



CEO message



Can you imagine doing your first marathon at 57?

Many (including me) would be daunted by the idea of running

42kms at any age but not Helen Dugdale (p3), one of our fabulous CEF volunteers from Narrabri, NSW. And all to raise money for her local students.

It's an amazing feat and one that shows just how creative and determined our local volunteers are when it comes to raising money for school leavers in their communities.

Fortunately, there are lots of other ways to raise money and support the CEF... like the recent CEF Friends' Lunch in Sydney (p3), which raised much-needed funds to support our work with disadvantaged rural students.

My thanks and appreciation to CEF Patron, Tim Fischer and our generous sponsors and guests who made the event such a success.

Until next time,

Sarah Taylor, CEO

The McLean Foundation Scholarship

Please join us in congratulating the 2014 McLean Foundation Scholarship recipient, Kira Pittaway, from Willyama High School in Broken Hill.

Kira will receive \$5,000 per year for three years to help with expenses while she studies Arts/Teaching at the University of New England in Armidale.

As always, our thanks to Rob and Paula McLean for their generous support – the McLean Foundation Scholarship has been helping Broken Hill students to achieve their academic goals since 2008.

Former CEF student heads to Chiang Mai

From the dry heat of Harden, NSW to tropical Thailand, it's been an incredible journey for former CEF grant recipient, Robert Baird. Rob was accepted into RMIT University's highly regarded Journalism program in 2010 and consequently faced the daunting, expensive exercise of moving from his small town to the city. The local CEF in Harden was on hand to help with his travel and living costs.

"The grants I received from Harden CEF were invaluable in helping me with the costs associated with the transition from home to uni," Rob said. "In my graduating class of 16 in Harden, just five went on

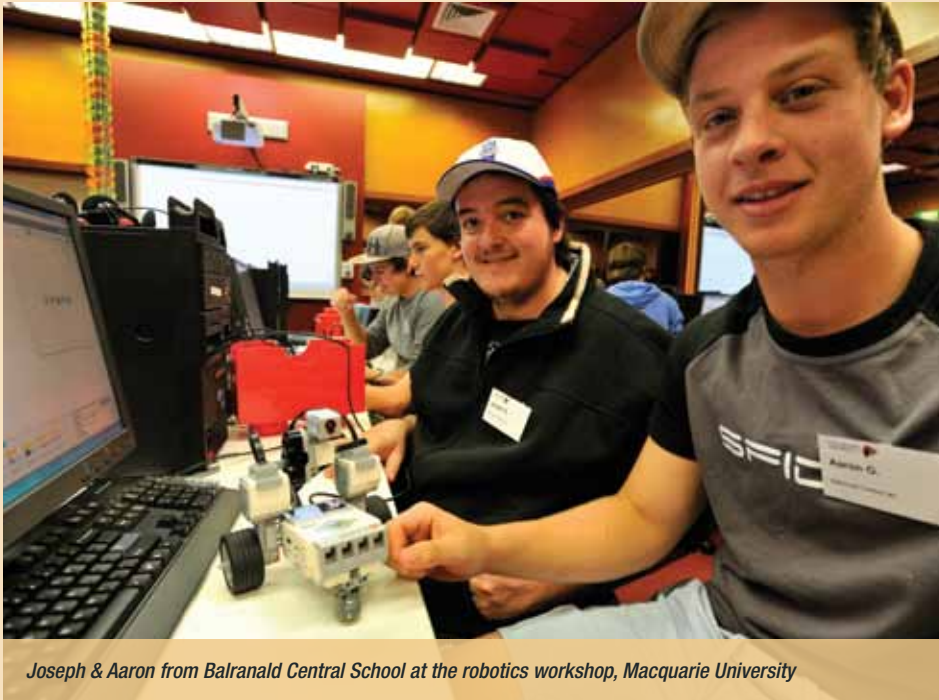


Past recipient, Robert Baird from Harden NSW, now working as a journalist in Chiang Mai, Thailand

to study at university. Most found other worthwhile opportunities, but a number of others would have, I believe, pursued further study or a different path given the right support."

Fast forward to 2014 and Rob is now based in Chiang Mai, in the north of Thailand, where he writes for Asian Correspondent, a network of bloggers and journalists across Asia.

Rural students get a taste of uni life



Joseph & Aaron from Balranald Central School at the robotics workshop, Macquarie University

So, what is university really like? For rural and remote students who've never been to one or don't have a family member who has, it's hard to imagine – let alone prepare for – studying at uni.

The annual CEF university experience is all about demystifying higher education and exposing rural and regional school students to the many options and possibilities available.

When 44 rural high school students set off for Sydney in May this year they had no idea what to expect, but by the end of the week many of them were thinking seriously about pursuing higher education and new career options.

The students and their teachers from Balranald, Bombala, Boorowa, Coonamble, Merriwa, Murrumburrah, Camden Haven, Narrabri, Ungarie and West Wyalong spent three days on the campuses of project sponsors, University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and Macquarie University.

They enjoyed science, robotics, music and faculty workshops; toured the college accommodation and sporting facilities; and also spent time with current uni students.

