Report on Ueli Hurter Australian tour celebrating 100 year anniversary of Rudolf Steiner Agriculture lectures

To acknowledge and help celebrate the centenary anniversary of the creation of Rudolf Steiner's 1924 Agriculture Lectures, a group of biodynamic friends came together via fortnightly zoom meetings to plan an event. What would the relevance of these lectures be for Australia today? What would be a suitable way to commemorate such an important milestone?

We started with the vision that a central Biodynamic conference could be an appropriate approach and finished with the practical conclusion that we could reach more people by inviting a guest speaker to visit multiple regional areas and create many 100-year celebrations around the country. So, it came to be that between 6th to 16th May 2024, in a 10-day whirlwind of activity, Ueli Hurter, the co-head of the Agriculture Section of the Goetheanum in Switzerland, toured Australia (and New Zealand).

Ueli presented some 11 formal lectures in Australia, contributed at 3 field days, presented to 3 Steiner schools, had 2 formal Demeter representative meetings, recorded an extended podcast, and contributed to numerous Anthroposophy branch meetings. He showed an amazing degree of stamina and insight speaking on such subjects as climate change, community living, associative economics, Theory U, the latest biodynamic research, worldview biodynamic examples, community supported agriculture, three-fold decision making, preparation making and the significance of particular flowers and organs, and biodynamics and the next 100 years. Wow, we were blessed with his contribution at many wonderful, inspiring gatherings and up to 1,000 Australians were able to share his insights.

I did hear him say that prior to him coming to Tasmania, he didn't know where Tasmania was and that he thought Switzerland was the centre of the world, and now he realises that Tasmania is in fact the biodynamic centre of the world!

The flow on effect of the tour is both seen and unseen. Fellowship amongst participants, information sharing between Ueli and participants, increased communication amongst participating Steiner schools, collaboration amongst anthroposophical branch members, communication between a representative of the Goetheanum and its membership, not to mention the collaboration amongst a small working group in achieving the goal of both raising the profile of biodynamics and celebrating the 100-year anniversary of biodynamics.

We have multiple recordings of parts of the tour, and they will be available for viewing by going to the [Australian Anthroposophical website](http://www.anthroposophyau.org.au/) in the near future.

Thank you, Ueli, for your generosity of spirit in your trip down under.

**Mark Patton**
For the BD Zoom working group of Paul Martin, Rob Birse, Mark Patton, Cole Bradshaw, Steve Kapolice, Brian Keats, Simon Martin, Jane Bradshaw, Trevor Crowe.