

2024

GRANTS &
SCHOLARSHIPS



RASF

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RAS FOUNDATION

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The RAS Foundation was created in 2007 with a mission to support the development of sustainable and resilient regional and rural communities across New South Wales by promoting individual and community growth via educational scholarships and community grants.

Together with generous donations from our supporters, the RAS Foundation has invested over \$9.1 million into rural and regional communities through a range of targeted grants and scholarships. To date, the RAS Foundation has supported over 960 rural scholarship students to reach their educational dreams and awarded 163 organisations vital community building funding.

Donations to the RAS Foundation are tax deductible.



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

GIVING TO DATE

AS AT JUNE 2024

Program: Community Projects (including Community Futures Grants, E3 Grants and Community Kitchens)	
<i>Duration: 18 years</i>	
<i>Grants Awarded: 163 grants</i>	
<i>Funds Distributed:</i>	\$1,958,531
Program: JB Fairfax Award for Rural & Regional Journalism and Communications	
<i>Duration: 16 years</i>	
<i>Grants Awarded: 18 (16 Awards and 2 Highly Commended)</i>	
<i>Funds Distributed:</i>	\$166,000
Program: Scholarships (including Rural, Wine, Dairy, Nuffield Australia, Phd Research & Master of Teaching Scholarships)	
<i>Duration: 14 years</i>	
<i>Scholarships Awarded: 883 Scholarships</i>	
<i>Funds Distributed:</i>	\$4,679,735
Program: RAS Foundation & Christmas Distribution	
<i>Duration: 7 years</i>	
<i>Funds Distributed:</i>	\$2,003,291
Other:	
<i>2021 Ribbon Rug Project for Regional Hospitals</i>	\$42,000
<i>2021 Forbes High School Stand Tall Sponsorship</i>	\$12,500
<i>2022 Showground Flood Relief</i>	\$20,000
<i>2022 Wellington High School Stand Tall Sponsorship</i>	\$4,000
<i>2023 Helping Eugowra Community Children's Centre</i>	\$58,603
<i>2023 Mt Austin High School, Wagga Wagga Stand Tall Sponsorship</i>	\$10,400
<i>2023 RAS Rural Learning Exchange Agricultural Teacher Program</i>	\$25,000
<i>2024 Cobar High School, Cobar Stand Tall Sponsorship</i>	\$9,900
<i>2024 Donation to Making Friends with Food Program</i>	\$43,000
<i>2024 Big Bush BBQ donation:</i>	\$18,000
<i>2024 AG Innovation Award:</i>	\$10,000
<i>2024 RAS Rural Learning Exchange Agricultural Teacher Program:</i>	\$60,000

Total **\$9,120,960**

RURAL SCHOLARSHIPS

RAS Foundation Rural Scholarships provide a financial helping hand for students who demonstrate a passion for rural issues and who are committed to playing a part in shaping the future of rural and regional NSW and the ACT. These scholarships help students of all ages achieve their education goals and aspirations and embrace a diverse range of tertiary education and training studies.

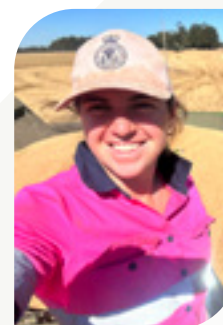


ABBY BYRNES LAKE CARGELLIGO

Diploma in Agriculture, Tocal College

Abby is currently studying a Diploma in Agriculture online whilst working in the agricultural industry in Temora, NSW. She grew up on a mixed farming enterprise in Lake Cargelligo where her passion for the industry developed and has completed studies within the agriculture sector previously. Her current role allows her to help and support growers with their wool marketing as well as livestock data collection and analysis. Looking towards the future, Abby intends to further develop these skills in the industry.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation

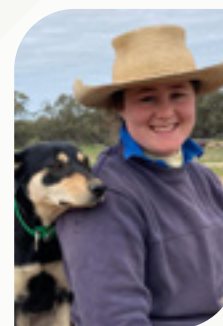


ALEXANDRA MARTIN NOORONG

Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Charles Sturt University

Alexandra comes from a farming community in Noorong, in the southern Riverina area of NSW. She is currently in her third year, studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. After completing year 12, Alexandra had a gap year where she worked on a broadacre farm in NSW and did cattle droving in Western Queensland; these experiences instilled a passion for both agriculture and rural communities. As part of her degree, Alexandra would like to complete her honours focusing on sheep and wool production and when she completes her degree, she would like to devote her expertise to improving farming practice for future generations.

Scholarship donated by: The Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation

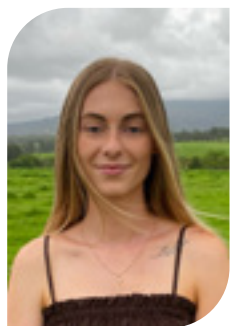


AMELIA MCCRABB WANGANELLA

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Amelia is in her 5th year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University (CSU) in Wagga Wagga. Growing up on her family's Merino stud in rural NSW and being around animals from birth fuelled her desire to become a vet from a very young age. Additionally, growing up in a tiny farming community has helped to forge her dream of working as a production animal vet in rural Australia once graduated - ideally with a focus on Merino genetics and reproduction that can be implemented on the family stud. Outside of university, she can be found playing AFL for CSU, on the tennis court or on the back of a horse.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation



AMY CLOTHIER CAMBEWARRA

**Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine,
University of New South Wales**

Amy is a fourth-year medical student studying at the UNSW Rural Clinical School in Port Macquarie. She grew up in the Shoalhaven area of NSW and has wanted to be a doctor since she was little. She loves being able to study in a rural area and is excited to begin her career as a doctor in a rural town in a few years' time. Currently, her interests for future work include rural generalism, medical oncology and ophthalmology. Outside of university, she works as a barista part time, loves to get involved in her church community and enjoys being active outdoors.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



AMY IBBOTT COONAMBLE

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, University of Canberra

Amy was born and raised on a mixed livestock property in the small rural community of Coonamble in NSW. She is currently in her final year of a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at the University of Canberra. Growing up in the country, Amy found a passion for health through her involvement in sport and the community. A career in occupational therapy will provide Amy with the skills and opportunities to work with people across a diverse range of areas. In the future, Amy hopes to work in a rural community like Coonamble and to help advocate for change in the healthcare system.

Scholarship donated by: The Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation



ANGUS BAKER TOTTENHAM

Certificate III in Carpentry, TAFE NSW

Angus grew up in a small town called Tottenham, in the dead centre of NSW. Living on a farm, he had responsibilities from a young age, such as feeding the chooks and driving the chaser bin at harvest time. Angus went to Tottenham Central School until year 9 and then attended Macquarie Anglican Grammar School in Dubbo. In the second term of year 12, he started his carpentry apprenticeship and is now halfway through. Angus is kept busy throughout the year with this apprenticeship, building and farm work.

Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings



ANNALISE ROBERTSON MACKSVILLE

**Bachelor of Veterinary Science / Bachelor of Veterinary Biology,
Charles Sturt University**

Annalise grew up on a small cattle property on the Mid North Coast of NSW, which fostered a passion for livestock and inspired her to pursue a career as a veterinarian. In order to achieve her ambition, she relocated to Wagga Wagga to study the Veterinary Science Degree at Charles Sturt University and she is now in her fourth year of study. Undertaking clinical placements in the Riverina, Snowy Mountains and the Upper Murray has confirmed her desire to work and live in regional communities of NSW and not only provide animal care, but also be part of a network of support and connection across the livestock production industries.

Scholarship donated by: RAS Youth Group

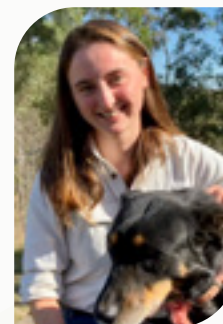


AVA WEYMANS MORUYA

**Bachelor of Medical Science/ Doctor of Medicine,
University of Newcastle**

Ava is in the second year of her degree at the University of Newcastle as part of the Joint Medical Program, studying a Bachelor of Medical Science/Doctor of Medicine. Growing up on the South Coast of NSW, she is eager to work in a rural area as a paediatrician, after she completes her study, and work alongside other health professionals to improve the quality and access to health care in these areas. Outside of medicine, she loves working as a swim teacher and lifeguard, and being a part of her local surf lifesaving club.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



BEATRICE HUMPHRIES BURRAGA

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, University of Sydney

Beatrice is in her sixth and final placement year of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Sydney. Having grown up on a beef and wool property near Burruga, it has always been her goal to return to the bush after university. Becoming a veterinarian provides her with an excellent opportunity to work alongside farmers and rural communities to help meet the various challenges that arise with animal health. While wanting to work in a mixed practice veterinary clinic upon graduation, Beatrice also has an interest in livestock breeding, genetics, and reproductive technologies.

Scholarship donated by: NSW Stud Merino Breeders' Association



BELLA WILSON DUBBO

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Charles Sturt University

Bella is a fourth-year student studying Occupational Therapy at Charles Sturt University in Port Macquarie. She grew up in the Dubbo community surrounded by educators, which motivated her to pursue this career. She comes from a large family with over 35 cousins who live in Dubbo and enjoys being outdoors, swimming and sport. She chose to study in Port Macquarie as it is a small community that reminds her of home. She aims to open her own practice in Dubbo, working with paediatrics and supporting the schools in Dubbo and the surrounding areas.

Scholarship donated by: Coolaroo Foundation

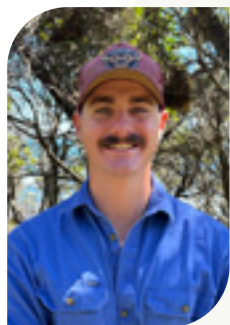


BETHANY LYONS CROOKWELL

Bachelor of Dental Science, Charles Sturt University

Bethany was born and raised in Crookwell in the Southern Tablelands of NSW and is studying her fourth year of Dentistry at Charles Sturt University in Orange. Coming from a small rural town, becoming a dentist was never really on her radar; she didn't know any dentists and there certainly wasn't a dentist in town. However, from a young age, she felt an affinity with regional communities and seeing the gap in access to preventative dentistry care inspires her to provide care to communities like Crookwell.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



BRADLEY SMITH BONNY HILLS

Doctor of Medicine MD, Charles Sturt University

Brad grew up in Bonny Hills on the North Coast of NSW and after finishing school, he secured a job as a sterilisation technician at Port Macquaire Base Hospital. This sparked his interest in studying for a Doctor of Medicine at Charles Sturt University in Orange. His time working at a regional hospital has highlighted the shortages and challenges in healthcare and how this can impact a community. Upon graduating, Brad plans on working and living in a regional or rural area to provide health services for these communities.

