



# RURAL YOUTH TASMANIA

DEVELOPMENT — SOCIAL — OPPORTUNITIES

November 2016

## AAFDA TRIP

A Report from Agfest Chairman Kate Birch from the AAFDA  
Conference in Orange, NSW.

### Looking Forward, Looking Back.

An Article from Past Member Nathan Richardson.



### PLUS

Reports from  
our Clubs &  
Regions.

Rural Youth Tasmania is jam packed with photos and stories for the month of November... Including exciting reports from clubs and information on upcoming events such as; Strategic Planning & Devonport Show.

# Inside...



**nsi**  
THE SPECIALISTS

**25** HST Tree Specialists are currently seeking  
**25** **Tree Pruner, Woodchipper, Chainsaw  
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Current licenses or experience in the above  
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benclark@hst.net.au

Please submit all collateral  
for **Rural Youth Tasmania**  
by the third Friday  
of every month to  
[editor@ruralityouth.com.au](mailto:editor@ruralityouth.com.au)



**- Cassie  
Newsletter  
Editor**

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## Disclaimer

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.



# RURAL YOUTH COUNCIL

Another busy month has flown by for the team. I can't believe it's November already!!

Quercus is in the midst of big changes with the site planning group working hard to put together a plan for the next 5 years. We already have an ablution block on its way and there are plans to add more accommodation blocks on site to increase usability and attract more groups throughout the year. There are also more plans in the pipeline so keep an eye out!

Rural Youth is all about what the members want and need. So, to make sure we are providing everyone with the activities, training, events, opportunities and everything else that comes with membership Rural Youth is hosting a facilitated strategic planning day. Throughout the day members will develop up a plan with the vision and goals they see for the organisation. A goal without a plan is just a wish!

I encourage all members to come along to Quercus on November the 19th for a (fully-catered) day of great ideas and to help us set the organisation's direction.

Big congratulations to Jake Williams for hosting a great shooting competition this year. Menacing grey clouds and the threat of rain didn't dampen the spirits of the competitors who gave it their all, competing for some great prizes. Well done Renee, Tobias, Nicole and Mitch on their wins.

Also, thank-you to everyone who helped out at this month's working bee. It was great to see so many people put in the effort and get so much done.

We had the fantastic opportunity for 10 representatives of the organisation to attend the Launceston Chamber of Commerce Awards on October the 22nd. AGFEST was a finalist for the 'Outstanding Event' category and although we didn't take home the win it was an amazing achievement to be nominated. Well done to the 2016 AGFEST team. Also, congratulations to Encore Theatre Company who took out the prize for their production of Mary Poppins.

Rural Youth has taken on the co-facilitation role of the 'Discover Agriculture' program, which supports students to learn more about the agriculture industry and the careers on offer. During the 6-day camp students travel around the state discovering everything from dairy and olives to beef, seeds, cider and sheep. The program will be a Rural Youth branded initiative.

We are also supporting the 2017 Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo as a sponsor. The event supports students to get more involved in the beef industry through industry advice and cattle showing.

In terms of events we have the AGFEST Christmas party coming up on December 3. Come dressed up in your best chrissie outfit for a night of fun and games. With show season upon us clubs are busy organising ute shows, animal nurseries, dog high jumps and information tents to raise funds and promote Rural Youth. Unfortunately the ploughing competition was cancelled due to a lack of entrants. Westmorland plan to try again next year.

There has been a change to the State Council with Rhys Mills stepping down as a southern representative due to increasing commitments within the organisation. I encourage people in the south to use this as an opportunity to put their hand up and take on a challenge.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK TEAM!

Ashley Evans

Rural Youth State President

[statepresident@ruralyouth.com.au](mailto:statepresident@ruralyouth.com.au)



## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

November has arrived – Agfest applications for 2017 are open and the pace is picking up in the office as the end of the year draws near.

