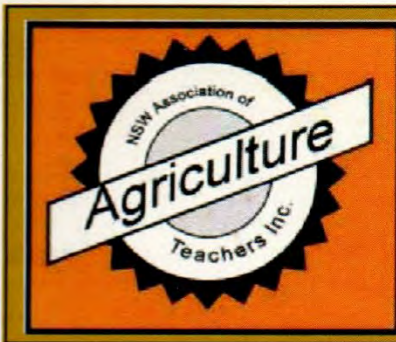




Bulletin of the NSW Association of Agriculture Teachers

B.A.A.T

2010



Counting the Beep...

President:

Phil Hurst
 Hawkesbury High School
 Hibberts Lane
 Freemans Reach NSW 2756
 02 4579 6800 (w)
 02 4579 6733 (f)
 02 4567 7162 (h)
philip.hurst@det.nsw.edu.au

Secretary:

Nicolet Westerhof
 Elizabeth Macarthur High School
 Waterworth Drive,
 Narellan NSW 2567
 02 4646 1899 (w)
 02 4647 1569 (f)
nicolet.westerhof@det.nsw.edu.au

Treasurer:

Cathy Perri
 Wollondilly Anglican College
 Locked Bag 1011,
 Tahmoor, NSW 2573
 02 4684 2577 (w)
 02 4684 2755 (f)
treasurer.nswaat@gmail.com

Technology & Communication:

Graham Quintal
 Pennant Hills High School
 Laurence Street
 Pennant Hills NSW 2120
 02 9484 5732 (w)
 02 9875 4722 (f)
graham.quintal@det.nsw.edu.au

BAAT Editors:

Carl Chirgwin
 Griffith High School
 Coolah St,
 Griffith NSW 2680
 02 6962 1711 (w)
 02 6964 1465 (f)
carl.chirgwin1@det.nsw.edu.au

Nikia Collins,
 Parkes High School
 Albert St
 Parkes NSW 2870
 02 6862 1844 (w)
 02 6862 5046 (f)
nikia.collins1@det.nsw.edu.au

www.nswaat.org.au



N.S.W. Association of Agriculture Teachers Inc

www.nswaat.org.au

ABN Number: 81 639 285 642



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Sheep + Saltbush

=



Saltbush Lamb

“FROM THE SILO IN THE Paddock”

-A decent set of rain bands continue to pass over most of NSW which should auger well for ideal sowing conditions for the winter planting season.

-Are you on the hop for our upcoming conference in October at Tamworth? The association would love to see as many of our members and new teachers to the association there as possible. It is a great way to network, invigorate your teaching practice and have plenty of good times.

NSW Association of Agriculture Teachers Biennial Conference –

Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th October 2010, Tamworth

The association featured prominently on Tuesday 6th April at the recent **Royal Easter Show in Sydney** at the ‘Careers in Agricultural Expo’. It was fantastic to see a number of students enquiring about how to become an agriculture teacher and teachers who signed up to the association (See Cathy Perri below).

Nikia Collins (Hillston Central School) & Carl Chirgwin (Griffith High School) – BAAT Editors
 nikia.collins1@det.nsw.edu.au & carl.chirgwin1@det.nsw.edu.au



‘Do as I Say’

Presidents View
Phil Hurst
(Hawkesbury High School)



HSC STAGE 6 AGRICULTURE SYLLABUS

By now most of you would have had a look at the revised 2 Unit Agriculture Syllabus. The writing team has done an excellent job in updating the syllabus. Check the Curriculum Support website for dates for Stage 6 Agriculture syllabus support workshops.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATORS 16TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE.

NSWAAT were well represented at the Gatton Conference. There was plenty to see and do and a great opportunity to network with Agriculture teachers from all over the country.

PREMIER'S AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Those interested in applying for the scholarships need to go to the website for details. <https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/awards/scholarships/index.htm>

HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL INQUIRY

The Minister for Education and Training, Verity Firth has announced that the NSW Government will accept the findings of the 'Peters Inquiry' into the future of Hurlstone Agricultural High School.

Although this may not be exactly what the school wanted it will see a massive injection of funds to update the facilities of both the farm and the boarding facilities. These new facilities will build greater links between Hurlstone and neighbouring schools and Agricultural Research facilities.

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES EDUCATION FOUNDATION WORKSHOP

I attended the workshop in Canberra in February.

The aim of the workshop was to:

- *Further establish the network of people who are interested in the promotion of Primary Industries to schools.*
- *Provide an opportunity for network members to inform the Board of PIEF regarding the direction of the organisation.*
- *Validate and discuss the outcomes of the current stocktake of activities.*
- *Further establish the value of PIEF with funding stakeholders.*
- *Link practitioners with those who may fund activities.*
- *Explore the possibility of establishing a trading name.*

There is a lot going on with the PIEF so have a look at the interim website for updates. <http://primaryindustrieseducation.com.au/>

DIRECTOR, SCHOOL AND REGIONAL POLICY

Congratulations to Stuart Hemmings for his appointment to the position of Director; School and Regional Policy. It is great to see an Aggie working his way to the higher levels in the Department. This should help all of us with Stuart able to give an Agricultural perspective to the School and Regional Directorate.

Well done Stuart!!!

CHARLES MULARVEY AWARDS

I would like to congratulate Sally Rivett from Pymble Ladies College. She not only taught the student who came first in 2 Unit Agriculture she also taught the student who came second as well. A great result!

Rob Forsberg for St Joseph's College should be congratulated for teaching Benjamin Romeo who came first in 2 Unit Primary Industries and also Bronwyn Neilsen from Calrossy who taught the student that was placed first in the HSC Research Project. Well done to these three teachers!

J. A. SUTHERLAND AWARD

With the biennial conference coming up soon it is time to give thought to who may be your nomination for this award. We will be calling for nominations closer to the conference. To see the criteria visit our website. <http://nswaat.org.au/awards.htm#The J. A. Sutherland Award>

BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

The team in the North West are busy working on the conference (see more details in this bulletin). Start pestering the professional development team in your school to set aside funds for you to attend the conference in October at Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School in Tamworth.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

Stage 1 of the new Australian Curriculum (K-10) has been released and there are many avenues for you to comment on it. We were addressed by Rob Randall (General Manager of ACARA) at both the NAAE Conference in January and again at the PIEF workshop. He indicated that there is a window of opportunity for us to put a case for Agriculture to be included in Stage 3 of the Australia Curriculum. The Board of PIEF and the state participants at the workshop are working on how to deal with this.

HSC Agriculture Syllabus Update Professional Development Opportunity

One day workshops to familiarise teachers with the amended Stage 6 Agriculture syllabus and support them in developing quality course plans, assessment programs and teaching and learning strategies are being staged on: 13th May – Campbelltown, 20th May – Wagga, 26th May – Tamworth, 28th May – Richmond, 2nd June – Dubbo, 9th June – Goulburn, 11th June – Lismore & 16th June – Maitland.

Check out -

www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/secondary/technology/workshops/index.htm for further details.

Phil Hurst NSWAAAT President 2009-



NSWAAT 2010 Biennial Conference

TAMWORTH

and the surrounding region.

Farrer Agricultural

High School

(To arrive Monday evening and
depart Friday morning, with Tues-
Thurs the main conference days)

Conference fee to include:

- Discounts for members; so why not **JOIN NOW?**
- Professional discussion
- Syllabus updates
- Industry updates
- All meals
- Range of merchandise
- Conference dinner
- Conference Packages
- Pleasant surroundings
- Plenty of good times!!!

Any enquiries please contact:

Graeme Harris

Ph: 0438 656 692

or by email to

graeme.harris@det.nsw.edu.au

CLAIM THE DATE!!

Monday 4 – Friday 8 October 2010

"The science of agriculture practically everywhere"

You are warmly invited to join ...

Members and guests of the NSW
Association of Agriculture Teachers at their

Biennial Conference 2010

There is considerable 'discussion' at present about the
future directions for **Australian Agriculture**.
The debate is being portrayed in both in the press and in
parliamentary circles. The science, technology,
practicalities and sustainability of agriculture need to be
understood and communicated clearly. Teachers of
agriculture and agricultural educators in general are very
well placed to do this and are key players in the future of
agriculture in Australia and indeed globally.

Ensure your Principal and/or Professional
Learning Coordinator knows of your interest and
enthusiasm to attend
NOW!!!



Please join us!

NSWAAT Biennial Conference to be held in Tamworth from 4th – 8th October, 2010.

An early draft of the program is shown below.

- Keep an eye out for registration forms via association emails and our website www.nswaat.org.au
- Accommodation is available in air-conditioned rooms at Farrer Agricultural High School.

For more info email graeme.harris@det.nsw.edu.au

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Approximate Time</u>	<u>Activities</u>
Monday 4th October		
4 th /10	4-8pm	Registration
	6pm	Welcome BBQ
Tuesday 5th October		
5 th /10	6.30-7am	Optional Milking Activity (Farrer Ag High School)
	7-8am	Breakfast
	8-9am	Registration
	9-9.05am	NSW AAT President's Welcome
	9.05-9.07am	Welcome to Country
	9.07-9.15am	Welcome to Tamworth
	9.15-10.15am	Keynote Speaker
	10.15-11.10am	HSC Agriculture or Primary Industries' Syllabus changes
	11.10-11.35am	Morning Tea
	11.35-12.30pm	Early stage teaching practice, AFISC programs
	12.30-1.30pm	Lunch
	1.30-4pm	Industry & Investment Current Research & Programs
	4-5pm	AELEC Tour
	6pm	Dinner
	8pm	Social
Wednesday 6th October		
6 th /10	7-8am	Breakfast
	7-8am	Tours – Developing Industry Currency
	7.30am-6pm	Tour A Cotton – Aust Cotton Research Institute, Auscott, ACC
	9.00am-4.30pm	Tour B Poultry – Baiada Hi Tech Hatchery, poultry health and immunology, feed mill, broiler farm, broiler processing plant
	9.00am-4.30pm	Tour C Cattle & Grapes – Breeza Stn, Killara feedlot, Winery, Cargill, Meat Judging
	9.00am-4.30pm	Tour D Mixed Enterprises – Peel Valley Milk, Nundle woollen mill, Arc en ciel Trout (Lunch), Koolkuna Berries
	6.30-10pm	Conference Dinner and Awards
Thursday 7th October		
7 th /10	7-8am	Breakfast
	8.30-9.30am	NSW AAT BGM
	9.30-12.30pm	Farm Sustainability Plans
	12.30-1.30	Lunch
	1.30-3.00	Prac skills; Fencing, Farm Water, Horticulture, Beef
	3.00-3.15	Afternoon Tea
	3.15-6.00pm	Plenary session
	6.00pm	Dinner at Nemingha pub, own cost
Friday 8th October		
8 th /10	7-8am	Breakfast
	8.30-9.30am	Depart for Home

President:

Phil Hurst
 Hawkesbury High School
 Hibberts Lane
 Freemans Reach NSW 2756
 02 4579 6800 (w)
 02 4579 6733 (f)
 02 4567 7162 (h)
philip.hurst@det.nsw.edu.au

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Nicolet Westerhof
 Elizabeth Macarthur High School
 Waterworth Drive,
 Narellan NSW 2567
 02 4646 1899 (w)
 02 4647 1569 (f)
nicolet.westerhof@det.nsw.edu.au

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Cathy Perri
 Wollondilly Anglican College
 Locked Bag 1011,
 Tahmoor, NSW 2573
 02 4684 2577 (w)
 02 4684 2755 (f)

Technology & Communication:

Graham Quintal
 Pennant Hills High School
 Laurence Street
 Pennant Hills NSW 2120
 02 9484 5732 (w)
 02 9875 4722 (f)
graham.quintal@det.nsw.edu.au

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Carl Chirgwin
 Griffith High School
 Coolah St,
 Griffith NSW 2680
 02 6962 1711 (w)
 02 6964 1465 (f)
carl.chirgwin1@det.nsw.edu.au

Nikia Collins
 Parkes High School
 Albert St
 Parkes NSW 2870
 02 6862 1844 (w)
 02 6862 5046 (f)
nikia.collins1@det.nsw.edu.au

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N.S.W. Association of Agriculture Teachers Inc

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 ABN Number: 81 639 285 642



2010

- # The Association needs **YOU** to become a financial member.
- # To maintain the viability of the Agriculture Teachers Association in NSW & allow the executive to address the issues confronting education we require your financial support by you becoming a financial member.
- # Do not delay; send your completed membership form & payment to the **treasurer:**

Cathy Perri
Wollondilly Anglican
College
Locked Bag 1011
TAHMOOR
NSW 2573
Phone: 02 4684 2577
Fax: 02 4684 2755



From the President's Desk:

Membership of the Association

Membership fees to the NSW Association of Agriculture Teachers are now due:

If you are:

- *not financial or*
- *a new graduate or*
- *your membership status has elapsed*

& you require

- *Resources.*
- *Aggie contacts.*
- *Information on Agriculture Teachers conferences.*
- *Assistance in your professional duties.*

...then you need to join the Association to assist in maintaining:

- *the Association's strength & support across the state,*
- *the place of your subject in the school curriculum,*
- *networking throughout the state,*
- *delivery of a BAAT twice a year,*
(Bulletin Association of Agriculture Teachers)
- *your say in Agriculture & PI teaching issues,*
- *access to professional readings.*

**COMPLETE THE
"APPLICATION FOR
MEMBERSHIP"
FORM ON THE
NEXT PAGE
&
SEND TO THE
ASSOCIATION'S
TREASURER WITH
YOUR PAYMENT**

TREASURER

Cathy Perri
Wollondilly
Anglican College
Locked Bag 1011
TAHMOOR NSW 2573

NSWAAT WEBSITE

www.nswaat.org.au

Please visit the website and catch up on what has been happening. There are lots of photos from the Biennial Conference and many resource links to assist your teaching of Agriculture and Primary Industries.

