

# VOICES

newsletter from ALM Group

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It is a long time - too long - since our last newsletter. Much has happened this year, and we will be bringing you up-to-date over coming months.

## **Linking productivity gains and improved environmental outcomes**

The ALM Group has strengthened links between improving farm productivity and environmental outcomes by using practical tools to understand and improve soil/plant function. This is being achieved through our alliance with System Ag. Consulting which ensures evidence-based management, less guess work and better use of the drivers of productivity and environmental performance.

One of the foundations for the ALM Group Certified Land Management (CLM) system is the idea that natural resource management is not about managing resources as the term implies but rather it is about improving the impacts of land managers. This approach provides participating landholders with a unique opportunity to improve both farm productivity and environmental outcomes in the framework of a whole-of-farm, internationally recognised certification system. Read more about CLM in our [brochure](#).

## **ALM Group Board expanded and strengthened**

The new ALM Group board comprises people from around Australia with an outstanding portfolio of experiences and skills. In announcing the changes to the makeup of the board, Chairman Nelson Quinn said that after a period of developmental and evaluation work it was timely to broaden access to a range of capabilities. He added that it was particularly pleasing that so many highly experienced and capable people are prepared to act in an honorary capacity to help achieve the ALM Group goal of improving environmental and animal welfare outcomes. Nelson acknowledged the leadership and dedication of past board members, some of whom have been reappointed. . . [More](#)

## **Barking mad - Dusty's insights from the verandah**

Two of Australia's most respected environmental academics, Prof. Ted Lefroy and Prof. David Lindenmayer, have set their recent books, *Landscape Logic* and *Biodiversity Monitoring* respectively, on the foundation observation that current natural resource policies and programs are either not effective or that we don't have data to indicate otherwise.

Dusty questions whether doing more of the same is likely to lead to better outcomes. Perhaps, he muses, we need transformational public policy innovations; less chasing of tails doing remedial projects and a greater focus on removing or abating the causes of environmental degradation.

Insightful chap our Dust.

