#### **NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA**

# Acknowledges with thanks the support of the following for their 2013 Scholars











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Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation











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2012 Scholar Presentations and Dinner Toowoomba, QLD 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012

"Innovation in Australian Agriculture"





## FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER 2012

6:30 pm Pre dinner drinks

7:15 pm Formal Welcome, including apologies, Chair of Nuffield Australia

7:20 pm Special Presentations

7:25 pm Entrée served

7:35 pm Toast to Nuffield and Absent Friends

7:45 pm Main Course

8:10 pm George Wilson Oration, Delivered by: The Honourable Neil Andrew AO, 1975 Nuffield Scholar

8:30 pm Dessert

9:00 pm Presentation of 2013 Nuffield Scholarships Chair of Nuffield Australia

10:30 pm Close

## **George Wilson**

George Wilson was the Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars Association founding chairman when the organisation was formed in 1976. He served in the role for 16 years, creating a lasting legacy for agriculture in Australia.

After serving in the A.I.F. from 1942 to 1945, Mr Wilson returned home to the family property in Berwick, Victoria. In 1951 he was awarded a Nuffield Scholarship to study beef and general farming and with fellow Nuffield recipient Pat Meredith, he travelled by boat to England in 1952. On arriving in England,



the two Australian scholars were given bicycles so they could travel the countryside on their study tour. Australia continued to send two scholars per year, rotating around the six states, for the next twenty-plus years, funded from the United Kingdom by the Nuffield Foundation.

When Robert Beggs returned from his scholarship in 1970, he spoke with George Wilson and Carl Foster about forming some sort of Nuffield organisation in Australia to look after visiting scholars from other countries. The Australian Nuffield Farming Scholar Association was subsequently formed, with Australian scholars each contributing \$150 to set it up. This forward thinking meant that in 1976 when representatives from the UK Nuffield Foundation came out to Australia to inform the Australian Nuffield alumni there would be no further recurrent funding from the foundation to support the scholarship, Australia was well placed to continue the program. The foundation generously gifted £7,000 to the Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars Association as

#### **David Cook**

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**David Cook**, from Pine Lodge in Victoria, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by "The William Buckland Foundation". David will investigate rotation/cover crops including nutrient availability and fertiliser application methods.

David is a self-employed farmer with a wheat, canola and faba bean rotation on his 1105-hectare farm. He converted from a mixed farming operation five years ago to his current full-time cropping operation.

Having seen crop rotations in many areas of Australia narrow in the last decade as a result of droughts and a subsequent lack of confidence in production capacity and profitability, David made a decision several years ago to give his operation more flexibility.

"I converted our seeding operation in 2009 to a full stubble retention system and then started looking at the possibility of opportunistic summer crops, to both increase the seeding window, and to increase the number of crops in our rotation," David explained.

He hopes to use his Nuffield scholarship to gain a better understanding of the relationship between crop rotations and nutrient availability under different farming systems and how they are relevant to Australian systems.

He would also like to assess alternative fertiliser strategies, including fertiliser type, application timing and equipment and is aiming to visit Germany, France, Switzerland, Finland, the US and Canada.

#### **Jodie Redcliffe**

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Jodie Redcliffe, from Wamuran in Queensland, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation. Jodie is looking to study alternatives for poultry house flooring, including litter reuse.

With her husband Wayne, Jodie owns and operates a commercial broiler operation with 250,000 birds contracted to Inghams Queensland.

Currently the majority of the Australian broiler industry uses wood shavings as bedding material in poultry sheds, with the mixture of sawdust and manure that is generated then on-sold as fertiliser or further processed into a fertiliser mix. However, as Jodie explains, there are several issues looming for the industry.

"A shortage of shavings has made it one of our highest input costs, higher even than electricity and labour in some instances, and the resultant product perhaps could be further processed to achieve better returns.

I also think we could maybe reduce the need for fresh shavings by more efficient ways of windrowing for composting," Jodie says.

Jodie would like to use her Nuffield scholarship to investigate alternatives to shavings as bedding, taking into account cost efficiency and practicality. In addition, she hopes to find ways to use existing bedding sources more efficiently to reduce costs and ease supply shortages.

To achieve this Jodie hopes to travel to the southern states of America, the UK and Europe and South America.

a start up fund for a locally administered organization.

