



2018 GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

RAS_F
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW
FOUNDATION

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Foundation (RASf) 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 \$3.33 million into country NSW through a range of targeted grants and scholarships. To date, the RAS Foundation has supported over 400 rural scholarship students to reach their educational dreams and awarded 45 organisations vital community building funding.

Donations to the RAS Foundation Education Fund are tax deductible.

GIVING TO DATE

Program:	RAS Foundation Community Futures Grant (formerly \$25,000 Question)
Duration:	10 years
Grants Awarded:	28 grants
Funds Distributed:	\$704,074
Program:	JB Fairfax Award for Rural Journalism
Duration:	10 years
Grants Awarded:	10 grants
Funds Distributed:	\$100,000
Program:	Rural Scholarships (TAFE & University)
Duration:	8 years
Grants Awarded:	424 Scholarships
Funds Distributed:	\$2,045,500
Program:	E3 Grant (retired)
Duration:	4 years
Grants Awarded:	Grants to 59 schools
Funds Distributed:	\$266,000
Program:	RAS Foundation Community Kitchen
Duration:	7 years
Grants Awarded:	12 Community Kitchens
Funds Distributed:	\$218,219,

Total	\$3,333,793
--------------	--------------------

RURAL SCHOLARSHIPS

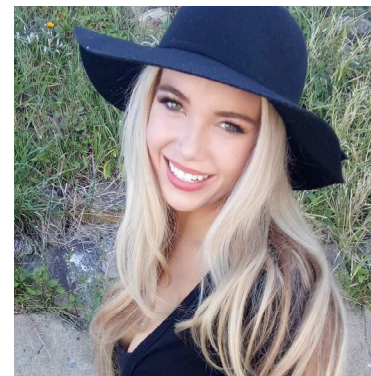
RAS Foundation Rural Scholarships assist students who demonstrate a passion for rural issues and who are committed to playing a part in shaping the future of rural and regional NSW. Providing a financial helping hand to achieve their education goals and aspirations, these scholarships are open to students of any age and embrace a diverse range of tertiary education and training studies.



HARRY ANDERSON WEST WYALONG
Certificate III in Agricultural Mechanical Technology

Growing up in the country, learning everything he could about farming and machinery from his father, it was clear Harry Anderson, 18, would pursue a career with farm machinery. Losing his father recently brought his plans forward and Harry is now in his first year of an apprenticeship completing a Certificate III in Agricultural Mechanical Technology at Wagga Wagga TAFE.

Scholarship donated by: T & A Field Family



ALLYSHA BAKER BOGGABRI
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Coming from the the small country town of Boggabri, 21-year-old, Allysha Baker has firsthand experience of the gap in health outcomes between rural and regional areas. Allysha, a second year Occupational Therapy student at the University of Newcastle, is the first person in her family to attend university. She hopes to use her experience to encourage others to reach their educational goals and is determined to give back to her indigenous community upon graduation.

Scholarship donated by: McLean Foundation



LAURA BIGNELL GLOUCESTER
Bachelor of Agriculture

A childhood spent on her family's beef cattle property west of Gloucester motivated Laura Bignell to pursue her love of the land with a Bachelor of Agriculture. Currently in her third year at the University of New England, Armidale, Laura's passion is in the areas of soil science and hydrology and she hopes to work in this field, either as a researcher, or in a practical role implementing strategies to improve farming into the future.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Braham Stud / UNE Foundation



KELSEA BOOTS CAMDEN
Bachelor of Dental Sciences

Completing a gap year in the Royal Australian Navy as a dental assistant sparked an interest in Dentistry for Kelsea Boots. Growing up in Camden, 24-year-old Kelsea is now in her 5th year of Dental Science at Charles Sturt University in Orange. Kelsea has enjoyed a number of rural placements throughout her studies and recently achieved her long-term goal of working with the Royal Flying Doctor Services at a clinic in Bourke.
Scholarship donated by: Rali Foundation



JAFFLY CHEN ROSELANDS
Bachelor of Medicine

Jaffly Chen is a final year medical student at the University of New England. The 22-year-old grew up in the Western Suburbs of Sydney but since beginning his studies at a regional campus, he has embraced the rural way of life. He hopes to be accepted into the Rural Generalist Training program after graduation and join the medical workforce in regional Australia. Jaffly has a strong interest in advocating for initiatives to improve health outcomes for rural Australians.
Scholarship donated by: Carmel Dyer-Pitroff/ UNE Foundation



