



# NEWSLETTER

***December 2015***

**Edition: 762**

Rural Youth Organisation of Tasmania Inc.

## A quiet word From The Editor...

**The January NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE is Friday the 18th of  
December at 5PM.**

**Hey everyone!**

**December. This means Christmas is soon! This also  
means that most clubs will have held their AGM's.  
Congratulations to new committees and people for  
stepping up to take on a role!**

**Feels weird saying this but until next year,**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!**

**Phillipa :)**

**Front page photo credit: Ashley Hobbins**

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The Information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing the newsletter. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and check currency of the information. Recognising that some of the information in this document is provided by third parties, Rural Youth is not responsible for the accuracy, currency, reliability and correctness of any information in the document provided by third parties.

## Newsletter Contents ...

	PAGE
Contents	2
Presidents Report	3
Agfest Chair Report	4,5,6
Important Information	7
Central Highlands Rural Youth	8,9
Kingborough Huon	10
General Manager	11
Agfest Committee Vacancies	11
December Calendar	12
January Calendar	13
Western Tiers Rural Youth	14
Dorset Rural Youth	14
Oatlands Rural Youth	15
Rural Youth State Council	16
Westmorland Rural Youth	17
Sorell Rural Youth	17
Merry Christmas	18
Contractors BBQ	19
Sponsors Thank You	20

### Inserts

Membership Card  
Oatlands Summer Party



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# Presidents Report



Dashing through the bush...

It can't really be that time of year already but it is. Where has the year has gone? Well done to those clubs who have successfully run their AGM's, I look forward to attending as many as possible around the Southern Region and possibly in the Northern Region.

Drum roll please! We have a very super exciting announcement to make! There is a new club on the Horizon of Rural Youth! State Council have been working closely with a member of the community on King Island who expressed interest in starting a Rural Youth Club on the Island to engage the youth. We will be working closely with that member. Another member of State Council and I will travel to the Island when they choose to have their AGM. This is very exciting news on the Rural Youth front and we can't wait to support the members on the Island.

The second weekend of November I was fortunate enough to attend the Western Tiers Bonfire and BBQ night. It was very encouraging to see some new faces, and returning ones at the event and I can't wait to be further involved in the club.

I hope each and every one of our members has a fantastic Christmas break and a safe and Happy New Year. I hope that wherever you drive, you drive to arrive safely. We look forward to seeing you all safe and happy in the New Year.

Stay safe and Merry Christmas!



# AGFEST

## TASMANIA'S FIELD DAYS

**There are seven days in a week... and someday is not one of them...** This is exactly the thoughts of the 2016 Agfest Organising Committee, working our way, planning the next 163 days of our life in preparation for the three very important days ahead of **May 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>... Agfest Field Days 2016.** (As of Sunday 22/11)

Our Committee met on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November for our final meeting prior to 2016! Following this meeting we held a budget setting discussion Saturday morning, this was a beneficial experience for many, gaining an understanding of the full events budget and the importance of communication and working together. We are certainly a huge step closer to having budgets finalised and confirmed prior to the beginning of 2016.

Sadly we have had two members of our committee resign from their committee position of the Safety and Power Directorships, a tough decision to make, but I would like to acknowledge both Derryn Badcock and Jake Williams for their contributions this year, and years leading up to this. Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing you both at the event as a very much valued part of our volunteer base!

Given Derryn's position within the Agfest Exec Team, this saw an opening for those within the Committee to be elected onto Exec, a much desired advancement of many. With six nominations accepted at the meeting, the Committee went into voting. The unimaginable then happened in that after three rounds of voting, there was still a tied vote between two of the candidates. At this point, given this year's Exec Team is slightly smaller with the change of Organisation structure and duplication of positions equating to two votes being reduced to one held by one person, then the Committee chose to appoint and welcome both Ebony McConnon, Oatlands Rural Youth, and Simone Hayers, Kingborough Huon Rural Youth, to the team. As mentioned during meeting, it is great to see the quantity of interest in these positions of mentorship, and the drive within our committee base.

