

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Nuffield Scholarship winners announced

Thirteen outstanding primary producers from across Australia will be named winners of Australia's most prestigious agricultural award, at a presentation ceremony in Melbourne, Victoria, tomorrow.

The Australian Nuffield Farmers Scholars Association presented scholarships worth a total of \$299,000, following a rigorous selection process.

The 2005 Nuffield Scholarship winners join an elite group of about 1300 scholars from around the world. Each scholarship is valued at \$23,000 and supported by leading Australian primary producer and agribusiness organisations.

"The Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars Association provides a select group of young Australian farmers with scholarships to travel internationally to expand their personal horizons while exploring agricultural issues and opportunities in a global context," said Association chairman Peter Nixon.

"We are focussed on developing the practical, managerial and commercial capacities of each scholar to enable them to be better farmers and to make a significant contribution to the future of Australian agriculture," Mr Nixon said.

"A Nuffield scholarship can open doors, and provide opportunities, for life-long learning and self improvement. The scholarships are awarded to men and women who are judged to have the greatest potential to create value for themselves, their industries and their communities, and are awarded on the strength of the applicants' vision, ability and determination to pursue their farming goals."

Mr Nixon said many Nuffield Scholars had gone on to become active leaders in agriculture and in the community, making valuable and significant contributions.

"For many, the scholarship experience has changed their lives by opening their eyes to the wider world and giving them the confidence to pursue their goals," he said.

The Nuffield Scholars will depart Australia in either February or June 2006 to join other scholars from around the world in a compulsory Global Focus Program. This will involve two weeks in Australasia, two weeks in North America and two weeks in Europe investigating agricultural marketing and trade issues, environmental issues and experiencing the different social and cultural aspects of each region.

They will meet with scholars from other countries including the UK, New Zealand Ireland, Canada, Zimbabwe and France, to exchange ideas and experiences, and join a network of people who are at the cutting edge of primary industry.

Following the initial six-week program, the scholars will go their individual ways to pursue specific study programs in the country or countries of their choice.

**The 2005 winners, their scholarships and proposed study programs are:**



**Andrew Broad**, from Bridgewater on Loddon VIC, receives the 2005 scholarship for a grain grower supported by GRDC.

He will study best practice canola production: exploring biotechnology, agronomic advances and new grower techniques.

Andrew can be contacted on: phone: 03 5437 3136 or email: [andyrach@impulse.net.au](mailto:andyrach@impulse.net.au).



**Andrew Nagorcka**, from Yatchaw VIC, receives the 2005 scholarship for a primary producer in Victoria supported by Rural Finance Corporation.

He will study high rainfall cropping & government policies on Agriculture such as drought subsidies and free trade agreements.

Andrew can be contacted on: phone: 03 5573 5218 or email: [amaroo@datafast.net.au](mailto:amaroo@datafast.net.au).



**Tony Barker**, from South Riana TAS, receives the 2005 scholarship for a primary producer supported by Landmark.

He will study “Managing and Financing Business expansion in a developing industry, primarily focussing on the Dairy Goat industry for Tasmania.”

Tony can be contacted on: phone: 03 6437 6322 or email: [ingleside@bigpond.com](mailto:ingleside@bigpond.com).



**David Fulwood**, from Cunderdin WA, receives the 2005 scholarship for a grain grower supported by GRDC.

He will explore the potential to value-add by providing fully traceable grain products.

David can be contacted on: phone: 08 96 351 127 or email: [david@fulwood.com.au](mailto:david@fulwood.com.au).



**Tracy Gillam**, from Dongara WA, receives the 2005 scholarship for a grain grower supported by ABB Grain Ltd.

Ms Gillam is interested in a comparative study between Australian, European and American environmental management systems, food traceability and communication of these systems to the final user.

Tracy can be contacted on: phone: 08 9927 5020 or email: [tracygillam@bigpond.com](mailto:tracygillam@bigpond.com).



**Sarah Ackland**, from Apsley TAS, receives the 2005 scholarship for a primary producer in Tasmania supported by Impact Fertilisers.

Sarah will study the questions: are wool supply chains using a product based system, are they all they are cracked up to be from the growers perspective and what is their true impact to wool growers?

Sarah can be contacted on: phone: 0362591151 or email: [sackland@tassie.net.au](mailto:sackland@tassie.net.au).



**Leigh Vial**, from Swan Hill VIC, receives the 2005 scholarship for a primary producer supported by Rabobank.

He will study the important work being conducted into aerobic rice, particularly focussed on establishment techniques, weed control, suitable novel genotypes, nutrient and irrigation management.

Leigh can be contacted on: phone: 03 5034 0552 or email: [leroy2@iinet.net.au](mailto:leroy2@iinet.net.au).



**Andrew Watson**, from Boggabri NSW, receives the 2005 Lady Southey Scholarship for a primary producer to study natural resource management supported by the Sidney Myer Fund.

He will study water use efficiency regarding irrigation.

Andrew can be contacted on: phone: 02 67434263 or email: [brigadoon@northnet.com.au](mailto:brigadoon@northnet.com.au).



**Anthony Brandsema**, from Turners Beach TAS, receives the 2005 scholarship for a primary producer to study new and emerging industries supported by Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation.

He will study “Controlled Environment Management and Plant Physiology in a Closed Production System”.

Anthony can be contacted on: phone: 03 6428 2319 or email: [jbrandse@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jbrandse@bigpond.net.au).



**Garry Hannigan**, from Brokenhill NSW, receives the 2005 scholarship for a livestock producer supported by Meat & Livestock Australia.

He is interested in gaining an understanding of the wide market for organic lamb in countries where there is high disposable wealth. This will enable the expansion of drought-resistant sheep in rangelands by developing markets in Europe and America.

Garry can be contacted on: phone: 08 8091 6498 or email: [churinga@bigpond.com](mailto:churinga@bigpond.com).



**Robert Kelly**, from Guyra NSW, receives the 2005 scholarship for a woolgrower scholarship supported by Australian Wool Innovation.

He will investigate how to develop a better understanding of processing and consumer needs, therefore improving the effectiveness of marketing strategies and on-farm management and examine alternative grazing systems which we may be able to implement to improve sustainability and profitability.

Robert can be contacted on: phone: 02 6775 8331 or email: [mtwilliam@mail.nsw.chariot.net.au](mailto:mtwilliam@mail.nsw.chariot.net.au)



**Caroline Brown**, from Maitland SA, receives the 2005 scholarship for a grain grower supported by GRDC.

Caroline will study an area of renewable energy, particularly biodiesel, and to research oil crop production and processing techniques.

Caroline can be contacted on: phone: 08 8832 2504 or email: [debrown@internode.on.net](mailto:debrown@internode.on.net)

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