Last week I was in Orange attending the Australian National Field Days and AAFDA Conference with Kate, Ethan and Ebony. Through my conversations and observations, I was again struck by what a great job our team of volunteers and staff do to deliver Agfest annually. Speaking to representatives from other Field Days – much of the work done by our committee and volunteers is outsourced to other community groups due to falling numbers and a lack of resources. Succession planning and good governance were highlighted as challenges that every group faced. Understandably Mystery Creek remains a leader in most areas due to its size, budget and resources, however I am proud to say that Agfest more than holds its own when it comes to growing the event, exploring something new (such as online ticketing) and developing policy and procedures to ensure we meet the numerous rules and regulations that govern our event. Needless to say the age group of our volunteers continues to be a talking point and the envy of all.

Thanks to everyone getting up pre-dawn Saturday morning for the drive to Sydney Airport Kate and I were able to return in time for the Launceston Chamber of Commerce Awards presentation Saturday evening. Although we were not successful in taking out the award for 'Most Outstanding Event' – it is true that being recognised as a finalist is an achievement in itself. Needless to say we are already planning our entry/s for next year!!

Saturday, November the 19th will be a huge day at Quercus! We are looking to develop a strategic plan for the organisation which will complement the work already undertaken in regards to developing the site and engaging with other community groups. **This is your chance to make a difference and contribute to the future of the organisation** – we are not looking for a long term commitment from you – (although if you would like to make one we won't stop you) we are just asking for a day of your time so we can hear your ideas and find out what you are looking for from Rural Youth. We have an experienced facilitator (Bryce Ives) coming from Melbourne to keep us on track and ensure the day is not just a talk fest and we will keep you fed and hydrated at all times, including dinner!! The day will start at 9 and finish around 5 and members are welcome to stay on site – all you need to do is RSVP to the office by November 15 and turn up on the day! I really hope to see you there! I am looking forward to updating you on what happens next!

Regards Karen.



# RURAL YOUTH

# WE WORK BETTER TOGETHER

FRIENDS **FUN** TRAINING & TRAVEL

Are you aged  
**between  
15 & 30?**

THERE'S A CLUB NEAR YOU!

Text your  
name &  
address to  
**0409 316 158**  
to get an  
**INFO PACK!**



[ruralyouth.com.au](http://ruralyouth.com.au)

6331 6154



Rural Youth  
Tasmania

In just 188 days the gates will open for patrons attending the 2017 Agfest Field Days...

The 2016/17 Organising Committee are full steam ahead in planning and preparation. With much thought into what the 2017 event will deliver to patrons, exhibitors and outcomes.

At time of reporting, all committee positions are now filled – stay tuned for the announcement of new committee members in next months newsletter - please if you are interested in a specific area let us know and we will ensure you are communicated within this years plans in method of succession planning in hope you can step up when ready to take that next level on within your Rural Youth career.

With the November the 11th budget deadline fast approaching, we are chasing final quotes ready to submit to RAC for consideration.

As a committee we are looking at methods in improving functionality as far as communication and dealings internally, providing the education in the importance of submitting rsvp to meetings, reading meeting documentation and submitting reports and/or communicating within your directorship to ensure transparency, communication and committee backing/support.

We are increasing the documentation of communication with the memorandum of understandings covering many aspects of event management and logistics – ensuring there is a log of discussion and outcome for the many committees and external contacts ahead to base future dealings off upon change of contacts or expiry of agreements.

As far as planning goes, we are focusing on recruitment at this stage; methods behind attracting exhibitor applications, at time of our October meeting applications were at 244 total, which is on par for this stage of time. With the December the 1<sup>st</sup> deadline fast approaching the committee has approved some light advertising on TV, Facebook and signage.

We currently are seeking expressions of interest for the Committee Catering tender – please submit these asap – contact [admin@agfest.com.au](mailto:admin@agfest.com.au) for application if you know of an eligible business or group that would be interested in feeding the many volunteers that dedicate time and energy to run the field days!

Sponsorship engagement is about to commence with the release of the revised Agfest sponsorship prospectus.

Rural Youth Volunteer forms will soon be communicated via usual methods – can we reach the 143 figure of 2016? Or achieve our 2005 record of 145...

