

2021 GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

RASf

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW
FOUNDATION



The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Foundation (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 \$6.2 million into country NSW through a range of targeted grants and scholarships. To date, the RAS Foundation has supported over 600 rural scholarship students to reach their educational dreams and awarded 70 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:	12 years
Grants Awarded:	55 grants
Funds Distributed:	\$997,000
Program:	JB Fairfax Award for Rural & Regional Journalism
Duration:	13 years
Grants Awarded:	13 grants
Funds Distributed:	\$130,000
Program:	Rural Scholarships (TAFE & University)
Duration:	11 years
Grants Awarded:	598 Scholarships
Funds Distributed:	\$3,008,000
Program:	Sydney Royal Wine Scholarships
Grants Awarded:	24 Scholarships
Funds Distributed:	\$112,000
Program:	RASF Nuffield NSW Scholarships
Grants Awarded:	2 Scholarships
Funds Distributed:	\$60,000
Program:	E3 Grant (retired)
Grants Awarded:	Grants to 59 schools
Funds Distributed:	\$266,000
Program:	RAS Foundation Community Kitchen
Grants Awarded:	23 Community Kitchens
Funds Distributed:	\$280,600
Program:	RASF Kitchen & Christmas Toy Distribution
Goods Distributed:	\$1,357,600

Total	\$6,211,200
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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. 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 RYAN GILGANDRA
Bachelor of Education (K-12)

Abby Ryan is studying a Bachelor of Education (K-12) majoring in English at Charles Sturt University in Bathurst, fulfilling a goal she has had from a young age. Growing up in a small rural town in western NSW Abby is acutely aware how important it is that teachers in regional areas understand the realities of living and learning in these communities. Returning to regional NSW upon graduation, Abby wants to the opportunity to connect with her students and provide a quality education.

Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown



ALEX WATSON-DEAL WAGGA WAGGA
Certificate III in Agriculture

Alex Watson-Deal is currently studying a Certificate III in Agriculture in order to gain practical skills in livestock handling and machinery use/maintenance to compliment the Bachelor of Agricultural Science she is also undertaking. Alex believes the combination of hands-on skills and theory will stand her in good stead in pursuit of a career in agriculture, believing using both will help her to effectively communicate and form relationships with growers/farmers in rural areas.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family



AMBER O'NEILL WAGGA WAGGA
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science (Integrated Honours)

Amber O'Neill is a final year Veterinary Science student at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Although she enjoys working with cattle and has a special interest in alpaca medicine, she is hoping to work in a small general rural practice. Amber is an Australian Alpaca Judge and is completing an Honours project examining passive transfer of immunity in camelids.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family

**ASHLEY ALDRICH** ULLADULLA**Certificate II in Animal Studies**

Ashley Aldrich is undertaking a Certificate II in Animal Studies at Nowra TAFE Campus with the aspiration to further her education and become a Veterinarian Nurse. Ashley wants to play a role in the health and welfare of animals, particularly on farms, and believes this is the best way she can have some influence on the future of Australian agriculture. She wants to learn more about animal welfare and assisting primary producers in this area.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

**AVA MEDLEY** DUBBO**Bachelor of Biomedical Science**

Ava Medley is a first-year student at the University of Newcastle studying a Bachelor of Biomedical Science. Growing up in Dubbo, she was aware of the significant health inequities of rural and remote communities and the vast potential for improvement. She hopes, at the completion of her course, to return to regional NSW and play a role contributing to scientific advances and improving the health of her community.

Scholarship donated by: Mary Weal

**BRAD CHAPMAN** FINE FLOWER**Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Humanities**

Brad Chapman grew up on the family beef cattle station at Fine Flower and although he is not following the farming path he does want to stay in a regional community. Studying his Bachelor of Secondary Education, Brad believes he can play a role supporting rural and regional youth and ensuring they receive positive opportunities at school. Through his own experiences he understands how vital it is that teachers engage with regional students.

Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown

**BREANNA HOLMES** TUMUT**Certificate IV in Agriculture**

Breanna Holmes, from Tumut, is studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture and would like a career involved in the breeding of stud cattle, including artificial insemination, embryo transfer and genomics. Breanna's interest began when she took part in her high school's Show cattle program "RYCE" (Rural Youth Cattle Enrichment), and now she is on the way to becoming a first-generation beef producer, making breeding decisions and creating a product for the consumer.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

**BRIDGET SMITH** YEOVAL**Bachelor of Occupational Therapy**

Bridget Smith is from a fifth-generation farming family in Yeoval, Central West NSW, and completed high school via video conferencing alongside nine others at Yeoval Central School. Now studying Occupational Therapy at the University of Newcastle, she aims to address the great need for allied health professionals in rural areas. With a particular focus on paediatrics, Bridget will return to the Central West upon graduation in order to provide this much needed service.

Scholarship donated by: Laurie Cowled/RAS Foundation

**BRIONY WILLETT** COROWA**Bachelor of Social Work**

Briony Willett is a 3rd year student, studying a Bachelor of Social Work at Charles Sturt University via distance education. Regional communities are often lacking mental health support and facilities, a problem Briony is acutely aware of and the motivator behind her studies. Briony wants to work in child and youth services in her local community and hopes to offer positive support and aid for people who access mental health services.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



CAITLIN ARMSON-GRAHAM SYDNEY
Certificate III in Agriculture

Caitlin Armson-Graham is studying a Certificate III in Agriculture through Australian Agricultural Training with hopes of pursuing a career teaching agriculture. This Certificate, in combination with her Bachelor of Agriculture, will improve her on-farm skills and give her more confidence within the field. Caitlin plans to go on to study a Masters in Education and play a vital role sharing her passion for agriculture in the classroom and hopefully inspire a new breed of agriculturalists.