Scholarship donated by: The Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation



BRIDIE MINEHAN HARDEN

Bachelor Veterinary Biology / Bachelor Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Bridie comes from Harden in the South West Slopes region of NSW and is in her third year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. She plays netball for the Wagga Agricultural Netball Club, 'Aggies,' with whom she has won two premierships so far. She also enjoys working at the Young Veterinary Clinic during her holidays with both small and large animals. After graduation, Bridie would like to further explore large animal reproduction and is excited to see what the future holds.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



BRONWYN JAWERTH WODONGA

Doctor of Medicine, Western Sydney University

Bronwyn is a fourth-year medical student at Western Sydney University. She is passionate about the health of rural women and hopes to serve her rural community as an obstetrician and gynecologist. To prepare for this, she is basing her final two years of study in the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales. Bronwyn will use this opportunity to develop skills specifically related to practicing rural medicine. Additionally, she has many hobbies and loves doing handicrafts.

Scholarship donated by: Greenstone Financial Services



CAITLYN COUTTS-SMITH WEE WAA

Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management, Charles Sturt University

Caitlyn is in her first year studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. She was raised on a mixed stock and cropping farm in Northwest NSW, which allowed her to see how agriculture has adapted over the years to accommodate sustainable practices. Over the past six years, she has competed in many agricultural events including local and Sydney Royal shows as a Junior Judge and cattle parader. After she completes university, Caitlyn plans on gaining experience and industry knowledge in the agribusinesses area before she becomes a cattle stud producer based in NSW.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation



CARMEN MACGREGOR QUAAMA

Doctor of Medicine, University of Wollongong

Carmen is a final year medical student at the University of Wollongong and is currently undertaking clinical placement in the Southern Highlands. She grew up in a small country town called Quaama, where she enjoyed horse riding, bush walking, ocean swimming, and community events. Carmen witnessed the gap in access to quality health care in country areas, as well as the profound impact doctors can make within communities. This motivated her to become a highly skilled doctor who can contribute to the improvement and direction of rural health care. Carmen endeavours to make a positive impact in the lives of individuals, families, and communities in which she works.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



CASEY PRATT TUMBARUMBA

Bachelor of Education (K-12), Charles Sturt University

Casey comes from the small town of Tumbarumba in the Riverina/Murray area of NSW. She is in her third year of university where she is studying a Bachelor of Education (K-12). Casey has always enjoyed helping people to learn and hopes that through teaching, she will get the chance to inspire young Australian minds. Once she graduates, she plans to teach in a rural school. Casey also enjoys going for walks, exploring nature and is passionate about protecting the environment.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

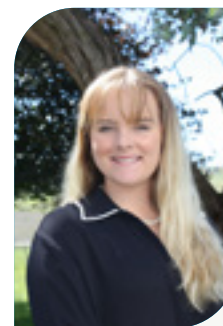


CHARLOTTE ROBINSON STOCKINBINGAL

Bachelor of Science, Australian National University

Charlotte is a first-year undergraduate student studying a Bachelor of Science (Advanced) (Honours) at the Australian National University in Canberra - where she intends to major in cell and molecular biology. She has spent the last nine years of her life living on a property in Stockinbingal where she learnt about the various challenges faced by rural communities. As such, Charlotte hopes to research and develop new biotechnologies that improves the prosperity of rural areas through methods of combating climate change, the development of new animal medicines or by creating products that increase demand for Australian produce.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



CHARLOTTE FOURACRE GOULBURN

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Charlotte lives on a farm near Goulburn in NSW and is studying a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Her ambition is to practice veterinary medicine in a rural or regional setting with an interest in large production animals. Outside of her studies, she enjoys playing classical violin and performing live as a contemporary music artist. In addition to her music, she has established her own Shetland Pony Stud where she competes in a variety of disciplines including led, ridden and harness.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

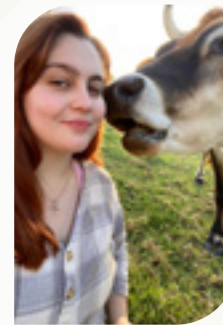


CHELSEA GORDON COLINROOBIE

Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Charles Sturt University

Chelsea is in her final year studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (majoring in Agronomy) at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Chelsea grew up in a small farming area called Colinroobie in NSW, and attended Barellan Central School from Kindergarten to Year 12, graduating with just 7 students. Growing up on a mixed sheep and cropping enterprise significantly influenced her passion for agriculture. On completion of her course, Chelsea is also interested in studying a Master of Teaching, majoring in Agriculture.

Scholarship donated by: Sushi Hub



CHELSEA ZAINI BOWRAVILLE

Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Charles Sturt University

Chelsea is currently studying her fourth year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University. Coming from a beef property on the mid north coast of NSW, she understands how important the health and welfare of livestock is and led her to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. Her passion lies within rural communities and her goal upon graduation is to work in a rural practice to assist communities where veterinary access is limited. Chelsea's ultimate goal is to be part of the change that allows communities with limited veterinary care to have better access to services.

Scholarship donated by: AgShows NSW

**CHLOE BAILEY-HOWELL** TERALBA

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Chloe is in her fifth year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Her childhood dream was to become a veterinarian, as she has always had a passion for helping and caring for animals. She is passionate about animal health and welfare, with a particular interest in large animal reproduction. Chloe is heavily involved in the Limousin Youth Association, as she believes it is important to support the youth in the agriculture industry. Upon completing her degree, Chloe wants to work in a rural community in a mixed practice veterinary clinic.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud

**CHRISTIE HAYWARD** SINGLETON

Certificate III in Engineering - Technical, TAFE NSW

Christie is currently living in Singleton, NSW and is a fourth-year boilermaker apprentice, working on mining equipment in the Hunter Valley. She is passionate about welding and fabrication and loves her job. This year, Christie is studying a Certificate III in Engineering - Technical at TAFE NSW. In her spare time, she is an active member of the Australian Alpaca Association and is currently the NSW Alpaca Youth Secretary. Christie breeds and shows her own alpacas, whilst also being involved in the youth development side, working hard to encourage and mentor youth about alpacas.

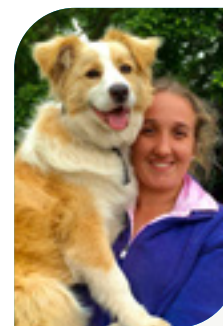
Scholarship donated by: Coolaroo Foundation

**CHRISTOPHER WOODFIELD** NORTH ARM COVE

Bachelor of Paramedicine, Charles Sturt University

Christopher is currently in his final year studying a Bachelor of Paramedicine at Charles Sturt University. Living on campus at Bathurst has been one of the best decisions of his life. He grew up in the Hunter region of NSW working on family farm, which lead him to develop a great love for the outdoors. Christopher has always found satisfaction in helping others and this is what motivated him to become a paramedic. He hopes to one day move into an aerial rescue and retrieval role, where he can provide medical treatment in remote and rural areas to those in need.

Scholarship donated by: Maple-Brown Family Foundation

**CLAUDIA WILSON** ORANGE

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Claudia grew up on a beef cattle property in Central West NSW, surrounded by a variety of animals from a young age. This early exposure sparked her passion for working with animals in rural areas and fueled her desire to become a veterinarian. After completing high school in Orange, she moved to Wagga Wagga to begin her studies at Charles Sturt University. Claudia completed two years in a Bachelor of Animal Science program before successfully transferring to Veterinary Science. She is now in her fourth year. Upon graduation, Claudia plans to work as a veterinarian in a rural town, focusing on large animal medicine.

Scholarship donated by: Quayclean

**CORBEN HART** BRAIDWOOD

Doctor of Medicine and Surgery (MChD), Australian National University

Corben is currently enrolled in a Doctor of Medicine program at the Australian National University in Canberra. He decided to pursue medicine as it combines academic challenge with the opportunity to be an integral part of a community. Corben aims to enter general practice, which he believes will provide the best opportunity to give back to his community. Growing up on a medium-sized cattle farm near the small town of Braidwood, he has always been involved in the family farm, even throughout his studies. He hopes his studies and background will enable him to live and work rurally upon completing his degree.

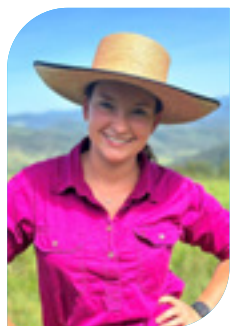
Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

**DEAN CHAPMAN** FINE FLOWER

Bachelor of Engineering, University of Wollongong

Dean is studying an Engineering degree at the University of Wollongong. This degree will allow him to work on projects that improve the quality of life for many people. He has grown up on his family beef cattle property located at Fine Flower in the Northern Rivers, where his family has been producing Australian beef for over 45 years. He enjoys exercising and staying fit, with water polo being his favourite sport. However, when on the farm, his favorite activity is mustering cattle on horseback.

Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings



ELIZA MCLAREN COMBOYNE

Certificate IV Agriculture and Diploma of Agriculture, Tocal College

Growing up on a farm in the Hawkesbury region, agriculture was always a part of Eliza's life. She ran cattle, sheep, goats and pigs, and sold the meat they produced at local farmers markets. Last year, she completed a Certificate III in Agriculture at Tocal College, where she enjoyed volunteering at Tocal Dairy, Numeralla Egg Farm & Tocal Homestead. Eliza is now completing a second year studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture and Diploma of Agriculture. Living on a farm on the Comboyne plateau, her future involves volunteering at the local show, showing cattle, helping on the farm, and hopefully working on one of the local dairies as she is really interested in animal health and reproduction.