On Monday, the 11<sup>th</sup> October Ebony (Vice), Cassie & Maddie (Promotions) and Tobias (Loading and Lifting) and Lea (Austrian Exchangee) attended Ronald McDonald House Hobart to present our donation from ATM fee initiative. This was received with much appreciation, we are excited to hear what these funds will contribute towards in the future.

Agfest Charity of Choice applications are now open until December 1<sup>st</sup> – go to [www.agfest.com.au](http://www.agfest.com.au) to apply for this wonderful opportunity or refer to a charity that you feel should apply.

We have planned a social gathering at Quercus in the Cribroom for December 3<sup>rd</sup> – check out the Facebook



event for more details!

**Our next meeting is on 18<sup>th</sup> November at 8:15pm at Rural Youth Head Office.**



**Pictured: Cassie Lee, Ebony McConnon, RMH Volunteers, Tobias TenBensel, Lea Kirchweger**



**KATE BIRCH**  
**Agfest**  
**Chairman**  
**0418 391 898**

## AAFDA Conference - Orange, NSW

Introducing our delegates, Ethan Williams, Ebony McConnon, Karen Robinson and Kate Birch to the Conference.

Ethan, the newly elected Exhibitor Manager for the 2017 event and our recipient of our in-house representative award to attend this experience.

Ebony, Vice Chairman of the Field Days, attending on a Rural Youth Tasmania scholarship to gather insight in how other Field Day events are ran and the networks behind the Conference.

Karen, the General Manager of Rural Youth Tasmania, the organising body (volunteer base) of the Agfest Field Days.

Kate, current Agfest Chairman for 2017.

### **Chairman Report presented at the AAFDA Conference—Orange 2016**

The success of Agfest 2016 – with many challenges and work achieved, the Organising Committee managed to deliver to the 58,285 patrons what was reported as a great event, well-structured and interesting by many.

With 126 Rural Youth Volunteers and a team of 5 admin staff we serviced 765 exhibitors, which beat our 2014 record by 1.

In the 12 months leading into the 2016 event there were some major developments;

- The re-introduction of the Equine Expo feature including the revamp of the Equine Arena.

- Earthworks to remove the Ag Demo area and merge into Static Sites including power upgrades.

- Extensive road works due to the heavy rains during February 2016.

- Our sponsorship relations with the revitalised prospectus and benefits of being an Agfest Field Days Sponsor.

- Our brand and marketing, the launch of our *Growing Rural Tasmania* theme, the creative design behind our new look, demonstrating that rural isn't restricted to life on farm, rural reaches out to each and every one of us whether it is means of work, lifestyle, interest or livelihood – we are all touched by the rural industry in some way of our life.

- Our Rural Youth Clubs and Regions selling our Agfest tickets for fundraising, supporting Clubs and Regions to achieve their goals.

- Roberts Ltd selling our tickets in their Town & Country stores state-wide and the establishment of the Rural Ag Scholarship for young Tasmanian's incurring costs to attend training or education in the rural sector to apply for funding to assist in their life goal. This was developed by Agfest and Roberts Ltd donating \$1 from every ticket sold at Roberts Town & Country stores forming the scholarship fund.



## AAFDA Conference - Orange, NSW

For 2017 we have just embraced the pathway of online ticketing – would love to hear feedback, advice, comments and issues for any Field Day that has also ventured this direction.

Many thanks,

Kate Birch

M: 0418 391 898

E: [chairman@agfest.com.au](mailto:chairman@agfest.com.au)





## November 2016

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1 Western Tiers 7pm Devonport 7pm	2 Brighton	3 Hagley 7pm	4 Oatlands	5 Westbury Show—Dog High Jump (Hagley Club)	6
7	8 Northern Region 7pm  North Motton	9	10	11	12	13
14 Dorset	15 Central Highlands	16 Kingborough Huon 6.30 Westmorland	17	18 Agfest Meeting	19 Strategic Planning	20 State Council
21 Southern Region	22	23	24 North-West Region 7pm	25	26 Devonport Ute Muster @ Show	27
28	29	30				

## December 2016



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 Hagley	2	3 Agfest Christmas function	4
5	6 Western Tiers North Motton Central Highlands	7 Oatlands  Brighton	8	9	10	11
12 Sorell 7:30pm  Devonport  Dorset	13 Northern Region	14 Kingborough Houn	15	16	17	18
19 Southern Region	20	21 Westmorland	22 North-West Region	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



## SOUTHERN REGION

Hey everyone!!