From this George started the Nuffield Australian Fund, and during his time as chair there were a number of major benchmarks including:

- The first international conference in Victoria in 1980
- The fostering of the talents of another Nuffield lion, Harry Perkins AO,

As with most Nuffield Scholars, George recognised that Nuffield changed his life and he wanted other Australian farmers to share the same experience. He had terrific business and agricultural connections and used them for the everlasting benefit of Nuffield. It included those contacts George made during his own scholarship, such as Peter Jones and Emrys Jones. Peter became the head of the British equivalent of the Department of Primary Industry and Emrys [later Sir Emrys] headed the highly regarded Welsh Plant Breeding University at Aberystwyth. George had a loyal group of essentially Victorian Nuffield scholars, who helped him "run the show".

His wife, Faye Wilson, supported George and Nuffield all the way, helping scholars and their partners in day-to-day problems as well as supporting George in his endeavours on behalf of Nuffield, even while he ducked off to the UK, twice at his own expense, chasing his dream of the Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars Association. George loved a good time - in 1988 when NSW organised the annual meeting of the association, they asked George what he wanted to see. He answered "I want to see good agriculture and I want a drink in our hands at 5.30."

George had many achievements in his lifetime:

- Chairman of the Victorian Inland Meat Authority
- President of Victorian Royal Agricultural Society
- Council member of Monash University

- Member of the Victorian Economic Development Corporation
- Honoured as a Commander of St Michael and St George

Ian Macintosh took over the Nuffield chairman's role from George for six years and was followed by Harry Perkins – who had been encouraged into the job by George and Ron Baillieu. Harry realised that Nuffield needed to change to be relevant to the times and he initiated the Miller & Inall External Review of Nuffield. This review became the catalyst for Nuffield as we know it today and although George was not initially comfortable with the direction the review suggested, he had made peace with the changes before his death in 2003 at the age of 85.

In the past six years there has been a considerable expansion of the Australian Nuffield program, and this could not have happened without the foundations laid by George Wilson. The Australian program has far outgrown those of other Nuffield countries around the world, having been given the opportunity to establish our own programs by the Nuffield Foundation in the 1970s.

George led the way in serving this association at no cost to the group; an ethic that many Nuffield Scholars have followed. The Board of (the now) Nuffield Australia have implemented the perpetual George Wilson Oration to mark George's contribution to all our lives and it is fitting that his two sons David and Jamie and daughter Anne are with us tonight to hear the fourth annual George Wilson Oration delivered by Hon Neil Andrew AO (1975 Scholar).

#### **Paul Serle**

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**Paul Serle**, from Tantanoola in South Australia, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Sidney Myer Fund. Paul will investigate the profitability of biological farming.

Together with his wife Kylie, Paul operates a grazing business on 800 hectares of family owned land, producing prime lambs and running a sheep and cattle trading enterprise. In addition, they grow lucerne and chicory under center pivot irrigation.

Paul has incorporated biological inputs, including fertiliser, foliar sprays and stock licks, into his farming system to reduce the use of chemicals and improve soil, plant and livestock health.

He believes there is increasing farmer interest in biological farming, but says farmers need a better understanding of whether the system can be an economic option or is simply an ethical choice.

"While numerous companies claim to have the solution to successful biological farming, many only seem to sell products, not systems. I want to investigate how farmers go about making a decision on which product or method they should use," Paul explains.

He hopes his study will allow him to develop a systems approach to the application of biological farming principles and create a step-by-step methodology for implementing biological practices into agriculture.

Paul would like to tour North America and Europe to speak with consultants and farmers, before heading to South Africa to study grazing management.

#### **Carly Buttrose**

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**Carly Buttrose**, from Parndana in South Australia, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by Rabobank. Carly will study world's best practice in optimising the reproductive potential of sheep.

Currently Carly is manager of the 2000-hectare family farm on Kangaroo Island, producing prime lambs and running 200 Angus cross breeding cows.

Recognising the critical role lamb weaning percentage plays in a successful prime lamb production system has led Carly to her Nuffield research topic. She will use her scholarship to investigate how lamb producers in other parts of the world manage and optimise the reproductive potential of their flock.

"Ewe condition and lamb birth weight are major drivers of lamb survival and fertility, so I'd like to find out how other producers are managing their ewe flock during pregnancy to attain better lamb survival rates.

