

Winter 2010

# @Dalby

YOUR GUIDE TO BUSINESS & LEISURE

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FREE

a dalby chamber  
of commerce &  
industry publication  
with support from  
western downs  
regional council

## Opportunities

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Dalby's New Festival p 7



Chamber News p 11

Discover modern country living @ Dalby and District



## FAMILY & BUSINESS

# Flourish in Dalby

put time and money into training and developing our team to meet clients' needs."

As his business grew and flourished in Dalby, so has his family. Gavin and his wife Liesel have seven children aged from 17 to 2 mths.

In between changing nappies and driving children to and from school, sport and music, Liesel has also become a successful business owner, establishing A Country Garden day care centre with her sister in 2004.

The Walton family is known for 'having a go'. It's Gavin's late mother Marie who is credited for establishing Dalby's café culture while Gavin's father and brother are highly respected local cattle, grain and cotton farmers.

If you ask the Waltons why they chose Dalby to establish businesses and raise their families, Gavin puts it down to lifestyle and networks.

"Dalby certainly offers a sustainable base for business, but what I think we appreciate the most about this town is having people around that care. This is a community that shares a closeness where people really look out for each other."

### Local business owner and self-confessed "farm boy at heart" Gavin Walton has spent his life making the most of opportunities.

After completing his schooling in Dalby, Gavin spent some time on the family farm, completed an electrical apprenticeship in Dalby, did a brief stint in Mt Isa, and then took the chance to travel and work around the world. After four years he returned and, with more experience behind him, he established his own business in Dalby – now known as Condamine Electric Company (CEC).

Over the past nine years CEC has grown to employ 35 staff and secure a range of contracts from feedlots and piggeries, agricultural industry, commercial and industrial projects, power stations, construction camps and gas fields.

"We look for what industries are emerging and

**“**...what I think we appreciate the most about this town is having people around that care.**”**

Dylan Littleton, Robin Scarffe and Scott Goodlet are completing a Certificate II in Plant Process Operations to gain skills for the burgeoning Coal Seam Gas industry.



## ARROW FIRES UP Local Opportunities

### As the Surat Basin gas fields continue to open up to new development, Arrow Energy is one company keen to ensure that opportunity flows on to local communities.

With gas production expanding to meet the need for cleaner energy, Arrow anticipates hundreds of jobs will be created and has joined with local high schools to offer school-based traineeships that will help fill the demand.

Dalby students have signed on for a Certificate II in Plant Process Operations which skills them for entry into the coal seam gas industry. Dalby State High School (DSHS) students Jacob Conroy and Scott Goodlet are among the new recruits who are completing the two-year



program offered via the Surat Basin Training Centre.

Jacob says being able to complete schooling at the same time as gaining industry qualifications delivers the prospect of graduating from school directly into a solid career path.

"I'm hoping this will give me a foot in the door for a job when I complete Year 12," Jacob said.

Scott Goodlet says he likes the idea of being able to pursue a challenging career so close to home.

"It's an exciting industry to be involved in and I don't have to travel too far from Dalby which means less disruption to my school studies and

social life," Scott said.

As a major integrated energy company focused on the development of coal seam gas throughout eastern Australia and Asia, Arrow Energy anticipates tremendous growth and expects to significantly increase its current workforce.

Already the Dalby team comprises 100 employees and contractors and this is expected to double within the next couple of years as the Surat Gas Project unfolds.

For more information on career opportunities with Arrow Energy, visit [www.arrowenergy.com.au](http://www.arrowenergy.com.au)