



# NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019

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# YOUNG FARMER

**OF THE YEAR 2019**



## RUN-OFFS

9:00AM, SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY  
Ashgrove Farm - Bass Hwy, Elizabeth Town

## FINALS

SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OF AUGUST  
Quercus Park, Oaks Road, Carrick



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## STATE PRESIDENT REPORT

**Hi all, here we are in June! So much has happened in the world of Rural Youth since the last newsletter edition in March.**

Of course, central to this was Agfest. A big congratulations to Owen and the team for their hard work to again deliver such a high-class event.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank each and every Rural Youth member that volunteered their time over the week of Agfest, whether an hour, a day, or three weeks; all volunteers are appreciated. Many hands make light work and volunteers are the backbone of the Agfest event.

Over Agfest there were many exciting Rural Youth based highlights too. On the Thursday we welcomed our Patron, Her Excellency Dr Kate Warner and her husband Mr Warner to the event. Taking some time from our busy schedules to chauffeur them around our event was truly a personal highlight. We also had visits from Mr Scott Morrison and also Mr Bill Shorten as part of their election campaigns.

The 2019 Young Farmer of the Year event was also launched within the TP Jones Agfest Site. This is the first time the event has been launched at Agfest. Be sure to lock the runoff date into your calendar, this year's competition is once again shaping up to be hard fought and rich in prizes.

Expressions of Interest for the Discover Ag Program were also launched, with registrations to take part in the program now open. If you know any Year 9-12 student that is considering a career in the Ag Industry be sure to promote this event to them.

Dylan Bellchambers was announced as the winner of the Marcus Oldham Scholarship for 2019 and he will attend the week long program with Owen Woolley. This program is nationally recognised and I'm sure both men will gain much from the experience.

Finally, the Agfest Networking Evening moved to the new and improved Rural Youth Feature Site for this year's event. Having the evening in this space allowed exhibitors to explore the range of other great work that Rural Youth completes away from Agfest and provided a chance to celebrate our volunteers. I was delighted to receive lots of positive feedback about the new Feature Tent and the branding strategy. It was also a pleasure to host the annual past members get together within this zone and it was great to have a catch up with dedicated members from a time gone by.

Good luck and safe travels to Alex White and Karley Beer who have headed off on Rural Youth Study Tours since Agfest, we look forward to hearing some stories from your adventures soon! Since Agfest, Rural Youth has been hosting Victoria from Ireland and Emma from Scotland visiting and we hope they are loving their Tasmanian adventures!

The Southern Region Bowling Comp returned this year and it returned with a bang! It was great to see every club in the south represented, with Kingborough-Huon just edging out Oatlands for the win. Brighton club took home the wooden spoon! Congrats to the team that worked hard to deliver the event and hopefully this is the first of many to come.

Recently the Board has been working on approving the Budget for the year 2019/20. Every single budget line has been analysed and adjusted accordingly. It is pleasing to see our organisation in a healthy financial position. The Board has made a commitment to increase advertising of Rural Youth in the coming year, whilst more funds have been allocated for clubs to host exchangees and an increased training subsidy has been approved for every member to access. The Board is now focused on improving the member benefits and social interactions of Rural Youth members around the state.

As another year continues to fly by, clubs are now firmly in the midst of annual AGM's. I strongly encourage any member considering taking on a role within their clubs to put your hand in the ring and give it a shot! You certainly get out of Rural Youth what you put in and club level provides the platform to learn many new skills that can be applied to your job, schooling or simply to gain personal confidence. Positions on the Agfest and Rural Youth Board will also be voted on at the 2019 AGM and this further provides the opportunity to learn new skills!

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



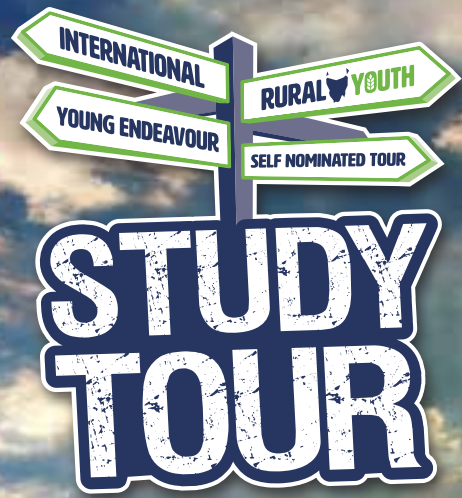


# CONGRATULATIONS



## Congratulations Dylan

Congratulations Dylan Bellchambers on being the winner of the Marcus Oldham Scholarship!



