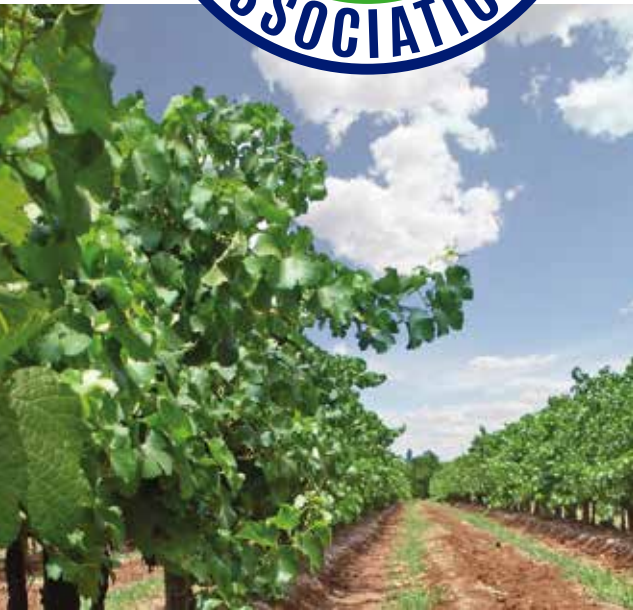




2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT



CREATING A BETTER FUTURE



75th annual report of the Murray Darling Association Inc: 2018-19

Incorporated under the Association's Incorporation Act 1984 NSW
Registered number Y 40317-47

Copyright © Murray Darling Association Inc. October 2019

National Library of Australia
ISSN 1443-7767

Murray Darling Association Incorporated's public fund, the Murray Darling Foundation is a Registered Environmental Organisation.

Further copies are available from the Murray Darling Association Echuca office:
PO Box 1268
Echuca Vic 3564
03 5480 3805
admin@mda.asn.au
www.mda.asn.au

ABN: 64 636 490 493

Cover photography (centre right) courtesy of Mike Bowers-Guardian Australia.

The MDA would like to acknowledge the generous sponsors of our conference:



With continuing drought and dire circumstances across the Basin, this has been a difficult year for many of our member councils and their communities.

Notwithstanding these challenges, Basin communities have demonstrated a sense of resilience and ability to look forward.

With the release of Australia's ambitious 2030 Agriculture Plan, the MDA believes that local government can play an important role in creating a better future for Basin communities, particularly in intensifying agriculture sustainably.

To support our members and the wider Basin community to not only adapt but prosper during challenging times, the MDA continues to work with integrity to voice local government concerns in Basin-related issues and help build the capacity of Basin communities through a range of projects, including the Basin Communities Leadership Program.

The following report reflects a busy and active year preparing the organisation and our members to meet the challenges of another dry season ahead.



Menindee fish kills Darling River, January 2019.



Top row - Left: Ashley Bland and Graham Stirling, Leeton 2018. Right: Brewarrina fish traps. Second row - Left: Irrigated rice in Leeton. Right: Mayor Dennis Clark and CEO Emma Bradbury tour Region 8. Bottom row - Almond plantation under way.

CONTENTS

Creating a better future	1
National President report	4
Chief Executive Officer report	5
Our organisation	6
OUR REGIONS	8
Annual report: region 1	9
Annual report: region 2	10
Annual report: region 3	11
Annual report: region 4	12
Annual report: region 5	14
Annual report: region 6	16
Annual report: region 7	18
Annual report: region 8	20
Annual report: region 9	21
Annual report: region 10	22
Annual report: region 11	23
Annual report: region 12	24
Our performance	26
Outcomes from our resolutions	30
Annual planning workshop	35
Business development	36
Our partnerships	37
Communications and engagement	38
Our people	40
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	42-57
Honour roll	58
Looking forward looking back	59
Acknowledgements	60

NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT

The past year has been a challenging one for communities in the Basin. Continuing drought, changing water availability, and escalating water prices are conspiring to place real pressure on rural and regional communities, and uncertainty in our towns and cities.

During these challenging times, the Murray Darling Association has continued to work hard to represent our members, offering a whole of basin perspective, seeking balance to achieve a healthy, connected, productive basin and uniting communities up- and downstream for all our futures.

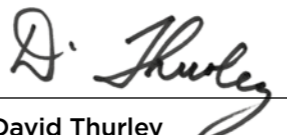
Now, more than at any other time in the history of the Basin Plan, we also have Ministers who can focus on real solutions, restoring public confidence by showing leadership and negotiation based on evidence, rather than election cycles.

Against this backdrop, it has been a positive year of growth for the MDA with a number of changes in the office including new staff members whose addition has enabled us to better respond to the challenges we face as we try to bring the views of local government to the fore.

I would particularly like to recognise the hard work of our CEO Emma Bradbury who has managed the MDA almost single-handedly for much of the year and provided excellent support to the Board. Her tireless work has also enhanced the value of the Association and contributed to a small but significant growth in membership. We have signed another MoU with the MDBA for a further 5 years giving us the opportunity to have strong and direct input to matters which directly affect our communities. It also enables us to give direct and relevant feedback to the Authority.

I encourage all Councils throughout the basin to become part of the MDA. A united voice is a strong voice and local communities need to be heard. It is this level of government that is closest to the people being affected by the plan and which can provide the direct feedback of how our communities are going.




David Thurley
National President

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

This year's Annual Report reflects a significant year of achievement in the corporate development of the organisation, and continuing sound performance against our Strategic Plan 2016-19 in this, its final year.

We have set the strongest financial position in the organisation's history with a return to funded project undertakings, continued growth of our human resources and strong outcomes of our advocacy endeavours. With a modest growth in membership revenues and a significant growth in sector participation, this year also establishes the Murray Darling Association as an essential participant in the local government sector. We are continuing to identify and deliver an expanding suite of value services to members, councils and governments across the Murray-Darling Basin.


The role of the MDA is to exercise a collective voice for local government on the management of Basin resources. While this extends more broadly than the Murray-Darling Basin Plan alone, it is true that the Plan represents a legislative step-change in the management of the most fundamental of our Basin resources. The Basin Plan continues to have direct and significant effects, positive and negative on many communities and councils. It is no surprise then that this year has seen a continued focus on supporting our communities to optimise our collective experience of the implementation phase of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, and to challenge Basin governments to do better.

We are also experiencing a dynamic period of rapid change in the management of many other Basin resources. Severe drought, climate change, emerging developments in energy, horticulture and agriculture, investments in water infrastructure all present local government with a host of challenges and opportunities. Much of the work this year has focused on our relationship to energy, assets and communities.

The MDA has this year continued to provide advocacy built on unity, equity and trust; to partner with members and stakeholders to advance the interests of local government; to respond to the vagaries of drought and devastation, to exchange knowledge and information; and to build regional leadership and capability.

In conclusion I would like to acknowledge the leadership and dedication of our National President Cr David Thurley, the tireless work of the full MDA board and our wonderful staff.




Emma Bradbury
Chief Executive Officer

OUR ORGANISATION

OUR BOARD

Cr David Thurley	Albury City Council	Chair Region 1 - <i>President</i>
Cr Dennis Patterson	Shepparton City Council	Chair Region 2
Cr Peter Mansfield	Moira Shire Council/Retired	Chair Region 2
Cr Jane MacAllister	Wentworth Shire Council	Chair Region 4
Cr Peter Hunter	Renmark Paringa Council	Chair Region 5
Cr Melissa Rebecck	Alexandrina Shire Council	Chair Region 6
Cr Andrew Tilley	City of Mitcham	Chair Region 7
Mayor Denis Clark	Northern Areas Council	Chair Region 8
Cr Paul Maytom	Leeton Shire Council	Chair Region 9
Cr Craig Davies	Narromine Shire Council	A/Chair Region 10
Mayor Phyllis Miller	Forbes Shire Council	A/Chair Region 10
Cr John Campbell	Gunnedah Shire Council	Chair Region 11
Mayor Richard Marsh	Balonne Shire Council	Chair Region 12
Pete George	M&S Group	<i>Treasurer</i>
Emma Bradbury	Murray Darling Association	<i>Chief Executive and Public Officer</i>

KEY	REGION MEETINGS											
	Meeting 377 July 23 2018	Meeting 378 August 28 2018	Meeting 379 September 24 2018	Meeting 380 October 22 2018	Meeting 381 November 26 2018	Meeting 382 December 17 2018	Meeting 383 February 1 2019	Meeting 384 March 25 2019	Meeting 385 April 29 2019	Meeting 386 May 20 2019	Meeting 387 June 19 2019	
✓ Attendance registered	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
A Apology received												
P Attendance by Proxy												
X Non-attendance												
Cr David Thurley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Cr Peter Mansfield	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Denis Patterson									A	✓	✓	✓
Cr Jane MacAllister	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Peter Hunter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Barry Featherston	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Cr Melissa Rebecck								✓	✓	✓	A	
Cr David Shetliffe	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Cr Andrew Tilley						✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Mayor Denis Clark	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Cr Paul Maytom	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mayor Phyllis Miller*									✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Craig Davies*							✓	X	A	✓		
Cr John Campbell	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mayor Richard Marsh	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	X	P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pete George	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Emma Bradbury	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Acting regional chair - attendance by invitation

OUR REGIONS

- There are 172 councils that sit within the Basin and whose communities rely upon water from within the catchment. The management of water and other Basin resources is a matter that is of significant interest to local government
- Currently arranged into 12 regions the MDA is the only interjurisdictional association of local government, and is built on strong foundations of good governance and high standards of accountability and integrity
- Our regions are the essence and strength of the MDA, providing the imprimatur for our actions and the foundations of our advocacy
- **Our members are the reason we exist**
- Our regions are the platform on which our members find voice and value