Scholarship donated by: Coolawarra Alpacas



CAITLYN GALAGHER WEE WAA
Bachelor of Nursing

Caitlyn Gallagher grew up in the small town of Wee Waa located in North West NSW. Her interest in nursing began when she was young and never wavered, and she completed a traineeship in Nursing at Wee Waa Community Hospital and a Certificate III in Acute Care Nursing whilst still at school. She is studying a Bachelor of Nursing at the University of New England and will return to Wee Waa to address the shortage of medical professionals in rural communities.

Scholarship donated by: Coolawarra Alpacas/UNE Foundation



CALEB KADMON WOLLONGONG
Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Education

Caleb Kadmon is from the Illawarra region and wants to return as soon as his studies are complete. Studying a Bachelor of Education/ Bachelor of Science he plans on becoming a high school science teacher, following in the footsteps of the teacher he found most inspirational. Caleb believes students in regional areas need strong role models and can be pushed to achieve, and wants to inspire the curious minds of the future and play a positive role in shaping young lives.

Scholarship donated by: Nell & Hermon Slade Trust



CARMEN MACGREGOR QUAAMA
Doctor of Medicine

Carmen MacGregor is studying a Doctor of Medicine at the University of Wollongong, moving away from her hometown of Quaama, near Cobargo. Wanting to become a doctor since the age of fourteen, she believes access to quality health care is crucial for improving health outcomes in regional NSW. Carmen hopes to provide medical care and support within country areas, and contribute in a manner that is authentic, compassionate and competent.

Scholarship donated by: Agricultural Societies Council of NSW



CAROLINE DUDDY JUNE
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/ Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Caroline Duddy is in her fifth year of veterinary science at Charles Sturt University and wants to become a specialist in veterinary pathology or oncology. Growing up in a small town, she plans to stay as rural as she can and work in a rural mixed practice. Ultimately, Caroline would like to answer the call for much-needed pathologists and raise awareness for funding for disease investigation.

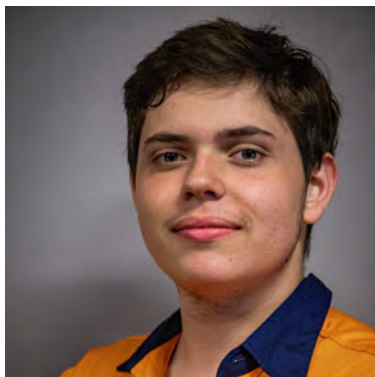
Scholarship donated by: NSW Stud Merino Breeders' Association



CHARLEY SCHULZ TEMORA
Bachelor of Environmental Science and Management

Charley Schulz was raised in the rural town of Temora, country New South Wales, growing up on a mixed cropping and livestock property. Surrounded by the bush, she developed an appreciation for the landscape and the invaluable resources it provides. Studying a Bachelor of Environmental Science and Management with Charles Sturt University in Albury, Charley wants to protect and repair the environment in rural Australia.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

**CHRISTIAAN MILLS** GALSTON**Certificate III in Agriculture**

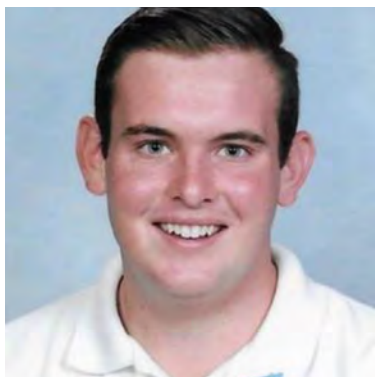
Christiaan Mills was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, migrating to Australia when he was in primary school. At school in the Hawkesbury-Berowra region his interest in agriculture first grew, as he was immersed in the history and respect for farming. Studying a Certificate III in Agriculture at Tocal College, Christiaan wants to gain practical farm operation skills and a greater understanding of practices undertaken in farming before commencing a career in this area.

Scholarship donated by: ChemCert Limited

**CHRISTIE HAYWARD** SYDNEY**Certificate III in Engineering- Heavy Fabrication**

Christie Hayward is doing a boilermaker apprenticeship and studying for her Certificate III in Engineering-Heavy Fabrication after discovering an aptitude for metal work in high school. The study and apprenticeship will give her valuable skills that are much needed throughout regional NSW. Christie plans on moving into a rural community and working on metals including fencing and with machinery.

Scholarship donated by: Coolawarra Alpacas

**CONNOR WHITEMAN** GILGANDRA**Bachelor of Animal Science**

Work experience at Gilgandra Veterinary Clinic was all it took to convince 20-year-old Connor that a career in the veterinary industry was the right path to follow. He has relocated 450kms from home to study at Charles Sturt University and take advantage of the hands-on components of his degree. Connor would ideally like to work in a rural practice dealing with large animals and herd health/reproduction.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud

**DENNIS GORDON** ARMIDALE**Certificate IV in Building and Construction**

Dennis Gordon was born in Armidale and later moved to Newcastle where he has settled and immersed himself and his young family in the local indigenous community, eager to take on a role as a mentor. He has completed his Certificate III in Carpentry and is now studying a Certificate IV in Building and Construction which will allow him to start his own small building company and provide apprenticeship pathways for young indigenous men and women.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family

**DIMITY EVANS** URALLA**Bachelor of Rural Science**

Dimity Evans is from the Uralla Shire in the New England region and has a passion for agriculture, particularly beef cattle. Seeking a career in either genetics or animal nutrition, she is studying in order to influence and forge improvements in agricultural production. Dimity hopes to further expand her knowledge with time spent studying abroad and to have a positive impact on the future of beef across the state.

Scholarship donated by: Agricultural Societies Council of NSW

**DOUGLAS SNOW** WAGGA WAGGA**Bachelor Social Work**

Doug Snow is a retired RAAF veteran who has not let a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis stop him from focusing on his education, pursuing a Bachelor of Social Work. Doug has been a volunteer with the Murrumbidgee Local Health Palliative care service for three years and this experience spurred him on to study. Upon graduation he expects to pursue a career as an advocate for Palliative care and to work behind-the-scenes addressing the challenges of providing quality palliative care to rural and regional Australia.

