

# AUSTRALIAN RURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## DIRECTORY COURSE 14 » 2007-08

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



**AUSTRALIAN RURAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION**  
LEADING THE NATION

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 14 in the Kimberley - May 2007



**Elise ANNING MUNSIE**  
*Armidale NSW*  
Telstra Country Wide: Telstra Scholarship  
Elise is the General Manager for North West NSW for Telstra Country Wide. She is responsible for Telstra-related activities in this region. Elise is also a wool, fat lamb and beef producer near Guyra NSW. She is a member of the Guyra Show Society, many business groups and a Director of Tourism Tamworth.  
Elise has a Communications Degree and is a Justice of the Peace.



**Crispian ASHBY**  
*Canberra ACT*  
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation: Fisheries Scholarship  
Crispian is the Programs Manager at the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation. This role involves investing in and managing research and development projects that will benefit all stakeholders of Australian fisheries and realise the FRDC's vision and mission.  
Crispian has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Fisheries Technology and a Graduate Diploma in Biological Sciences.



**Jane ATKINSON**  
*Warren NSW*  
Rural Press: Rural Press Scholarship  
Jane has worked most of her life as a Rural Financial Counsellor. She is currently working for ABARE as a Field Data Collector. Jane is an elected Councillor for Coonamble Shire Council, Chairperson for the local Rural Transaction Centre, Secretary/Treasurer of Marthaguy Picnic Race Committee and a member of numerous community groups and organisations.  
Jane holds a Business Degree (Agricultural Commerce) and a Diploma in Community Services (Financial Counselling).



**Sue BELL**  
*Padthaway SA*  
Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation: Grape and Wine Scholarship  
Sue is Senior Winemaker/Manager at Hardy Wine Company's Stonehaven Winery. Sue has worked in California, France and across Australia. Sue is currently involved with the Wrattonbully Wine Industry Association and is on the executive committee of the Limestone Coast Wine Industry Council. Sue is passionate about long term sustainability for cool climate Australian wine through regional promotion, research, responsible environmental management and water use.  
Sue studied Agricultural Science (Oenology) at the University of Adelaide.



**Lawford BENNING**  
*Kununurra WA*  
Department of Local Government and Regional Development - WA: Departmental Scholarship  
Lawford is the Community Information Coordinator with the Kimberley Development Commission. Lawford's role is to communicate Indigenous development priorities amongst traditional owners and government, as well as to broker and negotiate service delivery outcomes affecting traditional owners.  
Lawford feels his role is enhanced by respectfully and sensitively interpreting the information to the elders so they can use their judgement and wisdom to make the right decision on matters affecting the Corporation.



**Renee BLACKMAN**  
*Fortitude Valley QLD*  
Department of Health and Ageing: Rural Health Scholarship  
Renee is a Chronic Disease Coordinator for the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council. For the past seven years she has worked in Mount Isa as a registered nurse, Aboriginal Health Educator and Nursing Sciences Lecturer. Renee is a registered nurse and holds qualifications in Aboriginal Health. She is currently undertaking her Masters in Public Health.  
A proud descendent of the Gubbi Gubbi people in Queensland, Renee would like to assist her community in facilitating changes that benefit all people.



**Tim BRAY**  
*Secret Harbour WA*  
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation: Community Leader Scholarship  
Tim is the Program Manager for Fish and Fish Habitat Protection in the Department of Fisheries, Western Australia. Tim works across government to deliver marine and coastal planning outcomes that promote sustainable resource use. Tim is a keen waterman and is involved with the Secret Harbour Surf Lifesaving Club and the Surf Beach Board Riders Club.  
Tim studied fisheries biology at the Australian Maritime College (affiliated with the University of Tasmania) and holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Fisheries).



**Lisa BRENNAN**  
*St Lucia QLD*  
CSIRO: Departmental Scholarship  
Lisa is the Divisional Executive Officer with CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems, and also has research interests in sustainability science, especially farming systems management. She has worked on a range of research projects in partnership with rural industries and communities to support improved ecological and economic performance of agricultural landscapes, particularly in the grains industry.  
Lisa has a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Agricultural Economics) and a PhD from the University of Queensland.



