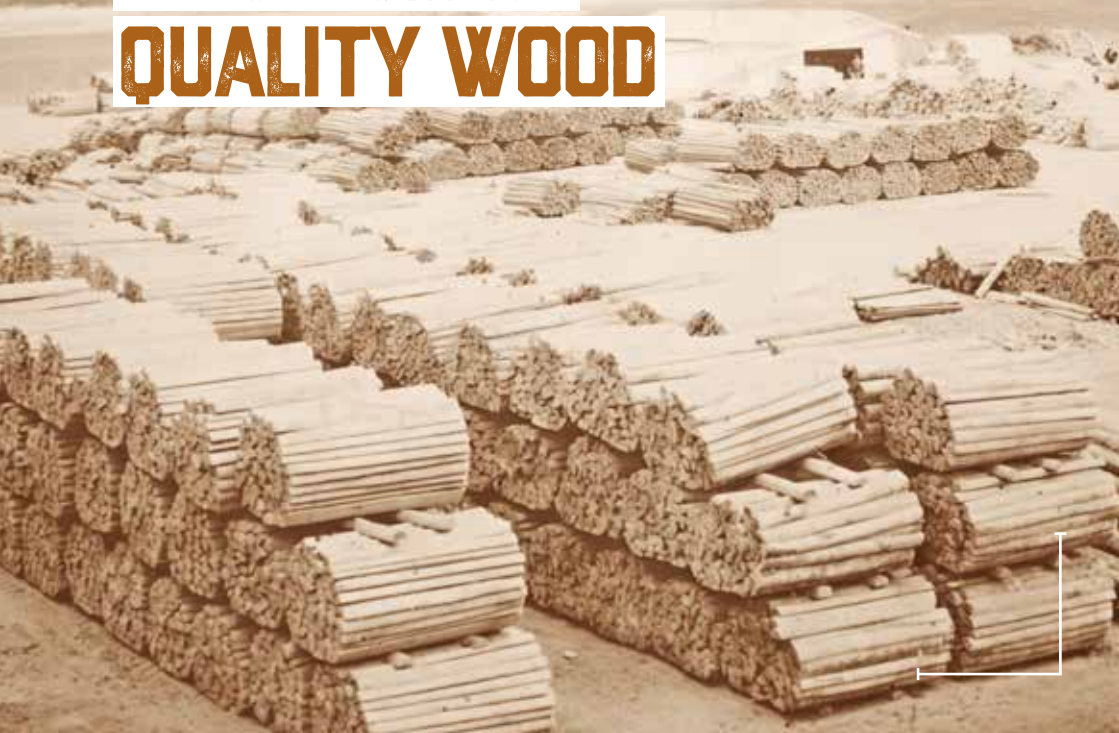


MITCHPINE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF QUALITY WOOD



MITCHPINE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF QUALITY WOOD

As we mark this significant milestone of 50 years, we reflect on the journey of Mitchpine—a story that began in 1975.

Mitchpine's story started with a simple need. Keith Mitchell, faced the challenge of keeping his three teenage sons Ron, Allan and Grant (Butch) busy. He acquired a batten sawmill from the Oxnam family in Foxton, trading it for 230,000 fence battens. He then put his sons to work fulfilling that order. *"We were all keen to earn some extra money, so when Dad got the batten sawmill, he put us to work,"* recalls Grant Mitchell, (Butch).

In the early years the boys were all involved. They started out making posts for MSD Spiers in Marton. Around 1975 when Mitchpine became formalised, Alan was involved in logging, Butch stayed doing the posts and Ron became mechanic, manager and wood buyer. This was constant until around 1985 when Keith got



FIRST BATTEN MILL, 1975



KEITH MITCHELL INFAMOUSLY ALWAYS SEEN DRIVING THE BULLDOZER OR GATOR.

sick and it was decided Allan would help him more with the farm. The Koputaroa Deer Farms and the sale yards were later established.