MITCHUM BOWER MILTON
Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine

Mitchum Bower is a fourth year medical student at the University of New South Wales who grew up in the small town of Milton. He appreciates the role rural doctors play in their community and is aware of the benefits of being more than just a healthcare provider. Having recently completed a year-long rural placement in Coffs Harbour, Mitchum has a deep-rooted passion for reducing healthcare inequalities in rural Australia in his future career.
Scholarship donated by: Snow Foundation



ELIZABETH CRERAR PEARCEDALE
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Elizabeth Crerar, 26, is a final year Doctor of Veterinary Medicine student at the University of Sydney. Liz has previously completed a Bachelor of Livestock Science with Honours at the University of New England. Her passion for livestock and agriculture developed from her involvement in the agricultural program offered at her high school and she is keen to contribute to the livestock industries as a veterinarian in a rural area.
Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family



STEPHANIE CATTLE WEST WYALONG
Diploma of Nursing

19-year-old Stephanie Cattle is currently studying a Diploma of Enrolled Nursing at TAFE and aims to move across to the University of Wollongong to advance her studies in paediatric and obstetric nursing. Growing up on a farm in West Wyalong Stephanie has always been active in her local community and enjoys giving back to others in her small town.
Scholarship donated by: Janie Forrest / Royal Agricultural Society of NSW



RACHAEL CROSBIE ORANGE
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Rachael Crosbie, 23, is a fourth year Veterinary Biology/Veterinary Science student at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Having spent much of her time on her grandparent's farm in the central west of New South Wales, she has always had a passion for animals. With the call of the land in her veins, she looks forward to contributing to sustainable animal production and supporting our rural communities.
Scholarship donated by: Mogul Braham Stud



KATHLEEN CUTAJAR PEMBROOKE
Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)

Pursuing a career as a clinical psychologist has been a long-term goal of nineteen-year-old Kathleen Cutajar's for some time. A first year student at Macquarie University, Kathleen would like to specialise in child psychology and work helping regional youth with mental health issues. Kathleen has been active as a volunteer in her local community and hopes to continue volunteering with a community organisation while studying in Sydney.
Scholarship donated by: Nell & Hermon Slade Trust



ALICE DAVIS GILGANDRA
Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences

Growing up on a cattle and cropping property in the central west of New South Wales, Alice Davis became passionate about the agricultural industry, especially broad acre cropping. Undertaking her Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Alice hopes to become an agronomist. She is keen to participate in the development of innovations in precision agriculture technology and methods.
Scholarship donated by: Moghul Brahman Stud / Royal Agricultural Society of NSW



MACKENZIE DAY TUMUT
Certificate III in Animal Studies

Growing up in Tumut Mackenzie Day, 18 developed a strong interest in beef cattle through her involvement with her school's Rural Youth Cattle Enrichment (RYCE) Program. Mackenzie is studying a Certificate III in Animal Studies as a pathway to future studies and a career working with beef cattle and producers, focusing on genetics or livestock pathology.
Scholarship donated by: T A Field Family



ANTISIA ELSLEY COONAMBLE
Certificate IV Veterinary Nursing

Antisia Elsley, 18, has grown up across many parts of western New South Wales but one constant has always been a life surrounded by animals. This is the key driver for Antisia to meet her goal of gaining entry into a veterinary science course. She is proud of her Indigenous heritage and hopes to return to a regional area as a qualified Veterinarian. Antisia looks forward to a satisfying career helping the local community with domestic pets and assisting farmers with production animals.
Scholarship donated by: Rali Foundation



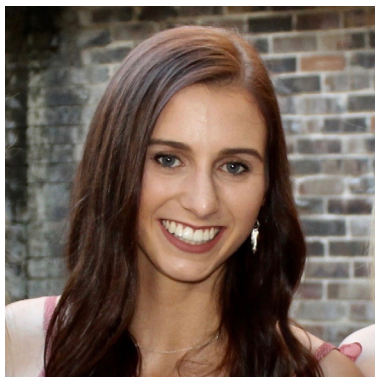
KYLIE FAIRFULL MERRIWA
Diploma of Agriculture Bachelor of Agriculture Production & Management

Merriwa local, Kylie Fairfull completed her secondary education at Yanco Agricultural High School and is now completing a combined Diploma of Agriculture and Bachelor of Agriculture Production and Management at TAFE, Armidale. The 19-year-old enjoys competing in agricultural shows and teaching younger students skills so they too can prepare their stock to compete.
Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation



