



A Message from the Director



We have arrived at perhaps the most exciting part of the CEFA calendar when each local education foundation begins calling for grant applications from local youth. Applications are sought from young people around rural and regional Australia who are about to transition out of high school or who are already at university or TAFE but need some financial assistance to ensure they are able to achieve their

goals. In many ways it's the culmination of the efforts of our local education foundations. For our local committee members, it's such a rewarding time as they get to see first-hand the difference their efforts make to young people's lives and futures. We are all mindful that along with each grant goes a tremendous amount of community encouragement.

Another cause for celebration has been the University of Technology offering two CEFA communities the opportunity to

send 14 girls and two teachers to Sydney for a two-day trip to participate in the Girls in Science workshop. Aimed at stimulating greater interest in science careers amongst female high school students, both the Temora and Gunnedah District Education Foundations were quick to accept such a wonderful opportunity. CEFA is grateful to UTS for once again making such wonderful opportunities available to youth in our communities.

We thank you for your interest in the work of CEFA and we hope you enjoy our latest news.

Warm Regards

Jocellin Jansson
Executive Director

Youth Allowance Changes

It has been with temporary relief this last quarter that we saw the implementation to Youth Allowance changes delayed.

The delay has given students currently on a gap year the security of being able to commence their tertiary studies in 2010 under the system they had expected to be under. It has also saved many students from being forced to take a second year off in order to work and qualify as independent.

The proposed requirement for students to work for 30 hours a week for 18 months after their HSC in order to qualify for the independent level of Youth Allowance had every rural community wondering how they would be able to supply the number of jobs needed for so many unskilled students.

Of further significant concern was the knowledge that taking a second year out of studying would see many young people lose sight of their tertiary education goals and so too, add to the increasing education divide that exists between rural and metropolitan students.

ANU - A Friend Indeed



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

CEFA is fortunate to have an ever increasing number of universities and colleges that are keen to partner with us in order to provide additional financial assistance to our young grant recipients studying with them. Our first Education Partnership started with the Australia National University (ANU) when, in 2003, the university approached CEFA to see how they could help make the tertiary education aspirations of more rural youth possible.

Fast-forward six years and ANU has now assisted 52 CEFA students with a total of \$56,000 in additional grants. CEFA's Education Partnership agreements run for three years and we were delighted that ANU was quick to renew its agreement for the third time in preparation for 2010 and what we predict will be a record year for CEFA students studying at the university.

Quote of the Quarter

"It is so rewarding to be involved in such a dynamic organisation where we can deliver real benefit to the kids in our town and region. To be able to achieve such positive outcomes so quickly is fantastic and it is such a strong positive in the midst of drought and negativity. Our committee is really motivated about what the Education Foundation can and is achieving. It is the most rewarding community group I have been associated with in over 30 years of community involvement."

Bruce Simpson, President of the Edward River Education Foundation about what being involved with his local Foundation means to him.

Doing It For Rural Youth



Paroo Education Group committee caterers

Paroo Rally

The Paroo Education Group's Coast to Corner Desert Head Bike Ride kick-started on 12 July, riding out from Bollon in south-west Queensland and covering 1600 kilometres in the round trip back to Bollon six nights and seven days later. Dedicated catering from the Paroo Education Group's Committee was slightly hampered one morning

in Hungerford when they found all the gear in the ute covered in ice but Trish McKenzie's hot porridge soon warmed everyone up! According to Trish, Chairperson of the Education Group, the success of the event, which raised more than \$20,000, was due to "the generosity of local businesses and the local people."

Young - A Weekend of Bridge

Players attending the Young Bridge Club weekend were treated to some delicious meals and treats over the two-day tournament, courtesy of members of the Young & District Education Foundation and additional volunteers. The caterers prepared lunches and morning teas for the players and even set-up a produce store selling delectable local goodies. More than \$5,700 was raised from the event.

Temora Debutante of the Year Ball

An ingenious idea that has been running for more than 25 years is the Temora Debutante of the Year Ball. This gala affair is an opportunity for all debutantes in the district to don their frocks and once again find out who will be named Debutante of the Year. A runaway success, the Ball was formerly run by the local Spastic Centre Council but was this year handed to the Temora & District Education Fund, a fun and perfect fit for an organisation that is all about youth.

A Hunter Luncheon

The Upper Hunter Education Fund (UHEF) recently hosted a very enjoyable luncheon near Gundy, NSW. Donors, supporters and interested locals gathered to celebrate the first year achievements of the UHEF and to hear from former local boy, Stephen Gageler, Solicitor General of Australia. Stephen spoke about the journey of his career and his childhood in Sandy Hollow. Held in the lush country garden of the Bell Trees Homestead, guests enjoyed great country fair and local wines.

CEFA Grant Recipient Selection Criteria

With CEFA's application and selection process in full swing, we thought we would explain the selection criteria used by each of our local education foundations to identify their grant recipients. Each foundation is seeking to establish whether the applicants have realistic goals and in addition, ascertain their level of financial need. For some applicants they simply couldn't achieve their goals without financial assistance. For others, some assistance reduces the amount of pressure they are under when embarking on their studies or training and allows them greater focus from the outset.

An important point is that our grants are not academically-based and each community supports a broad range of career, education and training interests.



Major General Elizabeth Cosson with local students

Cootamundra's Culinary Delight

Cootamundra's three-course fundraising dinner at the White Ibis Restaurant was a great night for the 80 guests. Raising funds from ticket sales, a raffle and independent donations, the dinner was declared successful in that it "really raised the profile of the Cootamundra Education Foundation and that translates

to ongoing community support", according to David Hain, Secretary of the Foundation. David also said, "it's now been over a month since the dinner and people are still talking about it!"

Lameroo Digs Up Dust

This year's Mallee Earth Movers charity dirt bike ride in Lameroo saw 80 paying riders take part. Organised by the Lameroo Apex Country Education Foundation, the committee members provided all the catering for the riders over the weekend so that all the daredevils had to worry about was finishing the unpredictable course safely!



Talented participants of You Think You've Got Talent

Broken Hill - So You Think You've Got Talent

The Broken Hill Country Education Foundation recently hosted, to great reviews, their first Silver City's You Think You've Got Talent contest. Chairperson, Carrie Oakley said it wasn't hard to convince former Big Brother contestant Travis Keyser to host the event with her nor to convince fellow Big Brother star, Terri Munro to be one of the guest

judges. The venue was the local Hungry Jacks and acts included singing, dancing, drama and interestingly, Australia's ninth most successful yoyo trickster! Carrie said it was a great way to raise money and have some fun, "everyone is already asking when we are planning the next one."

These fundraising events can be great inspiration for other education foundations to organise within their own communities. Keep in mind that some education foundations find fundraising worthwhile and combine this with donation drives throughout the year, while other foundations find it more suitable to rely on donation drives alone. Different approaches will work for different foundations – it just depends on what works for your community!

The grants awarded are not given as cash, rather the local committee liaises with each applicant to determine what they need in order to achieve their goals and payment is made directly to the goods and services providers. The majority of grants are used to cover the cost of such things as textbooks, accommodation, travel, laptops, tools of the trade and work wear.

Grants awarded to rural youth based on the criteria outlined above are determined and administered solely by the local education foundations themselves. The majority of grants are awarded to first year students; however, approximately one quarter goes to students in their second, third and fourth year of study or training.

Our Mission

To foster the further education, career and personal development opportunities of rural youth, through community based encouragement and financial assistance.