With three brothers and three growing families the Mitchpine homestead became a bit of a daycare and Elsa often had all the grandchildren there. Core memories were made for all. One core memory is Lee, Phillip and Shane would be dropped off before Elsa and Keith were awake. They would sneak in through the wood box and sit down and watch TV.



**RON, ALLAN, BUTCH AND
KIDS AFTER A SUCCESSFUL
HUNT AT LAKE ROTOAIRA**

Ron left the business in 1992 and moved with his family to Taupo. Butch then became the manager. Allan, Wendy and the family left the district to pursue farming in 2001 and this is when Butch became the sole owner.

Throughout the history, like any business, Mitchpine has faced challenges and embraced changes that have shaped the business as it is today. From global economic crisis to changes in the rules and regulations to COVID 19. There have been a few challenges and Mitchpine has made many changes to the business to be where we are today.



PHILLIP, LEE & SHANE WORKING

In 2019, Lee purchased the business from Butch and took over the reins, bringing a fresh perspective and a commitment to innovation. *"We try to stay up to date with what is happening overseas. We import and*

develop technology from overseas to keep our plant and machinery efficient. By investing in technology, not only do we get better products and utilise the right part of the tree for the right product, but we are also reducing waste and creating a safer workplace”.

Mitchpine has grown its product line, from the humble batten to a product range of 100s of items. Mitchpine now services a number of different industries, historically servicing mainly agricultural. Around 1997, Mitchpine was even shipping outdoor furniture to Japan, something that didn't last for long.

As Mitchpine celebrates 50 years, one enduring truth is that change will always be a constant factor. *“The industry is constantly changing, and we want to keep changing to meet demands to ensure wood is the first choice,” said Lee.* We are excited to announce the opening of the new roundwood mill, a project that will enhance our efficiency and allow us to meet the growing demand for quality wood products.

With a proud legacy of supplying premium wood for half a century, we look forward to continuing our journey as a trusted supplier for many more years to come. Thank you all for being part of this incredible celebration and for your unwavering support throughout our journey. **Here's to the next 50 years!**



**LEE AND ANGUS WITH POLE
PEELER PRIOR TO UPGRADE,
2018**



POSTS AT LINTON FOREST,
1975



HEALTH & SAFETY,
NOT A PRIORITY IN 1975!



Revin
HEAD OFFICE COPY
FF & KING (N.Z.) LTD.
TERMS
DATE 20/1/76
CUSTOMER'S ORDER NO.
CENT - Soon As Possible
To be an
self-harvest
parks
Possibly

Quantity in the control of the goods in N.Z. and to destination named by the

Model 212
Port 1/16
Complete with all standard
equipment plus hydraulic
outfeed roll equipment
Incl. also not include
motor, motor sheave or
belt.

1/16
Kotonia: One Only
K. G. Mitchell

THE OWNER AGREES TO SELL AND PURCHASER AGREES TO
THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS SHOWN ABOVE AND C
OVER-RISE ALL INCONSISTENT ORAL OR OTHER WRITT
PURCHASER'S SIGNATURE
NAME OF FIRM
ISSUED BY
TITLE
DATE

A MESSAGE FROM BUTCH

Mitchpine, one hell of a roller coaster ride.

Founders Keith Mitchell and sons Ron, Allan and Butch started out as a partnership, K G Mitchell and Sons. Working in the timber industry, cutting battens, posts and tree felling to make a living. We had no idea then that this would develop into Mitchpine as it is today, a multi-million-dollar sawmill, post and pole facility.

None of this would be possible without the many varied staff that came and went and those still with us today, many years later.



HANDS ON BOSS 2003



Lows

- 1980's when the government of the day removed the farming subsidy. It was hard times for Mitchpine for many years.
- 1993 the Asian financial crisis created hard times in the short term.