### **The 2016 Agfest Exec Team are;**

Kate Coad, *Chairman*

Dayna Broun, *Vice Chairman*

Ricky Edson, *Operations Manager*

Bree House, *Exec Member*

Simone Hayers, *Exec Member*

Amanda Bayles, *Immediate Past Chairman & Treasurer*

Prue Dennis, *Rural Youth Tasmania State President*

Tracey Badcock, *Exhibitor Manager*

Chenae Simpson, *Exec Member*

Ebony McConnon, *Exec Member*

### **Vacancies within the 2016 Agfest Organising Committee are;**

Safety Director (voting)

Power Director (voting)

Assistant Kids Ag Awareness Program Coordinator (Director, Rosie Forsyth)

Assistant Vehicles Coordinator (Director, Alex Bigham)

If you are interested in any of these vacancies please send your expression of interest to [chairman@agfest.com.au](mailto:chairman@agfest.com.au) or text/call 0418 391 898 prior to Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

An exciting development within the committee is that after much hard work and dedication of Kara Crosswell and Bree House and those supporting them, the Equine Expo feature will return to Agfest 2016! A special thanks to Brett Mackenzie, David Smink, Allan Crosswell and Anthony Coad for supplying their time and expertise in testing the drainage and identifying areas we need to have some development works carried out on within the Equine Arena.

# AGFEST

## TASMANIA'S FIELD DAYS

The Committee have made the decision for 2016 to trial a move of the Personnel Office during the Field Days to the small meeting room of the Function Centre. The main reason for this move is the WHS improvement to being on the static site, having volunteers report to Personnel prior to commencing work, and on completion of the day for the evening meal. Within this area, I will also have an admin space (laptop/phone charger) set up for when I am not roaming site communicating to those enabling our success and whatever else the 2016 event holds for us!

Each Rural Youth Club and Region have been appointed an Agfest Exec member as their contact and communication of the Agfest Field Days event. Your Club and Region contacts will receive a letter with notification of these appointments and opportunity to have a visit from us to discuss your involvement with our upcoming event! Exec appointments to Clubs and Regions are;

*Chenae Simpson*; North West Region, Northern Region, Southern Region, Sorell & Tasman Clubs

*Amanda Bayles*; Circular Head and Devonport Clubs

*Dayna Broun*; North Motton and Sisters Creek Clubs

*Ricky Edson*; Dorset and Hagley Clubs

*Bree House*; Tamar, Western Tiers and Westmorland Clubs

*Tracey Badcock*; Oatlands and Central Highland Clubs

*Ebony McConnon*; Kingborough Huon Club

*Simone Hayers*; Brighton Club

When considering running for Agfest Chairman, a personal goal of mine was to reach 100 Rural Youth volunteers recruited to the 2016 Field Days. Starting next month volunteer forms will be available to complete, if you are interested but not quite sure what you are signing up for please contact me, or one of the execs listed above!

We slightly increased our approach this year in marketing of our application period timeframe. Starting with the standard release of EDM (electronic/email direct marketing) to all contacts. Followed by release of media release. Last month I mentioned the "Why Agfest" flyer campaign, and excited to share that beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November right through to December 1<sup>st</sup> we will be promoting on Southern Cross, 7Mate and 7Two with our "Why Agfest? Television campaign and paid Facebook boosting. Along with the Exhibitor applications closing near, it is also closing date for the Agfest Charity of Choice application period, and the Community Group expression of interest period.

The opportunity behind Agfest Official Charity of Choice, a development of the 2014 Agfest Committee, offers avenue for all charities and non-for-profits to apply for the one chance to have a presence at Agfest Field Days in receiving a donated site, brand alignment as Agfest Official Charity of Choice, and receiving a monetary donation from all ATM transaction fees charged during the event. In 2014 this was awarded to Life Without Barriers, and 2015 The Royal Flying Doctors Association, it is exciting to see applications submitted and consideration in who our event can support in 2016! Announcement will be made with the Successful Exhibitor Application period in January/February 2016.