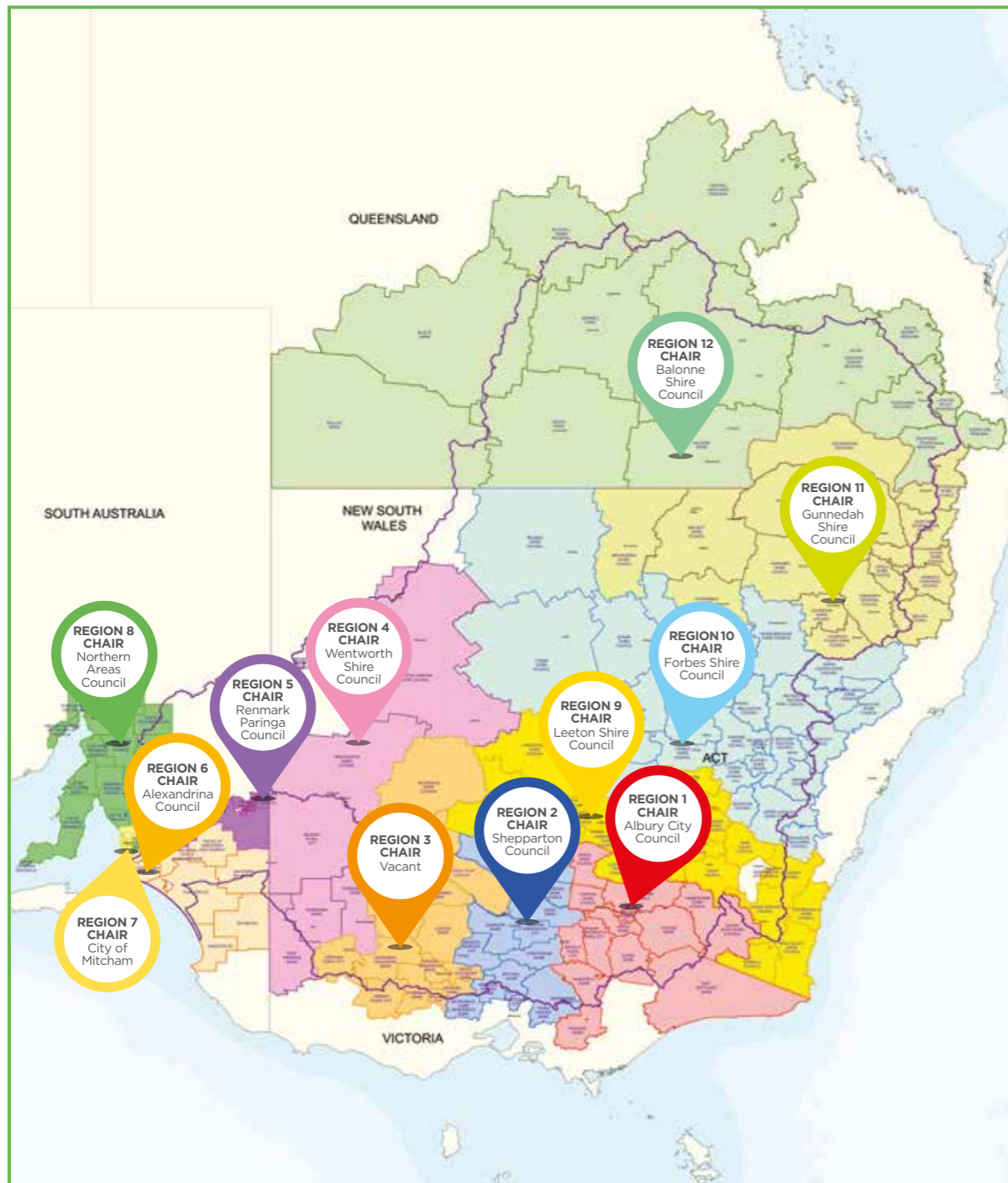
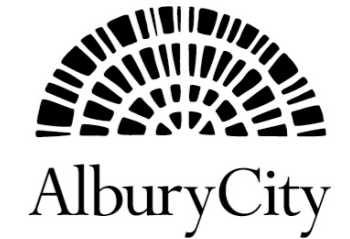
REGION TABLE

Region meetings play an important role in initiating and facilitating discussion on region and basin issues. The following table represents region meetings that were held throughout 2018-19:

Region	July 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	June 2019
Region 1		✓			✓			✓			✓	
Region 2			✓								✓	
Region 3												
Region 4	✓		✓		✓	✓						✓
Region 5	✓					✓			✓			✓
Region 6		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Region 7		✓		✓				✓			✓	
Region 8												
Region 9					✓			✓				
Region 10												
Region 11			✓		✓				✓			✓
Region 12												

OUR REGIONS

ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 1



Region 1 comprises a total of 14 councils of which 7 are members of the MDA. We have one life member, Dr Terry Hillman and one individual member.

Chair	
Cr David Thurley	<i>Albury City</i>
Committee	
Cr Bernard Gaffney	<i>Indigo Shire</i>
Cr David Wortmann	<i>Towong Shire</i>
Secretariat	
Maria Barrett	<i>Albury City</i>

Four meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
24 August 2018	<i>Albury City Council</i>
30 November 2019	<i>Albury City Council</i>
22 February 2019	<i>Albury City Council</i>
24 May 2019	<i>Albury City Council</i>

Four speakers addressed members at Region 1 meetings. Topics covered were groundwater resources, environmental water, Wetlands current state of health and cultural values and significance of water to the indigenous nations together with broader issues relating to the Murray Darling system itself.

Speakers:

- Scott Barber, General Manager
Goulburn Murray Water
- Anthony Wilson, Local Engagement Officer
CEWHO
- Adrian Wells, Board Member
Wetlands Working Group
- Rene Woods, Chair
Murray Lower Darling River Indigenous Nations

The Region identified two significant issues that faced the region this year. The first was the matter of feral horses in the Kosciuszko National Park. The NSW Office and Heritage did not respond to the contact. Some residents

MEMBER COUNCILS
Albury City Council
Federation Council
Greater Hume Shire Council
Indigo Shire Council
Snowy Valleys Council
Towong Shire Council
Wodonga City Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Mr Geoff Lucas

OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Alpine Shire Council
Baw Baw Shire Council
Benalla Rural City Council
East Gippsland Shire Council
Mansfield Shire Council
Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Rural City of Wangaratta

of the Tumbarumba also alerted the Chair to a blue-green algal bloom in Mannus Lake and the outlet stream but no response was received from Office of Environment and Heritage.

In May this year, the NSW Water Minister Melinda Pavey and the Deputy Premier John Barilaro met with water user groups in Albury. The meeting was hosted by Albury City and was also attended by Mr Justin Clancy State member for Albury.

This year also saw my appointment to the Basin Community Committee, along with three other local government representatives.

Cr David Thurley
Chair, Region 1



ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 2



ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 3



Region 2 comprises a total of 12 councils, of which 4 are members of the MDA. We have 4 life members and 3 individual members. The committee is:

Chair	
Cr Dennis Patterson	Greater Shepparton City Council
Committee	
Cr Peter Mansfield	Moira Shire Council
Cr Colin Jones	Berrigan Shire Council
Secretariat	
Greg McKenzie	

Two meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
21 September 2018	Berrigan
31 May 2019 (including AGM & Ordinary Meeting)	Shepparton

Two speakers addressed members throughout the year. Topics covered include: capacity and demand in the River Murray system, what's next for the Basin Plan, understanding the regional issues, the north/south pipeline - the bradfield scheme and cane toads together plus broader issues relating to the Murray Darling, itself.

Speakers:

- Joseph Davis, Senior Director Operations *MDBA*
- Rob Rendell, Senior Fellow *RMCG Bendigo*

The MDA acknowledges the hard work of Cr Peter Mansfield as the outgoing chair of Region 2. Cr Mansfield warmly endorsed Cr Patterson as Shepparton City Council's nomination to chair the region on 31 May 2019. The following report is from Cr Patterson, chair of Region 2.

The Murray Darling Association portfolio has been a busy one since becoming chair of Region 2. The price of water has forced many irrigation farmers off the land, especially dairy farmers.

During a boat trip down the Goulburn river with the Victorian Water Minister Lisa Neville, we

MEMBER COUNCILS
Berrigan Shire Council
Edwards River Council
Greater Shepparton City Council
Moira Shire Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Murray irrigation
Jenny Johnson
Geoff Mackenzie
OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Campaspe Shire Council
City of Greater Bendigo
Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Mitchel Shire Council
Murrindindi Shire Council
Strathbogie Shire Council
Whittlesea City Council
Yarra Ranges Shire Council

witnessed first hand the environmental damage being caused to the river by unseasonably high inter-valley transfers.

Minister Neville has since imposed a moratorium on developments downstream of the Choke as well as an investigation into Inter-Valley Transfers out of the Goulburn river. As the chair of Region 2, I have also travelled to Canberra to meet the Murray Darling Basin Authority on the issues of water market transparency, inter-valley transfers and the removal of water speculators from the market among other things.

Federal Minister for Water, David Littleproud announced in May that the ACCC would investigate the water market and its functions. This is good news, which will hopefully address some of Region 2's concerns about implementation of the Plan.

Cr Dennis Patterson
Chair, Region 2.



Region 3 comprises a total of 14 councils, of which 1 is a member of the MDA. No meetings were held during the year.

The region currently does not have any active member councils and currently has no regional chair.

Several councils, including Loddon Shire, Swan Hill and Gannawarra Shire attended and participated in the annual strategic planning workshop held in Moama in February, providing valuable representation of the interests of their respective communities.

The Murray Darling Association would warmly welcome any of the eligible councils to take up membership, as local government can have a profound role in helping to achieve better outcomes for its communities in an environment with changing water availabilities across the entire Murray-Darling Basin.

Emma Bradbury
Chief Executive Officer.

MEMBER COUNCILS
Loddon Shire Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Ken Pattison
OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Ararat Rural City Council
Ballarat City Council
Buloke Shire Council
Central Goldfields Shire Council
Gannawarra Shire Council
Hepburn Shire Council
Horsham Rural City Council
Moorabool Shire Council
Mount Alexander Shire Council
Murray River Council
Northern Grampians Shire Council
Pyrenees Shire Council
Swan Hill Rural City Council



ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 4



Region 4 comprises a total of 8 councils, of which 5 are members of the MDA. The committee, as elected 28 June 2019 is:

Chair	
Cr Jane MacAllister	Wentworth Shire Council
Committee	
Cr Marion Browne	Broken Hill City Council
Cr Jason Modica	Mildura Rural City Council
Cr Tim Elstone	Wentworth Shire Council
Cr Steve Heywood	Wentworth Shire Council
Secretariat	
Terry Litchfield	

Six meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
20 July 2018	Buronga
27 September 2018	Buronga
22 November 2018	Buronga
20 December 2018	Buronga
28 June 2019	Buronga
28 June 2019	Buronga

Leadership of the region has been strong, commencing with the election of Mayor Hederics to the Chair, succeeded in September by Cr Jane MacAllister, both of Wentworth Shire Council.

This year has seen Region 4 actively engaged advocating for improved environmental and water security outcomes for the region.

In addition to the Region 4 meetings listed, our members have also been engaged with:

- Menindee Lakes Water Saving Project briefing held 20 July 2018, attended by representatives of NSW government departments including Rachel Connell, Executive Director Department of Primary Industries

MEMBER COUNCILS
Balranald Shire Council
Broken Hill City Council
Central Darling Shire
Mildura Rural City Council
Wentworth Shire Council

OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Hindmarsh Shire Council
West Wimmera Shire Council
Yarriamblack Shire Council

- Water NSW and State Government information session on Drought and Water availability 27 May at Coomealla
- Menindee SDL Project meeting 28 May 2019 with Water NSW and regular steering committee meetings in Menindee
- MDA National Conference in Leeton 29-31 August 2018
- MDA Strategic Planning Meeting held in Echuca 1-3 February 2019
- "Menindee to the Mouth" Connecting Catchments and Communities forum in Renmark 22 February 2019
- National Carp Control Plan workshop

Region 4 submitted an impressive expression of interest to host the 2020 conference, gracefully conceded to Shepparton selection by the Board and look forward to attending in May.

A rally for the river in Broken Hill was well attended. Concerns were raised about the Wentworth to Broken Hill pipeline, pricing of the new source of town water and with high salinity readings around Wilcannia (above World Health Standards), the town switched to bore water. Four Blockbanks (earthen weirs) held back the last of the water downstream of Menindee, currently significantly diminished, as is water around Pooncarie.

Water security remains a significant issue for the region. 2016 was the last time the Darling river was fully connected from Pooncarie to Bourke. Councils continue to cart potable water to stations.

A strategic planning meeting held in December was overshadowed by the first of four mass fish deaths, as the agenda turned to cleanup and rescue logistics.

Member councils passed motions to support RAMSAR listing of Menindee Lakes, then to endorse same as a region and seek further support at the MDA conference.

There has been a determination from iPart about pricing water for Broken Hill customers, the Almond Board Of Australia sought a moratorium on new development of greenfield

sites and the Victorian Government announced a freeze on new development approvals.

Submissions have been made in relation to the Barwon Darling Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012 Water Sharing Plan, Darling Alluvium Water Resource Plan, Menindee Lakes SDL Project, and input provided to the Australian Academy Of Science and Vertessy scientific investigation into fish deaths and other research and reportage.

