



## ADFC

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*Hello to our shareholders, members, partners and associates,*

*ADFC is off to a good start for 2016 as the business continues to explore its investment opportunities. We have now listed with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) – a move that takes us closer to realising our strategic plan of expanding our operation.*

*While business keeps moving, I also want to acknowledge the tough conditions that many of our farmers are experiencing. We've been dealing with dry conditions for a long time now, and this has put added pressure on our farmers who are having to outlay more and manage the difficult conditions. Here's hoping it's a wet autumn.*

*In this edition of our newsletter, we have an outline of our next steps, an article on a new group supporting woman in dairy and we meet ADFC farmers Joe and Julie Giblin.*

*Enjoy reading*

**Scott Sieben, ADFC Chairman**  
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## ADFC Update

### ASIC and beyond

ADFC is now officially registered with ASIC – a necessary step that now allows the company to expand and secure investors. As we reported in our last newsletter, ADFC's new rules have also been officially adopted and a copy of the new constitution is available on our website (under the 'Supply' heading).

The next step will see our shareholders invest some capital in the company. We plan to discuss

this in more detail at supplier meetings, which we hope to hold in April. We will be in contact with our farmers shortly to provide more details. The meetings will also be advertised on our website.

The supplier meetings will also provide an opportunity for ADFC management to update everyone on any developments with potential investors.

### ADFC farmer establishes forum for women in dairy



From L to R: Lyn Boyd, Bette Hall & Jade Sieben  
*Photograph courtesy of Stock and Land - [www.stockandland.com.au](http://www.stockandland.com.au)*

One of our ADFC farmers, Jade Sieben, has helped establish a group to celebrate and support women working in the dairy industry.

Jade, who farms in northern Victoria, said she wanted to create an avenue to recognise the practical roles women now play in dairy. "It is important that women work together and support each other in this industry. Often women go unrecognised and that's why I came up with the idea of establishing the Power of Women in Dairying group," Jade explained.

The group held its inaugural dinner in January during International Dairy Week. It also created the Bette Hall Power of Women in Dairy Award – named after a woman whose intellect, strength and determination has been much admired in the industry. Bette Hall started breeding dairy cows in the 1950s and was an early adopter of breeding technologies.

The inaugural winner of the award was Lyn Boyd from Brunchilli Jerseys in Finley, New South Wales. The Boyd family milk 370 cows on 202 hectares and, to date, have won champion cow at the Sydney Royal Easter Show seven times! They have also won premier breeder every year from 2003 to 2015. Jade said Lyn was also recognised because of her community work, "she works with students at Deniliquin High School teaching them about cattle and how to prepare them for showing."

The Power of Women in Dairying group has started a scholarship to send a woman to Madison, Wisconsin in the United States to attend the World Dairy Expo.

If you'd like more information about the scholarship or the Power of Women in Dairying group, please email Jade: [scottandjade@bigpond.com](mailto:scottandjade@bigpond.com)

### *Getting the balance right* - meet ADFC farmers Joe and Julie Giblin

For Joe and Julie Giblin dairy farming is a great life – especially when you can find the right balance. “We’re pretty much lifestyle focus,” Joe said, “and our farming is geared around that mantra.”

The Giblins run a dairy farm in Terang, south west Victoria and milk around 220 cows. They love running their own business and working on the land, but importantly they have made some choices in order to achieve some balance.

One of the ways they do that is by hiring relief milkers for 2 – 5 milkings a week to give them the ability to get involved with their children’s activities like the local football club. And sneak in the odd trip to the MCG!



They also chose the seasonal model of dairy farming so they can take some time away from the farm when their cows dry off.

“We have done a lot of travel over the past years,” Joe said, listing Vietnam, Bali and Borneo as some of the places the family has visited recently. They also made the decision to invest off farm to give them another revenue stream. “We operate a holiday rental on the coast, which we also use for family getaways too.”

Joe grew up on a dairy farm but worked off farm after school. He spent about a decade working for the State Electricity Commission of Victoria. “Dairy farming wasn’t great at the time I left school,” Joe said, “high interest rates and a few tough seasons were not a good mix for any primary production at that time.”



Julie studied public relations and worked in that industry for a number of years before starting a family. “The transition from working 9-5 to raising a family in the country was a big adjustment but one that I have enjoyed. The positives far outweigh the negatives,” Julie said.

While Joe and Julie are enjoying their current situation, Joe believes the lifestyle benefits of running your own dairy farm can be hard to achieve in the current environment - but only if you want it to be hard: “Everyone has the ability to make their own choices in life.

“We know it’s a good industry to be in but I think the focus on productivity is leaving some farmers chasing their tails. A lot of farmers have cash flow but not profit.” Joe added that there is a push to put incentives on everything to get bigger and produce more and more, but that isn’t necessarily better for anyone.

“The whole ADFC and Bulla partnership has been great for us and we look forward to being a part of it into the future.”