Each year our event provides opportunity for many non-for-profit community groups to get involved with our event, raising profiles of these groups and boosting funding in a fee for service relationship! The Agfest Committee reserves \$15,000 towards these valuable opportunities of Agfest Community Group service, with 13 opportunities available! To download the application form and see what opportunities are available go to [www.agfest.com.au](http://www.agfest.com.au)

# AGFEST

## TASMANIA'S FIELD DAYS

We are increasing our activity on our Official Agfest **Facebook** page and other social media platforms. Please if you are willing to, share our posts within your networks! In the New Year there will be some exciting competitions ran on our page- keep an eye out for them!

Follow our Agfest Official Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AgfestFieldDaysTasmania>

We have our **Working Bees** scheduled in, having held two so far. Our focus at this point is general tidy up and maintenance leading into the preparation stage of February/March/April for line marking and improvements to site in areas required. If you wish to lend a hand, please let us know and we will cater for you, many hands make light work, and many minds contribute to fun- creating memories!

We have the Agfest Exec Team attending WHS Governance Training in December 2015. Over the coming months you will see our recognition and understanding of WHS develop, while we all know fun is important, so is our safety and the safety of others, the Organisation is taking a strong focus towards the importance of development and these procedures, for example the old bluey singlet will now be complimented with a hi vis safety vest during working bees, and a sign in/sign out procedure for when on site.

### Meetings & Events

Our next meeting is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January in the Function Centre at Quercus Rural Youth Park, 8pm for committee, and 7:30pm for Agfest Exec. Exec have also booked in to catch up a fortnight prior to any scheduled Agfest Committee meeting.

Also on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January from 4pm until 7pm is the **2015/16 Rural Youth Tasmania Agfest Contractors BBQ** please rsvp to Rural Youth Head Office on [admin@ruralyouth.com.au](mailto:admin@ruralyouth.com.au) or phone 03 6331 6154 during business hours. That weekend is a busy one for the Organisation, with the Rural Youth Tasmania Farm Tour on the Saturday morning (9<sup>th</sup> January) to be back in time to wind down and socialise with the annual Carrick Bull Ride and Rodeo Spectacular that evening! Exciting times ahead!

We were fortunate to have our "A rural event with a community focus" article published on the Volunteering Tasmania website recently- check it out! <http://www.volunteeringtas.org.au/20-november-2015-rural-event-community-focus>

Over the next month with applications closing and budgets announced; the busy Christmas period is destined to be even busier with those on our committee. Personally, I will be adding a move into our new exciting family home as well – just in case life isn't set to be busy enough.

In closing I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas, a safe and enjoyable festive season, with a prosperous New Year ahead. Hope that 2015 has delivered all you desired, and the excitement of what lies ahead for 2016 makes this busy period something to look forward to- it sure does for me!

Kind Regards

Kate Coad

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!!

Please fill out and return the membership card included in this edition. This is the last newsletter that you will receive until you re-sign as a member for 2016! REMINDER—Payment must be made directly to Head Office. No cash is to be sent in the mail.



**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

# Central Highlands Rural Youth

Members have been busy bagging up sheep manure and pine bark. We cannot keep up with orders and we aren't even advertising! This has been a huge success for us. We held a working bee at Glenvale where we bagged up sheep manure and pine bark; we learnt a bit about foals, washing horses and prep for a show. We all got a lesson on crutching a ram, it was a great day with a lot of fun "bringing the Rural back to Rural Youth" is our main aim and it is certainly happening!! We ended the day with a few drinks at the swag slumber at Levendale and had a ball. Well done to Southern Region on another great evening!

We are always trying new ideas ,we have since created our own Facebook person rather than our Facebook page. This has already been a huge hit with 200 friends and friend request coming in droves! This way we can keep everyone up to date, we can tag members in events and when change over comes we don't need to swap and change admins just hand over the password like our email address.

