



**JANUARY NEWS**



**SoilsForLife**

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**IN THIS ISSUE**

## WELCOME

From Major General Michael Jeffery, Founder, Soils for Life

Greetings from all of us at Soils for Life. We're looking forward to a great 2018, with some wonderful and positive news which we'll share with you in our monthly newsletters, on our Facebook page, YouTube channel, Twitter and our website.

This is our first newsletter for 2018. The past month has seen some major developments in the regenerative agriculture movement, nationally and internationally.

We will also introduce you to the first of our YouTube video series with influential Australians. They discuss the importance of soil health from their own perspective.

The first interview in the series, with former Victorian Premier, Jeff Kennett, included an urgent call for a national soils and water policy.

His words strongly reflected our own desire for a national policy focused on regenerating our country, and teaching our young people about the importance of healthy soils through the School Gardens project.

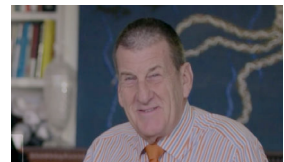
I look forward to updating you on some of these developments in our monthly newsletters and, of course, through our social media channels.

*Michael Jeffery*

*AC, AO(Mil), CVO, MC (Retd)*

### The Soils for Life Video Series: WATCH!

The first of a series of YouTube interviews with influential Australians have been posted. Watch:



- Former Victorian Premier, Jeff Kennett at: [SFL Video - 1](#)



- The President of the National Farmers' Federation, Fiona Simson at: [SFL Video - 2](#)



- The Founder of Soils for Life, Major General Michael Jeffery at: [SFL Video - 3](#)

## NEWS

Soils for Life has responded to developments and issues related to the growing movement towards regenerative agriculture:

### NEW UK FARM POLICY: POWERFUL PARALLELS FOR AUSTRALIA

A revolutionary UK policy to recognise and reward farmers for their land management, rather than profitability, has parallels with proposals from Australia's National Soils Advocate. [MR UK Policy](#)

### NATIONAL SOILS ADVOCATE WARNS OF NEXT BIG GLOBAL TRAIN SMASH

Australia's National Soils Advocate, Major General Michael Jeffery, has warned that the "next big global train smash" will be through soil, water and food insecurity. [MR MJ Train smash](#)

### NFF PRESIDENT: FARMERS FIXING OUR SOILS

The President of the National Farmers' Federation, Fiona Simson, says modern farmers are focusing on landscape management, conservation tillage and regenerating Australia's degraded soils. [MR Fiona Simson](#)

### 5 KGS OF SOIL LOST FOR EVERY MEAL

Australia's National Soils Advocate, former Governor-General Major General Michael Jeffery has told a global forum in China that 5 kilograms of soil are lost for every meal eaten around the world. [MR China Forum](#)

### TPP OFFERS FOOD FOR FUSSY EATERS

The agreement to enact the Trans Pacific Partnership will mean opportunities for consumers in the 11 participating countries to choose Australian food produced in regenerated and chemical free environments.

Australia's National Soils Advocate, Major General Michael Jeffery, said many of the countries which have signed up to the Partnership had a growing and fastidious middle class, which wanted to know where their food came from and how it was produced.

"Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Japan, Vietnam, Mexico and Canada will have unparalleled access to our high quality food and fibre, once the Agreement receives Parliamentary approval", General Jeffery said.

### JEFF KENNETT: PRIME MINISTER SHOULD MAKE SOIL AND WATER A NATIONAL PRIORITY

In a video recorded for Soils for Life (<https://youtu.be/uBeMPwAwOwo>), Mr Kennett says his simplest hope would be for Australia to have a Prime Minister who actually believes in water and therefore soil. [MR Jeff Kennett](#)

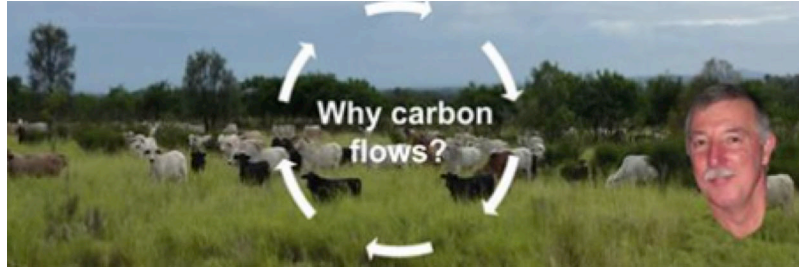
## NEXT FROM SOILS FOR LIFE:

- Costa Georgiadis interview
- Launch of new website
- New case studies

## BLOGS

Log on to our blogs [Soils for Life Blogs](#) for new developments and fascinating insights into regenerative practices and their impact on our health.

Our latest blogs from Allen Lauder, highlight the importance of carbon flows. "The more carbon that flows through the paddock, the better the other cycles function"



### BLOG #1 [REGENERATING OUR LANDSCAPE](#)

Sharing information on innovative leading performance in managing Australia's natural environment to encourage the wide adoption of regenerative landscape management techniques by our farmers and land managers - and why this is essential.

## GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AND CHINA'S PERSPECTIVE FORUM

In November 2017, Australia's National Soils Advocate travelled to Guangzhou in China to address the Global Governance and China's Perspective Forum. This is how he began:

*"Today I wish to speak to you about a global imperative facing us, namely food security, and the vital importance of healthy soil and healthy landscapes needed to produce nutritious food for our rapidly increasing global population in a sustainable way. As some of our previous and current world leaders have understood, underpinning every healthy, productive landscape are healthy soils, so it is essential that we adopt proven land management processes to regenerate and maintain healthy, productive soils in a sustainable manner, for the benefit of all humanity".*