The CEF is very grateful for the support of UTS and Macquarie University, which have generously funded the university experience program since 2008.

Blake Wilder, Young NSW



Blake Wilder, supported by Young CEF, hoping to get into International Relations

Some people just have a knack for languages, like Blake Wilder who is excelling at advanced level Mandarin and Japanese as part of his Bachelor of Arts at the University of Queensland.

Travelling to Brisbane from his hometown of Young, NSW has been a big step for Blake and one that has been assisted by his grant from the Young CEF.

“The financial assistance the CEF provided me has been critical to my personal development, and has allowed me to achieve a number of my goals,” Blake said. “It has opened up doors I could never have imagined... Every bit of assistance is precious and I am extremely thankful for every dollar I have received from the foundation.”

Blake will be well positioned for the future as his degree also includes economics and international relations. With that and three languages we'd say he is well on his way to achieving his goal of a career on the world stage.

Hometown hero



Edward River CEF Chair, Richard Fogarty, local AFL legend, Leo Barry, CEF CEO, Sarah Taylor and Edward River CEF recipients, Mollie Leetham and Adam Bodey

There's nothing like a welcome from a hometown crowd. Just ask AFL legend, Leo Barry, who made the journey back to Deniliquin to be guest speaker at the Edward River CEF 2014 fundraising dinner, in May. More than 200 people packed into the auditorium of the Deniliquin RSL to meet Leo and hear his own story of success, through sport and education.

The dinner is an annual event for Edward River CEF, generating thousands of dollars to assist local school leavers pursue tertiary goals. In 2014, 35 Edward River students received grants for university, TAFE, apprenticeships and traineeships.

Welcome back, Tim

CEF friends and supporters, grant recipients and volunteers all came together at the Mitchell Library in Sydney in June for the inaugural CEF Friends' Lunch, welcoming The Hon Tim Fischer AC, former Deputy Prime Minister, to the role of CEF Patron.

Guests enjoyed anecdotes from Tim's time as Australian Ambassador to the Holy See in Rome and the heartwarming and inspiring stories from past and present grant recipients Rhys Gard (Narrabri CEF) and Sophie Johnston (Shoalhaven CEF).



The Hon Tim Fischer AC, former Deputy Prime Minister, entertained guests with his tales from the Vatican City



CEF Chairman, Nick Burton Taylor with students, Rhys Gard (Narrabri CEF) and Sophie Johnston (Shoalhaven CEF)

Rhys has gone ahead in leaps and bounds and is now working as co-editor for a Sydney food website while Sophie Johnston is just starting out, studying Arts at the University of NSW. Heartfelt thanks to our event sponsors for their generous contributions:

Boyce Chartered Accountants
www.boyceca.com.au

Cumulus, for their exceptional wines
www.cumuluswines.com.au

Gwydir Grove for their delicious olive oils
www.gwydirgrove.com.au

and Simply Centrepieces Event Design for their gorgeous table decorations.
www.facebook.com/simplycentrepieceseventdesign

Event proceeds will fund our work with disadvantaged school leavers in rural and regional Australia.



COOL CLIMATE | HIGH ELEVATION | HAND CRAFTED



Helen Dugdale, Narrabri NSW

Last year, Narrabri CEF Chair, Helen Dugdale had the wild idea of doing her first marathon (at 57 years) to help raise funds for local students pursuing post-secondary careers and education.

An avid supporter of rural youth and passionate believer that, "Education is the key to everything", Helen travelled all the way to England to compete in the London Marathon.

"I was amazed by all these people (35,000) who were happy to run 42km, not only for their own fitness but for other people – and hopefully raise some funds," Helen said.

"No matter what your goal is, just keep putting one foot in front of the other, you can do it," she said.



Helen Dugdale from Narrabri CEF, running the London Marathon

Support the CEF

By cheque: Country Education Foundation, PO Box 245, Orange NSW 2800.

Online: Visit www.cef.org.au and click on the 'donate now' button on our home page.

Pro Bono: Call us on **02 6362 3162**

2014 CEF Fundraising events

Every year, local CEFs across Australia host some great events to raise awareness and funds to support their local school-leavers.

For more information on how you can support the CEF call us on **02 6362 3162** or visit **www.cef.org.au**



*The Goulburn CEF's 2014 Art in the Woolshed fundraiser
Right: One of the stunning artworks*



Dame Marie Bashir, AD CVO, Governor of NSW, with Chairman of the Temora CEF Rick Firman at their recent fundraiser



His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce (Governor of South Australia) Annette Cameron (Chair, Torrens Valley CEF) and Sarah Taylor (CEO CEF) at the South Australian Government House reception in April



Di Bills (Eudunda CEF), Fiona MacLachlan (Patron, Kangaroo Island CEF) and Cate Telfer (Secretary, Kangaroo Island CEF) at the SA Government House reception



Beth Hoskins (Boyce Chartered Accountants), Tina Milson, Deb Moses and Tina Hodgkinson at the inaugural CEF Friends Lunch held at the State Library in June

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*Genius without education
is like silver in the mine.*

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*Benjamin Franklin
Polymath (1706-1790)*