



RURAL YOUTH

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

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“OUR VISION IS TO CONNECT, DEVELOP AND CELEBRATE YOUNG TASMANIANS...”

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SPONSORS



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SAVE
the
DATE



LAUNCH

2nd May
@Agfest

RUN OFFS

7th of July
@Ashgrove Farm

FINALS

17th August
@Quercus Park

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION



STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with great excitement that I write this Presidents Report-the first within our new quarterly hard copy format.

This publication is professional, engaging and I strongly believe that this new style newsletter best suits the requirements of the organisation as we continue to modernise and make Rural Youth more recognisable within wider segments of the Tasmanian community.

It is perhaps even more exciting that our new publication also showcases the new Rural Youth logo. Released in December, I have had many comments from far and wide stating love for the new brand. Congratulations must be given to the current and past Rural Youth Board's for their hard work; firstly, by identifying the need for a new branding strategy and then by working hard to get this implemented.

Whilst on Board matters, it is important that I touch on the effectiveness in which the 2018/9 committee is working. Our Action List is no longer a long onerous list of jobs that feels like it will never end. Our Board is now spending much of its time dealing with positive applications and having strong strategic discussion about how Rural Youth can improve its image and reputation as one of the state's leading Youth Training and Development Organisations. I encourage all members past and present to make the effort to come along to one of our meetings and get involved with discussion.

In the past 12 months the organisation has invested nearly \$1M into infrastructure projects. This spending has been focused to areas that will guarantee both the future of Rural Youth and Agfest at Quercus Park, whilst aiming to generate further income and use of the Quercus Park site. There is a vision for Quercus to become a real community hub for the states north and this started in December when the Quercus Park United Kennel Club (QPUKC) held their official opening as part of a long term site hire agreement.

In December last year, we also welcomed the Circular Head Club back to Rural Youth! A new enthusiastic group of Rural Youth members have joined and it has been great to see that they are

already being active with state events. Having clubs in regional communities such as the far North West provides opportunities for youth within these regions and I wish Circular Head all the best.

By the time this report gets to your coffee tables and kitchen benches, our State Ball will have been and gone. This is still one of my personal favourite events on the Rural Youth calendar, providing the chance to frock up and celebrate the previous years' achievements. To all clubs and individuals that have won awards, a big congratulations and I thank you for your dedication to Rural Youth. Thank you must also go to the organising committee who have been working behind the scenes to deliver the event.

Attention for most members now turns to Agfest preparations. The committee is slowly building up to the 2019 event, with many site jobs underway and site marking to begin in early March. Agfest provides the perfect platform to meet and engage with new people in a fun team environment. For anybody new to Rural Youth, be sure to fill in an application and come along to volunteer. Many hands make light work and so I look forward to seeing you there!

As always; if you have any ideas, issues or comments about Rural Youth, pick up the phone and give me a call I am only too happy to listen and help where I can.

DALE HAYERS
State President



CEO REPORT

Welcome to our new look Newsletter! Members asked for this at AGM in September 2018 – we really hope it exceeds your expectations!

You are all aware of the money and effort that is going into Quercus Park, social media and Owen's reports are keeping you up to date with Agfest news. I wanted to let you know about the 'other' work we are putting a lot of effort into at the moment. Thanks to all who responded to our survey before Christmas! We are looking closely at your responses and working on ways to improve your experience with Rural Youth – providing you with opportunities and benefits you have identified as important, while staying true to our vision and values.

Increasing our membership numbers particularly in the 15 – 18 age group, more social events, clubs doing more and being active in their community are the most common themes. Many also identified that they recognise the value in taking on roles within the organisation for the positive benefits it can provide professionally and personally, but they couldn't because of a lack of time, they weren't sure what's involved, or the commitment was too great.

We are actively looking at how we can shake things up so that some of these barriers are removed or at least reduced. We are also looking into what we need to change so Rural Youth 'is a better fit' with your other interests and commitments. Our aim is to make your membership of Rural Youth a rewarding experience, something you encourage your friends and colleagues to join, where things are always happening and you have something to look forward to.

Speaking of things to look forward to – applications for Marcus Oldham Leadership Training open this month and there are lots of working bees on site at Quercus, if you would like to hone your skills, learn a new one and enjoy some good company, laughs and a

bar b que or two, come along! April and May will be taken up with all things Agfest – we hope you can make it!

Finally, thank you to Nicole Elliott and her Committee for all their hard work organising State Ball – it was a great night! And congratulations to Kat Cresswell and Western Tiers on their respective wins – Most Outstanding Member and Top Club Award!

I am looking forward to seeing you at Agfest!



KAREN ROBINSON
CEO

PS: The member survey may be finished, but if you would like to add your two bob's worth – call me on 0448 344 381 or email ceo@ruralityouth.com.au





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AGFEST CHAIRMAN REPORT

Well what a busy few months the past few have been!

