

australian rural leadership program

DIRECTORY COURSE 10 > 2003-04

THIS IS A DIRECTORY OF THE PARTICIPANTS
IN THE TENTH INTAKE OF THE AUSTRALIAN RURAL
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

A unique opportunity for selected rural and regional leaders to undertake a program of personal growth and develop the skills, knowledge and networks needed to be effective in regional, state, national and international arenas.

Comprising professional and personal leadership skills development, examination of key national and international issues and interaction with leaders in government, industry and the community.

Cover photograph: Course 10 in the Kimberley - May 2003



Trevor Adil Mareeba, QLD

Sponsor: Sugar R & D Corporation

Trevor manages a diversified irrigation cropping enterprise in Far North Queensland. He holds an Honours degree in Civil and Systems Engineering and is a Corporate Member of the Institution of Engineers Australia. Trevor is also President of the Mareeba Wetlands Foundation, a not-for-profit conservation organisation responsible for the development of a tourism-based enterprise on previously degraded and abandoned land at the base of the Hann Tableland in Far North Queensland.



Nick Austin Orange, NSW

Sponsor: NSW Agriculture

Nick is an Executive Policy Analyst for NSW Agriculture, based in Orange. He is committed to achieving practical solutions to natural resource management challenges in agriculture. Nick is a member of the Murray-Darling Basin Commission's Landscapes and Industries Program Knowledge Committee and was Manager of the NSW Node of the Cooperative Research Centre for Plant-based Management of Dryland Salinity. Nick is a Certified Irrigation Designer, holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Agriculture (Hons), and a PhD in sustainable agriculture.



Jack Barelay Colac, VIC

Sponsor: Australian Meat Processors Corporation Ltd

Jack is Chief Executive and Managing Director of CRF (Colac Otway), located at Colac in Western Victoria. CRF processes lamb and veal for the domestic and export markets. Jack is also a Director of a family property producing prime lamb, wool and cropping. He has worked for many years in regional economic development and maintains a strong commitment to improving the performance of regional economies. He has a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics and an MBA.



Martin Breen Brisbane, QLD

Sponsor: Fisheries R & D Corporation

Martin is Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Prawn Farmers Association. He has an Honours Degree in Environmental Studies from James Cook University with a double major in geography. Martin has eight years of involvement in natural resource management and agri-politics, having worked for Queensland Commercial Fishermen's Organisation, Queensland Fisheries Service and now the aquaculture industry. He is a member of the National Aquaculture Council, and various state and federal government advisory committees and industry associations.



Stephen Brown Maryborough, QLD

Sponsor: Education Queensland

Stephen is currently employed by Education Queensland as Executive Director Schools for the Fraser Coast District. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Management and the Australian Council for Educational Leaders. Stephen actively participates in community events and a variety of sports such as tennis and golf. He holds a Masters degree from the University of London and is currently studying for his Doctorate in Education.



Jeff Burgess Gulnare, SA

Sponsor: Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services

Jeff manages his family's farming enterprise in the Mid North of South Australia. He is a member of SA State Government Regional Community Consultative Committee, Local Government Association State Executive and R & D Scheme, Chairman SA Regional Organisations of Councils, Central LG Region Executive Committee (Chair 1999-2002) and Chairman Northern Areas Council. He has undertaken numerous courses related to agriculture and local government.



Brianna Casey Brisbane, QLD

Sponsor: Telstra

Brianna is Executive Director of Queensland Farmers' Federation, representing more than 18,000 primary producers across the state. Brianna started with QFF as Environment Officer before being appointed Executive Director in mid-2001. She has a background in environmental science and natural resource management. Her current areas of interest include drought management, industry development, natural resource management and the promotion of rural industries through educational programs for children. Brianna has a Bachelor of Science in Australian Environmental Studies.