Scholarship donated by: Andrew Pratten Charitable Trust

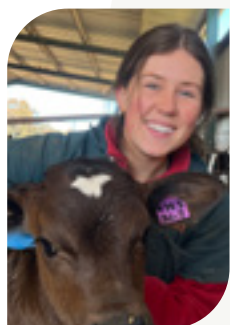


ELLIE COOPER TEMORA

Bachelor of Science (Environment and Heritage Management), University of Wollongong

Ellie is in her final year of study at the University of Wollongong, undertaking a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Environment and Heritage Management. She grew up in the Riverina (Temora) and comes from a family with six siblings. During her university breaks, Ellie has been interning with Snowy Hydro in the Snowy Mountains, gaining experience in managing large scale projects like the great Snowy Scheme and understanding its significance in the renewable energy market. After graduating, she hopes to gravitate toward environmental rehabilitation following natural disasters in small rural and remote communities.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



EMILY HOOLE MINNAMURRA

Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Emily is in her fifth year of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. She grew up on the south coast of NSW and moved to Wagga in 2020 to fulfil her lifelong dream of becoming a veterinarian. She is particularly interested in all things involving horses and cattle, especially animal reproduction. Outside of university you will find her walking her dogs, at the gym or getting coffee with her friends. When she graduates, Emily would love to work in a rural mixed practice clinic, gaining experience with all animals until she finds her niche.

Scholarship donated by: Graham O'Neill and Laurie Cowled



EMMA JOHNSTON HAY

Bachelor of Secondary Education and Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales

Emma is a proud Wiradjuri woman from Hay in NSW and is one of five, being the second eldest daughter. She has a deep connection with the land, arts, and her community and wishes to continue this love into her future career path. Her career goal is to become an art teacher at high school and work in rural and remote communities. Emma has a love for many hobbies and activities such as netball, baking, creative arts and her local Youth Taskforce. She loves her small town and being able to be an active member of the community.

Scholarship donated by: Andrew Pratten Charitable Trust

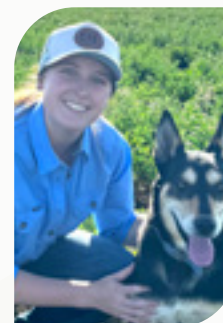


EVE WEST ORANGE

Doctor of Medicine, Charles Sturt University

Eve grew up in Queensland and is now a third-year medical student living in the regional town of Orange. The opportunity to study in a regional community has reinforced her passion for rural health care and closing the gap in rural health outcomes. Medicine was not at the forefront of her mind until she was involved in a rescue and resuscitation on a remote island, of which she was nominated for an Australian National Bravery Award. This opened her eyes up to just how few services there were in the event of an emergency and how this can lead to poorer outcomes. Eve has a big interest in preventative health care and improving the rural workforce to promote better outcomes and reduce inequalities that rural communities face. Once qualified, Eve is looking forward to contributing positively to rural health care in central west NSW.

Scholarship donated by: Maple-Brown Family Foundation



GABRIELLE FORREST COROBIMILLA

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Gabrielle grew up on the family farm in Corobimilla in the Riverina area of NSW. She loves living in rural Australia and is passionate about all things agriculture and animal related. She is studying her fourth year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University. Upon graduating, Gabrielle's goal is to practice as a large animal veterinarian and work in rural Australian communities. Some special interests of hers include netball, working on the family farm and spending time with friends, family, and her dogs.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud

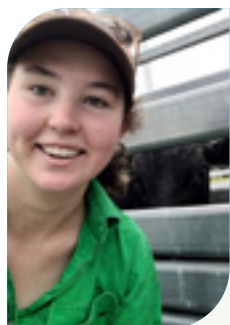


GEORGIA KUCHEL WOOLGOOLGA

*Bachelor of Medical Studies / Doctor of Medicine,
University of New South Wales*

Georgia comes from Woolgoolga in NSW and currently lives in Port Macquarie, where she is studying her second year of medical school. Once qualified, Georgia hopes to pursue rural generalism and work as a doctor in rural and remote communities. The RAS Foundation Scholarship will make a world of difference to her financial stability at university, allowing her to focus her time and energy to achieve great marks in this demanding course without having to pick up extra work to support herself.

Scholarship donated by: Andrew Pratten Charitable Trust



GEORGIA DONOGHUE ARMIDALE

*Bachelor of Economics / Bachelor of Mathematical Sciences,
Australian National University*

Originally from the Liverpool Plains but now living in Armidale, Georgia grew up helping on her family farm and developing a love for agriculture. It's an industry that she looks forward to being involved in through her studies, as it has helped shape her life in a big way. At school, she developed her love for maths and interest in economics, a passion she continues through her studies at the Australian National University in Canberra, which she is excited to combine with her passion for agriculture. Georgia is looking forward to graduating and applying her skills in a rural setting.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



GEORGINA EVANS BRAIDWOOD

*Bachelor of Medical Studies / Doctor of Medicine,
University of New South Wales*

Georgina is a final year medical student studying at the University of New South Wales Rural Clinical School in Port Macquarie. The entirety of her Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine degree will be completed rurally in Port Macquarie, including a month in Broken Hill. Originally from Braidwood in NSW, Georgina grew up on a property surrounded by her animals before moving north for university. In the future she intends to work as a rural generalist, with a focus on obstetrics and gynaecology, through the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

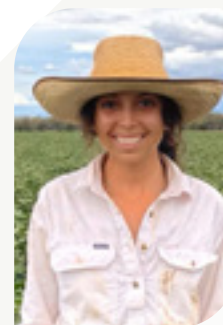


GRACE NESBITT SYDNEY

*Certificate IV in Agriculture and Diploma in Agriculture,
Tocal College*

Grace is completing her Certificate IV in Agriculture through Tocal Agriculture College and finishing her certificate IV in Wool Classing. Last year, she finished her Certificate III in Agriculture, which is how she found a love for working in the beef industry, where she hopes to find herself in the future. However, her passion for agriculture started with alpacas. Being part of the NSW Alpaca Youth group has given her the opportunity to network and work at many alpaca farms, even being an offsider for the last two shearing seasons.

Scholarship donated by: Coolaroo Foundation



GRACE PEZZUTO COLLY BLUE

*Bachelor of Agriculture / Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness),
University of New England*

Grace is currently in the second year of a Bachelor of Agriculture/ Business at the University of New England. She comes from a beef cattle grazing property in a small farming community on the Liverpool Plains, North-West NSW. She has always had a passion for agriculture and hopes to work in research agronomy when she graduates. She is excited to see the direction agriculture will take in the future and to be a part of the developments. Grace is very grateful for the community she grew up in and endeavours to continue being community minded throughout her life.

Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation and JS Millner Holdings

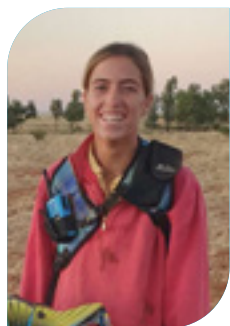


HANNAH MEIER COONABARABRAN

Bachelor of Paramedicine, Charles Sturt University

Hannah is in her third and final year of a Bachelor of Paramedicine and is based at the Bathurst campus of Charles Sturt University (CSU). Growing up on the family cattle and crop farm in Coonabarabran, in northwest NSW, Hannah knows first-hand the importance of high-quality healthcare in rural areas and understands the disadvantages that rural Australians face. This year, Hannah is undertaking eight weeks of on-road placement with NSW ambulance which will allow her to use the skills she has learned to benefit the community. After graduating, Hannah would love to be stationed in a regional or rural town where she can not only immerse herself in the community but also provide much-needed healthcare.

Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings



HOLLY DAVISON NARROMINE

Bachelor of Nursing, University of New England

Holly describes herself as a country girl at heart, having grown up and lived in Narromine in Western NSW where her family owns and operates an agricultural business. She is a first-year student at the University of New England, studying a Bachelor of Nursing. Once she completes her degree, Holly is keen to undertake further studies in midwifery and emergency care and would eventually like to work for the Rural Flying Doctor Service. Holly understands how good health care can make such a difference to a patients' recovery (both physically and mentally) and she is looking forward to helping rural communities in the future.

Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation and Maple-Brown Family Foundation



INDIGO KESZTLER LISMORE

Bachelor of Dental Science, Charles Sturt University

Indigo is currently in her fourth year studying dentistry at Charles Sturt University in Orange. Growing up in a small regional town in the Northern Rivers has highlighted the importance and need for supportive healthcare environments. Indigo recognises that costs often create a huge barrier for individuals in rural areas, leading to avoidance rather than prevention. She aspires to make a positive impact in rural communities through preventative care and the improvement of oral health literacy through education.

Scholarship donated by: Andrew Pratten Charitable Trust



ISABELLA BURNETT JAMBEROO

Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Isabella is a fourth year Veterinary Science student at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. She has grown up in the small-town of Jamberoo on the NSW South Coast and has had a keen interest in animals her whole life. She has ridden horses since she was young, competing in a range of disciplines, with her favourite being showjumping. She has grown to love the production side of sheep and cattle farming through her subjects at university and helping at family and friends' farms. She feels very privileged to receive a RAS Foundation Rural Scholarship to assist her with her studies.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



JACK MILES BALLINA

Bachelor of Physiotherapy, Charles Sturt University

Jack is currently a fourth year Physiotherapy student studying at Charles Sturt University (CSU) in Orange. Although he grew up in the small coastal town of Ballina, his childhood is full of memories from staying and spending time out on the family sheep station in Baradine, NSW. The sense of community and belonging in both Ballina and Baradine, drew Jack towards opting to study at CSU on their campus at Orange. His upbringing has undoubtedly influenced his desire to immerse himself within the communities he is allocated to on placement. Jack plans to remain working in rural and remote locations as an aspiring Sports and Musculoskeletal Physiotherapist once he graduates.

Scholarship donated by: Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation

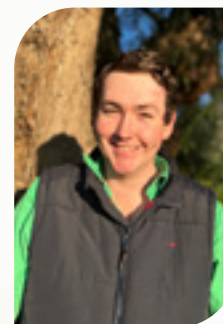


JACK WOOD TAREE

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Jack Wood is currently in his fourth year studying a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Jack grew up around beef cattle near Taree and has a keen interest in animal reproduction & livestock production. He believes that vets are granted an incredible opportunity to assist producers in enhancing their enterprises and in turn, collectively strengthen the rural community and economy. Jack hopes to gain experience as a vet overseas so he can bring invaluable knowledge and experience back home.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation



JACK WISEMAN ATTUNGA

Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Charles Sturt University

Jack grew up on the land on his family farm at Attunga near Tamworth in NSW and attended Farrer Memorial Agriculture High School; both of which led to sparking his interest in agronomy. He now studies at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga and is completing a Bachelor of Agricultural Science with a major in Agronomy. Jack is halfway through his degree and is certain that he has found the industry where he sees himself into the foreseeable future. He thoroughly enjoys working in agriculture and he is looking forward to seeing what the future of Australian agriculture has in store.