Application for Membership



To:

THE N.S.W. ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURE TEACHERS

TITLE: _____ NAME: _____

SCHOOL: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

Post Code: _____

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

* 1 YEAR: _____ \$60 (2010)

* 2 YEARS: _____ \$120 (2011-12)

N.B. Subscription applies for period from January 2010 for either one or two year period.

Subscription Required: _____ Year(s)

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Direct Deposit Option: To pay via direct deposit, please post this membership form and use the following details for internet banking transfers:

BSB: 082 939

Account Number: 63975 7522

Reference: Your name and "membership".

Please forward completed form with payment to:

Cathy Perri

Wollondilly Anglican College

Locked Bag 1011

Tahmoor NSW 2573

treasurer.nswaat@gmail.com

"The NSW Association of Agriculture Teachers is not registered to collect GST"



Membership

▪ **Current Association
Membership**

▪ **Membership Application**

*As at 26th
April 2010*

Valid Until	Given Name	Surname	School
Associate	Sally	Bannerman	SACEC
Lifetime	Tony	BARNETT	Walcha Central School
Lifetime	Don	BARTHOLOMEW	
Lifetime	Lisle	BROWN	
Lifetime	Tony	BUTLER	The Vineyard
Lifetime	Rod	FRANCIS	Charles Sturt University
Lifetime	Phil	HURST	Hawkesbury High School
Lifetime	Peter	JONES	Windsor High School
Lifetime	John	LEE	Glen Innes High School
Lifetime	Robyn	O'LEARY	Finley High School
Lifetime	Norm	ROBINSON	
Lifetime	Trevor	SEWELL	
Lifetime	Jenni	WILKINS	Birrongo Girls High School
Lifetime	Gail	ROBERTS	James Ruse Agricultural High School
2010	Teacher of Ag		Bomaderry High School
2011	Teacher of Ag		Camden High School
2010	Teacher of Ag		Colo High School
2011	Teacher of Ag		Griffith High School
2010	Teacher of Ag		Koorringal High School
2010	Teacher of Ag		Lithgow High School
2009	Teacher of Ag		Merriwa Central School
2009	Teacher of Ag		The Riverina Anglican College
2009	Teacher of Ag		Toormina High School
2011	Teacher of Ag		Wauchope High School
2011	Teacher of Ag		Wyong High School
2009	Teacher of Ag		Young High School
2010	Bryon	ADAMSON	Corowa High School
2010	Mufutau Afolabi	NASIRU	Sarasas Witaed Suksa School
2009	Bob	ANDERSON	Knox Grammar School
2009	Graeme	ANDERSON	TAFE North Wagga
2009	Phil	ARMOUR	Yass High School
2011	Billinda	AULD	La Salle Academy
2009	Vicki	AUSTIN	Terrigal High School
2011	Fiona	BAILEY	Musselbrook High School
2009	Ian	BAIRD	Murrumburrah High School
2010	David	BAKER	St Gregory's College
2010	Naomi	BAKKER	Hay War Memorial High School
2009	Norm	BALZER	Casino High School
2011	Colin	BARKER	Lyndhurst
2010	Tony	BARNETT	Walcha Central School
2010	Dianna	BEALE	Student Teacher
2009	Ian	BISHOP	The Scots School Albury
2009	Phill	BOOTH	Henry Kendall High School
2009	Sheree	BOURKE	Menai High School
2010	Craig	BOURNE	Singleton High School
2011	Graham	BRAMLEY	St Paul's College
2010	Louisa	BRIGGS	Brisbane Waters Secondary College
2010	Jacque	BROOKSBY	Student Teacher
2010	Eddie	BUCKINGHAM	Mullumbimby High School
2009	Peter R.	BURNS	

2011	Tracey	BURTON	Plumpton High School
2011	Melanie	CAMPBELL	Moree Secondary College
2009	Sheena	CARTER	Student Teacher
2010	Dale	CHADWICK	Gundagai High School
2010	Megan	CHANDLER	Narara Valley High School
2011	Carl	CHIRGWIN	Griffith High School
2010	Caroline	CLATWORTHY	Macquarie Fields High School
2009	Caroline	COLEMAN	Northholm Grammar School
2009	Jack	COLLINS	Wingham High School
2010	Nikia	COLLINS	Parkes High School
2010	Helen	COLMAN	Molong Central School
2009	Justin	CONNORS	Bundarra Central School
2010	Ben	COOMBES	Peel High School
2010	Nigel	COX	Singleton High School
2011	Ian	CRABB	Queanbeyan High School
2009	David	CRICK	Barham High School
2011	Peter	CRICK	Musselbrook High School
2010	Elena	DAGHER	Bossley Park High School
2009	Alison	DAHLENBERG	St Francis College
2011	Anita	DE LA MOTTE	Bomaderry High School
2010	Gerard	DELANY	St Columba's High School
2010	Robert	DOLMAN	Dunedoo Central School
2009	Catherine	DOVE	Oak Flats High School
2010	David	DRURY	Waldobo Community School
2009	Christine	DUVER	Student Teacher
2011	Nicole	DWYER	Gloucester High School
2009	Susan	EARL	Red Bend Catholic College
2010	Max	EDEN	Taree High School
2010	Cameron	ELLISON	McAuley Catholic School Tumut
2009	Leanne	FERGUSON	All Saints College Bathurst
2010	Mark	FISHER	Walcha Central School
2010	Rob	FORSBERG	St Josephs College
2010	David	GELL	Anson Street School
2009	Cliff	GEORGE	Peak Hill Central School
2010	David	GILLARD	Wagga Wagga High School
2010	Genevieve	GITTOES	NSW Farmers Federation
2010	Helen	GLOVER	Macarthur Anglican School
2010	Milton	GOWER	Macarthur Anglican School
2009	Melissa	GRABHAM	Ashford Central School
2011	Richard	GRANT	James Ruse Agricultural High School
2010	Neil	GRIFFITH	Irrawang High School
2009	Nicky	GUNNING	Juncie High School
2009	Leone	HARRIS	Frensham
2010	Adrian	HARRISON	St Gregory's College
2010	Lois	HARRISON	Blayney High School
2010	John	HAWKINS	Wingham High School
2011	Colin	HAWTHORN	Red Bend Catholic College
2009	Ian	HEFFERNAN	Dapto High School
2009	Stuart	HEMMINGS	New England Regional Office
2010	Robert	HENDERSON	Tomaree High School
2010	Stuart	HILL	Pennant Hills High School
2012	Sue	HOPE	Goulburn High School

2010	Mark	HOPKINS	Bega High School
2010	Peter	HUMPHRIES	Deniliquin High School
2011	Grant	JACKSON	Gosford High School
2010	Karen	JOHNSTON	James Ruse Agricultural High School
2012	Ken	JONES	Blayney High School
2010	Ian	JUDD	Kyogle High School
2009	Prue	KESBY	St Mary's College
2010	John	KILLEEN	Bossley Park High School
2009	Ilka	KLEPPER	Cootamundra High School
2010	Brian	LAWRENCE	The Riverina Anglican College
2010	Tracey	LEE	Albury High School
2011	Adam	MACRAE	Coonamble High School
2010	Scott	MACKENZIE	GRC Penshurst Campus
2010	Steve	MAGINNITY	Alstonville High School
2010	Bruce	MANKTELOW	Seone High School
2011	Jenni	MANNA	St. Joseph's College
2009	Diana	MARTIN	Murwillumbah High School
2009	Patrick	McCANN	Flinders Christian Community High School
2010	Ross	McGREGOR	Hurstone Agriculture High School
2010	Jacqueline	McINTOSH	Crookwell High School
2011	Owen	McLAUGHLAN	Canowindra High School
2010	Allan	McMILLAN	Wagga Wagga High School
2010	Mick	MELINO	St Johns College
2010	Christina	MIKAN	St Ignatus
2010	Tim	MINEHAN	Young High School
2009	Fiona	MULHALL	Chevalier College
2010	David	MULLER	St John Evangelist Catholic High School
2011	Rochelle	MUTTON	Mackillop College
2009	Peter	NAPIER	Orange High School
2010	Simone	NEVILLE	Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College
2010	Trevor	NEWMAN	Nowra High School
2010	Bronwyn	NIELSEN	Calrossy Anglican School
2010	Steve	NOTT	Carinya Christian School
2011	Craig	O'BRIEN	Moss Vale High School
2010	Nicole	O'BRIEN	Chevalier College
2010	Phillip	OLIVER	Bankstown Grammar
2009	Emily	PEARN	Deniliquin High School
2010	Cathy	PERRI	Wollondilly Anglican College
2009	Georgina	PRICE	Coleambally Central School
2009	Graham	QUINTAL	Pennant Hills High School
2010	Stephen	RAWLINSON	Pittwater High School
2010	Gail	ROBERTS	James Ruse Agricultural High School
2009	Paul	ROSS-NEW	Kingswood High School
2010	Katie	ROWE	Gulargambone Central School
2011	Maryann	SCHILLER	Hennessy Catholic College
2010	Nadine	SIBBALD	McCarthy Catholic College
2009	Nicole	SIMMONS	Student Teacher
2010	Warwick	SHAW	Woodenbong Central School
2010	Jade	SMITH	Dunedoo Central School
2010	Paul	SMITH	Cowra High School
2010	Deb	SNAITH	Macintyre High School
2009	Geoff	SPENCE	Brisbane Waters Secondary College

2010	Stuart	STOUT	Leeton High School
2011	Jane	SWAN	Dapto High School
2010	A.J	THOMAS	Armidale High School
2010	Stephen	TRICKETT	Billabong High School
2010	Ron	VICTOR	Morisset High School
2010	Tracey	WATSON	
2010	Gary	WEBB	"Rannoch"
2010	Nicolet	WESTERHOF	Elizabeth Macarthur High School
2012	Wayne	WHALE	St Paul's College
2010	Doug	WHITE	Manilla Central School
2011	Richard	WHITE	Balranald Central School
2011	Maurice	WOODMAN	Murray High School
2011	Jennifer	WOODWARD	Byron Bay High School
2012	Beth	WORTHY	Sapphire Coast Anglican College
2010	Jan	YOUNG	Murrumburrah High School

Why become a member of the Association?

- Maintain networking throughout the state.
- Be a member of a professional teaching association.
- Current information on:
 - ✓ Next state Agriculture Teachers' Conference.
 - ✓ Syllabus updates/programs & resources.
 - ✓ Issues that effect your Agriculture teaching.
 - ✓ Professional resources & internet links.
 - ✓ Organisations that can assist in delivery of Agriculture to your students.
 - ✓ Have an input into Agriculture & P.I. teaching issues.
 - ✓ Receive BAAT twice a year.
 - ✓ Discounted rate to The Biennial NSW AAT Conference.
 - ✓ Incentive to attend The National Agricultural Educators' Conference.



Building Capacity and Investing in the Future of the Australian Grains Industry

GGA has invested in programs aimed to build the capacity of farmers and professionals within agriculture, maintaining a focus on the grains industry. These programs provide a unique opportunity to engage the current leaders and future generations of the Australian grains industry and further develop their skills and knowledge.



"The objects of Grain Growers Association are to promote the development of Australian agricultural resources, including by promoting and fostering a sustainable, viable and efficient grains industry in Australia.... (and) generally promote the interests of grain producers including those that are members."

