

# Creating Resilient Landscapes to Secure our Farming Future



**Hosted by Upper Mooki Landcare Inc**  
**Thursday 13 May 2021**  
**Windy Station Woolshed**

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**Island Biologicals and Climate Friendly**



**Guest facilitator: Charlie Arnott (Harris Farm Regional Ambassador)**  
**MC: Anne Coote - Climate Friendly**



- 07.30 Breakfast stand - Bacon & Egg Rolls (\$5 - cash only)
- 08.00 Registration and exhibitor stands
- 09.00 Opening welcome - Anne Coote and Charlie Arnott
- 09.15 Welcome to country - Jason Allan (Walhallow Indigenous Land Council)
- 09:20 Session 1: Upper Mooki Rehydration Project  
Project presentation  
Craig Carter - Upper Mooki Rehydration Project Leader,  
Partner landholders: Roger Ottery, Maddy Pursehouse, David Lee;  
Tim Watts - LLS Project Manager, Lana Andrews - RALF  
Rehydration project documentary - Suzannah Cowley (Nviro Media)  
Q&A
- 10.30 Morning tea & exhibitor stands
- 11.00 Session 2: "Regenerative Journeys": Stories from North West Landholders:  
Justin Kirkby - "Amarula Dorper Stud" Gravesend;  
Andrew Watson - "Brigadoon" Boggabri; Ian Carter - "Conamarra" Pine Ridge;  
Roger Sendall - "Rossmore" Burren Junction;
- 12.20 Lunch & exhibitor stands
- 13.20 Session 3: "Regenerative Journeys": Stories from North West Landholders:  
Wayne Chaffey - "Naours" Somerton; Roy Stanger - "Milridge" Curlewis;  
Stuart Austin - "Morocco" Gunnedah; Scott McCalman - "Kuranda" Mullaley
- 14.45 Afternoon tea & exhibitor stands
- 15.00 Session 4: Final Q&A + Future Opportunities
- 16.00 Conclusion - safe journey home.

This project is supported by North West Local Land Services, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and Catchment Action NSW.



# Session 1: Upper Mooki Rehydration Project speakers

**Craig Carter - Upper Mooki Rehydration Project Leader;  
Partner landholders: Roger Ottery, Maddy Pursehouse, David Lee;  
Tim Watts - LLS Project Manager, Lana Andrews - RALF;  
Rehydration project documentary - Suzannah Cowley (Nviro Media)**

## Session 2: North West Regional Speakers

**Justin Kirkby**

Justin and Lorroi, along with sons Sam (16), Flynn (14) and Jock (11) live 50km east of Moree, on a property they bought back in 2004. They run Amarula Dorpers, a highly successful Dorper and White Dorper Stud and sell rams and ewes throughout Australia and embryos and semen internationally.

They look at farming in a totally different light. Their journey began in 2006, at a soil field day with Colin Seis and Judy Earle, where their farming practices changed to focus on regeneration of soil health and biology of the soil. The bare farming paddocks have become vibrant fields of perennial tropical and native pastures.

Planting trees and saltbush has become a passion and multispecies pasture cropping is used as a tool to further improve the soil.

Justin and Lorroi are passionate about sharing their knowledge and have participated in many information days and often field days on their own farm.

In 2019 The Kirkby's won the North West Regional Landcare Award for Excellence in Farming. At the 2019 NSW State Landcare Awards they won the Australian Government Landcare Farming Award, for their commitment to working with their land and its natural assets. They will represent NSW Landcare in 2021, at the Landcare National Awards.

For the Kirkby's, it is all about family, good health, being a good guardian of their natural resources for future generations and producing healthy nutritious pastures for their Dorpers.



**Andrew Watson**

Andrew is a 6th generation mixed cropping and cattle producer from Boggabri NSW. He has an Honours degree in Agricultural Economics, Graduate Diplomas in Applied Finance & Investment and Technical Analysis and has graduated from the Australian Institute of Company Directors' course. Andrew also holds an Advanced Diploma in Agriculture from Tocal College. Kilmarnock Farming has been honoured with various National Production and Sustainability Awards. Andrew is a past Chairman of the Board of Cotton Australia, and has sat on numerous National and State Policy Boards and representative bodies.



**Ian Carter**

Ian is a fourth generation farmer who is passionate about agriculture and leaving his farm in better condition than when he started. A graduate of Sydney University (OAC) he has gone on to achieve recognition for conservation farming (Brownhill Cup), crop production (various competitions), and overall achievement with the GRDC summer grains award and Australian Cotton Grower of the year.

Ian farms 2700ha on the Liverpool Plains growing predominately wheat, sorghum and cotton and running a beef cattle trading enterprise. He places a huge emphasis on maintaining ground cover and conserving moisture through zero till controlled traffic farming and a flexible rotational grazing system. He has seen an improvement in soil health, moisture retention and yield in all crops and a huge reduction in weeds, improved production and drought preparedness on grazing country. He is continually looking for new ideas and technological improvements to assist in achieving his goals and is always willing to trial them.



**Roger Sendall**

Roger is a 3rd generation livestock and cropping farmer from Northwest NSW. He is passionate about farming regeneratively and is developing a strong understanding of moral and environmental responsibilities. His journey started 18 years ago on his grazing enterprise. Then in 2012 Roger started to realise that the traditional farming methods were not adding up economically. This activated his desire to educate himself on alternatives to the high use of herbicide, insecticides and fungicide that were traditionally recommended. He was disillusioned by the ever increasing rates required to maintain control. Although hampered by droughts he has started to implement strategies that have reduced expenses, creating resilience against the unpredictable climate while producing a healthy soil and a profitable product.