Cr Jane MacAllister
Chair, Region 4.



taggle^x

WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Remote meter reading and a network of sensors to benefit councils, regulators, irrigators and the community

36+ Council and water utility customers
Rural and urban solutions
160,000+ Smart meters and sensors in the field
10-15 year battery life
Growing national & international network
Low cost supply, installed & managed solutions

An Australian product for an Australian landscape

www.taggle.com.au
enquiries@taggle.com.au (02) 8999 1919

ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 5



Region 5 comprises a total of 5 councils, of which all 5 are members of the MDA. We have 1 life member and 1 individual member. The committee is:

Chair	
Cr Peter Hunter	Renmark Paringa Council
Secretariat	
Ashleigh Baker	

Five meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
15 July	Morgan
10 December	Renmark Paringa
25 March	Berri-Barmera
3 June	Waikerie

Five speakers addressed members throughout the year. Topics covered broader issues relating to the Murray Darling system itself.

Speakers:

- Michelle Campbell, Local Engagement Officer CEWO
- Jodie Woof, Engagement Officer Riverine Recovery
- Barb Cowey, Regional Coordinator SA PIRSA – Primary Industries
- Tony Herbert, Program Leader River Murray Operations
- Miles Fauser, Environmental Officer Renmark Irrigation Trust and Renmark Council

Region 5 encompasses the councils located on or near the Murray River, from the SA Border through to the mid-Murray Regions of South Australia. Our meetings rotate between the various council areas and we appreciate the support from each and every council to support our activities. We were pleased to host and support the first of the Connecting Catchments and Communities Sessions 22 February 2019, in Renmark. This focused on the sections from Menindee to the Mouth and we were very pleased to be able to link with Cr Jane MacAllister (Region 4) to present these informative sessions.

MEMBER COUNCILS
Berri Barmera Council
District Council of Karoonda East Murray
District Council of Loxton Waikerie
Mid Murray Council
Renmark Paringa Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Ian and Bobby Mann

It has been most beneficial to have all region meetings attended by our CEO, Emma Bradbury speaking via Video Conference. This has certainly assisted us in keeping up to date with MDA activities, having an opportunity to better understand the MDA in its operations, while being able to consider the challenges we face.

We have been fortunate during this period to have our local Renmark Paringa Mayor, Neil Martinson appointed to the Basin Communities Committee of the MDBA and more recently Cr Andrew Kassebaum to the Independent Panel appointed by Minister Littleproud to assess the social and economic conditions in the Murray Darling Basin.

Our biggest challenge is no different to most regions to getting an agreed position on issues, which seem to be arising ever more quickly. Our challenge is to settle on positions which are truly representative of our constituent councils. We will need to do much better over the coming year in determining our positions and finding ways to quickly collate an agreed position on new issues.

I would like to thank all councilors, staff and contributors for their involvement in our region and acknowledge the support of Ashleigh Baker's assistance with meetings.

Peter Hunter
Chair, Region 5.



A powerful voice.
Be part of a collective voice advocating for councils and communities in the Basin.

Ensure your voice is heard.
Inform water policy at regional, state and federal level.

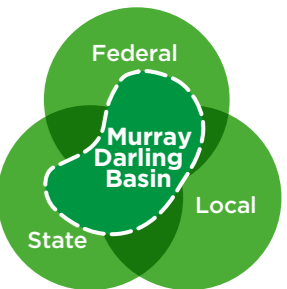
Support existing alliances.
To advocate on regional priorities.

Informed decision making.
Ensure your expertise and knowledge plays a part in the decisions affecting you.

Shape the future.
Be a part of creating the future we want for our Basin communities.

“If the MDA didn't exist, we'd have to invent it.”
Hon Craig Knowles,
Chairman Murray-Darling Basin Authority (2011-2015), Forbes 2014

Working together with 3 levels of Government to deliver the Basin Plan.
MDA is the only peak body that provides a 'parliament' of local government on Basin related issues. MDA works with:
• Local Government NSW • Local Government SA • Local Government Qld
• Municipal Association of Victoria • Australian Local Government Association



How can my council inform public policy?
Your council has direct influence.

- Regions meet quarterly.
- Region chairs meet monthly sharing knowledge for a whole of Basin perspective.
- Annual national conference.
- Peak representation at state and federal parliamentary and agency levels.
- 2-way information sharing.
- Secure council centric voting entitlements

Strength in numbers. Peak body for local government across the Murray Darling Basin.



www.mda.asn.au

The MDA relies on the information provided by its member councils. Your council's contribution is essential to ensure policy is developed in consultation with those most affected, providing valuable insights and perspectives before state and federal policy is irreversibly locked in.

ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 6



Region 6 comprises a total of 7 councils, of which 4 are members of the MDA. We have no life members and four individual members. The committee is:

Chair	
Cr Melissa Rebbeck	Alexandrina Council
Committee	
Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Tracey Strugnell	Coorong District Council
Cr Vern Leng	Coorong District Council
Cr Michael Scott	Alexandrina Council
Glenn Rappensberg	Alexandrina Council
Secretariat	
Shen Mann	Alexandrina Council

Five ordinary meetings were held during the year plus the AGM and an information meeting. The executive committee also met separately on 4 occasions.

Date	Location
3 August 2018	Alexandrina Council Strathalbyn
17 August 2018	Alexandrina Council Goolwa
5 October 2018	Alexandrina Council Strathalbyn
19 October 2018	Coorong District Council
14 December 2018	Rural City of Murray Bridge
15 February 2019	Alexandrina Council Goolwa
15 February 2019	Alexandrina Council Goolwa
22 March 2019	Alexandrina Council Strathalbyn
5 April 2019	Coorong District Council
21 June 2019	Rural City of Murray Bridge
28 June 2019	Rural City of Murray Bridge

MEMBER COUNCILS
Alexandrina Council
Coorong District Council
Rural City of Murray Bridge
Tatiara District Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Keith Loeser
Julie Barrie
Frank Tuckwell
Bruce Brooks
OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
City of Victor Harbor
Kingston District Council
Southern Mallee District Council

A total of 10 speakers addressed members at meetings. Topics covered: Management of return flows from wetland and floodplain environmental events, including management of blackwater and salinity impacts; Role of the Basin community committee; Regular updates from the Murray Darling Basin Authority and Commonwealth Environmental Water Office regarding Basin Plan implementation; Coorong Summit and Goyder Expert Panel Reports; and Healthy Coorong Healthy Basin.

Speakers:

- Michelle Campbell, Local Engagement Officer Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder
- Joanne Pfeiffer, Member MDBA Basin Community Committee
- Kate Husband, Regional Engagement Officer Murray Darling Basin Authority
- Emily Jenke, Member Basin Community Committee
- Peter Mettam, Senior Operations Officer Department of Environment and Water
- Andrew Beale, Director of River Murray Operations Department of Environment and Water

- Deana Mildren, Regional Engagement Officer Murray Darling Basin Authority
- Monique White, Assistant Director, Partnerships, Engagement and Strategic Policy Murray Darling Basin Authority
- Barb Cowey, Regional Coordinator Murraylands and Riverland PIRSA/Regions SA
- Angus MacGregor, Manager, Healthy Coorong Healthy Basin Department for Environment and Water

The MDA would like to acknowledge the work of Cr Barry Featherstone, as both the Vice-President for 2 years, and Chair of Region 6. Following the South Australian election, Cr Melissa Rebbeck was elected Chair of Region 6 in February 2019.

The Murray Darling Basin has revealed more wounds as the Basin continues to experience an ongoing period of low rainfall. Just as our region was directly impacted during the millenium drought, we feel our upstream cousins' desperation as the basin continues to dry.

In addition to contributing on national issues at Board level, Region 6 has asked both state and federal ministers to respond in full to the SA Murray Darling Basin Plan Royal Commission highlighting particular issues brought to light by the Royal Commission including recovery of the 450GL, climate change, structural adjustment and regional development.

We have had a response from the Federal Minister and welcome recent initiatives to address some of these issues such as strengthening compliance and protection of environmental flows.

Region 6 is home to many passionate and proactive community groups. As Chair of the Region 6, I also sit on a number of these including the Coorong Lower Lakes and Murray Mallee CAP, the Alexandrina Council Environmental Advisory Panel, Sustainable

Agriculture Round Table, Fleurieu Farming Systems, Fleurieu Beef Group and the SA Livestock Consultants Group.

Region 6 is strongly encouraged by State and Federal investment in the Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin Action Plan which aims to provide on-ground works, management tools, research, trials and investigations, and infrastructure projects 2019-24 to get the Coorong back on track for a healthy future.

We also support the Coorong Environmental Trust Bill which is the pipeline and aims to support longitudinal monitoring and data collection, State of the Estuary reporting and increased stakeholder collaboration in support of a healthy Coorong.

I would like to thank Tracey Strugnell and Shen Mann for their executive support to Region 6 during 2018-19, and the members and executive committee for their advice and patience with me while learning the ropes. Region 6 will continue to unite in support of a full and timely implementation of the Basin Plan and look forward to further action at state and national level to support this.

Cr Melissa Rebbeck
Chair, Region 6.



ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 7



Region 7 comprises a total of 21 councils, of which 11 are members of the MDA. We have 2 life members and 4 individual members. The committee is:

Chair
Cr Andrew Tilley <i>City of Mitcham</i>
Secretariat
Jamie Barrett

Four meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
23 August 2018	<i>City of Playford</i>
25 October 2018	<i>Tea Tree Gully Council</i>
28 February 2019	<i>City of Mitcham</i>
17 May 2019	<i>City of Playford</i>

11 speakers addressed members throughout the year. Topics covered: Waterproofing Playford update, Changing the dynamic in the Murray-Darling Basin, Managing wetlands in a complex environment, Street sweeping and stormwater management at the City of Tea Tree Gully, Smart water Design – capturing our stormwater where it falls, Roles and responsibilities of the MDBA, Murray Water Basin salinity in SA: past to present.

Speakers:

- Jonathon Roberts, Senior Manager, Assets *City of Playford*
- Chris Burgess, Water Operations Manager *City of Playford*
- Dr Michele, Principal Advisor – Water Resources and Environment
- Darren Willis, Team Leader, Floodplains and Wetlands/DEW
- Thornton Harfield, Director, Assets and Environment *Tea Tree Gully Council*
- Russell King, Principal Engineer - Stormwater *City of Mitcham*
- Professor Wayne Meyer, Adjunct Professor of Natural Resource Science

MEMBER COUNCILS
Adelaide Hills Council
City of Burnside
Campbelltown City Council
City of Holdfast Bay
City of Mitcham
City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters
City of Onkaparinga
City of Playford
City of Port Adelaide Enfield
City of Tea Tree Gully
Town of Walkerville
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Jim Hullick OAM (Life Member)
Pauline Frost (Life Member)
Rex Adams
Frank Verrall
Ray Najar
Gary Goland

OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
City of Charles Sturt
Town of Gawler
Mount Barker District Council
City of Prospect
City of Salisbury
City of Unley
District Council of Yankalilla
City of Marion
City of Adelaide
City of West Torrens

- Deana Mildren, Regional Engagement Officer, Lower Murray (SA) *MDBA*
- Monique White, Assistant Director, Strategic Community Engagement *MDBA*
- Dr Tariq Laattoe BSc (hons) PhD, Hydrogeologist and Groundwater Modeller *Water Technology Pty Ltd*
- Ray Najar, Private Member

Following the South Australian elections in October, Region 7 came under the stewardship of Cr Andrew Tilley of City of Mitcham, succeeding Cr David Shetliffe who stepped down at the local government elections.

Region 7 has focused on issues such as Waste water schemes, storm water recharge, and water sensitive urban design, and utilisation of the desalination plant to minimise Adelaide's reliance on the Murray.

Murray Water is key to the survival and prosperity of Adelaide. Our goals continue to focus on efficient local water use by knowledge sharing amongst member councils and recognising the role of the Basin as a whole entity and our part in it.

