

## Message from the Livestock Department

We are fast approaching the festive season and our traditionally busy time of year. It is a good time to reflect on some of the good things happening at Darwalla. The Allora hatchery is in its final stages of construction and the anticipation is building up for our commissioning and start up.

The 19th February will be the day the first eggs are set and first chicks to be hatched on the 12th March. During the year we have had many CI teams formed as staff commit to the training they have received and it's great to see the improvements that have come about as a result.



Last year, we put separate Male Breeder Feeding Systems in at our Breeder Production farms. The resulting improvement in hatchability since June this year has been outstanding. Full credit to the Breeder and Hatchery Teams. I am looking forward to the next round of success stories. In closing I would like to wish you and your Families A Very Happy Festive Season.



## News from Allora Hatchery

On the 9th November, the Mayor of the Southern Downs Regional Council Tracey Dobie and Deputy Mayor Jo McNally joined with Albert Benfer and David Bray to see the progression of the hatchery and give council support for the project and investment by Darwalla in the region.

## The Injury Prevention and Management (IPaM)

On the 20th October Shannon Oxenbridge - Workplace Health and Safety Queensland presented Juan Corredor, Darwalla HR & QA Manager with the IPaM Certificate of Completion. Darwalla has been part of the IPaM program, a joint initiative between Workplace Health and Safety QLD (WHSQ) and WorkCover QLD. The goal of IPaM is to assist employers establish and maintain effective injury management to improve health and safety outcomes for workers.



## New Appointments

We are pleased to announce that new members have joined our company in October. We are looking forward to seeing them grow and develop within the organisation and hope that they find their work to be rewarding, challenging and meaningful.

- ◆ **Catchers:** Jason Butler, Pierre Niyibimpa, Joel Stone, Salim Nungutse, Andrew Mills, Janvier Nibaruta.
- ◆ **Truck Drivers:** Derek Hammond, Andrew Corry.
- ◆ **Allora Hatchery:** James Hardie, Roy Watts

## 15 Years of Service Award - Congratulations to Loretta Nylander

Darwalla has a proud record of recognising each employee who has shown their loyalty and dedication to Darwalla. Staff contributions make a difference and for that reason Darwalla is committed to express appreciation to all employees.

Loretta joined Darwalla as the Purchasing Officer, she said she has seen many changes over the past 15 years and it is amazing how people have adapted to get the job done. Loretta said she is surrounded by people who continually support and encourage her in all that she does for them. Working at Darwalla has given her a sense of achievement and pride to ensure the purchasing and payment process of Darwalla runs smoothly. Congratulations to Loretta on achieving an important milestone.



### Darwalla Continuous Improvement teams

Congratulations to the “Laidley Larrikins” who have achieved Team status. The team at Laidley implemented a venturi system for dispensing chemicals around the boot room to improve biosecurity, along with completing a 5S on their boot storage.

Guy and Simon visited the farm at the completion of catch out to present the team with their shirts.



### Darwalla’s Voice Internationally



On the 5th and 6th October, David Bray, as part of his role as the Australian Chair of the Stock Feed Manufacturers Association of Australia (SFMCA), attended a series of meetings in Rome with the International Feed & Ingredients Federation (IFIF) and the Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO), a division of the United Nations, to further strengthen their collaboration on critical issues to ensure safe, nutritious and sustainable feed and food.

### Working for the Community

A special “thank you” to Andy and the team at the workshop at Mt Cotton who recently helped Albert with some welding on a home-made hand- propelled wheelchair. Thanks to the workshop boys, this wheelchair is enroute to Papua New Guinea where 3 polio sufferers already get around in one of Albert’s wheelchairs. Rotary regularly send shipping containers of second-hand hospital & school supplies to PNG where the items are put to good use.



Generator Install

### Progress at the Allora Hatchery

The construction of the new hatchery at Allora is progressing well. A major milestone was achieved with the installation of a generator at the Allora site. The project is on track to have construction completed before Christmas and commissioning completed in the new year. All Darwalla Staff will be scheduled to visit the hatchery on the 23rd & 24th January, prior to the hatchery being fully operational. The official opening of the hatchery will be on the 12th February.



### Fire Safety Training

On the 8th and 9th November members of the Mt Cotton teams including the Senior Leadership Team undertook their annual fire safety training. Staff learnt to select the right extinguisher for each type of fire, how to handle and operate the extinguisher and extinguishing a controlled fire.

### Passport Program - Laidley

On the 4th December, the Laidley team did the trek up the range and visited the Allora hatchery and Victoria Hill production farm. The hatchery tour was led by David Bray who gave them a wonderful insight into how the new hatchery will flow and function. After a quick smoko in Allora, the Laidley team headed off to Victoria Hill for a look at the birds which had been transferred from Laidley the week before. Warren, the Victoria Hill Breeder Manager gave the Laidley team a great tour around Victoria Hill’s packing room and explained the process of collecting hatchable eggs.



## Graduations -Certificate IV in Competitive Systems & Practices and Certificate IV in Leadership & Management

On the 3rd November the two groups of students who successfully completed the Certificate IV Programme attended their graduation at MyHorizon Capalaba. Anna Blackley was also presented with her Diploma of Human Resource Management. It was a great night to celebrate the hard work and dedication of all participants.



Congratulations to all graduates!

## Christmas Party 2017

The Darwalla Christmas Party was held on the 2nd of December at the Alexandra Hills Hotel, with 134 staff, family and contractors attending.

It was a great night including a 'Heads and Tails' competition which, after a world record run of heads tossed by the 'Coin Master' Simon, came down to Noel Benfer and Matt O'Meara. Ultimately Matt stuck with heads to claim the prize. There was also a photo booth, which was well utilised, with many people getting a memento of their evening. Other prizes in the Christmas Draw were spread across the attendees, with the Catchers and Hatchery teams featuring heavily. There were lots of hugs and smiles during the draw which was elegantly hosted by Loretta.

Thanks to the Christmas Committee, Loretta, Amanda, Rob, Greg, Simon and Simon for putting together a great night.