Highs

- Debarking export sawlogs for the Wellington Wharf.
- Exporting power poles to the Philippines.
- Exporting garden furniture to Japan.

Many sawmills closed down during the 2008 financial crisis. Mitchpine purchased one of those from Taranaki Sawmills, The National Park Sawmill based in Tongariro. With that mill and bits and pieces from nine other mills across the country that also closed down gave Mitchpine entrance into the sawmilling industry. Which is a big part of Mitchpine today.

Many thanks to Lee who made this all possible; it is a massive project.

The future of Mitchpine is now in the capable hands of Lee; the 3rd generation.

The timber industry is a very small community full of great people. But keep in mind, *"The arse you kick today may be the one you kiss tomorrow."*



**BUTCH AT STAFF AWARDS,
2022**

MITHPINE TIMELINE



5,200 BATTENS THE
BIGGEST LOAD TO DATE

1980 Opening of the treatment plant and pole peeler was installed.

1981 First office was built, the caravan was redundant and introduction of a new pole peeler.

1976 Purchased the first post peeler.

1975

1975 Mitchpine is established. Keith Mitchell needed to expand the family farm. He swapped a batten sawmill with the Oxnam family from Foxton in exchange for 230,000 fence battens.

1980

1977 Formation of the logging crew. The crew logged Guaves Forest, Waitarere, and Horowhenua Ranges.

1983 Construction of the workshop. The steel for this workshop came from Tokaanu Power Station.

1982 Merchandiser was established



85252

Yerton Road, P.O. 12
LAVIN,
8th September 1985

darbark Pacific Ltd.
P.O. Box 512
MOUNTAIN

Dear Brian,

Please find enclosed a cheque for \$551.00 being 10% deposit for a model 550 Pole Picker as quoted. Balance of \$2500.00 will come from either the D.V.B. or U.D.G. accounts.

Also after talking to you on Wednesday night I suggest that we use the 75 h.p. motor for the water head and use our 20 h.p. motor for the hydraulics. Its better to have ample power than not enough.

I will arrive at your workshop with the 20 h.p. motor on Friday 29th September at approximately 10 am.

Thanking you for your prompt quote and trust you will get you 1st into 10th in the manufacture of this picker.

Kind regards,

Michael
R.A. Mitchell
BUTCH

Knob...



1986

Development of the planner shed.

1988

Woodchip fire.

1992 Ron, Julie and the kids left to pursue other interests, Butch became manager.

1993
Introduction of export debarking.



1985

1990



1987 Installation of the boiler and steam tubes.

1989 Current roundwood mill put in, bought second hand from Waipawa.



**ROUNDWOOD TABLE
1989**



**GRAEME GOULDSMITH
MANS THE OFFICE**

1997 Start of export telephone poles to the Philippines and export furniture to Japan.

2001 Allan, Wendy and the family left the district to pursue farming. Butch became the sole owner of Mitchpine.

1995

2000

1996

Construction of the second office.



**GRAEME CLIFF
WORKING FROM THE
SECOND OFFICE**



2009 Incident of the logging truck fire.



2011 Installation of the 2nd treatment cylinder.

2005

2010

2007 Implementation of the 4.5m new boiler.

2010
Construction
of the sawmill.

2012
Establishment of
the new/current
office and air
conditioner.





*KILNS INSTALLED,
2016*



LEE & GABBY, 2021

2016 Installation of kilns
- these were transported
from Feilding and installed
to grow our timber
offering.

2021 Stopped
supplying directly
to the public.

2015

2020



*LEE, BUTCH AND
ANGUS 2018 NEW
BIG STEAM TUBE.*

2019 Butch retired and Lee
purchased Mitchpine.
Mitchpine was rebranded
with new logo and new
website. Stopped using
cheques to pay the bills.



