom**



Ruth Groom, mother, musician and Wilderness Society Spokeswoman. She is co-ordinating the meeting. Concerning the pulp mill equipment just arrived at the Port of Bell Bay, Ruth had just days before said this:

QUOTE OF THE WEEK ["That stuff is going to be sitting on the wharf rusting for the next decade if we have anything to do with it."](#) (Examiner's Martin Stevenson, 26 Apr 09).

As I'm writing this, I'm also thinking of her happy "Bob Brown Campfire Song"

"Bob Brown, you can... 'crash-out' in our van..."

Ruth introduced **John Day**, who chairs TAP meetings. [TAP = Tasmanians Against the *dirty, stinking, rotten* Pulpmill]. John gave an impassioned talk, spelling out that TAP is a community group not a political group. John, not usually outspoken, told us that ["this bloody pulp mill \[is\] causing huge risk to our community \[and\] to our Tamar Valley."](#) ... ["How can a govt bring in laws without consultation' ... "the bloody pulpmill ...we'll never stop being against it, never ever. It will never be built"](#)



John Day told us of the potential loss of 1000s of jobs, to go from tourism worth \$300m in the Tamar Valley, from Fisheries, worth \$400m pa, (noted that not all jobs were at risk). He questioned the Govt's narrow view: ["How can they just reduce the scope of the project down to just the building and the pipeline?"](#) John reminded us how Linda

Hornsey had intervened to stop the RPDC notifying Gunns of it critical non-compliance [this gave Gunns the opportunity to pull out of the process, blaming its own delays on the RPDC. He reminded us how the proponent’s lawyers had entered the govt offices and themselves drafted the PMAA 2007. How this Act of Parliament, forced through contained Sections which precluded Local Govt interference, (s. 5,6,9), stops legal redress (s. 11) and how debate on s 4 was guillotined. ‘How could a govt do that?’ he asked. ‘Likewise the planning laws’ He was just about out of time and asked for a “Couple minutes more?” Ruthie relented. Thank goodness. John went on to tell us how he felt about the media. How in Tas, it did not perform its functions. How it used easy camera shots, didn’t do the research.

The media? “I passionately hate it for not reporting honestly without fear or favour.”



Paul Oosting, Pulp Mill Campaigner “Where on earth would we be without Tasmanians Against the Pulpmill?” In round figures Paul said the project would cost \$2b. Paul said of any Joint Venture Company, that “if they buy into Gunns PM project, they’ll be buying into decades of conflict.” He mentioned as the possible venture partner, Chinese Company **Shandong Chenming Paper Holdings**.

山东晨鸣纸业集团股份有限公司



Gunns 山东晨鸣纸业集团股份有限公司 Bell Bay Pulpmill v Who does your Superannuation fund invest in ...? **The Campaign against the mill?** - Paul: “We want to avoid a situation where this drags on for years” He told us that some of the mill approvals can last for up to 50 years, though in response to a question, John Day made the point that some State permits would run out ‘this coming September.’ Paul told us that although “15 major world banks will have nothing to do with the project”, there was no prospect of convincing this present [Gunns] board to abandon the project.

We had a Question-Answer-Comment segment: Someone noted how he’d heard Barry Chipman (Timber Communities Australia) on the radio and that he’d sounded as if he was making sense – the same too with

Carlton Frame, Gunns Media man. The answer was that a “Basic simple message that ordinary people can understand” is needed (said one speaker) ... [the mill]: ‘it will stink ... the madness of the trucks on the road ...’



Vica Bailey: Campaign Coordinator, The Wilderness Society Tasmania Inc. Vica introduced to the meeting:

Ruth Groom: TWS Launceston Coordinator

Paul Oosting: TWS (Anti) Pulpmill Campaigner

Jemma Tillack: TWS Climate Change and Forests Campaigner “Global Warrior”

Shane McGrath: TWS.

Vica told us that the focus for the meeting that night would be on resource based issues, and introduced the topics of foreign ownership, water supplies, definition of old growth forest.

