

Newman, Robert L (from The Forester Sep 2011)

The IFA Board of Directors has awarded the N.W. Jolly Medal to two worthy recipients. Robert L. Newman OAM and David

Flinn. Extracts from the recipients citations is reproduced below with full copies being made available on the IFA website. The presentation of the medals has occurred in the recipients home State and a copy of their acceptance notes is also included on the IFA website.

N.W. Jolly Medal Nomination Citation

Robert L. Newman OAM B.Sc.

(For.), Dip. for., F.I.F.A., F.C.F.A., Cert. Bus. Admin., R.P.F.

Summary

R.L. (Bob) Newman, OAM, is regarded as one of the leaders in the development of private forestry in Australia spanning the years from 1970's to to- day. He has also played a significant part over an even longer period in professional and industrial associations.

He gained a B.Sc. (For) from Melbourne University in 1958 and a Diploma from the Australian Forestry School, Canberra, in

1955 followed by a qualification in Business Management from the Hemingway Robertson Institute. In 1964 he was one of the first students to enter the private sector as a career in forestry and the forest industries.

His career, which has spanned nearly 60 years, has covered many facets of Forest Establishment and Management, including eucalypt and pine Silviculture, Fire and Catchment Management. He started working in forestry, as a student in 1951 for the Forests Commission of Victoria. In Forest Products he worked during 1952 and 1953 for the Division of Forest Products CSIRO, then followed attendance at the Australian Forestry School. At the end of 1955 he was appointed Forester with Australian Newsprint Mills at Maydena, in southern Tasmania and was responsible for resource assessment and supporting Dr Max Gilbert with his silvicultural research. In 1959 Bob was invited to join the State Electricity Kiewa Hydro-electric scheme at Bogong in North-east Victoria.

Over 5 years he carried out the eradication of Plasmid plagues, was responsible for the Fire Protection, and stabilisation of newly constructed race lines and supply of logs to a major sawmill. In 1964 he accepted the position of Development Manager for Strahan and Davies with pine sawmills at Myrtleford and a hardwood sawmill in the Otway's. During a 4 year period Bob

was responsible for a major timber treatment plant construction and the installation of a Veneer peeling plant at Myrtleford and at the Company's H.Q. in Melbourne, new timber drying facilities. With this experience and the sale of the pine Mill to Bowater Scott he took up the offer to become General Manager for George Hudson for the A. C. T. and Southern N.S.W. in 1968. This was mainly a timber distribution role and with the intense competition in Sydney the position became untenable with the Company as a whole ceasing to trade. With the support of timber suppliers in Sydney and Melbourne

Bob commenced trading in Canberra in 1970 and had a successful business until 1976 when the Federal Government decided to reduce significantly funding for the development of Canberra. Bob combined consulting with plantation establishment, from aunceston in 1980 carried out the role of Secretary of the A.F.D.I and the Timber Preservers Association. He under took the organisation of the Bicentenary Forestry Conference (Appendix C:7) by moving to Albury with his staff in 1987. After the conference in 1988, he kept his H.Q. in Albury until 1993 when he was invited to take up accommodation at the C.S.I.R.O. complex at Yarralumla.

He merged his practice with G.H.D. Consultants in 2002 and has continued in private practice. During his 30 years he carried out some 2000 client projects requiring detailed reports. Clients included: A.N.M. Ltd; APPM Ltd Hyne and son Ltd, Forest resources,, Tasmanian Government :N.S.W. Government, Tasmanian Board mills, Risby Forest Industries ;Duncans Holdings; Timberlands plantations, Great Southern Plantations. Canterwood; Central Pacific Minerals, Fisher Jeffries, Rayonier; Victorian Government; DPI Queensland, Jardine Insurance and, CSR.

During his career Bob worked overseas in Papua New Guinea, Malaysia and the Solomon Islands as well as in South Africa, New Zealand, Canada, China and U.K.

Commission of Victoria as the Works Forestry Officer for the