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## Thanks for your attendance!

Thank you everyone for attending the best and biggest Regional and Rural Muster of the past 15 years! Over the past few days, we have shared countless memories, laughter, and invaluable learning moments together.

You have made this event a remarkable success!



Also, we are incredibly proud to announce that we raised over \$23,000 for the First National Foundation.

From these funds, \$10,000 was donated to local charity C.H.A.I.L.I.S – Children Having an Illness Living in Sunraysia.

This contribution will make a significant difference in the lives of children in our community, and it's all thanks to your generosity and support.



A special thank you goes out to our wonderful host, Robert Stephens, whose dedication and hard work made this event possible.

We also extend a warm welcome to the newest member of the First National family, baby Daisy, who charmed us all with her delightful presence and impeccable behaviour (better than many of us!) She has gained a whole new group of "aunties."



We are thrilled to share that we even made it into the Sunraysia Daily newspaper! [you can read the full article here](#)



We look forward to seeing you all again at next year's muster in the beautiful Margaret River!

## PRESENTATIONS

We know you've taken lots of notes during the sessions :) but if you'd like to explore more, you can download the full presentation using the link below.

[POWER POINT SLIDES](#)



## Agenda

### Wednesday 24th July

6:00 pm

*Meet & Greet nibbles & drinks at [The Corporate Moose](#)*

**Address:** 34 Langtree Ave, Mildura VIC 3500

**Dress code:** neat casual

# Thursday 25th July

8:30 am [Mildura Rowing Club](#), Registrations

Conference dress code: neat casual

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**9:00 am**

**Opening Address**

Robert Stephens, Chairman Rural Chapter

David Edwards, CEO First National

**9:45 am**

*Speaker 1 Greg Kuchel*

**10:25 am**

**About Mildura**

Robert Stephens

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**10:40am Morning Break**

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**10:55 am**

*Speaker 2 - Peter O'Donnell*

**11:40 am**

*Speaker 3 - Phil Grahame*

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**12:30 pm Lunch**

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**1:15 pm**

**First National Products**

James Bateman & Ed Atkinson

**1:30 pm**

*Speaker 4 - Stefano De Pieri*

**2:15 pm**

**Virtual Assistants**

Lisa Grey & Zeta Bennett

First National Real Estate

Regional & Rural Muster Mildura 2024

**2:30 pm**

**Member Panel**

Barry Granville & Andrew Blackman & Phil Dowling

**3:00 pm**

**Auction Session**

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**3:30 pm Conference close & free time**

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**6:00 pm**

**Gala Dinner/Charity Auction/Race Call night**

Venue: Deakin 27 ([also called Stefano's Café](#))

Address: 27 Deakin Ave, Mildura

Dress code: **Fruit Theme** - come dressed as a piece of fruit, of fruit on your clothing or fruit accessories, your choice ?

Don't forget to bring an item to donate to the Charity Auction to raise funds for the First National Foundation!

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# Friday 26th July

**8:30 am**

Meet at [Mildura Rowing Club](#) for site visits

Dress code: neat casual

8:30 am - Pick up Rowing Club

8:45 am – Leave, Drive past tennis club, weir, lock, Rio Vista.

9:00 am - Arrive at [Jujube Farm](#)

9:45 am - leave Jujube Farm

10:00 am - arrive at [Psyche Pumps](#)

10:05 am – Leave Psyche Pumps

10:40 am – arrive at [Karadoc Solar Farm](#)

11:00 am – Leave Solar Farm

11:10 am – arrive at [Australian Garlic](#)

11:55 am – Leave Australian Garlic

12:10 pm – Arrive Nangiloc Tavern for Lunch

1:10 pm – Leave Nangiloc Tavern

1:20 pm – Arrive Minter Magic (click here for [videos](#) and [Facebook page](#))

2:20 pm – Leave Minter Magic

2:35 pm – arrive at [Big Lizzie](#)

2:50 pm – Leave Big Lizzie

2:55 pm – arrive [Cappa Stone Winery](#)

3:50 pm – leave Cappa Stone

**4:10 pm**

**Return**

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**5:30 pm**

[Dinner Cruise on the Murray River](#) (Meet at the Mildura Wharf, next to the Rowing Club)

Dress code: neat casual, bring a Jacket!

**9:30 pm**  
**Return**

## Speaker Profiles

### PETER O'DONNELL



Peter O'Donnell is the Owner and Executive Director of Southern Cross Farms, a farm management company specialising in Almonds, Citrus, Blueberries, and Grapes across NSW, Victoria, SA, and QLD. His responsibilities include strategy development, investor liaison, and acquisitions. Formerly part owner of Southern Cross Business Advisers in Mildura, Peter holds a Bachelor of Economics and is a CPA Australia Fellow. He is a Director of Mildura Airport, active in sporting groups, and various industry and community organisations.