Southern Region held a catch up and dinner on the 24th of October at the Black Buffalo hotel, it was great to catch up with everyone again. It's been too long. Looking forward to getting some great ideas together and start planning some exciting and fun events for everyone in Rural Youth in the New Year.

Sadly we didn't have the voting numbers to elect a new Vice President but with the next meeting to be held on the 21st of November at a venue yet to be decided hopefully we can elect someone to have the opportunity to learn the skills and gain the confidence I have been lucky enough to gain whilst in the role of president.

I had the amazing opportunity to attend the Chamber Of Commerce Business Excellence Awards representing AGFEST 2016. Whilst we didn't bring home the award for 'Most Outstanding Event' we sure are proud to be selected as a finalist against the best events in the state. It was a fantastic night and I'm very honoured to have been invited to attend.

Bring on the the strategic planning weekend planned for the 19th of November at Quercus park, it will be a great weekend full of ideas I'm sure!! If you have ideas you'd like to see happen in Southern Region I'd love to hear them!!

## KINGBOROUGH HUON

Hi All,

Apologies you haven't heard from us for a little while, but we now have a small team of us that are responsible for making sure a newsletter report does get in.

Our last meeting we had pizza at our clubrooms in Ranelagh on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. The meeting was mainly dominated by discussions for the Huon Show which are only a couple of weeks away now. We are again organising the Dog High Jump, the Ute Competition and the animal nursery. We are excited to see some new sponsors on board this year for the dog high jump and will provide more info as it comes to hand or check out our Facebook page to stay up to date with what we are up to - <https://www.facebook.com/kingboroughhuonruralyouth/>

If you would like to or are able to, we would love some extra hands to help us out on the day, just let Nicole Elliott know asap so that we can organise you an entry ticket. The date of the Huon Show is the 12<sup>th</sup> of November so lock it in your diary now!

Our next catch up is scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup> of November and we are going bowling at the Moonah Bowl at 6.30pm. If you would like to join us, just let us know so we book enough lanes for everyone.

We would like to congratulate our members that attended the Shooting Competition in particularly Nicole Elliott and Tobias TenBensel who won a competition each! Well done guys, you have done the club proud.

## OATLANDS

On behalf of everyone at Oatlands Rural Youth we would like to congratulate our past members Rod & Gemma Lyall on the birth of Stella Mary Lyall on 21st of September. We wish them all the best .

We had two of our Grade 9 and 10 student members set off to Minjerriba (North Stradbroke Island) for 5 days, as part of our local schools Indigenous Perspectives program. The first morning they spent meeting students at Dunwich State School and helping out in the classrooms. Students enjoyed exchanging stories of their lives at different ends of the country.

They played a friendly game of Norths v Souths at recess!

Students spent some time learning from Matt Burns about traditional customs, particularly those related to hunting and gathering and preparing food. They also had a go at throwing various spears, boomerangs and discovered all the edible sea life along the coast line. We started the day at Dunwich State School and later met with Jan (a biologist and wildlife documentary producer) and walked to Blue Lake, while learning more about the connection of flora and fauna to country and place.

They finished the day with another delicious dinner and a chance to try our strategy skills out with a few games. Their final day on the island they spent more time in the school with their new friends, participated in an Aboriginal dance workshop with Matt Burns, went for a breathtaking walk around Point Lookout (turtle, dolphin and whale spotting) then finished with a well deserved ice cream.

Our clubs next meeting is Friday the 4th November (day before Melton rodeo) at Kempton.