Scholarship donated by: CanAssist

**EDEN ROSZKIEWICZ** BASIN VIEW**Bachelor of Agriculture**

Eden Roszkiewicz discovered a passion for agriculture in high school and immersed herself in the world of alpacas, including shearing, breeding and competing on the agricultural Show circuit. Undertaking a Bachelor of Agriculture, to enhance her understanding of the agricultural industry as a whole, Eden wants to help develop ecologically sensitive farming practices that enable farmers to produce more with less resources and less environmental impact.

Scholarship donated by: Coolawarra Alpacas

**EMILY BLANK** JILLIBY**Certificate III in Agriculture**

Emily Blank is completing her Certificate III in Agriculture at Tocal College, and hopes to forge a career working towards sustainable agriculture. Focussing on innovation and development, Emily is aware of the need for smarter farming and exploring more avenues of environmentally aware and ecological agriculture. Using her education and experience she hopes to influence the next generation and encourage more young people to explore career choices in this field.

Scholarship donated by: Exponet

**EMILY MITCHELL** COFFS HARBOUR**Bachelor of Psychology**

Growing up in a small coastal town has given Emily Mitchell a firm understanding of the importance of a close knit and supportive environment, driving her towards her studies of a Bachelor of Psychology. Emily has a great interest in aspects of the human condition, and her degree will enable her to learn more about how and why people do the things they do, and how to help people navigate through life. Emily wants to play an active role in her regional community.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud

**EMILY WILMSHURST** WEST PENNANT HILLS**Bachelor of Agriculture/Bachelor of Business**

Emily Wilmshurst is in her second year of a Bachelor of Agriculture/Bachelor of Business at the University of New England, Armidale. Despite growing up in the city, she is keen for her future to be country based and focused, where she can further her interests in poultry and cattle production. At the completion of her degree, Emily hopes to use the knowledge she has gained to work alongside rural communities in advancing and growing awareness for Australian agriculture.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud/UNE Foundation

**GEORGIA BENNETTS** COOLAH**Bachelor of Secondary Science (Major in Agriculture)**

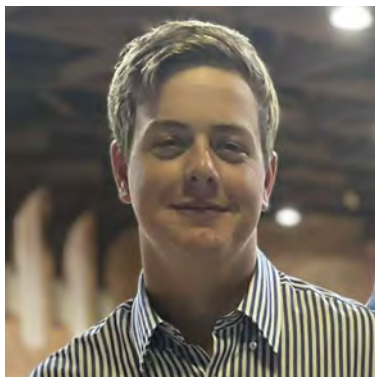
Georgia Bennetts from Coolah NSW is studying a Bachelor of Secondary Science majoring in Agriculture. Her passion for livestock and agriculture developed from her involvement in the agricultural program offered at her high school and a part-time job at the local Veterinary Clinic. After graduating she hopes to secure a teaching position in a rural community.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family/UNE Foundation

**HAMISH MACLURE** TARCUTTA**Certificate IV in Agriculture**

Hamish Maclure is currently studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture at TAFE NSW and doing a rural traineeship. Hamish has lived on a family owned and operated mixed farm near Tarcutta NSW his whole life and hopes to be part of the business in the future and bring home the skills required to ensure its sustainability. He enjoys all aspects of the farm but loves livestock management and wool production.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family



HEATH DUMMETT VERONA
Certificate III in Agriculture

Heath Dummett is studying a Certificate III in Agriculture at Tocal College knowing this will provide him with the practical knowledge he needs to contribute to the agricultural industry. Heath is focused on playing a role in driving a sustainable future for primary producers and those making a living on the land. The Certificate III is giving him greater skills for developing more efficient methods of food and fibre production and hands-on experience with machinery and livestock.
Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



HEATHER WALKER GRENFELL
Bachelor of Education TAS (Technology and Applied Studies)

Heather Walker lives in a small country town in the Central West and is studying a Bachelor of Education – Technology and Applied Studies - through Charles Sturt University's online mode of study. She is also studying a TAFE Certificate IV in Wool Classing and TAFE DIGITAL: Online Certificate III in Agriculture. She believes these will help her development as an agricultural teacher.
Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



INDIA BURDEN BEGA
Bachelor of Education (Technology and Applied Studies) Major Agriculture

India, 22, is currently studying a Bachelor of Education (Technology and Applied Studies), majoring in Agriculture at Charles Sturt University. India has lived in rural communities her entire life and has a thorough understanding of the importance of a strong agricultural industry. She wants to teach agriculture to rural students and those disadvantaged by location and hopefully inspire passion and interest within others.
Scholarship donated by: Michael & Jenny Millner



ISABELLA MASON WEST WYALONG
Bachelor of Teaching Primary

Isabella Mason from West Wyalong NSW is studying a Bachelor of Primary Education and is keen to take up a position as a primary school teacher in a regional community. Isabella sees all the positives from a childhood spent growing up in a rural community and wants to ensure primary school children experience the same opportunities she did – with access to education, sports and the sense of belonging so prevalent in small towns.
Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown



JACINTA BRADLEY TUMBARUMBA
Certificate IV Agriculture

Jacinta Bradley's thirst for agriculture started from a young age on the family farm, leading into showing of poultry, cattle and horses along with studying agriculture at school. Post school she worked on a merino property, and her enthusiasm for the sheep and wool industry took off. She has completed her Wool Classing Certificate and is studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture with plans to commence a Diploma in Agriculture and become a productive member of the Australian agricultural industry.
Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family



JACK EGAN DUNEDOO
Certificate III in Performance Horse

Jack Egan is studying a Certificate III in Performance Horse at Tocal College. He is originally from the small country town of Gulgong located in the Central West and has dedicated a lot of time to the Gulgong pony club as a competitor and volunteer as well as helping out on the farm. Jack's career goal is to become a mounted police officer, which would combine his love of horses with his desire to help others in the community.
Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family

