



CONTACT

NOVEMBER ISSUE 2017

Correspondence: 3, Wright Street BRIGHTON VIC 3186
Telephone: (03) 9596 8166 Email: doug@tpaa.com.au
Email: secretary@tpaa.com.au Web: www.tpaa.com.au
Plant Register Web: www.tpaa.com.au/treatment-plants

President: Gerry Gardiner (07) 3204 0444
Technical: Harry Greaves (0419) 585 193
Secretary: Jack Norton (0418) 989 398
Editor: Doug Howick (03) 9596 8166

... and from TPAA Secretary ...

... from TPAA President ...



"A number of TPAA members attended the 'Quality Control & Assurance for Wood Preservation', workshops, back in August. These Workshops were put forward by Phil Evans, who is heading up the, 'National Centre for Timber Durability and Design Life'."

"There were three key speakers, presenting views and outlines on Quality systems being used in Europe, USA and NZ."

"I followed up with Phil Evans and Niels Morsing to discuss where they saw this all going and if TPAA should be playing a part. I also had a follow up conversation with Ric Sinclair and Chris Lafferty on the same issue. It would seem to me that FWPA do have an agenda on Quality Programs in relation to Timber Preservation. Whilst this is commendable, it is imperative that TPAA be a part of this development."

"Whilst not the TPAA representative, I have attended the most recent TM-012 Meetings. The development of the new Standard, AS1604, is a very large undertaking."

A full agenda of items kept Councillors busy at the Council Meeting and AGM held in Brisbane on October 19th. As usual, Secretary Jack was delegated and encouraged to proceed with several projects for the benefit of the Association and the timber treatment subsector.

* * * * *

Jack's rant ... You might be surprised how hard it is to keep complaining. I have just about run out! In previous rants, I have talked about treated wood quality, lack of knowledge about our product and member involvement in TPAA. So this rant is not really a complaint!



A couple of years ago when we set up the current website, I was shown how to access Google analytics so that we could get some idea how the TPAA website was going. The result is really interesting.

Between 18 and 24 October, just seven days:

- FAQs were visited **556 times** (wow!);
- the Timber Treatment page was visited **168 times** (also not bad for 7 days);
- the Publications tab was visited **15 times**;
- Treatment Plants – **15 times**;
- About (TPAA) – **12 times**;
- Contact Information – **12 times** and three treatment plants had their web details viewed a total of **25 times**.

Google Analytics claims that over the same period the following was the source of the visits:

- 87% of the queries came from within Australia
- 3.3% were from New Zealand
- 1.5% were from Nigeria
- 1.3% from USA and
- 0.9% from Malaysia.

In terms of activity (another website term)

- Monthly visits – 3,400. I am not sure which month – this is a statistic straight off Google Analytics
- Weekly visits – 744 and
- Daily visits – 86

If I have interpreted the information correctly, then overall this is a pretty good result.

Regarding the individual treatment plant visits (a total of 25), this tells me it is worthwhile for plants to put as much information as possible into the detail on their listing. **Why wouldn't you? It's free!**

As always, please contact me if you have any questions, suggestions or issues.

Jack Norton Mob: +61 (0)4 1898 9398
Fax: +61 (0)7 3311 5612
Skype: jak.norton1

* * * * *

... and from TPAA Technical Committee Chairman ...



The 2017 Technical Committee members were:

- Dr Harry Greaves
- Dr Ronald Clawson
- Dr Laurie Cookson
- Dr Stephen Crimp
- Mr Richard Forrester
- Mr Mark Fortune
- Dr Jamie Hague
- Mr Greg Jensen,

Mr Jack Norton, Mr Rick White, Mr Kerry Bloor & Mr Tim Evans.

One meeting of the technical committee was held in Melbourne during the year. The agenda concentrated on Standards work (*see below for more detail*). Also, the proposed TPAA QC programme was discussed as was the increasing use of CLT and how we might advise on durability of such product.