I am grateful for the support of the board, executive group, our members, and hosting councils. We have held meaningful meetings with the new Water Minister and with nearby regions 5, 6 and 8.



Cr Andrew Tilley
Chair, Region 7.

INLAND RAIL **ARTC**

+

OUR VISION

A more prosperous Australia with a world-class supply chain based on a **fast, safe, reliable, connected** Inland Rail.

We will plan and build this with the support of governments, in partnership with the private sector and hand-in-hand with the community.

1800 732 761 | inlandrailqld@artc.com.au | ARTC Inland Rail, GPO Box 2462, Brisbane Qld 4001

inlandrail.com.au

[f](#) [@](#) [t](#) [in](#) [v](#)

The Australian Government is delivering Inland Rail through the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), in partnership with the private sector.

ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 8



Region 8 comprises a total of 16 councils, of which 5 are members of the MDA. The committee is:

Chair
Mayor Dennis Clark <i>Northern Areas Council</i>
Secretariat
Simon Millcock <i>LEGATUS</i>

No meetings were held during the year.

No speakers addressed members at each meeting.

One of the main achievements of Region 8 during the past year has been the stimulation of membership interest and engagement of both member and non-member councils within the region.

This increasing interest in Region 8 demonstrates the hard work by the MDA Board and staff.

One of the concerns in Region 8 is the security of water. If we work as a united group, I feel we have a much better opportunity to elevate the issues of water quality and security for our region's councils to the national agenda.

With support from the Murray Darling Association's CEO Emma Bradbury and Simon Millcock CEO of our local government Group we have established a framework to continue to grow this region.

MEMBER COUNCILS
District Council of Barunga West
The Regional Council of Goyder
Light Regional Council
Northern Areas Council
The District Council of Peterborough

OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Adelaide Plains Council
Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council
Copper Coast Council
District Council of Orroroo Carrieton
Yorke Peninsula Council
Port Augusta Council
Port Pirie Regional Council
Wakefield Regional Council
Whyalla City Council
Barossa Council
District Council of Mount Remarkable

Mayor Denis Clark
Chair, Region 8



ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 9



Region 9 comprises a total of 19 councils, of which 8 are members of the MDA. We have 1 life member and 2 individual members. The committee is:

Chair
Mayor Paul Maytom <i>Leeton Shire Council</i>
Committee
Brett Stonestreet <i>Griffith City Council</i>
Cr Wesley Hall <i>Narrandera Shire Council</i>
Joe Burns <i>Individual member</i>
Bede Spannagle <i>RWCC</i>
Cr Paul Funnell <i>Wagga Wagga Council</i>
Secretariat
Melissa Seymour <i>Leeton Shire Council</i>

Two meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
23 November 2018	<i>Leeton</i>
15 February 2019	<i>Leeton</i>

One speaker addressed members at meetings this year. Topics covered: Overview of the resource outlook, Menindee and fish deaths, SA Royal Commission, Productivity Commission Report, 450GL water recovery, Long term extraction limits together with broader issues relating to the Murray Darling system, itself.

Speakers:

- Colin Mues, Executive Director Science and Knowledge Division
MDBA

Our region continues to be concerned regarding ongoing drought conditions and the extreme water prices, which are having a detrimental effect on our diversity of irrigated agriculture. Water price continues to be driven up which has an effect on the ability for our farmers to purchase water for cropping. While inroads have been made on efficiency programs, this accounts for little at the present time with nil or minimal water allocations.

MEMBER COUNCILS
Griffith City Council
Hay Shire Council
Leeton Shire Council
Lockhart Shire Council
Narrandera Shire Council
Murrumbidgee Shire Council
Wagga Wagga City Council
Carrathool
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Riverina Water County Council
Joe Burns
Michael McCormack MP

OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Bega Valley Shire Council
Coolamon Shire Council
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Eurobodalla Council
Gundagai Regional Council
Hilltops Shire Council
Junee Shire Council
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Temora Shire Council
Weddin Shire Council

I attended the Drought outlook and water availability forum in Griffith NSW. I also attended Water NSW customer advisory group meetings during the year (3 in total) where we were provided with an update of programs to better manage and monitor water in our region. Unfortunately, the outlook for rain events is grim for our Murrumbidgee region. It is important that we continue to seek transparency and accountability on SDL water efficiency projects to ensure we achieve the best outcome.

I would also like to thank Melissa Seymour for her hard work and support as Secretariat in our region.

Mayor Paul Maytom
Chair, Region 9.



Find out about important Murray-Darling Basin issues, outcomes and priorities.

Subscribe to our stakeholder e-newsletter

mdba.gov.au/river-reach

RIVER REACH



Australian Government



ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 10



Region 10 comprises a total of 25 councils, of which 8 are members of the MDA. We have 2 life members and 1 individual member. The committee is:

Acting Chair	
Cr Craig Davies	<i>Narromine Shire Council</i>
Committee	
Cr Phyllis Miller	<i>Forbes Shire Council</i>
Secretariat	
Jane Redden	

No meetings were held during the year.

Adjusting to life after amalgamations in New South Wales continued to challenge the finite resources of the councils of Region 10.

Narromine Shire Council stepped up in 2019 to guide the re-constitution of Region 10 with the appointment of Mayor Craig Davies to the position of acting chair.

Subsequently, active engagement of Forbes Shire Council and Mayor Phyllis Miller has resulted in Forbes and a number of councils emerging to establish a dynamic leadership group, with announcement of the team pending confirmation by the regional AGM.

The MDA would like to thank Mayors Craig Davies and Phyllis Miller for their energy and commitment in re-engaging the councils of Region 10.

Emma Bradbury
Chief Executive Officer.

MEMBER COUNCILS
Bourke Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council
Dubbo Regional Council
Forbes Shire Council
Lachlan Shire Council
Mid-Western Regional Council
Narromine Shire Council
Warren Shire Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Jack Bennett

OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Bathurst Regional Council
Bland Shire Council
Blayney Shire Council
Bogan Shire Council
Cabonne Council
Cowra Shire Council
Gilgandra Shire Council
Goulburn Mulwarre Council
Lithgow City Council
Muswellbrook Shire Council
Oberon Council
Orange City Council
Parkes Shire Council
Singleton Council
Upper Hunter Shire Council
Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Warrumbungle Shire Council



Cr Craig Davies
Mayor,
Narromine Shire



Cr Phyllis Miller
Mayor,
Forbes Shire Council.

ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 11



Region 11 comprises a total of 15 councils, of which 7 are members of the MDA. We have 1 life member and 1 individual member. The committee is:

Chair	
Cr John Campbell	<i>Gunnedah Shire Council</i>
Committee	
Cr Don Forbes	<i>Tenterfield Shire Council</i>
Cr Greg Sauer	<i>Tenterfield Shire Council</i>
Cr Frances Young	<i>Gwydir Shire Council</i>
Secretariat	
Alexandra O'Keefe	

4 meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
11 September 2018	<i>Bingara</i>
9 November 2018	<i>Tenterfield</i>
12 March 2019	<i>Gunnedah</i>
14 June 2019	<i>Moree</i>

Four speakers addressed members at meetings throughout the year. Topics covered: Northern fish flow event, the Namoi unlimited JO water study undertaken, the introduction of REO MDBA based at Narrabri and general interest topics.

- Speakers:**
- Zara Lorien, Executive Officer
Gwydir Valley Irrigators
 - Annabelle Guest, Regional Engagement Officer
MDBA

MEMBER COUNCILS
Brewarrina Shire Council
Coonamble Shire Council
Gunnedah Shire Council
Gwydir Shire Council
Tenterfield Shire Council
Walgett Shire Council
Liverpool Plains Shire Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
Alex Lucke

OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Armidale Regional Council
Glen Innes Severn Council
Inverell Shire Council
Narrabri Shire Council
Tamworth Regional Council
Uralla Shire Council
Walcha Council
Moree Plains Shire Council

The region is, like most of the rest of the state, in dire straits with the lack of inflows in our rivers and streams, with many of our communities facing severe water shortages. Only rain will help and the sooner we get it the better.

I greatly appreciate the work and support of our Chief Executive Officer Emma Bradbury, the MDA staff, and our region Secretariat Alexandra O'Keefe.

Cr John Campbell
Chair, Region 11.



The MDA Executive team wish to apologise for an error in last year's annual report which failed to note Liverpool Plains Shire Council as a current member. The MDA values Liverpool Plains Shire Council's continuing membership and participation since 2017.

ANNUAL REPORT: REGION 12



Region 12 comprises a total of 15 councils, of which 4 are members of the MDA. We have 0 life members and 1 individual member. The committee is:

Chair
Mayor Richard Marsh <i>Balonne Shire Council</i>
Secretariat
Julie Davies

No meetings were held during the year.

It has been a challenging year for the northern Basin, with some of the driest conditions ever seen. This has resulted in northern Basin water reserves being at critically low levels. There was some good news for Region 12 with twelve grants from the federal government coming into the region to bolster economic development in the area. Region 12 has been working closely with the Murray Darling Association in the lead up to the 75th National Conference in Toowoomba. We hope the conference will be well attended by delegates from all reaches of the Basin and we hope they are enlightened as to the current conditions in the region. I would also like to thank Julie Davies for her continued support of the region as Secretariat.

MEMBER COUNCILS
Balonne Shire Council
Goondiwindi Regional Council
Paroo Shire Council
Toowoomba Regional Council
MEMBERS (INDIVIDUALS/ORGANISATIONS)
David Shiel
OTHER ELIGIBLE COUNCILS
Blackall Tambo Regional Council
Bulloo Shire Council
Central Highlands Regional Council
Lockyer Valley Regional Council
Maranoa Regional Council
Murweh Shire Council
Quilpie Shire Council
Scenic Rim Regional Council
South Burnett Regional Council
Southern Downs Regional Council
Western Downs Regional Council

Mayor Richard Marsh
Chair, Region 12.



Top row - Left: Scott Bourn and training provider Suzie Stafford commending Annette Waters on completing her Cert. III in Business Administration. Right: Balloon Glow at the Civic Reception - Leeton 2018.
Second row - Left: Cr David Thurley, Emma Bradbury, Mayor John Dal Broi and Minister Niall Blair. Right: Phillip Glyde, CEO MDDBA. Third row - Leeton AGM. Bottom row - Visit to address Brewarrina Council meeting at Goodooga Central School.



OUR PERFORMANCE

The purpose of the MDA is to ensure that local government and the communities we serve are well represented at the state and federal level in issues relating to the management of our shared resources.

We do this by engaging in a range of activities best aligned by our four pillars. The following highlights reflect our performance in 2018-19.

MEMBER SERVICES

Develop strength and authority of our regions

- **MDA 74th National Conference and AGM** held in Leeton
- **Facilitated** regional and inter-regional meetings
- **Representation** on National Carp Control Plan Communications Working Group
- **Representation** on National Carp Control Plan Working Group meeting
- **Inaugural** Connecting Catchment and Communities event in Renmark
- **Address** Darling Downs and South West Queensland Council of Mayors meeting in Dalby
- **Met** with the newly appointed NSW Water Minister the Hon Melinda Pavey to introduce the MDA and explore opportunities to support shared goals and initiatives
- **Met** with NSW Farmers Association CEO Peter Arkle discussing policy perspectives and shared interests
- **Regular meetings** with NSW Executive Director Department of Water to discuss relationship between Basin Plan and economic development plans supporting increased permanent plantings
- **Discussions** with CSIRO to identify opportunities to collaborate on projects and enable members to develop better understanding of hydrology and flows
- **Strengthen** existing relationships with agency partners, including a new MoU with Murray-Darling Basin Authority
- **Implement** digital meeting technology to facilitate remote attendance by CEO and others to all region meetings.



Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly 2019.

OUR PILLARS FOR PERFORMANCE



EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Exchange Information and facilitate informed debate

- **Appointed** to Productivity Commission stakeholder working group meeting
- **Attended** Murrayland and Riverlands Local Government Association, RAMJO and other regional LGAs
- **Met** with Dr Jackie Schirmer, University Canberra to discuss regional wellbeing
- **Met** with various senators and MPs to provide briefing on Murray Darling Basin issues
- **Met** with Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Water resources the Hon Tony Burke in Sydney to discuss Labor's perspectives on the Basin Plan
- **Attended** Goulburn River Management collaboration between MDA, Shepparton City Council, DELWP, GMW and GMWCA
- **Attended** the peak group briefing hosted by the MDBA
- **Discussion** with Northern Basin Commissioner to introduce the MDA
- **Deliver** presentation at Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation meeting
- **Continue** the Basin Bulletin newsletter, following on from the River Lander notes
- **Participate** in Rice Industry – Leadership program as a guest panellist
- **Deliver** interview to ABC Landline in Barmah
- **Annual** MDA presentation to Goulburn Valley Grammar School Year 12 geography class exploring the geographic viability of the proposed second bridge crossing at Echuca/Moama considering social, historical, environmental, economic, political and technological factors
- **Discussions** with Federal Member for Murray the Hon Damian Drum MP on conditions in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District, and Basin perspectives
- **Engagement** at Australian Local Government Association National Conference and AGM
- **Facilitate** local government input into Department of Agriculture Murray Darling Basin efficiency measures program
- **Provide** detailed briefings and representations to Ministers, Members of Parliament, and their advisory staff.

LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

Inform better government policy



- **Presented** submission to Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission
- **Met** with Minister Littleproud to discuss key issues facing local Government in the Basin
- **Interview** with ABC Riverina Breakfast
- **Met** with Jody Swirepik the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder
- **Met** with the Productivity Commission Stakeholder Working Group
- **Met** with Minister Littleproud to reaffirm local government's commitment to the Basin Plan and expectation on governments to seek ways to improve implementation
- **Met** with the Hon. David Spiers – South Australia Minister for Environment and Water
- **Facilitate** joint discussion on the Health of the Barwon Darling River System in Sydney following the Menindee fish kills
- **Attended** Natural Resource Access Regulator board meeting to provide briefing on risks and opportunities to ongoing compliance
- **Meetings with** Office of Hon Bill Shorten
Office of Hon Scott Morrison
Office of Hon David Littleproud
- **Engage** with National Farmers Federation to discuss 2030 Ag Plan
- **Member** of Murray-Darling Peaks group
- **Member** of Productivity Commission Murray Darling Basin Plan: Five-Year Assessment Stakeholder Working Group
- **Played a key role** in the return to bi-partisanship and stability following attempts to disallow the Basin Plan Amendment
- **Appeared** at the Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission on July 24 to give evidence before the Commission
- **Prepared** significant submissions on behalf of member councils, including submissions to the Productivity Commission Murray-Darling Basin Plan, and Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program.

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT

Ensure a viable, self-sustaining organisation



- **Planning** commencement for the 2019 National Conference
- **Met** with CSIRO Business Development Manager Nicole Emara to discuss project opportunities
- **Hosted** 4th annual MDA Strategic Planning Workshop in Moama
- **Met** with CEO Landcare NSW to discuss common objectives and project opportunities
- **Meetings** with Dept Agriculture and Water Resources to progress Basin Communities
- **Formed** the Murray Darling Association Strategic Advisory Group
- **Plan** for MDA Basin Communities Leadership Program.

Region 2 is delighted to invite delegates to the 2020 MDA National Conference hosted by Greater Shepparton City Council Wednesday 12 August to Friday 14 August.



The MDA would like to thank Toowoomba Regional Council, Balonne Shire Council and Region 12 – our conference partners for the 75th MDA National Conference in 2019.



OUTCOMES FROM OUR RESOLUTIONS

The purpose of the MDA is to provide effective representation of local government and communities at state and federal level in the management of Basin resources by exchanging information; facilitating debate; and seeking to influence government policy.

Motions resolved at the National Conference and AGM form the foundations of the MDA's

leadership and advocacy work for the year and years ahead.

By writing to and engaging with responsible governments, agencies and Ministers, pursuing the objectives through meetings, education, leadership and dialogue, we inform better policy and practice.

INFLUENCE	GOVERNMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE DECISIONS
2018 Motion 5.1	
MDA calls for <i>consultation on river levels during peak tourism periods</i> taking into account how river levels impact on Basin communities during peak tourism periods	MDA meets annually with Murray-Darling Basin Authority and Commonwealth Environment Water Holder Increase in dialogue between councils and river operators to maximise the opportunities for planned flows.
2018 Motion 5.4	
MDA calls for <i>Basin governments and water management agencies</i> to recognise the relationship between the capacity of the Barmah Choke; and the increasing demand for water for irrigation for large scale permanent plantings; and for an integrated approach to planning provisions	August 2019 Basin Ministers i) agree to appoint an independent panel of experts to peer review the Murray River Capacity Risks Project. The experts and terms of reference are to be agreed by the Commonwealth, NSW, Victoria, ACT and South Australia and report back to the next Ministerial Council meeting. ii) receive a report from the MDBA on the work requested by Ministers at their meeting in December 2018 to address deliverability challenges for both consumptive and environmental water. Victorian Water Minister Neville announces decision to assess any applications for new works licences for extraction in the Murray River below the Barmah Choke in light of the likely cumulative impacts of increasing extractions on the environment and other water users for the next 12 months. Correspondence with the MDBA and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources occurred following the national conference.
2018 Motion 5.5	
MDA calls for <i>a review</i> of the definition of socioeconomic neutrality in the context of the Murray-Darling Basin, adoption of a definition consistent with existing Commonwealth standards and guidelines, and the development of an assessment framework that incorporates consistent local government participation	December 2018, Ministerial Council resolve that a revised and agreed socio-economic criteria and the associated assessment be adopted as the basis of the neutrality test for assessing efficiency measures projects.

INFLUENCE	GOVERNMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE DECISIONS
2018 Motion 5.9	
MDA calls for <i>a National Water Registry</i> , to review, monitor and report on trade and ownership of water assets and infrastructure	2019 the Government announced that it would direct the ACCC to conduct an inquiry into markets for tradeable water rights in the Murray-Darling Basin.
2018 Motion 5.10	
MDA calls for <i>a National Water Ombudsman</i> with federal jurisdiction to inquire into, arbitrate, enforce, impose punitive measures, and oversee amendments to state water legislation	2019 Basin governments establish an Inspector-General Murray-Darling Basin Water Resources to build community confidence in water management, Basin Plan implementation and compliance across the whole Basin. Mr Mick Keelty AO is appointed Interim Inspector-General of Murray-Darling Basin Water Resources.
2018 Motion 5.11	
MDA calls for <i>an advisory role for local government</i> in Murray-Darling Basin Plan decision making via an advisory seat at the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council	2017, the MDA writes to the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources requesting consideration of local government representation on the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council and/or the Basin Officials Committee. 2017, the Chair of the Basin Officials Committee Malcolm Thompson wrote to the MDA advising that BOC considered the matter and determined they were keen to find a way to increase local government expertise in the Basin Community Committee which is established under S 202 of the Water Act. 2018, appointment of four local government members to the Basin Community Committee, including National President Cr Thurley, Mayor Neil Martinson of Renmark Paringa Council, Cr Samantha O'Toole of Balonne Shire Council, and Mayor Adrian Weston of Campaspe Shire Council.
2018 Motion 5.12	
MDA calls for <i>strengthening the role</i> of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority with regard to enforcement of compliance downstream for the length of the Barwon/Darling River	Northern Basin Commissioner appointed 11 September 2018.
2018 Motion 5.13	
MDA calls for <i>the National Water Infrastructure Fund</i> to be replenished with sufficient funds to enable the assessment of feasibility of projects and to deliver this critical water infrastructure	2019 Federal budget commits \$34.0 million over four years to grow stewardship and biodiversity practices in the agriculture sector. Government announces the establishment of the \$100million National Water Grid Authority to assess water diversion and storage proposals, and provide a science-based approach to the future requirements of Australia's water infrastructure, with a further commitment of \$1.3 billion to the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund to pay for the projects.

INFLUENCE	GOVERNMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE DECISIONS
2018 Motion 5.17	
MDA calls for recognition of the challenges faced by communities impacted by changing water availability, and direct support for community-based solutions for structural adjustment	January 2019 The Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program announced. Up to \$24.4 million of funding over 4 years for economic development projects that support communities most impacted by water recovery under the Basin Plan. April 2019 MDA granted \$500,000 to deliver Murray Darling Association Basin Communities Leadership Program, with over 40 other projects also funded.
2018 Motion 5.18	
MDA calls for a detailed and wholistic review of the environmental impacts of commercial flows on the Goulburn river	May 2019, Victorian Minister for Water Lisa Neville announced a review of the inter-valley trade rules for the Goulburn River to mitigate environmental impact of prolonged high volumes of water, and three key actions to reduce the risk to the lower Goulburn environment: 1) An interim operational regime to be implemented before the summer period. 2) From December all trades from the Goulburn system will be treated consistently with Victorian rules for inter-valley trade and in line with Basin Plan trading rules. 3) Public consultation in January 2020 about long-term options to change the current Goulburn to Murray trade rules.
2017 Motion 6.2	
MDA calls for meaningful inclusion of local government in Basin related decision making –via nomination the National President of the Murray Darling Association on the Basin Community Committee	National President Cr David Thurley nominated and appointed to the Basin Community Committee 18 July 2018. Three other local government appointments to the committee, 2 from regional chairing councils of the MDA.

INFLUENCE	GOVERNMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE DECISIONS
2017 Motion 6.3	
MDA calls for water management and compliance in the Basin, including an independent public inquiry and calls for consistent monitoring and compliance rules across all Basin states.	Natural Resources Access Regulator Act 2017 establishes independent, transparent and effective water regulator with responsibility for the compliance and enforcement of water laws in NSW. The Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission established by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia on 23 January 2018 to investigate the operations and effectiveness of the Murray-Darling Basin system. 2017, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and an Independent Panel conducted a Basin-wide Compliance Review at the request of the Australian Government, to assess the legislative, policy and practical implementation of compliance in water management across the Basin.
2016 Motion 5.3	
MDA calls for a Basin Plan implementation impacts evaluation framework, to measure and assess the social and economic impacts of the Basin Plan	2019, Federal Minister for Water Resources establishes an independent panel assessing socio-economic conditions in the Basin.
2016 Motion 5.8	
MDA calls for a sustainable Darling River system that ensures the health and wellbeing of the communities that live along it and enriches the economic, social, environmental and cultural values that have been part of its long history	2019, the NSW Natural Resources Commission released a draft review of the Water Sharing Plan for the Barwon-Darling and Alluvial Water Sources 2012.



CONNECTING CATCHMENTS AND COMMUNITIES

Earlier this year, hundreds of thousands of native fish including Murray cod, golden perch and bony bream were found dead around the Menindee weir, reflecting the dire situation in the Barwon-Darling.

Following these devastating fish kills, the Murray Darling Association responded to concerns raised by our members and driven by this concern, played an instrumental role in organising inter-regional and inter-agency meetings to discuss the health of the Barwon-Darling.

But more needed to be done.

The MDA and its members recognised that to better understand these fish kills and put actions in place to prevent them from happening again, community education, awareness and discussion was critical.

As a result, the inaugural MDA Connecting Catchments and Communities workshop was held in Renmark on 22 February.