GGA's Strategic Priorities

1. **Establish an informed and efficient marketplace**, so growers have reliable market intelligence, access to transparent grains pricing and payments to growers are efficient and reliable.
2. **Provide industry promotion and market development**, both in Australia and globally.
3. **Generate innovation** by making R&D reflect industry needs, ensuring growers get access to technology and improved industry processes.
4. **Improve grains industry productivity** by investing and pushing for a more efficient grain production and supply chain.



Innovation Generation

Held in July each year in a regional centre, Innovation Generation is a three day conference for grain growers and agribusiness professionals aged 18-35.

The conference combines tours with presentations and discussions on key and emerging issues in agriculture with industry leaders.

As well as learning and information sharing, the conference provides social events to encourage networking between delegates and the delegates and industry leaders.

A key aim of the conference is to ensure that delegates are provided with knowledge they can put to use in their own businesses and careers.

GGA is proud to be leading the way for the collaboration of young people across the agriculture industry.



Australian Future Grain Leaders Program

The broad aim of the Australian Future Grain Leaders Program is to develop the leadership potential of participants in the Australian grains industry.

The Program seeks to identify potential industry leaders and provide them with skills development and application experience through the identification and development of a project goal.

Developed specifically for the grains industry, each participant will undertake an integrated industry leadership project aimed at increasing their involvement in the grains industry.

During the program the future leaders meet for three face-to-face forums, develop a mentoring partnership with an industry leader and attend grains industry events to further develop their leadership skills and networks.



Up to 15 future leaders from across the grains industry supply chain are accepted into the Program each year.

GGA is proud to be providing an opportunity for those who want to embrace the challenge of leading and driving change in the grains industry into the future.



Australian Universities Crops Competition

Agriculture students in Australian and New Zealand universities are being given the opportunity to participate in a crops competition which has been initiated by GGA with support from founding sponsor Syngenta Crop Protection.

The Australian University Crops Competition (AUCC) has been developed to increase the knowledge and skill level of graduates and to help bolster young people into a career in the cropping industry.

Students who participate will develop their confidence and communications skills, as well as acquire and apply knowledge of the practical aspects of cropping and business decision making. The competition aims to better prepare graduates who are entering into a career in the grains industry.

The AUCC has three main objectives.

- 1) Increase the pool of intelligent and enthusiastic young grain industry representatives;
- 2) Increase the connectivity between universities, degrees and the rural industry; and
- 3) Enhance Australia's international reputation and connectivity to the global grains market.

GGA is proud to offer this competition as a way of encouraging young people to cement a rewarding career in agriculture.



Nuffield Australia Farming Scholarships

Each year, GGA collaborates with Nuffield Australia to provide funding for a GGA member to undertake study in an area of their choice.

Nuffield Australia Farming Scholarships are offered across the agriculture sector in a variety of commodities.

In 2008 GGA sponsored Nuffield Scholar Murray Scholz from Culcairn in NSW as he undertook study into integrated weed management with the use of GM crops in rotation to assist in weed control.

In late 2008, GGA was pleased to announce sponsorship of Evan Ryan from Yarrawonga in Victoria as a Nuffield Scholar for 2009.

GGA is proud to sponsor a Nuffield Australia scholar with the aim of building capacity and identifying leadership potential within the Australian grains industry.



Kids' Design Challenge

In conjunction with Go Grains Health and Nutrition, GGA is working with the NSW Department of Education and Training to encourage school children to think more about the role that grain based foods play in a nutritious, balanced diet.

Primary school children are being challenged to design an advertising campaign which promotes 4+ serves of grain based foods every day. Year 7 & 8 students are being presented with the scenario that a new or revised grain based food product is to be produced for the school canteen and are being challenged to develop this food product and/or a promotional strategy to communicate the 4+ serves a day message.

GGA is proud to be involved in this exciting and fun program which challenges kids to consider grain based foods as part of a nutritious diet.



GGA continues to invest in the Australian grains industry and is proud to support, both financially and in-kind:

- Australian Grains Industry Conference
- NFF
- RAS Careers Expo (Grand Champion Sponsor)
- Agrifood Awareness
- Go Grains Health and Nutrition
- Grain Trade Australia
- GRDC Grower updates (Platinum Sponsor)

For more information on these programs and the organisations GGA supports, contact GGA on freecall 1800 620 519

www.graingrowers.com.au

GGA to assess 'what the world wants from Australian wheat'



GGA has taken on the vital role of developing a consistent approach to the promotion of Australian wheat overseas.

In response to calls from the wider industry, GGA is undertaking a project that will gather information about wheat markets as well as actively assist wheat growers and marketers to increase the value and volume of wheat sales both domestically and internationally.

The project is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) under its Promoting Australian Produce program.

Called 'What the World Wants from Australian Wheat', the project has two key objectives: to detail the needs of Australia's wheat customers; and to provide growers and marketers with the knowledge to become more

profitable as well as build industry capacity to generically promote Australian wheat.

GGA Chairman John Eastburn said that over the past few months there had been a lot of discussion within industry about who is responsible for industry good services such as promoting Australian wheat and how it could be best done.

"GGA is already actively working to provide a range of technical market services and has the capacity and capability of taking on the role of understanding what our international customers want and how it can be delivered.

"As part of this project we're using the technical services provided by our subsidiary BRI Australia to review market data and information, including a desktop review of the previous study of 'What the World Wants from Australian Wheat' released by GGA in 2004," Mr Eastburn said.

The project will include a survey of Australian grain customers by visiting and interviewing both

domestic and international end users and the end result will be the development and implementation of a strategic plan to guide growers and exporters in better servicing customers of Australian wheat.

"As part of that strategic plan, material will be developed that will be used for the generic promotion and branding of Australian wheat.

"This will provide some consistency in how we promote Australian grain to our customers which can only assist in accessing new markets, keeping our existing ones and improving Australia's position as we compete in world markets," Mr Eastburn said.

The outcomes of the project will be communicated via reports and information which will be available through the GGA Group's websites, as well as a series of grower workshops across key grain producing regions in Australia forecast for 2011.

GGA INVITES YOU TO ATTEND



WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

'INNOVATION GENERATION' is a conference designed specifically for young people aged 18 - 35 years working in agriculture. It takes the conference experience to new heights, opening up the opportunity for 300 delegates across the industry to tackle the important issues facing agriculture today & challenges into the future.

WHAT WILL YOU GET OUT OF IT?

You will leave with a wealth of knowledge to draw upon to further your own career and business operations.

INDUSTRY TOURS giving you first hand experience of innovation in agriculture and across the supply chain.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS providing dynamic networking opportunities, an active learning environment, encourage knowledge sharing across industries and allow the opportunity to discuss current issues facing the agricultural sector more broadly.

KEY NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES allowing you to socialise with industry leaders, speakers, sponsors and other delegates to ensure you have a successful conference experience.

WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING?

HEAR FROM OVER 30 KEY INDUSTRY LEADERS from across the grains & broader agricultural sector focusing on aspects of the market supply chain.

GET PLENTY OF TIPS AND ADVICE to assist you in responding to the market environment.

PARTICIPATE IN INTERACTIVE EVENING FUNCTIONS providing further insight into the market.

UNDERTAKE TOURS of leading local agribusinesses.

BUT... Most importantly you will have exposure to 300 other like minded 18 - 35 year olds from across Australia working in Agriculture!

THIS IS AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!

FOR ONLY \$445 YOU WILL RECEIVE

- 4 night's accommodation from 5th July to 9th July in Albury
- All meals incl. breakfast, morning & afternoon tea, lunch and two interactive networking dinners and a Gala Evening!
- Access to all speaking sessions
- Conference tours
- One great networking AND educational opportunity not to be missed!

Registrations will open via the GGA website www.graingrowers.com.au in April 2010.

EARLY BIRD SPECIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT A COST OF \$395 FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

For further info contact GGA on 1800 620 519 or visit www.graingrowers.com.au alternatively email George Aley at GGA george@graingrowers.com.au to be placed on the mailing list or search for 'Innovation Generation 2010' on Facebook to stay in the loop!



BRI Australia provides services, training and research for the grain, flour milling, grain processing and grain based food industries.

BRI Australia has extensive laboratory facilities, world class personnel and over 60 years experience in the grain-foods sector.

BRI Australia is independent and does not trade grain, own seed varieties or market food products.

Key Facilities:

- Food Laboratory with NATA accreditation
- Test Mill, NATA accredited
- Pilot Mill (approximately one tonne per hour)
- Pilot Bakery
- Asian Foods Laboratory
- NIR Laboratory
- Grain Research Laboratory

BRI AUSTRALIA

1 Rivett Road, Riverside Corporate Park,
North Ryde NSW 2113, Australia
PO Box 7, North Ryde NSW 1670, Australia
Ph: +61 2 9888 9600 | Fax: +61 2 9888 5821
Email: contact@bri.com.au

2008 – Charles Mullarvey Recipient

**Aditi Halder – 1st in 2008 HSC Agriculture –
James Ruse Agricultural High School**



**2008 Equal 1st in HSC Agriculture Project –
Hannah Anderson – Galston**



An investigation into the effects of early weaning on the subsequent conception rates of Angus heifers

The trial was conducted over fifteen months and the two treatment groups consisted of calves weaned at less than 120 days of age and calves weaned at greater than or equal to 120 days of age. The trial involved the collection and statistical analysis of the data from 250 Angus heifers.

Results from the analysis of data demonstrated that the heifers weaned at less than 120 days of age had significantly higher conception rates than those heifers weaned at 120 days of age and older.

The idea for the trial came about from a mixture of personal interest combined with the current environmental issues facing Australian agriculture and biotechnological options available to producers. My interest in agriculture has always focused on the animal side of things, particularly the larger beasts.

Initially I was undecided about whether to base my project around horses or cattle, so I let further outside issues shape my plans. The drought in Australia has had a devastating effect on much of Australia's primary producing areas and as a result harsh decisions must be made such as to undertake strict management strategies to manage the shortage of feed and stress on the land in order to keep numbers of stock. Early weaning was a management strategy which fell into this category and was therefore used as a starting point for the project.

Luckily I had access to a high quality Angus herd. During my project I had the wonderful opportunity to work closely with a very successful beef producer and outstanding stockman, excellent veterinary advice and great support from farm managers and my family.

The project has strengthened my direction into university; BEquineSc and then (very) hopefully onto vet science at CSU Wagga Wagga. This follows my year off in which I have spent six wonderful months working in the south island of New Zealand in a top racing stable, then onto Europe and the UK for some travelling for the remainder of the year.

This project was a significant aspect of my HSC and despite the enormous amount of time and effort that went into it, I have no regrets. It was by far the most rewarding and stimulating part of my HSC and would be something I would recommend to any other HSC Ag student.

Hannah Anderson

David Paton – 1st in 2008 Primary Industries'

David Paton was a boarder at Hurlstone Agricultural high school for six years and excelled in many areas while a student at the school. David was an active member of the Rural youth group and in his senior years was a positive role model for many junior members of the group.

David also excelled in Primary Industries while at school and as well as coming first in the state in the HSC he also did very well in the practical component of the course. A friendly competition between himself and Lloyd Setter who was recently awarded the honour of top VET student in NSW ensured that classes were always active.

David's skills were reinforced when he returned home to his parents farm in country NSW a mixed grain and Beef property where he assured us the skills acquired in the Primary Industries course were always put to good use.



David Paton – Hurlstone Agricultural High School

Pymble Ranks 1st & 2nd in Agriculture in 2009

It was a real thrill for my HSC students to be ranked first and second in 2009. The girls were very interested in the Agriculture course and worked hard to achieve their results.



(Elissa McFarlane: 2nd in State; Sally Rivett : Ag teacher; Rebecca Beaumont : 1st in State)

The College left its mark in Agriculture in the 2009 HSC with students Rebecca Beaumont and Elissa McFarlane achieving first and second place in the subject.

Rebecca was extremely excited with her achievement, also scoring an ATAR of 99.00. She said the “support of teachers, organisation and sharing notes with other students for revision” helped her reach her goal. Rebecca, who was on the Equestrian team, is looking forward to commencing Veterinary Science at the University of Sydney in 2010.

Elissa, who attended the College from Kindergarten, was also on the Equestrian team and completed her Duke of Edinburgh, said the teachers were great and always happy to help. Scoring an ATAR of 99.20, Elissa is hoping to do Advanced Science at the University of Sydney.

Sally Rivett
Agriculture Teacher
Pymble Ladies' College

1st in 2009 Agriculture Project



Bethany Piper - Calrossy

TO DETERMINE IF NATURAL OR SYNTHETIC HORMONE GROWTH PROMOTANTS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE WEIGHT GAIN, AND THEREFORE THE PROFITABILITY OF FEEDLOT STEERS.