**JACK TEMPLE** TIRRANNAVILLE**Certificate III in Pathways to Further Study**

Jack Temple is studying the Year 11 & 12 equivalent at TAFE whilst also completing short courses in order to gain work skills in welding, small engines and other qualifications. These should help him secure an apprenticeship as a Heavy Diesel Technician. Jack wants a future combining farming and machinery and believes a mechanical trade qualification will allow him to live and work in a rural setting, servicing and repairing farm machinery.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

**JAIMELEE MILLINER** BINNAWAY**Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine**

Jaimelee Milliner is a fifth-year medical student studying at a rural campus in Port Macquarie. She is passionate about rural medicine and providing equitable access to health services, particularly after growing up in a small town in the Central West without a General Practitioner. By returning to the Central West as a GP, she aims to address the imbalance and promote rural health.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud

**JARRAH RANSOME** GUNDAGAI**Bachelor of Animal Science**

Jarrah Ransome is studying a Bachelor of Animal Science, majoring in Livestock Production at the University of New England, Armidale. Growing up in the small town of Gundagai, Jarrah is aware of the influence agriculture has on small communities and local industry professionals and hopes to play her part as a positive influence within her community. She wants to make a difference and flourish as a leader within the Australian agricultural industry.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation

**JESSICA RYAN** WAGGA WAGGA**Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management**

Jessica Ryan is undertaking an agribusiness degree to help with the family business and allow her to play a role shaping change in the agricultural industry. Aiming to become an advocate for farmers and the farming lifestyle, she wants to give a voice to farmers and work on bridging the gap between city and country. Whether her career lies in farming business or takes the step into management or politics, Jessica is aware of the need to listen to farmers.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family

**JESSICA DALEY** WAUCHOPE**Bachelor of Veterinary Technology**

Jessica Daley aims to pursue a career as a vet, and is studying Veterinary Technology at CSU, Wagga Wagga. Coming from a farming background at Wauchope on the Mid North Coast, Jess has been actively involved in all aspects of her family's farming business and is passionate about all animals. She hopes to use her skills and education to make a positive contribution to the health and wellbeing of both large and small animals in rural communities.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family

**KATE NELSON** TOOLEYBUC**Bachelor of Education (K-12)**

Kate Nelson is completing a Bachelor of Education at Charles Sturt University, Albury with the aim of working in rural schools to provide an accessible quality education for students in rural and remote regions. She believes the ability to read and write is the building block to success in life and wants to help lay that foundation for children. Kate knows that good teachers change lives and that is her aim, to teach the leaders of the future and see regional communities thrive.

Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud



KATE PRICE COWRA
Bachelor of Education (K-12) Majoring in Science/Agriculture

Growing up in Cowra on a mixed farming property ignited a strong passion for agriculture within Kate Price. Agriculture is her passion, and she wants to use her Bachelor of Education to teach children all about this essential component of our country and the numerous opportunities available in the industry. Returning to teach in a regional community, Kate wants to inspire a love for the land in her students and have a positive impact on their lives.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family



KEELY JOHNS NEWCASTLE
Certificate IV in Agriculture

Keely Johns is completing a Certificate IV in Agriculture at Tocal College, after finishing a Certificate III last year. Keely would like to go on to university and study a Bachelor of Veterinary Science but first recognizes the importance of understanding all agricultural practices in relation to large animal medicine. She now has skills and experience in areas including working in yards, low stress stock handling, mustering, understanding breeding programs, and developing pasture plans for livestock.

Scholarship donated by: Coolawarra Alpacas



KHOBY MCDONALD CONDOBOLIN
Bachelor of Business

Khoby McDonald is studying a Bachelor of Business at the Sydney campus of La Trobe University. Growing up on a farm an hour west of Condobolin determined for Khoby that his future lies in agriculture, and he is likely to pursue a career in farming, perhaps as a primary producer. Khoby believes this degree will help him understand the financial and marketing aspects of running a farm as a business and ensure he makes the most of it. He plans on staying within a regional community and becoming an active member of the community.

Scholarship donated by: RAS Foundation



LILY MORRIS TOMERONG
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Lily Morris has grown up on the South Coast of NSW and is studying a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science. Lily's interest in the health and welfare of animals, and her love of working with animals, have her perfectly placed to pursue a career as a rural veterinarian. A particular interest in horses and cattle ensures she will stay in a regional area.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



LUCY BUCKNELL YASS
Doctor of Medicine

Lucy, 22, completed a Bachelor of Science degree at ANU and is now studying Medicine at the University of Sydney. She wants to work as a rural GP in the future with a focus on mental health and to assist the local community with managing their health journey. Coming from a rural background Lucy believes she has a greater understanding of the problems that affect those in rural regions.

Scholarship donated by: OCS Fun Pty Ltd/ RAS Foundation



MADDISON TEBBET MEDLOW BATH
Certificate III in Agricultural Production

Maddison Tebbet wants to broaden her knowledge of agriculture and establish a career within the industry, so is studying a Certificate III in Agricultural Production. Learning livestock husbandry, crop and pasture production, farm skills and safe working practices will ensure Maddison is a valuable employee in a broad range of on-farm or agribusiness roles. Maddison is determined to stay in a regional community and continue to learn as the industry evolves and new technologies are implemented.