EMILY FIELDER NARRABRI
Bachelor of Clinical Exercise Physiology

Emily Fielder, 18, is a first year student at the University of New England, studying a Bachelor of Clinical Exercise Physiology. After her own experience with a physiotherapist, regaining strength and mobility following a horse riding accident, Emily hopes to become a rehabilitation physiotherapist in a rural community. The importance of available specialists in rural areas and the ability to access the help needed motivates Emily in her studies.
Scholarship donated by: Huntly & Catherine Gordon



TAIDE FOGGIATO COFFS HARBOUR
Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)
(Forensic Psychology and Criminology)

Hailing from Coffs Harbour, 20-year-old Taide Foggiato is undertaking her second year of a Bachelor in Social Work majoring in Forensic Psychology and Criminology. Taide is actively involved in college life and is committed to helping those whom are less fortunate. After finishing her degree, Taide plans on working with disadvantaged children in regional communities to promote their own wellbeing and help them achieve their personal goals.

Scholarship donated by: Michael & Jenny Millner



PRUE GORDON BOURKE
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture

19-year-old Prue Gordon is currently in her second year of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture at the University of Sydney. Her interest in agriculture developed from an early age growing up on a mixed farming enterprise in far west New South Wales. Prue appreciates the vital role and importance of agriculture, and looks forward to exploring job opportunities in this ever-evolving industry. She has a strong interest in promoting greater connectivity and more sustainable and viable practices.

Scholarship donated by: McLean Foundation



NATALIE FORD GRIFFITH
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Natalie Ford, 25, is in her third year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Growing up in a country town has shaped her dedicated interest in production animals and driven her ambition of becoming a large animal veterinarian. She wants to contribute to the availability of specialised skills in rural communities. Natalie has particular interest in equine medicine and reproduction.

Scholarship donated by: Horizon Foundation



ARJUNA GOVINDASAMY BILAMBIL
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Arjuna completed a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of New South Wales before transferring to the University of Sydney and is now in his final year of Veterinary Medicine. Arjuna grew up in the Murwillumbah area and is passionate about livestock, agriculture and community engagement within the Northern Rivers region. From the age of 10, Arjuna was helping to birth lambs on his family property, and his strong interest in animal welfare began.

Scholarship donated by: Bayer Australia Limited



KIMBERLEY GILBERT BOOROWA
Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary)

Kimberley Gilbert is currently in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Education (Primary & Early Childhood) at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Kimberley has always been dedicated to a career in teaching, caring for children and working with her local Aboriginal community. Kimberley aims to teach in a small regional centre where she can engage parents in a positive way in the school community.

Scholarship donated by: McLean Foundation



ERICA HOLMES NARRANDERA
Diploma of Nursing

Mature aged student, Erica Holmes, has had to make many sacrifices to reach her dream of completing a Diploma of Nursing. The one way trip to TAFE in Cootamundra is 190km, so with the support of her family, Erica leaves them for three nights a week. Erica believes this will pay off in the long run when she is able to work in the management of chronic diseases in remote communities.

Scholarship donated by: OCS Fun Pty Ltd



ERINN HOLMES MENDOORAN
**Bachelor of Psychological Sciences/
 Bachelor of Criminology**

Erinn Holmes, 20, is studying a Bachelor of Psychological Sciences/ Bachelor of Criminology via distance learning through Deakin University. Raised in a small town with little opportunity available to young people, Erinn has developed a strong desire to help youth in rural areas. With a particular interest in juvenile crime, Erinn believes giving young people the right support in troubled times is key to helping them have a successful adulthood.
Scholarship donated by: Carmel Dyer-Pitroff



SARAH KEENAN GRIFFITH
**Doctor of Medicine and Bachelor of Medical
 Science (Hons)**

Sarah Keenan, 24, is a fifth year medical student training at the Coffs Harbour Rural Clinical School of the University of New South Wales. Concerned by the lack of women's health and delivery options in rural areas, Sarah hopes to work as a rural physician, specialising in women's health and obstetrics. Long-term Sarah would like to become an advocate for the health needs of all rural women.
Scholarship donated by: B & B Rides and Games & Goldenway Amusements Pty Ltd



LACHLAN JAMES WINGHAM
Certificate IV in Agriculture

Lachlan James is currently completing his Certificate IV in Agriculture at Tocal College. Having grown up on a small farm outside Wingham on the NSW mid-north coast, Lachlan is passionate about the sheep industry, sheep dog training and poultry. Lachlan fuels this passion by being involved in the locals shows in his area, showing sheep and poultry. Ultimately Lachlan hopes to breed sheep for wool and meat production using sustainable methods of farming.
Scholarship donated by: T A Field Family



