



# MONTHLY WOODFLOW



## EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

### JANUARY

18 YEARS - TYSON MURPHY  
 8 YEARS - CRAIG PLOENGES  
 7 YEARS - HUGH CRAUFORD  
 6 YEARS - THOMAS KING  
 5 YEARS - PETE HRVARTIN  
 5 YEARS - GLENN MORLEY

### FEBRUARY

13 YEARS - CRAIG MCDONALD  
 13 YEARS - JASON MANNINEN  
 12 YEARS - CHRIS CHAPMAN  
 5 YEARS - ANTHONY WHITE

### MARCH

8 YEARS - HARLEY DUNN



## HOGGYS HAULAGE HEADLINES

It's a wonderful time of the year.... All the staff want to drink beer... No just joking 😊! But yes, as now you are laughing, it is time to slow down reflect and relax.

Our staff have DELIVERED another cracking year while the markets have been tough. Micromanaging has been a must, but seamless results have been delivered day in, day out across our operations. We are all human and the amount of buy in from our staff makes our business what it is today. A simple thankyou to you all is a must.

The Mount Gambier Family Truck Show was another cracker this year, trucks, kids, bacon and eggs, coffee and a whole lot of smiles everywhere! Well done to the drivers that rolled up there sleeves and polished up their rigs and supported the local event. Was only a couple of week's later, Topy got the float truck looking spiffy and carted a few oldies in the Christmas Parade! Again, well done to the guys that got the truck and trailer ready for another community event. Kids and smiles, what more could you ask for 😊

This year marks 40 years of Mum and Dad having their own business in forestry. WHAT AN EFFORT! Many memories have been had and recently shared at our Christmas show at Thyme on the Lakes. We had over 140 people up there and it was lovely to see so many staff and partners enjoying the night! I know one thing that's important, having people that turn up every day and deliver. WE DO. DJ MASH was on song for the night and thanks to Nick and Kylie for always delivering great service, a great venue and awesome food for us to enjoy!



# HOGGYS HAULAGE HEADLINES



Mum and Dad, congrats on 40 years making memories and supporting our local community. What you have done from nothing, has made many people stand up and applaud, no more than your 3 sons, we are so proud of what you sacrificed to make us who we are today. What more could you wish for to drive you further into business... some should ponder but find what drives them, just a thought.

### FUN FACTS FROM 2025

- 1.18 million tonnes until last week delivered for 2025!
- 4.45 million litres of fuel used
- 138 employees used for 2025
- 274,000.00 hours worked in 2025
- 38 Kenworth trucks
- 29 harvesters we use
- 26 forwarders in the fleet
- 15 loading machines
- 5 race cars, 2 are sore and parked up...
- 24,500 loads this year to date
- 1,455 Annual Leave Days used, which you should use! Family time is the best time.
- Hoggy's phone blew up 3 times and rang out of data....
- First year we haven't had a bulbar wrecked until last weekend... nearly got there
- NO new tractors on Dad's farm! But a silage wrapper and Mark, is now trying to learn the ropes...

That's a lot to squeeze in with the Victorian public holidays we must battle but we have had a great year thanks to teamwork and consistent efforts across the board.

Reflection time... Where does the bloody time go? Too quick is the answer... We have our eyes firmly fastened towards the future of our business and appreciate everyone that makes the lumber go round.

Merry Christmas and please slow down, enjoy your family time and come back ready to LOG ON!

**MERRETT LOGGING**

**CHRISTMAS PAYROLL**

**24th December**

**31st December**  
2 Public Holidays  
3 Annual Leave Days

**8th January**  
1 Public Holiday

Please let Alex know if you need any entitlements paid out



# REDDOGS WORKSHOP WRAPUP

And just like that the year is nearly done! We had our xmas show on the 5<sup>th</sup> at Thyme on the Lakes and once again the night was a fantastic event celebrating the efforts our people have contributed to a successful year. Bunnzy and Preecey were acknowledged for the ten year service with the traditional gold watch. Dale has been a super reliable operator first in a forwarder and now in a wheeled harvester in our T1 operations. Dale has great leadership qualities always thinking about the job and does it with a big smile on his face.