Scholarship donated by: Quayclean



MATTHEW MANNES COLEAMBALLY
Bachelor of Social Work

Matthew Mannes grew up on a farm outside the small town of Coleambally and experienced firsthand the restricted access to support services faced by those living in rural and remote areas. Undertaking his Bachelor of Social Work, Matthew is committed to promoting the needs of those living in rural NSW and ensuring the provision of equal opportunities to individuals and families within disadvantaged demographics. *Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation*



MATTHEW SHEPPARD BONNY HILLS
Doctor of Medicine and Surgery

Matthew Sheppard has commenced a Doctor of Medicine and Surgery with the aims of undertaking practice in areas of low socioeconomic status. Matthew grew up in Bonny Hills, a village of 3,000 people just south of Port Macquarie and is acutely aware of the inequality in medical services offered to regional communities. His aim is to provide no-cost medical care to people in need, believing access to assistance is fundamental to the overall health of a community. *Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation*



MICQUELLA GRIMA ORCHARD HILLS
Bachelor of Agriculture/Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness)

Micquella Grima has commenced her first year of a Bachelor of Agriculture and Bachelor of Business majoring in Agribusiness at the University of New England. Travelling around regional NSW on cattle, sheep and cropping properties as a child instilled a passion for agriculture and supporting rural communities. This has driven her interest in livestock genetics and broadacre agronomy. *Scholarship donated by: Mogul Brahman Stud/UNE Foundation*



MITCHUM BOWER MILTON
Bachelor of Medical Studies / Doctor of Medicine

Mitchum Bower grew up in Milton on the South Coast and is currently completing his final year of medicine at the University of New South Wales. Having recently relocated to the UNSW Rural Clinical School in Port Macquarie, Mitchum appreciates the positive role rural doctors play in their community, being more than just healthcare professionals. He has a deep-rooted passion for reducing healthcare inequalities in regional and rural Australia. *Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation*



OLIVIA HAMILTON COOTAMUNDRA
Bachelor of Health Science

Olivia Hamilton enrolled in the Bachelor of Health Science at ANU as a pathway program to the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery in order to address the large health inequities that exist between rural and metropolitan areas. Being raised in the small country town of Cootamundra, and aware of the varying levels of health care access, she plans on returning after her studies, hopefully with a specialisation in paediatrics or neurology. *Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation*



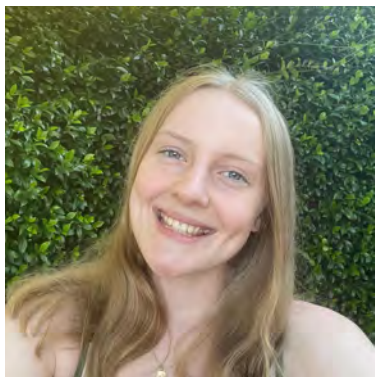
PHOEBE NELSON TOOLEYBUC
Bachelor of Education (K-12)

Phoebe Nelson is a first-year primary/secondary education student at Charles Sturt University in Albury. She grew up in the Western Riverina district of NSW at Tooleybuc, almost a thousand km from Sydney. Phoebe has spent all her life living in rural areas of New South Wales. She has a special affinity with animals and once finishing her degree in education, seeks to bring her passion to engaging students in succeeding in all aspects of education in rural and remote school settings. *Scholarship donated by: OCS Fun Pty Ltd*



PHOEBE SKENE COWRA
Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Honours) (Diagnostic Radiography)

Phoebe Skene grew up on a cattle and cropping farm outside of Cowra and is now studying a Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Honours) (Diagnostic Radiography) at the University of Newcastle. She hopes to work as a radiographer and play a role in improving the health opportunities for rural and regional NSW. Phoebe would like to work in a wide range of different rural communities in order to broaden her knowledge and expertise and provide quality health services. *Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown*



RAIYA GYLES GRIFFITH
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Raiya Gyles is studying a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy with the goal of returning to Griffith and providing much-needed health services to her local community. She would like to focus on working with children and the elderly and ensuring they can be independent and feel confident and strong with their physical capabilities. Raiya was an active participant in the Save our Hospital rally in Griffith in 2017 and could one day work within this facility providing a specialty health service. *Scholarship donated by: Graham O'Neil*



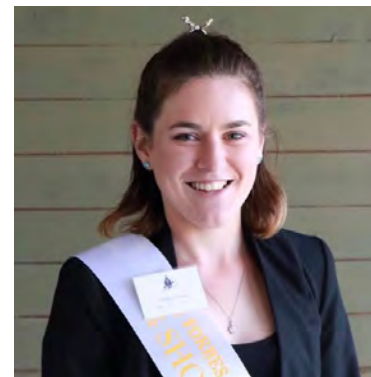
ROHAN COWLEY INVERELL
Bachelor of Teaching (K-6)

Rohan Cowley is in his second year at the University of New England studying a Bachelor of Teaching K-6. He has long had a strong desire to become a teacher particularly in a remote rural location, believing location, distance, socio-economic disadvantage and accessibility should not define a student or prevent them from realising their goals. Rohan wants to educate, nurture and have a positive impact on students, supporting and inspiring them to be active community members. *Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown /UNE Foundation*



RUBEY WILLIAMS BERRIMA
Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management

Rubey Williams and her family run over 1,000 alpacas, sheep and cattle in the Southern Highlands of NSW. She is currently studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management at Charles Sturt University and hopes to establish a large-scale commercial alpaca operation in rural NSW. An operation like this will bring employment, product and service to the area. It will also encourage professional services into the area, such as agronomists and agribusiness consultants. *Scholarship donated by: Coolawarra Alpacas*



SALLY DOWNIE JEMALONG
Bachelor of Agricultural Science

Sally Downie is studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Charles Sturt University. She grew up on a dairy farm near Forbes before moving to a sheep and cropping property near Trundle. Sally is studying online in order to stay in her community whilst setting herself up for a future in agriculture. In the future she wants to use the degree on her own farm and work as an animal nutritionist. *Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family*



SALLY JUDSON BOGAN GATE
Combined Bachelor of Arts/Laws (BA/LLB)

Sally is from a wheat and sheep farm outside of Bogan Gate and is currently studying a combined Bachelor of Arts (majoring in Australian History) and Laws. Once she graduates and commences her legal career Sally hopes to provide innovative legal services that will allow people to receive assistance and know their rights, no matter their postcode. Sally aims to work in a regional setting, combining her passions for her community, agriculture and the law. *Scholarship donated by: Michael & Jenny Millner*



SAVANNA GRIFFITH PORT MACQUARIE
Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine

Savanna Griffith is a 5th year medical student studying at UNSW. Born and raised in Port Macquarie, she has just moved back following the completion of a research year at the Sydney Children's Hospital. The return home enables Savanna to complete her degree with a focus on rural healthcare and to build strong connections within the community she hopes to serve.