### PHIL GRAHAME



Phil Grahame, an Associate of the Australian Property Institute and former Property Valuer for 14 years, began water broking in 2008. He built a large client base, including corporates, government, and family irrigators across SA, VIC and NSW. Since 2014, he has been the General Manager of Ruralco Water, providing brokerage and water market solutions through 14 branches in the Murray Darling Basin and beyond. Phil is a past Secretary and President of the Australian Water Brokers Association.

### GREG KUCHEL



Greg grew up on a dairy farm in Meningie, SA, and studied Agribusiness. He began his career in Agribusiness banking in Warrnambool and spent 25 years as a Relationship Manager and Regional Manager for Rural Bank across Victoria. Recently, he transitioned to a Senior Industry Insights Manager role. Greg has experience in diverse agricultural industries, including dairy, cropping, livestock, and horticulture. Residing in Swan Hill, Vic for the past 12 years, he is active in his community, serving as Vice Chair of the Birchip Cropping Group, and as a board member for Swan Hill District Health and the Rural Financial Counselling Service for Western Vic.

## STEFANO DE PIERI



Stefano de Pieri, born in Treviso near Venice, migrated to Australia in 1974. He attended Sydney Road Community School in Brunswick and graduated from Melbourne University with a degree in Politics and Italian Studies. Stefano became involved in community causes, editing the Italian newspaper "Nuovo Paese" and working in the Victorian Public Service. In 1991, he married Donata Carrazza and moved to Mildura, where they have two children, Domenico and Claudia. Inspired by the local produce and wine, he wrote "A Gondola on the Murray," which became a TV series. Stefano's Restaurant, acclaimed and award-winning, continues to thrive in Mildura, maintaining a family tradition in hospitality.

# Mildura Rowing Club

## What's nearby

Welcome drinks - The Corporate Moose: 450 m

Hotel - Grand Mildura Hotel: 350 m

Gala Dinner: 27 Deakin – Stefano's : 450 m

Airport: 11 km





## Gala Dinner and Auction

# DRESS TO IMPRESS FRUIT THEME

REGIONAL & RURAL MUSTER

Mildura

GALA DINNER AND AUCTION NIGHT 25TH JULY

PLUS JOIN US FOR A  
HEARTFELT TRADITION  
OF GIVING BACK WITH A  
CHARITY AUCTION.

BRING SOMETHING UNIQUE FROM  
YOUR HOMETOWN TO CONTRIBUTE—  
IT'S ALL FOR A WORTHY CAUSE!



## Registration

### Registration

Registrations are now closed.

Please contact Lucia Ladron De Guevara for further information

at [events@firstnational.com.au](mailto:events@firstnational.com.au)

### Accommodation

For members who require accommodation, we recommend the hotel Grand Mildura

**Book  
Accommodation**

All bookings must be made directly through the hotel.

Please mention the code **"FNRE"** when booking to enjoy the **10% special discount.**

## Attendees

FN Armidale	Neil Mortimer
FN Bonnici & Associates	Tony Stockdale Lexley Sewell Harley McLachlan
FN Broken Hill	Zeta Bennett Mitchell Halpin
FN Candappa	Suzy Candappa Shane Candappa
FN Casino	Louise Formaggin Mark Formaggin
FN Central KW	Jesse Watson Frank Palermo
FN Charles L King & Co (Cohuna)	Rohan Ibbs
FN Childers	Phil Dowling
FN Collie & Tierney	Robert Stephens Michael Pullen Carolyn Stephens Paula Bergin Joe Fleri Carly Fleri John Bergin Rebecca Evans
FN Copper Coast	Seah Williams Megan Hill Debbie Copley
FN Finning	Jason Brown
FN Forster-Tuncurry	Tracy Peeters Darren Peeters
FN Goondiwindi	George Sloss John Duffield
FN Hawks Nest	John Rumble Kristi Currie
FN Maitland	Mick Haggarty Alexandra Haggarty
	Marie Donaldson

FN Margaret River	Kelly Donaldson Bronwyn Granville Barry Granville
FN Mark Gunther	Nicholas Gunther Mark Gunther Ivana Gunther
FN Marschall	Shawn Nitschke Jen Nitschke
FN Mercer Bryant	Joe Bryant Shelly Bryant
FN Mudgee	Marnie Robbins Peter Druitt Andrew Blackman
FN Murray Bridge	Hannah Freestone Jack Freestone
FN Rayner	Marcus Rayner Leanne Rayner Mark Dudley
FN Springfield	Kiah Coupland Leila Stewart Neil Coupland
FN Tamworth	Nicholas Taggart Margo Taggart David Doherty
FN Waverley City	Jessica Chea Thomas Som
FN Westwood	Cheryl Carlton Rob Westwood
FN Wynnum Manly	Kelly Isaacs Mark Ferguson
Sensor	Anthony Booth
Direct Connect	Craig Walsh
Tapi	Jason Colbey
Affordable Staff	Lisa Grey
National Support Office	David Edwards James Bateman Ed Atkinson Alan Read Lucia LDG Stacey Kelly Trent Godfrey Anne Donchos