We have had another successful weekend at Highlands Bushfest in Bothwell again selling our bark and manure. We held an information stand on the club and the organisation and offered a \$10 membership for anyone who signed up on the day this was a great idea and we are pleased to say a few newbies coming on board next year.

Instead of the traditional Christmas fancy dinner in town we decided to keep it simple and do the things we love. We headed to Lake Repulse for the weekend where we went fishing, shooting, swimming and had an absolute ball a great way to end a very busy and successful year!

On behalf of the club we wish to thank the team at Head Office, Prue, Kate, Amanda and anyone else who helped our club in one way or another we really do appreciate it and look forward to working with you all in 2016.

A huge thank you to all members again without you club wouldn't be as successful a huge pat on the back to all. Unfortunately our AGM is held after the cut off point for the newsletter so please keep an eye on our Facebook page and the January addition to see who's in what roles, how exiting!

Our next meeting will be January 19th 6pm Lachlan Hotel Ouse.

We wish you all a safe and Happy Christmas and a very Merry New Year!

Central Highlands "you get out what YOU put in"



# Central Highlands Rural Youth



# Kingborough Huon Rural Youth

We have had a busy month at Kingborough Huon this month! We had our normal pre-show clean-up of the animal nursery on the Tuesday before the show and then Caelum Wood made a quick trip down the night before to make our pens completely rabbit proof.

With both Dale and Simone not available to help out, it was great to see the club rally together and work as a real team to get the day done with lots of success. A big thanks to Phil Wood for commentating the dog high jump too!

Another big congrats from the show goes to club president Nicole Elliot for her efforts in winning the 2015 Show Ambassador. This is a worthy and well deserved prize for Nicole as she gives up so much of her time helping out community organisations.

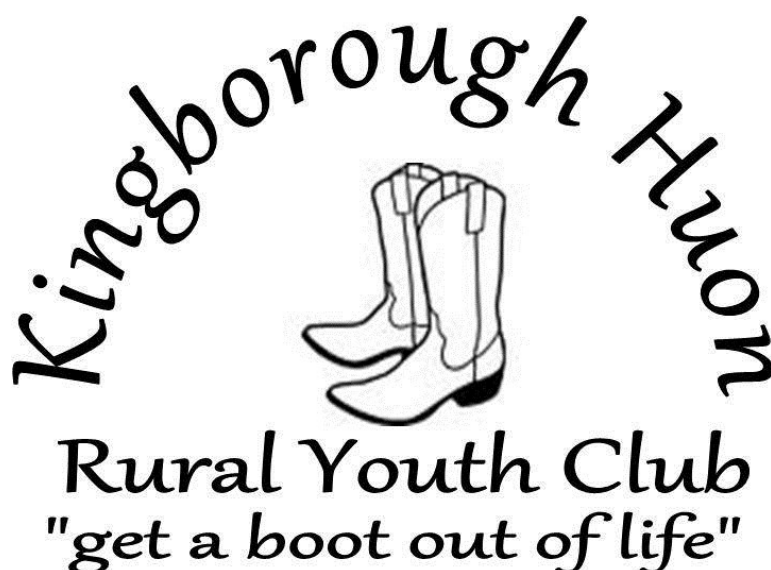
After show, everyone attended Kate's 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday Fluro Party and this was a great way to celebrate both a successful show and Kate's birthday, all while wearing the brightest colours we could find!

Members have also been seen around the state in November. Many members attended Melton Mowbray Rodeo, the first rodeo of the year. You can be assured that you will see us at many more over the next few months!

Coming up in December will be our clubs Christmas get together, with a BBQ to be held and everyone that brings a secret Santa gift will receive a lucky present for themselves! For more information contact Simone Hayers on 0400067435.