MITCHPINE

2018 Installation of
the big steam tube.





2025 Projected opening of the new roundwood mill.



CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ROUNDWOOD MILL

OUR PEOPLE



Currently 73 staff
8 females, 65 males

Between
all current
staff we have
**492 YEARS
EXPERIENCE**



LOGGING, WAITAKERE FOREST

Over 40 years:

Ross McChessney (42yrs)
Dean Edmonds (40yrs)
Butch (45 years)

Over 30 years:

Lee (30 years)
Craig Rutherford (38yrs)
Graeme Gouldsmith (33 yrs)

Over 20 years:

Clint Murray (20yrs)
Karen Greig (29yrs)
Jan Mitchell (23yrs)

Over 15 years:

Willy Taplin (15yrs)
Bill Lardelli (19 yrs)



KORY ENSURING HE HAS THE
RIGHT HEALTH AND SAFETY
GEAR ON WHILE ONSITE

TRAINING

Training is an important aspect for all staff.

This has not only helped reduce the number of accidents onsite but also helps keep the team interested, engaged and growing their own development.

Everyone has a training plan which when completed still gets reviewed on a regular basis.

Some important training to note:

Sam Boakes – Lark and Daryl Milligan are both completing Engineering apprenticeships at the moment.

Tai-Li Pahl is completing an Internship for Mitchpine.

Karen Greig and Joel Nugetern completed apprenticeships within last year.



Quality Assurance: One value that has been passed down from each generation is the ambition to offer only quality products. We are still dedicated to maintaining high quality, we have implemented rigorous quality control measures throughout the production process to ensure that our timber meets or exceeds industry standards.

[illegible]

FACTS

LOGS

Logs that came in,

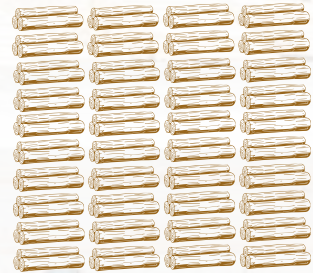
7 trucks a day.



ROUNDWOOD MILL

Roundwood mill produces
40 bundles of wood per day.

The new roundwood mill
will produce **5 times more.**



WOODCHIP OUT



7 truck loads
a day.



SAWMILL

Prior to the edger going in
(3yrs ago) the sawmill was
producing approx. **50m³**
per day.

Since the edger has been
working the target is
100m³ per day.



OUR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS

Cam Lewis, Lewis Farms

We've been using Mitchpine products for a long, long time. We're very spoiled to have them on our doorstep, but even if we didn't, because of both the quality and the service we get from Mitchpine, we wouldn't be going anywhere else.

One of the big things for me is the ease of ordering, they're quite a small tight-knit team at Mitchpine, they get to know me and I get to know them, and every time I ring up or email for an order, if it's something a little bit unusual, they're straight on the blower to me to tell me, *"you know, tweak your size slightly and you'll get it for a much better price, because it's a stock item, or we'll have it ready for this afternoon"*, or whatever it may be.

We're a little bit unique as we do a lot of different things. For the farms,



we need the standard fencing products, but in our horticulture side of our business, wind breaks are really important to us, and so Lee and his team have been able to supply us poles for some pretty high wind breaks. We have a little outlet shop here for our strawberries and asparagus, where we encourage people to take a break when they're on their journey. So we've built a playground here, using Mitchpine products.

It's just provincial New Zealand, like it should be, can-do people giving us what we need so we can run our business.



**Mark Fortune, GM Sales
and Services for TimTech
Chemicals. Retired 2023.**

Supplier of timber preservatives.
We had a 19 year supplier/customer
relationship with Mitchpine.

A wonderful family business who hold values, ethics and honesty in the highest regard. Very similar founding values of TimTech Chemicals. I met Grant in the early 2000's and it was Grant's foresight that we needed a 3rd supplier to keep the industry on an honest footing that really gave TimTech Chemicals the significant volume of supply that allowed TimTech Chemicals to grow and survive.