SARA LAH BROOME
**Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of
 Veterinary Science**

Sara Lah, 23, is in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Growing up in a remote region of the Kimberley sparked Sara's love for production animals and raised her awareness of the need for veterinarians in remote areas. Sara's goal is to become a large animal veterinarian with a focus in reproduction and herd health in the cattle or sheep industries in rural New South Wales.
Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown



ANNE JOHNSTON MOREE
Bachelor of Education (K-12)

Growing up on a mixed operation family farm instilled the love of the land within Anne from a young age. Currently at the University of New England studying a Bachelor of Education (K-12), Anne has been a part of a dedicated committee that has reignited a Student Teacher Society at UNE, providing shared knowledge, experiences and connections with other student teachers throughout their studies. Anne is looking forward to graduating and securing a teaching position in a rural community.
Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation



KATHERINE LAHIFF ULLADULLA
Bachelor of Nursing

20-year-old Katherine Lahiff is in her third year of a Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Wollongong. Growing up in the rural community of Ulladulla, Katherine has observed the significant gap in healthcare services that exists between metropolitan and regional areas. Katherine has a particular passion for mental health and hopes to be an advocate for rural areas in the future.
Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



DANIEL LAWSON NAROOMA
Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Daniel Lawson is a 23-year-old single father from Narooma on the South Coast completing his Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Raised on an aquaculture farm Daniel's passion for all animals started from a young age. It has long been his ambition to work with primary producers to help them maximize productivity, animal welfare and profitability, thereby ensuring the animal production industry remains viable for future generations.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



LAUREN MEYERS WAGGA WAGGA
Diploma in Agriculture & Certificate IV in Wool Classing

Lauren Meyers' interest in farming and the sheep industry developed through visits to her grandparent's farm when she was young. Lauren, 19, is currently studying a Diploma in Agriculture and a Certificate IV in Wool Classing at the Primary Industries Centre, TAFE Wagga Wagga. She has a special interest in sheep and hopes to work in the field of animal nutrition and genetics.

Scholarship donated by: David & Belinda Davidson



EMMA LONGWORTH ARMIDALE
Bachelor of Rural Science

Emma Longworth, 19, grew up in the north-west suburbs of Sydney. She never thought she would pursue a career in agriculture until she became involved in the school farm and participated in the School District Exhibit Displays competition at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Emma is currently in her third year of a Bachelor of Rural Science at the University of New England and wants to inspire other city kids to follow a career in agriculture.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Braham Stud / UNE Foundation



SEAN MCINTOSH CAMDEN
Certificate IV and Diploma in Agriculture

Nineteen-year-old Sean McIntosh has had a passion for agriculture from a young age, showing cattle at local shows and ultimately owning his own small herd. Last year Sean completed a Certificate III in Agriculture at Tocal College and his good results, combined with his enjoyment of the course prompted Sean to complete a Certificate IV & Diploma of Agriculture this year. Sean dreams of running his own beef and mixed cropping enterprise in the future.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Braham Stud



CASSIE MACBEAN INVERGOWRIE
Bachelor of Medicine

Medicine has always been a passion for Cassie who hopes to work as a GP or emergency physician in the Armidale area. Having previously worked as a pathologist and supporting her husband through leukaemia, Cassie is especially interested in improving the lives of rural people living with chronic disease and mental health problems.

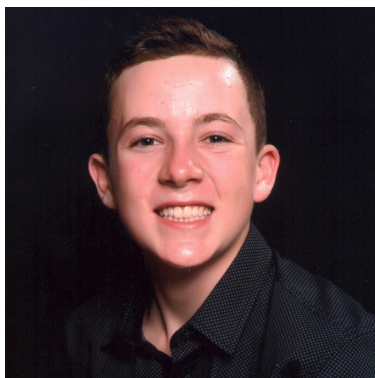
Scholarship donated by: Regional Bank Australia / UNE Foundation



JOSIE MCINTYRE TENTERFIELD
Bachelor of Speech Pathology (Honours)

Josie McIntyre, 20, is in her second year of a Bachelor of Speech Pathology at the University of Newcastle. Her interests in the allied health profession began when her young uncle suffered a major stroke. Noticing the services needed in recovery, Josie realised the huge demand for specialised medical services in rural areas. Having grown up in Tenterfield, Josie has a love for small rural communities and will return with her new skills to help those in need.