And don't forget to "Get A Boot out of Life"

Kingborough Huon Rural Youth



# General Manager

As I was on leave I didn't contribute to last month's Newsletter so please excuse me for being 'late' in sending my congratulations to Tim, Stacy and Stuart from Western Tiers. They have been working hard to get the Club up and going. Keep an eye out for what they are up to – maybe you or your Club could go along to show support and more importantly, have a good time!

King Island is in the process of getting a Club going – stay tuned to see what they are up to as they start their adventures.

Agfest 'fever' is starting to take hold in the office as the date for close of Applications gets nearer and incoming phone calls increase! As in previous years the Admin team are working hard to support both the Committee and event, they never cease to amaze me with their knowledge and dedication.

Having someone onsite at Quercus, even in a part time capacity, is making a huge difference! Denis has been working hard and you can certainly see what he has been up to. Site hirers have also indicated that they appreciate and approve of the changes that have been made – it is making life easier for everyone! Members will see more changes in the coming months as we draw closer to Agfest and implement WHS processes/changes to ensure the safety of all.

I am also in the process of developing a Training Calendar for the coming 12 months – this will cover a broad range of subjects, including governance, finance, media training and more 'hands on' subjects - the intention is to deliver these in different locations around the State to give everyone a chance to join in – this is still a 'work in progress' but once sorted should have 'something for everyone'!

Cheers Karen

# AGFEST

## COMMITTEE VACANCIES

**Safety Director** *(voting)*

**Power Director** *(voting)*

**Assistant Kids Ag Awareness Program Coordinator**

**Assistant Vehicles Coordinator**

If you are interested in any of these vacancies  
please send your expression of interest to [chairman@agfest.com.au](mailto:chairman@agfest.com.au)  
or text/call **0418 391 898** prior to **Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.**



# December 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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	1	2	3	4	5	6
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	North Motton 8pm	Brighton 7pm				
	Sisters Creek 7pm					

7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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Hagley 7pm	Sorell 7pm	Kingborough Huon 6.30pm	Northern Region 7pm	Oatlands 7pm		
		Westmorland AGM 7.30 pm				

14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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Devonport 7.30pm		Agfest Exec Meeting	North West Region 7pm			
Dorset 7.30pm						

21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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		Southern Region 7pm	Christmas Eve	Christmas DAY!	Boxing Day	
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28	29	30	31			
			New Year Eve!			





# January 2016

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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				1	2	3
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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Hagley 7pm

North Motton  
8pm

Brighton 7pm

Northern Region  
7pm

Oatlands 7pm

Agfest Meeting  
@ Quercus

11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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Devonport  
7.30pm

Sorell 7pm

Kingborough  
Huon 6.30pm

North West  
Region 7pm

Dorset 7.30pm

18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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Central  
Highlands, 7pm

Westmorland  
7pm

Southern Region  
7pm

25	26	27	28	29	30
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AUSTRALIA DAY!

# Western Tiers Rural Youth

Western Tiers Rural Youth has had a hard couple of years trying to get members from the surrounding areas. With help from former member Paul Bennett we have decided to give it one more go to bring back Western Tiers.

Our current president is Tim Cresswell and there are also accompanying member's Stacy Plumbridge, Stuart Cresswell & Kat Cenin.

On the 7th of November we held an Open Night to try and attract new members. The evening was a success for us having signed up 7 new members.

Our next plan is to have a Laser Tag Night. A date is to be confirmed.

Please join our Facebook page "Western Tiers Rural Youth" to keep up to date with our upcoming events.

To Contact Our Club Please

Call Tim Cresswell- 0458866134

Email - [stacyplumbridge@live.com.au](mailto:stacyplumbridge@live.com.au)

Join our Facebook Page- "Western Tiers Rural Youth"



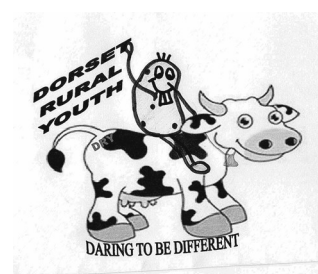
# Dorset Rural Youth

Not a lot has been happening from our side of the state , we have all been very busy with silage and potato planting .