**Alistair BROOK**  
*Melbourne VIC*  
Elders Limited: Elders Scholarship  
Alistair is the State Business Development Manager for Elders Victoria/Riverina. His responsibilities include acquisitions, new product development, strategic business planning, key account management and marketing across Elders' diverse agribusiness product range. Alistair has a strong understanding of Agribusiness supply chains and focuses on developing relationships, efficiencies and systems, to respond to market signals.  
Alistair has a Diploma of Financial Services and a Certificate in Meat Science and Technology.



**Kate CLARKE**  
*Port Lincoln SA*  
Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry: Natural Resource Management Leader Scholarship  
Kate is the General Manager for the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board. This regional peak body has a responsibility to plan for and manage the region's natural resources to support environmentally sustainable outcomes. Kate has a long history working in rural South Australia within the health and environmental sectors.  
Kate has a Bachelor of Applied Science and post graduate qualifications in Business Administration.



**Peter CREASER**  
*Canberra ACT*  
Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry: Departmental Scholarship  
Peter is a Manager in the Australian Government Natural Resource Management Team that delivers grants to 56 regions across Australia. Peter's work with communities from the Eyre Peninsula and the Alinytjara Wilurara region in South Australia has inspired his interest in sustainable land management and rural policy.  
Peter coaches junior sport and has a Bachelor of Science and a Masters in Natural Resources.



**Jim CUDMORE**  
*Jondaryan QLD*  
Australian Lot Feeders Association: Industry Leader Scholarship  
Jim is General Manager of Kerwee Lot Feeders Pty Ltd, a business producing premium quality grainfed beef on the Darling Downs in Queensland for Stockyard. Jim represents industry interests on the Australian Lot Feeders Association (ALFA), a peak body responsible for the management of research and development, marketing and future directions for the beef industry.  
As an elected member of ALFA Council, his current focus is animal health and welfare, feedlot management and the environment.



**Susan FINDLAY-TICKNER**  
*Horsham VIC*  
Grains Research and Development Corporation: Grains Leader Scholarship  
Susan is a partner in a dryland cropping enterprise in Victoria's Wimmera. She also works for the Department of Primary Industries as Marketing and Development Manager. Susan is committed to ensuring that the Wimmera region continues to be a vibrant and significant contributor to Australia's economy and future.  
Susan holds a Masters Degree in Communications from Monash University and sits on the Board of the Australian Technology Parks Association.



**Tony GOODEN**  
*Brisbane QLD*  
Elders Limited: Elders Scholarship  
Tony is the State Manager of Elders Queensland, NSW and Top End of the NT Livestock Division. Tony manages livestock sales personnel in 35 branches involving over 100 employees directly engaged in marketing livestock to domestic and export markets. Tony is a director on the Queensland Board of the Australian Livestock and Property Agents Association, and a director of the Queensland Live Export Association.  
Tony is a licenced Real Estate Principal, holds a Certificate in Pastoral Practice and is a professional wool classifier.



**Russell GREGORY**  
*Geraldton WA*  
Department of Local Government and Regional Development - WA: Departmental Scholarship  
Russell is a Local Area Coordinator with the Western Australian Disability Services Commission. He is a committee member of the Bundigara Aboriginal Community Corporation, MAMA Radio Station and ATLAS (Access to Leisure and Sport for People with Disabilities), and regularly works as a volunteer in his community. Russell is a graduate of the Darwin Indigenous Leadership Program (2001) and holds a Bachelor of Social Science (Indigenous Community Development and Management) from Curtin University WA.  
Russell's traditional land spans the Kimberley from Beagle Bay community near Broome to Warmun community in the East Kimberley.



**Chris GRIFFIN**  
*Moe VIC*  
Dairy Australia: The Patrick Rowley Leadership Award  
Chris has been involved in the dairy industry for over 25 years. This involvement includes herd improvement and company representation, as well as formulating a number of industry programs. Chris is a Central Councillor of the United Dairy Farmers of Victoria and board member of Australian Dairy Farmers Limited. Chris' focus is to strive to achieve the best outcomes for the nation's milk producers and the industry as a whole.



