



A Message from the Executive Director



Winter is a busy and exciting time of year for CEFA and its staff. With most of our annual student programs, such as the University Experience Trip, wrapped up it is a great opportunity for us to turn our attention to current and future partnerships, new communities and strategic planning.

As demonstrated in our 2010 Grant Report, the financial assistance CEFA students receive from our Education Partners through co-funding provides an additional level of encouragement towards achieving their post high school goals. CEFA currently enjoys education partnerships with 18 institutions in four states – and we are working to form more partnerships to provide even greater support to rural students. In 2011, several of our partnerships will reach the end of their term, so we are busy liaising with these universities to renew, and potentially enhance, the current arrangements.

The enthusiasm for being involved in achieving CEFA's mission and goals for rural youth seems to be contagious and the level of ongoing support and interest in what we do is testament to

the great success and commitment of all our local Education Foundations. We are communicating with a number of communities about forming new Education Foundations by the end of this year – so watch this space!

We are grateful to have some of our industrious activity benevolently supported by people such as the organisers of the Walk of Wonders, who are donating proceeds from their September event in Jugiong directly to CEFA. This is such a generous gesture and one that will greatly assist us in our work to provide opportunities students may not have had access to without CEFA, its supporters and its Education Foundations. To read more about the Walk of Wonders or to take part, please see our story on page 2.

Until our spring newsletter, thanks for your support and stay warm!

Warm regards

Jocellin Jansson
Executive Director

Airservices Australia signs on with CEFA

Airservices Australia (ASA) provides safe and environmentally sound air traffic control management and related services to the aviation industry as well as training future aviation fire-fighters. ASA employs around 3,000 staff, including approximately 900 air traffic controllers, working from two major centres in Melbourne and Brisbane and 26 towers at international and regional airports. And it is now in partnership with CEFA.

This valuable partnership will provide, among other things, the opportunity for rural youth to gain access to employment within the aviation industry. ASA is allocating two places in its technical traineeship program and two places in its air traffic control training program in 2011 specifically for rural youth from our local Education Foundation communities. Run out of Wagga Wagga, the ASA programs will provide trainees with internationally recognised skills and qualifications within the industry. ASA's General Manager – People & Change, Caroline Fleming said of the partnership and its importance to rural youth: "We are really looking forward to working with CEFA. The partnership will help ASA connect



ASA air traffic control

with the talented young people who live in rural and regional areas. The aviation industry in Australia continues to expand and ASA offers great careers in air traffic control, aviation fire-fighting and technical and engineering disciplines. With 26 sites around Australia, we are also able to offer jobs outside of the city areas once training is completed."



An ASA aviation fire-fighter in action

In addition to these training cadetships, ASA has made a generous donation to CEFA and purchased a page within our new online jobs section of the website. ASA looks forward to promoting its career opportunities and increasing the employment prospects of rural youth. "We are always looking for talented people, so I encourage students to have a look at what we offer and consider a career with ASA. An added bonus is that all of our full-time training attracts a wage," Ms Fleming said.

Our exciting new partnership demonstrates the commitment of both parties to supporting rural youth and CEFA is proud to be associated with such a dedicated and professional organisation. We are grateful to ASA for its investment in CEFA's work.

Quote of the Quarter

"If we have a quarter of the population disengaging in education based on geography then we have a national crisis on our hands,"

Rob Oakeshott, Federal Member (Independent) for Lyne responding to a report from the Education Minister's department that shows regional and remote access and participation rates in higher education pathways have deteriorated over a five-year period ("Regional Students Are Missing Out" SMH 22 June 2010).

Walk of Wonders in Jugiong

Jugiong and the Murrumbidgee River will be home to even more natural wonders than usual on 26 September, courtesy of the inaugural Walk of Wonders. Brainchild of the effervescent Jo Miller of Jugiong, the Walk of Wonders is a fundraising event, the proceeds of which will be donated to CEFA. Jo's idea to fundraise for CEFA stems from her empathy for rural youth. "The transition from school to the adult world of career choices is a big step and when it involves relocating from country to city the whole process can be quite daunting. I like the way CEFA offers direct help to individuals at this critical time to ensure they don't 'miss the step' that can determine their direction for life," said Jo.