Steve Cresswell Wagga Wagga, NSW

Sponsor: Westpac Banking Corporation

Steve is a Senior Agribusiness Manager for Westpac's Regional Banking Division, based at Wagga Wagga. He was born and raised in Hay, NSW and has spent 20 years with Westpac, mostly in the Riverina region. Steve holds an Advanced Diploma in Agribusiness from the University of Sydney, and has specialised in rural business for the last 10 years. He is also a board member of the Murrumbidgee Turf Club.



James Houlahan Moree, NSW

Sponsor: Cotton R & D Corporation

James is Deputy Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety. He leads the strategic planning of the national farm injury prevention program and provides OHS consultancy to rural industry and government. He has a strong interest in rural innovation and supporting regional development. James is an OHS and environmental auditor, a Churchill Fellow and has a Masters in Science and Technology (UNSW), and Graduate Certificate in Management.



Linda Hygate Melbourne, VIC

Sponsor: Australian Wool Innovation Ltd

Linda is a consultant with The Mackinnon Project, University of Melbourne, working to improve the profitability of wool production. She is involved in numerous industry and scientific organisations, associated with genetic improvement in the wool industry. Her focus is to improve communication and links between scientists and wool producers, to improve cooperation and hence profitability. Linda has an honors degree in Agricultural Science and a Graduate Diploma of Agricultural Economics.



Deranie Jackson Orange, NSW

Sponsor: Environment Australia

Deranie runs "Growing Rural Communities", consulting in rural leadership training, community facilitation and natural resource management. She is involved in Landcare and the family beef/sheep property "Coronga". Deranie has Bachelor's degrees in Economics and Earth Sciences and is completing a Masters of Applied Science (Social Ecology). Her vision is for a rural Australia that seeks and embraces change and diversity and has a passionate belief in its future.



Craig Jones Brisbane, QLD

Sponsor: Department of Primary Industries Queensland

Craig has worked with Aboriginal peoples, governments and the mining and pastoral industries in the development of agreements since 1990. He has recently been appointed an Associate Professor at James Cook University in Cairns and is the Director of the Native Title Studies Centre. Craig has an Honours degree in environmental studies (Griffith University) and is an accredited mediator (LEADR). He is also a doctoral student at the University of Queensland where his research is focused on cross-cultural mediation theory and practice.



Sabina Knight Alice Springs, NT

Sponsor: Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing

Sabina is a remote area nurse, health advocate and senior lecturer at the Centre for Remote Health in Alice Springs. Sabina is a past chair of the National Rural Health Alliance and president of the Council of Remote Area Nurses of Australia, where she is currently a board member. Sabina is convener of the Central Australian Rural Practitioners Association and holds a Masters of Tropical Health from the University of Queensland.



Toshie Kris Moa Island, Torres Strait

Sponsor: Ports Corporation Queensland

Toshie is chairperson of St Paul's Council, a role similar to that of Mayor in Australian Local Government. He has a Certificate in Environmental Health Services, ATSI Primary Health Care, an Associate Diploma in Environmental Health Studies, an Advanced Diploma in Environment Studies and is a qualified Workplace Assessor / Trainer. Toshie is passionate about his community. He is committed to ensuring that his community continues to improve education, health and employment opportunities for its members.



Helen Lamont Cleve, SA

Sponsor: Primary Industries and Resources South Australia

Helen is a Principal Consultant within Rural Solutions SA, a Government owned rural consulting business. Helen supports business management and leads a team of consultants based across South Australia. She is a Government representative on the Eyre Peninsula Integrated Natural Resource Management Committee. Helen holds a Diploma in Applied Science (Natural Resource Management), a Graduate Diploma in Education, a Post Graduate Diploma in Agriculture and Farming Systems and a Professional Certificate in Business Management.



Simon Lott Armidale, NSW

Sponsor: Rural Industries R & D Corporation

Dr Simon Lott is CEO of E.A. Systems, an Australian company involved in primary industries, the environment, and research and development. He is a partner in a farming enterprise on the Darling Downs. Simon lectures in environment management and is an environmental and agricultural engineer, agricultural and soil scientist and an environmental auditor. He is a Director of the Condamine Alliance and the Agforce member on the Condamine Catchment Management Association.