**Tamara JAMES**  
*Beelihar WA*  
Australian Meat Processor Corporation: Industry Leader Scholarship  
Tamara has, until recently, been the Human Resources Manager for Burrangong Meat Processors. She is currently working in the field of human resources in Western Australia focusing on entry level training, indigenous employment and is studying team building through personality and behaviour analysis. Tamara is focused on finding solutions to the nation's skill and workforce shortages.  
Tamara holds a Bachelor of Business in Human Resource Management and Marketing.



**Alana JOHNSON**  
*Benalla VIC*  
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation: Rural Women's Scholarship  
Alana is a partner in cattle breeding and agro forestry in north east Victoria. She is a national and international rural consultant specialising in change management and farm succession planning. Alana is a director of the Foundation for Australian Agricultural Women, the Victorian Women's Trust, the Benalla Hospital and the Tomorrow: Today Foundation.  
Alana is a clinical Family Therapist, holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Social Work and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors course.



**Chris JOSEPH**  
*Dalby QLD*  
Grains Research and Development Corporation: Grains Leader Scholarship  
Chris is a third generation farmer growing grain, cotton and hay, using overhead irrigation. He is the secretary of the Gowrie Oakey Creek Irrigators Association Inc. which uses Toowoomba effluent and runoff for irrigation, a northern panel member of the Grains Research and Development Corporation, and an advisory board member of the Australian Agricultural College Corporation.  
Chris is a Justice of the Peace, a Rural Fire Warden, a member of Rotary and holds an Associate Diploma in Farm Management from the University of Queensland.



**Charlie KADDDY**  
*Thursday Island QLD*  
Torres Strait Regional Authority: Torres Strait Regional Authority Scholarship  
Charlie is currently the Acting Policy Officer at the Torres Strait Regional Authority. Prior to this role, Charlie developed a passion for Indigenous affairs during 8 years as a field officer with the Torres Strait Regional Authority. Charlie's focus is to develop and improve policies and programs for remote indigenous communities in the Torres Strait region, so they can enjoy the same level and quality of services as mainstream Australia. Charlie is a certified Computer Technician.



**Tom KENNEDY**  
*Edgecombe Beach TAS*  
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation: Fisheries Scholarship  
Tom is the Managing Director of Tasmanian Wilderness Oysters Pty Ltd - an oyster farm in North West Tasmania. Tom is currently Manager of Shipwreck at Pittwater, a director on the Board of Seafood Training Tasmania, a member of the Tasmanian Shellfish Executive Council and the Tasmanian Oyster Research Council.  
Tom has a Bachelor of Aquaculture from the University of Tasmania and is passionate about securing a future for rural communities.



**Alan LAWFORD**  
*Fitzroy Crossing WA*  
Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry: Indigenous Scholarship  
Alan is a committee member of the Kimberley Aboriginal Pastoralist Association and has recently been elected as the Indigenous representative on Northern Rangelands Management for Western Australia. Alan has provided input into the Kimberley Appropriate Economics Round Table Forums. Alan is the Chairperson of the Kurungal Council Inc, which is responsible for five Indigenous communities.  
Alan holds a Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment.



**Barb MADDEN**  
*Proston QLD*  
Department of Transport and Regional Services: Industry Leader Scholarship  
Barb is a director and partner in Smithfield Feedlot, a large cattle feeding enterprise in the South Burnett area of Queensland. Barb is also a Regional Business Coordinator for the Burnett Inland Economic Development Organisation, delivering regional business capacity-building programs throughout 14 communities within the Burnett region.  
Barb is a graduate of the Queensland University of Technology, and holds a Bachelor of Business (Accounting).



**Daniel MAINVILLE**  
*Morwell VIC*  
Department of Sustainability and Environment - Vic: Departmental Scholarship  
Daniel is the Team Leader - Crown Land Management in West Gippsland, Victoria. He works with communities and stakeholders to promote the sustainable management of Crown land. He also manages key major projects. He is interested in climate change and coastal management.  
Daniel holds a Bachelor of Science (Environmental Engineering), a Master of Science, and is a member of Engineers Australia, Professional Engineers Ontario, and the Water Environment Federation.



**Mark MORTON**  
*Armidale NSW*  
Cotton Research and Development Corporation, Auscott, Cotton Seed Distributors: Cotton Leader Scholarship  
Mark is a business and economic consultant with a 20 year association with the Australian cotton industry. He has been instrumental in challenging the industry's current economic structure and its implications for the Australian cotton grower. He has recently taken up the role as Operations Manager with Practical Systems Ltd, an agricultural software company based in Armidale NSW.  
Mark holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics from the University of New England and a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and Investment.