I would also like to observe other maternal breeds, as well as research the effect of ewe temperament on the effect of lamb survival and the role that genomics may one day play in combating some of these issues," Carly concludes.

Her itinerary will include major lamb producers New Zealand and the UK, while a visit to emerging player Argentina is also on the cards.

## **Scholarships to be Awarded**

A grain grower in Southern NSW or SA or TAS, supported by Grains Research and Development Corporation

A grain grower in Western Australia, supported by Grains Research and Development Corporation

A grain grower anywhere in Australia, supported by Grain Growers Limited

A woolgrower anywhere in Australia, supported by Australian Wool Innovation

A livestock producer anywhere in Australia, supported by Meat & Livestock Australia

A wine grape grower anywhere in Australia, supported by the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation

A sugar cane grower anywhere in Australia, supported by the Sugar Research and Development Corporation

A rice grower anywhere in Australia, supported by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, Rice R&D Committee

A rice grower anywhere in Australia, supported by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Rice R&D Committee

A chicken producer or livestock manager anywhere in Australia, supported by Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Chicken Meat Research and Development Program

An egg producer anywhere in Australia, supported by the Australian Egg Corporation

A **vegetable grower** anywhere in Australia, supported by **Horticulture Australia Ltd.** using the **Vegetable Industry Levy** and matched funds from the Australian Government

A banana grower anywhere in Australia, supported by

Horticulture Australia Ltd. using the Banana Industry Levy and matched funds from the

Australian Government

A primary producer anywhere in Australia, supported by Woolworths

A **primary producer** anywhere in Australia, supported by **Rabobank** 

A **primary producer** anywhere in Australia, to study Natural Resource Management supported by the **Sidney Myer Fund** 

A primary producer in Queensland, supported by the Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation

A primary producer in Victoria supported by the Buckland Foundation

#### **Lachie Seears**

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**Lachie Seears**, from Lucindale in South Australia, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by the

Grains Research and Development Corporation. Lachie will investigate world's best practise in supply chain management and value-adding of farm products.

Lachie works on the family farm in the high rainfall zone of South Australia, cropping wheat, barley, canola and broad beans. They also have some irrigated speciality crops such as carrot and lucerne seed grown under center pivot irrigators and run a sheep and cattle livestock enterprise.

It is a desire to add greater value to broad bean production in his cropping rotation that has prompted Lachie to apply for a Nuffield Scholarship. "While farmers can grow a high quality, consistent product, the skills involved in processing and value-adding to that commodity to turn it into a consumable product is not widely known.

I'd like to study the steps involved in taking a broad bean from 'Paddock to Plate', helping me understand how to process, value-add, market and export to the end consumer," Lachie explains.

Lachie says most farmers don't have the knowledge or confidence to establish supply chain relationships or deal with issues such as quarantine restrictions and currency trading.

He hopes his Nuffield research will allow him to gather this knowledge and pass it on to other farmers, with Dubai, Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon on his itinerary.

#### **Jason Size**

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**Jason Size**, from Loxton in South Australia, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by Woolworths.

Jason will focus on linking consumer-eating patterns to stonefruit flavour profiles and retail marketing strategies.

Currently self-employed in a partnership with his wife and parents-in-law, Jason's primary business is growing fresh market stonefruit. He is involved with two companies that help sell and pack the end product, supplying fruit from various growers to customers around the capital cities of Australia and overseas.

Part of Jason's role is as a varietal evaluator, and he has found in the last couple of years there is an increased emphasis on flavour.

"The more I continue to research and evaluate varieties, the more intrigued I am in accurately defining flavour.

My aim is to develop a way to assist growers and breeders in identifying varieties that satisfy flavour parameters and meet consumer demand," Jason explains.

In addition, he hopes to understand supply chain relationships and how consumer satisfaction impacts on varietal selection at the farm-level. He hopes to visit France, North America and Israel during his study.

#### **Paul Inderbitzin**

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**Paul Inderbitzin**, from Lakeland in Queensland, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by HAL using the Banana Levy and matched funds from the Australian Government. Paul is going to research fruit quality and waste management in the banana industry.

Paul is employed in the family farming enterprise as manager of 220 hectares of irrigated cropping/seed production and 40 hectares of bananas at Lakeland in north Queensland. The family business also includes an 8,000 tree macadamia orchard and composting operation on the Atherton Tablelands and a small coffee roasting business Bella Coffee.

