



**Understanding  
Wood Science  
2023**

**Sunday 12 to  
Friday 17 November**

Albury, Wangaratta and  
Australian National University, Canberra

[www.gottsteintrust.org](http://www.gottsteintrust.org)



## Bill Gottstein

The Gottstein Trust Fund was formed in 1971 by Australia's forestry products industry leaders and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) to honour the late Joseph William (Bill) Gottstein.

Bill was an esteemed forest products research scientist with the CSIRO. His talent and character meant he was known and respected internationally.

In March 1971, possibly at the peak of his powers, he was struck by a ricocheting tree and died instantly when photographing a felling operation. It was shortly before he was due to return home to Brisbane from a Papua New Guinea trip. Shockwaves went through the industry and research community.

The Trust Fund is a living legacy to Bill. It ensures the influence of this innovative and exceptional man goes on.

## About the Gottstein Trust

The Joseph William Gottstein Memorial Trust Fund is known as the Gottstein Trust. This unique national educational trust exists to support the advancement of the forestry products industry. It provides opportunities for people to expand their knowledge and networks.

The Gottstein grants available to individuals are the Gottstein Fellowships (most entail an overseas study tour), Scholarships and Skill Development grants. The Trust also runs short courses and field trips each year.

Funds are raised entirely through industry donations, event revenue and investment income. In the first 52 years to 2023, 159 Fellowships were granted, with over \$1.5 million awarded to a total of 205 individuals to pursue special projects, to study or undertake skill development.

The Gottstein Trust is currently governed by six trustees and chaired by Suzette Weeding. Kurrumbene Projects & Advocacy is engaged to manage operations and deliver courses.

## Day 1 – Sunday 12 November

### Arrival and welcome

Albury

Check in from 2:00 pm		Albury Manor House 593 Young Street Albury
6:00 pm	Registration Helen Murray and Megan Graham	Ground Floor Westminster Room
7:00 pm	Welcome, group meal and field trip briefing	Westminster Room

## Day 2 – Monday 13 November

### Site tours and guest presentations

Wangaratta

Breakfast available from 6:45 am		
8:00 am	Depart for Wangaratta ( one hour journey)	
9:00 am	<b>Field trip 1: Alpine Truss guided site tour</b>	Producing bespoke roof trusses and frames for the Australian housing market
10:30 am	Depart for Gateway Hotel	
10:45 am	Morning tea	
11:15 am	Hardwood Sawmilling	Vince Hurley Managing Director Australian Sustainable Hardwood
12:15 pm	Softwood Sawmilling	Angela Pappin Quality Specialist Hyne Timber
1:15 pm	Lunch	Gateway Hotel, Wangaratta
2:00 pm	Depart for Alpine MDF Industries	
2:15 pm	<b>Field trip 2: Alpine MDF Industries guided site tour</b>	Manufacturer of medium density fibre (MDF) and vertical joint (VJ) panels
4:15 pm	Depart for Albury (one hour journey)	
6:20 pm	Bus departs Albury Manor House for dinner at The River Deck Cafe	
	<b>Relaxed dinner</b> Enjoy mingling with participants, speakers & guests from the region's timber sector	
8:40 pm	Bus departs for Albury Manor House	

## Day 3 – Tuesday 14 November

### Site tour and guest presentations

### Albury and Barnawartha North

Breakfast available from 7:00 am

Please check out of hotel before the final field trip departs

8:30 am Coach departs for Barnawartha North

8:45 am **Field trip 3: XLam guided site tour** Manufacturer of cross laminated timber (CLT)

10:30 am Return to Albury

10:45 am Morning tea Albury Manor House

#### **Presentations**

Westminster Room

11:00 am Wood Composites

**Tom Watts**

Principal Structural Engineer  
XLam

12:00 pm Building Product Conformity

**Kim Harris**

Director  
Engineered Wood Products Association Australia

1:00 pm Lunch

Albury Manor House

1.30 pm Depart for Canberra  
Comfort stop – Gundagai

6:00 pm Arrive Canberra  
approx. Check into accommodation

**Mercure Canberra**

Cnr Ainslie and Limestone Avenues  
Braddon ACT

Dinner – own arrangements. Mercure Canberra bistro and bar open. Kitchen closes 9:00 pm, bar 10:00 pm. Plenty of places to eat in Braddon – 15 minutes walk or a short cab/Uber ride.