Scholarship donated by: Regional Australia Bank



STEPHANIE CAMERON GUYRA
Bachelor of Primary Education

Stephanie Cameron grew up on a family farm west of Guyra. She is the 6th generation on the family farm and has always enjoyed working and assisting with running super fine wool Merinos. She is at the University of New England completing a Bachelor of Primary Education and plans on following this with a Master of Education to become an agriculture teacher and play a role helping shape the future of regional and rural NSW.

Scholarship donated by: TA Field Family/RAS Foundation



SHANNON BEST GRENFELL
Bachelor of Nursing

Shannon Best is a second-year Bachelor of Nursing student at Charles Sturt University in Bathurst. She grew up on a family farm outside of Grenfell, NSW with a strong awareness of the crucial role nurses play in facilitating important healthcare services for regional communities. Shannon hopes to work with communities like these when she completes her degree, providing the level of care that rural patients deserve.

Scholarship donated by: Quayclean



STEPHANIE FERGUSON BATHURST
Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Stephanie Ferguson is a Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Veterinary Science student at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. Growing up on a beef and wool property, she experienced first-hand the hardships that primary producers experience and the difference rural veterinarians can make. Stephanie hopes to work with primary producers to help increase the productivity and profitability of their herds.

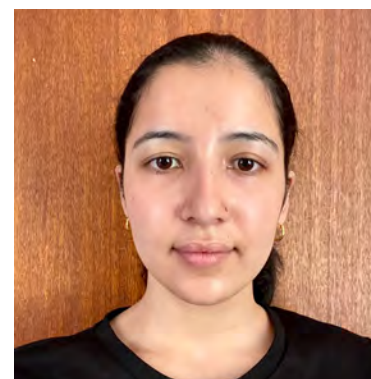
Scholarship donated by: NSW Stud Merino Breeders' Association



SHIANE MASON FINLEY
Pathway Enabling Course

Shiane Mason believes a career in agriculture will allow her to help shape her community and the future of regional NSW, achieved through her Pathway Enabling Course. She wants to assist farmers and primary producers and share knowledge and expertise. A proud indigenous woman, she feels a sense of belonging and community in agriculture and knows this industry is the lifeblood of rural and regional communities.

Scholarship donated by: Susan Maple-Brown /UNE Foundation



SWAZI SHARMA DUBBO
Bachelor of Medical Sciences

Swazi Sharma is from Dubbo and is studying a Bachelor of Medical Sciences at Macquarie University. She is majoring in anatomy and physiology, with a minor in genomics and medical informatics with hopes of going on to study medicine. Knowing how rural communities suffer due to a lack of medical professionals, Swazi wants to become a doctor and improve the lives of people in these communities.

Scholarship donated by: Carmel Dyer-Pitroff



TALISSA POLSEN YASS
Bachelor of Animal Science

Talissa Polsen has begun a degree in animal science with hopes to transfer to a Bachelor of Veterinary Science/Veterinary Biology. Her love of animals started on the farm she grew up on, and her focus from a young age has always been to study vet science and open her own practice. Talissa wants to create a community where people feel confident in asking for help, opinions and advice regarding animals and animal production.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



TARA GRAY YERRINBOOL
Certificate IV in Agriculture

Tara Gray is doing a Certificate IV in Agriculture at Tocal Agricultural College. She has already completed her Certificate II in Agriculture and her Certificate III in Agriculture Production. She enjoys working with dairy and beef cattle, sheep, studying agribusiness and operating farm machinery. Tara's goals are to work on a dairy farm, putting her skills to use whilst making a name for herself in the agricultural industry.

Scholarship donated by: The Snow Foundation



TEANNA HAYWOOD TAMWORTH
Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine

Teanna Haywood is a fifth-year medical student, studying in Port Macquarie. She grew up on a cattle property outside of Tamworth and had a broad exposure to agriculture including the difficulties rural communities face accessing medical care. Teanna hopes to practice medicine in a remote or rural community in the future, working as a rural obstetric generalist and providing exceptional care in the area of women's health.

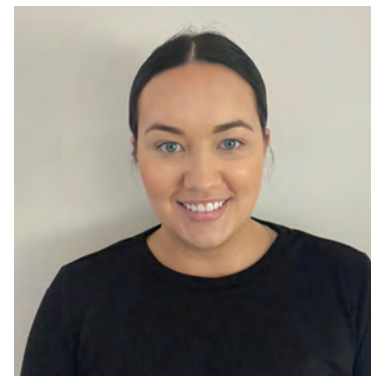
Scholarship donated by: Carmel Dyer-Pitroff



TIMOTHY NELSON TOOLEYBUC
Bachelor of Nursing

Timothy Nelson is a Bachelor of Nursing student at Charles Sturt University, Albury. Timothy is the youngest of triplets and has lived across the Riverina in many rural and remote locations. He has a passion for rural health and after completing his studies at university, Timothy hopes to help lessen the serious gap in medical treatment between rural and urban areas by providing his skills to the local community.

Scholarship donated by: David & Belinda Davidson



TORI FULLER KEMPSEY
Master of Health Management

Tori is from Kempsey on the Mid North Coast and has relocated to Sydney where she completed her Bachelor of Health Science (Mental Health) at Charles Sturt University while working full-time in Adult Community Mental Health. This is where she found her impetus to continue to expand her knowledge and career as a health professional. Tori is now studying a Master of Health Management and will use this to take on a leadership role in her community regarding access to healthcare services.

Scholarship donated by: UNE Foundation

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.