Bethany was a weekly boarder at Calrossy for 6 years returning home to the family property on the Liverpool Plains on weekends. It was here she conducted her Year 12 Trial in a neighbour's opportunity feedlot located on the Liverpool Plains. The main objective of this experiment was to determine whether Synovex-S (a natural HGP) or Synovex-TBA (a synthetic HGP) significantly improved the daily weight gain and therefore the profitability of the feedlot steers.

Weight gain of 60 steers of similar breeding and age were taken over 85 days as an indication of their growth and development and the expense of implanting animals was also acknowledged to ultimately determine the best possible financial reward for the producer. The results indicated there was not significant difference in weight gain and therefore no financial reward for producers with steers treated with the natural or synthetic HGP treatment.

These results contradict findings from other trials. A potential reason for the lack of difference between treatments and control groups is the cattle were only kept for 85 days instead of the 100 days needed to fully utilise the HGPs.

At the 85 day period the cattle had reached market specifications and the decision was made to sell the stock 15 days early. In the results it was demonstrated that the synthetic HGP treatment group began to have a significantly higher live weight gain compared to the control after 70 days. It was suggested that if the cattle had been finished over the 100 days the synthetic treatment group may have shown more significant differences and possibly have become more financially rewarding for the producer.



As an enthusiastic and dedicated agriculture student, Bethany found the project most rewarding, developing a diverse range of skills associated with the many aspects of trial work and scientific documentation. As part of her final school assessment, Bethany was interviewed by her Agriculture teachers, Mrs Bronwyn Nielsen and Mrs Mary Wilson who were most impressed with Bethany's extensive knowledge of her trial and the commercial application of HGPs used in the beef cattle industry.

Bethany has been a member of the Calrossy Cattle Team competing successfully in paraders, junior judging and stock classes with both steers and breed animals. She established her own angus stud, Trio Angus, with her siblings and has shown them successfully in the North West region of the state. Bethany has also performed impressively in the 2009 Australian's Schools' and Australian Intercollegiate Meat Judging Competitions earning her the praise of organisers for her skills in meat identification and assessment.

It has been particularly gratifying for her teachers and family to see Bethany perform so well in the HSC given her conscientious and motivated approach to her studies. She is now studying an agribusiness course at UNE and her only regret is that the HSC Agriculture Project is now being withdrawn from the modified HSC Agriculture Syllabus preventing some students the opportunity to undertake what, was for Bethany, one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences in her senior school career.

1st in 2009 Primary Industries

I commenced my time at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill in year nine, 2006 as a full boarder student from a beef grazing property at Mittagong in The Southern Highlands NSW. St Joseph's College boarding enabled me to focus on my studies and gave me a home away from home. I studied more at school than I would have at home as there are many distractions on the farm.

The Higher School Certificate (HSC) course for Primary Industries 2009 was a good mix of units that would help a student like me off the land and those who studied from the city can develop the necessary skills and information needed to go out and work in the industry. Through the study of the nine mandatory units and the electives units in Primary Industries for example; Follow OHS procedures, Apply Chemicals under supervision and First aid. Although they can be a little dry at times they provide us students with the understanding and information to go out and work in the industry with confidence and skills to carry out tasks without placing both employers/employees and the environment in danger.

At St Joseph's College the students of the class 2009 were guided through the HSC course of Primary Industries with the help of our experienced teachers Mr RM Forsberg and Dr Jennifer Manna. The field trips to St Joseph's College property at Colo, Tocal Agriculture College Patterson and David Graham's property at Gundagai in the South Western Slopes of New South Wales provided us with the hands on experience to work in the Agricultural industry and reinforced what we learned in the classroom

Mr Forsberg gave us students the opportunity to get out in the industry and associate with renowned people and corporations. He is a strong believer that the Primary Industries course should not just be taught in a classroom environment but hands-on with-in the industry itself.

Through my studies of Primary Industries in 2008/2009 it gave me the opportunity to expand my knowledge of the industry and learn new ways of performing and undertaking tasks without placing people and the environment in harm's way. The HSC course of Primary Industries has enabled me to gain a head start for the future through industry experience and knowledge. My studies in the classroom and through my Work placement on the properties "Elroi Downs" and "Kandoo" at Gunnedah NSW, which are owned by Alto Rural also helped.

All the hard work and dedication of my Primary Industries teachers at Joeys enabled me to reach my full potential to top the state in this subject. I was then accepted into Sydney University as I start my Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree in which I would like to do agronomy and then eventually run my own property.

Benjamin Romeo



I am pleased to prepare an update for all those in the Primary Industries Education Foundation (PIEF) Network including Network members who attended the workshop and those who have become part of the network as a result of the workshop.

Remember our interim website is: www.primaryindustrieseducation.com.au/

The foremost of this report is based around the program from the PIEF National Workshop held at University House, Canberra, 25-26 February 2010.

1. Opening

It was clear from the address by The Hon Joel Fitzgibbon, MP, Member for Hunter representing The Hon Tony Burke, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry of the importance of PIEF to the Australian Government and the value it can bring to primary industries and education. There is little need for me to elaborate on the issues raised in the opening addresses but they all point to the need for PIEF to fulfil its objectives by enhancing communications between our primary industries and the education sector. Our wider role in terms of regional and rural Australia should not be overlooked and this was clearly outlined by Mr Anthony Hogan, of the National Institute for Regional and Rural Australia.

2. National Curriculum

We were pleased to have Mr Robert Randall, General Manager, Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) address the workshop. The developments in the National Curriculum are of extreme importance to PIEF and as a result a working party has been put together to respond to the draft National Curriculum published on the internet just a few days after the workshop. The workshop was therefore timely in that it enabled us to gather the necessary expertise to prepare a response to the ACARA proposal for the National Curriculum. This response is currently underway through a group facilitated by Mr Ralph Leutton, the facilitator for the workshop. My thanks to those who put themselves forward to assist with this response. PIEF will work closely with ACARA to ensure primary industries are well represented in our National Curriculum.

3. Membership

The membership address by Mr David Thomason, Director, PIEF highlighted the matters we have had to address to ensure we have an equitable and effective membership structure. As a result of the workshop and deliberations by the Board we have firmed up on our current membership arrangements. As a result we have enlisted the services of Mr Ric Lange to develop our membership with a range of organisations. We have been very pleased with the response Ric has had when approaching organisations. Obviously there is a long felt need for PIEF and it has come at a time when primary industries need to work with initiatives such as the National Curriculum. PIEF's role as the peak body for primary industries education is clear. We have a responsibility to enlist the support of as wide a membership as possible to proceed.

4. National Scoping Study

Mr Mal Brown gave those present an update on the National Scoping Study and as a result he was able to get further feedback on the information he had put forward. Since then further additions have been made to the National Scoping Study and this is now published on our website in html format. The National Scoping Study gives a clear indication of all the initiatives that are underway across Australia and in particular states and industries. We see PIEF as helping to build upon all these activities and hopefully create synergies which improve long term outcomes. In addition the National Scoping Study can identify which types of initiatives are the best value for money so that when we speak to members who wish to invest in further initiatives we can give some guidance as to the best way their money is spent. The various state groups that have formed since the workshop and through the PIEF network can also use the scoping study as a catalyst to instigate activities in their state where there are gaps without having to reinvent the wheel.

5. Branding PIEF

For those who were present at the workshop on the Thursday you will recall that Mr Mark Paterson, Managing Director of Currie Communications along with Mr Johnny Warburton, Creative Director attended the workshop and led the last session on Thursday afternoon. Mark and Johnny were able to collect a rich source of information which they were then able to feed back to the group over dinner that evening. Since then Mark has provided a report to the Board which is under consideration. There will be a time delay until branding arrangements are in place. We are confident we will have a brand that our stakeholders can readily identify down the track but these things take some time. My thanks to everyone who contributed to the information gathering session from Currie Communications. It was a much better process than if they had just interacted with the seven Board members. It was a rich interactive session that has gleaned a lot about what you as stakeholders desire in a brand for PIEF – and hopefully you learnt as much as we did about the process involved in the branding of an organisation.

6. State Groups

Perhaps one of the highlights of the National workshop was the formation or reformation of PIEF state interest groups who are working collaboratively together to encourage each other in the process of teaching students of the importance of the Australian primary industries in schools. We will be following up with each of the state convenors and are seeking to build upon those networks in each state. My thanks to those who put up their hand as a convenor of their state group and we will be in touch very soon. PIEF will support the state groups in ways that we are able including sharing of information and resources. We hope that as a result of our working together we will develop further the strong network of interested people across Australia to assist with us meeting the objective of reaching schools with primary industry related materials and activities in the best way possible..

7. Workshop Forum – World Café

This element of the workshop worked very well and our thanks go to Mr Rob Banfield, President of the Tasmanian Principal's Association for convening it. We were able to identify a range of topics which will help us to progress the development of PIEF. It was clear from this and from the branding discussions that teachers and their students must be the focus of PIEF's activities.

8. Website Development

There was no question that the website will be a cornerstone of PIEF's development. A new website will not be set up until the branding is finalised so we will work with the interim website for some time yet. Dr Brian Walsh, who attended the workshop, will continue to maintain the interim website.

9. Strategic Plan

As a result of the workshop Mr Phil McCorkell, Quattro Consulting is finalising the Strategic Plan and when it is complete it will be posted on the website. The Strategic Plan will then link into the Company's Chart of Accounts and also with our monitoring, evaluation and reporting system.

10. Interim Chief Executive

The Board advertised in Canberra in late 2009 for the position of Chief Executive Officer. At that time it was decided not to proceed with an appointment, primarily because it was not clear exactly the type of profile we required in the position. We are getting closer to identifying the requirements of the Chief Executive Officer but we are not yet in a position to finalise that.

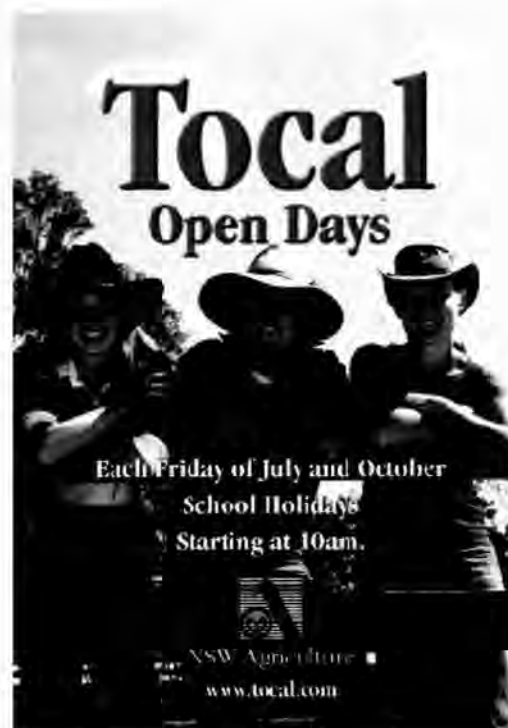
The interest in PIEF and the invitations to speak at various meetings, conferences etc are increasing at a rapid rate and there is little doubt that the momentum that is building surround the founding of PIEF is only going to increase in the months ahead. In addition, as interest in PIEF develops there is an increasing need for a central point of contact. As a result the Board has appointed Mr Ben Stockwin as Interim Chief Executive to serve in that capacity from 12 April 2010 to 31 January 2011. Ben will take leave from the Tasmanian Department of Education for that period. Ben will remain residing in Tasmania and will work from there as well as travelling extensively as part of the Interim Chief Executive position. Later in 2010 the Board will be seeking the services of a recruitment company to undertake the recruitment process of a Chief Executive Officer.

The Board is very pleased to have Ben in the role as Interim Chief Executive. Ben is currently a Board Member and will stand down for the period he is in the position of Interim Chief Executive. Prior to working with PIEF Ben has been Principal of Abbotsfield Primary School, Claremont, Tasmania.

Those who attended the National workshop will have met Ben and be aware of his wide knowledge of the education sector and his great enthusiasm and passion for PIEF. We welcome Ben to this position and we look forward to his contribution at this critical stage.

Yours in Agriculture,

Cameron Archer
Principal
TOCAL College, NSW



Cop This

HSC Agriculture CD Availability

The HSC agriculture CD contains material from the popular DET distance education booklets in the form of pdfs. Some sections have been replicated as interactive htmls.

There are links to relevant websites and exercises to complete and return to the teacher.

The aim has been to try and make this material as flexible as possible for use in a variety of classroom contexts, particularly with the upcoming release of laptops into schools.

If you have a DET login and password you can download this resource **free** from the TALE website.

For the cost of \$50 you can also purchase the CD from the CLI catalogue:

http://catalogue.cli.det.nsw.edu.au/cli/catalogue/main_pages/product_detail.aspx?operation=view_form&resource_id=8908-1

I am now working on the Preliminary Agriculture CD which should be available next year so any feedback would be appreciated.

