

Robert Kenneth Gover

Bob was a quiet and deceptively unassuming forester who had a passion for sustainable indigenous forestry and made his mark internationally.

Born in 1947, Bob achieved his academic training at Victoria University in Wellington and Australian National University in Canberra. The first Forest Service posting for Bob and his wife Sandra was to Harihari. Bob took well the advice to spend most of his first three months wandering through the podocarp forests seeking to understand their dynamics. His five years as District Forester for South Westland was followed by five years District Forester for Western Southland based at Tuatapere.

After short stints in Samoa on a bilateral aid contract and UK managing a forest estate he returned to Southland for another six years, this time as Resource Forester, until the Forest Service expired in 1987. Under another bilateral aid contract Bob spent three years in Papua New Guinea as a Forest Planning and Management Advisor. A return to Southland for three years to set up Western Beech Limited saw him not only dealing with managing and harvesting New Zealand indigenous forests and marketing their timbers but also in the Philippines on a reforestation project.

1992 to 1996 saw Bob return to Papua New Guinea firstly employed by its Government as Director of Forest Management to implement national forest and conservation projects funded by the World Bank and latterly by CSIRO as a specialist in forest planning and manage-

ment.

He returned to New Zealand for a year to manage Western Beech Limited and undertake indigenous sustainable forest management plans and Maori land timber concession joint venture plans.

From 1997 to late 2000 Bob was employed by Fortech in Canberra, the Asian Development Bank and his own consultancy as project manager and forestry specialist in Cambodia. Working in the forests under the surveillance of armed guards Bob developed a Code of Practice manual which is every Cambodian forester's most valuable possession.

The Code of Practice was the outcome of a life's commitment to sustainable indigenous forestry. Bob's last contribution to forestry was a submission to the Primary Production Select Committee identifying the need for a Code of Practice in this country.

Bob was invalided home late 2000 with a brain tumour. His delight the following year was to answer the many condolence letters that Sandra had received. He set himself three goals in recovery, the third of walking to Gabriels Hut in the Hurunui he achieved. Bob succumbed to the return of the tumour on 6 November. As expressed by Jim Carle, we have lost a dedicated fellow forester. Members of the Institute express their condolences to Sandra, Kirstie and Iain and family.

Peter Allan

Rt Hon Duncan MacIntyre, CMG, DSO, OBE Honorary Member

Rt Hon Duncan MacIntyre was recognised as a farmer, forester, politician and hero. Born in Hastings in 1915, he served New Zealand in 2NZEF 1939-46, CO 4th Armoured Brigade 1957-60, MP 1960-72 and 75-84, was Minister of a number of portfolios and Deputy Prime Minister 1981-84. He was Minister of Forests 1966-72 and took a keen interest in forestry.

He was recognised for both his military and public service: CMG 1992 for public services, DSO 1945, OBE (mil) 1956, 1939-45 Star, Africa Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal, 1939-45 War Medal, NZ War Service Medal, Mentioned in Despatches for bravery and leadership, Coronation Medal 1953, Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal 1977, NZ 1990 Medal, ED 1955 and 2 Bars 1955 and 1958, PC 1980.

He was awarded the DSO after leading an attack in World War 2 that allowed wounded men to be evacuated at the River Gaiana in northern Italy, and single-handedly manning a tank to hold off enemy forces until back-up arrived.

Duncan entered politics with Rob Muldoon, Peter Gordon and David Thomson, the four being known as the Young Turks. Whilst known for their fieriness in their early years in Parliament Duncan and David became known as moderates by the time they took on Ministerial posts in the Keith Holyoake administration.

When in 1969 Duncan needed a new Private Secretary from the Forest Service, to the surprise of the Direc-

tor-General, he requested a professional forester. His reason was two-fold. Firstly he wanted vetting of ministerials sent to him when the Directors were out of town - comments were provided on a pink slip that could readily be disposed of in order to protect the career prospects of his Secretary. Secondly he wanted some one who could readily identify people in forestry.

A couple of notable buildings opened by Duncan as Minister of Forests were the School of Forestry at Ilam and the New Zealand Forest Service Conservancy Office in Hokitika. A highlight for him, having the Maori Affairs portfolio as well, was visiting a number of marae to sign forestry leases on Maori land in the North Island. He was a kaumatua of the Porangahau Marae.

Duncan was averse to attacking other politicians during political debates. His proudest opportunities were telling Parliament the success rates in Maori trade training. He was always straight in what he said and used a minimum of words to say it. He was a remarkable man and a pleasure to work for.

Duncan died Porangahau on 8 June 2001. Members of the Institute express their condolences to wife Jacqui and children Kirsty, Audrey, Beverley and Hamish and their families.

Peter Allan