Pete Mailler Surat, QLD

Sponsor: Grains R & D Corporation

Pete is an Agricultural Consultant providing on farm agronomic solutions for producers and also undertakes industry projects and policy development for the grain industry.

Pete is a Director of Agforce Grains, Conservation Farmers Inc and is the Executive Officer of the Australian Durum Industry Association.

Pete and his wife Clare own and run "Warrina", a small farm near Surat, approximately five hours west of Brisbane.



Tim Mirabella Hastings, VIC

Sponsor: Fisheries R & D Corporation

Tim is a fifth generation commercial fisherman, operating in Port Phillip and Western Port Bays. He is the inaugural chairperson of the Victoria Bays and Inlets Fisherman's Association, and is a Board Member of Victoria's Fishing Industry Peak Body, Seafood Industry Victoria.

Tim is the industry representative of the Fishing Licence Appeals Tribunal. He has a Diploma of Applied Science in Fisheries Technology from The Australian Maritime College.



Jane Mouritz Hyden, WA

Sponsor: News Limited

Jane is a Director of "Hydillowah", her family's cattle breeding, cropping and feedlot enterprise. She is also keenly involved in the Hyden community and is Deputy President of the Shire of Kondinin.

Jane serves on national committees, including Family and Community Services Stronger Families and Communities Partnership, National Advisory Council on Ageing, and Internet Assistance Advisory Panel.

Jane won WA's 2000 Rural Achiever and the ARLN 2001 Outstanding Rural Leader Award.



Ron Paynter Ellinbank, VIC

Sponsor: Dairy Australia

Ron is managing partner operating a family dairy enterprise at Ellinbank, Victoria. He chairs the regional dairy development program, GippsDairy, and sits on the executive council of National Dairy Alliance, the regional "Target 10" committee and various research advisory groups. Ron is also involved in apprentice training with Melbourne University and an active CFA volunteer. Ron holds a degree in Agricultural Science (La Trobe) and Graduate Diploma in Education.



Felicity Robson Teneriffe, QLD

Sponsor: Horticulture Australia / Harvest FreshCuts

Felicity is the National Marketing and Sales Manager for The Harvest Company, a leading fresh fruit and vegetable marketer, specialising in supply chain management and the commercialisation of products that have a significant point-of-difference in the marketplace. Felicity is responsible for the development and management of category plans for all customers. Felicity graduated from Bond University with a Bachelor of Commerce and holds a Master of Arts (Public Relations).



Sam Robson Sydney, NSW

Sponsor: Horticulture Australia / Harvest FreshCuts

Sam is the National Sales and Marketing Manager for Harvest FreshCuts. Harvest FreshCuts is an innovative chilled foods manufacturer producing a wide range of value-added, prepacked salads and vegetable products for today's convenience driven consumer.

In April 2003, the business was recognised as the International Freshcut Processors Association's "International processor of the year" - the first time a company outside the USA has won the award.

Sam is responsible for category growth, customer management and product and service innovation.



Robyn Sefton Deniliquin, NSW

Sponsor: Rice R & D Committee/CWA NSW

Robyn is a partner with her husband in their mixed irrigation and rice farm and is also employed as the Community Development Officer for the Deniliquin Council for Social Development Inc, providing many community services within the region.

Robyn, an advocate for rural communities, is currently the Riverina delegate for the NSW Local Community Services Association, and has served on many local and regional committees.

Robyn has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Community Social Welfare.



Gerry Smith Canberra, ACT

Sponsor: Commonwealth Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry - Australia

Gerry is a General Manager with Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Australia. He is a Senior Executive leading the delivery of the Australian Government's two major environmental and sustainability programs.

Throughout his career, Gerry has worked in six different government organisations and has particular expertise in managing change. He holds an AGSM post-graduate diploma in Management from the University of NSW.