This interregional event focused on enhancing water literacy and exchanging information, particularly enhancing further education and information on the topic of river health and connectivity from Menindee to the Coorong.



With a cross-section of community members attending, the first CCC workshop created an inclusive platform for conversation and collaboration. As a result of its success, other workshops coming up next year include:

- **Albury to Adelaide** – exploring topics of inflows and urban waste use, planning and food management
- **Balonne to Broken Hill** – exploring topics of irrigation in the Norther Basin and Barwon-Darling water sharing plan
- **Moira to Mildura** – exploring issues of constraints, management of the Barmah Choke, impact of the expanding irrigation footprint to permanent plantings below The Choke, total capacity and supply obligations
- **Naran Lake to Nyngan** – Managing the Macquarie Marshes – exploring the relationship between the irrigation, the SDLs and ephemeral wetlands of the interior.



ANNUAL PLANNING WORKSHOP

The Murray Darling Association's annual planning workshop was held February 2019 in Moama, New South Wales, with local government leaders from across the Murray Darling Basin coming together for a historic demonstration of unity and commitment to the association's goals and future.

For the first time in the 75-year history of the MDA, all 12 regions were represented, participating in the development of a range of plans and strategic priorities. With the MDA's current Strategic Plan 2016-19 due for renewal, the workshop provided valuable direction for the development of the Strategic Plan 2020-24, with the consultation draft set for release later this year.



Strategic and corporate planning workshops Moama 2019.

In all, over 50 delegates representing 28 councils from across the Basin attended the event, open to the regional chairs and committees of the MDA.

The annual MDA planning workshop is now in its 5th year and is an important event on the Murray-Darling Basin local government planning calendar.

Record attendance shows that local government is committed to working together, and with state and federal governments now more than ever achieving the best for our local communities.

Councils discussed a range of issues, highlighting the importance of state and federal governments and agencies engaging better with communities through their local representatives; the imperatives of having local government involved in the assessment and delivery of SDL projects; and the need for better resourcing.

The robust discussions and willingness to hear and to learn once again highlights the strength of local government dealing with complex issues and emphasises the need for local government to be involved from the outset.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

This year has seen the MDA substantially develop our financial capacity, operations, and governance structures.

The MDA Strategic Plan 2016-19 set a goal of becoming a strong, viable, self sustaining organisation. A commitment to invest in the association's resources and capability has delivered significant returns.

The MDA adopted the Organisation and Human Resource Plan 2020 to guide the development of the team from 1.5 FTE to an estimated 6 FTE by 2020. The plan is adaptive, designed to respond to the evolving needs of the organisation. The second half of the year saw three new positions created (see Our Staff), including:

- Communication and Engagement Officer
- Policy Officer and
- Executive Assistant

All positions are currently part time, with the appointed staff making a tremendous contribution to development of the organisation.

At the end of 2018, the MDA relocated from the premises shared with Parks Victoria for over four years following the reassignment of that property. Moving less than a block away, the association is now located at Level 1 250 Anstruther Street, occupying half of the first level of the building we are in – taking in 4 offices, a collaboration hub, an sufficient storage to accommodate the current and historical records and assets of the organisation for the first time in over 20 years. With the installation of desks, phones and data points to accommodate up to a total of 10 personnel, the space is ideally configured to grow with the business's demands.

The development of the MDA in 2019 has been dynamic, with the association clearly in an exciting period of growth, reflecting the hard work and commitment of the board. It should be noted that the current growth and development of the MDA is absent external grants, funding or projects.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

The MDA is a unique conduit between community and Basin governments as the authorities responsible for management of our Basin resources. We value the partnerships essential to the effective performance of our organisation.

Our Partners	Our intent
Members	Deliver and exchange high quality information and services that create efficiency and value in navigating the complex environment of inter-jurisdictional resource management and crafting effective representation.
Community	Inform the community about the role of local government and the regions, and raise the profile of the MDA. Listen, learn from and reflect the shared views and values of our communities.
Basin LGAs	Collaborate effectively and respectfully to maximise efficiencies for local government and their peak agencies by avoiding duplication and providing multi-jurisdictional perspectives.
Basin Governments	Fairly and frankly represent the interests and priorities of local government at the Basin scale on positions of common interest.
Murray Darling Basin Authority	
National Water Grid Authority	
Climate Change Authority	
Australian Energy Market Authority	
Commonwealth Environmental Water Office	Collaborate and exchange information and advice to improve knowledge and awareness of Basin issues, and of the impacts of policy and decisions to create better outcomes for local government and communities.
Regional LG groups and organisations	Collaborate effectively and respectfully to maximise efficiencies for local government and their peak agencies by avoiding duplication and exchanging inter-regional perspectives.
State and national peak bodies and other agencies	Consult and work with state and national peak bodies and other agencies to foster a stronger relationship to local government of sector-specific perspectives and issues.
Universities	Partner with universities to enhance water literacy, and provide practical application of academic research for the benefit of local government and community.
Media	Promote the interests and achievements of our Basin communities through the media.



Wentworth - where our eponymous rivers meet.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

The MDA continues to be a two-way conduit of information between our members and governments about Basin issues. As a result, our communication and engagement has grown significantly during the past year, with an increase in both website users and greater engagement on our social media platforms.

We recognise there are:

- 172** councils, and their associated communities
- 4** states, the ACT, and the Commonwealth, and countless agencies
- Two** houses of parliament, a government, an opposition, minor parties and cross benchers

across the Murray Darling Basin.

All have differing needs and demands. Yet, all are united by our common commitment to a healthy working Basin.

Number of posts/tweets published between 1 July 2018-30 June 2019:

133 (Twitter) **86** (Facebook)

Number of followers on the Murray Darling Association's social media pages:

791 (Twitter) **477** (Facebook)

Number of users:

6,775

Number of page views:

28,420

Number of sessions:

10,339

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION

OUR PLAN OUR FUTURE

BASIN BULLETIN - E NEWSLETTER

The MDA's Basin Bulletin continues to build on the organisation's previous, historical newsletters, including Murray Valley Newsletter 1946, Riverlander 1947-85, Riverlander Notes 1986-2012 and Basin Bulletin 2012-2014.

Distributed at the end of each month, Basin Bulletin includes updates on events that have occurred, coming appointments and reports from each region.

Issue	Month	Issue	Month
12	July 2018	18	January 2019
13	August 2018	19	February 2019
14	September 2018	20	March 2019
15	October 2018	21	April 2019
16	November 2018	22	May 2019
17	December 2018	23	June 2019

MEDIA RELEASES & POSITION STATEMENTS

Date	Title
28 June 2019	MDBA and MDA Partnership Strengthens with new MoU
19 June 2019	MDA welcomes Socio-Economic Impact panel for Murray-Darling
7 June 2019	Total water availability for ag a welcome discussion
28 May 2019	MDA congratulates Senator McKenzie on her return to Cabinet
28 May 2019	MDA congratulates Minister Littleproud on his return to Cabinet
28 May 2019	MDA congratulates Minister Ley on her return to Cabinet
22 May 2019	MDA response to Almond Board of Australia Water Policy Position
6 February 2019	Local government stands together - Basin-wide
5 February 2019	Connecting Catchments and Communities - MDA launches inter-regional forums
3 February 2019	Councils meet as governments grapple with progress reports
31 January 2019	MDA acknowledges outgoing Chair of the MDBA
14 January 2019	Review of environmental watering priorities flagged
11 January 2019	Fish kills at Menindee - requires cool heads and collaboration
17 December 2018	Socio-economic assessment criteria welcomed
7 November 2018	Councils inform and influence Basin decisions - Track the progress
11 October 2019	Regeneration for a healthy Basin
4 September 2018	MDA response to draft report
16 August 2018	Glowing support for drought relief efforts
16 August 2018	Call for Goulburn River flows assessment
15 August 2018	Nod given to local government engagement
9 August 2018	Local government's input growing
27 July 2018	Motions announced
26 July 2018	Water extraction a hot topic
19 July 2018	Local government expertise recognised in the Basin Community Committee
19 July 2018	Balancing neutrality, productivity and sustainability
18 July 2018	Murray River Council hits the ground running
6 July 2018	Glowing reception for visitors

Significant submissions made on behalf of member councils

- Submission to the Productivity Commission Murray-Darling Basin Plan: Five-year assessment - Draft Report - expressing broad support for the draft report, and adding further recommendation for amendment in line with motion 2019-5.11: advisory role for local government.
- Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program - calling for additional socio-economic criteria for projects, and to apply to whole of program, and an agreed and consistent means to assess criteria for accountability. Paper submitted to the MDB WIP consultation and presented to the Dept Ag and Water Resources.
- Submission to the Review of the Murray-Darling Basin Joint governance arrangements - calling for a role for local government in the decision-making framework at sector, regional and council level. Presented to appointed consultant Greg Claydon in support of a further 2-hour discussion face to face at MDBA in Canberra.

OUR PEOPLE

The Murray Darling Association continues to invest in skilled and talented people. Leadership and professionalism drive high performance with a focus on nurturing the next generation of talent.

Our high performance has this, as in every year, been essential.

With vast areas of topic and geography to cover, maximum use is made of the efficiencies afforded by modern technologies.

In total, the MDA undertook its business during the 2017-18 year employing FTE staff of 1.8.



Emma Bradbury B. Soc. Sci, Grad Dip Ed, GAICD
- Chief Executive Officer

Joining the Murray Darling Association in May 2014, Emma has extensive experience in business development, strategic planning and organisational reform. With a background in social science and local government, Emma is committed to the principles and practice of good governance and public participation.



Cathy Keegan
Membership Services Officer

Cathy commenced employment with the Murray Darling Association in May 2019, having recently relocated from the Northern Territory. Cathy has worked for over 10 years within Federal and Local Government albeit in Indigenous Affairs, her experience and life skills brings a level of perspective and understanding from a social and economic background.



Jess Maher
Communications and Engagement Officer

The Murray Darling Association's newest employee Jess joined the organisation in June this year. Jess is also completing her PhD part-time with Swinburne University, and brings to the role her passion for storytelling, and experience in not-for-profit organisations both in Australia and overseas.



James Marshall
Policy Officer

James joined the Murray Darling Association staff in March of 2019. James currently works three days a week as he is also a full-time student studying a Bachelor of Commerce (Economics) at Latrobe University. James has a background in agricultural industries and a keen interest in agri-economics.



Scott Bourne - BA (Comms) Hons
Communications and administration officer

Scott Bourne finished up with the Murray Darling Association in December 2018, to pursue his passion for local government through his new role as the Communications and Events Officer with Gannawarra Shire Council.



Nathan Gillie
Volunteer

One of the Murray Darling Association's longest serving employees, Nathan finished up in December 2018. Nathan worked one afternoon a week at the Echuca office scanning media for items relevant to Murray-Darling Basin issues. Nathan carried out his duties with the support of carer Kerry Bliss.

An occupational Health and Safety committee member, Nathan previously addressed the national board and attended the MDA's 72nd National Conference and Annual General Meeting, held at Dubbo.

