

## From the President

### In these uncertain times

I accepted the Institute's Presidency knowing that my term would be one of great change in the sector. I have seen my role primarily as holding the Institute together during this period. With so much change it was obvious that members would be far more concerned with their own future than the future of the Institute. As the future becomes less unsettled we can redefine a future strategy for the Institute.

I received some criticism for not taking a more direct stand on some issues, especially privatisation. Privatisation is one issue on which I invited members' comments. As one might expect, these comments ranged from those who were strongly opposed to those who are strongly in favour. A consensus view was simply not possible. There was no stand that the Institute could take which reflected some generally agreed opinion. Even if there had been universal membership agreement, action may still not have been warranted. If the whole tide of political and public opinion is against your view, taking a strong stand could make the situation worse rather than better. There may be more effective ways of achieving change. This Government had made its mind up to sell New Zealand's plantation forests. That would have happened no matter what stand we took. The Institute's role now is to see that the privatised forests will be professionally managed for the benefit of New Zealanders.

The New Zealand public is largely unaware of the part forestry plays in their well-being. The Institute must take a more proactive role in raising public awareness of the importance of forestry in providing jobs, earning overseas exchange, protecting the soil and water and conserving the indigenous forests of both New Zealand and overseas, especially the tropical forest.

**Wink Sutton**  
President

### CURT GLEASON AWARD FUND DONATION

The Institute gratefully acknowledges the donation of \$1335.52 from the funds of the former NZFS Forest Officers Group, Nelson. At their request this money has been placed in the Curt Gleason Award Fund.

## NZ Forest Service carving

This new award is to recognise outstanding work in practical forest management in the integrated management of the land, the forests and the people who work and recreate in it.

The award commemorates the contribution to forestry by the staff of the NZ Forest Service. The funds come from members of the two major occupational groups within the department.

The award consists of a large carved wall panel which will be held for nine months and a print of the panel which will be retained by the recipient.

It is open to any person in the broad field of forestry in New Zealand and nominations will be invited in February from either individuals or local sections.

The carving (see Page 26) is the work of Lyonel Grant. He describes the carving as follows:

"The principal elements portrayed in this carving are, Papa Tuanuku (The

Earth Mother), the children of Tane Mahuta (the forests both native and exotic), as well as an effort to capture their respective uses, using traditional design techniques in a contemporary form.

"The large domineering form which occupies the lower area of the work, represents the unchanging land which although used differently through the passage of time, remains relatively unchanged. This form, as it stretches skyward, also provides a division between past and present eras.

"The mighty native forests of old appear to the left of this division, in stark contrast to the more uniform exotic forests which occupy the area to the right.

"Adorning the area behind the native forests appears a Kowhaiwhai pattern which depicts past times. Interlaced among the bush, Taratara a kae patterns



President Dr Wink Sutton receiving the carving from the artist at the general meeting in Rotorua.