



CEO message



Philanthropy can be very hands-on these days... Just ask Tom Keenan from the Origin Foundation, who is at the wheel of our four wheel

drive as I write this message from my laptop in the passenger seat, in a very remote part of South West Queensland. Tom and I are on a road trip, visiting our Queensland foundations in Cunnamulla, Blackall, Clermont and Roma.

Tom has swapped his usual routine of cycling to the office in Adelaide's CBD, for a four-wheel drive, dusty roads, kangaroos and country pubs. It's a great opportunity for both of us to spend time with the many volunteers who are the heart and soul of our Queensland operations.

We're also talking to the local groups about how Origin employees can assist their work by volunteering time and skills, in addition to the financial support.

It's a good example of modern philanthropy and the kind of partnership we'd love to have with other philanthropic and corporate organisations.

On the subject of great volunteers, three of our stalwarts are moving on (p4). Farewell and very best wishes to Annette, Helen and Warwick.

Until next time,



Sarah Taylor, CEO

Sisters aiming for Vet careers

Meet Sandra and Libby Summerell, sisters from Cathcart, NSW who are both studying Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga.

Sandra and Libby are helping to fund their long and expensive courses with grants from the Monaro CEF and holiday jobs working as roustabouts for a local shearing team.

"It's a major help", says Sandra, "as our course workload makes it really hard to have time for a part time job during the semester."

When they're not throwing fleeces in the shed, the sisters enjoy the wide range of placements they undertake for their course, working with dairy and beef cattle, sheep, poultry and pigs.



Sandra and Libby Summerell, supported by the Monaro CEF

After completing the five and a half year course, Sandra says her dream job would be working in a rural vet practice.

Eureka Foundation help for Broken Hill

It's a long way from Broken Hill to the nearest university and young people from the town face huge financial hurdles relocating to Adelaide, Canberra and elsewhere.

Two new scholarships for Broken Hill school leavers will go a long way towards making that goal possible, thanks to a new partnership with the Eureka Benevolent Foundation. The Foundation will provide two new \$10,000 scholarships over three years, starting in 2015.

We're delighted to partner with the Eureka Foundation to provide these opportunities to students in one of our most remote rural locations.

Amanda Hall, Braidwood NSW



Braidwood CEF Chair, Amanda Hall with Geoffrey White, Braidwood CEF supporter

Amanda Hall has been Chair of the Braidwood CEF for over three years, after buying a property in the area in 1989 and moving there permanently with her husband, Ray and three children in 1997.

Amanda and Ray supported the Foundation for a number of years

before Amanda's background in education as a teacher prompted her to join the committee. Through school involvement she appreciated the daily sacrifices families made to better their children's education and witnessed how daunting it was for young school leavers to move away from the security of their country town.

"Thanks to our very generous donors our committee is able to contribute to the ongoing education of those students," Amanda commented.

"As we approach our tenth year it is truly gratifying to see the progress of our recipients, and see that the Foundation's work has boosted the success of more young rural achievers."

Thank you to our wonderful supporters

The CEF is fortunate to have many wonderful supporters and friends.

This month we would like to thank Waterfind Australia www.waterfind.com.au and UNE Farming Futures www.facebook.com/FarmingFutures for supporting us at their recent events. Funds raised will help us to continue our work supporting students in rural Australia.



Former CEF student helps shape the future



Daniel Willson from Kangaroo Island, now part of the corporate world

Daniel Willson's grant from the Kangaroo Island CEF enabled him to graduate from the University of Adelaide with a double degree in Economics and International Studies and pursue a career in economic and public policy.

He is now a senior analyst at Deloitte, providing policy analysis to inform and support a diverse range of clients. "My role is challenging and invigorating and has given me the opportunity to contribute towards the direction of my State's future through projects such as the Regional Mining and Infrastructure Planning Project and the improvement of South Australia's hospital networks," he said.

Daniel said the support of the KICEF was crucial during the adjustment phase in his first year of university, when many of his peers dropped out of their respective courses at university and TAFE.

Introducing rural kids to uni life

What do slime, prosthetic limbs, scholarships and lectures have in common? They were all part of the CEF's July ACT University Experience where the Australian National University (ANU) and the University of Canberra (UC) played host to 50 students from rural NSW.

From the towns of Coleambally, Cowra, Deniliquin, Gilgandra and Griffith, the students spent four days in the Capital learning about careers and opportunities that university can offer.

The science and communication workshops and the interactions with current students were highlights, giving the kids the chance to ask questions and learn in a fun environment.

By the end of the trip students said they had a better understanding of what uni was like and many felt that they would now seriously consider pursuing higher education.



Aden Day and Alan Read from Cowra, NSW, enjoying a science workshop

Cowra student Aden Day thought the experience was incredibly valuable: "The most interesting thing I learnt was that you can apply for any scholarship you want, but I also

learnt about how to balance study and living costs as well as fun," he said. A big thank you to ANU and UC for making this great experience possible.

Scholarship Tips!

The CEF 2015 Tertiary Scholarships Guide for Rural and Regional Students is now available on our website and this year we've added a new section for Indigenous students. The Guide features over 140 pages of scholarships from more than 20 Australian universities as well as hints and advice on applying.

CEF student, Emma Shepherd, from Broken Hill, is in her second year at the University of South Australia, studying Primary Teaching after successfully applying for a McLean Foundation University Scholarship two years ago.

Emma said the scholarship had made a huge difference and she urged other students to find the confidence

and 'give it a go': "Even if you doubt your chances, tell yourself you are good enough and just apply... Once you give it a try you will be glad you did, because you have nothing to lose... and it really is worth the reward of a scholarship."

You can find the Guide at www.cef.org.au/students/scholarships/

The CEF is grateful for the generous support of our partners who have funded this Guide: Bridges Partnership, Cages Foundation and James N. Kirby Foundation.

Country Education Foundation Tertiary Scholarships Guide 2015:

Financial Assistance for Rural and Regional Students

BRIDGES
TO HIGHER EDUCATION

cef.org.au/students/scholarships



Local foundation fundraising

Fundraising season is well underway and our local foundations have had some great events in recent months. More than 200 joined in the celebrations for the Coonamble CEF 10th Anniversary; locals dressed up in vintage 1920s gear for a great night out in Cootamundra; and the Harden community turned out in force to welcome guest speaker and radio broadcaster, Alan Jones, for a very successful dinner and auction.



Old friends Scott Roberts and Craig Thorburn catching up at the Cootamundra fundraiser



Davone Stines and Kyle Biefield from US – singers, Charlotte Middleton, Chair Harden CEF and Alan Jones

Comings and goings



*From left to right:
Annette Cameron – 8 years supporting youth in Torrens Valley;
Warwick Souter, one of the founding members of Kangaroo Island CEF, will also be missed;
Welcome Lisa Maxey, Chief Operating Officer of the CEF*

This month we farewell three long-standing members who have had a significant impact in their communities: Annette Cameron (Chair, Torrens Valley CEF), Warwick Souter (Treasurer, Kangaroo Island CEF) and Helen Dugdale (Chair, Narrabri CEF). Thank you, all, for helping to make a difference.

And a warm welcome to our new Chief Operating Officer at the national office, Lisa Maxey. Lisa has a strong personal commitment to the work of the CEF, having lived in rural NSW all her life. Most recently she has worked in very remote areas in her role as Health Promotions Officer for BreastScreen NSW.

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**

**“We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give.”**
Sir Winston Churchill
(1874-1965)