With regards Standards work, this was my major technical activity for the year and has been centred around revisions and amendments to AS/NZS 1604 series and AS/NZS 1605 series as follows:

- AS/NZS 1604 series incorporating amendment 1 was issued in March 2017;
- AS/NZS 1605 revision has been prepared to include an additional spot test in Part 1 (PAN indicator) and some additional analytical procedures in Part 3:
 - (a) triadimefon and cyproconazole in glueline-treated and surface treated timber;
 - (b) quaternary ammonium compound in wood treated with ACQ preservatives;
 - (c) didecyldimethyl ammonium chloride in wood treated with ACQ preservatives;
 - (d) zinc borate in reconstituted wood products;
 - (e) thiacloprid in glueline-treated plywood and laminated veneer lumber (LVL); and
 - (f) deltamethrin in glueline-treated engineered wood products.

The documents are currently at the editorial stage of the Standards Australia (SA) process.

I have represented the TPAA interests on SA committee TM012, and the chemical manufacturers (ANZTPMA) have their own representative. Also, the TPAA has a Standards Reference Group consisting of members drawn from the current TPAA Technical Committee and SA keep these people in the information loop by sending them all working drafts. To date we have had little direct feedback from members on the two standards, although the public review stage for AS/NZS 1604 series produced more than 500 responses, many of which were from industry members! In contrast, the public review of AS/NZS 1605 series produced only 65 responses.

I anticipate that Standards work will continue to dominate TPAA technical activities in the coming year as TM012 work towards a complete revision of the preservation standards.

On non-standards activities, the year has seen the usual flow of enquires from the public and the timber industry, covering such matters as:

CCA related – horses chewing on treated; recycling CCA-treated; bush-fire clean up where CCA-treated fence posts have been burnt; CCA-treated playground; using CCA-treated pine sleepers for garden edging; CCA-treated piles and jetty timbers; H3 CCA-treated plywood sheets; and not using CCA-treated waste wood for BBQs.

PEC/Creosote related – fence post treatments; specifications of creosote formulation.

LOSPs – availability of LOSP-treated large cross-section sawn posts.

ACQ – treated wood wastes designation; requirements for sanding treated plywood sheets and the questions about the dust created.

Commodities/structural timber – F7 H4 treated pine; LVL treated to H3.2; the strength of treated timber; Glulam treated pine for framing; F17 KD hardwood for external sub-deck structural timbers; double treating H4 treated pine to attain H5 credentials; specification for F17 decking for jetty works; decayed treated commodities including weather boards and windows, and CCA-treated posts with the copper-tolerant brown.

Boron – OH&S issues and using boron for treatment of framing.

Miscellaneous – moulds on treated palings, treated pine packs of timber, and house building components leading to questions about likely health hazards; industry statistics; the half-life of bifenthrin in treated framing; termite test methods.

Dr Harry Greaves, Chairman, October 2017

* * * * *

**TPAA PLANT REGISTRATION SUMMARY
MARCH 2017**

16-Mar-17

Number of brands Number of ~~tot.~~ plants Number of companies

AUSTRALIA			
New South Wales	70	30	26
Queensland	80	27	21
South Australia	36	11	8
Tasmania	11	6	4
Victoria	81	38	29
Western Australia	16	7	7
TOTAL AUST	294	119	95

OVERSEAS			
Belgium	1	1	1
Canada	2	2	1
Chile	3	2	2
China	3	2	2
Estonia	1	1	1
Fiji	4	1	1
Finland	2	2	1
Germany	3	3	3
Latvia	1	1	1
Malaysia	19	14	13
New Zealand	117	48	34
Papua New Guinea	6	1	1
Philippines	2	2	2
Romania	2	2	2
Russia	1	1	1
Sweden	3	1	1
USA	14	12	5
Vietnam	1	1	1
TOTAL O/S	185	97	73
GRAND TOTAL	479	216	168

Items provided in this CONTACT Newsletter are drawn from a number of sources. The source of the item is quoted, either by publication or organization in line with the practice of fair reporting.

TPAA does not necessarily agree with or endorse the content of articles written by others.



Fire at Koppers plant in Roanoke County does \$500,000 in damage

By Amy Friedenberger

A fire that engulfed the Koppers Inc. industrial plant in the Fort Lewis area of Roanoke County early Thursday morning caused about \$500,000 in damage, according to the fire department.

