

**Directors' Report**  
**Period: 2004 – 2005**  
**Report Date: 18 July 2006**

**1. Introduction**

Your directors present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2005.

**2. Directors**

The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Delphine Christianne Bentley (08/12/2004 – present), BSc (NRM). Experience in primary production in the area of property and human resource management.

Melissa Driscoll (23/06/2003 – 08/12/2004)

Bennjamin James Forsyth (08/12/2004 – present), Experience in primary production in area of property and livestock management and product marketing. Experience in regional community groups.

Andrew Robert James Freshwater (23/06/2003 – 15/03/2006)

Pedr James Roberts Harvey (26/10/2004 – present) BAppSc (Crops & Rangelands) Experience in agribusiness

Mandy Elizabeth Jeppesen (23/06/2003 – present) BSc. (Ag). Experience in agricultural extension for research organizations and agricultural supply companies.

Anna Louise Keetels (08/12/2004 – present) B. Political Science.; B. Economics (Ag); Masters Economics (Ag). Experience in agribusiness and agricultural extension.

Rachel Litchfield (23/06/2003 – 08/12/2004)

Debra Jane McLucas (23/06/2003 – 15/03/2006)

Laura Jane Richardson (08/12/2004 – present) Experience in provision of government service.

Jodi Antia Riddell (23/06/2003 – 08/12/2004)

Joanne Patricia Rodney (08/12/2004 – present) BBus. (Organisational Communication); BEd. (Adult and Workplace Education). Experience in communication in agricultural industries.

Francis Lynette Warwick (08/12/2004 – present) Experience in wool production and pastoralism.

**Secretary / Coordinator**

Debra Jane McLucas (23/03/2003 – 15/03/2006) BA (Journalism & Media Studies); Dip (Rural Bus. Mgmt) Experience in journalism.

The directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated.

### **3. Membership**

The following figures represent the number of members in each category at the time of the report:

Supporter – 534  
Future Farmer Level 1 – 98  
Future Farmer Level 2 – 3  
Future Farmers Business – 8  
Community/ Small Business – 10  
Corporate – 10  
Government – 6  
Unallocated - 3

### **4. Depreciation**

No depreciation applies.

### **5. Transfer of Funds**

No recommendations for transfers of funds were made.

### **6. Payment of dividends**

No dividends were paid to members during the year and no recommendation is made as to the dividends.

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend.

### **7. Options**

No options over issued shares or interests in the company were granted during or since the end of the financial year and there were no options outstanding at the date of this report.

### **8. Indemnities**

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company.

### **9. Activities / Operations**

No significant changes in the company's state of affairs occurred during the year.

The principle activities of the company during the financial year were Youth Support in Agriculture.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the year that have significantly, or may significantly affect operations of the company, the results of those operations in future financial years or state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

Likely developments in the operations of the company and the expected results of those operations have not been included in this report as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the company.

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

By 30 June 2005, membership had reached 531, with 281 joining in the period between November 2004 and June 2005. Membership classes ranged from predominately Level 1 and Level 2, however a number of new corporate memberships were subscribed.

The key activity to be undertaken during the 2004-05 period was the "Building Our Rural Futures". This project was funded by the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (Commonwealth) and was undertaken by Ruralscope Pty Limited with Bree Robertson holding the position of Project Manager. The project commenced in November 2004 and was completed by the end of June 2005.

A greater part of the project was conducted via distance service delivery including a vast amount of online communication. This method of delivery saw the project continue and conclude with great success, achieving its goals and setting the Network in a good position to continue on strongly into the future.

Some of the activities undertaken included as part of this project as well as operational

- Membership services – including issuing and processing renewals and establishing a members database
- Meetings – facilitation of Board Meetings and AGM
- Liaison – with stakeholders and other potential partners
- Facilitated FFN Photographic Competition
- Trialled and continued a held a number of online discussions
- Printing and distribution of 5000 information brochures
- Facilitated Future Farmers Week

Future Farmers Week (FFW) was the key outcome of the "Building Our Rural Futures" project and was held across Australia through 12 regional events and 3 online activities, involving 400 young people. FFW was a catalyst for many young people to join the network and to increase their links with other young people in rural industries. It has also provided sound blocks for ongoing activities undertaken by the Network.

#### **10. Meetings held**

The following meetings were held during the year:

- Board Meeting – 29 September 2004
- Inaugural General Meeting – 30 September to 4 October 2004
- Annual General Meeting – 8 October 2004
- Board Meeting – 22 December 2004
- Board Meeting – 31 January 2005
- Board Meeting – 4 April 2005

#### **11. Links to other projects, initiatives and other networks**

During this period, Future Farmers Network members contributed to a number of regional, state and national projects related to young people in rural industries both directly and indirectly. In particular, a number of members attended the National Young Farmers Forum.

FFN wishes to thank its members for their contribution to these projects and networks.

## 12. Future Direction

This was a wonderful period of growth for the Future Farmers Network and one that we wish to capitalise on by strengthening the networks links between members. FFN wishes to thank existing members for their promotion of the network and encouraging others to join.

The key focus of the coming year is building partnerships with government, industry and community organisations to provide members with links to a range of stakeholders associated with young people in rural industries.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors



Delphine Christianne Bentley  
Acting Secretary / Coordinator

18 July 2006