Shelley Spriggs
Canberra, ACT

Sponsor: Commonwealth Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry - Australia

Shelley is Manager of Rural Industries Leadership (RIL) at Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Australia. RIL works with special client groups to increase their participation in industry and government decision making.

She is a member of Australian Women in Agriculture and works in a voluntary capacity for Barnados Australia and The Red Cross.

Shelley has a Master of Science degree (Agriculture and Environmental Policy).



Ben Swain
Gunnedah, NSW

Sponsor: Australian Wool Innovation Ltd

Ben is a wool grower and Principal of BCS Agribusiness Solutions. His consultancy business provides advice to the international wool industry and solutions for product distribution and supply sourcing. Ben's involvement in his family's agricultural business focuses predominately on wool production and sheep breeding. Ben has a Bachelor's Degree in Applied Science with Honors (Wool and Pastoral Science) and has recently concluded seven years with the Australian Wool Exchange Ltd.



Stephen Tapsall
Darwin, NT

Sponsor: Rural Press Ltd

Stephen is CSIRO Project Leader with the Tropical Savannas Management CRC where he currently works with the North Australian Beef Industry on natural resource management issues. He has previously worked with Government and organisations such as the fishing and sugar industry undertaking roles of industry representation, policy development and research through much of Northern Australia. Stephen holds a Bachelor of Science in Australian Environmental Studies and Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Land Management.



Maria Townsend
Tanumbirini Station, NT

Sponsor: Meat and Livestock Australia

Maria and her husband Henry purchased Tanumbirini Station in 2002. Together they manage the station with a view of operating a profitable business that is ecologically sustainable. Maria is still actively involved in the Katherine School of Air with her son doing correspondence and 2 daughters at boarding school in Toowoomba. Maria has a Certificate in Environmental Biology.



Duane Vickery
Forest Lake, QLD

Sponsor: Commonwealth Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry Australia / Indigenous Land Corporation

Duane is of Aboriginal and South Pacific Islander descent. He is the National Capacity Development Manager for the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC). Duane's role is to increase indigenous people's capacity to confidently and competently manage their land to achieve sustainable benefits. Duane holds a Teaching Diploma, Bachelor of Education, Master of Professional Studies, Cert IV Workplace Training and Assessment and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) course.



Lyneve Whiting
Warrnambool, VIC

Sponsor: Department of Sustainability and Environment

Lyneve is a Community Engagement Project Manager with the Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment. Her role includes initiating change management strategies to enhance integrated and sustainable development of/rural communities. Lyneve is also President/Board Director of Community Connections Vic. Ltd, a \$4.5m social justice, community development company employing over 100 staff and 350 volunteers across South West Victoria. Lyneve holds a Master of Social Work (Monash) and is a JP.



John Williams
Warrnambool, VIC

Sponsor: Geoffrey Gardiner Foundation

John is General Manager, Sales and Marketing for Warrnambool Cheese and Butter Factory. He is responsible for the sales and marketing of dairy products in both the domestic and international markets. John is also a Director of the Australian Ingredient Centre. He has lived and worked overseas with most of that time spent in Japan.

John has a Bachelor of Economics (Asian Studies) and a Graduate Diploma in International business.



Linda Zunker
Bundaberg, QLD

Sponsor: Rural Industries R & D Corporation

Linda is a fifth generation farmer currently farming in partnership in the Hummock area east of Bundaberg. She is actively involved in all aspects of their farming enterprises sweet potato, Sebago potato and sugar cane production. Linda is Secretary of Women in Sugar Bundaberg and District, and a member of several community and industry related groups. Linda received a Service to Industry Award in the Bundaberg 2001 Sugar Industry Awards.



THESE MEN AND WOMEN ARE COMMITTED TO SHARING A VISION FOR AND SHAPING THE FUTURE OF RURAL AND REGIONAL AUSTRALIA



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