Preecey is a methodical truck driver with numerous years of experience on the road. Always up for a chat and a giggle, Preecey is a favourite with everyone he works with for his easy going but thoughtful and consistent ways. You can set your watch to Preecey, especially 5pm in the office on a Friday when he ventures in for a quick chat and a quiet refreshment.

Well done boys, its people like you that make our operations run smoothly every day and it is appreciated.



Bridgette Tilby spoke on behalf of Matt in an incredibly brave and courageous way. Matt had a deep relationship with all staff members and it was extremely beneficial for her to convey Matt's thoughts and explain where Matt is at currently. Thank you Bridgette from everyone here at Merrett Logging.

2025 marks our 40<sup>th</sup> year in business which is a significant milestone for our Company. What began as a man with a chainsaw and a vision now employs over 100 staff and harvests, Hauls and manages well over 1 million tonnes of timber for the principles we work for. Congratulations to Snow and Pat, we hope you enjoy your reward in Airlie Beach and get things right !!





# REDDOGS WORKSHOP WRAPUP

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Some new additions to the fleet recently in the form of our 8<sup>th</sup> 1270G wheeled harvester, Tom King is the lucky operator after serving his apprenticeship on forwarders and more recently one of our older 1270E harvesters. Kingy has hit the ground running apart from a few minor hiccups which has been unusual for these machines, Kingy is a super consistent operator and we have no doubt he will take to this machine like a duck to water.



One of the last 1910e forwarders is being delivered as I write this, the new generation of H series machines will be hitting the ground next year. Brodie "The Foss" Foster is the man getting in the seat. Brodie has had a few stints with us in the forwarder department, and is known for his neat stacking in both bluegum and pine. Brodie is currently working in our T1 operation but has mainly worked in our third thinnings jobs. This is Brodie's first brand new machine and we know he will both look after it and also get the job done. Enjoy Brodie!

The workshop has steadily been working through a host of maintenance as we approach the end of the year. We have an engine replacement nearly complete along with a harvester head rebuild which should be done early in the new year. A set of tracks were replaced on one of the loader machines with two more to be done in the coming weeks. We are also repurposing our older 2154D to have a grapple attached to assist with having enough loading machines and to be able to take them off line when necessary for maintenance.

The annual truck overhauls are close to being finished for the year with the last of the trucks to be completed over the xmas break. The ability to have two workshops working on trucks and trailers congruently has helped to expediate the process as the task is getting bigger and bigger.

Finally as we wind down 2025 and get ready for some roast pork I would like to thank everyone for their efforts this year. To the management group, as always, we have had our challenges but the way we tackle these has been brilliant. It is an ever evolving and changing workspace with a day in forestry anything and everything can change. Flexibility is key and staying ahead of the ball as it rolls down hill is paramount to our success, so well done.

To our business partners we hope you have a safe and enjoyable xmas with family and friends, xmas is a special time to enjoy the company of our loved ones in a calmer environment. We look forward to another successful year next year.

To all our employees enjoy a well earned break, we hope Santa brings what you are after and you return well and safe to rip into 2026.



# Mt Gambier Family Truck Show





# AROUND THE JOBS WITH JR

Another year has passed, and it's been a remarkable one for the Merrett team—our most successful year to date. We've experienced many positives, but what stands out to me is the flexibility demonstrated by our dedicated operators. They have stepped up and assisted wherever needed, which hasn't been an easy task. Keeping everyone busy can be challenging, but having such a great team makes the process much smoother. We have developed a strong culture that prioritises the health and safety of our people.

From a production perspective, the pine section has again been very strong this year, with plenty of wood being cut and carted. Timberlands has been very busy again with the latter part of the year, with crews cleaning up a lot of wind-blown areas - challenging work at the best of times. The T1/T2 crews have stepped up and are currently doing over 3000 tonnes per week. We now have 3 crews working for One Forty One, and we are hitting good numbers. In the world of Blue Gums, it continues to be a struggle, with plenty of unknowns. However, there has been some positive news with additional work secured through South West Fibre.