Su Annetts

Learning Design Officer TAS

Centre for Learning Innovation

51 Wentworth Road, Strathfield NSW 2135

Ph: (02) 9715 8259 Fax: (02) 9715 8279

Email: Susan.Annetts@tafensw.edu.au

Website: www.cli.nsw.edu.au

Check out the Job Marketing in Agriculture in Australia Paper -
www.farminstitute.org.au

Australian Agricultural College Corporation

AACC

Careers in Agriculture ~ 2010



Agriculture supports the jobs of **1.6 million Australians**, in farming and related industries, across our cities and regions – accounting for **17.2% of the national workforce**.
(Source: National Farmers' Federation, 2010)

The Australian Agricultural College Corporation (**AACC**) plays a key role in producing the best possible training for rural industry, rural people and local communities with specialist education and training in: agriculture, horticulture and conservation and land management. **AACC** is therefore the best place for your students to kick-start their career in Agriculture.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS ON OFFER IN 2010

TASTE – The Agricultural Skills & Technology Experience®



TASTE® is a program for Year 10, 11 and 12 students held at three AACC residential campuses during the school holidays. The four-day program is designed to help young people explore agricultural training opportunities and engage in training for different types of careers in rural industry. TASTE provides students with an appreciation of innovative technologies and the specific practical skills used across a wide range of career fields.



CHOOSE AACC FOR YOUR NEXT AGRICULTURAL CLASS EXCURSION

We are flexible and able to provide highly-effective, practical study tours/experiences in agriculture for schools and the community and provide professional development for teachers as a **fee for service** program.



(Year 10 students and their teacher learn lawnmower maintenance)

For all enquiries or to order copies of AACC brochures and the 2010 Training Guide please contact:

Angie Muller
AACC - Marketing Officer
Phone: 1800 888 710
Email: schools@aacc.edu.au

Include the following details for brochure orders: -

- * School Name
- * Contact Name
- * Postal Address
- * Number of copies required

or visit our website: www.aacc.edu.au



The Composting Process

Composting in the Farming System

Cotton production is a booming industry in Hillston, with optimal growing conditions and the location of a cotton gin in town is a great incentive to increase production. However; post harvest always presents the same problem. As cotton is a woody plant the turn around to plant wheat is often decreased due to the volume of woody debris left from harvesting. Farmers like the Storrier's of Riverview have been looking into a number of different methods to decrease this turnaround time and increase the overall fertility of their soils.



The Composting Process

The initial compost trials began with chicken manure, straw and clay with it being composed mainly of manure. The compost is tested daily for temperature and oxygen levels. Low oxygen levels leads to anaerobic activity rather than the preferred aerobic activity. The mound it turned as seen in the image above aerating the compost.



The Storriers are now into their third year of composting and have changed the formula to increase the fungal population.

They have increased the amount of straw or vegetable matter and decreased the amount of manure they are using.

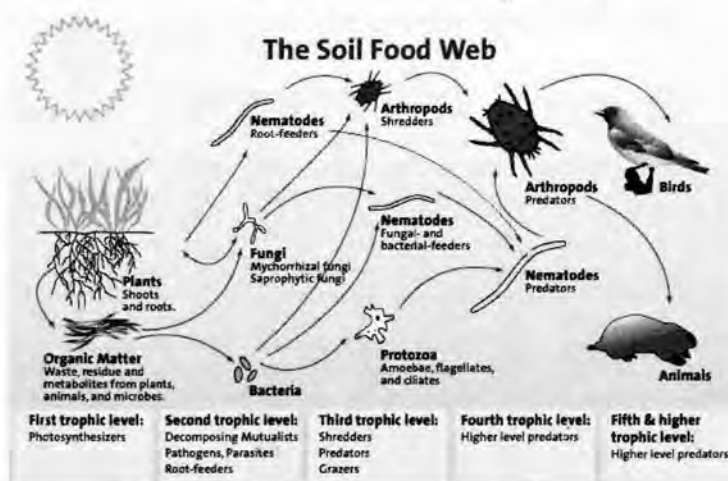
Samples are checked and tested both on farm and sent to laboratories to determine bacteria to fungal populations through companies such as the soil food web.



Future

Storriers are hoping to be able to produce enough compost to use yearly in their production cycle with the aim to go commercial and possibly organic.

Nikia Collins – Hillston Central School



Soil food web - www.soilfoodweb.com.au



Update



News

2010 Cream of the Crop competition

Entry is easy. Secondary & tertiary students studying topics related to environmental science, primary industries, agriculture and natural resource management simply create a PowerPoint about their studies to enter. Great cash prizes on offer. See all the details plus 2009 winning entries at:

www.dairyyouthaustralia.com.au/competition

National curriculum

LandLearn NSW is working with the Primary Industries Education Foundation and other groups to comment on the draft Australian curriculum to ensure students have access to information on the production, consumption and management of primary products and natural resources. Have your say at:

<http://www.acara.edu.au/default.asp> Consultation closes May 23.

New presentation for download

Timber production in NSW State Forests – the pine plantation rotation is now available for download. From seed to sawlog discover how crops of pine trees are grown, harvested, processed and regrown.

<http://www.slideshare.net/LandLearnNSW>

Spotlight:

Get Hooked its
Fun to Fish



This program has it all - hands-on helpers, classroom resources and the opportunity to take your class fishing.

The program features interactive and discovery based games and activities designed for primary school students and covers topics such as fishing safety, habitat protection, fishing rules and responsible fishing.

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/info/get-hooked>

Websites

Focus on climate change

LandLearn NSW

<http://www.landlearnnsw.org.au/sustainability/climate-change>

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/change/>

NASA's Eyes on the Earth

<http://climate.nasa.gov/>



What do you do? Lots of cool stuff and its different everyday. I look after the short course program at Murrumbidgee Rural Studies Centre at Yanco in the Riverina. We train people in rural areas, helping them learn new skills like using 4-wheel-drive vehicles and tractors safely; we also provide lots of information about how to use land and water more efficiently. I also work with school teachers and students to develop camp programs which help them to learn more about primary industries and about themselves as leaders. We look at stuff like bugs in vegetables, what's in soil, how to handle sheep safely and careers - there's lots more than just farming! I work with businesses to develop new training courses so that their staff can learn the things they need to know so that they can work smarter not harder.

Best part of my job? Learning new things all the time. When I first started in this job 7 years ago I knew very little about managing land, water, plant and animal resources. Everyday I pick up more information by talking to people in industry and working with other people from my organisation. I also like having the freedom to explore new opportunities. Working on different projects lets me develop new skills and knowledge and explore different people's perspectives. I enjoy working alone but also get to work with teams of people, clients range from school students to retired farmers.



www.landlearnnsw.org.au

Activity

Tasting Passports

Summary: Students use food passports each time they taste a new food - just like visiting other parts of the world.

Objectives: To introduce students to the wide range of foods produced in Australia; to investigate how and where they are grown and their impacts on the Australian economy and environment.

Materials:

- 3 x A5 sheets of paper per student
- Coloured pencils or crayons
- A photo (or drawing) of each student
- Glue for attaching photos
- Stamps or stickers for the passport
- A range of raw/prepared foods to taste: fruit and vegetables, grains, dairy foods etc. Some suggestions: artichokes, asparagus, honey dew, lychee, nashi, eggplant, rhubarb, swede, grapefruit, bok choy, leek, collard, papaya, spinach, sesame seeds, chickpeas, kidney beans, different types of cheese or yoghurt. Alternatively, ask students to bring something to school they haven't tasted before.

Discussion and activity: Many different foods are grown and eaten in the world. The foods used, the ways they are prepared and their place in local and regional cultures varies between different countries and regions. Within NSW, lots of different foods are grown and available for our use, and we are not all familiar with that variety. Over the next few days or weeks you are going to be trying some of these foods, so you will need a tasting passport.

Each time you taste a new food, your passport will be stamped.

Have you ever travelled to another country? Do you know what a passport is? Ask your teacher or your parents to show you their passports. When you travel to other countries you need to have a passport. When you visit another country such as England, Thailand or Brazil, your passport is stamped when you arrive and when you leave.



Tropical fruit, Lychees

2. To make the passport:

- (a) Place the 3 x A5 pieces of paper together and fold all 3 in half with a sharp crease down the middle;
- (b) Staple on the crease;
- (c) Glue your photo to the front of your passport; add your name and decorate. Alternatively, create a digital passport;
3. Start tasting;
4. Record the new foods you taste. Describe: e.g. the taste, appearance, was it fresh or cooked or pre-packaged and processed, did you like it?
5. For each new food tasted, you will receive a stamp or sticker.

Suggestions:

- Try to eat a food every colour of the rainbow, or letter of the alphabet.
- Investigate the nutritional value for each food you have tasted.
- Draw a picture in your passport of each food you have tasted.

Student connections and extension:

- Draw a map of Australia depicting where each food is grown.
- Choose three foods to investigate. Describe the environmental requirements each food needs to grow (climate, soils, growing conditions, etc.); list the forms or ways the food is used; investigate ways it is transported and marketed; draw a flow chart to show the "paddock to plate" process.
- Investigate jobs associated with some of these foods (include growing, processing, marketing, value adding, etc).
- Explore the contributions different cultures have made to the food industry in Australia. Discuss with members of your class who have different cultural backgrounds.
- Investigate the Australian food export industry. Which foods are exported? Who buys NSW/Australian food? Locate these countries on a map. Have NSW food exports increased over time? Which NSW food industry is the largest exporter?

Resources:

- **National Farmers Federation Farm Facts**
<http://www.nff.org.au/farm-facts.html>
- **LandLearn NSW**
<http://www.landlearnsw.org.au/>
- **The Workboot Series** - published by Kondinin: Vegetables, Rice, Honey, Dairy & Wheat.
- **Delve** - published by NSW Government. Short stories about NSW produce and producers. Call 02 4931 6540 for copies.



INVITATION



National Farmers'
FEDERATION

2010 National Congress

The Grand Hyatt Melbourne • 5-7 September 2010

Following the landmark success of its inaugural National Congress in Brisbane last year, the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) is again bringing farmers from across Australia – as well as whole-of-chain participants – together to explore key issues, developments, opportunities and challenges for Australian agriculture.

This is the premier opportunity for all engaged in Australia's vibrant farm sector to come together on the issues that will shape agriculture's future, providing an in-depth look at how political, production and consumer trends will impact farmers and those relying on them for food and fibre.

The 2010 National Congress will explore:

- **Federal politics in two major political debates on agricultural policy and water reform;**
- **New wave consumerism and its implications for the sector;**
- **Practical on-farm climate action;**
- **Feeding ourselves and the world towards 2050;**
- **Breaking the shackles of infrastructure, research and population constraints; and**
- **Property rights – the clash between mining, agriculture and the environment.**