## SORELL

Zap Zap Kapow!

That's the noise that our members made this month during 3 rounds of Laser Tag at Zone 3. After some keen, sharp shooting and major strategizing by some club members, we all had a stellar night at lazer tag, with Alex White, Olivia Jones and Jayden Goss turning out to be out sharpest of shooters and the ones to watch come deer season.

Exciting news that we can now report is that Sorell Rural Youth has been selected by Bendigo Bank Community Bank at Sorell to receive a \$500 grant! By the time this newsletter circulates, Prue will have met with members of the Bendigo board to discuss the club plans for the grant! This is so exciting and we are so humbled to have received this grant and to be selected from such a broad range of other eligible community groups.

Sorell has had a couple of meetings since our last report, utilising our hall at Pawleena. We have a Working Bee coming up 26<sup>th</sup> November to do a few odd jobs around the hall, and to help celebrate a few members up and coming birthdays with some quiet social drinks afterwards.

With the rodeo season about to fire up, we are keen to catch up with all our mates at these events and support the other clubs helping to organise such weekends.

We have had such an influx of members lately and we welcome everyone to come along to our next meeting on the **12<sup>th</sup> of December, from 6.30pm @ Pawleena Hall**. This will also double as our AGM where we will elect our new office bearers moving forward.

## NORTH WEST REGION

Hey everyone!!

I hope you've all had a wicked October and keen to get all the events underway before the end of the year!! North Motton are once again holding the animal nursery at the Ulverstone show on Saturday the 29th of October!

Also Devonport are holding their ute show which is being held at the Devonport show on the Saturday!!

With a few events planned for November and December which includes the strategic planning day out at Quercus and also end of year BBQ and drinks held out at Quercus also, we hope to see everyone attend these to make them awesome events!!

Until next month,

Regards Jake Williams.



## NORTH MOTTON

Hey guys,

We have been pretty busy this month with organising our animal nursery at the Ulverstone show.

A big congratulations goes out to Renee for winning the rifle section at the Shooting Competition and for all our other members who competed, thanks Jake for organising it you put on a great day !!!! Well that's us for now and have a great month.

Our next meeting is on the 8th of November.

## DEVONPORT

Hello everyone,

Devonport have been busy organising the Ute Muster Competition to be held at the annual Devonport Show on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> of November! Great prizes up for grabs so hoping to see a few of you there! More details can be found in the flyer within the newsletter.

We are also planning to hold a barbeque fundraiser and a games night outside the cattle sheds on the Friday night so the more the merrier!

Otherwise, we have been a little quiet lately! Our next meeting is being held the Moriarty Hall on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of November at 7pm. See you all there!

## CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

Howdy all!

We have had a busy month here at Central Highlands with working bees getting ready for the Ouse festival which was held on the 15th of this month. We had a terrific turn out selling pine bark and sheep manure. We also have the Highland Bush Fest coming up next month, selling manure and pine bark.

Our next meeting is on the 15th of November. Then our AGM is on the 6th of December.

Hi all,

So I am now four months in to my six month exchange to the United States of America, sponsored by Betta Milk. It has gone so fast and have enjoyed seeing lots of different places around America, I have been in 20 states to date.

I arrived in to South Dakota on the 19th of September and my first host meet me at the bus station and then we headed 45 minutes north of Sioux Falls to Colton where I would be based for three weeks. Heidi lives with her partner Mark and son Brody who is 10. Heidi works for Boadwine farms who own three farms milking 7,500 cows on three different animals sites, (2,180, 2000 & 3,400). Mark works at a John Deere store about an hour away and Brody attends the local school, and even on a day when I visited to give some talks found out that Liz and Mary Jo Ozman (2013 exchanges to Tasmania) went to school there at Tri-Valley.

As I have seen all the way though out America the cows are inside for a couple of reasons being that they have such extremes in weather with really hot summers and really really cold winters. (They have been telling me that our -7deg C mornings would feel like summer to them; their winters can be at a constant -30deg C). Being inside means that they can keep the temperature at an optimum temperate for the cow so they don't have to regulate their body temperature using energy that could be used to make milk.

