

Speaker Biographies

Welcome

Darrell Jones, Perth NRM Board Member

Darrell Jones is an experienced not-for-profit director with expertise in strategy, governance, economics, finance and marketing. He is currently Chair of the PNRM Committee for Finance, Audit and Risk (CFAR). In other roles, he is a Member of the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board (where he is also a member of CFAR), Councillor at the Shire of Mundaring (member of the Audit and Governance Committee and the Environmental Advisory Committee), former Board Member of Mundaring Arts Centre, and community Board Member of a local primary school. He teaches part-time at Curtin University in the subject areas of Economics, Strategic Management and Corporate Governance. Alongside business issues, Darrell has a strong interest in arts, environment and sustainability. He is from a farming family and grew up in the Perth Hills area. As part of his interests, he completed a short course in aquaculture at UWA. When working for Western Power, Darrell led the introduction of the first green power electricity product in Western Australia, which supported the development of the Albany wind farm. He was an integral part of the team that introduced renewable energy feed-in tariffs to metropolitan and regional Western Australia which was a necessary enabler for the development of the roof-top solar photovoltaic industry. Darrell and his family live in a solar passive home in the Perth foothills.

Darrell holds a Bachelor of Economics, a Graduate Certificate in Marketing and Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and Investment. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Understanding our productivity constraints to remaining food secure

Richard George, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Richard is a published Principal Research Scientist with more than 35 years' experience. He is widely published in land and water sciences with over 200 works including 45 International Journals and book chapters, more than 90 Conference papers, 35 DPIRD Journals and numerous reports. He received the Australian Institution Engineers and WE Wood awards for science excellence and leads land and water science. His current areas of work include Resource Monitoring and Assessment state-wide, Northern Expansion in the East and West Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne, and resource investigations and transitioning into development phase and impact assessment, Southern Intensification in Myalup-Wellington, Myalup Primary Industries Reserve, Peel, Midlands and the Wheatbelt, Dryland Salinity which he is the 2019 Chair, part of the Consultative review and is advising Minister MacTiernan Soil and Land Conservation Council (pending), drought and water resources responses and lastly, national and intra-science coordination.

What is Regenerative Agriculture, why do we need it?

Charles Massy

Charles Massy gained a BSc (Zoology, Human Ecology) at ANU (1976), before going farming and developing a prominent Merino sheep stud business. His concern about land degradation and humanity's future led to him completing a PhD in Human Ecology (ANU) in 2012. He has chaired and served as a Director on a number of national and international review panels and boards of business, research organisations and statutory wool bodies, involving garment manufacture, wool marketing, R&D, molecular genetics and genomics. Charles has engaged in freelance journalism since 1977, widely publishing across a range of subjects. His first three books concerned the history of the Australian Merino and wool industries. His book on the wool industry, *Breaking the Sheep's Back* (2011), was short listed in 2012 for the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Australian History. His latest book, *Call of the Reed Warbler: A New Agriculture - A New Earth* (University Queensland Press, Australia; and Chelsea Green, internationally), is about the regenerative farming revolution and its capacity to heal both the Anthropocene challenge of planet Earth and human health. While managing

the family's grazing property in NSW, Charles occasionally teaches at universities and consults in the fields of Merino breeding, landscape design, and regenerative agriculture - addition to regularly talking and teaching nationally and internationally.

Change Management through training

Terry McCosker, RCS

Terry co-founded RCS 35 years ago which has set the benchmark for capacity building in rural and regional Australia. He is responsible for the introduction of holistic thinking and managing to Australia in 1989. The RCS flagship, Grazing for Profit, has over 7,000 graduates and has changed grazing, livestock and business management nationally. Terry has been a leader in rural extension methods, soil carbon research and measurement and was awarded the degree of Honorary Doctor of Agribusiness by CQU in 2015 in recognition of a 50 year career in research, extension and property management.