Scholarship donated by: Nell & Hermon Slade Trust

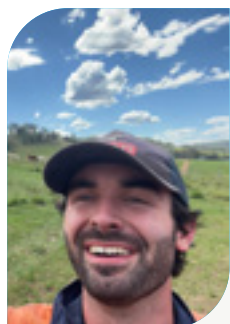


JACOB BRENTNALL *CASINO*

*Bachelor of Medical Studies / Doctor of Medicine,
University of New South Wales*

Jacob is a fifth year medical student studying at the University of New South Wales Rural Clinical Campus in Port Macquarie. His interests include anaesthetics, pain medicine, and general practice and he recently completed his Honours research project in acute pain management following hip fractures. Originally from the Northern Rivers, Jacob relocated to the Mid North Coast to study medicine with a strong passion for the rural and regional lifestyle. Upon completing his degree, he aspires to work in areas facing medical workforce shortages.

Scholarship donated by: Maple-Brown Family Foundation



JESSE EMERY *KARIONG*

*Certificate IV in Agriculture and Diploma of Agriculture,
Tocal College*

Jesse's journey into Agriculture began in 2023, when he took the leap from building cabinets on the central coast to the farm life at Tocal College. Although the change was huge, the experiences, opportunities, and people he met made this industry unique, welcoming, and diverse. Being a part of the industry has been a challenging and rewarding time for Jesse, but he is proud to say he has taken it on with open arms and giving his all. With the help of the Foundation, he has now successfully completed his Certificate III in Agriculture and is currently studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture and Diploma in Agriculture.

Scholarship donated by: Michael & Jen Millner



JESSICA KERNAHAN *GLOUCESTER*

Bachelor of Rural Science, University of New England

After four generations of dairy farming, the 2019 drought forced Jessica's family to transition to raising beef cattle in their hometown of Gloucester. Seeing her family and her neighbours struggling through the drought and floods cemented Jessica's decision to be an agronomist where she will be able to help and support farmers in the best and worst times. During university semester breaks, she works part-time for an agronomist, and this has made her even more passionate to achieve her goal. Jessica is in her second year studying a Bachelor of Rural Science at the University of New England.

*Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation and
Maple-Brown Family Foundation*



JESSICA TOOGOOD *HENTY NSW*

Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Charles Sturt University

Jessica is in her second year studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Growing up in a farming family, agriculture has always been a passion for her, even from a very early age. Jessica particularly enjoys the annual cropping system of grains and oilseeds; this specialisation is what she hopes to study further at university. Having grown up in a small community town in Southern NSW, Jessica has always volunteered in her community, from the local show to the tennis club, receiving the Greater Hume Shire Young Citizen of the Year in 2022 for her commitment to community.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



JOHN SPORA *GULARGAMBONE*

Bachelor of Construction, University of Newcastle

Growing up on a farm in Gulargambone, John lived in a unique close-knit community which played a significant role in his upbringing. The experiences and values he gained growing up in the rural community of Gulargambone, have helped him to build connections throughout his life. As he continues to grow, John endeavours to contribute to community development and help give back.

Scholarship donated by: Andrew Pratten Charitable Trust

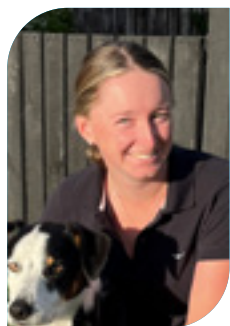


JOSEPH BOWDITCH *MURRUMBATEMAN*

*Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science,
Charles Sturt University*

Joseph Bowditch is currently in his second year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Science at Charles Sturt University (CSU) in Wagga Wagga. Growing up in Canberra, his childhood aspirations of rural living have come to fruition through a range of work experiences in agricultural and livestock industries across the Riverina region. Joseph leads an energetic lifestyle, balancing his studies with work on dairy, beef cattle, and broadacre cropping farms, as well as livestock contracting. He also loves playing football for the CSU Bushpigs and contributes to the local community by tutoring regional students. Joseph looks forward to being a vital member of rural Australia as a mixed practice veterinarian.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

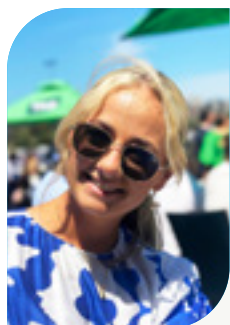


KATE FERGUSON SOUTH WEST ROCKS

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Kate is from the coastal town of South West Rocks and despite the beach lifestyle, she fell in love with life on the land on her family's beef cattle property in the Macleay Valley. This led her to pursue a career in Veterinary Science. She is now on her 5th year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, program she absolutely loves. Kate plans to utilise her degree and return home to provide essential services to her local community both on and off farm, especially in times of hardship.

Scholarship donated by: Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation

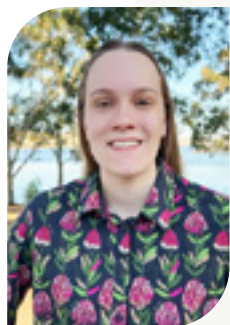


KATE BRADLEY JUNEE

Bachelor of Education (K-12), Charles Sturt University

Kate is currently studying a Bachelor of Education K-12 at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. She also plans to study a Master in Teaching and become an Agriculture teacher, hoping to contribute to the future generations to become our next farmers. In her spare time, you will find her on the footy field or competing in camp drafts around NSW.

Scholarship donated by: Maple-Brown Family Foundation



KATE NELSON TOOLEYBUC

Bachelor of Education (K-12), Charles Sturt University

Kate is in her fourth year of studying a Bachelor of Education (K-12) at Charles Sturt University, Albury. She has lived all her life in rural NSW and is excited by the opportunity to contribute to the learning experience for rural students. She has had the opportunity to navigate the unique challenges of rural life, which she believes has strengthened her resilience and cultivated her passion for bridging the educational gaps in rural communities. Her passion for rural education has only grown since the beginning of her degree, and Kate is eager to begin teaching the next generation of learners.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation



KATIE BUTT JUGIONG

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Charles Sturt University

Katie grew up on her family farm in the small village of Jugiong, along the Hume Highway. Being very lucky with educational opportunities growing up, she decided to move to Albury-Wodonga to begin studying Occupational Therapy at Charles Sturt University, in which she has come to learn the value and scarcity of healthcare professionals in rural and regional Australia, in particular NSW. As an emerging healthcare professional, she is aiming to be an inclusive factor of bringing healthcare to the small regions and towns of NSW, to ensure inclusivity and fairness to those affected by their geographical location.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

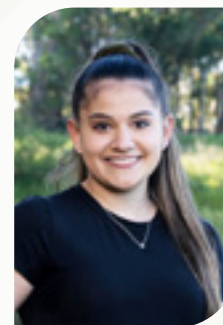


KAYDEE LEE TOMINGLEY

Diploma of Nursing, TAFE NSW

Kaydee was born and raised in the Central West of NSW. At 28 years old, she has already had an adventurous career, from working as a station hand in the Pilbara, WA, to working part-time as an Assistant in Nursing in her Local Health District. Being a mother of two little girls changed her perspective on life. Kaydee is studying a Diploma of Nursing at TAFE Dubbo to become an Enrolled Nurse, as she would like to provide compassionate patient centred care in remote rural communities. Her goal is to become a Registered Nurse and Midwife.

Scholarship donated by: OCS Fun Pty Ltd

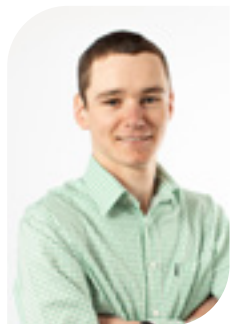


KIARA HARRIS CONDOBOLIN

Bachelor of Science in Psychology, University of Canberra

Kiara is a proud descendant of the Barkindji people from the Darling River of Wilcannia. She was born in Gunndah, Gamilaroi country, and has lived in Condoobolin, Wiradjuri country, for most of her life. Now she lives on Ngunnawal country of Canberra, completing her Psychology degree. She is the middle child of a close extended family with six siblings. She enjoys living in a rural community and feel this will always be part of her identity. A highlight of her high school life was working as one of ten student ambassadors for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. For Kiara, moving to Canberra has been an amazing experience and she is excited to spend the next two years there completing her degree.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

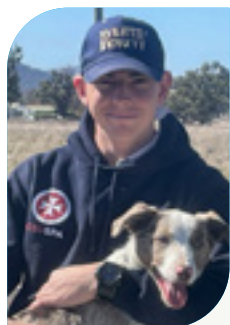


KIERAN SULLIVAN URALLA

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science, Charles Sturt University

Kieran is in his fifth year studying a Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Originally hailing from Uralla in NSW, he grew up on a small farm where he was able to see the benefits that a veterinarian can provide to a community. Kieran has a keen interest in reproduction and nutrition and looks forward to graduating and taking up a position in a rural or regional area where he can provide a quality service to the community.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud

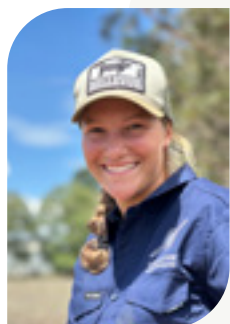


LEWIS ROTH SPRING FLAT

Bachelor of Paramedicine, Charles Sturt University

Lewis is a third-year paramedicine student currently studying at Charles Sturt University, Bathurst. Growing up on a farm at Spring Flat NSW, he became aware of the shortage of medical staff and resources as well as emergency services in rural and remote communities. He finds satisfaction in helping others, which has led him to volunteer with his local RFS brigade, spurring his interest in becoming a professional first responder, specifically a paramedic. Lewis is a strong believer in community involvement and is currently an active member of the Australian Army Reserve. He plans to work in rural and remote emergency medical care upon the completion of his studies.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation



LILY WEBBER ABERGLASSLYN

Certificate IV in Agriculture, Tocal College

Lily comes from a Hunter Valley family and found her love for agriculture at school in years 9 and 10. After attending an open day at Tocal College, Lily was inspired to study a Certificate III in Agriculture. This year, Lily is completing a Certificate IV in Agriculture. Upon finishing her studies, Lily plans to spend some time on a cattle or sheep property in NSW, and then travel around to experience a wide range of different agricultural environments.

