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**MERRY MAY 2017 AND WELCOME RAINS.**



**ADVICE OF ATTENDANCE**

Please advise either to Lew Parsons at 8725 2711 or to Maurie Drewer as per the advices in the Purrer, usually by the prior Friday.

**Gurdon Tails, the Gurdon awaits your confidential advices.**

- \* **Club Subscriptions.** If paying direct by credit please advise [dajadid@westnet.com.au](mailto:dajadid@westnet.com.au) by e-mail quoting invoice number. Subscription notices are out. Please pay them asap.
- \* <http://www.hoo-hoo.org/> and <http://www.hoo-hoo.org/log-tally.html> are contacts for the HHI Website and Log and Tally. Purrer copy to [brsjpage@bigpond.com](mailto:brsjpage@bigpond.com).
- \* Hopefully everyone is receiving the **Purrer by e-mail**. This is our only circulation. The Purrer circulation list has been checked against the J IV Directory and some added. **All have the 2015-2016 JIV Directory.** Hang onto this as future editions are not planned.
- \* **Purrer Editorial Policy!** This is retained being “never let the truth get in the way of a good story”. The Purrer Editor welcomes good stories at all times! Similarly Gurdon Greg Richardson welcomes good stories as well. Discretion as to the source is perhaps assured.
- \* **HHI Website.** Go to [www.hoo-hoo.org](http://www.hoo-hoo.org) and the HHI Home Page then Claim Account.
- \* **Good rains fall on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.** April was very dry and warm and the region badly needed good rains. April 9<sup>th</sup> was officially the hottest day ever in April over all of Australia averaging about 34 C. April 2018 was the driest April for over 10 years. Reports from the Adelaide Hills and upper Limestone Coast, and over the border are of very dry conditions and agricultural land badly needing rain. There was a fire from burning off on Eyre Peninsula which got away on April 2. One assumes that fire bans and risk of fires will end from now on. One notes the recent Sydney region fires.
- \* **CLT Plant opens.** This Wodonga XLam plant is making first deliveries to building sites all over Australia on small projects. The design team is at various stages of designs. They will slowly work towards bigger projects. Production capacity will slowly increase over the next 18 months as additional shifts are added. They will be at production of 20,000 m3 by August. The plant is part of the Mayflower Group which has a number of softwood operations near Wodonga and production of other engineered radiata products. Economics is based on Radiata. Testing includes structural, fire resistance, termite and fungal treatment. Radiata is easily treated to provide a product to meet design lives of buildings. Employment will soon be about 30 persons. Moving to over 40 persons.

The official organ of the

**. The Mt Gambier Timber Industries Club #214 .**

**. Affiliated with the International Order of Hoo-Hoo .**

**PO Box 1311**

**Mt Gambier SA 5290.**

ABN 76 779 136 256

<http://www.hoo-hoo.org/> HHI Website  
<http://www.hoo-hoo.org/log-tally.html> for Log and Tally.  
[www.hoo-hoo-jiv.org.au](http://www.hoo-hoo-jiv.org.au) JIV Website.  
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Meeting responses to [lewparsons@bigpond.com](mailto:lewparsons@bigpond.com) or Maurie at [mkdrewerdubai@gmail.com](mailto:mkdrewerdubai@gmail.com) or phone Maurie 0408 394 296.

**There will not be a meeting in May due to a late April Meeting. Next Meeting will be in June. Club Executive will be meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> to work on the Meeting program going forward.**

**Please note April 2019 for JIV Convention in New Zealand and 2020 in Malaysia.**

### MOTHBALLED DARTMOOR SAWMILL PURCHASED.

Good news in the Border Watch Thursday May 3 was about the purchase of the old Softwoods Sawmill site at Dartmoor by Alliance Timber. This was closed by Carter Holt Harvey nearly 10 years ago. The sale is expected to be finalized on May 31. The mill opened in 1954 and employed about 120 persons when closed. Alliance Timber which was formed in 2017 is a vertically based company from plantation forestry, timber processing and in pine products and specializing in timber preservation. Initial employment will be eight to ten persons and increasing over the next 12 to 18 months. The site it seems will be initially used to store and process timber before transport to Terang for timber treatment. Alliance is 100% Australian owned. Alliance Timber General Manager is Anthony Westwick, a club member. One might assume that there is some connection to the McVilly Timbers companies and an past cub member, Barry McVilly.

### HVP PLANTATIONS OFFICE IN PENOLA ROAD RELOCATING.

The Purrer Editor has noted this office being up for sale and recently talked with Adrian Lynch about what was happening. The building was a past residential home for the Martin family. HVP is relocating to Pick Avenue and a purpose-built premises for several reasons. They have outgrown the premises. Access is poor eg many steps. Parking was insufficient. The new premises will be a great improvement. Perhaps having someone from HVP to talk to the Club is a speaker and meeting suggestion.

### SNARK ROBYN BECKET YOUNG 99780 VISIT, TUESDAY APRIL 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Our Club was privileged to have the Snark at our April 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting at the Southgate Motel along with Heather Gattone from Sydney, Brian Stewart JIV President and Marilyn Stewart from Adelaide Club and Murray and Margaret Alpen from Ballarat Club, a total of 23 in attendance. This was in the Dining Room due to another engagement. Everyone received a very large meal from the Southgate.

Brian Stewart updated on the recent Bunbury JIV Convention which was excellent being held in a real timber town. It was great hospitality, good tours and great hospitality and fraternalism. The industry tours were first class. One was a plant providing firewood to the Perth Market. Forests, a Chip plant and laminating plant were toured. Delegates were updated on a Tree Walk project high in the foliage of a forest. Studies of undergrowth control as a fire protection measure were presented and very informative to non foresters.

Robyn then gave an enervating talk about HHI and where our organization is. There have been membership challenges for about 40 years and that big companies do not seem to value membership with HHI. Her family ran a retail timber business for over 90 years and three generations. Some successes include getting Atlanta Club 1 up and going again.

Lew Parsons and Maurie Drewer presented Robyn with a bag of presentations including the old logging films, industry information and light material. Maurie and Lew updated about our Club and scholarships etc, projects and the importance of the local industry eg sequestering 30 million tonnes of carbon a year. A Gurdon session was successful!

On the 25<sup>th</sup>, Anzac Day, Brian Page and Maurie Drewer lead visitors on a local tour of our major projects, the Lakes including views of the Blue Lake and also the Valley Lake which really impressed Robyn. They had earlier experienced an Anzac Day Dawn Ceremony. Our visitors left Mount Gambier before 11 am on a long trip to NE Victoria Club.



Snark Robyn at the Dinner.



Snark Robyn, Heather Gattone and Robyn's daughter at the Railway Lands.



The Hoo-Hoo Lookout



An original plaque.



At the Hoo-Hoo Pavilion at Umpherston Cave.



Inspecting the Crane Truck.

The Cabinets of JIV Trophies were a highlight and also historic photos of a similar Crane Truck in a Hoo-Hoo Timber Parade of the 60's. A tour of the Umpherston Cave sinkhole completed the tour and our visitors took many photos and became aware of what a strong Club 214 has been and the significant projects completed, some HHI Award winning ones.

We can be very proud of our Club's collective record of service in Mount Gambier and around and in so many varied ways.