

out of owning forests. As some of the authors have suggested, the problem lies in too high hurdle rates and reliance on forest appraisal valuations that are unreliable. Since 1925, investment in forest establishment has been an "act of faith" aided by some predictions of future shortages. Even the world wood shortage seems to have gone away if only temporarily. Thank goodness we have a large continuing log and chip export business while additional large forest industries are not being built here and with the RMA are not likely to be. However, we did not expect log

exports to continue for long beyond 1990.

I don't have any solutions except to say that these things often go in cycles and history repeats itself. Perhaps one solution is to change accounting methods. I remember 20 years ago being told by one of the major U.S. forest industry companies that they produced three sets of annual accounts, one for the board of directors, one for the tax man and one for the company management. It all depends on your objective.

Tony Grayburn

The John Johns Calendar

Sir,

Sorting out the paper work after the event is always the hard part, but a year or two too late, it's done and the summary is:

We printed 1,500 calendars. We sold 1,346 of them. Of the rest, we gave away a few to helpers, replaced the odd order which went astray, and gave some to Mrs Johns. There are about 50 left, and anyone who wants one, just send me a stamp and I'll send you one (postage within New Zealand is \$2.95 each).

After we had paid all expenses and returned the \$2,000 NZIF float, we gave the balance of \$2,398.84 to Mrs Johns, to help her with the sorting out of that large

part of John's work which is now in her hands.

My thanks to the Committee – Clive Anstey, Jolyon Manning and Dr Lindsay Poole – and also to those who helped with names and addresses of former forestry people who might be interested. There are more databases out there than you might imagine.

Thank you too to everyone who bought one.

John Purey-Cust

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The (e)mail's not getting through - help sought from members

Sir,

We have discovered that some NZIF members are not receiving email messages sent to them by the Secretariat. The problem first surfaced when the Southern North Island section began more comprehensive use of emails to keep members in touch with what was happening in the region. Careful checks to identify those with the problem have shown that it is more widespread than just the Southern North Island section. It is also an issue that is not confined to NZIF members and should be of concern to the companies and organisations that employ these members.

We are still investigating the cause of the problem, but it appears that it usually happens in the following situations:

- When mail to the NZIF member is addressed in the "blind copy" or "BCC" field of the email; and
- the member receives the mail through an in-house computer network that has a server computer that collects all the mail for the organisation and then distributes it to the individual employees.

From an NZIF point of view, we want to be able to use the blind copy process. The reasons for this are:

- It stops members receiving emails from NZIF with a page or so of addresses in the header;
- it reduces the possibility of someone extracting an electronic list of NZIF members and then using it for unethical purposes such as spamming;
- it will allow NZIF to move to more versatile mail processing software.

To help us sort out this issue, could members who do not seem to have received any recent emails from the NZIF Secretariat (for example the Council bullet points email sent on 22 July 2003 by Susan Sheppard) please contact me at am.mcewen@xtra.co.nz. I also ask any that any NZIF member who has an email address but who has not given it to the Secretariat (check your entry in the 2003 Membership Directory) do so as soon as possible (by email to sheppars@ihug.co.nz.).

Andrew McEwen