

Clive Stott PN

Tasmanian Times

Clive in court

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Mike Adams

The impeccably dressed Clive Stott appeared in Launceston Magistrate's Court this morning with six TAP members in support, some very evidently supportive in 'Stop the Pulp Mill' Tee shirts.

Clive was answering a charge of committing a public nuisance for throwing a flare into a government building.

Considering what the magistrate could have taken into consideration: fire brigade time and turn out, office work disruption, police activity, we felt, as did Clive, that the fine of \$320, plus \$44.80 costs was mild. The magistrate did refer to Clive's 'frustration' in getting no response from the authorities.

You'll be glad to know that Clive is by no means out of pocket over this affair, TAP members saw to that...

Steve Biddulph has written the case up briefly for both the Examiner and Mercury.

One of our number wondered why Clive's local MP, Ms O'Byrne, wasn't defending her constituent. Or in the dock as being complicit. Asthmatic and clean air campaigner Clive Stott is off to the Magistrates court in Launceston next Monday December 8 at 9.30am,

He considers himself fortunate to be able to attend because the last few years of the forest industry's 'planned-burn' smoke almost killed him.

A former state health worker himself, you can read his story and what he is doing to help people breathe clean air in Tasmania at www.cleanairtas.com

Letter to the Editor

1/8/2008

ASTHMA

“The rate of asthma continues to rise, with a higher proportion of people affected by the disease than the rest of the country.” (Mercury 31st July 2008)

No wonder, when Tasmanians have been exposed to smoke from forestry industries burns for years. Look at it this year, it was the worst on record and even the Minister for Environment (Michelle O’Byrne) has confessed the trials that her Department subscribed to have been a failure. This is little comfort to people (children included) who may have developed deliberate breathing difficulties for life.

Sadly, we are seeing the delayed result of this smoke inhalation right now. Think back to that unexplained cough, becoming sensitive to triggers that didn’t worry you before, or bouts of breathlessness.

Remember your health doesn’t just get better when forestry decide not to burn.

Passive cigarette smoking is being blamed by the Asthma Foundation. Passive forestry smoking is a much more realistic cause for the rise in the number of affected people, and the worst part is, all this smoke is unnecessary. There are other smokeless ways that forestry can manage their plantations.

It is not up to people ‘to manage their asthma condition’; it is up to forestry to stop burning.

13.2% of Tasmanians are suffering now. How many more can our hospitals or stretched health budget cope with?

Clive Stott

Grindelwald

www.cleanairtas.com