Scholarship donated by: Mary Weal



MAXIM MCMASTER LIGHTNING RIDGE
Certificate III Meat Processing (Retail Butcher)

Maxim McMaster, 14, is completing a butchery apprenticeship and is enrolled in a Certificate III in Meat Processing (Retail Butcher) at Orange TAFE. Maxim is a hands-on learner and after completing work experience at his local butcher in Lightning Ridge, he decided this was the ideal career choice for him. Maxim wants to remain in his rural community and appreciates the importance of skills training and the opportunity it is providing for a positive future.

Scholarship donated by: Michael & Jenny Millner



INGA NEILSEN BRAIDWOOD
Bachelor of Laws/ Bachelor of Communication (Journalism)

Inga Neilsen, 20, is undertaking her second year at the University of Technology, Sydney studying a Bachelor of Laws/ Bachelor of Communication (Journalism). Inga is a dedicated advocate for rural issues and received an award for outstanding service to Eden Monaro. She cares about regional issues such as lack of access to legal services, and rural suicide and hopes to use her degree to give rural Australia a voice, broadcasting rural affairs to regional and metropolitan viewers.

Scholarship donated by: Janie Forrest



ELISSA MCPHERSON WAGGA WAGGA
Diploma of Agriculture

After completing her Certificate IV in Agriculture last year, 17-year-old Elissa McPherson is currently studying by distance education for her Diploma in Agriculture, through TAFE NSW Primary Industries Centre. Elissa hopes to learn about the industry as a whole, gaining work experience in various areas of agriculture and therefore develop a broad range of skills she can utilise in her chosen career.

Scholarship donated by: T A Field Family



HARRY OBST DUNEDOO
Certificate III in Agriculture

Currently in his first year at Tocal Agricultural College studying a Certificate III in Agriculture. Harry Obst, 18, has a love for agriculture after growing up on his family sheep and cattle property at Dunedoo in the central west. He plans to complete a Certificate IV in Agriculture this year and the Diploma of Agriculture at Tocal next year. With a strong interest in genetics and beef production, Harry dreams of one day managing his own enterprise.

Scholarship donated by: T A Field Family



CAITLIN MUDDLE DUNGOG
Bachelor of Laws/Communication

Caitlin Muddle, 21, is in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Laws/Communication at the University of Newcastle and is passionate about playing an adversarial role in the future of Australian agriculture. From a fourth-generation dairy farming family, Caitlin hopes to focus her career on improving the mental health statistics associated with farming families and use her degree to not only give rural and regional Australia a voice but also a say in an increasingly digitalised world.

Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown / Royal Agricultural Society of NSW



AMBER O'NEILL WAGGA WAGGA
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Amber O'Neill, 22, is extremely passionate about youth involvement in agriculture and hopes to inspire more students to get involved in the industry. Her keen interest in alpaca breeding keeps her busy, outside of her studies for a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Amber's range of volunteer work also helps keep her closely tied to her regional community.

Scholarship donated by: Exponet

**HILARY PILBEAM** LITHGOW**Bachelor of Physiotherapy**

21-year-old Hilary Pilbeam is a second year Physiotherapy student at the University of Newcastle. Growing up in the Central West, Hilary has seen firsthand the gap in healthcare provided to those living in rural areas and the need to integrate physiotherapy services as the population continues to age. Hilary hopes to return to the Central West, becoming one of the much-needed physiotherapists in rural areas and to provide high quality services to improve the lives of those living in regional New South Wales.

Scholarship donated by: Michael & Jenny Millner

**AARON RAY** UKI**Bachelor of Medicine**

Aaron Ray is a 27-year-old student in his 4th year of a Bachelor of Medicine at the University of New England, Armidale. Aaron chose to study at a regional university to help fill the lack of medical personnel in rural locations. He is also an active community volunteer with the NSW Rural Fire Service and State Emergency Services and feels this is a great way to integrate into a new community.

Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown / Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

**SHARNI SALAU** MANGOPLAH**Certificate IV in Agriculture**

Originally from a property in southwest New South Wales, 20-year-old Sharni Salau, now calls Mangophah home. Studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture Sharni hopes that through this course she will be able to further her knowledge of animal welfare, pasture planning and livestock feeding so she can make a positive contribution to agriculture in New South Wales.

Scholarship donated by: T A Field Family

**SAMUEL SCARLETT** COOMA**Bachelor of Animal Science**

Samuel Scarlett, 21, is going into his fourth and final year studying a Bachelor of Animal Science at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. For his final year, Samuel has been accepted into the integrated honours program for research, focusing on lamb survival. Samuel believes this is an issue close to sheep farmers' hearts and wants to pursue a career that will provide producers with the knowledge needed to keep the ovine industry thriving.

