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## AUSTRALIAN RURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM DIRECTORY COURSE 17 ♦ 2010-11

### THIS IS A DIRECTORY OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE SEVENTEENTH INTAKE OF THE AUSTRALIAN RURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The ARLP is a unique opportunity for selected rural and regional leaders to undertake a program of personal growth and develop the skills, knowledge and networks needed to be effective in regional, state, national and international arenas.

The program focuses on professional and personal leadership development, examination of key national and international issues that impact on rural Australia, and interaction with leaders in government, industry and the community.



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**TIM ADA**  
Melbourne, VIC  
Department of Primary Industries (VIC)  
Tim is a Senior Manager in the Victorian Department of Primary Industries. He has spent most of his career to date working in agribusiness and international trade areas, including managing the Victorian Government Business Office in New York in 2005-07. Tim holds a Masters in Agricultural Science from the University of Melbourne.



**BYRCE BANFIELD**  
West Perth, WA  
Cooperative Bulk Handling  
Bryce is a Senior Manager with the CBH Group. As Strategy Manager for CBH Grain, Bryce is responsible for strategic planning and business development and manages relationships between CBH Grain, CBH Operations and Interflour, a joint venture partner. Interflour is one of the largest flour milling operations in Asia with mills in Malaysia, Vietnam and Indonesia. Bryce holds a Masters in Agribusiness.



**REBEL BLACK**  
Lightning Ridge, NSW  
Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation  
Rebel works in community development supporting regional communities through sustainable social and economic development. Rebel has established a project management business, Community Practitioners Australia, and the award winning restaurant "Dig In". Rebel is a representative on the NSW Rural Women's Council and has held executive positions in community tourism and women's organisations.



**ASHLEY BLAND**  
Bathurst, NSW  
Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation  
Ashley is Project Manager for Skillset, in central west NSW which focusses on 'green skills' development. His role includes co-managing the design and building of The Flannery Centre, and developing course content in sustainable agriculture, business and lifestyle. He has worked in agriculture, mining and conservation and chairs 'Greening Bathurst'. Ashley regularly speaks on radio and in public on environmental topics. Ashley holds an honours degree in Natural Resources Engineering.



**SHANE CHISHOLM**  
Millswood, SA  
Elders Ltd  
As general manager of Sales for the southern half of Australia, Shane manages part of a national sales force within the 170 year old agribusiness. He leads a team of regional managers in a highly competitive market that changes with fluctuating commodity prices and seasonal conditions. Shane is a licensed real estate agent and is actively involved in the local community and school sporting clubs. Shane holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in Agriculture.



**KELLY DRYSDALE**  
Yenda, NSW  
Woolworths Ltd  
Kelly has been involved in the Wine Industry for twenty years working in South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and internationally. Until recently, Kelly was the Casella Wines viticulture manager, developing and managing their vineyard holdings. Kelly holds an Assoc Dip. in Applied Science (Viticulture). Her goal is a more sustainable, successful and stable future for the wine industry.



**QUOC-TRAN DUONG**  
Dean Park, NSW  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Quoc-Tran has worked for over 10 years with culturally diverse communities and holds a Cert IV in Assessment Workplace Training. Of Vietnamese descent, she is the bilingual environmental educator with the NSW Ethnic Communities' Council providing programs for Chinese market gardeners in the Sydney Basin. Her goal is to build better connections and support networks for Chinese and Vietnamese communities working in agriculture.



**RICK GOODMAN**  
Orange, NSW  
Westpac  
Rick has worked within the banking and finance industry for many years predominantly in rural and regional locations. His roles have included client relationship management as well as unit leadership and accountability. Rick's current role is as Practice Manager for small and medium enterprises and involves implementation and coaching to transform the delivery of banking facilities via Westpac's branch network across Northern Regional NSW. Rick retains family ties to his roots in Central West NSW.



**CLAYTON HARRINGTON**  
Hackett, ACT  
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation  
Clayton works for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on regional issues in the Asia-Pacific including food security. Prior to this, Clayton worked at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, focussing on seafood industry development and international fisheries issues. Clayton's interest in rural and regional affairs stems from spending six years as an oyster farmer on the NSW south coast. Clayton holds a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology.



**SARA HELY**  
Barton, ACT  
Grains Research and Development Corporation  
Sara is the Project Manager in Climate Change for GRDC. Sara is passionate about assisting rural industries to adapt to and mitigate climate change and is also interested in global food security. Sara is involved with the Coast to Kozzie for Kids which raises funds for kids with cancer. She is also involved in the National Youth Science Forum. Sara holds a PhD in Climate Change Ecology and is a 2004 science acclaimed innovation award winner.



