

**32 RURAL LEADERS CHALLENGED TO SHAPE OUR FUTURE**

32 rural leaders from across Australia have been named as the 2010 participants of the prestigious and internationally respected Australian Rural Leadership Program (ARLP).

The Program produces a network of leaders with the capacity and commitment to lead change and to shape the future of rural Australia.

The rural leaders selected for the program include individuals from Victoria, ACT, NSW, WA, SA and QLD in various industries and sectors such as primary producers, health, local and national government, private sector services and industry. Upon graduation, these individuals will become part of the Foundation's influential network of over 519 graduates.

Dr Lesley Fitzpatrick, Chief Executive of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation was impressed by the calibre of rural leaders selected for the program.

"The Australian Rural Leadership Program has a proud history of producing leaders to tackle the emerging challenges in rural Australia such as carbon emissions, food production and land and water management," said Dr Fitzpatrick.

"Participants have been selected based on their commitment and proven ability to address complex issues in rural Australia and we know that this year's candidates will continue to work for the future of their industries and communities," she said.

"Positions on the ARLP are highly sought after," she said. "The program provides an opportunity to join an extensive network of rural leaders to help make a real difference to rural Australia," she said.

Participants receive scholarships from a wide range of rural and related industry organisations, philanthropic donors, research and development bodies, the private sector and the state and federal governments.

"The benefits of the Program extend beyond the participants who complete it to significantly impact rural Australia as a whole," Dr Fitzpatrick concluded.

Course 17 of the Australian Rural Leadership Program will commence in May 2010 and conclude in September 2011. Applications for Course 18 are now open and will close on 30 June 2010. For selection criteria, telephone (02) 6281 0680 or visit the Foundation's website at [www.rural-leaders.com.au](http://www.rural-leaders.com.au).

The ARLP is in its 18th year and works to develop a network of informed, capable and ethical leaders who are able to work collaboratively to advance the interests of their industries, communities and rural Australia in general. The hands-on Program over 17 months includes challenge-based education, workshops, discussions and an overseas field study. The program improves the capacity of rural leaders to engage wherever a challenge is best addressed and wherever they can contribute most effectively. This may be within communities and industries, in the political arena or in team-based roles.

**ENDS**

For further information or to arrange an interview or photographs, please contact;  
Zoe Routh      ARLF      02 6281 0680

### Course 17 Participants and Sponsored Scholarships

<b>Name</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Scholarship</b>
Timothy Ada	Melbourne, VIC	Department Primary Industries - VIC	Departmental Scholarship
Bryce Banfield	West Perth, WA	Cooperative Bulk Handling Ltd	CBH Scholarship
Rebel Black	Lightning Ridge, NSW	Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Ltd	Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Open Scholarship
Ashley Bland	Bathurst, NSW	Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Ltd	Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Open Scholarship
Shane Chisholm	Millswood, SA	Elders Limited	Elders Rohan Macauley Memorial Scholarship
Kelly Drysdale	Yenda, NSW	Woolworths Limited	Woolworths Limited Open Scholarship
Quoc-Tran Duong	Dean Park, NSW	Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Groups Leadership Development Scholarship
Richard Goodman	Orange, NSW	Westpac Banking Corporation	Westpac Banking Scholarship
Clayton Harrington	Hackett, ACT	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	Fisheries Leader Scholarship
Sara Hely	Barton, ACT	Grains Research and Development Corporation	Grains Leader Scholarship
Malcolm Holm	Finley, NSW	Dairy Australia Limited	Patrick Rowley Leadership Award

Kevin Holmes	Kotta, VIC	Centrelink	Departmental Scholarship
Grant Hull	Ballarat, VIC	Department of Sustainability and Environment - VIC	Departmental Scholarship
Kim Isaacs	Mt Hawthorn, WA	Department of Local Government - WA	Jarnoowarny Mirindo Memorial Scholarship
Lawrence Jeremiah	Myrtlebank, VIC	Department of Sustainability and Environment - VIC	Departmental Scholarship
David Mailer	Uralla, NSW	Grains Research and Development Corporation	Grains Leader Scholarship
Catherine Marriott	Benalla, VIC	Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	Community Leader Scholarship
Kate Matthews	Kununurra, WA	Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing	Rural Health Scholarship
Lachlan McDonald	Mt Lawley, WA	Tim Fairfax Family Foundation	Tim Fairfax Family Foundation Open Scholarship
Clayton McSeveney	Garden Suburb, NSW	Telstra Country Wide	Telstra Scholarship
Matthew Munzberg	Tanunda, SA	Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation	Grape & Wine Leader Scholarship
Melisa Rowe	Esperance, WA	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Local Government & Regional Development	Rural Woman Leader Scholarship
Sarah Sammon	Swan Hill, VIC	Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Rural Woman Leader Scholarship

Richard Simonaitis	Albany, WA	Cooperative Bulk Handling Ltd	CBH Scholarship
Damien Sotter	Hazelgrove, NSW	Meat and Livestock Australia	Meat Leader Scholarship
Michelle Soulsby	Buckrabanyule, VIC	Australian Lot Feeders' Association	Industry Leader Scholarship
Arthur Spellson	Artarmon NSW	Auscott Limited, Cotton Research & Development Corporation	Cotton Leader Scholarship
Beverley Steele	Derrinallum, VIC	Rural Press Ltd	Rural Press Open Scholarship
Michael Swiney	Rockhampton, QLD	Australian Meat Processors' Corporation	Industry Leader Scholarship
Lyndsay Urquhart	Hughes, ACT	Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Indigenous Leader Scholarship
Oscar Whitehead	Thursday Island, QLD	Queensland Health	General Medical Training Program Scholarship
Kane Williams	Port Lincoln, SA	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	Fisheries Leader Scholarship