ALYS MARSHALL BURREN JUNCTION

Burren Junction in north west NSW, with its population of 276, has long been famous for its Bore Bath but now the bath has some real competition from fourth-year Bachelor of Journalism and Arts student Alys Marshall. As recipient of the 2021 JB Fairfax Award for Rural Journalism Alys attended the Sydney Royal Easter Show and completed an internship in the Media Centre. Alys also has the opportunity to take up print and radio internships in Sydney and Brisbane. A particular interest in the stories of women on the land and the strength and resilience they show, particularly as farms battle horrendous weather conditions and families are separated by the struggles of seeking education and employment, has Alys hoping to write for publications seeking real stories not just news. Alys believes all Australians should read about life on the land and hopefully gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for rural living.

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.

Scholarships donated by RAS Wine Committee



ANDRES ARAGAN

Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development

Breaking into the wine industry Andres was seeking mentors and greater accessibility to help with his understanding and education, and now is in a position to play that role himself. The WSET Level 4 Diploma will broaden his wine knowledge and give him the confidence to guide young sommeliers. Andres names research, sustainability and education as his motivations, and is determined to play a role within the wine community, making wine appreciation more consumer-friendly.



JESSICA CLARK

Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development

A desire to make sustainable long-term decisions is one of the factors behind Jessica Clark undertaking the AWRI Advanced Viticulture course, with soils and water conservation top of mind. Understanding the link between the vineyard and the winery is vital, and one she believes will reduce unnecessary physical work and enhance the quality and taste of wine produced.



MARK LAW
Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development

The Advanced Wine Assessment Course trains the palate to detect subtle nuances between wines of the same grape and vintage, even the same region and will fill the gaps in Mark's education and skill set. His career has transitioned from sales to sommelier and on to wine merchant, with training and experience furthering his ambitions and deep affection for the Australian wine industry.



NICOLE BILSON
Sydney Royal Wine Professional Development

The AWRI Advanced Wine Assessment Course will see Nicole Bilson take her career to the next level and guarantee her future as a wine educator and ambassador for the Australian wine industry. Nicole is driven by the need to promote the local industry and ensure our judges, winemakers and sommeliers can hold their own against international tastes and tell the stories of Australian wines above all others. Nicole's scholarship is sponsored by The Len Evans Tutorial Foundation



GIANNA FUIMARA
Sydney Royal Wine Study

With a world-renowned wine region at its back door it is fitting that the Bachelor of Viticulture & Oenology at the University of Adelaide enticed Gianna to move across from Leeton in NSW. Gianna respects the individuality of each bottle of wine and its ability to tell the story of a region, country and winemaker, and is equally fascinated by the complexity of the industry. Gianna aims to be at the forefront of innovation within the Australian wine industry, blending inspiration from thousands of years of winemaking with modern methods for today's consumers.



JARED BIANCHINI
Sydney Royal Wine Study

With a childhood spent on harvesters and tractors, and many a ride taking a truckload of grapes to the winery it was inevitable Jared would grow up and find his way into a Bachelor of Wine Science degree. Jared tried his hand at a few things, but a seasonal job at a vineyard in south Tuscany reminded him of his first love and he came home to study and work in the Australian wine industry. Jared hopes to immerse himself in research and development and to explore environmentally friendly techniques in winemaking.



SAMANTHA SUTHERLAND
Sydney Royal Wine Study

Studying a Bachelor of Wine Science at Charles Sturt University, Samantha is taking advantage of the opportunity to meet mentors and form relationships with fellow aspiring vintners. Acknowledging the highs and lows of a career reliant on Mother Nature mixed with science, Samantha is combining her studies with a vast range of volunteer and work experience in areas including judging, trade tastings, hospitality work and vineyards. Samantha's goal is to craft her own wine and play a role in the community of winemakers in Australia



THOMAS HOUGHTON
Sydney Royal Wine Study

A Bachelor of Agriculture & Technology (Viticulture & Winemaking) will see Thomas graduate ready to commence his career as a winemaker with a broader understanding of marketing, business, research opportunities, and producing high quality fruit in an everchanging climate. Thomas has worked as a cellar hand, tasting host, and assistant winemaker, and has developed a keen interest in the disciplines of science, nature and art in each bottle of wine produced.

RASF NUFFIELD SCHOLARSHIP

Nuffield Farming Scholarships were first awarded in 1947 and forged a trail in the fields of seeds, wool and dairy farming. Nuffield Scholars continue to learn and share knowledge all around the world and the RASF is proud to lend its support by sponsoring a Scholarship.



MICHAEL CAINS KNIGHTS HILL

Taking his place amongst those who are determined to make positive changes in the agriculture sector, Michael Cains is the 2021 RASF-sponsored Nuffield recipient and will travel from his home in Robertson, NSW to the United States and Canada in order to explore best-practice approaches to raw milk cheese (RMC) production, training and marketing. Michael is the owner of Pecora Dairy, the only sheep milking enterprise in New South Wales, milking 150 ewes to produce award-winning cheeses including a blue, fresh curd and a mould-ripened bloomy. Through his scholarship, Michael plans to investigate global agricultural methods of dairy farming for RMC production, how to harness the presence of beneficial local micro-flora and seasonal conditions, create unique, safe cheeses that reflect the landscape, and analyse the business model of RMC to quantify opportunity for business growth.

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.

NORTH STAR CWA

KYLIE PEARLMAN

North Star is an isolated rural community approximately 742 km north north-west of Sydney, with a dedicated CWA and an 82-year-old Memorial Hall in desperate need of maintenance. The tallowwood floor in the hall has borne the weight of dancers, pre-schoolers, fitness groups, ANZAC Day service attendees, primary school students, and a lot more, and is now in need of some serious nail punching, hole filling, sanding, and sealing. The renovated floor surface will make the Memorial Hall safer, more attractive, and the first option for groups seeking a venue for activities.

AGRICULTURAL PASTORAL AND SHOW SOCIETY OF LOCKHART INC.