The cows are milked three times a day on an eight hour roster for both cows and the people milking them. All of the farms have parallel systems milking 30 to 45 aside. When the cows walk in to the shed they are first touched to clean the teats to when the cow is cupped on it's 90 seconds (clean all then come back to the first to cup on from the start), one neighbouring shed even had timers there so everyone is working at the same speed. At the farm milking 2180 each shift they are filling a vat which is approximately 26,500L, so sending out over 556,500 litres of milk a week. There are some sheds about that don't even have a vat on site and they direct load on to the milk trailers and a new tanker is brought and swapped over, there is usually always three tankers sitting ready at the farm.

They are feed specific rations of feed depending on how many days in milk they are to ensure the maximum production, some pens are even feed three times a day as they are producing so much milk, other pens are feed twice a day and all feed is pushed up to the cows every few hours, so they are never hungry.

To lie down and rest the cows don't have to go very far, literally just turn around and there is a nice soft sand bed waiting for them, which is 'fluffed' up with an attachment on a bob cat while they are being milked.

Then there is the manure for all these cows! While the cows are being milked the lanes are scrapped out with the other bob cat and in to the underground system to then have the sand removed from the solids and then pumped in to the effluent pond. They need to have enough storage for 12 months worth of effluent as it is direct 'knifed' in to the ground in early autumn after all the crops are harvested.

I was able to visit a pig farm where they raise piglets from weaning at 13 weeks to six months at a wean to finish operation. 14 farmers in the area own all the sows at a separate facility and have one or two 1,200 pig barns where the piglets are delivered to them at 13 weeks. The farm I visited was the Greensways and Brad was since named Americas pig farmer of the year. He has so much knowledge and so sincere in the way he treats the pigs.

On the last few days with Heidi we travelled out to west South Dakota for a women in agriculture conference where she was a finalist for the South Dakotas women in agriculture award, sadly she didn't win, but we meet some amazing women from all over South Dakota! We took the chance to have a look about visiting Mt Rushmore, Crazy Horse and Devils Tower, for the three day trip we did about 1,600kms (1,000 miles).

That ended my time with Heidi, Mark and Brody before heading to Sioux Falls for a few days to begin with my next host family.

Till next month.

Cheers,  
Amanda





## NORTHERN REGION

Hi all,

This month Northern Region had a great get together, coming up with a heap of ideas and starting to plan some events for the coming few months.

One of the many ideas is to get an inter-region competition happening again in 2017, along with seeing if we can start working with our local community groups to help some of the clubs to get back up on their feet.

Most of our clubs have had a quiet month; the exception is Hagley's Ute comp and dog high jump at the Westbury show on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November – everyone get along and support the club!

At the next meeting we are going to start some high level planning of the coming years State Ball, which will be hosted by Northern Region, as well as our AGM, which has been penciled in as the 10<sup>th</sup> of January, with a time and location yet to be determined.

Our next meeting is to be held on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November, 7pm at Head office; everyone is welcome to come along to our meetings

If you have any questions, give Stuart Cresswell (President) a call on 0488 666 365.

Next meeting, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov, 7pm. Head Office – Launceston.

Meetings always held on the Second Tuesday of the month, 7pm at Head Office, unless otherwise stated.

## HAGLEY

Hi all, this month Hagley will be running a dog high jump at Westbury show on the 5th of November. This is to be held around lunch time so if you happen to be in the area at the time with your furry four legged bestie (and I don't mean your friend with hairy legs that sometimes acts like a dog), come along and enter them, or just come along to watch. Entry is only \$5 with heaps of great prizes for you and your pooch.

Our next meeting will be held at Hagley farm school on the 3rd of November at 7pm with a high chance of party pies and tomato sauce.

## WESTERN TIERS

Western Tiers Rural Youth – November Newsletter Report.

Hi all, Western Tiers have had a quiet month, with a small BBQ dinner in place of a meeting at Kat and Stuarts' place.