Scholarship donated by: David & Belinda Davidson



MACKENZIE JONES WEE WAA

Certificate III in Wildlife and Exhibited Animal Care, TAFE NSW

Mackenzie was born and bred in the town of Wee Waa - famously known as the cotton capital of Australia. Through her upbringing on the farm, she has developed a strong interest and passion for not only agriculture, but animals, and how conservation through facilities and programs such as zoos allow them to thrive in conditions that may not be favourable to them. She has been a regular volunteer at the Western Namoi Vet Services in Wee Waa and her efforts have been recognised through awards such as the Narrabri Shire's Young Citizen of the Year 2023 & Junior Young Woman of the Year 2022 (Wee Waa Show Society). Mackenzie is studying a Certificate III in Wildlife and Exhibited Animal Care, which will qualify her to become a zookeeper. In her spare time, she enjoys recreational fishing, playing soccer within the community and spending time with friends and family.

Scholarship donated by: Paynter-Swane Family



MACS RUBAIN MENANGLE

Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management, Charles Sturt University

Growing up on property and within the industry, Macs has always carried a passion for agriculture. Over the past few years, he has been involved with both beef and dairy cattle operations, where he has competed in youth events like junior judging and parades at local shows, NSW state finals and national competitions. Studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management at Charles Sturt University will allow him to use his agricultural drive to help develop Australia's biggest and most important industry forward.

Scholarship donated by: Coolaroo Foundation



MADELINE NEVILLE TAMWORTH

Bachelor of Medical Studies / Doctor of Medicine, University of New South Wales

Madi is currently a fifth-year medical student studying at the University of New South Wales in Port Macquarie. She grew up on rural properties in the Hunter Valley and New England, riding horses and spending time on a 1200-acre beef cattle property. Madi's passion for medicine is coupled with her love for rural communities. As a future doctor, she hopes to work as a rural generalist and contribute to the community on a one-to-one level, but also as an advocate for rural medicine.

Scholarship donated by: Michael & Jen Millner



MADISON FORD WELLINGTON

Bachelor of Physiotherapy, Charles Sturt University

Growing up on a mixed-farming property, first in West Wyalong and now in Wellington, Madison has always been deeply connected to rural life and its community. Madison's firsthand experience with physiotherapy, both personally and through her dad's rehabilitation after a major farming accident, highlighted the healthcare challenges faced by rural communities, inspiring her to pursue a career in physiotherapy. After completing her degree, Madison aims to give back to the rural communities that have shaped her life, striving to improve access to healthcare and make a meaningful difference.

Scholarship donated by: Nell & Hermon Slade Trust

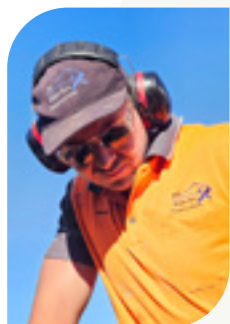


MAGGIE CUNICH BULAHDELAH

Bachelor of Agribusiness, University of New England

Maggie grew up in a small rural community and her maternal grandparents are beef cattle farmers. She regularly supports her grandparents on the property assisting with the cattle, sheep and horses. She has always enjoyed learning about the land, reason why she studied Primary Industries at school to prepare herself for a career in agriculture. Maggie is currently a first-year student at the University of New England studying a Bachelor of Agribusiness. After experiencing herself drought and floods, her dream is to have a career that will allow her to support both farmers and their livestock during hard times.

Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation and Maple-Brown Family Foundation

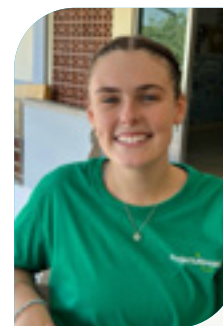


MARCUS DAVEY TUMUT

Certificate III in Carpentry, TAFE NSW

The building and construction field has always been Marcus' passion, reason why he is studying a Certificate IV in Building and Construction whilst completing his third-year carpentry apprenticeship with a local builder. After the 2019 bushfires, Marcus witnessed the enormous shortage for local tradespeople in his community and in the future, wants to contribute to building high quality and sustainable structures. The most rewarding aspect for Marcus, is being able to work in his dream career whilst making a positive impact on his community.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation

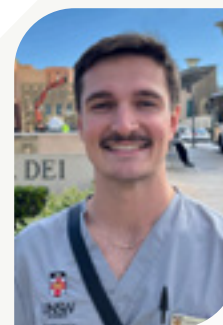


MATILDA FORWOOD GRIFFITH

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Charles Sturt University

Matilda grew up in Griffith, NSW, and is currently studying a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at Charles Sturt University in Albury. Over the first two years of her degree, she has developed a passion for Occupational Therapy and loves that her career is based around helping others, and that she will have a positive impact on the lives of those people who need it most. When Matilda graduates, her ultimate goal is to work in the paediatric field in a rural setting, where she will be able to provide therapy services to children who would otherwise go without, based purely on their geographical location.

Scholarship donated by: Maple-Brown Family Foundation



MATTHEW COOK SINGLETON

Doctor of Medicine, University of New South Wales

Matthew is in his sixth and final year studying for a Doctor of Medicine at UNSW Port Macquarie. Since becoming a RAS Foundation Rural Scholar last year, he has continued with his research into stroke and has further engaged in research with the Sydney Heart Bank. This year, he is continuing enjoying the coastal lifestyle in Port Macquarie and is training for a half marathon. In his spare time, he enjoys gardening and getting outdoors.

Scholarship donated by: Mary & Peter Weal



MCKENZIE CARR ORANGE

Bachelor of Dental Science, Charles Sturt University

Mckenzie is a 24-year-old dentistry student from Orange, NSW, and is in her penultimate year of study at Charles Sturt University. Mckenzie's longstanding passion for public health was fostered throughout her upbringing in rural NSW, where she hopes to remain after graduating. Mckenzie decided to study dentistry as it combines her passion for medicine and service, as well as being a dynamic and hands-on career. Mckenzie recently volunteered in Nepal with Global Dental Relief, an organisation that provides treatment and education for disadvantaged children around the world.

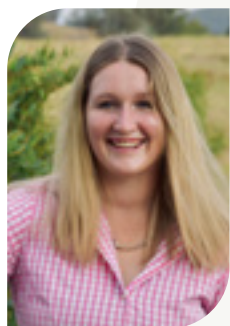
Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings

**MEG LESSLIE** DUBBO*Certificate IV in Agriculture, Tocal College*

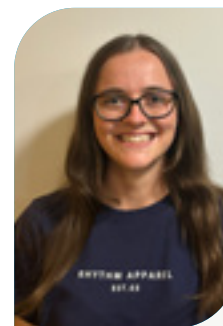
Meg is from Dubbo in NSW and grew up on a small property with her family running Hereford Cattle and First cross Sheep. Last year Meg completed a Certificate III in Agriculture and is continuing with her studies at Tocal College studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture. She has a huge passion for photography and for advocating for women in the agricultural industry. She also enjoys teaching others what she has learnt. Meg enjoys working with cattle and showing them in local shows.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation**MITCHEL WILSON** WELLINGTON*Certificate IV Plumbing, TAFE NSW*

Mitchel is currently studying a Certificate IV in plumbing at TAFE NSW and doing his fourth year of a plumbing apprenticeship. Mitchel was born in Mudgee and has always lived in small country towns, moving to Wellington in Central West NSW when he was 11. He understands the limited local services available in his area and endeavours to start his own business to serve the people in his community and the surrounding areas.

Scholarship donated by: Paynter-Swane Family**MOLLY DAVIES** TUMUT*Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Charles Sturt University*

Molly comes from the Snowy Valley's region of NSW and is currently in her third year studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree, majoring in Mixed Business, at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Her drive and passion to pursue a degree and career in agriculture stems from her love for animals, the environment and the genuine, hardy and characteristic people in the industry. Molly aspires to be a knowledgeable pasture agronomist and to play an integral part in rural and regional communities, hopefully able to inspire young people without a family background of agriculture like her to venture into the agricultural industry.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation**MONIQUE MORGAN** TRUNDLE*Bachelor of Nursing, Charles Sturt University*

Monique is studying a Bachelor of Nursing through Charles Sturt University at the Bathurst campus. She grew up in a small farming community called Trundle in the Central West of NSW. Whilst growing up, she gained first-hand experience of the physical and mental health inequities faced in rural and remote areas. Monique is currently in her third and final year of study and when she graduates, she wishes to return to rural NSW to address the health inequities in small communities and provide positive health impacts to those in need.

Scholarship donated by: Quayclean**OLIVER PALMER** TAMWORTH*Bachelor of Environmental Science and Management, University of Newcastle*

Oliver is studying an Honours in Environmental Science and Management at Newcastle University and has had a lifelong passion for Agricultural Research and Sustainability. Oliver attended Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School, cementing his interests in sustainable agriculture with a particular focus on environmental science concerning native animal & domestic livestock predation by invasive species. Oliver is looking forward to contributing to the industry once his studies are complete and aims to return to rural communities, assisting with sustainable agricultural development for future generations.

Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings**OLIVIA MCLENNAN** BUNDARRA*Diploma of Nursing, TAFE NSW*

Currently living in Bundarra on the Northern Tablelands of NSW, Olivia has worked as an Assistant in Nursing for four years after completing her School Based Traineeship. She decided to further her skills and experience in nursing, and she is currently studying a Diploma of Nursing at Gunnedah TAFE. After she completes her Diploma, Olivia plans to undertake further study or work as nurse in a rural or remote setting. When Olivia is not working or studying, she loves to spend time with her family.

Scholarship donated by: Maple-Brown Family Foundation



OLIVIA LOTZ GUNDAGAI

*Bachelor of Medical Studies / Doctor of Medicine,
University of New South Wales*

Olivia's family is from Bangadang in NSW and growing up in the country is a huge part of her identity. After spending four years in Sydney, she cannot wait to get back out to the country to finish university and start her career. She is currently in her fifth year studying Medicine and has been studying in Coffs Harbour for her final two years. Olivia is passionate about rural health in lower socioeconomic demographics, where health care needs are the greatest and the access is most difficult, and she is particularly interested in ear health.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



PHOEBE COLVIN GUYRA

Certificate III in Agriculture, Tocal College

Phoebe grew up on cattle properties near Guyra, NSW, which helped to foster her passion for the beef industry and life on the land. She has always loved working with livestock and dogs and has an active interest in showing cattle. Phoebe has established a working Kelpie stud and hopes to have a Poll Hereford stud one day. Phoebe is studying a Certificate III in Agriculture at Tocal College and is looking forward to building on her skills and gain experience in the industry she loves.