Fire investigators have determined that the fire was accidentally sparked when a welder was conducting maintenance on machinery and an air line malfunctioned, causing flames to spread to the nearby combustibles and then engulf the building in the 4000 block of Koppers Road, Roanoke County Fire & Rescue spokeswoman Jennifer Conley Sexton said.

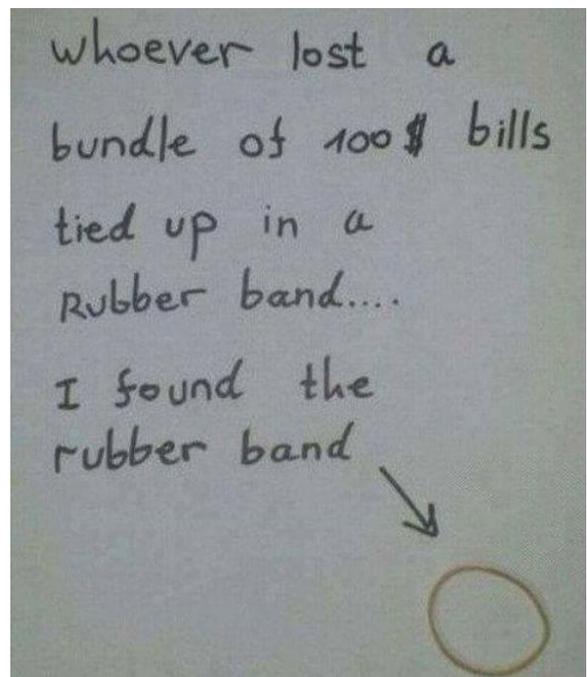
The welder suffered minor burns while trying to extinguish the flames. The worker was treated at the scene and released.

Firefighters arrived about 1 a.m. Career and volunteer crews from the Fort Lewis, Masons Cove, Hollins and Cave Spring stations were able to knock down the fire within about 20 minutes and contain the flames to the building where the fire originated.

Koppers spokeswoman Jessica Franklin said that the fire was contained to a small area of the plant. She said the fire will not affect day-to-day business operations.

The plant was built in 1955, and it preserves railroad ties and bridge timbers.

THE ROANOKE TIMES





TPAA “CONTACT” NEWSLETTER EDITOR’S REPORT 2017

Your TPAA “CONTACT” Newsletter has continued to be published regularly every two months. For our Members and those colleagues in the wider timber treatment sector who have been unable to attend Annual General Meetings or local relevant gatherings, the newsletter is an important way to maintain communication and access interesting information within Australia and internationally. **Feedback shows that our readers find a world-wide summary of current news and developments of interest, rather than a concentration on local Australian issues.** Although some published items may seem to present a negative point of view, we include them now and again to raise our members’ awareness.

I must commend the willing cooperation and assistance I have received from **Jack Norton** who, as National Secretary, has efficiently ensured that I received much detail of TPAA activities and developments. He also facilitates each Issue’s prompt inclusion on the TPAA website in the “Publications” category. Additionally, following its first appearance in September 2016, “**Jack’s Rant**” has become a regular feature in every subsequent Issue.

As he has for many years, Technical Committee Chairman **Harry Greaves** takes the trouble to pass on information regarding timber treatment Standards reviews, changes and developments as well as other technical matters being considered by his Committee. Both **Jack** and **Harry** often contribute newsy articles in their specialised fields and these are always well received.

During the year, as a way of introducing Councillors and office-holders to our readers, we established a series of personal biographic data under the heading of “**Movers & Shakers**”. The first three have been **Secretary Jack Norton, President Gerry Gardiner** and **National Councillor Kerry Bloor**. Several favourable comments have been received about this feature.

In July, for the first time in the 20+ years that I have edited CONTACT, we received a complaint about an article, previously published elsewhere (and acknowledged) that we had reproduced in good faith. As your Editor, I sought advice from Councillors and was directed to advise all readers of the error. This was done and the July 2017 Issue published on the TPAA website is an amended version with another news item replacing the one in question.

It would be most helpful to receive more feedback not only about what our readers want to see included in **your** Newsletter, but also what you do NOT want to see.