The family business has invested heavily in the banana industry in the past 12 months, an area of expansion Paul sees great potential in.

However ongoing consumer demand for consistent production of high quality fruit is an area which Paul sees as a real challenge for his industry.

"As growers, it's critical we focus on waste management - most importantly measuring it and then implementing strategies to minimise it," he says.

In addition, Paul would like to study disease and quarantine challenges for the banana industry.

"I would like to investigate these issues further as I see them as central to ensuring Australian banana growers are sustainable, profitable and not putting ourselves at risk to imports," he concluded.

Paul hopes to visit Ecuador, Columbia, Costa Rica and the Philippines.

#### **Matthew Hill**

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**Matthew Hill**, from Esperance in Western Australia, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by

the Grains Research and Development Corporation. Matthew is looking to research harvest residue management including control of weed seeds and the potential for value-adding chaff.

Matthew works in a family farming enterprise totalling approximately 13,000 hectares of owned and lease land. They crop up to 11,000 hectares annually and they also run a self-replacing merino ewe flock and 130 Angus cows.

Matthew has observed a swing towards cropping in Western Australia over the last five to six years, with an increase from 60 per cent to 80 per cent crop on his own farm. He says this, combined with a series of very poor starts over the same time period, is putting severe pressure on weed control and the chemicals used to control them.

Matthew believes that instead of burning or destroying the chaff, there is an opportunity to use it to produce stock feed or even energy. "I'd like to investigate how other countries are handling their crop residues and the uses that they are put to, such as feed, heat or power.

Further I would very much hope to return to Australia with a design or plan for a mobile process that converts weed seed laden chaff into an inert product suitable for livestock feed or energy production," Matthew adds.

Matthew plans to tour the USA and Europe, where he hopes to inspect the technologies he needs to achieve his goals.

#### **Paul Green**

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Paul Green, from Hyden in Western Australia, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Grain Growers Limited. Paul will study the economics of farm machinery manufacturing around the world.

Paul is a director on a number of agri-based family businesses, including a broadacre grain production company focussing on wheat, barley, canola, lupins, hay, peas and other minor crops. Working with his brother, the operation is done with minimal staff and relies entirely on new technology of larger equipment.

He says they have built a number of pieces of equipment on farm out of necessity, giving an insight into manufacturing costs in Australia.

"I cannot understand why simple agricultural machinery is so expensive - I want to investigate the business models of equipment manufacturers overseas and within Australia, with the view to developing our own enterprise," Paul explains.

Paul will focus on the economics behind how factory lines are set up, material sourcing techniques and how factories compare to a 'backyard' fabrication business and the associated issues of small scale manufacturing.

Paul hopes to visit the Seed Hawk factory in north America, the Fiat factory in Italy as well as several companies in South Australia and Victoria to complete his research.

## Trent De Paoli

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Trent De Paoli, from Bundaberg in Queensland, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by HAL and the Vegetable R&D Levy and matched funds from the Australian Government. Trent is going to research value-adding of horticultural by-products through new technologies or processes.

Trent is manager of sales and innovation for Austchilli, a vertically integrated family farming business supplying fresh chilli and puree products to Australian multi-national food companies, as well as exporting to 14 countries around the world. In addition, he is managing director of Pressure Fresh Australia, an innovation business that designs new food products based specifically on high pressure processing technology.

Over the next 12 months Trent would like to study ways to value-add to Australian horticultural by-products using new technologies or processes to create innovative products. The study will focus on adding value to the typical waste stream products, meaning maximised return for growers.

"By studying capable technologies and processes and providing that information to Australian growers, along with potential business opportunities for our family business to utilise this information, value can hopefully be added to typical by-products, resulting in better farm gate returns," Trent says.

Trent's itinerary will include North America, Europe and New Zealand to see state of the art technologies and processes, research organisations and commercial industry leaders.

#### **Kate Mason**

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**Kate Mason**, from Kojonup in Western Australia, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by Australian Egg Corporation. Kate will research sustainable egg production and how that fits with consumer expectations.

Kate works in a family farming business with her husband Rhyce. They run a 1500 acre farm with 600 ewes for cross bred lamb production and grow organically certified oats, processed and packaged for human consumption and supplied to wholesalers in Perth and Melbourne.