Over the 20 kilometre meandering course along the Murrumbidgee and into Jugiong, breathtaking local wonders of art, music and amusement acts will entertain, amaze and spur the walkers on to a designer sausage sizzle at the finishing point. Registration (\$50 per person) and more information regarding the event are available at www.everydayhero.com.au/event/walkofwonders or by contacting CEFA on 1300 652 144. A huge thank you to Jo for working so hard to support CEFA and to the Long Track Pantry for sponsoring the event. We are very grateful and can't wait to experience the harvest of local talent on 26 September!

CEFA Launches Rural Jobs Site

CEFA recognises that job opportunities in rural and regional areas, particularly for youth, can be difficult to come by. It can be hard to know where to look and the number of positions available is often limited. In recognition of this and in an effort to increase the opportunities for rural youth to apply their skills and training to local communities, CEFA has launched a professional online jobs facility through its website. Several renowned organisations have come on board as advertisers promoting the various jobs they have available, particularly with a rural focus. School, university and TAFE leavers and trainees and apprentices are encouraged to visit the site to see what positions they might be eligible for. Visit the CEFA Jobs Site at www.cef.org.au.

If your company is seeking employees for your rurally-based organisation and would like to advertise available positions, please contact CEFA directly on 1300 652 144.

Former PM John Howard Lends a Hand in Temora

The Temora & District Education Foundation (TDEF) hosted a hugely successful fundraising dinner in June, with guest speaker the former Prime Minister of Australia, the Hon John Howard AC. Attending the Ex-Servicemen's Club, Mr Howard joined more than 250 guests for a magnificent meal and entertainment provided by Year 9 members of the Temora High School Dance Group. Chairman of the TDEF, Rick Firman said the dinner was a great way to raise awareness of the work of the TDEF in the community. "It is important for the TDEF to keep what we do and what we're achieving for our youth in the public eye and to continually increase community awareness. Having Mr Howard attend our dinner was instrumental in helping us do this and we are so thankful for his support," Mr Firman said. The TDEF was thrilled with the strong response and support of its fundraiser. "It was overwhelming to receive so much local and regional press and school newsletter



The Hon John Howard with Mayor of Temora, Cr Peter Speirs (l) and TDEF Chairman, Rick Firman (r)

coverage. Everyone has been so supportive of what we aim to do through the work of the TDEF" said Mr Firman. Mr Firman also praised the committee members of the TDEF, "I am very proud of our loyal, hard-working, committed team and I am honoured to be working with them towards such an important goal," he said. "We are a united force."

CEFA Students Explore Sydney Universities

As promised in the last edition of the CEFA newsletter, this year's University Experience Program was CEFA's biggest, and arguably most successful, trip to date. With Macquarie University generously agreeing to come onboard as a co-funder with the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), we were excited to be able to offer 38 students and eight teachers the opportunity to visit two universities to learn about university life first-hand. The excited students travelled



Kate Coomber, Balranald, Maddison Pearsall, Boorowa, and Emily Bruton, Balranald, during the UTS Nursing workshop

to Sydney by plane, with some of the schools even receiving a personal welcome from their pilots! On Tuesday, the students were welcomed at the Apple Store with a standing ovation of applause and cheering. The Apple staff provided some great technical and professional tips to the students to assist them in compiling

video diaries of their experience using Apple i-pods and Macbook computers. A montage of these video diaries can be viewed at www.cef.org.au. Wednesday was spent at UTS learning about the various facilities offered and touring the student accommodation facilities; while on Thursday the students visited Macquarie University, experiencing a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony before taking part in tailored workshops, finishing with a tour of campus accommodation. The participants also enjoyed sightseeing around the city, trying various new cuisines and even some celebrity sightings – providing them with a well-rounded experience of city life and the range of different opportunities available through university. CEFA would like to thank the students from Balranald, Bombala, Boorowa, Coonamble, Moree, Murrumburrah, Ungarie and West Wyalong for their enthusiasm and outstanding behaviour during the trip, the teachers for their collaboration and, most importantly, our very generous funders and supporters: UTS, Macquarie University and the NSW Department of Education for making this fantastic program possible.



Teigan Cassidy, Ungarie, Maddy Herbert, Moree, and Kate Coomber, Balranald, raise the roof at the Macquarie University vocal studies workshop

Running in the Sydney City2Surf?

We would love for you to fundraise for CEFA - it's really quick and easy and a great way to support the work we do for rural Australian youth. Simply select CEFA as your charity when you register for the event online at <http://city2surf.com.au>. Then, when your family, friends and colleagues sponsor you in this challenge, their donations will be automatically directed to CEFA. Good luck to all the participants and thank you for your support.

Our Mission

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