Yes, I have been your Editor for a long time and I’m proud of every Issue. If current Councillors think it is time for a change, I’m quite willing to step aside.

However, if you wish me to continue as your Editor: ***“Here’s to the next Six Issues”!***



**Doug Howick, Editor,
TPAA “CONTACT” Newsletter**



Final results from H3 above ground decay test at Innisfail By Laurie J. Cookson



A major research project set up while at CSIRO found that of 12 variations the most effective H3 decay tests were the ground proximity, deck-on-ground, and embedded tests. The embedded test at Innisfail continued to 7.6 years, and a summary of the results is shown here. A range of treatments in radiata pine sapwood blocks 200 x 35 x 35 mm were tested, as well as untreated spotted gum heartwood. The uptakes for some treatments aimed for H3, and quarter H3 retentions, based on solution uptake. Retentions according to subsequent chemical analyses are shown in the table. A mistake was made with the ACQ treatment, so it is called AChQ (high quat). Most test specimens were exposed unpainted, while some were partially painted (not on their water-trapping ends). Test specimens were probed with a knife and given a rating on a scale of 0-8 where 8 is sound and 0 is decayed.

Spotted gum heartwood, and the higher retentions of copper chromate, LOSP azoles, Tanalith E, CCA and AChQ all gave ratings of 6.1 to 7.1 (light-moderate to light decay) after 7.6 years. Therefore, our main H3 listed preservatives were generally similar in performance. Copper naphthenate dropped away from the leading pack after the four year inspection. Decay rates at Innisfail are several times faster than would have been obtained in Melbourne or Sydney.

Treatment or timber	Painted	Mean retention % m/m oven dry wood	Mean rating	
			4 years	7.6 years
Water	N	155 (by uptake)	0.4	0.0
Water	Y	155 (by uptake)	0.3	0.0
HFK	N	25.3 (by uptake)	1.5	0.0
HFK	Y	25.3 (by uptake)	1.5	0.0
Boron	N	0.293 elemental B	0.6	0.0
TBTN quarter H3	Y	0.042 elemental Sn	3.0	0.1
TBTN quarter-H3	N	0.042 elemental Sn	4.1	1.1
AChQ quarter H3	N	0.048 Cu + 0.232 DDAC	4.4	1.4
Azoles quarter-H3	N	0.014 teb prop	5.4	1.4
AChQ quarter H3	Y	0.048 Cu + 0.232 DDAC	5.2	1.7
CCA quarter-H3	N	0.085	4.2	2.9
Azoles quarter H3	Y	0.014 teb prop	6.2	3.4
CCA quarter H3	Y	0.085	5.2	3.6
Copper naphthenate H3	N	0.097 elemental Cu	6.3	4.5
Spotted gum heart	Y	-	6.4	6.1
Copper chromate H3	N	0.376	7.4	6.2
Azole H3	N	0.041 teb prop	7.8	6.4
Tanalith E H3	N	0.201 (Cu + teb)	7.5	6.6
CCA H3	N	0.361	7.6	6.7
Spotted gum heart	N	-	7.4	7.0
AChQ H3	N	0.250 Cu + 1.057 DDAC	7.7	7.1

For details of earlier inspection see:

Cookson, L.J. and Carr, J. (2009). Accelerated H3 above-ground decay trials in Australia. Internat. Res. Group on Wood Protection. Document No. IRG/WP/09-20411.

Cookson, L.J., Page, D. and Singh, T. (2014). Accelerated above-ground decay testing in Australia and New Zealand. Internat. Biodeterioration & Biodegradation 86: 210-217.

* * * * *

Dauids Timber set to clock up 28 years and still proud of being a pacesetter

Strong relationship with preservative supplier Koppers Performance Chemicals

NEXT YEAR (2018) Davids Timber will be commencing their 28th year in business, distributing products from their Dandenong site. David and Maurice Efron are still very active in the business backed up by a strong management team who have been with the company for many years, including General Manager, Jarod Renowden, Operations Manager, Terry Chinnock, together with Chief Financial Officer, Rosie Garbett as well as Greg Hassan who recently commenced as Sales Manager.

