



Connecting Darwalla



No. 18 – February 2018

Message from the HR and QA Department

Since commencing at Darwalla in December 2017 I have gained an insight into the business and am proud to be part of a great organisation. Knowing that Darwalla have achieved several awards in Training, Safety and Rehabilitation and Return to Work, one of my objectives will be to continue to provide a high level of support to the Senior Leadership Team and all Darwalla Staff. Darwalla staff are Darwalla's greatest asset. Our single greatest responsibility is to ensure our staff come to work each morning and go home when the working day is done. Zero Harm – all day - every day.

Michelle Watts HR & WHS Manager

Michelle joins Darwalla with considerable experience in Human Resources Management, Industrial Relations and Safety Management in the construction, services and manufacturing industries. During her time in industry she has worked with private and family owned businesses and therefore will bring a broad knowledge base to the Darwalla Group. Michelle commenced work on the 18th December 2017 and Juan spent a month handing over his role as HR and WHS Manager to Michelle before he left for his sabbatical on the 17th January.



Stuart Sutton Poultry Industry Graduate

We are pleased to announce that Stuart Sutton joined Darwalla on the 14th of January as the successful candidate for Darwalla's graduate program. Stuart is a recent graduate of The University of Queensland where he has completed his Bachelor in Veterinary Science and Bachelor in Applied Science majoring Animal Production. Over the next 12 months Stuart will be working in all sections of the business to gain as much experience and exposure to the poultry industry as possible. He will initially be working in the Feed Mill then rotated to the Rearing and Production Farms, Hatchery and Broiler operations.

Allora Hatchery Update

On the 23rd and 24th January the team at the Allora Hatchery hosted tours for Staff, Growers and invited guests. These tours were a great chance for those who visited to see the facilities before it is closed for biosecurity reasons.



All construction has been completed and the building has been certified for operational use by our Building Certifier. This is a significant milestone for all involved in the construction and fit out of the facility. The team is now focused on final fit off and commissioning of the setters, hatchers and automation equipment. The Darwalla staff on site are all involved with this process as well as planting some 15,000 plants as part of the landscaping. Final preparations and planning is underway for the commencement of operations there. This will be finalised in the next couple of weeks.



Continuous Improvement:- Congratulations to the Back Plains "Dream Team" and the "Hendon Pirates" for achieving their team status. David Greaves recently presented both teams with their shirts to recognise their contribution to the continuous improvement program at Darwalla.



"At Darwalla we grow quality chickens, our business, our customers business and above all else we grow our people"





DARWALLA GROUP



✓ **Passport Programme:**

On the 16th January members of the Mt Cotton Feed Mill, Weighbridge and Finance teams were joined by the company Nutritionist Karen Gurney for a visit to the Port of Brisbane to look at the importation of the grains and meals supplied to Darwalla to make the high quality feed.



The Hendon Pirates visited the Mt Cotton facilities on the 25th January. They said their hearty team of cut throats enjoyed the fruits of their labour enjoying a bounty of good food and drink supplied by the Mt Cotton Office. "A big thanks to everyone at head office, the feed mill, workshop and a special mention to Dan Edge at the German Church Farm. It was a great day, enjoyed by all"



15 Years of Service Award

Wendy Smith has been with Darwalla officially for 15 years but she said it has been longer as she started at Darwalla with the breeder vaccination crew. She joined the Gatton Breeder Production team before they moved to the new farms on the Downs. She is a valued team member of the Hendon Pirates.



10 Years of Service Awards

Sam Haley joined Darwalla in 2007 as a feed mill operator and in 2017 became the Senior Feed Mill Supervisor.



Gwynn Brauns joined Darwalla in 2007 as the Document Controller, in 2010 she became the Compliance Officer for Darwalla.



5 Years of Service Award

Matthew Walker has been with Darwalla for 5 years and has risen to the position of 2IC. He is currently completing his Cert IV and is also a key member of the MTech project team.



Pat Lyons joined Darwalla in 2007 and works on all the six breeder farms as part of the catchout/clean out crew.



Darwalla Breeder Big Bash League

On Sunday 14th January the Victoria Hill Warriors took on the Mt Molar Sharks at the Drayton International Cricket Ground. The Warriors won the toss, and after their 20 overs the Warriors ended up at 9 for 142. The Mt Molar Sharks got off to a flying start and reached the target of 142 without loss of a wicket in 18.2 overs. All in all, cricket was the winner on the day with great sportsmanship being displayed all round.



Training – Certificate IV:

We continue our training in Certificate IV in Competitive Systems & Practices and Certificate IV in Leadership & Management. On the 19th January students met at the Lockyer Valley Community Centre. Great ideas and new projects have been discussed among the program participants. Currently we are focusing on progressing with the team projects with the aim to acquire the skills and knowledge to implement competitive systems and practices within Darwalla.

Darwalla Supporting the Community

In the lead up to Christmas Darwalla staff again supported The Rock Christian Church by way of donating nonperishable food items, toys & toiletries. Any items not suitable to donate were raffled on the 22nd December. The raffle proceeds \$151 were also donated to The Rock who support families in need in the Redlands area. Thank you to everyone who supported this worthy cause.



Darwalla Upcoming Events:

- 9th February 2018: Cert IV Training
- 12th February 2018: Allora Hatchery Official Opening.
- 3rd – 5th June 2018: PIX Gold Coast Convention Centre