Applications for Study Tours open  
Thursday, 1st August 2019.  
**WATCH THIS SPACE!**

A large advertisement for Orion Australia. The background is a photograph of a large, corrugated metal rainwater tank in a field. The sky is a mix of pink and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the top right corner, there is a dark blue triangle containing the Orion Australia logo, which consists of a stylized 'O' made of two overlapping shapes, one blue and one green. Below the logo, the text 'ORION AUSTRALIA' is written in white, followed by the tagline 'DIFFERENT. BETTER. GUARANTEED.' in smaller white letters. Below this, the text 'Proudly supporting Agfest and Rural Youth Tasmania.' is written in white. At the bottom of the advertisement, a dark blue banner contains the text 'TASMANIA'S LEADING RAINWATER TANK SUPPLIER' in white, followed by 'Free Call - 1800 752 784' and 'orionaustralia.com.au' in white.

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# CEO REPORT

**Congratulations and thank you to Owen, his Agfest team, the dedicated RYT staff and all of our wonderful volunteers on another outstanding Agfest. Every year I am blown away by your dedication and hard work!**

Dylan Bellchambers is this year's recipient of the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program scholarship, he will be joining Owen Woolley for a week of first-class instruction – past recipients report that it is a lot of fun, with a bit of sleep deprivation on the side. Ask them about it when you see them next!

If Marcus Oldham isn't your style, Study Tour applications will open in August or maybe you know of someone who would be a worthy recipient of the Graeme Tole Award? Why not nominate them? It is a great way to recognise a member's contribution.

Pete Damen has been working hard getting the TP Jones Young Farmer of the Year Competition up and running this year – run offs are being held at Ashgrove Farm on July 7 and the final will be held at Quercus on August 17. We encourage you all to come along on the day to support the finalists and then enjoy the dinner at night. Everyone is welcome!

As you know membership fees have been changed this year and member benefits have increased! If you are aged under 18 at July 1 the annual membership will be \$30 – likewise if you are over 18 it will be \$40. The training subsidy has increased to \$250 per annum – the Rural Youth Board are keen to see more members access this funding – call RY HQ if you need more details.

Nominations for Board vacancies and the incoming Agfest team will open on July 23 – if you are considering putting your hat in the ring, but would like some more info, let the admin team know, we can put you in touch with the right people! Elections will be held at AGM on September 21.

A dedicated team of members and staff have looked at options for the structure of the incoming Agfest Committee and the RYT operations team. We are looking to provide a great volunteering experience while still meeting business needs – it's a challenge and a work in progress, we will share info with you once we have settled on what it all looks like. Also, we have heard you – we know you want us to raise the fun factor – I promise we are working on that as well!

Work will begin in the coming months on the ablution block and preparing for the arrival of the first accommodation block in December. The budget for the 2019 – 2020 financial year has been set, we are organising a session in October for the next strategic plan, the list goes on!

I have exhausted my word count and allocated space for this report – so watch out for Ellie's fortnightly updates and social media – they will keep you up to date with what is going on!

Until next time,



**KAREN ROBINSON**  
CEO





# 70 YEARS OF RURAL YOUTH

2020 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> year of Rural Youth, Junior Farmers and Cattle Clubs within Tasmania.