Scholarship donated by: NSW Stud Merino Breeders Association / UNE Foundation

**ZOE SIBBALD** NYNGAN**Bachelor of Speech and Language Pathology**

Twenty-year old Zoe Sibbald is a third-year student studying Speech Pathology at Charles Sturt University, Albury. Zoe's interest in working in paediatrics was confirmed after participating in practical experiences at Clinic and local schools in Albury. Zoe looks forward to returning to western New South Wales and providing services to children and their families. Zoe is eager to make a difference by allowing allied health services to be more accessible in rural New South Wales.

Scholarship donated by: McLean Foundation

**KAYLA SIMPSON** FORSTER**Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology)**

Kayla Simpson, 22, is currently in her second year of a Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology) degree. Kayla is studying via distance through Charles Sturt University and on campus at Port Macquarie, whilst working part time in the region's youth refuge. Kayla is working towards her goal of becoming a school counsellor, and has a particular desire to assist her local indigenous community. Having grown up in Forster Kayla aims to continue to help youth in her local area reach their full potential.

Scholarship donated by: G O'Neill



CLAIRE SMART CANBERRA
Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours)

Claire Smart, 21, is completing her fourth year of a Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) at Charles Sturt University, Albury. Having seen the difference that early intervention can make for children and those with a disability, she is passionate about providing health services for rural families. She is keen to explore the role that telemedicine could offer in rural physiotherapy and hopes to work in a multi-disciplinary allied health practice supporting children and adults with a disability in rural New South Wales.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



MILTON SMITH ORANGE
Certificate III Agriculture

Currently studying a Certificate III in Agriculture at Tocal College 18-year-old Milton Smith hopes to combine his natural skills with a specialised education to become a farm manager. With a dedicated interest in the sheep and beef industries Milton is taking full advantage of every available opportunity to further his experience and knowledge in these areas, providing the background for a successful career on the land.

Scholarship donated by: T A Field Family



SAMANTHA SMART DUBBO
Certificate IV in Agriculture

18-year-old Samantha Smart is studying a Certificate III in Agricultural Production at Tocal College. Samantha discovered her love of livestock at school, preparing steers to show. She appreciates the practical nature of the course at Tocal, and hopes to one day put her education to use managing a mixed farming enterprise and demonstrating that environmentally sustainable farming can prove financially sustainable.

Scholarship donated by: Rali Foundation



SAMANTHA SPARK NOWRA
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Samantha Spark, 22, is in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. She has a particular interest in the dairy industry and is motivated by the prospect of working with producers, assisting all animals from valuable stud stock to precious family pets.

Scholarship donated by: Agricultural Societies Council of NSW



KIERAN SMITH INVERELL
Bachelor of Rural Science

Kieran Smith is in his third year of a Bachelor of Rural Science at the University of New England. Kieran grew up on a sheep and cattle property on the New England Tablelands, and is passionate about research addressing issues that affect productivity and profitability in the agricultural industry. With a special interest in selective genetics & breeding, his goal is to use the knowledge gained from his studies to improve fertility and productivity of livestock across Australia.

Scholarship donated by: NSW Stud Merino Breeders Association / UNE Foundation



LAUREN SWAIN GUNNEDAH
Post Graduate Masters of Physiotherapy

Lauren Swain is completing her final year of a Masters of Physiotherapy at the University of Sydney. With a passion for rural health, 23-year-old Lauren is dedicated to ensuring that rural and remote communities have access to the best possible health care. Lauren hopes to give back to her community by volunteering her time to local clubs and associations to assist in injury prevention and rehabilitation.

Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown



JASLYN TUCKWELL BUNYAH

Bachelor of Agriculture

Jaslyn Tuckwell, 22, is in her final year of a Bachelor of Agriculture, majoring in General Agricultural Production at the University of New England. Growing up in the small dairy and beef community of Bunyah, she was always assisting in the yards or helping on her neighbour's dairy farm. Studying agriculture throughout high school, Jaslyn's passion for the industry grew. Upon completion of her degree, Jaslyn hopes to continue to work in the dairy industry in a management role.

