



# Connecting Darwalla

DARWALLA GROUP



No. 13 – April - May 2017

## Message from the CI Manager



Wow! end of May already, it's hard for me to believe I have been part of Darwalla for a little over 4 months. It has been great meeting you all, and thank you to you all for making me feel so welcome. I am extremely happy and proud to be joining Darwalla at such an exciting time. We have developed a model for our Continuous Improvement Program which will provide us with the guidance to ensure it is effective and sustainable. You will have already seen the development of team Visual Performance Boards across the organisation. Along with the Daily Team Meetings these boards will provide the basis of our program where concern and issues are identified and addressed as quickly as possible. We all play a part in making Darwalla a better place to work. If you have ideas for improvement, make sure you highlight them through the ideas cards and pass them on to your managers.

## Hatchery – Progress

Work on the new hatchery at Allora is progressing. It was delayed due to the major rain event in March but is now progressing well. Major earth works have commenced with the foundations being undertaken.



## Farewell to Joe Jansen

On Friday the 21st April we farewelled John (Joe) Jansen from the Darwalla workshop as he started his retirement. Joe worked for Darwalla for over 17 years in various areas of the organisation and became the Workshop Supervisor. Joe is looking forward to the well earned break and will be caravanning around Australia enjoying his retirement. We all wish Joe well in his retirement.



**Certification:** Darwalla has been re-certified for FEEDSAFE. This achievement is one we are particularly proud of as it demonstrates our commitment to providing the highest quality products and services to our clients and further establishes Darwalla as one of the leaders in the poultry industry.



## New Appointments:

Welcome aboard to our Darwalla team! We are pleased to announce that new members have joined our company. 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.

### **Simon Butler: Transport Coordinator**

Simon has joined Darwalla to provide support and assistance to the Transport and Catching Manager. Simon will also be providing back up for the Weighbridge Operator.



**Hatchery:** Troy Baker. **Breeders:** Bryden Kade, Deborah Dorries, Hasitha Nanayakkara, Robert Bassett, Danny Robinson, Reena Lal, Trevor Charles. **Catching:** Beau Carter, Bassam Baki. **Drivers:** Jason Dorrans

## 25 Years of Service Awards:

This service award acknowledges the commitment and achievement of staff members who have worked at Darwalla for at least 25 years. On Friday the 12th May, we recognise the contributions of



David Bray and John Hughes who have served Darwalla during the greater part of their career. Thank you David and John for your contributions and commitment to Darwalla.



## Continuous Improvement:

We have recently commenced Introduction to Lean courses at Darwalla. The course provides participants with awareness of the principles of lean including waste identification, workplace organisation (5S) and visual management. It is delivered through a simulation of building helicopters with Lego. The Hatchery & Back Plains teams were the first teams to complete the training and all gained an understanding of how lean and continuous improvement can be applied in their own workplace.



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



**Passport Programme:** On the 4<sup>th</sup> April, members of the Mt Cotton Administration team and the Senior Leadership team visited Laidley Breeder Rearing Farm. They immersed themselves in the growing process and were trained on grading of the birds including how to hand catch the breeder rearing birds, wing vaccinate, identify bird sex (gender) and sort birds to be weighed.



On the 2<sup>nd</sup> May members of the Breeder Production team from Back Plains visited the Darwalla Hatchery and Double Jump Broiler farm.



## Working with the Future

As part of the industry placement programme at the University of QLD, Gatton, students from various programmes undertake work experience at various locations throughout Darwalla. In April, Lauren Hinwood, who is an Agricultural Science student, worked with the Hendon team to get some hands on experience, learning the shed maintenance duties and egg grading process.



## Training - Cert IV:

We continue our training on Certificate IV in Competitive Systems & Practices and Certificate IV in Leadership & Mgt. The teams are currently focusing on the Introduction of Visual Management and the use of KPI charts in each department



## THANK YOU



A big thank you to all staff for their effort during the flood event on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of March. The Broiler Services Team did a fantastic job ensuring that all broiler farms in South East Qld, Casino and

Lismore areas had feed and diesel.

Thank you to the feed mill for ensuring that all farms had access to feed when required.

The transport team did an amazing job ensuring that our customers

still received feed in very difficult conditions.

A special mention to the teams at Victoria Hill and Hendon farms. When the tributaries of Dalrymple creek and the

Condamine River caused flooding on the Victoria Hill – Hendon site, closing access to the farm, the staff were unable to safely leave the site. Using the tractor on site the Breeder Operations Manager ferried staff from the flooded site ensuring all staff were able to get home safely.



## Site Visits



On Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, Gwynneth Brauns, Darwalla's Compliance Officer, was invited to guest lecture on Processes and Auditing QA- at Griffith University Nathan Campus.

On Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> April, the Environmental Health students from Griffith University visited the Darwalla Feed Mill.



## A special recognition

The Darwalla's Catching crews, who work under difficult conditions, have been consistently meeting their catching levels with the planned pick up numbers to the actual number caught and delivered to the customers being consistently accurate and within the plan.



## Darwalla Upcoming Events

**Growers Lunch and Award Presentation :-**  
On the 7<sup>th</sup> June, the Broiler Growers Lunch and awards Presentation will be held at My Horizon 1/15A Runnymede Road, Capalaba.

## Australia's Biggest Morning Tea:-



On Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> May Darwalla had their Biggest Morning Tea. Thank you for baking, cooking, mixing and contributing to the mornings' yummys. We had a great time in front of the office, maybe a bit cool for some, but it was nice to see so many there. Thanks to all who helped set up and clean up. Loretta won the "Guess the Lolly" jar and donated the funds, thanks very much for that. In total we raised \$ 326.50 – which will be matched by Darwalla.

