



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The Limestone Coast's forestry debate has been given a human face, with the launch of a unique project designed to highlight the extent to which the timber industry is entwined in our everyday lives. *Wallpaper* is a collection of images featuring local children and families captured with elements of paper or wood. Mount Gambier-based photographer Tanya Ewen (formerly O'leary) says it's a way of injecting light into local communities and celebrating the strength of South East families.

"The region has been on a bit of a rollercoaster ride for the last few years, and there is a general fear of what is around the corner regarding the forward sale of our forestry assets, but we're also seeing a strong degree of country resilience and optimism, and this is what I'm trying to capture while recording a significant chapter in local history," Tanya explains.

The *Wallpaper* project will reflect the unique charm and personality of individual participants while featuring a range of props from paper butterflies to towering trees.

"It may be really obvious or it may be really subtle – either way, it's designed to illustrate the fact that both paper and wood underpin life in the South East of SA," Tanya says.

*Wallpaper* will be presented as a two-week photographic exhibition at Mount Gambier's Little Goat Gallery, which will be launched with a cocktail party on 19<sup>th</sup> October. Wall displays will be printed on an exquisite range of cotton rag paper now available at 'The Tanya Way Photography Studio' (formerly Tanya O'Leary Photography), and images of every participant will feature in a slide show. Participating families are being asked to pay a one-off \$25 fee to be involved, and profits will be donated to their nominated school, kindergarten, childcare centre or charity. Photography must be completed by October 1, 2012, and images will be available for individual purchase.

"It's a really exciting project for me as a photographer, allowing me to test my creativity while also highlighting an important issue that affects us all. The response so far from families has been fantastic - this project really resonates with people in this region," Tanya says.

**Editors: digital images from the *Wallpaper* project are attached for your use. For more information, interviews or images, please contact Tanya Ewen on 0404 473 867.**