In addition they have a grain cleaning business, a small farm shop and 4,000 free range laying hens, marketing the eggs in their own brand direct to retailers in Perth and around the south west of WA.

Kate believes educating the consumer will play a vital role in the future direction of not only the Australian egg industry but more broadly across Australian agriculture.

"I would like to be able to confidently build our business in a way that will meet the changing expectations of the consumer. A worldwide study into the connection between the consumer and agriculture would enable this," she explains.

Kate believes the major issue faced by the egg industry is consumers increased concern for animal welfare and the retail giants seizing this as a marketing opportunity. "As a consequence there are some large free range operations being set up to meet the growing demand for what consumers consider more welfare friendly – however there will be an impact on smaller producers," Kate says.

Kate hopes to travel to California and Indiana, before heading to Europe.

#### **Matthew Ipsen**

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Matthew Ipsen, from Wareek in Victoria, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by Australian Wool Innovation. Matthew will use his scholarship to investigate world's best practice in sheep reproduction and lamb survival.

Matthew is a director of a private agricultural company with his parents and together they own and operate an 820-hectare property in central Victoria, consisting of 3,000 sheep and 400 hectares of crop. The major enterprise is wool production along with sheep meat, hay and cereals. They also own and manage a merino sheep stud and contract harvest.

As well as working on the farm, Matthew runs a small business in sheep artificial insemination (AI) and pregnancy scanning called *Ewe Wish*.

It is this business mix that has prompted Matthew to focus on the reproductive performance of sheep through his Nuffield scholarship.

"Australian lamb marking percentages have barely increased in the last 30 years, creating opportunities for producers to improve profitability, put greater selection pressure on reproductive and production rates, as well as counter animal ethical issues by improving the survivability of lambs."

"I am hoping by studying intensive housing of sheep and different feeding systems, both indoors and paddock systems, I may be able to improve the health of pregnant ewes allowing them to birth without difficulties, "he explains.

Matthew is planning on visiting New Zealand, Europe, the USA and South Africa to conduct his research.

#### Kara Knudsen

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Kara Knudsen, from Mundubbera in Queensland, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by Meat and Livestock Australia. Kara is planning on investigating large-scale artificial insemination (AI) techniques for northern cattle herds.

Kara and her husband Darcy run 1500 Santa Gertrudis breeders on 18,000 acres at Mundubbera, and have a further 82,000 acres of Mitchell/Downs country, with up to 4,000 head run mostly as a trading operation. They also contract hay bale and have a station road grading service.

For Kara, slow genetic progress in the majority of northern cattle herds has prompted her to study AI on the large scale needed in the region. "If the industry is going to survive, then genetic improvements and better reproductive performance has shown to be a dominating factor in farm profitability.

If we could multiply superior genetics quickly and at a low cost, the northern beef industry will again have a promising future," Kara observed.

She is hoping to particularly focus on fixed time AI, embryo transfer (ET), and ultrasound techniques and services that can be replicated on a large scale. "To offer these services and to overcome the different problems associated with the environment, and our labour costs here in Australia, I need to have a very good understanding of the subject.

In Brazil and Argentina the scale of operation is massive, so to see the equipment, yards and setup used to handle this would be invaluable and a Nuffield scholarship will provide me with a network of colleagues that I can collaborate with to find solutions," Kara says.

#### **Guy Hebblewhite**

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Guy Hebblewhite, from Tamworth in New South

Wales, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by the RIRDC Chicken Meat Program. Guy is planning to study broiler management and cost reduction in his business using renewables.

With his family, Guy grows meat chickens under contract to Steggles across two northern NSW properties and also produces premium compost from chicken manure, which is sold to croppers and graziers. In addition the family runs a beef and sheep enterprise.

Tackling increasing costs in his business is a critical issue and Guy believes solutions may be found in renewable technologies to reduce electricity, gas and chicken bedding materials.

"I would like to get a greater understanding of world's best farming practices in these areas, hopefully resulting in increased efficiency in our poultry operation," Guy says.

In addition, he would like to investigate the potential for value-adding the chicken litter produced on their property, as well as shed odour reduction technologies.

"By viewing the latest designs and technology from around the world, I hope to bring back knowledge and ideas to help other chicken growers across the country," Guy concluded.