## Day 4 – Wednesday 15 November

### Guest presentations

Grosvenor Room, Mercure Canberra

9:00 am	<b>Gottstein Fellowship Project North American Experience Lessons learnt and future directions for EWP construction systems in Australia.</b>	<b>Laurence Ritchie</b> Gottstein Fellow Kapitol Group; WoodSolutions
10:00 am	Morning tea	
10:30 am	<b>The Biological Nature of Wood</b>	<b>Dr Matthew Brookhouse</b> Senior Lecturer Fenner School of Environment & Society Australian National University
1:00 pm	Lunch	
1:50 pm	<b>Verifying Sustainable Timber Sources</b>	<b>Matt de Jongh</b> Sustainability Manager Responsible Wood
2:30 pm	<b>Gottstein Fellowship Project International Experiences in Resilient Timber Construction</b>	<b>Dr Paolo Lavisci</b> Gottstein Fellow Program Manager Resilient Timber Homes, WoodSolutions
3:30 pm	Afternoon tea	
4:00 pm	<b>Case Study Canberra’s circular timber economy in action</b>	<b>Thor Diesendorf</b> Founder Thor’s Hammer Timber Recycling & Design
4:30 pm	<b>Insight session Native Timber in Indigenous Culture and Commercial Forestry Opportunities</b>	<b>Representative</b> Eastern Arnhem Indigenous Forestry Project Steering Committee
5:15 pm	Session ends	

Dinner – own arrangements. Mercure Canberra bistro and bar open. Kitchen closes 9:00 pm, bar 10:00 pm. Plenty of places to eat in Braddon – 15 minutes walk or a short cab/Uber ride.

## Day 5 – Thursday 16 November

### Laboratory workshop & guest presentations

Australian National University

9:30 am	Shuttle departs from Mercure Canberra entrance	
10:00 am	<b>Wood Anatomy Workshop</b> Hands on in the laboratory Venue: Robertson Undergraduate Teaching Laboratory Morning tea break included	<b>Dr Matthew Brookhouse</b> Senior Lecturer Fenner School of Environment & Society Australian National University
1:00 pm	Lunch	Fenner Seminar Room, ANU
1:50 pm	<b>Adaptable Design Strategies in Timber</b>	<b>Kim Baber</b> Gottstein Fellow Registered architect & Principal Baber Studios
2:40 pm	Afternoon tea	
3:10 pm	<b>Major Projects with Timber</b>	<b>Ralph Belperio</b> Major Projects Director Aurecon
4:00 pm	<b>Durable Timber – Nature Plus Nurture</b>	<b>Professor Tripti Singh</b> Director National Centre for Timber Durability & Design Life University of the Sunshine Coast
4:50 pm	Session ends	
5:00 pm	Shuttle departs for Mercure Canberra	
6:15 pm	Shuttle departs for National Press Club	
6:30 pm	<b>Celebration Dinner</b>	<b>National Press Club</b>
	Dinner speaker – Evan Dunstone Gottstein Trust fellow Furniture designer and manufacturer Dunstone Design Global	
9:45 pm	Shuttle departs to Mercure Canberra	

### Sponsored Student Place

We are delighted to collaborate with organisations which fund places in Gottstein courses to support and encourage young people interested in our ultimate renewable timber industry.

#### Gottstein Course – Cullity Scholar

Wesbeam has sponsored a current Gottstein Scholar, studying at university, to attend this course. This generous support honours Thomas Cullity, the founder of the Gottstein Trust and his son Denis Cullity who was an original trustee.

## Day 6 – Friday 17 November

### Presentations

Fenner Seminar Room, Australian National University

8:15 am	Shuttle departs from Mercure Canberra entrance	
8:50 am	Timber & Wood Product Markets and Trade Dynamics	<b>Tim Woods</b> Managing Director IndustryEdge
9:40 am	Aspiring to a Circular Australian Forest Economy	<b>Professor Peter Kanowski</b> Professor of Forestry Fenner School of Environment & Society Australian National University
10:30 am	Morning tea	
11:00 am	Forests, Plantations, Wood Products & Australia's Carbon Balance	<b>Dr Fabiano Ximenes</b> Senior Research Scientist NSW Department of Primary Industries – Forestry
11:50 am	High Technology Wood Meets Net Zero Carbon	<b>Professor Keith Crews</b> Gottstein Fellow Director ARC Transformation Hub to Advance Timber in Australia's Built Environment University of Queensland
12:40 pm	Panel Q & A	<b>Moderator John Simon</b> Gottstein Trustee Former chair Forest & Wood Products Australia
1:00 pm	Closing comments	<b>Course Convenor Helen Murray</b> Principal Kurrumbene Projects & Advocacy
1:10 pm	Light refreshments for those not leaving immediately.	



### Acknowledgments

The course is a collaboration from start to finish – an industry wide effort. We hope everyone participating finds this to be a valuable and enjoyable learning experience. Sincere thanks to the management and staff of Alpine Truss, Xlam and Alpine MDF Industries for hosting the tours of their operations. We appreciate this support of the course program.

A heartfelt thank you to the presenters; each generously makes time available, sometimes travelling long distances to personally share their expertise and experience. Their contribution does so much to further build the knowledge and capacity of people involved in this vitally important industry. Special mention of Dr Matthew Brookhouse, who delivers core course units on biological characteristics and anatomy of wood.

Thanks go to the Fenner School of Environment & Society, Australian National University, for support and kindly making facilities available for the Canberra component of the course.

Last but not least, the Trustees thank the management and course program and delivery team – Judy Pearce and Helen Murray from Kurrumbene Projects & Advocacy, and Megan Graham for assisting with the field trip component.

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