The company started trading in Frankston Dandenong Road. Dandenong in 1990 supplying trade and retail customers with fencing timbers. In the early 90's the Efron's made a decision that treated pine was to become the future of the industry, and built their first treatment plant in 1994. At that time, fencing materials were all OB Hardwood, pergola material was Oregon and landscape sleepers were mainly redgum.

Since then, they have forged a strong relationship with their preservative supplier Koppers Performance Chemicals who have assisted Davids Timber to become an industry leader in the timber preservation industry.

The company supplied the trade until 2006. Since then, Davids Timber have been solely a wholesaler supplying merchants, fencing suppliers, landscape and garden yards, and rural suppliers. The company's core range of products include Treated Pine preservative treated with CCA, MicroPro and LOSP include Fencing, Landscaping, Structural, Decking and Rounds.

Over the last three years, Davids have been supplying the regional post market and are able to supply a full range of tapered posts throughout Victoria. These products can also be supplied in MicroPro H4 for projects with this requirement.

The company has been operating and distributing from the Princes Highway, Dandenong South site since 2004. All processing including kiln drying and preservative treatment is done at this site. The company delivers in part or full loads to all areas of Victoria on a weekly basis.

The company also owns Broadford Sawmills which produces landscape sleepers and fence rails, which have a name for being the best in the industry.

One of Davids Timber strengths has been to never rest on their laurels, and continuously striving to be better. This year, there has been a focus to streamline the production keeping up with growing demand.

Managing Director, Maurice Efron believes the secret of a great business is the team, and is proud to say " We have a fantastic team with a mixture of experienced and younger team members who are all focused on delivering a high level of customer service and supplying quality treated wood products."

The future is looking bright for Davids Timber. With strong demand in the building industry, the company is looking forward to continue to supply quality outdoor timber products to the industry. With an on-going commitment by the Davids Timber Team on quality and service, the company will continue to work closely with their suppliers and customers to forge long term relationships with the aim of being the leading supplier of outdoor timber in the industry.

"Australasian Timber" - September 2017

History book a lot more than just 'flicking' the pages

"COLONIES in Collision" by Doug Howick and Ion Staunton is a tumultuous romp through worlds created by the conflicts of Australia's human colonists with its well-established termite colonists, brought to life through the vivid reflections of two technically and scientifically expert raconteurs."

"It is a dynamic piece of work which will have value for many years hence that offers everything the reader could want – mystery, adventure and intrigue, all spectacularly wrapped up in a creative package that will enthrall even those who have only experienced termites through infestations of their properties."

Just a few of many praise-worthy comments from readers of this fascinating book, which is about termites... and us. How each copes with the clash of their colonies. How we cope with them as we colonise their country and how they cope with us while we're doing it.

They welcomed us when we began gift-

wrapping timber in cladding and masonry. When we discovered them in our buildings, we also greeted them — "bloody white ants" was the usual phrase.

Termites had the upper hand for 127 years until a dairy farmer who also kept bees watched one carry nectar back to its hive and had his Eureka moment. William Flick pondered that maybe he could get worker termites to carry arsenic back to kill off the queen and the whole colony. It worked. So began the commercial strand of this history. [Remember those ads? One Flick and They're Gone].

“IF YOU’VE SERVED IN THE TERMITE WARS, YOU MIGHT BE MENTIONED

Some scientists became the third strand woven into the storyline as they began studying termites, sorting them into families, genera



Doug Howick... a book made from trees not eaten by termites.

and species. They noted differences in feeding and nesting habits and why certain treatment methods and timber preservation techniques would or wouldn't work.

The combined human efforts have given termites a hard time ever since but they still threaten and win often enough to feel encouraged. Humans have conceded that we can't entirely stop them, so most house frames are now of preservative-treated timber or other non-susceptible material.

Doug Howick is, of course, well known for his industry

affiliations. In fact, both authors have been long-term active participants in the scientific and commercial sides of this history and have interspersed their story with insights of the termites' points of view (usually dark). Their story moves along at a good pace and with some humour.

If you've been a part of the termite wars over the last 50-60 years you may well find your name, that of the company or government group you worked for – or people you just know about.

This looks like an illustrated coffee table book – but it is much more. There are 260 pages including more than 600 references to scientific papers most of which can be accessed on the internet due to the helpful listing and suggestions.