Scholarship donated by: Exponet Pty Ltd / Royal Agricultural Society of NSW



HUGH WILLOUGHBY COWRA

Bachelor of Veterinary Science/Bachelor of Veterinary Biology

Twenty-four year old Hugh Willoughby is in his 4th year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science/Bachelor of Veterinary Biology degree at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Hugh's interest lies in genetics and nutrition, and the vital role they play in the efficiency of livestock production. He sees a future role for himself in assisting producers with new technologies, in an effort to safeguard against price and climate variability. Hugh is keen to begin his career as a rural Veterinarian, contributing to the vitality and viability of country New South Wales.

Scholarship donated by: Agricultural Societies Council of NSW Ltd

JB FAIRFAX AWARD FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL JOURNALISM

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.



KATRINA NASH CUDAL

Katrina Nash is a 4th year Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Communications (Journalism) student at Newcastle University. Katrina hails from Cudal and has a very keen interest in rural and regional journalism. Katrina was also a 2017 RASF Rural Scholar and, upon graduation, hopes to move back to the Central West as a journalist.

Katrina is keenly aware of the platform regional journalists have to influence society and inform metropolitan areas about some of the issues regional communities face. She believes it is an incredibly rewarding career choice, bringing concerns to light and reporting on matters relevant to regional and rural Australia.

SYDNEY ROYAL WINE SCHOLARSHIPS

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



TIM DEXTER MERRICKS NORTH
Sydney Royal Wine Study Scholarship

Tim Dexter is in the final year of a Postgraduate Diploma in Viticulture and Oenology at the University of Adelaide, following his Honours in Environmental Science. Growing up surrounded by vineyards on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula it was pre-destined that Tim would pursue a career in wine. However, it was time spent in the wineries of California that confirmed this was the career for him. Following the journey from vineyard to bottle, Tim has worked in the wine regions of the Yarra Valley, Margaret River, the Clare Valley, Spain, California, Oregon and back to the Mornington Peninsula. Tim hopes to become a grower and winemaker, promoting Australian wines at home and abroad.



THOMAS COLMAN BLUE MOUNTAINS
Sydney Royal Wine Assessment Scholarship

Growing up in the Blue Mountain's Tom's passion for growing things lead him towards a degree in winemaking and viticulture to which he graduated with honours. During his degree he spent any free period working for various winemakers in the Basket Range in the Adelaide Hills, such as James Erskine at Jauma and Alex Schulkin at The Other Right. Since then he has travelled overseas and has worked for a variety of wineries within America, Spain and up into north-eastern France. He is in particularly excited by the opportunity to witness and contribute to the collision of climate, changing wine styles, consumer education / perception into natural wines and their impact on the Australian Wine industry.

SYDNEY ROYAL DAIRY PRODUCE SCHOLARSHIP

This award encourages and supports students who demonstrate passion, strong leadership qualities and who are committed to making a contribution to the NSW dairy produce industry and their community.



SARAH WHITE COOLAH

A particular interest in animal production and health motivates Sarah White in the fourth year of her Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree at Charles Sturt University. Sarah grew up on a sheep and beef property in Coolah, but her focus is now firmly on the dairy industry. Sarah believes working to improve animal nutrition and health will lead to an increase in efficiency and profitability within the dairy industry, benefitting dairy farmers and rural communities across Australia. She hopes to work closely with farmers and other industry professionals in bovine disease eradication programs and improving viability.

COMMUNITY FUTURES GRANTS

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.



ELIZABETH MUNN LEETON- Elizabeth Munn's project will see her build a Young Farmer's Challenge trailer for use by the communities in her zone, allowing more shows to compete. The Young Farmers Challenge gives young people the chance to showcase their expertise in a series of on-farm tasks, with the tests including everything from animal handling to erecting fences, driving tractors, putting out fires and even first aid challenges. Elizabeth is keenly aware of the need to get young people involved at a local community level and is positive the trailer will be well used.



CLAIRE JOHNSON CROOKWELL Cattle committee member Claire Johnson knows that the new cattle shed her committee can now build will be of great benefit to the entire cattle producing community. With an increase in entries in the stud cattle competition, this new facility will be able to accommodate all cattle and keep them protected from the often-unpredictable weather at Show time. The new shed will also enable the Crookwell community to host a variety of other events throughout the year, bringing some much-needed economic benefits to the wider community.



MEGAN COYLE WALBUNDRIE Walbundrie Show Society member Megan Coyle will combine with a group of local volunteers to provide a purpose-built arena for horse events at Walbundrie Show. The arena will also be available for hire for other equestrian and community groups, providing much-needed fundraising opportunities. The flow-on effect will provide benefits for improved parking facilities and better use of the main arena during the annual Show.