Grant and Lee were fantastic people to supply to. A real credit to the timber preservation industry. I consider it a great privilege to have been involved in their business over a lengthy period of time. Innovative and forward-thinking. Thank you Grant (Butch) and Lee. All the very best for the next 50 years.



Nathan Guy - long serving customer.

The Guy family have a long and warm association with the Mitchell's which goes well beyond the 50 successful years in business.

The family were pioneers through hard physical work in forestry, logging and adding value to logs through manufacturing.

Mitchpine has built up a very loyal customer base that is underpinned by reliable timber products and fantastic service.



Lee (& Kathy) have taken the business to a new level with strategic investments utilising modern technology and I admire their vision.

I'm sure future generations of Mitchells will continue to drive the business forward for another 50 years.



Simon Heron, Mitre 10 (NZ)

I have enjoyed working with Mitchpine for the past 30 years. Over the years I have seen integrity, trust, honesty, and they always deliver what they commit to.

Working for a member-owned collective of family businesses, I genuinely appreciate working alongside Mitchpine's family values.

Congratulations to all the people of Mitchpine for a well-earned 50th birthday celebration.





Doug Easton Ltd

We have been getting product from Mitchpine since the 1970s. We took peelings from Keith and his boys where they were harvesting trees for roundwood in the Waitarere Forest.

It has been amazing to watch the continual growth of the business.

The number of jobs Mitchpine has created for Horowhenua is amazing and a credit to Mitchpine.



Kiwi Engineering

We have been working with Mitchpine for approximately 10 years, supplying engineering services, manufacturing components for the roundwood mill and truck body builds.

OUR TEAM



Clinton Murray

Number of years at Mitchpine
22.

First role
Tailing out behind the splitter.

Other roles
In the crome, pole peeler,
bundling poles, loader.

Current role
Dispatch loading.

First memory
Meeting the team.

Funny moment
Got the loader stuck down the back.
Had to walk and get Cheeseey. The
old girl was on 2 wheels. Funny but
“shame”.

What makes you proud to work at Mitchpine?
Atmosphere. A good bunch of people
to work with.



Melvyn

Number of years at Mitchpine

10 Years.

First role

Round wood table grader.

Other roles

Peeler grading, splitter operating and pointing.

Current role

2IC.



First memory

Was seeing all the mud! Carrying strainers off the table through the mud to throw on a cradle that was buried in mud, you would lose your boots in the process.

Funny moment

I remember my first break up do at Mitchpine. Butch and myself were so pissed we were sitting with our arms around each other while Jan was trying to feed Butch fish bites, he was smacking her hand away saying I want to drink with the boys.

What makes you proud to work at Mitchpine?

Its family-orientated and they are fair and decent people which is hard to find these days. Keep up good work.



Dean Edmonds

Number of years at Mitchpine

40 Years.

First role

Tailing off post peeler.

Other roles

Driving loader for post peeler,
peeler operator, foreman

Current role

Merchandiser operator.

First memory

Working off peeler at Santoff Forest. It was very hot, I was thinking to myself that it was going to be my last day but 40 years later I am still here.

Funny moment

Boys were put to work from a young age. I remember when Lee and Shane were very young they were both in the loader driving it, thought it was very funny, two kids driving a massive loader around.



What makes you proud to work at Mitchpine?

Mitchpine has been a good employer they have been very good to me through some hard times.

Any other comments?

They treat the staff well and they have always stood behind me and have treated me well. Mitchpine has grown so much from being a small company to the company it is today. The staff at Mitchpine are a good bunch to work with.

Ross McChesney **Mitchpine OG Crew**

Number of years at Mitchpine

About 47 years.

First role

Working on the end of splitter for around six months.

Other roles

A lot of skid work - loader driving -
post stacking - post cutting - skidover
operating - tree planter - pruner -
crane operator - merchandiser operating
- post peeler operator - pole peeler
operator - bush gang - foreman -
safety office - department manager.