The next month is looking more exciting, with our up coming meeting on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of November at the Bush Inn Hotel, Deloraine. At this meeting, we are hoping to get as many people there as possible to help in the planning of our Bonfire Night and summer events.

We welcome everyone and anyone to come to any of our meetings.

If you have any questions, give Stuart Cresswell, Club President a call on 0488 666 365, if you want any more information.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 7pm Bush Inn Hotel, Deloraine.

## WESTMORLAND

Hi Everyone!

We have had a pretty quiet month!

We have started a clean out of our clubrooms ready to move into the Cricket Club, while cleaning we found lots of old photos and memories from previous years!

We have sadly had to cancel the Ploughing competition due to lack of RSVPs, which we are really upset about. However we will try again next year when it's less busy!

Our next meeting will be on the 16th of November. Place to be decided.

Have a great month!

Cassie Lee  
0413 936 636

# UTE MUSTER



## Devonport Show

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**\$10 ENTRY**

(Includes ticket to show, passengers pay at gate)

### MEETING POINT:

Bluff carpark - 9am

ENTRANCE CATEGORIES	
Best B&S	Best Rural
Best Street	Best Chicks
Loudest Ute	Best Classic
Best 4x4	Judge's Choice

(\$5 per extra entry, max 3 entries)



# Where do you see Rural Youth heading?

We can't give you what you need if you don't let us know!

We need your ideas and opinions (no matter how crazy!) on your vision for our great organisation!!

- What events do you want to see happen?
- What training do you need?
- How should Quercus be redeveloped?
- Anything else!

Come along for a facilitated planning day and let us know what you think!  
Details below.



Saturday 19 November 9am-5pm (fully catered: smoko, lunch & tea)

Quercus Rural Youth Park

RSVP to **head office** by COB Tuesday 15 November ([reception@ruralyouth.com.au](mailto:reception@ruralyouth.com.au) or 6331 6154)

Stay on site & enjoy a great night with mates afterwards.



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## LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

Thirlstane farmer Nathan Richardson (Snap) joined Rural Youth in January 1991 and for the following 14 years was a very productive member of the Devonport Club, back when the club used to meet at the Wesley Vale Fire Station. During his membership Nathan took on all the roles at the club and region level, including president. He also spent 10 years on the AGFEST committee and was also property management chairman. In 1995 he met his (now) wife Janine, a former Brighton Club member, at the Rural Youth National Convention in Launceston.

One of Nathan's biggest achievements during his time with Rural Youth was his involvement with the Great Australian Tractor Drive in 1998. Organisations from across Australia worked together to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service and when it was time for the tractor to head to Tassie the team down here did not disappoint. Out of the \$32,000 raised nation wide Rural Youth Tasmania raised \$15,000!

Nathan also turned his hand to organising great AGM long weekends and some wicked New Year's Eve parties in the mid 90s, which are still talked about to this day! "It's about maintaining the fun, competition and competitive spirit," says Nathan. This competitive spirit led to the Devonport club taking out the national debating competition in 2003. No mean feat!

In 1996 Nathan spent 2 months in New Zealand through a Rural Youth exchange. As he puts it this trip "gave me a different perspective on my commitment to agriculture and where it could take me." Nathan's commitment to agriculture has seen him build a successful farming business with Janine and his parents, with their 125ha farm producing wheat, barley, potatoes, poppies, fat lambs and broiler chickens for Nichols Poultry. He also runs an agriculture contracting company and has achieved the roles of current TFGA Vegetable Council Chairman and Tasmanian Potato Council Chairman. The skills he has learnt through Rural Youth has helped out immensely, especially when it comes to negotiating on behalf of farmers to companies such as Simplot.

Through his time with Rural Youth Nathan has learnt a huge array of skills, including how to chair meetings, public speaking, cold calling people and, wheeling and dealing. He has also established a great network of people in the state, nationwide and throughout the world through contacts in Rural Youth. Over the years he has given back to the organisation. He has helped out with AGFEST and been a Young Farmer judge, helps out at club level and hosts exchanges. "I'll help out until the phone stops ringing," says Nathan.