Around the Jobs....

## **Timberlands**

### **T1 – Copping**

The crew has only moved into Copping's late last week after three months at Redburn. We have constantly had 5 chopping at Redburn with the crew consistently knocking out numbers over 3000 tonnes per week. The trees at Copping aren't overly big, so at this stage we are cutting two export products only. Toward the end of January, we will look to take a couple of operators out and head to Yarramundi. This is going to be a challenge with the steep terrain, but we have ordered some tracks for our wheeled machines as an added safety measure to ensure our operators remain safe.

### **WS – Beachport**

Beachport continues to create its challenges with the rough terrain and the wind-blown trees. The going is slow with the large rocks about and the undulating ground. The crew will spend the majority of the summer in Beachport, as the wind-blown areas are quite extensive, and additional areas have been added. We have cut sawlog for Tarpeena and two export products for Portland. Hopefully, the next few months will bring some better wind conditions and the crew can look to a new area.

### **CF – Myaring West**

We have headed back to Myaring West once again to knock over a few more blocks after a stint at Penola North. The crew have carried out some salvage work following more strong winds and cleared the breaks to ensure access in case of a fire. Plenty of products have been cut to keep the crew and trucks busy. We have another block to do in the area that we couldn't finish off in the winter due to the wet weather, before we head to Kerr's near Dergholm. Kerr's have some challenges with a power line and a gas line to manage.



# AROUND THE JOBS WITH JR

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## CF – Inverell

Our second Clear Fall job is taking place at Inverell, following an extended period at Nangwarry Central. Since the T3 is unable to cut the McDonnell's (Maccas) trees due to the bush, the quota has been transferred to Inverell. The crew is maintaining good stock levels, with good size trees, producing plenty of sawlog for Tarpeena. After finishing their current section, the crew will move on to another area at Inverell, keeping them busy for the next couple of months.

## One Forty One (OFO)

### CF -Costellos

The crew have transferred to familiar surroundings in Costellos from Railway Reserve, where the conditions are drier. We are comfortably hitting the quota each week, which is encouraging. OFO sent in a fixed head harvester to manage the roadside powerlines and 40-year-old trees, reducing the safety risks within the harvest area. The team continues to work with Trimble to ensure the trucks run smoothly through the operation. At this stage, the plan is to head back to Railway Reserve to finish off that site.

### T1 - Kramers

The crew has been working at Kramers since late September, where the trees have shown good form and size. The products harvested have included a mix of posts, exports, and Maccas. We are nearing the completion of the first section.

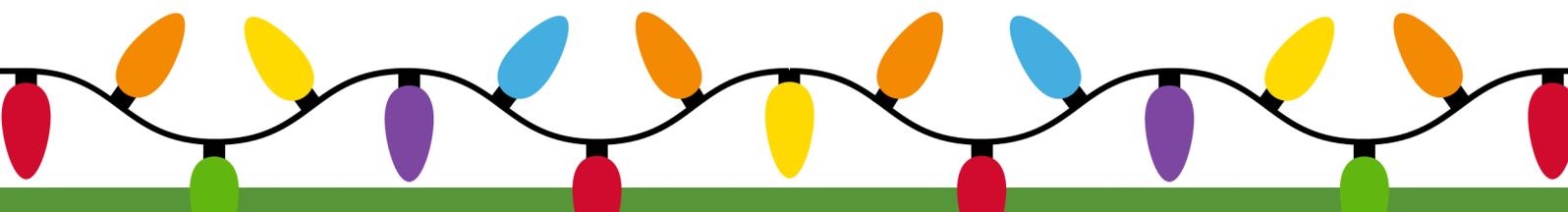
The plan is to move to Waugh's in late January or early February, near Apsley. This area has been very wet, so our intention is to do it in the summer months. Unfortunately, the form and size of the bush are not ideal, so we will only be cutting export-quality.

### T3 – Wattle Range

A small crew out at Wattle Range for the last 6 weeks, where the trees are a good size. The quota has consistently been around the 2000 tonne mark, with products being mainly sawlog with a small amount of export. The crew pulled up early last week to go and do some break clean-up work for OFO, and will recommence early in the New Year. At this stage, the next location is yet to be confirmed.