**MALCOLM HOLM**  
Finley, NSW  
Dairy Australia  
Malcolm is a partner in "Pyngama" which milks over 600 cows in the southern Riverina. He has had extensive involvement in advocating for dairy farmers and the region's irrigation sector. Malcolm is deputy chairman of Murray Dairy which co-ordinates research, development and education in the southern Riverina and northern Victoria for the dairy industry. He also chairs the Murray Irrigation dairy strategy and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



**KEVIN HOLMES**  
Kotta, VIC  
Centrelink  
Kevin is a social worker with Centrelink's Rural and Community Practice team and his responsibilities cover the communities of south western NSW. His interest is in strong leadership for communities and developing their capacity to remain resilient and sustainable. Kevin enjoys helping his own community through membership of his local Lions Club. Kevin holds a Bachelor of Social Work and is a member of the Australian Association of Social Workers.



**GRANT HULL**  
Ballarat, VIC  
Department of Sustainability and Environment (VIC)  
Grant is employed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment as the group manager, Biodiversity Services for south west Victoria. He has had a life-long career in natural resource management and has a Bachelor of Applied Science. Grant has worked variously as a chief ranger, in technical, planning and management roles, and as a member of the Environment Minister's Western Coastal Board.



**KIM ISAACS**  
Mt Hawthorn, WA  
Department of Local Government (WA)  
Kim is of Yaruwo, Karajarri and Noongar descent and graduated from medical school in 2007. Kim is passionate about improving rural and remote health with particular interest in Aboriginal health, child health and general practice. She has done numerous Aboriginal community medical placements throughout the Kimberley region and has been involved with health and social justice boards. Kim also holds a Bachelor of Commerce.



**LAURIE JEREMIAH**  
Myrtlebank, VIC  
Department of Sustainability and Environment (VIC)  
Laurie is the recovery operations manager for DSE. Laurie is involved in management and incident control for major bushfires and in environmental recovery following fires and floods. He provides leadership training to Australian and New Zealand emergency managers. Laurie is president of the Sale District Agricultural Society and has a small agricultural business. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Forest Science and a Dip Training and Assessment.



**DAVID MAILER**  
Uralla, NSW  
Grains Research and Development Corporation  
David is a farmer from Uralla, NSW. He has 20 years experience in agriculture and has a passion for the development of bio-fuels and the grains industry. David holds a certificate in Agriculture Production. He is a member of NSW Farmers Rural Fire Service, southern New England Landcare Council and the Armidale Rodeo Association.



**CATHERINE MARRIOTT**  
Benella, VIC  
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation  
Catherine runs her own business as a consultant to the feed-lotting industry in Indonesia and the Philippines. She works in the areas of nutrition and ration formulation, general feedlot management, breeding and animal handling. Catherine is also working in the Fitzroy Valley with Aboriginal communities. She holds a Bachelor of Rural Science and won a scholarship to Washington State University, majoring in Animal Nutrition and Production.



**KATO MATTHEWS**  
Kununurra, WA  
Department of Health and Ageing  
As senior physiotherapist with Kununurra/Wyndham Health Services, Kato travels to towns and communities of the east Kimberley region. She is passionate about sustainable, vibrant communities and providing quality services in rural, remote and indigenous health. Kato's commitment as a rural and remote representative on local, state and national committees has been acknowledged through an award from her organisation and the Australian Physiotherapy Association.



**LOCKIE MCDONALD**  
Mt Lawley, WA  
Tim Fairfax Family Foundation  
Lockie McDonald works with communities to navigate change. Originally a nurse, he has worked as a circus acrobat, a writer in prisons and as director of a reconciliation project in South Africa. After founding some of Australia's flagship performing and community arts companies he completed a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism. He's the founder of community development consulting group Fullsky.



**CLAYTON MCEWENEY**  
Garden Suburb, NSW  
Telstra  
A member of the Telstra Country Wide Sales Leadership team, Clayton is responsible for the NSW regional sales team, providing sales, service and solutions to around 1,300 business, enterprise and government customers. While employed in senior management roles in the last eight years, Clayton has focussed on people development and on leadership through self development. Clayton's passion is enabling more effective regional business communities through technology solutions.



**MATTHEW MUNZBERG**  
Tununda, SA  
Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation  
Matthew is a fourth generation grape grower from the Barossa Valley. He is a director of Mad Dog Wines and Munzberg & Co P/L, both family companies that grow grapes and produce wine to be sold under the Mad Dog label. Matthew is a member of a number of wine industry groups. He is also chairman of the board of management for the Tanunda Lutheran School.



