



SUNDAY, 1 MARCH 2009

CALLING ON ALL FEDERATED FARMERS MEMBERS

9AM-4PM (OR PART THEREOF)

WE NEED YOUR HELP

- parking cars
- welcoming guests at the gate
- guiding a walking group

If you can help out please let us know. We can't be sure how many people will be turning up so the more hands we have on deck the better.

Parking: Cars will be directed to the farm with Federated Farmers' signage. Once they arrive we need to park them in A&P showstyle in a pre-designated paddock. Please come with a safety vest.

Welcoming guests once their car is parked: Everyone will come through the same gate. They need to be welcomed, given a name tag and linked in to a group.

Guided walks: Every FARM DAY will have a guided walk around the farm. Groups will be kept to about 20 people. Each farm walk will last about one hour and there will be pre-arranged stops along the way. As the host your job will be to look after the group throughout the farm tour, tell some stories (not necessarily about this farm) and encourage the group to enjoy themselves. Your role is to be the face of farming. This is a great opportunity to build new friends in the non-farming community.

If you can help out please phone Sue Wall on 06 357 4026 or email swall@fedfarm.org.nz



Our host is: Robert Ervine
1304 Highway 56, Palmerston North

When you take a stroll around Robert Ervine's dairy farm on the banks of the Manawatu River, it's hard to believe nearly half of it was under water last October.

The river has broken its banks in four of the seven years that Robert has owned the 91ha property. He reckons this gives his farm a real point of difference, even though it causes him to lose sleep some nights. The farm is not irrigated, but the natural flooding gives the soil excellent water retention.

The farm was converted to dairy more than 50 years ago. Before this the land was used to graze beef and sheep. Robert's milking shed is a 27 a-side herring bone and it takes him about 10 minutes to milk each cow.

This is not a 'wander at will' farm tour. The public will be met at the gate, put in to groups and escorted around the farm.

We need your help on the day to make FARM DAY a success. Please think about lending a hand.

To learn more about this farm and how you can help on the day, please phone or email:

Sue Wall on 06 357 4026 or email swall@fedfarm.org.nz

LOCAL VOICE
NEWSLETTER SPECIAL



JANUARY 2009

MANAWATU | RANGITIKEI

FARM DAY
SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH 2009

Federated Farmers is holding the first New Zealand-wide, open FARM DAY on Sunday March 1st. The Manawatu/Rangitikei province's FARM DAY will be held at Robert Ervine's property, south of Palmerston North.

FARM DAY is a great chance for town and country to connect and for people to see how the good food that they eat is grown. It is a great opportunity for town kids to get onto a farm and while this was something that everyone used to do, many people have lost their country connections. It is not so easy any more to get down to the farm.

Our two take home messages from the day are simple and clear. We want people to remember that

- New Zealand farmers grow healthy and safe food
- New Zealand farmers care about the environment

I am asking all members to hang page two of this flyer in a local shop, take it to the local school, or pass it on to a non-farming friend.

We cannot run this day without your support. If you could help out, it would be great, because the more helpers we have on deck, the easier it will be to pull off a great event.



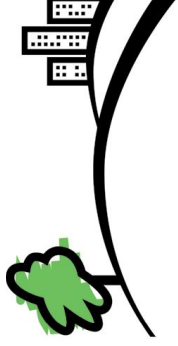
I hope to see you on March 1st.
Many thanks

Gordon McKeller
Manawatu/Rangitikei President

WWW.FEDFARM.ORG.NZ | 0800 327 646



**FEDERATED
FARMERS**
OF NEW ZEALAND



FARM DAY

Discover the Country



SUNDAY, 1 MARCH 2009

Join us for a great day in the country, come and experience the sights, sounds and smells of farming.

WHERE: Robert Irvine's farm
1304 Highway 56, Palmerston North

TIME: 10am-3pm

RSVP: For all FARM DAY events please phone:
07 838 2589 or email: admin@fedfarm.org.nz

ACTIVITIES:

- Guided farm walk
- Milking demonstration

FARM DAY is a national agricultural event coordinated and hosted by Federated Farmers of New Zealand