



**Victorian Farmers Federation**

*United Dairyfarmers of Victoria*

## **District Council 2 and 3 Regional Update**



Over the past two weeks, your dairy and water leaders from DC 2 and 3 have been involved in the following activities.

### **G-MW Regional Groundwater Meeting:**

Richard Anderson, as the VFF representative attended G-MW's regional groundwater meeting last week. Issues discussed included the possibility of individual aquifer pricing and the potential to carryover groundwater entitlements. G-MW also presented a paper describing how groundwater fees are determined.

### **Northern Victoria Infrastructure Renewal Project:**

The Chairman of the new Board dealing with the \$1billion irrigation upgrade noted in last week's Country News that up to 1000 gates could be installed this winter. Any decisions about gates and channel upgrades must involve consultation. It is very important that the new Board engage with water service committees to ensure a level of community ownership.

### **Lake Mokoan Decommissioning:**

The VFF continues to work with farmers on the Broken system following the State Government's announcement to decommission Lake Mokoan. The VFF is urging farmers not to rush any decision when approached by DSE to sell their water but rather work with the VFF to develop a fair compensation package that can then be discussed with Government.

### **Autumn Planning:**

With autumn fast approaching we are encouraging farmers to begin making plans for the autumn. Plans can be discussed with trusted neighbours/friends, advisors and DPI staff.

### **Cereal Crops for Dairy Farms:**

Murray Dairy's Regional Extension Committee is organising six workshops titled "Cereal Crops for Dairy Farms – are they an option and how do I grow them?" The workshops begin on the 21st February and run until 7th March. For further information contact DPI, Kyabram on 5852 0505.

### **Stanhope Branch Information Night:**

The Stanhope branch has organized a dinner with David Morrison from the Bureau of Meteorology presenting to guests. The event will be held February 12, 7:30 pm. For further information contact Julie Tyrell on 5857 2810.

### **Katunga/Nathalia Branch Information Night:**

Last week the Katunga and Nathalia branches organized an information night. Over 50 people attended with a free meal for all UDV/VFF members. Representatives from Dairy Australia and Westpac presented to guests as well Doug Chant (UDV President) and Richard Anderson (VFF Water Council Chairman) providing an update on recent activities. A special thank you to Phyllis Broadwood for arranging the night.

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