**MELISSA ROWE**  
Esperance, WA  
Dept of Infrastructure Transport Local Government and Regional Development  
Melisa is the commercial manager for Professional Real Estate in Esperance. She is a director of two family businesses and the secretary and events coordinator of the Esperance Chamber of Commerce. Melissa is a board member of her children's school, and an active committee member and coordinator of local sporting groups. Melisa is passionate about community associations with a particular interest in increasing participation at all levels.



**SARAH SAMMON**  
Swan Hill, VIC  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Sarah is managing director of Australia's first rose petal farm, Simply Rose Petals. After graduating with a bachelor of science, Sarah worked overseas before co-founding her business in 2004 with her mother. Completing a Churchill Fellowship enabled Sarah to research the international rose petal and wedding industry. A graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Sarah was also a finalist in the Telstra Business Women's Awards.



**RICHARD SIMONAITIS**  
Albany, WA  
Cooperative Bulk Handling  
Richard is the zone manager for CBH Group at the Albany Port. He manages a network of over 40 receival sites and a port facility exporting 2-3 million tonnes of grain annually. Richard has made a career of handling bulk commodities with a total of 10 years in the grains industry and 10 years living and working in the Iron Ore Industry in the Pilbara in product quality and logistics roles.



**DAMIEN SOTTER**  
Oberon, NSW  
Meat and Livestock Australia  
Damien is the vice chair for the NSW committee of Angus Australia and the vice chair for the Oberon District Council of NSW Farmers. He holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Systems Agriculture) and for the last 13 years has managed an Angus beef property on the central tablelands of NSW. Damien is passionate about the Australian beef industry and committed to promoting sustainable production systems and improving natural resource management.



**MICHELLE SOULSBY**  
Buckrabbanyule, VIC  
Australian Lot Feeders Association  
Michelle is the compliance and development manager for Elders Feedlots. Based in Charlton, Michelle and her husband are partners in Eversley Farms, a dry land cropping and fat lamb operation. Her interests include the promotion of opportunities in country communities to encourage future generations back to agricultural businesses and country communities. She is active with local leadership groups. Michelle has an Advanced Diploma in Rural Business.



**ARTHUR SPELLSON**  
Artharmon, NSW  
Auscott / Cotton Research and Development Corporation  
Arthur is the Marketing Manager of cotton and logistics services for Auscott Limited. This role includes the marketing of cotton to international buyers as well as the management of Auscott's cotton and grain logistics operations. Arthur is also involved with cotton industry bodies and the promotion of the Australian cotton industry domestically and internationally.



**BEV STEELE**  
Derrinallum, VIC  
Rural Press Ltd  
Bev is employed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. She is a secondary school nurse focusing on student welfare and health promotion at Cobden Technical School and Camperdown College. Bev is involved in tennis and 'Relay for Life' in Corangamite Shire. She has been a member of the Corangamite Youth Network, Corangamite Kids committee and the Lismore Landcare group.



**MICK SWINEY**  
Rockhampton, QLD  
Australian Meat Processor Corporation: Industry Leader Scholarship  
Mick is the Plant Manager of Teys Bros, Rockhampton beef processing facility. The Rockhampton plant has grown from humble beginnings six years ago into the largest privately owned employer in Rockhampton and within the Teys Group. Twenty-six nationalities work at the Plant and add to the ethnic and cultural diversity of the workplace and the town of Rockhampton. Mick holds a Bachelor of Animal Science and a Diploma in Meat Technology.



**LYNDSAY URQUHART**  
Hughes, ACT  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Lyndsay worked at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies to develop the Natural Resources Stewardship Circle. She then managed a research program on Indigenous economic development at Indigenous Business Australia. Now a research manager at Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, Lyndsay undertook studies in entrepreneurship in the USA, and holds a Bachelor Degree in Public Communication.



**OSCAR WHITEHEAD**  
Thursday Island, QLD  
Queensland Health  
Oscar is the district director of medical services for Queensland Health's Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Health Services District. His role includes clinical work as a rural general practitioner. He is a fellow of the RACGP and of ACRRM, and holds a Diploma of Anaesthetics. Oscar's role involves him in cross-border issues between Australia and Papua New Guinea, as well as disaster management. Oscar also holds a Bachelor Degree in Japanese with Honours in Linguistics.



**KANE WILLIAMS**  
Port Lincoln, SA  
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation  
Kane works primarily in the family abalone fishing business as a driver and skipper. In addition, he provides fisheries and aquaculture consultancy services to the public and private sectors. Kane is the secretary of the management of the Abalone Industry Association of South Australia Committee and holds a Bachelor of Science Honors in Marine Biology and a Bachelor of Technology in Aquaculture.



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