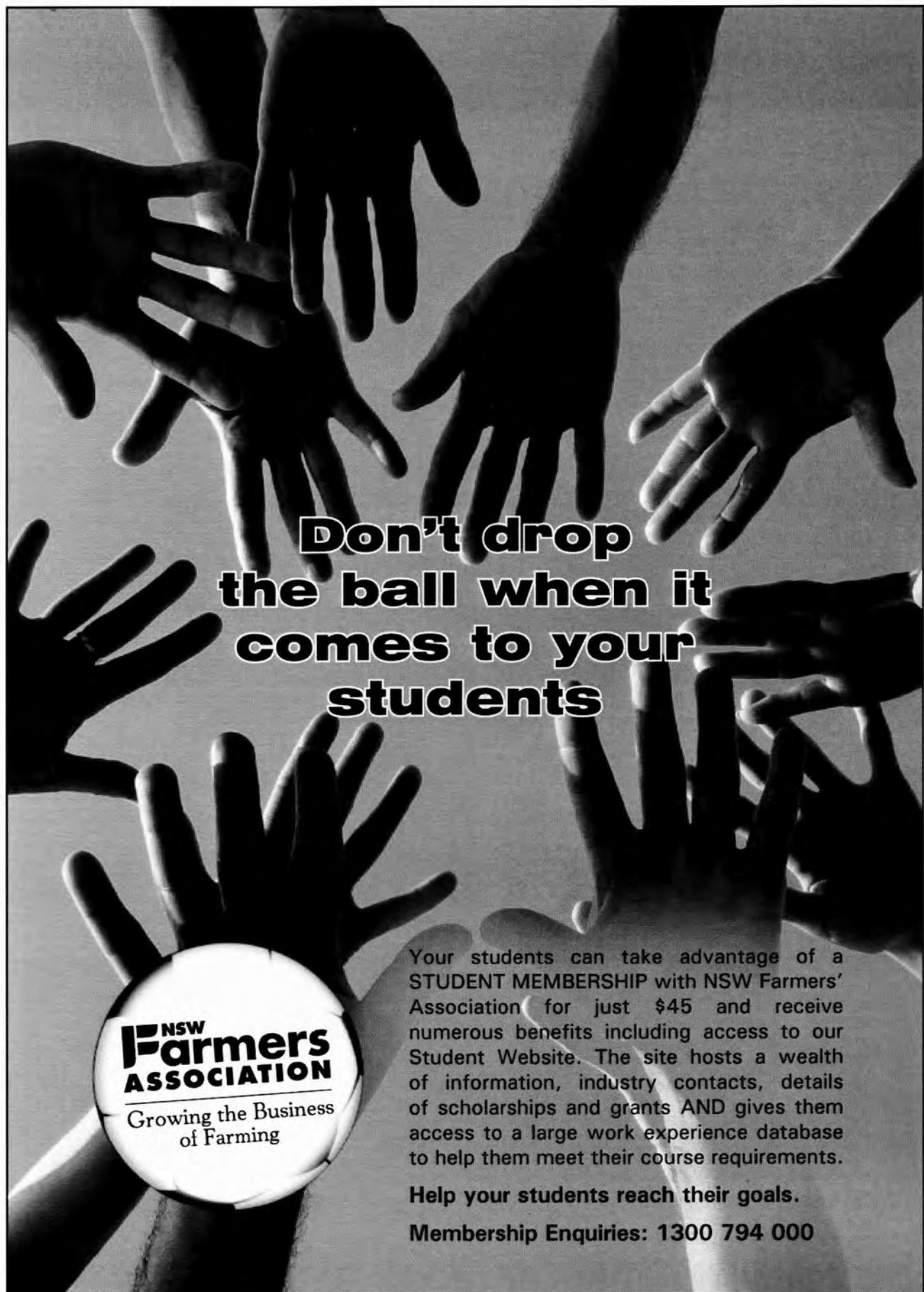
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For more information visit
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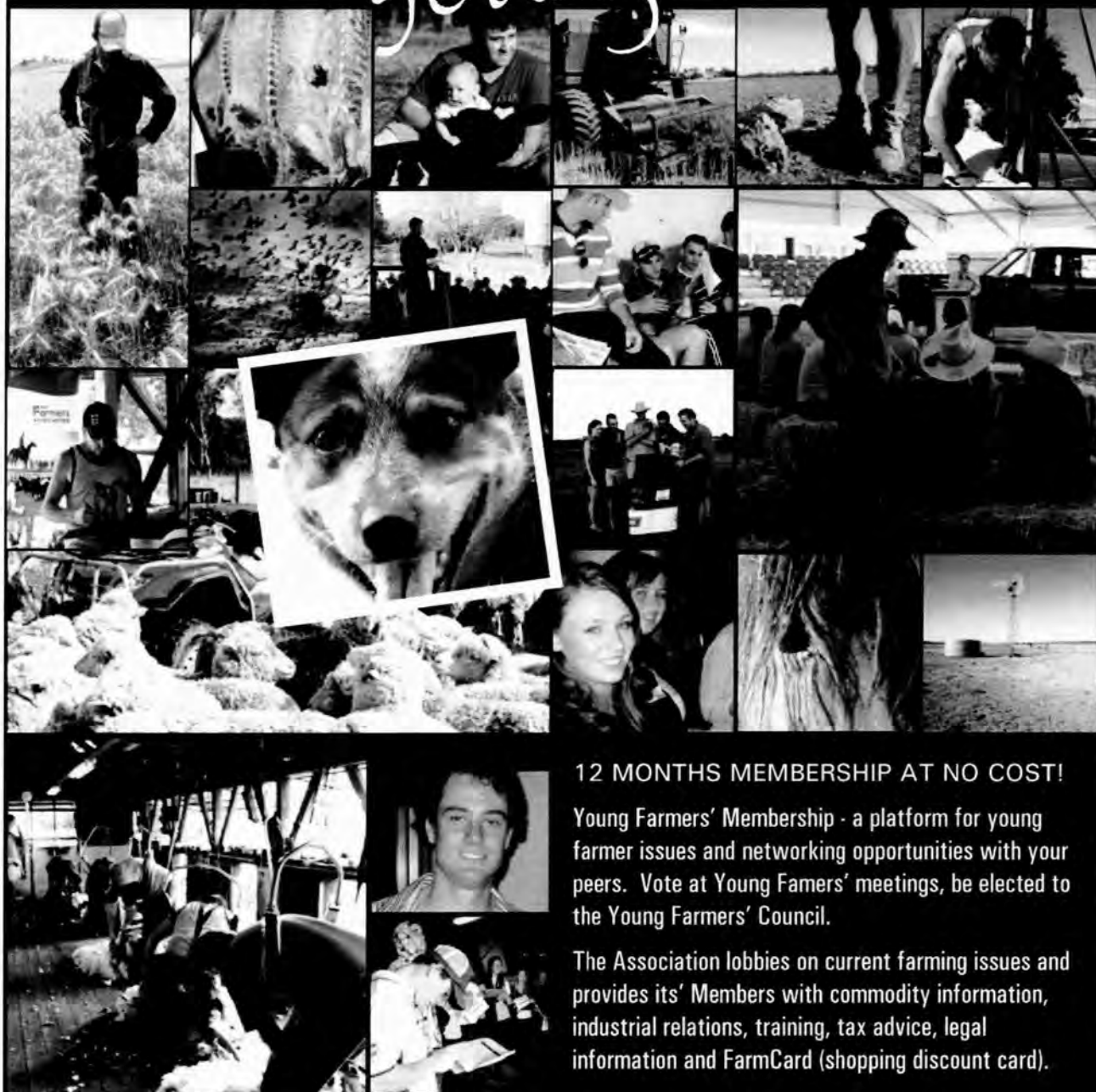
Help your students reach their goals.

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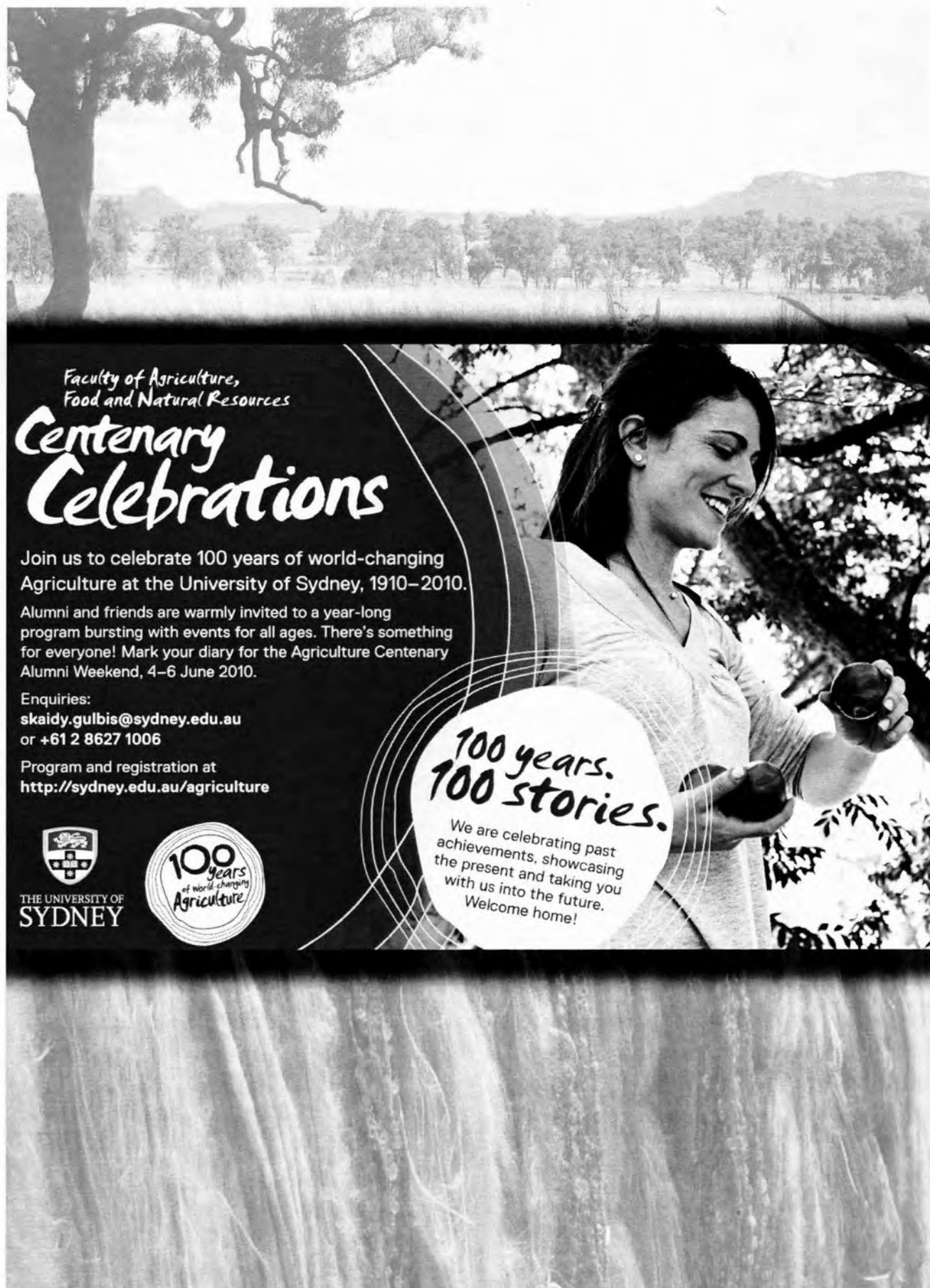
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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



Media Release



Woolworths Extends Commitment to Sustainable Farming with \$3.25 million Investment Program

Friday 5th February 2010: Woolworths has today increased its investment in Australia's rural future with the launch of a \$3.25 million Fresh Food Farming program. The program will draw together a number of initiatives designed to advance agricultural sustainability and help build leadership capacity in the sector.

Woolworths Limited CEO Michael Luscombe said: "As the debate around long term food availability and affordability intensifies, it is vital for all organisations involved in the food supply chain to adopt a leadership position and help safeguard Australia's future food security. Higher input costs, a rising population and climate change all have the potential to impact the food we eat, which is why industry must assist our farmers to adapt and thrive.

"Our previous support for the farming community has largely focused on the provision of emergency assistance grants for farming families and recovery grants for rural community infrastructure. It is now time to look to the future and ensure that our farmers are better equipped to be able to manage Australia's long term food production needs," Mr Luscombe added.

The Fresh Food Farming program will focus on two key areas:

1) Sustainable Farming

The development of sustainable farming techniques is essential to enable farmers to increase productivity, efficiency and better utilise precious resources. Woolworths has been working with Landcare for the last three years supporting a variety of major on-farm projects across the country as well as providing sustainability grants to hundreds of farmers and we are now looking to increase our investment in this area.

– more –

Media Release



Page 2 of 2

2) Creating Future Leaders

Greater investment needs to be made in order to attract and retain skills and leadership within the agricultural sector. In order to encourage young people outside of the industry to develop a career in agriculture, we need to create incentives and development opportunities to help them achieve their full potential. Initiatives such as the Rural Leadership Program, of which Woolworths is a sponsor, and the Woolworths Agricultural Scholarship scheme are already assisting with this objective but much more can be done.

Mr Luscombe added: "The Fresh Food Farming Program will help us to better support the projects we already have operating and develop new initiatives across the two core areas of focus. Woolworths hopes to consult with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry as well as organisations such as the National Farmers Federation, the Country Women's Association and relevant farming and agricultural bodies in order to identify optimum ways to channel our investment."

Further information about current and future projects within the Fresh Food Farming program will be announced in due course.

- Ends -

CONTACT:

For further information please contact the Woolworths Press Office on 02 8885 1032

CAN WE SUSTAIN OUR CURRENT AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM IN AUSTRALIA?

The current outcries from the farming community about the imposition of a "carbon tax" on the economic viability of their operations raises an important issue. Can we sustain our current agricultural system in Australia? Has an "Agenda 21" sustainability assessment been made of our agricultural system? Whilst current outcries are narrowly focused on matters economic, the other components of "Agenda 21" need to be applied to determine farming's long term sustainability. Agenda 21 is widely and internationally accepted as a measure of the long term sustainability of a human activity. To assess using Agenda 21, the triple bottom line of economic, social and environmental factors need to be applied, not simply matters economic.