ROB WITTS GUNNEDAH Local farmer and Gunnedah Show Society President, Rob Witts, acknowledges that with over 50,000 patrons attending the various events held at Gunnedah Showground the current facilities are far from adequate. Rob and his team of skilled volunteers plan to upgrade the makeshift facilities so that they can better cater for the many events held at the Showground and provide a workable space for those working in the kitchen.



KATRINA THOMAS CONDOBOLIN Condobolin High School agricultural science teacher Katrina Thomas and her fiercely determined colleagues plan to update and rejuvenate the ageing agricultural facilities at Condobolin High School. Katrina wants to create a positive and safe learning space for students with an all-purpose shed, chicken enclosure, hothouse and aquaponics set up. Katrina and her students hope to set up two small enterprises, a chicken breeding and vegetable/plant seedling enterprise.



NAOMI KAUTER GRESFORD

The deterioration of the Gresford Showground stable block has meant the facility is not used to its full potential. Naomi Kauter has plans to replace the rafters and roof and install a new guttering system along with water tanks to collect water for reuse. In conjunction with existing facilities, the stable block will attract out of area organisations to host horse related and other events in Gresford, leading to economic benefits for the community as a whole.

RAS FOUNDATION COMMUNITY KITCHEN GRANT

Each year, a large scale kitchen is built to host cooking demonstrations at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. After the Show the kitchen appliances donated by Euromaid, along with a generous cash grant for benches and cabinetry, are awarded to a rural NSW community to reinvigorate a community facility.



WINNER: BOGGABRI SHOWGROUND AND PUBLIC RESERVE TRUST

An old rundown kitchen in desperate need of a makeover spurred our judges to award this little town with a big heart a much-needed boost. Boggabri's compelling application highlighted just how many community groups and local events would benefit from new kitchen facilities. This will have a widespread impact on the town of 900 and support the organisations that use the showgrounds for events and functions.

RUNNER UP: MENDOORAN PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

For many years the Mendooran PA & H Association has dreamed of a facility that will benefit all their user groups and a local grant made this possible in 2016. However inside the facility was just an empty room. The group has received \$10,000 worth of appliances from Euromaid to fully equip their planned kitchen. The grant panel was inspired by the enthusiasm of this small town and is confident this grant will breathe new life into the events and groups that will use it.

DONORS

We sincerely thank the following donors and supporters for their generous support of the RAS Foundation in 2018.

- AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES COUNCIL OF NSW
- AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY MAGAZINE
- BAYER AUSTRALIA LIMITED
- B & B GAMES AND GOLDENWAY AMUSEMENTS
- BRIGHTSET PRINTING
- CARMEL DYER-PITROFF
- COUNTRY VALLEY
- COWLED FOUNDATION
- DAVID AND BELINDA DAVIDSON
- DAVID AND LIZ BROWNHILL
- EUROMAID
- EXPONET
- FAIRFAX AGRICULTURAL MEDIA
- GRAHAM O'NEILL
- HAWKESBURY VALLEY MEAT PROCESSORS
- HORIZON FOUNDATION
- HUNTLY AND CATHERINE GORDON
- JANIE FORREST
- JOHN B FAIRFAX AO
- DR GEORGE JACOBS AND DR JANICE HIRSHORN, MOGUL BRAHMAN STUD
- MARY AND PETER WEAL
- MCLEAN FOUNDATION
- MICHAEL AND JENNY MILLNER
- NATURAL SELECTION GROUP
- NELL AND HERMON SLADE TRUST
- NSW STUD MERINO BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
- OCS FUN PTY LTD
- RALI FOUNDATION
- RAS COUNCILLORS
- RAS STAFF
- REGIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK
- ROBERT RYAN OAM
- THE SNOW FOUNDATION
- SUNRICE
- SUSAN MAPLE-BROWN
- SYDNEY ROYAL WINE COMMITTEE
- SYDNEY ROYAL DAIRY COMMITTEE
- TA FIELD FAMILY
- UNE FOUNDATION

THE RAS FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MR MICHAEL MILLNER
MR ROBERT RYAN OAM
MS SALLY EVANS
MS SUSAN WAKEFORD
MS SOPHIE HANSEN
MR GRAHAME SHARPE
MR CHRISTOPHER HINDMARSH
PROF JAMES PRATLEY

RAS_F

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW
FOUNDATION

1 Showground Road, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
Locked Bag 4317, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
T (02) 9704 1234 | F (02) 9704 1104 | www.rasf.org.au

RAS of NSW Foundation Limited ABN 84 124 177 608