### South West Fibre (SWF) – Lamonds

After completing the work at Hocking, crews were rotated, with the Midway (Holmes) crew moving to Lamonds (SWF), and Hocking crew (SWF) shifted to Inverary (Midway). The bush at Lamonds near Nelson has been challenging, with a mix of good and poor-quality timber. On a positive note, there is more work available with SWF, which will keep crews busy for an extended period. In the short term, the Midway crew will merge with the Lamonds crew.





# AROUND THE JOBS WITH JR

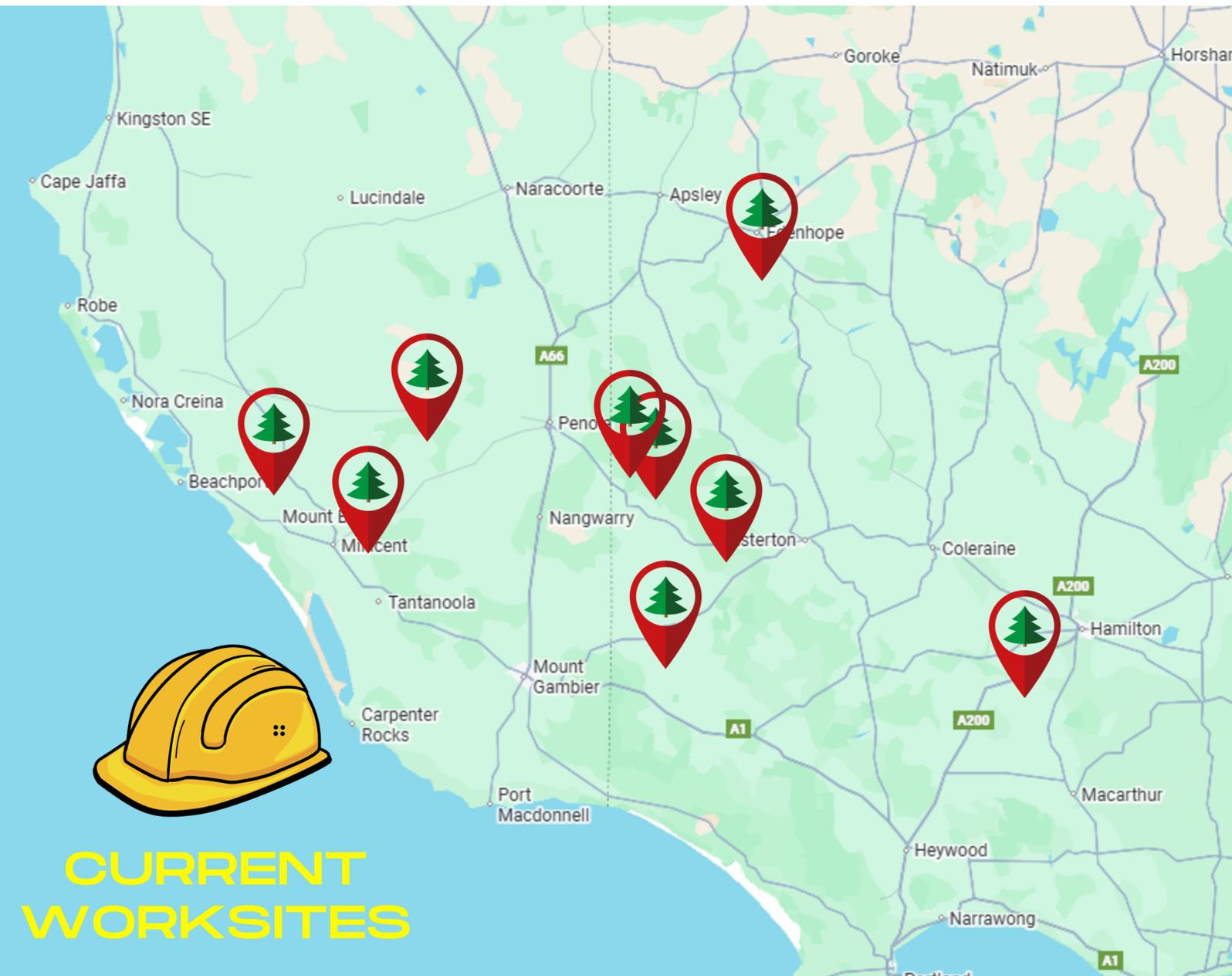
## Midway – Inverary

Midway have stopped the crew at Inverary this week. At this stage, we have no scheduled work for Midway in the New Year, although this may change. From the Christmas break, we will merge the guys into Lamonds. During their month at Inveray, they have successfully managed the presence of koalas and power lines.

## Thank you

I would like to personally thank all the Operators, Truck Drivers, Mechanics, and Office Staff for their outstanding contributions to Merrett Logging in 2025. We are only as strong as the team we have around us, and without such dedicated people, our business would not succeed, we truly value everyone who works at Merrett Logging.

As we close out the year, let's stay so we can all enjoy quality time with our family and friends. Always hold your loved ones tight. Enjoy the break, recharge, and make 2026 another great year!!





# KEVS SAFETY SUMMARY

## TWHS - End of Year Wrap-Up

As we come to the end of 2025, I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone across Merrett Logging for the effort, professionalism and commitment shown throughout the year. It's been a demanding period across harvesting, haulage and maintenance, with increasing compliance expectations and some very real challenges across the industry, but the way our crews have responded has been impressive.

From a WHS perspective, one of the most encouraging outcomes this year has been the level of engagement from operators and drivers. Our SiteDocs activity shows a workforce that is actively identifying risks and taking ownership of safety every day:

- 337 incident and near-miss reports submitted
- 6,441 pre-starts completed across plant, heavy vehicles and equipment
- 319 site induction acknowledgements
- 808 service and maintenance requests lodged

These numbers matter. They show people speaking up, checking their gear, and reporting issues early — which is exactly how we prevent serious incidents.

That strong day-to-day commitment has also been reflected in our audit results, which I'm extremely proud of:

**FOSP audit score: 99.12**

**OneSafe audit: Perfect score of 200**

These outcomes don't happen because of paperwork alone — they happen because of the standards being applied on the ground, the quality of supervision, and the willingness of crews to do the right thing even when it's inconvenient.

Throughout the year I've also seen real improvements in areas that matter:

- Load construction and restraint practices
- Fatigue management and on road awareness
- Communication between crews, supervisors and management
- Follow-up on hazards, incidents and corrective actions

I know the industry has experienced several serious incidents this year, and I want to acknowledge the professionalism shown by our teams in reporting, responding and adjusting how we work. That attitude is critical to keeping everyone safe.

Thank you to every operator, driver, mechanic and support team member who has engaged with safety processes, supported new starters, covered leave and kept standards high under pressure. Your efforts are noticed and appreciated. As we head into the Christmas break, please look after yourselves and your families, travel safely and enjoy some well-earned downtime. I'm looking forward to continuing the work together in 2026 and building on the strong foundations we've put in place.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.



# KESSAHS COMPLIANCE

## That's a Wrap for 2025!

What a year it's been for the Merrett Logging, helping celebrate 150 years of Forestry in South Australia. Haulage, in an industry that never stops changing, the team in blue (well—Hi-Vis!) has once again delivered an outstanding performance. Across 2025, our drivers have carted more than 20,000 loads of Pine and Blue Gum, keeping the wheels turning and the mills supplied.

We Thank Adam, whose skill in scheduling has kept the entire operation running like clockwork. And of course, none of this happens without the adaptability, professionalism, and sheer determination of our drivers—over 50 of them stepping into the seat at one point or another throughout the year. This includes our subbies, who remain a valued part of the Merrett team.

We recognise that being a driver today involves more than just handling a rig. The admin side of the job continues to grow, and we've pushed forward with more digital reporting to keep improving efficiency. The effort our drivers have put into this has been massive—6,500+ Driver Pre-Starts completed through electronic work diaries, 1,750+ Site Docs reports, and electronic docketing across the bulk of our work. It's a big shift, and we appreciate everyone continuing to evolve with the role.

