

OBITUARY - ARTHUR DAKIN

The death of one of the original founding directors of the Biological Farmers of Australia occurred on the 15th of November 2009 at Dalmeny on the South Coast of New South Wales.

Arthur Dakin spent his earlier years in Victoria, beginning his working life as a bank clerk, but soon realized that his interests were more inclined towards agriculture. Arthur began working on a large property near Ballarat to gain the experience which eventually led him to owning his own dairy farm in the Victorian Gippsland. While dairying, Arthur developed his deep interest in the Biodynamic farming practices.

Dairying however did not satisfy his ambitions and felt he would like to try his hand at grain growing. He made a bold decision and moved to Wirrena, a large grain property west of Nyngan in NSW where he continued to practice Biodynamic farming. Arthur produced many thousands of tonnes of biodynamic high protein wheat from that property.

His involvement with the BFA was grass roots, being one of the original 7 families involved in the initial meeting held at Dubbo in February 1987. Arthur held the position of secretary for many years, only resigning when the growth in membership became an impossible load. While secretary, Arthur put a lot of time and energy into establishing the sound structure of the BFA. Later he was chairman for a short time.

Eventually it was time to retire. He sold his property at Nyngan and moved to Bermaqui where he and Katherin continued with their organic interests with a very productive home orchard and garden. Early in life Arthur suffered the loss of sight in one eye and he always referred to himself as the 'one eyed organic farmer'. Arthur is survived by 3 sons and wife Katherin and will be remembered for his dedication to the Organic/Biodynamic industry.

Gavin Dunn, inaugural Chairman of BFA