Agenda 21 was formulated to ensure that the Earth's environment would be at least maintained and preferably improved as it passes from one generation to the next. This is why a triple bottom line assessment is used. It can also be used to bring to light short comings and specifically focus future action to correct these short comings. Taking this approach brings to light many interesting if not disturbing aspects of current agricultural activity and the need for action. Much of this may require structural adjustment at a government level or changed individual action and not be left to "market forces" to sort out as has been the practice in recent times.

Firstly, an economic assessment would reveal such problems as the level of farm indebtedness, the "cost/price squeeze" on returns, a culture of "betting against the climate odds" decision making, dependence on drought/exception circumstances grant monies and the "freehold title" problem.

****The level of farm indebtedness***

The average rate of farm indebtedness is about \$437,000(2006-07) and rising. Couple this with a general long term trend of decreasing commodity prices, there is an erosion of farm equity.

****The on-going "cost/price squeeze" on returns***

There has been a long term downward trend for product prices received by producers and when this is coupled with a long term upward trend in input costs, returns are being squeezed downwards. Over time, the farm becomes less profitable with even lower returns to capital. The most common response to this at an individual farmer level is cut costs and this means "cutting corners" to hopefully remain viable.

****A culture of "betting against the climate odds" decision making***

Most management decisions involve "betting against the odds". This is despite more than one hundred years of and at some locations of up to hundred and fifty years of meteorological data statistically indicating the odds against the farmer. There is only a small percentage of Australia with the "climate odds" in favour of a reliable harvest. If Australia is to be a regular supplier to the global food market, consistent and reliable harvests are needed to meet long term contracts.

****The dependence on drought/exceptional circumstances grants monies for managing risk.***

There is a shifting of risk to the public purse through the widespread use of "exceptional circumstances" and drought area declarations. The negative side of climate, particularly drought, is seen more as bad luck rather than the acceptance that drought is a very real occurrence over the majority of Australia. The responsibility of the risk needs to be shifted back to the producer, who cannot expect to be bailed out by emotive pleas for help. The question that needs to be asked is: "Why are you farming there in the first place?" If farming is to be continued, the producer should accept the risk as does any business in the wider economy. Often the monetary relief comes to the farm as interest rate relief that flows straight through the farm to a financial institution to cover their risk and, in turn, increase the future level of farm indebtedness. Is this economically sustainable? The answer would be "highly doubtful".

****The resolution of “freehold title” and how land can be used***

People think “freehold title” legally allows them to use their property in whatever way they choose even if it is not in the interests of the wider community and environment. There have been few successful prosecutions in this area. An exception was the recent case of tree clearing in the Gwydir Wetlands. The widely held notion is that: “It is my land and I can choose how I use it in pursuit of generating income”.

Secondly, a social assessment uncovers some important issues such as the aging of the farming population, the flight of youth from the “bush”, the tyranny of isolation despite the advent of technology, OH&S issues indicating that farming is a dangerous activity, the high rate of male suicide and animal welfare.

****The aging of farmers***

The aging of farmers (currently average age 54 years) carries with it a number of negative consequences such as resistance to change as people age, slower adoption of technology, insular/local outlook and slow response to wider market signals: “Seen this all before but it always comes back, just wait and see”.

****The flight of rural youth from country areas to the city***

Rural youth since the 1980’s has been deserting country Australia in large numbers whether it is the rejection of the agricultural “way of life” of farming, family succession problems or to put their talents to what they see as better use in the wider world. This critical mass movement of young people has drastically upset the sustainable demography of rural Australia. The obvious impact has been on country sporting organizations both male and female.

****The tyranny of isolation***

Despite the advent of technology, including the internet and newer more sophisticated phone systems, rural people often have to travel long distances to health and specialist medical services, government support services, for example, Centrelink, and to be involved in social and interest groups. A negative outcome of rural isolation is the need to travel long distances at high speed which increases the chance of motor vehicle accidents on the generally poorer roads found in isolated rural areas.

****Farming is a potentially dangerous work place***

From an Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) perspective, farming is one of the more dangerous occupations with more opportunities for accidents to occur as farming operations are commonly undertaken short-handed and in isolation. Safe OH&S practices come at a cost which in the cost/price squeeze environment is often seen as one that can be trimmed of the expense sheet.

****The high rate of male suicide in rural areas***

The high rate of suicide, particularly amongst males, tears at the fabric of rural communities. High inter-generational expectations, the inability to control production factors such as adverse climate and product prices coupled with an inability to cope creates an environment where this outcome devastates all connected with the person involved. This is a tragic waste of lives.

****The animal welfare debate with the wider community***

Animal farming is under constant scrutiny from the public examination of animal welfare issues. These can impact on the marketing of animal products as seen in the recent anti mulesing debate. Whilst many of these come from a misunderstanding of basic animal husbandry practices, other welfare issues remain especially when animals are subjected flood, drought and fire particularly in the more climatically extreme parts of Australia.

Thirdly, an environmental assessment reveals issues such as over modification of underlying ecosystems, soil degradation and the poor use of scarce water resources.

****The farm as a man modified ecosystem***

Farming modifies existing ecosystems so that the new system channels resources into the production of products sold to sustain the farming enterprise. In general, the more intensive the production pursued, the more radical the modification of the original ecosystem. It is possible to push the ecosystem to such a point that it collapses. The Murray/Darling system is the most recent and obvious example of this where over allocation of water to upstream irrigators has crashed the downstream ecosystem.

****Soil degradation***

Agricultural activities alter the soil system from what was developed under a natural ecosystem over millennia. A well documented example of this is the increase in soil acidity with the long term use of clover- ley farming to maintain/improve the productivity of winter cereal cropping land. Other well documented examples include the increase in soil salinity caused by the removal of deep rooted vegetation, the lowering of an already low soil organic matter content which, in turn, lowers the soil's stability against erosion and the compaction of naturally fragile soils with a pastoral industry based on cloven hoofed animals, sheep and cattle.

****The poor use of scarce water resources***

Questions are being publically expressed about the wise use of our scarce water resources. Are we using them wisely? Are they going to the most efficient end uses? Is irrigation in arid and semi arid areas a clever use of water? The answer is "no".

****The exporting of farm nutrients in produce and their subsequent replacement***

Every time a farm product is harvested, nutrients from the farm are harvested and transported away and overseas if the product is exported. If not replaced, the level of production diminishes. Whilst some can be replaced on the farm using nitrogen fixing legumes, these require a phosphate fertilizer, for example, superphosphate which has to be imported from somewhere else, often from overseas. The long term sustainability is therefore questionable.

To answer the original question posed: "Can we sustain our current agricultural system over the long term?" From the evidence presented above, probably not. Based on this Agenda 21 assessment, we should reduce our total production as only 20% is used locally and 80% is exported. We would not run short of food as some in the industry are promoting. Production needs to be confined to climatically safe areas and conducted in a "smart" technological way. Successful practitioners are doing that now and are likely to remain viable in the long term.

Personal Biography

I am a recently retired agricultural educator and have a Master of Applied Science in Agricultural Education. Have taught across NSW and travelled widely across Australia. In addition, I have lived in the city environment whilst still involved in agricultural education and can view agriculture from "paddock to plate".

I have travelled widely overseas viewing farming and the marketing of produce within the countries visited including, Ireland, Great Britain, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Belarus, Lithuania, Poland, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam.

I have been reflecting on my career and my travels, attempting to address the issue of long term sustainable agriculture in general.

Rick Kemp

What's Happening in My Paddock

In this issue I am focusing on the North of the State and happenings in the New England and Central Coast districts.

New England Agriculture and Primary Industries Day

On Wednesday the 3rd of March 2010, New England teachers got together at Narrabri for some RTO business, and gained some insight into the Cotton Industry.

It was held at the Australian Cotton Research Institute (ACRI) between Narrabri and Wee Waa and included the manipulation of genetics and incorporation in Cotton, insect resistance monitoring and resources available from the Cotton Catchments Communities CRC.

It was also the last time that veteran agriculture teacher Alan Thomas would attend prior to his retirement. Alan lead a "How I do It" session and showed the skills developed and honed over the years to engage students and generate genuine inquiry through the use of visual prompts and real problem solving.

A small presentation was made from the group to Alan too by Deb Snaith. Discussion about the poor quality of last years Independent Trials papers and the failure of the Independent Trials to pay contributors for the last couple of years resulted in a decision to make the papers developed within the region available to schools at a cost of \$20 per paper.



Alan Thomas in full flight



Deb Snaith & Alan Thomas in partnership

New England/North West
Ag Teachers' Exam Papers

FOR SALE

Past writing experience for the Independent Exams,
written by rural teachers with many years' practice

TRIAL HSC Agriculture

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At a cost of \$20 each

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**Contact Deb Snaith (chairperson) at
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Fax: 6722 5831

Email: deborah.snaith@det.nsw.edu.au

**Payment made by cheque to:
Macintyre High School Ag Teachers' Network**

MEDIA RELEASE



17 February 2010

State's newest education director still has a foot in New England Region paddocks

Stuart Hemmings laughs as he jokes that his appointment as the state Director, School and Regional Policy shows an "Aggie" can progress beyond the muddy paddocks and livestock of a school farm.

But his strong affinity with rural and regional public education will not desert him as he sits down at his new desk in the Department of Education and Training's Bridge Street headquarters.

Mr Hemmings has spent most of his education career in the New England Region.

Now he will be at the heart of the operations of the Department, which has responsibility for more than 2200 schools and around three-quarters of a million students across the state.

"I would like to think I will be bringing this long experience with rural and regional education in the New England Region to my new role," Mr Hemmings said.

"Even though I am in an office in Sydney, I hope I can emphasise my passion for teaching and agriculture.

"I think of myself as an Agriculture Teacher first and foremost, and the memories of teaching in the classrooms and paddocks of local schools have always been at the heart of everything I have done in recent years.

"I hope to continue thinking of the well-being and quality of learning of local students as I make decisions that will impact on our NSW public schools."

Mr Hemmings' track-record suggests he will not be shaking his bond with the soil.

Since taking up the position as professional Support Officer for the New England Regional Director in 2004 he accepted the post of Chief Examiner of HSC Agriculture complementing his on-going work with examination and syllabus committees for Agriculture and Biology.

His regional role with the Department and for the Board of Studies in 2000 and 2001 have given him a close understanding of the broad spectrum of schools and educational issues right across the New England Region and Upper Hunter, including the Tamworth, Quirindi, Gunnedah, Narrabri, Wee Waa, Scone, Muswellbrook, Armidale, Walcha, Glen Innes, Tenterfield, Inverell, Wyallda, Barraba, Bingara, Moree and Northern Border areas.

Congratulating on his appointment, New England Regional Director, Jim White said the value of having someone with such a strong perspective and commitment to rural and regional education working in a key statewide decision-making role could not be overestimated.

NSW Department of Education & Training

Media Unit

140 William Street BATHURST NSW 2795

T 02 6334 8080 F 02 6334 8077 M 0419 284 243

E grant.hatch@det.nsw.edu.au

"This understanding is of immense benefit to the students in classrooms across the New England Region," Mr White said.

"Their learning needs will be inherent in important decisions.

"That knowledge of our students and our region means (Mr Hemmings) will be a real asset for us into the future."

Mr White said Mr Hemmings' promotion also reinforced the value of the leadership and professional development opportunities that we available to all teachers and executive in public schools and offices in the New England Region.

"We encourage all staff to take advantage of these opportunities," Mr White said.

"As our education staff grow and develop professionally, the quality of teaching and learning is further enhanced – so everyone benefits."

In his new position of Director, School and Regional Policy, Mr Hemmings will work closely with former New England Regional Director, Des Gorman who is the General Manager, Learning and Development.

The move to the Department's Bridge Street headquarters will take him back to his 'hometown' of Sydney where he was educated at North Rocks Public School and James Ruse Agricultural High School.

It will mean leaving behind a wealth of friends and colleagues that he has built up since arriving as a teacher at Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School in 1990 and farewelling many people from all walks of life that he has met in Tamworth over the past two decades.

With married daughter, Sami expecting his first grandchild later this year, Mr Hemmings is sure to be a regular visitor to Tamworth and will no doubt also be synchronising the 'rugby season' trips so he can still cheer for the "mighty Pirates".

MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Grant Hatch Media Liaison Officer 02 63348080 / 0419284243

**NSW Department of Education & Training
Media Unit**

140 William Street BATHURST NSW 2795
T 02 6334 8080 F 02 6334 8077 M 0419 284 243
E grant.hatch@det.nsw.edu.au

New role for ag teacher

STUART Hemmings laughs as he jokes that his appointment as the NSW director, school and regional policy shows an "aggle" can progress beyond the muddy paddocks and livestock of a school farm.