WILLIAM ALLITT

Located in the Riverina region of NSW, Lockhart has a Show Society looking for ways to increase community events and enhance the experience for attendees and participants. New equipment including a portable stage and steps, plus tables and chairs will reduce costs associated with hiring equipment, ensuring funds raised at events will stay with the Society. The new stage with easier access will allow for greater inclusion and benefit a wide range of community groups. Event attendees will feel welcomed with extra tables and seating, improving the look of the Showground.

CUMNOCK SHOW SOCIETY

RHONDA WATT

In the west north-west of NSW, the small town of Cumnock has a Show Society kitchen needing more storage space, new equipment, and working areas for prep and cooking. The Showground is a major hub for the community, holding the annual Show, horse events, dog competitions, Council events, and seminars. The kitchen barely complies with health and safety standards and will not survive much longer, and important moneymaking opportunities will be lost. The kitchen upgrade will lead to increased use of the facilities from the community and funds to ensure the Showground can continue to improve and enhance all of its facilities.

UARBRY HALL ASSOCIATION

GRANT PIPER

In the middle of the Central West, a rest stop must be equipped with Public Use Water and Amenities, and that is exactly what the people of Uarbry are after – amenities/public toilets alongside the shaded structure weary travellers are drawn to. The shade structure was built to replace the Historic Uarbry Hall – destroyed by the Sir Ivan bushfire in 2017, but amenities weren't included. The small community calling this village home wants to attract visitors off the highway and hope picnic tables, shade, toilets, and some peace and quiet could be just the thing to do it.

TRUNDLE SHOW TRUST

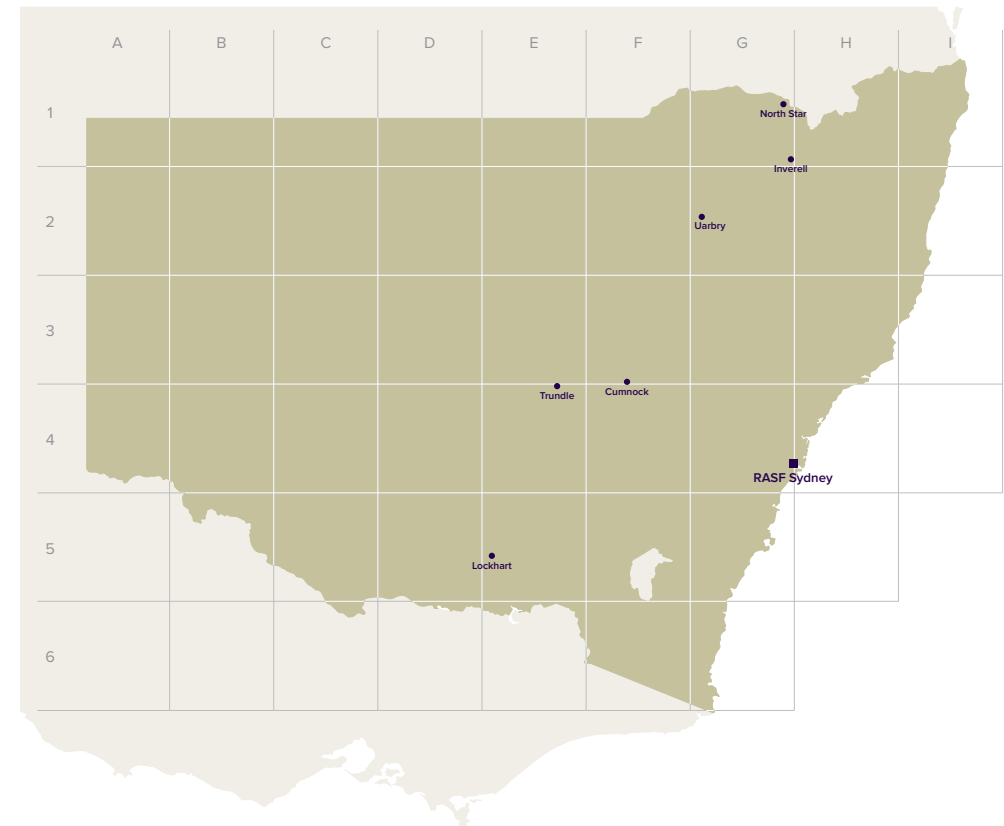
DEBBIE ANDERSON

Trundle Showground, in the Central West of NSW, is home to an impressive range of events including the annual Agricultural Show, Bush Tucker Day, ABBA Festival and Australia's only flatland hang gliding competition – Wings Out West. The Showground has a full calendar of annual events, but the current facilities struggle to cope, and volunteers are reluctant to assist due to compromised safety and incredibly poor working conditions. The revamp of the hospitality area will make the venue more functional, easier to work in, and ease the workload and stress of volunteers.

INVERELL COMMUNITY GARDENS

JANE O'BRIEN

The Community Garden in Inverell has been an absolute labour of love for all concerned since its inception in 2013. Nine years later and the land on which they grow was reclaimed by the council and they had to find a new home. The move allowed for smarter planning, and shade is a priority for volunteers and visitors. The Garden is an amazing space, providing a social hub, educational area, sense of purpose, creative outlet, and an enhanced sense of belonging to a nurturing community. The construction of shade shelter by a hardy bunch of volunteers will further contribute to this self-sustaining community hub.



KEY

● Community Futures Grants



THE AG BAG

RASF Patron Mr Dennis Wilson (third from right) lends a hand at the RASF AG Bag stand at the 2021 Sydney Royal Easter Show.

L-R: William Davies (RAS Honorary Councillor), Maria Gioffre (RAS Admin), Bruce Paynter (RAS Board), Robyn Clubb AM (RAS Chair), Caitlin Armson-Graham (RAS Rural Scholar), Mr Dennis Wilson, Brad Chapman (RAS Rural Scholar), Cecilia Logan (RAS Manager)

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We sincerely thank the following donors and supporters for their generous support of the RAS Foundation in 2021.

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