



Message from the Chief Executive



Autumn is a great time of year at CEFA. The trees are turning and the streets of Orange – where our office is located – are bathed in red and gold. More importantly, it's also when we get calls from the students we're sponsoring, to tell us they have survived those critical first months at uni or TAFE. Many say they draw great strength from the support they receive from their local

education foundation and wider community.

Thanks to our partner universities, CEFA students also have access to a great range of mentor/support services on campus. These are vital for rural students who have to leave home to further their education or career.

This combination of family, CEFA and uni support is a big success, with completion rates for CEFA-sponsored students sitting well above average, at over 90%.

Extending our work

CEFA also partners with unis – including ANU, Canberra, UTS and Macquarie - to offer 'university experience' visits to rural school students.

These give rural kids a taste of uni and city life and the opportunities on offer.

We offer these to a limited number of communities in NSW but would love to expand them more broadly – including to Qld, SA and NT. We are keen to secure sponsorship and university support to make that possible.

Thanking supporters

We are also very grateful for the support we've had from individuals, families and organisations over the past ten years. I had the pleasure of meeting many of our generous donors at a recent 10th Anniversary event, which was held to thank them for this support.

Representatives from a number of our local foundations around Australia also attended, though distance and time prevented many more from being there.

Those people, our volunteers, are the backbone of CEFA. I know that for them the impact they are having is reward enough, but that's even more reason to acknowledge their efforts publicly. To all of our volunteers, "Thank-you".

Kind Regards,

Sarah Taylor
CEO



Our Mission

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

Boost for Broken Hill students



McLean Foundation scholarship winner 2013, Emma Shephard

CEFA continues to work with the McLean Foundation to provide scholarships to students in Broken Hill and this year's winner is Willyama High School student, Emma Shephard. Emma has recently started a Bachelor of Law at the University of South Australia. The \$5,000 a year scholarship, generously donated by the McLean Foundation, was a big boost for Emma who will be living a long way from home to complete her studies.

"I couldn't believe it when I got the telephone call late last year to say that I was the successful applicant," Emma said.

"The generosity of this scholarship from the McLean family is really overwhelming and I can't thank them enough."

The McLean Foundation has been supporting Broken Hill students with university scholarships for the past 5 years. There are currently two other Broken Hill students on the McLean Foundation scholarship.

New CEFA Staff member



Jane McKenzie Hollows

We are very pleased to welcome new projects and administration officer, Jane McKenzie Hollows, to the CEFA team. Jane has had extensive experience in the not-for-profit sector.

Prior to joining CEFA, Jane was the touring coordinator for 'Arts on Tour NSW' and project officer for the Metro Migrant Resource Centre. She has also spent time volunteering for organisations such as the

Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development Program and is a current voting member of the Fred Hollows Foundation.

Jane has recently moved to Orange from Sydney and is happy being back in regional NSW having grown up on a property in nearby Mudgee. We are delighted to have Jane on the CEFA team.

CEFA Profile: CEFA Grant Recipient

Anna Boyes is one of many CEFA sponsored students who hopes to eventually return to a rural town to pursue her career. A grant recipient from the Clermont and District Education Group (CDEG), Anna is currently in her third year of studies at The University of Queensland. She will complete her Bachelor of Sport, Health and PE at the end of 2014.

As Anna explains, "I am so fortunate to receive such amazing support from CDEG. One of four children, my parents work very hard to support us, but finances can be a very real strain for our family. The support I have received from CDEG has made a huge difference by easing the financial burden of having to live away from home to gain my degree."

CEFA Profile: Education Foundation Committee Member, Annette Cameron



Annette Cameron (centre) receiving the Dennis Mutton Medal.
(courtesy Helen Roberts Photography)

Meet Annette Cameron, Chairperson of the Torrens Valley Country Education Fund (TVCEF) and one of the founding members of the TVCEF which was established in 2007.

Annette was born and raised on her family's mixed farm 28 kms north of Bordertown. Since leaving Bordertown in 1978 Annette has developed a diverse skill base covering rural nursing, motherhood, business and farming.

The TVCEF are very fortunate to have Annette on the committee with her endless enthusiasm and her great ability to source funding through her extensive networks. As a result of her work, Annette was recognized and awarded the Dennis Mutton Award for 2012 for Excellence in Leadership beyond self.

Since the TVCEF started in 2007 it has financially assisted 52 students to the total of \$200,000 including co-funding from CEFA's three university partners in South Australia.

Annette is proud of the TVCEF's achievements, saying, "The TVCEF has helped their local youth to build self confidence, self belief and to achieve their ultimate career goals."

Congratulations to Annette and to the TVCEF committee.

CDEG chairperson Paula Heelan said it had been a pleasure for the committee to support Anna, who consistently offers to help with CDEG fundraising events and promotion.

Paula said, "Anna is mature beyond her years, she stands out as a leader and is a credit to her family and her community. We are all extremely proud of her."