“The definition for old growth forest is so very, very narrow”



Just imagine that you are deep in the Tasmanian bush, that the three of you¹ have just located the actual largest specimen of flowering plant on earth. It is a *Eucalyptus regnans*. Just imagine that this one hundred and one metre tree (that’s 331feet in the old terms) is in bush that has never been logged ...and yet is not classified as in old growth forest!!! ..not ..defined .. as. in. old..growth ..forest... **CTRL & click on the green line for web link to some big trees:** [_____]

Vica told us that to service the mill “we’ll see a doubling of woodchip in Tas”. He told us that according to Chris Beadle², [CSIRO Forestry and Forest Products] the plantation trees are growing slower than expected. **Vica** warned us that if the plantations don’t perform, Gunns will go for our native forests. He said that there was price motivation for Gunns to maintain the high native forest component. [He was referring to the Wood Supply Agreements between Forestry Tas (FT) and Gunns which give away our native forests for a possible rock-bottom price of \$12.50c a tonne.] We were told that FT’s graphs show that only 500,000 t. per annum would come from plantations, leaving a million tonnes pa to come from native forests. “Therefore”, he said, “Carlton Frame has been pretty loose with the truth” - to which Frame had replied, apparently, that the figures were ... ‘only a target’.

¹ Not Lesley Nicklason, Friend of the Blue Tier, checking out a ‘Centurion,’ by any chance?

² Dr Beadle is a professional forest scientist based in Hobart with 35 years’ experience. Between 1997 and 2005 he was Manager of the Sustainable Management Programme in the Cooperative Research Centre for Sustainable Production Forestry (which ceased operations in 2005). [For background reading around the topic, start with Beadle: **The pulp mill: the forgotten issue is wood supply, click here:** _____]

Vica's Recap:

*Bell Bay not the right place for a mill,

NW timber will be continue to be exported [regardless of the mills demands]

(Frank Strie said about the NW forests “those plantations belong to the Japanese already”)

*Water is important - how can that price be justified [do I remember it correctly as \$30 a megalitre?³]

*Spraying in water catchments

*Effluent into Bass Strait

*Tasmanians being locked into long-term deals, without us being able to shape our own future'

*“foreign ownership is a tricky issue.” Opposing foreign (Chinese) ownership was not about xenophobia, but an expression of the fact that “the forests belong to us.”

Gunns' proposed pulp mill...

Pulp mill wood supply:
3.2 to 4 million tonnes of woodchips each year for pulping
Plus...
500,000 tonnes of green forest products to burn in the wood fired power generator

Doubts over Gunns ability to meet wood supply projections

- any suggestion that the supply of wood from existing, maturing plantations in Tasmania can be increased to meet 100 per cent of the pulp mill's intake by 2017 is not correct.

- Dr Chris Beadle, CSIRO forest scientist

Fairley made some points dealing with accessing copies of the various information coming out of the meeting, using more meaningful examples in presenting info to the public, the worry that an overseas partner might get control of Gunns, and therefore out land: “No way should we ever sell our land to foreign countries” [claps]

A gentleman towards the front made the point that we should seek to turn all meetings into opportunities to present a ‘no pulp mill message’ - “Good point” said Frank Strie in the back seat, taking notes. The suggestion was roundly clapped.

Others wanted an increase in the Gorge environmental flow and made the point that 290,000 ha of land in Tas [by virtue of various legislation?] is excluded from the Threatened Species Act.

The water supply agreement between Hydro Tasmania and Gunns Limited is still under negotiation and has not yet been concluded. As requested in our telephone conversation, the current draft includes the following provisions:-

- 24,000 megalitres supplied per annum with the allowance for this to be increased to 40,000 megalitres per annum.
- The price per megalitre is proposed to vary in accordance with escalation provisions over the term of any supply contract. The minimum cost of water will be \$24.00 per megalitre.