Since our last newsletter we have been busily working away ensuring Agfest preparations are all in hand and full swing, Rural Youth Board is making great progress at its tasks, along with attending the many social activities that have been held too.

We again this year have a full site at Agfest with a substantial waiting list of exhibitors who wish to attend this year's event. This year's event is shaping up to be an actioned packed event, as we can all imagine with lots of brilliant exhibits, features and entertainment for all to enjoy.

We have held a few working bees out on site over the months which have been well attended. Lots of jobs have been ticked off the to-do list in advance for the event along with the ongoing maintenance of the site. These working bees are a great way to get to know people in the organisation before we all descend upon site for the few weeks of Agfest. These weekends make for a good time, so I highly recommend coming out and seeing what it is all about and join in the antics that happen.

Since my last report Rural Youth and Agfest have held a leadership course in conjunction with the University of Tasmania, which was very beneficial and informative to all those who attended. I would strongly urge everyone to attend this training course the next time it is run, I found it very relatable to life and work, helping me with my career and guide my business.

A few weekends ago Rural Youth State Ball was held in Hobart, which was brilliant, congratulations to all that were involved in organising, it was a great night. I think I can speak for all those that attended in saying it was a great night, everyone looked sharp and glamorous all dressed up for a night of laughs and celebrations.

As we all know, the work now begins for us in the preparations

for Agfest, site marking will commence in a few weekends till the end of March ensuring all sites are marked ready from the month of April. Which is when we really know the event is near. I look forward to the next few months, with all the working bees coming up and the antics to be had, the excitement and nerves of the big few days approaching. This is what we have all been working towards, it is now closer than we think.

Well till my next report, take care, be safe and I look forward to letting you all know how Agfest went!



OWEN WOOLLEY
Agfest Chairman



PRESENTED BY

RURAL  YOUTH

AGFEST 2019

TASMANIA'S PREMIER FIELD DAYS

WE NEED YOU!



Calling all Rural Youth Members who want to be part of the team that put together Tasmania's Premier Field Days. There is only space for 120 Agfest volunteers and you could be one of those delivering an event that attracts over 65,000 attendees! If you are passionate, driven and keen to have loads of fun and meet new people register as a volunteer now! To find out more contact head office on 03 6331 6154 or to register online please follow the link below.

2-4 MAY **QUERCUS PARK**
CARRICK

*All volunteers must have a current WWVP card

*All volunteers are required to complete a safety induction online before coming onto site

REGISTER NOW!

<http://bit.ly/2XvShN0> or on 6331 6154



FEATURED CLUB REPORT

KINGBOROUGH/HUON

Just like that, we are already well into 2019 with a number of fantastic events planned and already happened.

To close 2018 we had a few members head out into the big smoke for cage night, great fun was had by all. January was a quiet month for the club as we let our members enjoy their summer break, but we had a number of members attend the Emerging Leaders training at Quercus Park, this was an extremely valuable weekend, key messages and skills were established that will be utilised within the club and Rural Youth as a whole.

In February we had a contingent of members attend state ball at the Tasmanian Golf Club, what a fantastic weekend celebrating all and who that is Rural Youth, a special thanks goes out to KH member Nicole who was chief organiser for the extraordinary night!

During the weekend KH also organised recovery paintball following the night that was, this was well attended by our own members and great to see other clubs there as well, many bruises arose, no casualties and heaps of fun!

We also welcomed two new members to our club, Hannah Woodruff and Lucy Cooper, we're super excited to have them on board!



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EVENT DATE	EVENT TYPE
12 th April	Agfest Meeting
14 th & 15 th April	Working Bee @ Quercus Park
24 th April	YAPN North West Ag Meet Up @ Ulverstone Pub
2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th May	Agfest
2 nd May	Young Farmer Launch @ Agfest
June	Graeme Tole Award Applications Open
1 st June	Agfest Dinner
7 th July	Young Farmer Run Offs @ Ashgrove Farm
August	Study Tours Applications Open
17 th August	Young Farmer Finals & Dinner
21 st September	Rural Youth AGM & Dinner



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STATE BALL HIGHLIGHTS



There was a lot of love in the room at State Ball in February – a great night was had by all!

A big congratulations to Kat Cresswell (Most Outstanding Member) and Western Tiers (Top Club) for their achievements in 2018! Special mention to Jacinta & Jacob Allen who flew the flag for the recently reformed Circular Head Club.

Finally, thank you to Nicole Elliott and the team for the fantastic night they delivered – lots of laughs, dancing, catching up and generally having a really good time!



SPONSORS

Rural Youth Tasmania would like to acknowledge the following sponsors for their support to our organisation and members – it is greatly appreciated!

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