

Tax Planning with Rhyll Tozer

We are approaching the end of the financial year and it is always a good idea to review the current financial year's income and expenses to see where you sit financially, especially if you are a small business enterprise (SBE). Tax planning involves making financial decisions, within the spirit of the tax law, to keep your tax to a minimum. Do not confuse planning with tax avoidance, which is intentionally exploiting the tax law. If in doubt, speak to your accountant.

The common tax planning strategies in place are:

- Deferring assessable income — eg delaying the issue of invoices until after 30 June
- Accelerating deductions — eg pre-paying some expenses such as deductible interest
- Utilising the instant asset write off,
- Making non-concessional superannuation contributions
- Salary sacrifice
- Farm Management Deposits — for primary producers only
- Organised paperwork — many individuals and businesses lose valid deductions from not keeping track of receipts.

These are just a few of many strategies available, and each taxpayer is unique and not all strategies are available to everyone. Therefore, if you are unsure about any of the above or would like to research further what is available to you, contact your accountant for further information and to ensure you fit within the parameters and/or the requirements as set by the Australian Taxation Office.

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ANZAC NURSES

is often forged in circumstances of intense suffering, fear and anguish, often by those far from home or having lost their home and loved ones, cloaked in uncertainty and heartfelt reservation for the future. A nurse's responsibility in this journey is considered an enormous privilege and is often thought to be the motivation for military nurses to willingly go into harm's way to care and nurse those in need. The evolution of military nursing from 1900 until now not only includes dramatic advances in medicine and nursing but a major shift in who our patients are. Our patients are no longer only soldiers, sailors and airmen. This is in part a result of the efforts of nurses themselves and in part the maturing of the Australian Public consciousness to help and assist civilian inhabitants of war ravaged countries and victims of devastation resulting from natural disasters.

As much as things have changed and progressed, it is surprising how much remains similar.

In 1900 the Boer War nurses spent much time scrubbing and cleaning buildings to make them fit for use as hospitals. Nurses in Rwanda, East Timor and Banda Aceh over 100 years later did exactly the same.

Nurses in the casualty clearing stations during both world wars constantly moved to keep pace with the front line. Nurses in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bougainville and East Timor constantly moved with the fighting forces they were supporting. In every campaign and on every deployment nurses have had to 'make do'. Australian nurses have long been just as resourceful as our soldiers. At Lemnos in 1915 nurses tore up their skirts to make bandages, in 1993 nurses devised a makeshift humidicrib from a plastic food bin and in 2000 used plastic water bottles to make improvised spacers for Ventolin inhalers.

In summary, the modern duties conducted by Australian nurses has changed remarkably with our nursing care and skills not limited to Australian and Coalition Armed Forces, but encompassing care delivery, clinical intervention, maternal and child health and education to persons of war torn regions, displaced persons due to conflict or natural disaster and yes, even our military working dogs.

Despite modern military response changing, the quintessential attributes that shape nursing duties have not. The ability of nurses to respond under pressure, demonstrate resilience to physical deprivations and the psychological challenges of overwhelming suffering, to ensure the injured and ill are afforded the compassion and care they require, demonstrates the continued upholding of the timeless quality of devotion that a nurse represents in the centre stained glass window of the War Memorial's Hall of Memory.

To quote LTCOL Kim Sullivan, Nursing Officer in 2017:

At the end of the day, it's about touch;
holding a patient's hand. It is personal.
That has not changed.

Lest We Forget.

Getting the right materials for the job

Jeff White at Braidwood Rural is ready to help

As we know, the production of any food material is dependent on a range of conditions. Some of these conditions we can control, others we can not.

This begs the question, "If we can not control it, what do we do?"

It doesn't matter if we are growing veggies in the home garden or on a commercial scale; or if we are producing meat or wool, we can look at what we can do to mitigate some of the possible challenges that we face.

In recent times there has been an increase in consumers wanting to know where their food comes from. The increase in people's ability and interest to follow the food trail has provided both opportunities and challenges for our production systems.

The groundswell of Farmers Markets and the Buy Local aspect means that the producer has a closer relationship with the end user. In order to keep the customer, the producers, main aim is to produce a quality item on a consistent basis that both provides value for money for the consumer, and is financially viable for the producer.

To mitigate some of the challenges we need to look at the product we are pro-

ducing, the end market, and inputs required as well as our own ideals.

In most instances our ideals will reflect the type of market that we are aiming at, which will also determine the type of inputs required.

With the range of products and farming / growing systems now available, it means that some of these less 'traditional' farming practices are becoming more accepted. From an inputs and management perspective, having access to both traditional and new thinking (even though some of this new thinking isn't really that new) means that the producer now has a choice that is becoming more accepted.

Getting down to the 'what can we do'.

Let's look at soil testing and managing our practices according to soil type and topography. This can help in assessing what we need and how to get there. We can then look at the systems that we wish to follow or are following. Are we wanting to go traditional practices or Sustainable Farming practices? A range of products and information is available for both systems. Again, this may have a bearing on your market or be driven by the market

you aim at. In some cases, it may be necessary to develop a watering (irrigation) system or plan. This may include general water infrastructure, or that ability to apply nutrient through this system. Liquid Nutrient application can be a cost-effective way to place nutrient for the plant, especially in landscape, vegetable and fruit tree operations.

This technology also has a fit in pasture and cropping operations, where it is applied through a boomspray application. If we look at grazing management, we can increase the positive effect on plant growth by managing our grazing enterprise in a rotational grazing system rather than a set stocking scenario. Our inputs in animal production are as wide and varied as the operation itself. Costs vs returns are always paramount in any production system, this is no different.

From the pasture that you sow to the animal health products that are used, information is readily available to help make an informed decision.

In summary there is a lot goes into producing a quality saleable item in whatever agricultural and food producing enterprise you are in.

The team at Braidwood Rural look forward to hearing about your operation and how we can assist.

Feel free to drop in or give us a call.



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