



CEO message



One of the things I love about my job is working with people who really want to make a difference. I get to lead a great team of staff and volunteers who do just that. Sadly, we're about to farewell two of the best, finance officer Katie Walker and projects officer, Jane McKenzie Hollows.

After 20 years of incredible service, Katie is retiring. She does so with the enormous appreciation and thanks of the Board, staff, committees and students who she has dedicated her life to, since day one. Katie helped establish the CEF and take it from

a kitchen table passion to a family of over 40 foundations and 400 volunteers.

Jane has only been with us since 2013 but in that short time has endeared herself to all. We wish her the very best as she heads North with husband Cam and beloved dog, Pepper.

I'd also like to thank the rest of the team for their efforts this year - Kate, Henrietta and Lisa - the Board and our pro bono advisers at Chapman Eastway, Novus Res, Sydney Business Lawyers and Steve Godbold.

They, along with our generous CEF donors, education partners, scholarship providers and principal partners AVIS, Boyce Chartered



Katie, you'll be missed



Good luck, Jane!

Accountants, Macquarie University and The Origin Foundation, have truly made a difference to thousands of rural students and families this year. Have a great summer,

Sarah Taylor, CEO

Amy's journey takes her home

When Amy headed to uni in Brisbane with a grant from the CEF in Cunnamulla she had no idea that she'd be returning to teach at the local school and help run that same CEF committee. But, four years on, that's exactly what she's doing, and loving it.

As a member of the CEF she helps raise funds and encourages today's school-leavers to follow in her footsteps. Amy said the CEF grant helped her with the cost of travel back to Cunnamulla (a nine hour drive each way) for her final placement and internship.

"The drive to and from Brisbane was not just long, but expensive... The grant helped me cover the



Amy teaches at the Cunnamulla State School

huge cost of fuel," Amy said. "And, being able to come here to do that final prac helped me get the job when I graduated – so it's really made a difference."

Steve's cycling challenge



Then... Steve, originally from Eungai (a tiny town on the Mid North Coast, NSW) was keen on cycling from an early age

And now... Steve today, combining his love of cycling and education to help disadvantaged country kids

Our pro bono tech guru, Steve Godbold, will cycle around Taiwan this Christmas, to help raise money for our technology upgrade. Managing grants to 500 students across 40 rural communities is quite a task and investing in technology is essential.

So, while we're all tucking in to turkey, Steve will be pedalling to help us pay for new computers. You can help him reach his target by donating at this link: <https://give.everydayhero.com/au/stevegodbold>

“A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special.”

*Nelson Mandela
(1918 – 2013)*

CSU Country Eagles partnership

We were delighted when our friends at the Charles Sturt University NSW Country Eagles recently nominated the Country Education Foundation as their charity partner.

As you can see from the photo, we're not really built for rugby but we did have fun announcing the partnership with former Wallabies player and Eagles GM, James Grant.

The Eagles had a great debut season and we look forward to working with them in 2015 to help raise funds for disadvantaged rural and regional students.



Eagles GM, James Grant with CEF staff, Kate Staniforth, Sarah Taylor and Lisa Maxey

Helping Maggie-Kate fulfill her childhood dream

Maggie-Kate was seven when her sister, Deanna, was born with serious medical complications. As a baby, Deanna was rushed to Canberra for life-saving surgery. As Maggie-Kate sat in the back of the car next to Deanna's capsule, stemming the bleeding from the two-week-old's navel due to an unformed duct, she decided then and there that she wanted to be a doctor.

Today Maggie-Kate is well on her way to achieving her dream, studying medicine at the University of NSW. She is the first in her family to go to uni. Maggie-Kate's local CEF supports her with an annual grant for course and travel costs.



Maggie-Kate studies medicine at the University of NSW

Getting educated isn't easy when the nearest uni is over 16 hours drive from home.

The Country Education Foundation helps cover the costs when rural kids have to travel for study or work. Your donation will help get them there.



Send your cheque to the CEF at **PO Box 245, Orange NSW 2800**. Visit cef.org.au & click on the 'donate now' button on our home page.

Name:
Telephone:
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Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible

Tel: (02) 6362 3162 | www.cef.org.au

On the road with the Origin Foundation

CEF CEO Sarah Taylor recently visited some of our most remote Queensland communities with Origin Foundation representative, Tom Keenan. Sarah and Tom met CEF volunteers and grant recipients, who face enormous obstacles being so far from education and employment opportunities.

News of assistance through the Origin Foundation's volunteer program was very well received, along with \$20,000 in top-up donations which Tom announced during the visit.

As always, the long drive was made easier by our good friends at AVIS.



Thank you, AVIS



Tom Keenan from the Origin Foundation, with Blackall Tambo CEF Chair, Virginia Wacker



Meeting students in Clermont



Paroo CEF Chair, Trish McKenzie with Sarah Taylor and Tom Keenan



Meeting students in Cunnamulla

Thank you to our wonderful supporters

Our work assisting country students has been made easier with the assistance of some great pro bono supporters during 2014 – thanks!

- » A Slice of Orange – regional providore
- » Avis
- » Boyce Chartered Accountants
- » Chapman Eastway Chartered Accountants
- » Cumulus Wines
- » Duncan Brakell (Barrister, William Owen Chambers, Orange NSW)

- » Gwydir Grove
- » Simply Centrepieces Event Design
- » Six Chickens
- » Sydney Business Lawyers