■ Australia's peak body representing 1200 cotton growers & industry

■ Serving 150 cotton communities from Central Queensland to Swan Hill

■ Cotton contributes approx \$1.5B-\$2.5B to the Australian economy per year

■ An essential advocate for farmers and industry for more than 40 years

CottonAustralia.com.au | (02) 9669 5222 | talktous@cotton.org.au

facebook.com/CottonAustralia | twitter.com/CottonAustralia

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

COMMITTEE'S REPORT MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your Committee members submit the financial report of Murray Darling Association Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Name	Position	Dates
Cr David Thurley	National President/Chair Region 1	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Cr Peter Mansfield	Chair Region 2	1 July 2018 - 31 May 2019
Cr Denis Patterson	Chair Region 2	31 May 2018 - 30 June 2019
Vacant	Chair Region 3	
Cr Melissa Hedericks	Chair Region 4	1 July 2018 - 27 September 2018
Cr Jane MacAllister	Chair Region 4	27 September 2018 - 30 June 2019
Cr Peter Hunter	Chair Region 5	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Cr Barry Featherston	Chair Region 6	1 July 2018 - 19 October 2018
Cr Melissa Rebbeck	Chair Region 6	15 February 2019 - 30 June 2019
Cr David Shetliffe	Chair Region 7	1 July 2018 - 25 October 2018
Cr Andrew Tilley	Chair Region 7	16 March 2019 - 30 June 2019
Cr Denis Clark	Chair Region 8	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Cr Paul Maytom	Chair Region 9	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Cr Craig Davies	A/Chair Region 10	1 February 2019 - 30 June 2019
Cr John Campbell	Chair Region 11	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Cr Richard Marsh	Chair Region 12	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Peter George	Treasurer	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Emma Bradbury	Public Officer	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:
To provide effective representation of local government and communities of the Murray Darling Basin at state and federal level in the management of Basin Resources by providing information, facilitating informed debate, and seeking to influence government policy.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

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

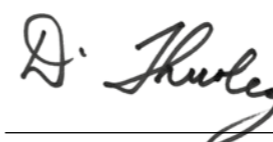
OPERATING RESULT

The surplus / (loss) after providing for income tax for the financial year amounted to (\$9,475) - [2018 \$23,137]

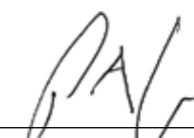
GOING CONCERN

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on



David Thurley - National President



Peter George - Treasurer

Date: 7 September 2019

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	Note	2019	2018
INCOME			
Conference Income		98,604	66,499
Income - Memberships	2	213,360	200,242
Income - Projects		2,805	1,867
Income From Fundraising Events		200	100
Interest Income	3	680	1,436
Other Income	4	74,140	12,523
Total Income		389,789	282,667
EXPENDITURE			
DEPRECIATION			
Depreciation - Low Value Pool		175	280
Depreciation - Motor Vehicle		1,345	4,170
Depreciation - Software		7,228	4,951
Depreciation - Office Equipment		1,157	868
Total Depreciation		9,905	10,269
MOTOR VEHICLES			
Motor Vehicle Insurance		743	865
Fuel Expenses		2,618	2,935
Motor Vehicle Maintenance		858	1,052
Motor Vehicle Registration		162	686
Total Motor Vehicles		4,381	5,538
Advertising & Marketing		14,839	9,903
Bank Fees		1,039	1,232
Borrowing Expenses		499	469
Business Insurance		976	408
Computer Expenses		11,673	2,113
Conference Expenses		43,168	25,277
Engagement and Communiations		4,784	4,634
Fringe Benefits Tax		-	-
General Repairs & Maintenance		2,232	1,131
Licences and Subscriptions		2,604	2,312
MDF Project Direct Expenses		-	-
Meeting Expense		405	939
Other Payroll Expenses	5	12,299	11,661
Postage		1,383	1,142
Premises Rent - Albury		-	-
Premises Rent - Echuca		14,614	15,500
Printing		425	1,150
Pro Indemnity Insurance		-	812
Professional Fees	6	15,153	250
Public Liability Insurance		700	654
Staff Amenities		323	141
Staff Training Expenses		99	1,541
Stationery		1,790	687
Storage		860	-
Superannuation		19,172	15,943
Telephone Expenses		6,023	4,977
Travel & Accom. Expenses		12,915	11,331
Uniforms		-	-
Wages & Salaries Expenses		210,015	171,770
Water Expenses		2,829	991
Work Cover Premiums		4,159	3,029
Total Expenditure		399,264	305,804
NET OPERATING PROFIT / (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR		(9,475)	(23,137)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

	Notes	2019	2018
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand	7	53,152	74,966
Accounts Receivable and other Debtors	8	23,250	9,684
Other Current Assets	9		1,250
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		76,402	85,900
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial Assets	10	289,575	226,225
Property, plant and equipment	11	21,252	33,738
Other	12	1,100	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		311,927	259,963
TOTAL ASSETS		388,329	345,863
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and other payables	13	22,305	10,285
Borrowings	14		1,501
Provisions	15	42,098	16,138
Other	16		63,801
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		64,403	91,725
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	14	1,500	1,500
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,500	1,500
TOTAL LIABILITIES		65,903	93,225
NET ASSETS		322,426	252,638
MEMBER'S FUNDS			
CAPITAL RESERVE			
Reserves		200,561	121,298
Retained Earnings		121,865	131,340
TOTAL MEMBER'S FUNDS		322,426	252,638

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	Retained Earnings \$	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Total \$
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2017	154,477	64,172	218,649
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
PROFIT (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR	(23,137)	-	(23,137)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	(23,137)	-	(23,137)
OTHER			
REVALUATIONS	-	57,126	57,126
TOTAL OTHER	-	57,126	57,126
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2018	131,340	121,298	252,638
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2018	131,340	121,298	252,638
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
PROFIT (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR	(9,475)	-	(9,475)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	(9,475)	-	(9,475)
OTHER			
REVALUATIONS	-	79,263	79,263
TOTAL OTHER		79,263	79,263
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2019	121,865	200,561	322,426

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	Notes	2019	2018
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Other Receipts		374,454	281,231
Interest Received		680	1,436
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(400,763)	(302,504)
Interest Paid		(499)	(469)
Net Cash Provided by (Used In) Operating Activities	20b	(26,128)	(20,306)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for Property, plant and equipment		5,815	(18,830)
Net Cash Provided by (Used In) Investing Activities		5,815	(18,830)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Borrowing Repayments		(1,501)	(4,202)
Net Cash Provided by (Used In) Financing Activities		(1,501)	(4,202)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(21,814)	(43,338)
Cash on Hand at beginning of the Financial Year		74,966	118,304
Cash on Hand at End of Financial Year	20a	53,152	74,966

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009 and the Associations Incorporation Regulation (NSW) 2010. The Board has determined that the not-for-profit Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report covers Murray Darling Association Inc. as an individual entity. Murray Darling Association Inc. is a not-for-profit association incorporated in New South Wales under the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009 and the Associations Incorporation Regulation (NSW) 2010.

The financial report has been prepared on a going concern and accruals basis, and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values, or except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is also the Association's functional currency.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

INCOME TAX

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Association is exempt from income tax pursuant to Division 50, section 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Fixed Assets are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation. The depreciable amount of all Fixed Assets is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the committee to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of expected net cash flows that will be received from the asset's employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a diminishing-value basis over the asset's useful life to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND OTHER DEBTORS

Contractual receivables include accrued interest and other minor receivables. They are recognised at fair value.

NOTES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONTINUED

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the nominal amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus any related on-costs. Both annual leave and long service leave are recognised within the provisions liability.

Short-term employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

The association's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and sick leave are recognised as a part of current trade and other payables in the statement of financial position.

Other long-term employee benefits

Provision is made for employees' long service leave and annual leave entitlements not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Other long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Upon the re-measurement of obligations for other long-term employee benefits, the net change in the obligation is recognised in profit or loss as a part of employee benefits expense.

The association's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current provisions in its statement of financial position, except where the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period, in which case the obligations are presented as current provisions.

PROVISIONS

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

CASH ON HAND

Cash includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

NOTES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

Membership, Grants, Project, Activities & Interest revenue are recognised when received.

Donations and bequests are recognised in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1004 Contributions, which occurs when all of the following three conditions are satisfied: -

- (a) the entity gains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution; and
- (b) it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the entity; and
- (c) the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

MURRAY DARLING FOUNDATION

The Murray Darling Foundation was established by the Murray Darling Association Inc. As a "Gift Fund" to receive tax deductible donations. The principal activity of the Foundation is to support the objectives of the Murray Darling Association Inc. The Foundation may receive gifts of money or property which are eligible tax deductible donations under item 6.1.1 of sub-section 30-55(1) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. The Foundation is not currently operational. The Board resolved to suspend its activities pending a review of its purpose and the formation of a new committee.

LEASES

Leases of PPE, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset (but not the legal ownership) are transferred to the association, are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and a liability at the lower of the amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for that period.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term. Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

FINANCIAL ASSETS

Investments in financial assets are initially recognised at cost, which includes transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value, which is equivalent to their market bid price at the end of the reporting period. Movements in fair value are recognised through an equity reserve.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Contractual payables arise when the association becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of goods and services. They are initially recognised at fair value, and then subsequently carried at amortised cost.

NOTES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

	2019	2018
2 MEMBERSHIPS		
Memberships	213,360	200,242
3 INTEREST INCOME		
Interest Received	680	1,436
4. OTHER INCOME		
Sundry Income	-	2,765
Profit on Sale of Assets	2,925	-
Water Sales - Temporary	23,618	9,758
Water Sales - Permanent	47,597	-
	74,140	12,523
5. EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS		
Annual Leave	12,299	4,161
Accrued Salaries	-	7,500
	12,299	11,661
6. PROFESSIONAL FEES		
Consulting Fees	2,271	-
Accounting Fees	-	-
Audit Fees	12,882	250
	15,153	250
7. CASH ON HAND		
Cash At Bank	53,152	74,966
	53,152	74,966
8. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND OTHER DEBTORS		
Trade Debtors	2,066	9,624
Sundry Debtor	15,500	-
Goods and Services Tax	5,684	60
	23,250	9,684
9. OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepayments	-	1,250
10. FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Available for sale financial assets (a)	289,575	226,225
	289,575	226,225
(a) Available for sale financial assets:		
Investments:		
High Security Water Shares	289,575	226,225

NOTES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

	2019	2018
11. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Motor Vehicles	-	34,718
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	(22,207)
	-	12,511
Office Furniture, Equipment and Computers	8,913	7,078
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(4,073)	(2,917)
	4,840	4,161
Low Value Pool	1,761	1,761
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(1,469)	(1,294)
	292	467
Software	23,300	16,550
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(12,180)	(4,951)
	11,120	11,599
Artwork	5,000	5,000
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	21,252	33,738
12. OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Bond Paid - Office	1,100	-
	1,100	-
13. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Trade Creditors	6,642	6,535
Tax Payable	15,663	3,750
	22,305	10,285
14. BORROWINGS		
Current		
Hire Purchase Liability	-	1,696
Less Unexpired Hire Purchase Liability	-	(195)
	-	1,501
Non-Current		
Debenture Loans	1,500	1,500
Hire Purchase Liability	-	-
Less Unexpired Hire Purchase Liability	-	-
	1,500	1,500
	1,500	3,001

NOTES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

	2019	2018
15. PROVISIONS		
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	30,370	15,072
Provision for Long Service Leave	-	-
Superannuation Liability	11,728	1,066
	42,098	16,138
Provision for Annual Leave		
Opening Balance 1 July 2018	15,072	
Additional Provisions Raised	15,451	
Amounts Taken	(153)	
Balance at 30 June 2019	30,370	
Provision for Long Service Leave		
Opening Balance 1 July 2018	-	
Additional Provisions Raised	-	
Amounts Taken	-	
Balance at 30 June 2019	-	
Total Provisions		
Opening Balance 1 July 2018	15,072	10,911
Additional Provisions Raised	15,451	13,295
Amounts Taken	(153)	(9,134)
Superannuation Liability	11,728	1,066
Balance at 30 June 2019	42,098	16,138
16. OTHER LIABILITIES		
Accrued Charges	-	7,500
Income in Advance	-	56,301
	-	63,801

17. RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve records revaluations of non-current assets. Under certain circumstances dividends can be declared from this reserve.

18. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There are no commitments as at 30 June 2019 (2018: \$Nil)

19. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

There are no Contingent Liabilities at 30 June 2019 (2018: \$Nil). There are no Contingent Assets at 30 June 2019 (2018: \$Nil).

NOTES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

20. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

Since 30 June 2019, there have been no events that would materially affect the Financial Statements at Balance Date.

21. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

	2019	2019
Reconciliation of Cash		
(a) Cash on Hand at the end of the financial year as included in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:		
Cash	-	-
Cash at Bank	53,152	74,966
	53,152	74,966
(b) Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities with net current year profit		
Current year profit after income tax	(9,475)	(23,137)
Cash flows excluded from current year profit:		
Depreciation Expense	9,905	10,269
Impairment Loss / (Gain) on Fixed Assets	(55,563)	-
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) / Decrease in Receivables	1,934	(4,040)
(Increase) / Decrease in Prepayments	1,250	(750)
Increase / (Decrease) in Payables	51,781	(4,931)
Increase / (Decrease) in Provisions	(25,960)	2,283
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(26,128)	(20,306)

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

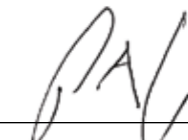
In accordance with a resolution of the committee of Murray Darling Association Inc. the members of the committee declare that the financial statements as set out in this report:

- 1 present a true and fair view of the financial position of Murray Darling Association Inc. as at 30 June 2019 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation (NSW) 2010; and
- 2 at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that Murray Darling Association Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:



David Thurley – National President



Peter George – Treasurer

Date: 7 September 2019

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INC**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Murray Darling Association Inc, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2019, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Murray Darling Association Inc as of 30 June 2019, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee of the Murray Darling Association Inc are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009 and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, committees are responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Warren Pollock
MGR ACCOUNTANTS
mgr@mgr.com.au

13 September 2019

Head Office

1 Somerville St. (P.O. Box 793) Bendigo VIC 3552
Tel (03) 5443 8888 Fax (03) 5443 9556

Other Offices

56 Hervey St. Elmore VIC 3558 Tel (03) 5432 6013
65 Forest St. Castlemaine VIC 3450 Tel (03) 5472 2415
24 Percy St. Echuca VIC 3564 Tel (03) 5482 6700

Partners

Peter J Mulqueen CPA
Stephen J Griffin CPA
Anthony J Cappy CPA
Warren G Pollock CA

Liability limited by a scheme
approved under Professional
Standards Legislation

HONOUR ROLL

OF THE MURRAY VALLEY DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE, THE MURRAY VALLEY LEAGUE, AND THE MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INC

LIFE MEMBERS

Cr Stuart Anderson OAM	Moama*
Mr Graham Camac	Meningie
Mr David Dalzell	Whyalla*
Dr Peter Davies	Adelaide*
Ms Pauline Frost	Adelaide
Mr James Wallace Gemmell	Cobram*
Cr Les Hill	Berri
Mr Brian J Grogan OAM	Mildura
Mr Bill Gorman	Yarrowonga
Mr Albert Heslop	Swan Hill*
Dr Terry Hillman	Lavington
Mr Jim Hullick OAM	Adelaide
Mr Ralph Jacobi	Adelaide*
Mr Ian Killmister	Nathalia*
Mr Jack James Larkin OAM	Kooloonong*
Mr Gunnar Vernon Lawrence AM	Hawthorn*
Mr John Joseph McGuire	*
Cr Neil McKinnon OAM	Jerilderie*
Mr J Bede Mecham	Wagga Wagga
Mr Ken Rogers	Dubbo
Mr T Norm Martin	Wodonga*
Cr Reg Mengler	Balranald*
Dr William Andres Merrylees	Carrathool*
Mr Max Moor	Barmah
Mr Phillip Moore	Melbourne
Mr Don Oberin	Echuca
Mr Thomas Ernest Pearsall	Albury*
Mr Kevin Pell OAM	Nathalia
Mr Percival Alfred Yeomans	*
Mr Wal Perry	Port Elliott*
Mr Phillip Potter	Narooma*
Ms Agnes Isabel Robertson	Albury*
Cr Max Schmidt	Paringa*
Cr Wulf Reichler OAM	Brewarrina
Mr Robert Starritt Rankin OBE	Rochester*
Mr HG Tredinnick	Murray Valley*
Mr Allen Tume	Adelaide*
Mr Henry Lester Smith MBE	Kerang*
Cr Maurice Wilhelm OAM	Murray Bridge*
Mr Percy Weston	Eurobin*

* Deceased

PRESIDENTS

DG Padman	Albury City Council	1944-5	Jim M Hullick OAM	Adelaide City Council	1986-89
JG Strangman	District Council of Waikerie	1952-56	Graham C Camac	Coorong District Council	1989-92
Henry Lester Smith OBE	Gannawarra Shire Council	1956-60	Max Moor	Moira Shire Council	1992-98
E Verco Whyte	Wentworth Shire Council	1960-65	Ray Trestrail	Albury City Council	1998-2000
Robert S Rankin OBE	Shire of Campaspe	1965-68	Brian Sharp OAM	Shire of Murray	2000-03
Tom E Pearsall	Albury City Council	1968-71	Brian J Grogan OAM	Mildura Rural Council	2003-06
Paul Gerard Schmidt	District Council of Mannum	1971-74	Bill Gorman	Corowa Shire Council	2006-09
Jim W Gemmell	Moira Shire Council	1974-77	Ken Rogers	Dubbo City Council	2009-13
Jack J Larkin OAM	Swan Hill Shire	1977-82	Cr Greg Toll	Shire of Campaspe	2013-15
Don K Oberin	Shire of Campaspe	1982-86	Cr David Thurley	Albury City Council	2015-

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

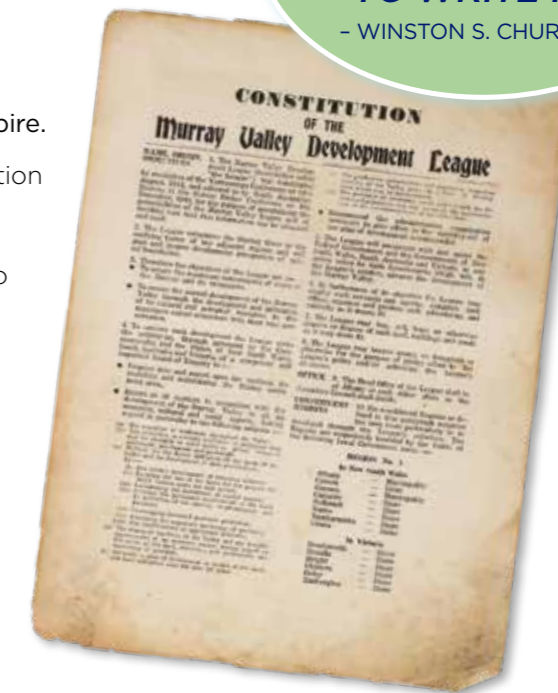
1	1945	Albury NSW	39	1983	Echuca Vic
2	1946	Shepparton Vic	40	1984	Adelaide SA
3	1947	Murray Bridge SA	41	1985	Jerilderie
4	1948	Swan Hill Vic	42	1986	Mildura Vic
5	1949	Wentworth NSW	43	1987	Albury NSW
6	1950	Berri SA	44	1988	Renmark SA
7	1951	Corowa NSW	45	1989	Barham NSW
8	1952	Victor Harbor	46	1990	Murray Bridge SA
9	1953	Albury NSW	47	1991	Cobram Vic
10	1954	Mildura Vic	48	1992	Whyalla SA
11	1955	Kerang Vic	49	1993	Wentworth NSW
12	1956	Melbourne Vic	50	1994	Yarrowonga Vic
13	1957	Barmera SA	51	1995	Broken Hill NSW
14	1958	Deniliquin NSW	52	1996	Barmera SA
15	1959	Mt Beauty Vic	53	1997	Swan Hill Vic
16	1960	Renmark SA	54	1998	Strathalbyn SA
17	1961	Swan Hill Vic	55	1999	Moama NSW
18	1962	Albury NSW	56	2000	Brewarrina NSW
19	1963	Victor Harbor SA	57	2001	Buronga NSW
20	1964	Mildura Vic	58	2002	Whyalla SA
21	1965	Yarrowonga Vic	59	2003	Corowa NSW
22	1966	Adelaide SA	60	2004	Renmark SA
23	1967	Shepparton Vic	61	2005	Dubbo NSW
24	1968	Deniliquin NSW	62	2006	Barham NSW
25	1969	Waikerie SA	63	2007	Bourke NSW
26	1970	Mildura Vic	64	2008	Leeton NSW
27	1971	Kerang Vic	65	2009	Elizabeth SA
28	1972	Murray Bridge SA	66	2010	Beechworth Vic
29	1973	Echuca Vic	67	2011	Dalby Qld
30	1974	Corowa NSW	68	2012	Mildura Vic
31	1975	Loxton SA	69	2013	Goolwa SA
32	1976	Wodonga Vic	70	2014	Tumut NSW
33	1977	Camberwell Vic	71	2015	Berrigan NSW
34	1978	Swan Hill Vic	72	2016	Dubbo NSW
35	1979	Berri SA	73	2017	Renmark SA
36	1980	Deniliquin NSW	74	2018	Leeton NSW
37	1981	Wentworth NSW	75	2019	Toowoomba Qld
38	1982	Murray Bridge SA			

LOOKING FORWARD LOOKING BACK

**"HISTORY WILL
BE KIND TO ME
FOR I INTEND
TO WRITE IT."
- WINSTON S. CHURCHILL**

The importance of recalling our history is so much greater than simply avoiding any repeat of its mistakes. Actively valuing our history keeps us focused on the creating the future to which we aspire.

In this, the 75th year of the Murray Darling Association we look back on the legacy, the successes, the challenges and the tenacity of those who have come before us - and we cast our vision forward to embrace the one constant since the dawn of time - change. The MDA is poised to embrace a future of changing water availability, changing climate, of drought and disruptive technologies, and of changing communities. In local government it is our role to prepare, to lead and to support our communities to navigate the complexities of that change, and to leave a legacy of adaptation, of resilience - and of a vibrant and sustainable future for the leaders of tomorrow.



AUSTRALIAN ALMONDS
ALMOND BOARD OF AUSTRALIA

- The Almond Board of Australia (ABA) is the peak industry body for Australian almonds
- ABA activities cover 99% of Australian almond production
- Almonds remain Australia's most valuable horticultural export product
- In 2018/19 almond exports were worth \$552 million
- Almonds account for 62% of Australian tree nut production

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



VALE

Phillip McRorie Potter

Phillip Potter lived at Jingellic on upper Murray River and was a councillor for 23 years with the Holbrook Shire Council, and as mayor 1993-94. He was an enthusiastic member of the Murray Valley Development League. Phillip had good financial skills which he applied as chair of the league's finance committee. Phillip held the position of executive officer of the league's Albury office 1982-83.

In 1987, Phillip was awarded life membership of the league for his services as Holbrook Shire's representative of Region 1, chair of the league's finance committee and vice-president of the League. In the early 1990s, Phillip retired from council life and moved to coastal NSW. Phillip passed away on October 28, 2018, leaving the MDA and Holbrook shire the richer for his commitment.

CONTACT US

Please contact us with any queries or comments:

Murray Darling Association
Level 1, 250 Anstruther St Ph 03 5480 3805
Echuca Vic 3564 Email admin@mda.asn.au

Additional copies of this document can be downloaded from www.mda.asn.au.