Did you know we maintain driver inductions to over 18 Mill sites and Forestry companies throughout the year? Once again, we love that so many of our drivers are pro-active in checking and ensuring their inductions are up to date before entering the mills.

This year we also renewed our NHVR accreditation for BFM, Mass, and Maintenance during our October audit. We now have 30 drivers operating under BFM conditions, and our strong compliance and safety record continues to set us apart in the industry. A standout achievement: nearly 40% of our drivers went overload-free for the entire year—an exceptional effort that speaks to the professionalism of our fleet.

From all our drivers, a heartfelt thanks goes to John, Harley, and the workshop crew, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep our trucks running at their best. The Shed Boys have also stepped up their admin game, ensuring everything is recorded accurately in Gearbox—with strong support from Nikki and Melissa keeping things running smoothly.

As we close out 2025, our 34 prime movers are parking up for a well-earned rest. Thank you to everyone who contributed to another successful year on the road. Enjoy the break, recharge, and we look forward to hitting the roads again in January 2026.

Congratulations to Snow, Pat, John, Adam and Stuart on 40 years of Forestry with Merrett Logging – a great achievement. Here's to another big year ahead—safe travels and happy holidays





Ho ho ho – We've made it to the end of another very long and busy year, I think everybody is definitely ready for a break and has certainly earned one.

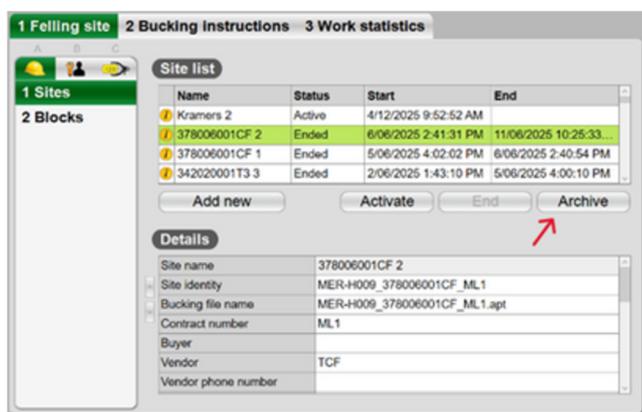
It has probably been the toughest year I've seen in my time with Merretts. Obviously covid times were hard for very different reasons with the uncertainty within the industry and life more broadly. But throughout those days, I was always comforted by the fact we had an amazing group of hard-working, smart and empathetic people that I knew would steer us in the right direction.

We've lost some of these amazing people from our tight-knit team this year. I won't name them individually, but I miss having all of them around every day. They made the place better just by being in it. I think we can all continue to strive to hold ourselves to a high-standard as workmates whether it be in the bush, the workshop, on the road or in the office. It's what those people would want and worked hard to establish. Be friendly, don't sweat the small stuff and as a great man once said "Don't be a whinging ..... !"

2026 will see us continue to try and use the Timbermatic Maps platform to our advantage. There are many benefits to the system, the biggest being an effective and real-time solution to stock control. We plan on having some more training with operators to help iron-out any issues that we could be facing and to further improve our knowledge and understanding of the software overall.

There will likely be a strong focus on in-time and accurate file handling as well. We've worked pretty hard, particularly in the first-half of the year to get all files coming in daily and without any issues. Our strike rate in this regard has definitely spiked and I thank everyone for their hard work to get this all happening. I know it might not seem like much, but it is a crucial part of the day to day decision making that happens. It's a bit like a good smother or spoil – little things that can often mean the difference to winning or losing the game!

One thing as operators you can look to do upon starting up in 2026 is to archive any old sites that might be sitting in your Timbermatic run screen – There would be a few out there that would have a bit of a bank up and archiving old sites can potentially help things run more efficiently when ending/starting shifts each day. You can do this by selecting Work > Felling Site > Sites from your drop down menu – See some screen-shots below.



I hope everyone has a safe, fun and relaxing Christmas break. Enjoy the festivities and we'll see you again in 2026. Log on, Wids