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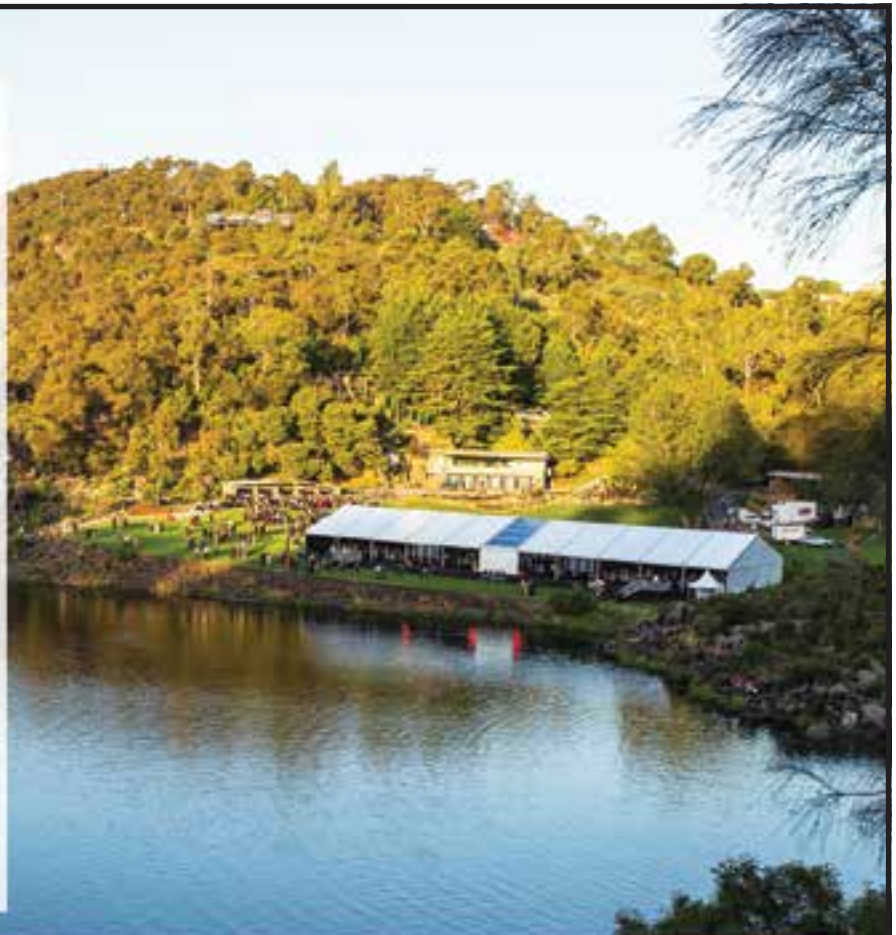
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Image by Alastair Best



# AGFEST CHAIRMAN REPORT

## Welcome to our June newsletter, Agfest, just like that and it is all over for another year!

All the hard work over the past 12 months was so worth it, after seeing how successful and smoothly this year's event ran. I can't say how grateful and proud I am to have worked alongside so many dedicated and committed people, everyone's commitment to our event is a testament to all as you are the reason Agfest is the success it is!

Agfest was very successful again this year, from patron and exhibitor attendance to the weather being pretty much in our favour. An impressive 722 exhibitors were set up onsite this year, attracting 63,848 through the gates over the three days. There were so many amazing attractions and highlights to see and visit, it is a wonder they could all be seen in three days!

The lead up to Agfest happened so quickly and smoothly, with only a few small items to be fixed in days before gates opening. Life is so easy organising an event like this when there is such a large crew of committed volunteers helping set up and clean-up the site, the comments people made to me over the days of the event of how well the site looks and how good the improvements look. It is great to hear that all our hard work is noticed and appreciated!

Even though Agfest is over now, the work hasn't stopped, the few days after the event saw a group of members stay back till the Thursday to continue cleaning up before returning home for a well earned break and work again on Monday. We followed this by having a working bee a couple of weekends later once the marquee and wood chips contractors had a chance to pack up a bit more. It was another very well attended working bee and so many jobs were undertaken, it is amazing how much can get done in a day.

Coming up next for us in July we have our annual brainstorming event. This is a very important and strategic weekend for Agfest as this is where we look at what worked and what didn't at this year's

event. This is where we plan how to improve for next year, plus what things we can bring or do for next year, along with address suggestions from the public and exhibitors for the betterment of the event.

I can't say thank you enough to absolutely everyone for all your hard work and time devoted to this year's event, your commitment is the reason our event was the success it is!

Thanks again,



**OWEN WOOLLEY**  
Agfest Chairman





# AGFEST 2019 MOMENTS





# AGFEST 2019 MOMENTS



## GRAEME TOLE MEMORIAL AWARD

Graeme Tole was a well-respected Member who joined Rural Youth in 1962 at the young age of 16. In just 3 short years he became president of the Westmorland Club where he continued to work hard not only for the Club, but the Organisation itself.

Sadly, Graeme passed away in 2004 and this award is to honour his memory, recognise his fine qualities and dedication to Rural Youth Tasmania.

For more information on this Award and the application form, jump on our website and have a look!



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YOUNG AGRICULTURAL PROFESSIONALS NETWORK



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## FEATURED CLUB REPORT CIRCULAR HEAD

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

Circular Head Rural Youth started back up again this year, and we are excited about what 2019 has in store for us. This year has started off slow, as we were still getting our club established, but as the months dragged on, we became more and more active within the Circular Head community and Rural Youth Tasmania as a whole.