**Jocelyn OWEN**  
*Baranduda VIC*  
Department of Education - Victoria: Departmental Scholarship  
Jocelyn is the Principal of a large urban primary school in the regional city of Wodonga. She is committed to providing the school community with a contemporary curriculum rich in ICT skills, and relevant to the diverse pathways available to students. Jocelyn also operates a Limousine Cattle Stud with her family.  
Jocelyn holds a Diploma of Teaching (Primary), a Bachelor of Education and Information Technology Level II - Computer Applications.





**Steve PETTY**  
**Howard Springs NT**  
 Meat and Livestock Australia: Meat Leader Scholarship  
 Steve is the Director of the Northern Development Company, a consulting firm focused on the development of the northern beef and agricultural industries. Steve has particular interest in R&D and is Project Manager of a large joint venture R&D program focused on sustainable grazing management systems for northern Australia. Steve is also the Chairman of the local Landcare group, the Victoria River District Conservation Association. Steve has a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and a PhD in tropical cattle and pasture production.



**Annie PFEFFER**  
**Mt Tyson QLD**  
 Department of Primary Industries - QLD: Departmental Scholarship  
 Annie is a partner in a 500 hectare grain farm on the Darling Downs near Mount Tyson in Queensland. Annie is a director of Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority and Chairman of the Pittsworth and District Hospital Friendly Society Ltd. Her past involvements include Director of Grainco Australia and President of the Australian Sunflower Association. Annie holds a Bachelor of Business and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors Program.



**Sharon RICHARDS**  
**Warrnambool VIC**  
 Centrelink: Departmental Scholarship  
 Sharon is the Manager of Social Work Services, West Victoria, with Centrelink. Prior to joining Centrelink, Sharon worked with the Department of Immigration, Child Protection and the Department of Justice, all with a metropolitan and rural focus. Sharon is passionate about making a difference in rural and regional areas and is looking forward to further developing Australia's regional industries, communities and economy and to work with other leaders on the Program. Sharon has a degree in Social Work from the University of South Australia.



**Andrew SMITH**  
**Townsville QLD**  
 Westpac Banking Corporation: Westpac Banking Scholarship  
 Andrew is Westpac's Regional Manager for North Queensland and has worked in agribusiness finance roles in Victoria, NSW and Queensland. Andrew has a keen interest in developing young people and plays a pivotal role in the Westpac Graduate Program. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and a Bachelor of Business (Property) and is also a registered Property Valuer. Andrew lives in Townsville with his wife Kate and their three children.



**Carol WATSON**  
**Walcha NSW**  
 Australian Wool Innovation: Wool Leader Scholarship  
 Carol is partner in an innovative New England grazing property which adopts technologies for fine wool production, such as genetic evaluation. An agricultural professional, Carol's earlier career has broadened to take on a community and family focus which includes being a director of New England Girls' School Limited. Carol is a member of Australian Institute of Company Directors, holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Honours) from the University of Queensland, and is currently studying psychology.



**Karen WEAVER**  
**Melbourne VIC**  
 Department of Primary Industries - Victoria: Departmental Scholarship  
 Karen is Manager of Inland Fisheries for the Department of Primary Industries, and is responsible for the production, stocking and management of both salmonids (trout and salmon) and native species of fish across Victoria. Her passion is to encourage a strong sense of stewardship for natural resources amongst rural communities in general, and recreational fishers in particular. Karen holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a Master of Science in Tropical Marine Biology.



**Jonathan WRAITH**  
**Canberra ACT**  
 Department of Transport and Regional Services- Departmental Scholarship  
 Jonathan is Director of Supply Chain Security in the Office of Transport Security in the Australian Government Department of Transport and Regional Services. With a background and tertiary qualifications in media and information management, Jonathan has worked in broadcasting, the university sector, and for the past decade in management positions in health service strategy, planning and transport, and logistics policy and regulation, in the Australian Public Service.



Absent: Crispian Ashby, Charlie Kaddy, Alan Lawford

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



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