2013 Clermont Grant Recipient, Anna Boyes

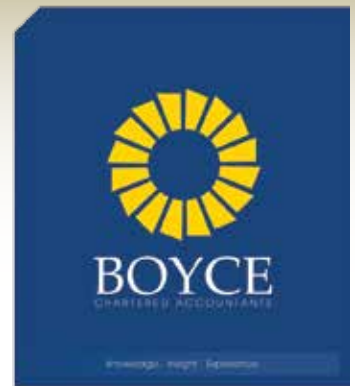
Boyce Chartered Accountants supporting CEFA

Boyce Chartered Accountants have been major supporters of CEFA since 2003. With founding Director Michael Boyce as a CEFA Board member, the Boyce team have provided invaluable pro bono accounting services to CEFA over the past ten years.

CEFA is very appreciative of the support provided by Boyce and in particular the Directors of Boyce, Goulburn staff and the audit team in Cooma. This support goes even further with numerous Boyce staff members giving back to their community via their involvement in a local Country

Education Foundation, in towns where a Boyce office is located.

The work of CEFA and all the local Education Foundations wouldn't be possible without the generosity of spirit and commitment of people like those in the Boyce team.



Cowra Education Fund supports local budding doctor



Cowra Young Citizen of the Year for 2013, Dimas Bakini (centre) with Neyomi Komi (left) and Elamin Koko (right)

Cowra's newly declared Young Citizen of the Year, Dimas Bakini, is also a 2013 recipient of a grant from the Cowra Education Foundation. Mr Bakini says he'll begin university in Wollongong this year, studying medical science in order to pursue his goal to become a doctor.

Mr Bakini says he's been exceptionally fortunate over the past eight years. After leaving Sudan he travelled with his family to Egypt to get an Australian visa, learned to speak English, and completed his Higher School Certificate well enough to gain university entry.

CEF secretary, Jonie Hurst, said Dimas was an exceptional young man and CEF had no hesitation in helping to support him with a grant for his university studies.

"He has always been an active member of the Cowra Community and his nomination as School Captain by his peers and teachers is indicative of the high esteem in which he is held," Jonie said.

What's on Where in CEFA Communities

- **Kapunda High School Centenary Foundation, "Food stall"** at Kapunda Harness Racing Club, Kapunda, Sunday 24 March.
- **West Wyalong District Country Education Fund, "Opera in The Park"** at Banardo Park, West Wyalong, Friday 5 April.
- **Gilgandra District Education Foundation, "Evening by the River"** at Cooee Heritage Centre, Gilgandra, Saturday 13 April.

Sponsorship opportunities

CEFA is seeking partners to help us expand and improve education and career opportunities for disadvantaged rural youth. There are many ways to help:

- Tax deductible donations - to pay education expenses for disadvantaged rural youth
- Sponsorship - for projects such as 'university experience' visits and establishing and supporting local education foundations
- Providing 'in kind' good or services to support our work eg office equipment, computers and technology support, travel/accommodation, professional services.

For details please contact Sarah Taylor at ceo@cef.org.au or call 1300 652 144.

Quote of the Quarter

"To understand the heart and mind of a person, look not at what he has already achieved, but at what he aspires to."

Kahlil Gibran

CEFA Education Foundations

New South Wales

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Balranald | Gilgandra | Merriwa |
| Boorowa | Goulburn | Monaro (Jindabyne, Cooma, Bombala) |
| Braidwood | Great Lakes (Forster, Tuncurry) | Narrabri Shoalhaven |
| Broken Hill | Griffith | Orange |
| Coleambally/Darlington Point | Gulgambone | Shoalhaven |
| Coonamble | Gunnedah-Mullaley | Temora |
| Cootamundra | Gwydir Learning Region | West Wyalong |
| Cowra | Harden | Yass |
| Dubbo | Hastings (Port Macquarie) | Young |
| Edward River (Deniliquin, Conargo) | Lockhart | |

Queensland

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Blackall-Tambo | Maranoa (Roma region) |
| Clermont | Paroo (Cunnamulla region) |

South Australia

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Cooper Pedy | Kapunda | Lameroo |
| Eudunda | Kimba | Torrens Valley |
| Kangaroo Island | Wool, Wine and Wheat (Clare, Burra, Snowtown, Balaklava, Riverton) | |

Northern Territory

Central Australia (Alice Springs)

CEFA students are outward bound

ON the 1st June, eight motivated young leaders from CEFA communities will head to Tharwa National Park to attend the 2013 Outward Bound Leadership Summit.

During the week-long wilderness camp, the students will be presented with a variety of challenges and opportunities that will help expand their understanding of themselves, their values and what they can achieve as individuals and as part of a team.

The students will also identify a community project they would like to initiate when they return to their school or community which directly benefits the local region.

This unique opportunity is made possible by the generosity of Outward Bound and the Ian Potter Foundation.



Donating is easy

- Fill in the form below and send it with your cheque to the Country Education Foundation of Australia at PO Box 239, Yass NSW 2582
- Visit www.cef.org.au and click on the 'donate now' button on our home page
- Contact us to discuss payments via credit card or direct bank transfer

Country Education Foundation of Australia - ABN 60 103 889 452

Donor Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Postal Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Amount you would like to donate: \$ _____

Would you like to receive a quarterly newsletter by email? Yes / No