Current role

Foreman department manager.

First memory

Squeezing into the old Toyota Land Cruiser to get to work.

Funny moment

While we were working away we had some good nights playing pool with the locals.

What makes you proud to work at Mitchpine?

Finding somewhere and someone to give me a sense of belonging.



Karen Greig

Number of years at Mitchpine

28 yrs.

First role

Making garden edging for Woodplus.



Other roles

Making kitset furniture, pickets, gate planter boxes, outdoor bbq tables, wooden stakes, exporting to Japan.

Current role

Domeloc, bollards, gates, knife sharpening.

First memory

Coming down the ramp in a big cat loader with my older brother and thinking about how steep the ramp was (shitting myself) lol.

Funny moment

There has been a lot.

What makes you proud to work at Mitchpine?

To be the first female to work in the yard and still be here. Mitchpine is a good company.

Any other comments?

I am proud I was able to work for the same place as my 3 older brothers and step-father, and watch Lee grow up.

Kayla Wilson-Edwards

Number of years at Mitchpine

I started as a casual labourer but became a full member of staff on the 1st of Feb 2023.

In 1-2 sentences tell us about your job

I work in the saw mill and over the last year I am now a qualified machine operator and nearly completed training on the headrig and the saw mill loader.

What's your favourite part of your job?

I get to spend my days hanging out with an awesome bunch of peeps.

Since starting with Mitchpine have you completed any training? If so, what?

I am fully qualified on the saw mill sorting table,
I'm a qualified grader and grading chain operator,
LA resaw in operator, an edger operator.

I'm about to be signed off on headrig and loader, as well as competent in most of the other saw mill training modules.

Most interesting fact you have learnt about the industry?

That we are all equal but the team makes it truly special.



STAFF REMEMBRANCE BOARD

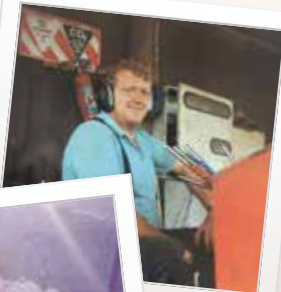
**Since our establishment,
we have had the
privilege of working
with many remarkable
staff some of whom have
since passed away.**

Today, we remember them with warmth and gratitude
for their dedication and contributions to Mitchpine.
In no particular order, we honor their memories:

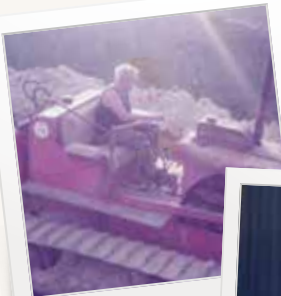
Elsa Mitchell
Keith Mitchell
Vic Thorby
Peter Thorby
Chantell Skinner
Perry Cottle

Ian Greig (Burger)
Max Kerehoma
Frank Kreinecker
Brian Rueb
Craig Martin (Goose)
Malcolm Page (Bing)

Peter Tui (Sabu)
Peter Cummings
Kevin Ellis
Bruce McKelvey
(Bruiser)
Bruce Millard
Allan Spaans



IAN
GREIG



KEITH
MITCHELL



ELSA MITCHELL



HERES TO THE NEXT 50 YEARS.

2025

Our Processes

In the next few years we look forward to seeing what the new Roundwood Mill can do, get it up and running and producing more roundwood, 5 times the amount of current production!

Implementing new machinery including a New Zealand first, a new fully automated strapping machine.

Our Team

Developing and training the team, continuing to make this a priority along with Health and Safety of the site.

Be a workplace of choice.

Our Brand

We want to be the outdoor wood of choice and look forward to expanding our brand throughout the country.

Continue to celebrate the amazing product that outdoor timber is, and help shine a light on the wood industry with a positive lens.

Becoming FSC accredited.





MITCHPINE



*MITCHPINE IN
THE EARLY 1980S*