# Session 3: North West Regional Speakers

## Wayne Chaffey



Wayne is back on the farm with wife Nell after 40 years in education. Numerous courses, field days and webinars have resulted in dramatic changes from the traditional paradigm of industrial farming and grazing. Their farm "Naours", Somerton, now has kilometres of wildlife corridors, a number of gully restoration projects, cropping using no-till methods and cattle increasingly being grazed using holistic management strategies. As Chair of Bubbogullion 100 Landcare group, he recently coordinated a LLS-funded multispecies cover cropping trial across the Peel Valley, and is currently working with Tamworth Regional Landcare Association (TRLA) to establish a Farming Benchmarking group as part of Landcare Australia's national project.

## Roy Stanger



Roy's dryland farming operations at "Milridge" span across the black alluvial floodplains near Curlewis NSW. Based on a foundation of zero tillage practices in the 1990's Roy have incorporated a range of interventions since then to build resilience into his cropping rotations, his life and his farm.

The biggest challenge has been the extreme climatic events over the past 5 years, including floods & drought. Roy takes an optimistic view and philosophy when making decisions. He has attended various courses and workshops to increase his knowledge and broaden his network of peers to discuss the options available to make the best management choices which do less harm to the environment. His basic philosophy is just "trying to do least harm"

## Stuart Austin



Stuart is the General Manager of Wilmot Cattle Co, a grassfed beef business based in the New England region of NSW, spanning three properties totalling over 5,600ha. The business is managed in a holistic context, focused on regenerating and restoring the ecological function of the landscape in a profitable way, and producing the healthiest, most nutrient dense, beef.

Stuart spent a vast majority of his early career working in the northern Australian pastoral industry, as well as time in broadacre agriculture in Canada, a feedlot in southern Queensland, and was the founder of an international agriculture recruitment business.

Stuart is most passionate about helping others, and this passion is shared amongst the Wilmot Cattle Co team. He often shares their story online, in print media, on podcasts and has been a keynote speaker on various occasions in Australia and North America. In 2019 Stuart was awarded the national Young Carbon Farmer of the Year Award and the business was recognised as a Champion in the NSW Landcare Awards. You can learn more about Stuart and Wilmot Cattle Co via their Facebook page or website, or by attending their annual Field Day, with hundreds of others, in collaboration with MaiaGrazing, on April 8th 2021.

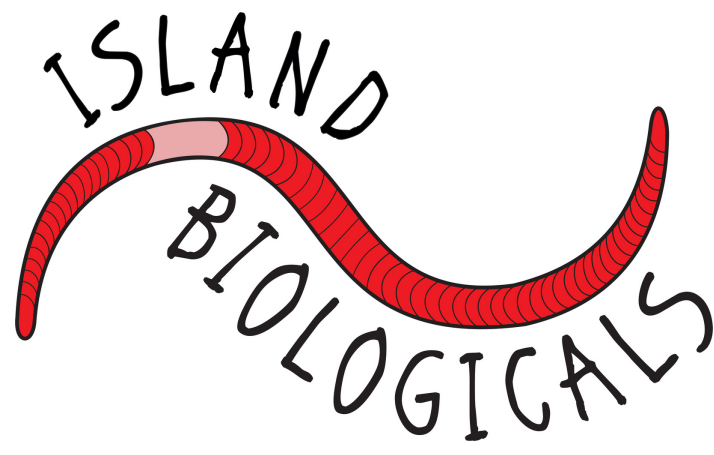
## Scott McCalman



My wife Jo & I have three children Elle, a Graphic Designer, Harriet, a nurse & midwife, George, a rural Banker. We operate a summer & winter cropping operation on the heavy black soil flood plains North east of Mullaley. Our whole system functions maintaining full ground cover & focuses on soil health. We use biological liquid nutrition, utilise a flexible & diverse winter & summer cropping rotation & crimp roll cover crops as a key driver to soil health, moisture retention & risk management. Some of our production caters & supplies into some niche markets such supplying niche grains to Wholegrain Milling as biotechnology produced sustainable grain which is milled into specialty flour for the Artesian Bread market. Some achievements over the years include: Churchill Fellowship Award 1995, Conservation Farmer of the Year 1997, Cotton Industry Achiever Award 1998 Australian Rural Leadership Program Graduate 2000, NSW Farmer of the Year 2005, Carbon Cocky of the Year 2008-2009, Upper Namoi Cotton Grower of the Year 2015 Upper Namoi Cotton Grower of the Year 2015



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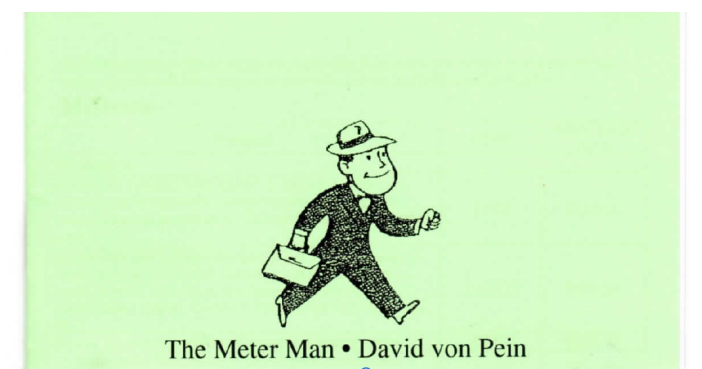
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Meters for Modern Farmers

From "The Meterman" - David von Pein

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