Yours faithfully

Alan Evans

Alan Evans
Corporation Secretary
Hydro Tasmania

EXCERPT: “THE MINIMUM COST OF WATER WILL BE \$24.00 PER MEGALITRE”

³ Is it the case that we in Launceston pay 56c per 1000L of water? That seems to indicate that we would pay \$560 for a megalitre of water while Gunns would pay \$30 or even \$24 as suggested in Alan Evans' letter...



Do trees have body language?

Said Jemma, our Global Warrior: **We've had our ten hottest years on record. Stand up, "deep breath in, deep breath out – you're a forest" 'if we are going to bring our GHG down, we must protect our forests.'**

Forests have Carbon storage potential ... 'central highlands have some of most carbon dense forests on earth ... 15 people to go round the big tree ... How much carbon stored in our forests? – regnans can hold up to 2000 t of carbon ... and yet our forests are being logged ... Hans Drielsma hasn't measured the amount of carbon released in forest burns? ... Todd Dudley got a big clap for his work on restoring native forest in the NE

Wilderness Society Campaign of protecting our forests' carbon stores. "We can have both: we can employ the workers and protect out forests" Jemma told us being overseas, how some people don't know the difference between forest and plantation, she mentioned new climate treaty discussions and something about trying for a new definition for native forest, plantations. What was this about?



Jemma:

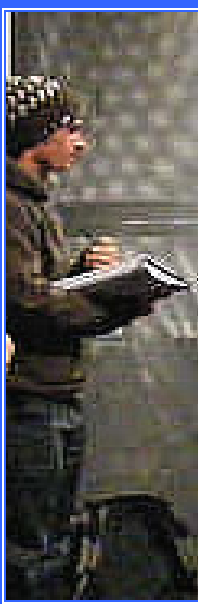
"If the current definition of 'forests' is used in REDD, it could lead to the massive direct and indirect replacement of carbon rich forests by monoculture tree plantations, and the violation of Indigenous Peoples rights. Some developed countries have been using a loophole in the definition to convert biodiverse, carbon dense forests to biologically barren monoculture tree plantations without incurring any emission penalty, despite the disastrous impact this practice has on biodiversity, local communities and CO2 emissions".

The groups are proposing the definitions are changed so:

- Forests are defined as 'a terrestrial ecosystem generated and maintained primarily through natural and ecological and evolutionary processes that are home to most of the world's biodiversity'.
- Plantations are defined as a crop of trees planted and regularly harvested by humans that do not provide habitat for biodiversity. [I think Jemma said this got accepted]

Check it out: http://www.wrm.org.uy/actors/CCC/cop14/Goups_REDD.html

As it turns out, Jemma on 11Dec was standing in this street, holding the camera, in a large city called Poznan, Poland. Poznań was the host city for the [United Nations Climate Change Conference](#), that took place in December 2008. The conference was a key event in the creation of a [successor to the Kyoto Protocol](#).



Shane:
...taking notes ... analysing ...



Jemma:
... getting the message out...

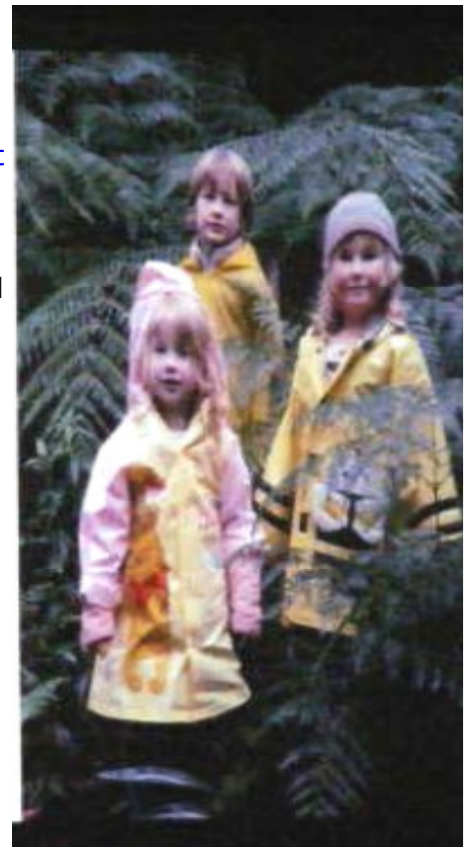


Ruth:
... facilitating meeting



What you can do...