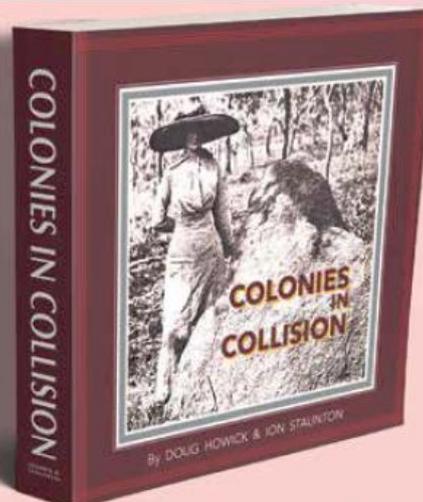
It's printed on paper made from trees not eaten by termites; its like will never be seen again.

The only place to get it – go to www.termiteer.com.au (See notice, Page 16).

Termites and Termiteers

- This is the definitive history of the war on termites in Australia. There hasn't been a book like it and there won't be a reprint.
- It tells how a humble Australian dairy farmer came up with the first successful colony-killing method in the world. It turned him into our first Pest Exterminator as he then described himself. That was 102 years ago.
- Colonies in Collision is more than dates and facts. It is full of stories about our early movers and shakers setting up new businesses and the scientists from State governments and the CSIRO who helped them understand the 'rules of engagement'. You or your company might even be in it! Check the website... order online

www.termiteer.com.au



Doug Howick and Ion Staunton had an advantage in writing this book – they have met most of the pioneering Termiteers and heard their stories first hand.

As Christmas is coming... **It's a gift at \$55** to yourself, maybe your parents — or good clients

Hardcover, 262 pages, 260x260mm printed on 150gsm satin art paper that came from wood not eaten by termites.
\$55 (plus \$13AUD P&H — O'seas extra)
termiteer.com.au



Part 4 of Series: [Peter Webb](#)

City of Residence: *Hamilton New Zealand.*

Inhabitants at my residence: *Just me and my wife Heather now, although one of the kids is returning to the nest early next year.*

Start date and current position: *I started Independent Verification Services (IVS) in 2004 and added IVS Labs in 2012*

What I like best about my work: *The interaction I have with people both inside and outside the organisation, and being my own boss.*

Best job: *Current job.*

Worst job: *Shearing Sheep.*

Favourite place to live: *Whitianga on the Coromandel Peninsula (NZ).*

Motto or Personal Mantra:
*"Life is short, if you aren't enjoying what you do then do something else."
(Everyone has options if they look).*

I'm happiest when: *I have all the family together over a meal.*

What I fear most: *Something happening to one of my kids.*

I'm proudest of: *Really two quite different things: My family and building what is now the IVS Group of Companies.*

Favourite sports or pastimes:
Targa car rallies and Fishing.

The Top 3 Highlights of my Life:
Definitely my three children

People would be surprised to know:
That I used to own and operate a Sheep and Beef station in Taranaki NZ and was a competitive Dog Trialist.

If I could do it all over again, I would:
- I am very lucky to be able to say nothing very different.

Favourite Memory:
Mustering cattle at day break on the farm with the sun rising over fog filled valleys.

Pet peeves:
Short-sighted people who don't think beyond me and now.....think recent NZ election.

Favourite song, movie, book, or comedian:
*Movie: The Phantom of the Opera
Book: The Lord of the Rings
Comedian: Billy T, (for our Aus. audience he was an NZ comedian about 25 years ago).*

Best Vacation: *Cycling in southern Italy.*

Favourite Vehicle: *My first car a 1969 Mini (this one had the bakers van doors).*

Before I die, I would like to:
Do a lot more travel.

* * * * *

There is a wealth of information available to anyone and everyone on the TPAA Website.

Here are a few really useful links:

<http://www.tpaa.com.au/faq>

<http://www.tpaa.com.au/publications>

<http://www.tpaa.com.au/treatment-plants>

<http://www.tpaa.com.au/quality-assurance-program>

<http://www.tpaa.com.au/quality-assurance-program>

* * * * *