Successful Catchment Scale Landscape Rehydration and Regeneration: Building resilience to climatic extremes

Peter Hazell, The Mulloon Institute

Peter Hazell is Project Coordinator at the highly regarded research, education and advocacy organisation the Mulloon Institute. He manages a catchment scale landscape rehydration project on the southern tablelands of NSW. Peter is an expert in landscape hydration with 15 years of experience in the public and private sector. He has experience as a remote sensing specialist, a water scientist, and as an Australian Government NRM Facilitator. Based in the Mongarlowe watershed in NSW, Peter put his regenerative agriculture expertise into action through rehabilitating his 374ha farm with his family.

Farmer's adaptation to a changing reality – challenges and opportunities for becoming resilient

Petra Tschakert, Professor at UWA School of Agriculture and Environment, and contributing author to the IPCC 5th Assessment Report

Dr. Tschakert is Centenary Professor in Rural Development in the UWA School of Agriculture and Environment. She trained as a human-environment geographer with background in arid lands resources sciences and applied anthropology, working mainly on climate change adaptation, social and environmental justice, inequalities, and rural livelihoods and livelihood security in a development context. She was the Coordinating Lead Author of Chapter 5 "Sustainable Development, Poverty Eradication and Reducing Inequalities" of the Special Report on 1.5C Global Warming of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Previously, she was CLA on the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), on Chapter 13 ("Livelihoods and Poverty") of the Working Group II Report on Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability, and was part of the Core Writing Team of the AR5 Synthesis Report.

Leading sustainability trends in agriculture

Sue Ogilvy, leading researcher on sustainable agriculture

Following a successful early career in market development and major account sales in the IT industry, Sue Ogilvy is now a visionary researcher and practitioner of natural capital accounting. Drawing on her PhD research at the Fenner School of Environment & Society ANU and her experience in environmental-economic projects, she helps companies identify and realise opportunities to use improved management of natural capital to differentiate themselves in their chosen markets. Sue has been trained in the United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and her methods to include natural capital in corporate accounts have been published in peer-reviewed journals.

Specialising in natural capital accounting for extensive agriculture, her accounting work is founded on a strong understanding of ecological function and sustainable management of grazed landscapes. Alongside her research, she has participated in and led environmental-economic projects including the experimental environmental-economic accounts for the Great Barrier Reef with the ABS and a design for ecosystem accounts for the Indigenous Land Corporation. She has published in environmental accounting and food security literature as well as in general literature exploring the opportunity to support sustainability-conscious markets to establish a virtuous cycle of causally linked environmental and economic performance for the Centre for Policy Development. Her most recently completed project investigated links between farm profitability and biodiversity. She is actively engaged with leading sustainability-conscious brands to support them to operationalise selective-sourcing and accounting for environmental performance in their value chains.

Regenerative agriculture with leading innovators in the West Australian farming landscape

Dianne Haggerty and Stuart McAlpine

Stuart McAlpine is a Wheatbelt farmer with 35 years' experience in agriculture who is committed to the environmental and social restoration of his region. He was co-founder of the Liebe Group and inaugural President. He instigated the Regional Repopulation Plan with the Wheatbelt's Dalwallinu Shire and Chaired the Regional Repopulation Advisory Committee. In 1999, Stuart was Western Australian No-Till farmer of the year and in 2015 he received a Soil Health Champion Award. Stuart believes that successful food production will ultimately only be sustainable with an integrated approach that allows for continued improvement in the health of the ecosystem and can be demonstrated in operating farming systems.

Dianne Haggerty, with her husband Ian, are world renowned for their approach to regenerative agriculture by working with native pastures for their livestock which complements their biological cropping program of over 13,000ha. Dianne is regularly traveling nationally and internationally to share her knowledge and experience with the Natural Intelligence Farming approach to regenerative agriculture. The Haggerty's are on a mission to facilitate positive global change by rebuilding soils in semi-arid regions and are essential to the RegenWA network of regenerative farmers.