Guy's travel plans include visiting the USA and South America, where a large proportion of the world's chicken meat is produced, as well as Europe and Asia.

## **Antony Vagg**

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Antony Vagg, from Moama in New South Wales, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by RIRDC and the Rice R&D Committee. Antony is planning to study rice stubble management.

The family operation, Amaloo Pastoral Co, comprises three adjoining properties with around 400 hectares of rice and 1000 hectares of winter cereals, oil and pulse crops, of which approximately a third is under irrigation. The company also runs sheep on an opportunistic scale.

For Antony, the focus of his Nuffield scholarship is how to deal with the extensive stubble load created by rice in Australia and what options and methods can be utilised to combat the current widespread practice of burning to eliminate stubble trash.

"The main issue is the straw or stubble created by rice is difficult to break down and too thick to sow through as the yield is generally greatly excessive compared to cereal crops," Antony explains.

"The added issue is that the stubble has no time to break down as it is generally been sown through within a month of harvest. The obvious solution has been to cut and burn the stubble, however this will create issues in the future with carbon emission standards and burning restrictions," Antony adds.

His study aims to find alternative solutions for stubble load management and how to better utilize the straw, with visits to the USA, India, Spain and the UK planned.

## **Matthew Pooley**

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Matthew Pooley, from Sevenmile Beach in Tasmania, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation. Matthew will investigate sustainable small-scale winery establishment and management.

As manager of the family wine business, Matthew is responsible for production from a 12 hectare vineyard on two separate sites and 50 hectares of arable farm land, used for opportunity grazing and finishing sheep, irrigation and hay production.

With the family hoping to establish a winery, Matthew will use his scholarship to study innovations and sustainability initiatives in small-scale wineries operating in other cool climate wine production areas, including opportunities for reuse of winery waste products as well as optimising water and energy use.

Eventually, Pooley Wines hopes to establish a best practice winery facility that will become a model for small-scale cool climate wine production in Tasmania and beyond.

"I'd like to look at initiatives being trialled or implemented overseas, including passive heating/cooling, gravity-fed production systems and greenhouse gas emission reduction in the small to medium winery bracket," Matthew concludes.

To gather this information, Matthew is looking to visit New Zealand, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany and France.

#### Joe Muscat

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Joe Muscat, from Oakenden in Queensland, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Sugar Research and Development Corporation. Joseph is looking to research best practice in production, manufacturing and marketing of fibre crops.

With his family, Joe produces sugar cane, soybeans, mungbeans, peanuts and fibre crops such as industrial hemp, kenaf and sunn hemp, on their 325 hectare property.

"The fibre plant has many attributes such as a fuel, building material, bioplastics, paper and many more, and this cropping system rotates with sugar cane well, however the challenge is the secondary manufacturing and marketing of these products," Joe observed.

It is his work in a project co-ordination role with the Sugar Research Development Corporation (SRDC) Grower Group Innovation Program, which has prompted his second area of interest.

"I also hope to look at methods of grower-led research and how researchers engage with growers around the world.

During his scholarship, Joe hopes to visit Argentina, Brazil and Malaysia to see numerous examples of how fibre crops are transformed into new products through secondary manufacturing.

In addition, he hopes to investigate grower group-led R&D around the world, but particularly in New Zealand.

#### **Peter Kaylock**

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**Peter Kaylock**, from Moulamein in New South Wales, receives the 2013 Nuffield Scholarship supported by RIRDC and the Rice R&D Committee. Peter is planning to research direct drill rice farming systems.

With his wife, sister and brother in law, Peter is owner/manager of 7,000 hectares, with a major focus on rice and dryland cereals. The family operation also produces potatoes, stonefruit, seasonal fat lambs and cattle. Peter hopes to study whole farm direct drill systems, including an evaluation of the machinery used, establishment methods, fertiliser and weed control practices.

The itinerary for Peter will start with the USA, in particular southern states such as Arkansas and Louisiana, as well as California, to get an understanding of their rice systems, machinery and new technologies.

"I also hope to visit southern Italy, Spain, France and Germany to get an overview of how direct drill cereal systems can be used to supplement the rice rotation," Peter added.

The International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines have also embarked on developing similar systems and Peter believes a visit there would help acquire knowledge which would be invaluable for the Australian industry.