The Annual State Ball was an amazing night for us as a group. A few of our members attended and met up with so many different people, making connections as well as establishing our group in the process.

Then came Agfest. Most of our members helped out throughout the Agfest weekend, whether it be in the ticket box or out on one of the car parks. This was an amazing experience for all who attended, and a big thanks goes out to those who organised the huge event. We are looking forward to next year already!

We already have so many plans and ideas for the remainder of the year, including running the dog high jump at our local show (Circular Head Agricultural Show).

As we continue to welcome new members into our club, we look for more ways to introduce ourselves into the Circular Head and surrounding areas.





# BRIGHTON CLUB REPORT

## Brighton Rural Youth has had a busy couple of months attending events and welcoming new members.

The club would like to thank everyone involved for this year's fantastic Agfest. Many of our own members attended the event, with our own Bree, Nick, Emma, Molly, and Sam (who was on the committee this year) helping make the event the success it was!

A social meeting was held on the 25th of May at the Bagdad Community Hall where a tasty meal was enjoyed by all!

By the time you read this we would've held our AGM on the 25th June at the Jordan River Farm School where fresh hot pizza was enjoyed by all.

We would like to give a warm welcome to our newest member – Callie, welcome to the club!

As always, we are on the lookout for new members so if you know anyone aged between 15 and 30 in the area who would like to join our club please get them in contact with our president, Sam, on 0438 060 016 or alternatively our secretary, Emma, on 0447 031 292.

Last, but not least, we feel privileged to have taken out the wooden spoon at the Southern Regional Bowling Championships on the 29th of May at Zone Bowling, a thank you to the Kingborough-Huon club for organising the event. We'll definitely have to practise for next time!



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# KINGBOROUGH-HUON CLUB REPORT

**Over the past 3 months Kingborough-Huon have been very busy with a large contingent of members attending Agfest.**

We congratulate all on who volunteered and contributing to the success that was Agfest 2019. With the Agfest Dinner now been and gone, we can confirm everyone had a ripper night!

We recently organised a Southern Region Bowling Championship we had a fantastic turn out of 26 members from KH, Brighton, Oatlands and Sorell.

Congratulations to Brighton who were awarded the wooden spoon, we were fortunate to take out first place by just ahead with Oatlands second and followed by Sorell.

Thank you to Nicole who took the lead with organising this fun night.

Over the next three months we will see our new club executives elected, members attend the Young Farmer Competition and in July we will see Agfest Chairman Owen Woolley and Rural Youth scholarship recipient Dylan Bellchambers attend the Marcus Oldham Leadership Program in Geelong, we wish them the very best on this incredible opportunity.

The whole club has been legends with their commitment to Rural Youth and in particular Agfest. We commend each and every member who has been actively involved over the last three months.



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# OATLANDS CLUB REPORT

Here at Oatlands Rural Youth it's been a quiet few months surrounding club events however, we have been busy with over half of our members attending Agfest and other associated working bees.

We had a busy weekend coming up on the 1st Of June with members attending 3 events across the state. The Rural Youth Southern Region Bowling Competition was held at Zone Bowling on Wednesday the 29th May, where some of our members attended. We managed to place second closely behind Kingborough-Huon!

At the Campbell Town Show we once again held a Ute Competition with a solid turn out while others were at the Woodsdale Football Ground assisting with the annual 'Cracker Night'.

The Agfest Dinner also took place on the same weekend where members of Oatlands Rural Youth attended, celebrating the achievements of all involved.

We're looking forward to what the next few months has in store for Oatlands Rural Youth!



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EVENT DATE	EVENT TYPE
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Young Farmer Run-Offs @ Ashgrove Farm
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Nominations for Rural Ambassador - Agfest Representative close at 9:00am
26 <sup>th</sup> July	Nominations for Board, Coordinators, Agfest Leadership Group and the Agfest General Committee open
27 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> July	Agfest Brainstorming @ Quercus Park
1 <sup>st</sup> August	Study Tours Applications Open
17 <sup>th</sup> August	Young Farmer Final & Dinner @ Quercus Park
23 <sup>rd</sup> August	Nominations for Board, Coordinators, Agfest Leadership Group and the Agfest General Committee close at 5:00pm
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Rural Youth AGM & Dinner
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Elections for the Agfest Leadership Group and Rural Youth Board to be held at the AGM (Coordinators & General Committee will be appointed at the first meeting of the respective groups after this date)



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