Indigenous foods and Traditional Owners landscape knowledge: A world-class opportunity ***Oral McGuire, Noongar Landholder Enterprises Inc.***

Oral McGuire, Principle Consultant of Gundi Consulting, is a Whadjuk/Ballardong man. He brings knowledge of the land and forest, which has been shared through Noongar stories, song lines and beliefs of the flora and fauna as well as the significant places and sites that are hubs for Noongar cultural heritage. He has 18 years' experience as a professional fire-fighter and for the past 10 years has been practicing traditional (cultural) burning on his 2100 acre property where he and his family are transforming the land back to its natural state – their vision is to plant 1 million trees and to create a Noongar cultural sanctuary. Oral is a prominent Noongar community leader, landholder and long-term champion of Aboriginal advancement with extensive experience in traditional land and fire management practices. He has extensive knowledge and experience in government, private enterprise and the not-for-profit sector and a proven track record in bridging the divide between 'mainstream' and Aboriginal communities. His leadership experience has included roles in Curtin University Aboriginal Advisory Council (Chair), Noongar Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Director), Noongar Landholder Enterprises Inc. (Chair) and Doorn-Djil Yoordaning Mining (Non-Executive Director). He is the Chair and driver of his family's organisation, Yaraguia Enterprises Incorporated. YEI is a Noongar family based cooperative. His recent professional engagements include; Main Roads WA and Forest Products Commission/Timber Industry and Westport WA to advise separately on matters of improving Aboriginal participation and engagement in each of those sectors and agencies.

Oral regularly participates in public speaking engagements and is recognised as a leader and motivator in cross-cultural relations.

Positioning community and government sentiment towards supporting major longer-term investment that enables farmers to identify and adopt more sustainable farming systems
Natarsha Woods, CEO of Wheatbelt NRM

Natarsha has been the CEO at Wheatbelt NRM since 2009. She has focused the organisation on strong Project Management skills and diversifying the revenue base - Because financial independence means self-determination – and that way Wheatbelt NRM can deliver on the community’s vision for NRM regardless of politics. Wheatbelt NRM is an independent community-based organisation involved with NRM endeavours within the Avon River Basin. The organisation operates from its Northam office, Western Australia, and exists as the second largest of the six NRM regional organisations in the state, with responsibility for the 12,000,000 hectares of the Avon River basin.

Interactive facilitated workshops: Developing the business case
Lachy Ritchie

Lachy has spent the better part of a decade dedicated to using business as a force for good, having cofounded four purpose driven enterprises since 2010. Lachy has worked in a variety of agricultural project-based roles ranging from establishment of a biointensive market garden, to large scale conservation investment projects. Lachy’s latest start-up Agtalent is an online marketplace for sustainable and regenerative agriculture jobs and training. Agtalent aims to support the global transition to regenerative agriculture farming as the norm. Lachy's main role is working as the farmland portfolio manager for regenerative food and agriculture company Wide Open Agriculture. In this role he is currently focused on developing farmland investment opportunities that combine an environmental, social and financial return for investors, with regenerative agriculture practices at its core.

Interview session with Walter Jehne facilitated by ABC Radio
Walter Jehne and Richard Hudson

Walter Jehne is an internationally known Australian soil microbiologist and climate scientist and the founder of Healthy Soils Australia. He is passionate about educating farmers, policymakers and others about “the soil carbon sponge” and its crucial role in reversing and mitigating climate change. His work shows how we can safely cool the climate by repairing our disrupted hydrological cycles. That project requires us to return some of the excess carbon in the atmosphere to the soil, where it belongs. In 2017, he participated in an invitation-only United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization conference in Paris aimed at bringing soil into the next Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report.

As a research scientist at CSIRO (Australia’s scientific research organization), Jehne investigated the potential of mycorrhizal fungi to recolonize toxic, degraded soils and to rebuild productive biosystems. His curiosity took him to China to study why the country’s traditional agriculture was so productive. Later he worked with his federal government on changing the paradigm of land management to foster strategic innovation. He retired 15 years ago so he could get back to practically applying science and grassroots empowerment. He travels widely to share his understanding of the causes and solutions to climate change.

Richard Hudson joined ABC’s Rural team in WA in 2000. He started in Perth, worked briefly in Geraldton and then had a six month stint in Victoria’s Goulburn/Murray region. He then spent almost eight years in Cairns doing the North Queensland Rural Report but returned to Perth where in 2007 Richard was appointed Executive Producer of Rural WA. Richard has been following the regenerative agriculture story for years and is keen to identify what the next step is for the industry.