Scholarship donated by: The Profield Foundation



PHOEBE NELSON TOOLEYBUC

Bachelor of Education (K-12), Charles Sturt University

Phoebe is in her fourth year of her Bachelor of Education (K-12) at Charles Sturt University, Albury campus. Phoebe's major is business studies, but she has recently added agriculture as a second teaching area. Over the past four years, Phoebe has completed three practicum experiences, which have been incredible learning opportunities and have reinforced that her career choice is the right one for her. Phoebe feels that her rural upbringing and her teaching skills can make a difference in the academic journey of her future students, as she gains the knowledge and skills needed to become an instrumental force in rural communities.

Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings

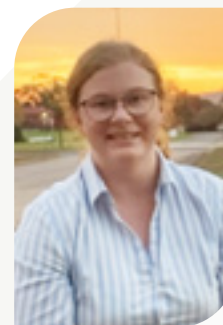


RACHANA SHAKYA AMATYA GOULBURN

Cert III in Individual Care (Disability), TAFE NSW

Rachana is enrolled in a Certificate III in Individual Support and Certificate IV in Mental Health at TAFE in Goulbourn, NSW. She enjoys being part of a community and working part-time in a team as a support worker in the rehabilitation sector, where she helps people in need. Rachana is committed to work for the welfare of her community and surroundings areas. The RAS Foundation Rural Scholarship is helping to support herself while she completes her studies.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



RUBY FORD NARRABRI

Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Charles Sturt University

Ruby grew up in Narrabri in NSW and discovered her passion for agriculture and community at a young age. She is studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, where she is furthering her education and knowledge of the Australian agriculture industry, specifically in beef cattle and genetics. In her final year of university, Ruby hopes to gain a lot of experience from industry personnel and have a smooth transition from university into the workforce.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud

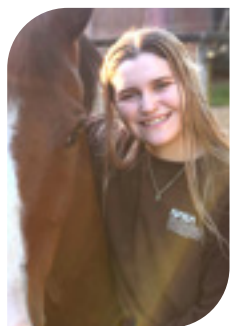


SAMANTHA TAYLOR GRIFFITH

*Bachelor of Environmental Science,
University of Wollongong*

Samantha hails from Griffith in NSW, the agricultural heart of Australia nestled in the Murrumbidgee irrigation area in the Riverina. Currently pursuing an Environmental Science degree at the University of Wollongong, she has a passion for agriculture, sustainability, and the environment. Raised in the food bowl of Australia, her deep love for Griffith fuels her goal to obtain her degree and return to work closely with farmers and her community. Samantha is dedicated to contributing to environmental and sustainability initiatives, fostering a brighter, greener future for the close-knit bonds that define her hometown and its rich agricultural heritage.

Scholarship donated by: Nell & Hermon Slade Trust



SARAH MCGANN *MOGO*

Bachelor of Arts (English Literature), University of Wollongong

Sarah is studying at the University of Wollongong, where she is in her second year of a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in English Literature. Once she graduates, she plans to complete a Masters of Primary Education and teach in rural schools. She is passionate about horses and competes in dressage or show jumping most weekends. She has faced her fair share of challenges, such as losing her house to the Black Summer Fires and her town flooding shortly after. These difficulties have allowed her to understand the challenges faced by many rural students and the reason why she chose to pursue a career in education.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

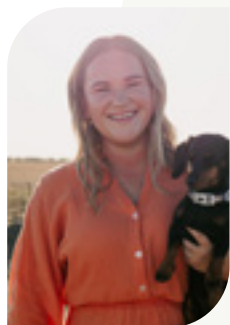


SARAH REDMAN *BARRINGTON*

Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science - Diagnostic Radiography, Charles Sturt University

Sarah is in her second year studying a Bachelor of Diagnostic Radiography at Charles Sturt University in Port Macquarie. Growing up on the family beef farm located in the Hunter/Mid North Coast region, she always enjoyed spending time outdoors with animals or playing sports. Sarah had a few family members diagnosed with cancer and experience the challenges involved in travelling to get diagnoses or treatment. This made her aware of the importance of health specialists in rural areas and inspired her to pursue a degree in healthcare.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud



SARANNA FISK *NYNGAN*

Diploma of Nursing, TAFE NSW

Saranna is from Nyngan, a small country town in NSW and is studying a Diploma of Nursing through TAFE NSW. She was inspired to become a nurse by her aunt's nursing career and seeing the positive impact she had made on people's lives. Growing up in a rural community and working at NSW Health, Saranna has observed the important role that health professionals have within the community. Her goal is to bring her clinical skills back to a rural community to promote good health and outcomes to both indigenous and non-indigenous patients.

Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings

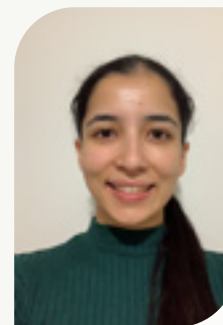


SOPHIE MORRISON *BROKEN HILL*

Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine, University of New England

Sophie is currently in her fifth and last year of a Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine at the University of New England. She hails from Broken Hill where her family still resides. She is currently based in Newcastle, after spending the first three years of her degree in the lovely (but cold) Armidale. Sophie is passionate about rural and remote health and hopes to help increase specialist care in the bush one day. Besides full-time placement/study, she also tutors Indigenous students through the Oorala Indigenous Program and is the Year 5 representative for her medical society.

Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation and Maple-Brown Family Foundation



SWAZI SHARMA *DUBBO*

Doctor of Medicine, University of Notre Dame

Swazi is currently in her third year of medical studies at the University of Notre Dame. Her upbringing in places like Lightning Ridge and Dubbo, where the community is significantly impacted by low socioeconomics, fuelled her passion to assist others through the field of medicine. Post the completion of her degree, Swazi wants to return to Western NSW and provide high-quality patient centred care and promote rural health.

Scholarship donated by: Carmel Dyer-Pitroff



TALISSA HABERMANN *GEROGERY*

Bachelor of Education TAS, Charles Sturt University

Talissa is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Education TAS, majoring in Agriculture (Secondary Teaching) at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Growing up on a farm in rural NSW, she developed a love for the outdoors and a passion for agriculture. Talissa dreams of encouraging young minds to reach their full potential by teaching them practical skills and engaging them in the vast opportunities agriculture has to offer. She believes in embracing both the good and challenging times to foster a meaningful and purposeful future, emphasising the importance of having a strong sense of belonging and community.

Scholarship donated by: JS Millner Holdings



THOMAS KINGWILL *ADJUNGBILLY*

Bachelor of Agriculture, University of New England

Tom is currently in his third year studying a Bachelor of Agriculture at the University of New England. He grew up in Adjungbilly, NSW, on a mixed cattle and sheep farm. Tom enjoys farming and is passionate about the agriculture industry. Before studying agriculture, he spent two years working on a variety of properties, which increased his interest in the industry and lead him to want to learn more about agriculture. Tom is currently studying part-time and is working on a farm at Wallenbeen in NSW, where he has been able to implement the knowledge gained at university into his work and continue to learn along the way.

Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation



THOMAS LANGWORTHY *GUNDAROO*

Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine, University of New South Wales

Originally from the small town of Gundaroo in the Southern Tablelands of NSW, Thomas is currently in his third year of the undergraduate Medicine program at the University of New South Wales. Having moved to Sydney for the first two years of the degree, he is excited to have been relocated to the rural centre of Albury-Wodonga to undertake his clinical placement in 2024. Growing up rurally has greatly contributed to his understanding of health disparities faced by those in regional areas. As a result, Thomas hopes to pursue a career as a rural practitioner to improve health outcomes and promote patient engagement in such communities.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

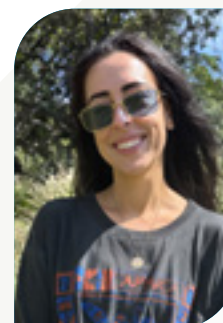


WILLIAM GORDON *FORBES*

Bachelor of Agriculture / Bachelor of Business, University of New England

William is in his fourth year of a Bachelor of Agriculture/Bachelor of Business at the University of New England. He grew up on a small sheep farm near Forbes, where he attended primary and high school before moving to Armidale to pursue his degree. William is eager to play an active role in rural NSW, engaging with the community and seizing various opportunities to add value to the agricultural industry.

Scholarship donated by: AgShows NSW



YASMIN GILLIES *FORSTER*

Bachelor of Communications, Charles Sturt University

Yasmin is from the Mid North Coast in NSW and is studying a Bachelor of Communications at Charles Sturt University. Studying via distance has allowed her to balance university with her work commitments. With a keen interest in human rights, political journalism, and the role of digital and screen media in representing marginalised voices, she hopes to use her degree to bring a sense of integrity and honesty to the communication industry. A bit of a cinephile and history enthusiast, you will find Yasmin re-watching classic films or researching niche historical topics from millennia ago.

Scholarship donated by: Exponet



2024 RASF NUFFIELD SCHOLARSHIP

Nuffield Australia Scholarships were first awarded in 1947 and forged a trail in the fields of seeds, wool and dairy farming. Nuffield Australia scholars continue to learn and share knowledge all around the world and the RAS Foundation is proud to lend its support by sponsoring a scholarship.



LEONIE KOJETIN

As industry development manager for the Australian Macadamia Society, Leoni is familiar with industry best practices for sustainability, innovative research and cutting-edge techniques to improve production. She also applies this knowledge on the ground in her family's macadamia nursery. As a 2024 RAS Foundation Nuffield Australia scholar, Leoni seeks to examine the effects of a changing climate on macadamias, as well as sustainable practices that can provide solutions for Australian growers. Leoni says Australian macadamias are viewed as a premium product around the world. To enhance this reputation, she wants to research innovative solutions for tree crops and agriculture more broadly – “so we remain competitive, and the most sought-after origin for macadamias, while continuing to champion our environment”.

Scholarship donated by: The RAS Foundation to Nuffield Australia

JB FAIRFAX AWARD FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL JOURNALISM & COMMUNICATIONS

This Award aims to unearth a talented, young writer who is passionate about communicating the rich stories and issues from rural and regional Australia and is committed to pursuing a career in journalism upon graduation.