We held Dorset Damnation on the 24th October and we all put a lot of work into getting this event up and running again. We were all a bit disappointed that only two Rural Youth members attended. Thankyou to Anthony and Deyarna for coming along and supporting our event.

Also a big thanks to our past member Aleta Jones for all her help. Even though we didn't get the numbers we were hoping for, we all had a great night!

Dorset Rural Youth  
"Daring to be Different"



# Oatlands Rural Youth

We have been busy bees! A few members attended the Swag Slumber Party hosted by Southern Region Rural Youth at the end of October, a fantastic night of networking with other young people from all around the state! Then the first weekend of November saw the Melton Mowbray Rodeo come around where our members car parked from 8am in the morning, then enjoyed the twilight rodeo and the after party in to the evening!

We have also received our Hi Vis Vests as we classify ourselves as the "car parking club" so thought we would get these to wear for the few times we do car parking at numerous events throughout the year!

We are busy organising our Summer Party for Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 at Woodsdale Football Grounds. See the poster enclosed in the newsletter for more information!

We are also putting a float in to the Oatlands Christmas Pageant on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. Starting at 6:30pm if anyone would like to attend! One of the greatest pageants in the state! BBQ afterwards!

Our AGM date is set for Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> of December at 3pm at our clubrooms on the esplanade in Oatlands. Afternoon Tea provided. Come along and if you know anyone in the area aged 15 – 30 years of age then please bring or send them along!

"Always in the Middle of It"

Oatlands Rural Youth



# Rural Youth State Council

Rural Youth State Council recently held a meeting on the 21 November, where we actioned a few pressing items on the agenda. As some of our members that sit on the Agfest Committee will be well aware, budget setting has proven a tough topic lately. We are getting closer to the end goal and are working extra hard.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each council member that has sat on State Council this year, and thank you for your contribution that you have made this year. I look forward to working with you for the remainder of the term in the new year.

Meetings for 2016,

18<sup>th</sup> January @ University of Tasmania Immersive Rooms.

● 15<sup>th</sup> February @ University of Tasmania Immersive Rooms.





# Westmorland Rural Youth

Westmorland has been relatively quiet lately. In October we held out Ute Competition at Longford show and helped out in the Animal Nursery as we have done in the past. With December fast dawning upon us we turn to AGM as its just around the corner.

We have called our AGM for 9<sup>th</sup> December commencing 7.30pm at the clubrooms at Cressy. We look forward to seeing each and every one of our members there. A text message will be communicated to remind all members of its approach.

We shall see you next time out of the Centre!

# ● ● ● Sorell Rural Youth ● ● ●

Merry Christmas everyone!

Sorell has had a uneventful few months after a few failed attempts to have our monthly meetings!

Our next meeting will be in December. When we will hold our AGM and will elect of new set of leaders for the club. If anyone knows of anyone who could potentially join please send them our way!

That's it for now!

Sorell Rural Youth

"Working hard to make a difference"



From all the members and staff at Rural Youth  
Organisation Tasmania.



**christmas**

***and a happy and safe New Year***

We look forward to hearing and seeing what all  
the clubs have planned for 2016!

Reminder - Head Office will close midday  
Thursday 24th December and re open Monday 4th January 2016





invite you to be our  
guest, in recognition of  
working your best!

Quercus Park  
Friday 8th January 2016  
4:00 – 7:00pm

Please come enjoy our BBQ,  
beverages & “thanks”

RSVP 19th November  
6331 6154 or email [admin@agfest.com.au](mailto:admin@agfest.com.au)

# THANKYOU TO ALL OUR RURAL YOUTH AND AGFEST SPONSORS

## DIAMOND



## SAPPHIRE



## RUBY



## PLATINUM



## GOLD



## SILVER



**AAA Socks**