There is no doubt that Nathan is a great example of success in the Tasmanian agriculture industry. Rural Youth is proud to have been part of his journey.

What is Nathan's advice to all the Rural Youth members out there? "Be yourself, support each other and go out of your comfort zone because that's what Rural Youth is all about. Oh, and if you get the chance to go on an exchange or host a visitor, do it! It's great fun."





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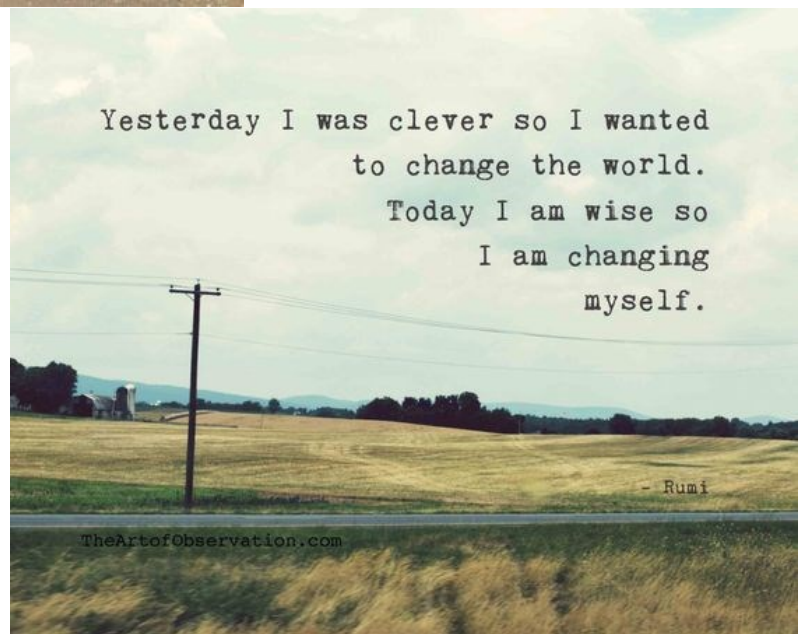
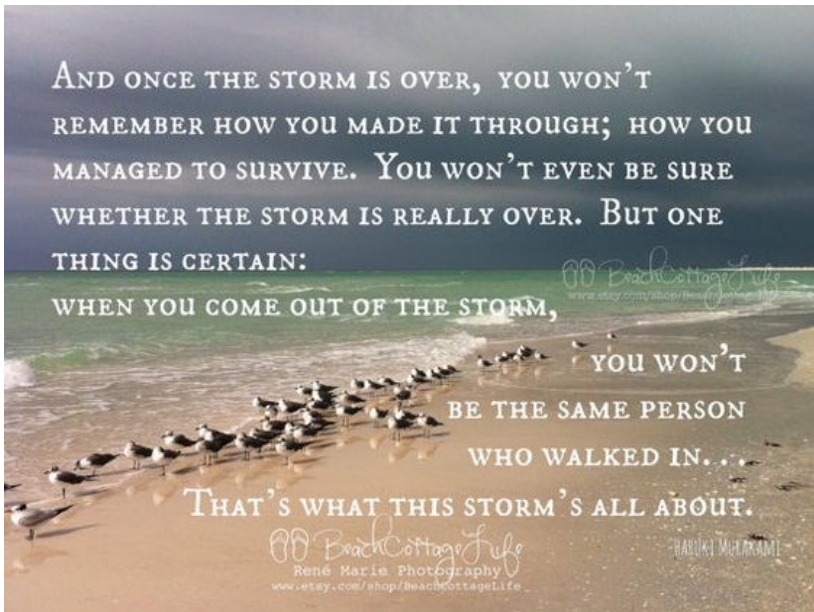
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For more information or to register please contact Susan Nolan, Mobile: 0447 990 160, Email: [susan.nolan@ruralbusinesstasmania.org.au](mailto:susan.nolan@ruralbusinesstasmania.org.au)





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