NICHOLAS NEWLING

Nick is currently in his second year of a Bachelor of Communications (Journalism and Social and Political Sciences) at the University of Technology Sydney. While studying, Nick works as a Research Assistant at the Centre for Media Transition, assisting on projects covering regional media, media standards, and media complaints. Throughout the course of his degree, Nick has also worked as a freelance journalist for The Guardian, as a reporter for Central News, and as a producer at radio station 2ser. Nick's reporting focuses on current affairs, regional affairs, and politics. He hopes to use his abilities as a journalist to better connect regional and metro audiences, and ensure regional stories are respectfully and accurately reported in mainstream media.

Award donated by: John B Fairfax AO

2024 SYDNEY ROYAL WINE SCHOLARSHIPS

These national awards encourage and support students who demonstrate passion, strong leadership qualities and who are committed to making a contribution to the Australian wine industry.

The RAS Wine Committee together with the RAS Foundation offer two national scholarship programs: the Sydney Royal Wine Study Scholarship and the Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development Scholarship. These scholarships are funded by the RAS Wine Committee from the sale of excess stock from the Sydney Royal Wine Show, one of the most prestigious wine shows in Australia.

Since 2021, The Len Evans Tutorial Foundation has also sponsored a scholar to attend the Advanced Wine Assessment Course (AWAC) by the Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI).



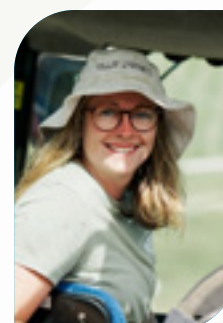
CASSANDRA CHARLICK MARGARET RIVER, WA
Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development Scholarship

Based in the Margaret River, Cassandra is a wine, travel and food writer and presenter/MC. She regularly contributes to Decanter Magazine (UK), Halliday and Delicious magazines, Luxury Traveller and Wine Pilot. As a consultant, she assists brands in the tourism and wine industries in sharing their stories. Cassandra feels that one of the greatest pleasures of wine and travel is that there is always an infinite amount to learn and she enjoys finding the stories that fall between the cracks. Cassandra will be studying the Advanced Wine Assessment Course (AWAC) at the AWRI.



DARREN HAMILTON BLUE MOUNTAINS, NSW
Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development Scholarship

Darren is a wine merchant and wine educator passionate about the industry, who loves helping people understand the world of wine. He is looking forward to furthering his education and palate development by completing the WSET Diploma in 2024-2025. Already active in the wine judging scene, the Diploma will help him to build confidence in tasting and assessing wine at the top level. Darren's future goals include to undertake the Advanced Wine Assessment Course (AWAC) and Len Evans Tutorial.



NATILLIE JOHNSTON YARRA VALLEY, VIC
Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development Scholarship

Natillie (Tillie), is a winemaker and now viticulturist in the Yarra Valley for Giant Steps and for her own label, Tillie J Wines. She has worked within Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada and Germany, complementing her work with a little study at the University of Melbourne. She also actively enjoys contributing to the local wine show community. Tillie is loving every moment, working amongst the vines, learning the beautiful intricacies of applied viticulture with a specific focus on sustainable winegrowing. Tillie has been awarded a Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development Scholarship to study The Advanced Viticulture Course with the AWRI which will compliment her career perfectly.



JADE HAFEY *HUNTER VALLEY, NSW*

Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development Scholarship

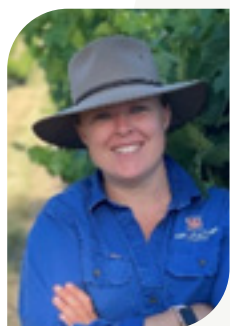
Jade is from the small town of Cessnock in the Hunter Valley. After deciding university life was not for her she secured a part-time job at a local cellar door. Little did she know, this would be the beginning of her finding her passion and she has now worked her way up to Assistant Winemaker. Looking to further her education and experience, Jade will pursue studies in wine assessment, undertaking WSET Level 3.



MICHAEL LATHAM *YARRA VALLEY, NSW*

Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development Scholarship

Growing up in the Hunter Valley, Mike's winemaking career started straight out of high school and included working across several cellars (Tyrrell's, Mount Pleasant, Pepper Tree). After completing studies at Adelaide University and several stints abroad (Northern Rhone, Burgundy, and Oregon), Mike joined Giant Steps in June 2021. His passion for exceptional wine has led him to be involved with a number of wine shows, both as steward and Associate Judge, including the Sydney Royal Wine Show, Royal Adelaide Wine Show, and the Hunter Valley Wine Show. Michael's scholarship is sponsored by the Len Evans Trust and will allow him to further develop his knowledge by taking part in the Australian Wine Assessment Course (AWAC).



LAURA NAY *ORANGE NSW*

Sydney Royal Wine Study Scholarship

Laura is currently employed as a Vineyard Technician for Angullong Vineyard in Orange, NSW. To fund her first University degree in Forensic Science, she worked as a casual employee in a local bottle shop, where her love for all things wine began. At the end of 2021, she commenced a Bachelor of Viticulture degree at Charles Sturt University and now enjoys the freedom, the challenges, and the rewarding nature of her new career path. Her main interests in Viticulture include upholding and developing sustainable vineyard practices such as improving soil health and biodiversity, whilst growing delicious fruit.

MASTER OF TEACHING

The Master of Teaching Scholarships provides financial support, mentorship, and practicum placement for individuals who are passionate about teaching agriculture and eager to mentor young minds and contribute to the future of NSW agriculture.

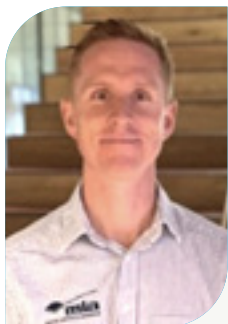
Scholarships donated by The Baxter Foundation





AMBER GORDON *GILGAI*

Amber is in her final year studying a Master of Teaching (Secondary) at the University of New England (UNE). Having spent her formative years in a rural town, she was provided with abundant opportunities in agriculture and was fortunate to study the subject in high school. During these years Amber saw the profound impact an agriculture teacher can have on shaping a student's career and her experience led to her passion to pursue a career as an agricultural teacher. She previously studied a Bachelor of Agriculture at UNE and now aspires to use this knowledge to inspire upcoming generations about the values and opportunities within the industry.



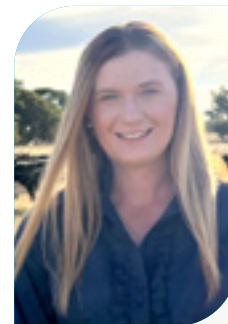
BART WOOLLEY *NOWRA*

Bart possesses over 15 years of diverse experience across various sectors within the agriculture industry, including grain, retail, the red meat industry, and dairy farming. Hailing from the picturesque South Coast of NSW, Bart's passion for sustainable practices and environmental stewardship has only deepened over time. Currently enrolled in a Master of Education at Charles Sturt University, Bart is dedicated to honing his skills for a seamless transition into high school teaching. With a fervent commitment to cultivating the next generation of agricultural stewards, Bart aims to inspire and educate, ensuring a thriving future for agriculture across all sectors.



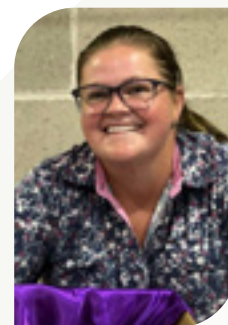
CHELSEA REEVE *FORBES*

After being raised on a small sheep farm, Chelsea developed a deep-rooted passion for both agriculture and education and went on to study a Bachelor of Agriculture. Her love for the agricultural industry combined with her desire to make a difference by inspiring the next generation of rural leaders and innovators, led her to undertake a Master of Teaching (Secondary) and become an Agriculture teacher. Currently living in Forbes in NSW means she has the privilege of sowing the seeds of knowledge to cultivate a brighter future in rural communities. Chelsea is eager to further her impact and deepen her expertise to inspire the next generation whilst bridging the gap between academia and the agricultural community.



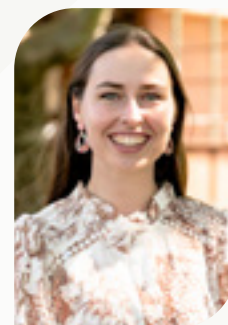
JOANNA BALCOMBE *CANOWINDRA*

Growing up on her family's property at Canowindra and running a Poll Dorset stud allowed Joanna to forge a passion for agriculture and inspired her to study a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Through the stud, Joanna has attended many Ag shows where she exhibits and judges stud sheep. In 2017, she was the National Junior Judging Champion for Meat Sheep and in 2023, she was selected as a State finalist in the Young Women Competition representing Canowindra. Joanna would love to be able to share her passion for Ag with the future generations and create opportunities for them like the ones she has experienced.



KATY ARMSON-GRAHAM *SYDNEY*

After completing a Bachelor of Agriculture at the University of New England, Katy began studying a Master of Teaching at Charles Sturt University. During her studies, she spent time working with alpacas in the southern highlands before moving to Orange to pursue a career in teaching. Her love for agriculture and teaching stem from her own time at school and involvement with the Australian alpaca industry. Katy feels extremely fortunate to have worked with some amazing teachers, both in schools and in the volunteer program within the alpaca industry and she recognises that her teachers have been fantastic mentors that have encouraged her to pursue her passion for teaching, agriculture and alpacas.

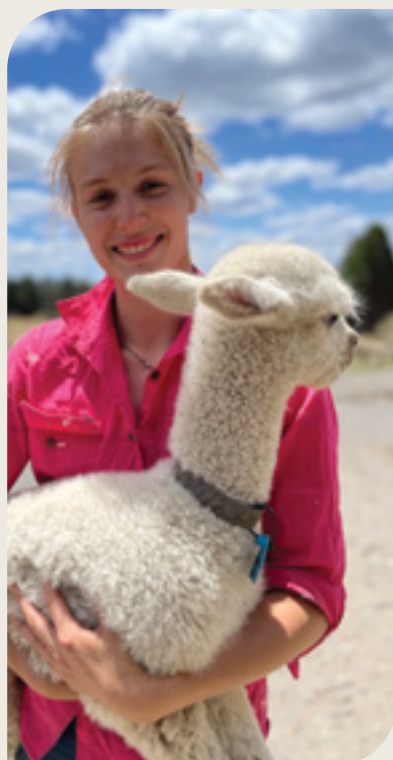


ELIZABETH ARGUE *TAYLORS ARM*

Elizabeth Argue's passion for life on the land and rural communities stems from her upbringing on her family's beef cattle property. She pursued a Bachelor of Agriculture and Business, majoring in Marketing at the University of New England. Elizabeth has diverse experience, working on a station in Queensland, in corporate marketing, and for a rural women's start-up offering digital marketing and event services to agribusinesses in regional NSW. Now, she's realising her dream as an agricultural teacher, advocating for sustainability and empowering future agricultural leaders. She serves as Secretary for the Central West Young Aggies Network and contributes to the Country to Canberra blog, inspiring young rural women. Elizabeth teaches at James Sheahan Catholic High School, supported by a welcoming community. She aims to inspire, uplift, and drive positive development in rural and regional areas through education.