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ALWAYS AN AGGIE: Stuart Hemmings has appointed the NSW director, school and regional policy.

Photo: Robert Chappel 170210RCED2

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Hunter, including Tamworth, Quirindi, Gunnedah, Narrabri, Wee Waa, Scone, Muswellbrook, Armidale, Walcha, Glen Innes, Tentfield, Inverell and Barraba.

LAW AND ORDER

20yo charged with assault

A 20-YEAR-OLD Tamworth man was charged after abusing and assaulting people in Gilgai on Wednesday night.

The man allegedly screamed and yelled at residents who came outside their homes and told him to leave. It is alleged he then threw his bike at a male resident hitting and cutting him. He then continued down the street where he ran his bike into a female resident, knocking her over.

Police were called and arrested the man. He was charged with two counts of assault, offensive language, offensive conduct and breaching bail. He faced Inverell Bail Court where he was granted further bail.

Break, enter and steal

UNKNOWN offenders broke into a premises on Ridge St, Tamworth between 3pm on February 2 and 5pm on February 16 stealing items valued at \$150.

\$10,000 theft near Nundle

ITEMS worth more than \$10,000 were stolen from a property on Barry Rd at Hanging Rock between 6am on February 13 and 2.30pm on February 16.

Town mourns second death

By Armidale Express

A SECOND death tragedy has struck the Heagney family of Armidale and Guyra.

Neil Heagney has died two weeks after his daughter, 21-year-old Sarah Heagney, was killed in a road smash on Waterfall Way.

Mr Heagney passed away on Thursday, just six days after attending Sarah's funeral.

A shearer and grazier of Guyra, he was also a member of the Guyra District Potato Growers' Association and regularly won prizes for his potatoes at the Guyra Show.

Mr Heagney is survived by his partner Leanne, his children and Sarah's siblings, Jayne and Luke, his mother Betty, brothers Charlie and Wayne and sister Edna.

A funeral service was held at St Mary of the Angels Catholic Church in Guyra yesterday.

A number of business



Neil Heagney

houses had closed and the main street was virtually deserted.

The church soon filled and mourners stood around the grounds.

Mr Heagney was laid to rest in Guyra cemetery, alongside his daughter, who died when her car and a stock truck collided 14km west of Dorrigo on January 28.

Meanwhile, various groups with which Sarah was associated continue to honour her memory.

Armidale Triathlon Club, of which Sarah was a popular member, dedicated Sunday's event to her memory.

Alleged hitman refused bail

ACCUSED murderer and hitman Kenneth Harold Brooks faced Tamworth Local Court yesterday charged with the death of Duri farmer Jeffrey Ryan.

The disability pensioner from Cessnock was allegedly paid \$30,000 to kill Helen Ryan's estranged husband on his property in October.

The 45-year-old accused did not enter a plea yesterday, was refused bail, and will face Tamworth Local Court again on March 3.

Mrs Ryan, her 70-year-old mother and Mr Brooks' defacto wife Joeleen Farrell, 28, are also facing charges.

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POINT OF VIEW

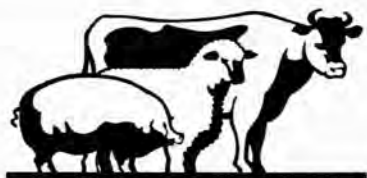
A brief description of Growth & Value Managers

- A growth manager seeks to identify stocks that are likely to grow faster than consensus estimates.
- A value manager seeks to capitalise on controversy and hold stocks that are out of favour with the market and trading below intrinsic value.
- While growth and value often follow different cycles, this is not always the case. Both styles of investing can perform strongly or poorly at the same time.
- The next phase of the rally is likely to be underpinned by earnings, providing considerable upside for both growth and value.

Written by
Mark Dutton, Chief Investment Officer - Australia & NZ, AXA

Disclaimer: This is for general information only. You need to consider with your financial planner your financial situation, investment objectives and options, investment objectives and your particular needs prior to making an investment decision.

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President: Grant Jackson (Gosford High School)
grant.jackson@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 43257734 Fax: 43233175

Vice President: Ashley Unger (Wyong High School)
ashley.unger@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 43531088 Fax: 43512591

Central Coast Agriculture Teachers Association

Secretary/Treasurer: Simone Neville (T.L.S.C – Berkeley Vale Campus)
simone.neville@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 43881899 Fax: 43883359

Announcing the:

Central Coast Prime Beef Competition 2010

Date: 23/8/2010

Venue: Gosford Showground

Classes: Junior Judging – Teams and Individual
Parading – novice & experienced
Best of the Best Paraders – interschool competition
Non- slaughter class
Hoof & Hook class – light/medium & heavy weight
Feed Components Identification competition
Cattle Breed Identification competition
Guess the Weight of the Steer competition
Stall Display competition - 2010 theme – "Breeds of Beef Cattle in Australia suited to our climatic conditions."

Grand Champion
Carcass 2009 –
Dungog High



Hoof Classes



Displays



Paraders Classes

This is a great day out aimed at participation and enjoyable Agricultural fun for all students and their teachers!

For more information, entry forms or to be included on the emailing list contact
Simone Neville (Secretary/Treasurer of the CCATA)



NSW students
are being asked to
**take the bull by the
horns and turn their
rural tales into cash cows.**



Can you spin a yarn about sheep?
Chew the fat about pigs?
Talk turkey about poultry?

Don't just be part of the herd ... Get MOOVIN' and get your entry in



**CREAM OF THE CROP 2010
ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN**

www.dairyyouthaustralia.com.au/competition



NSW students are being asked to take the bull by the horns and turn their rural tales into cash cows.

- Can you spin a yarn about sheep?
- Chew the fat about pigs?
- Talk turkey about poultry?

What is it and how it works

The Cream of the Crop Competition provides an innovative and fun tool for students to document and share with others their studies and story. The competition is open to students in NSW secondary schools and tertiary institutions involved in agriculture, primary industry and natural resource management related studies.

The Cream of the Crop Competition invites students to reflect on the social, environmental and economic implications of their studies and communicate this newfound knowledge to the wider community. Entrants must explain why their studies matter and link what they do to everyday living.

The task

Students are invited to create a PowerPoint presentation about a unit of their studies, why it matters and how it's relevant to everyday life. They are to assume the people reading the presentation have very little knowledge about their area of study.

Think of it like this....if you visited your local fish and chip shop owner and he asked you, "What do you do?", What would you say to engage him, and help him value what you do and understand your passion?

Reward for Effort

Prizes on offer:

Secondary School

- Junior High School (Year 7 & 8) \$500 Best Presentation
- Junior High School (Year 7 & 8) \$250 Runner-Up
- Middle High School (Year 9 & 10) \$500 Best Presentation
- Middle High School (Year 9 & 10) \$250 Runner Up
- Senior High School (Year 11 & 12) \$500 Best Presentation
- Senior High School (Year 11 & 12) \$250 Runner-Up

Tertiary Studies

- Undergraduate and TAFE \$500 Best Presentation
- Undergraduate and TAFE \$250 Runner-Up
- Postgraduate \$500 Best Presentation
- Postgraduate \$250 Runner-Up

* Prizes will be Woolworths Wish Gift Cards, which can be redeemed at Woolworths supermarkets, Big W and Dick Smith.

The best 15 entries will be posted on the Landlearn NSW website <http://www.landlearnsw.org.au>

Landlearn NSW is an education program run by the NSW Government, NSW Farmers and the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW.

For full details and entry form visit:

www.dairyyouthaustralia.com.au/competition





Mission

To foster the further education, career and personal development opportunities of rural youth through community-based encouragement and financial assistance.

About the Country Education Foundation of Australia (CEFA)

Founded in 1993, CEFA is a national not-for-profit organisation that provides financial assistance for rural youth so that they may be able to achieve their post high school education, training and vocation goals. We do this by establishing local education foundations across regional Australia that are incorporated as members of CEFA. CEFA provides the framework, expertise and support required to mentor each community through establishment and the ongoing operation of each local Education Foundation. To assist each of our local education foundations become established, CEFA provides up to \$10,000 in funding over the first three years by matching locally raised funds. We currently have 40 member communities.

For young Australians living in rural and remote areas, the substantially greater costs of further education and vocation opportunities, as compared to their metropolitan counterparts, is often prohibitive. The vast majority of the young people our local education foundations provide assistance and encouragement to would not have been able to achieve their goals due to financial constraints. For the rest, it helps relieve some of the financial strain on themselves and their families. Our grants are not awarded on the basis of academic success and they typically range from \$500 to \$3,000. To ensure accountability and good governance, students don't receive cash grants, rather their local foundation pays the goods and service providers or reimburses the student for a pre-agreed expense once an official receipt has been provided.

All local education foundations select their recipients based on the same three criteria; that the applicants have a realistic goal; that they have shown dedication to achieving their goals and that they are in need of financial assistance to be able to achieve their further education, training or career goals.

CEFA's program is truly unique; no other program in Australia focuses solely on helping rural youth achieve their goals and aspirations as they transition from high school into further study or the work force.

Aims of the CEFA Program

- To ensure as many young people as possible from rural and regional areas are able to achieve their post high school education, training and vocation goals
- To build capacity and long term sustainability in rural communities by investing in local youth and creating diversity of skills
- To provide a non-academically based grants program to ensure we support a broad range of abilities and interests
- To build partnerships with industries and institutions such as our education partnerships that provide additional financial support to our local grant recipients.

The Outcomes

- To date 1,385 grants have been given totaling more than \$1,743,000
- In 2010 alone 338 grants were given (up from 240 in 2009) totaling \$370,450
- Ninety-eight per cent of recipients complete the training or further education for which they received their grant
- By communities investing in their youth, recipients gain a strong message that their community believes in them and is supportive of their aspirations. This is a tremendous boost to a young person's confidence, right when they need it the most.

Deductible Gift Recipient Status

The Country Education Foundation of Australia is a registered charitable organisation with Deductible Gift Recipient status.

How to Apply

To apply for financial assistance, the student must live or attend high/secondary school in a community in which a local education foundation operates. Application forms are available to download from the local education foundation's page on the CEFA website:

[/www.cef.org.au/foundations.html](http://www.cef.org.au/foundations.html).

Our Education Partners include:

Macquarie University	University of NSW	Wollongong University
University of Western Sydney	University of Newcastle	Australian National University
University of South Australia	University of Canberra	Charles Sturt University
Flinders University	Victoria University	Tocal Agriculture College
University of New England	Australian Catholic University	University of Adelaide
University of Technology QLD	Southern Cross University	Sydney University
NIDA	University of Technology Sydney	
Canberra Institute of Technology (TAFE)		

Local Country Education Foundation communities in New South Wales include:

Wee Waa	June	Gulargambone
Broken Hill	Upper Hunter	Yass
Gunnedah - Mullaley	Ardlethan	Boorowa
Coonamble	Gilgandra	Braidwood
Harden	Young	Cowra
Goulburn	Narrabri	Merriwa
Mudgee	Cessnock	Moree
Balranald	Cootamundra	Temora
Hay	West Wyalong	Edward River (Deniliquin, Conargo)
Monaro (Jindabyne, Cooma, Bombala)		

Contact

For more information regarding the work that CEFA does, grant applications or our partnerships, please visit our website: www.cef.org.au or contact Jocellin Jansson and Annabel Gay: **1300 652 144, annabel@cef.org.au**



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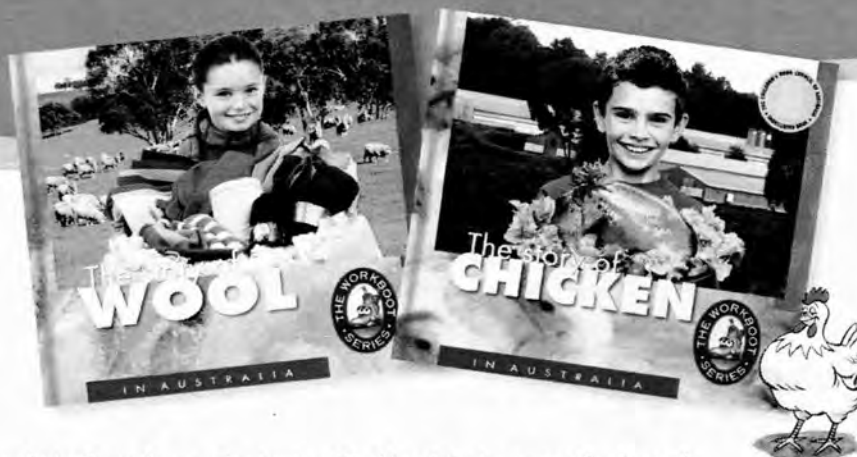
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