- *Sign a postcard to Prime Minister Rudd and ask your friends to do the same. (*Postcard: Picture, l. & r.*)
- *Tell your local MP about the urgent need to protect Tasmania's forests and manage them as permanent living carbon banks.
- *Campaign to stop the pulp mill and demand that Gunns' wood supply deal excludes native forests.
- *Join us for community carbon counting open day in Tasmania's carbon dense forests.
- *Make sure your printer paper – at work, school and at home – is not sourced from our native forests
- *Write letters about the need to protect forests to ensure a safe climate to the newspapers and call talkback radio
- *[*This space is for lease - GFS*]
- *Become a member of the Wilderness Society



http://www.wilderness.org.au/regions/tasmania?utm_source=topmenu&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=tas

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Another acrimonious assembly of the anti-everything brigade - all under-employed, over-educated and pathetic losers, misinformed jerks & tossers!!!



Mimi has a lovely heart and plays violin at Liffey

Lest we forget what it's all about: here is a video ... [Blockade car set on fire by police](#)

Suzi Gavio "After lunch, they began to cut the bottom of the car in half and then used an angle grinder to continue cutting off the rest of it, having covered me in a blanket. When they were cutting just behind my head, they cut the fuel line underneath the car and the sparks from the angle grinder must have started a fire behind me. They tried to extinguish the fire but it got bigger just behind me, and I saw a large flame that came over me and under my arm, at which point I unlocked myself quickly and ran out of the car. The fire was in between the two cars and continued until it was put out with a bucket of water and an extinguisher..."

1950: The Labor Govt ripped 3680 FLORENTINE acres from our first National Park

Mt Field National Park – excerpt from Parks and Wildlife @ <http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=2740>

"The most significant change was as a result of the National Park and Florentine Valley Act 1950 which altered the boundaries of Mt Field National Park, "for the purpose of increasing a concession granted by the Florentine Valley Paper Industry Act 1935, to validate the reservation of that Park, to amend that Act for other purposes and to provide for matters consequential thereto.

In spite of active opposition by the National Parks Board to the excision of 1490 ha of the tallest swamp gums (*Eucalyptus regnans*) in the park for woodpulp and sawlogs, in exchange for 1640 ha of mixed forest, the bill went through Parliament.

Following a fire in 1966, the then Scenery Preservation Board agreed to a proposal by Australian Newsprint Mills (ANM) to salvage fire-killed timber from four areas within the Western and Southern boundaries of the park. Roding, logging and regeneration by ANM of the four areas occurred between 1968 and 1974."

Conclusion:

The Government gave away its moral right to control of the Florentine Valley when it took out of the Mt Field National Park 3680 Florentine acres of the State's tallest *Eucalyptus regnans* for 'woodpulp and sawlogs' in 1950. Who did it? ... The **Australian Labor Party (ALP)**

[<http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/history/tasparl/cosgrover355.htm>]



Surname: **COSGROVE**

Given Names: **Robert**

Title and Honours: **Sir (KCMG, 1959)**

Qualifications:

Date and Place of Birth: **28 December 1884 - Tea Tree, Tasmania**

Date of Death: **25 August 1969 - Hobart, Tasmania**

House of Assembly: (1) 31 May 1919 (2) 3 June 1925 (3) 9 June 1934

Electorate: **Denison**

Party: **ALP**

Positions Held: **Premier 18 December 1939 - 18 December 1947; 25 February 1948 - 26 August 1958. Numerous portfolios.**

Date of Departure: (1) 10 June 1922 (2) 9 May 1931 (3) 25 August

1958 Reason for Departure: (1) Defeated. (2) Defeated. (3) Resigned - ill health. *Comments:* **Longest-serving Premier (18 years)**

House of Assembly Long Room Picture: **355**