PHD RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

The PhD Research Scholarship aims to support talented students pursuing doctoral studies in the field of agriculture, enabling them to conduct impactful research and contribute to the advancement of the agricultural industry.



IMOGEN BOUGHEY

Imogen holds a Bachelor of Animal & Veterinary Bioscience (Production Systems), receiving First Class Honours for her Honours Research Project. She is undertaking her research via the Animal Research Authority project associated with the University of Sydney. Imogen works part-time for the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW's Ag Education department. She is also active in the NSW Alpaca Youth Group and is passionate about encouraging and supporting other youth in agriculture. Imogen aims to finish collecting data for her project in December 2024.

COMMUNITY FUTURES GRANT

RAS Foundation Community Futures Grants encourage and champion rural leadership by providing each successful grant applicant up to \$25,000 to fund a community project that addresses a need or issue in their local community. Projects that once complete, will result in enhanced social and economic outcomes for the wider community.

Organisation:	WALCHA SHOW SOCIETY
Contact:	Daniel Kermode
Project:	\$25,000 for the purchase and installation of outdoor furniture at the BBQ area at Walcha Showground.

The Walcha Show Society understands how important it is to create spaces that allow people in their community to meet and connect. This project is for the purchase of all-weather outdoor furniture for the BBQ shed on the Walcha Show Society Showground. This project will also create a safer space for children to play, while adults can mingle and chat in a comfortable, undercover space. The new seating area will foster connections among user groups, visitors, spectators, and competitors, contributing to the mental well-being of the community.

Organisation:	COLLINGULLIE SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HALL
Contact:	Emma Bruckner
Project:	\$5,000 to paint the interior of the Collingullie Soldiers Memorial Hall

With a close-knit community of 258 people, the beloved Collingullie Hall is in dire need of a fresh coat of paint throughout the interior, including the main stage and kitchen. Now COVID restrictions have lifted, the hall has again become the sought-after place for events, including the state election, annual Kidney Kar Rally Ball, and local weddings. Improving the look of the space will encourage more activities to be held at the hall, motivating people from neighbouring areas to rent the space and spend time visiting Collingullie. The hall enhances the sense of community, helps build relationships and provides an ideal space for networking.

Organisation: **LITHGOW SHOW SOCIETY**
 Contact: **Gregory Allchin**
 Project: \$25,000 for the purchase and installation of a sound system at the Tony Luchetti Sports Ground.

Central to the local community, the Tony Luchetti Sportsground hosts an array of events including the Lithgow Show, Ironfest, school programs, and is a vital emergency hub. This project is for the installation of a professional sound system for the grounds. Better sound quality will render the sports ground more attractive to event organisers, paving the way for hosting a broader array of larger gatherings. This project has the potential to invigorate the local economy by drawing in visitors and generating revenue for local business, contributing to the overall benefit of Lithgow.

Organisation: **VISIT WHITE CLIFFS NSW**
 Contact: **Janette Bussell**
 Project: \$10,000 for the installation of themed outdoor seating and information boards in the White Cliffs community and at public gathering points.

From underground houses and hotels to its fascinating opal history-White Cliffs offers a rich and unforgettable outback experience. With first, second and third generations involved in White Cliffs' tourism, mining and agriculture, residents are proud of their town and heritage and want to enhance the experience for visitors to peek into their lives and unique environment. Visit White Cliffs NSW is installing outdoor seating and information boards along the tourist trail, that will honour past and present stories and provide more community and historical information for tourists.

Organisation: **ULLADULLA VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE NSW**
 Contact: **Keith Greenwood**
 Project: \$23,000 for undertaking preventative maintenance on the exterior of the Marine Rescue building in Ulladulla.

As a 100% volunteer-based institution, the Ulladulla Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW is reliant on grants to maintain its state of readiness to save lives on the water. The local seaside community attracts tourism and recreational boaters who draw heavily on its life saving capabilities. Being exposed to salt air and near a beach location, the grant provided will be utilised to do maintenance work on the building. Marine Rescue is the only provider of 24/7 radio coverage for recreational and commercial boaters, and features significantly in providing food, water and medications to affected bushfire communities up and down the coast.

Organisation: **MANILLA PONY CLUB**
 Contact: **Lucy Gallagher**
 Project: \$25,000 to refurbish the Manilla Pony Club's Club House and purchase a fridge for the Club House.

The Manilla Pony Club (MPC) is a committed and passionate team of volunteers. This project will enhance the kitchen and dining room areas and create a secure storage room. The refurbished facility will enable the MPC to work in collaboration with multiple community groups and deliver opportunities for social cohesion, improved environment, and recreational outcomes. As an inviting and more functional space, events will be easier to run and increase volunteer participation. This project is designed to stimulate the local economy by employing a local contractor and labourer and purchasing the much-needed refrigeration locally.

Organisation: **ADELONG SHOW SOCIETY**
 Contact: **Aylsa Neyland**
 Project: \$10,000 to make improvements to Adelong Showground Pavilions by way of the installation of lighting, heating, and cooling systems and rodent proofing.

The Adelong Show Society Showground is used for their annual agricultural show and by various community groups and schools throughout the year. This project will upgrade two pavilions on the grounds with lighting, heating and cooling systems, and vermin-proof them for mice and birds. These improvements will make the pavilions a functional meeting place for more community groups and social events, increasing the local interest for nighttime functions. It is expected this project will bring more people to town, supporting the local economy.

Organisation: **LACMALAC SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HALL**
 Contact: **Vicki Kell**
 Project: \$4,000 to install an all-ability access path outside the front gate of the Hall and another path to connect pre-existing concrete slabs/pathways.

The Lacmalac Soldiers Memorial Hall hosts a variety of community groups but lacks adequate accessibility for those who rely on mobility aids. This project aims to build a concrete slab and connecting pathways around the hall, making it more accessible and safer for people of all abilities. These improvements will result in higher community events attendance, increasing the local food and supplies purchased for events, raising the demand on local transport services, and favouring the tourism over the weekends. Local indigenous communities will also benefit, as the hall is across the valley from Mt Naughton, a significant aboriginal landmark.

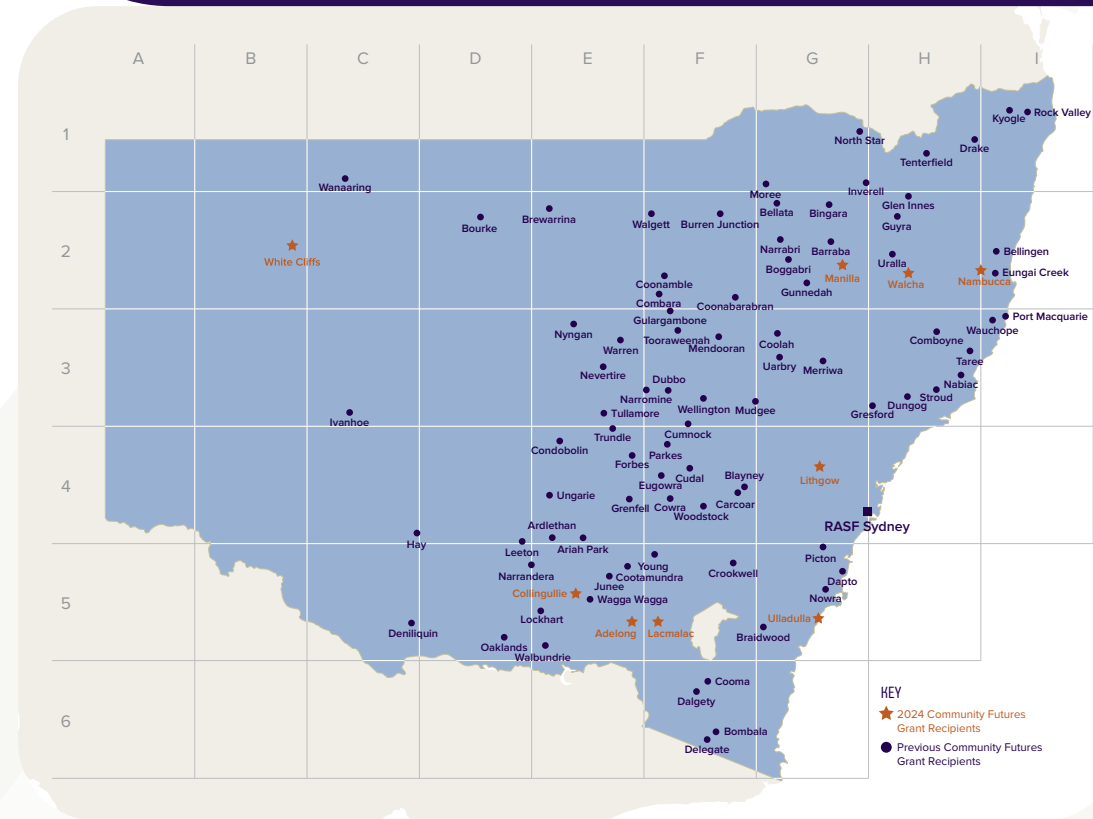
Organisation: **YOUNG MINDS THRIVE**

Contact: **Karyn Thomas**

Project: \$25,000 for improvement in child development and school readiness in the Nambucca Valley, by way of developmental screening, community engagement and tailored support.

Young Minds Thrive’s program, “Empowering Futures”, is purposed to enhance child development in Nambucca Valley by bridging gaps in primary health screening rates, ensuring early identification of health concerns, developmental vulnerability and learning challenges. In the valley, one in three children start kindergarten developmentally vulnerable, double the state and national average and urgent action is needed to break the vulnerability cycle and foster positive change. Through strategic screenings and targeted family and community partnerships, this program seeks to provide each child with professional assessments and essential developmental support, paving the way for a brighter future.

FUNDING COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN NSW



DONORS

We sincerely thank the following donors and supporters for their generous support of the RAS Foundation in 2024.

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