Sowing the seeds of agricultural excellence

Future leaders in Tasmanian agriculture were given a boost at Agfest today with the announcement of a bumper crop of agricultural science scholarships.

The scholarships, supported by the State Government, the University of Tasmania joint venture TIA (Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture) and members of the broader community and industry, highlight the partnerships that underpin the agricultural sector in Tasmania.

Ten prestigious scholarships were presented by Major General the Hon. Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC (Retd), the former Governor-General and current National Advocate for Soil Health.

- **Tasmanian Government Scholarship in Agricultural Innovation** (Up to $9000 in fees towards a Master of Business Administration (Professional) in Agricultural Innovation) – A joint State Government and University initiative delivered through the Faculty of Business and the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture, this MBA provides postgraduate training with a focus on developing agribusiness and innovation skills and is in response to the Tasmanian Government’s vision of the State as a premium food producer. *Recipients*: Sarah Gatenby-Clark, Charles Spencer, Robert Cason.

- **Bruce Wall Scholarship** ($4,500 per year for up to four years for a commencing student and $5,500 for one year for an honours student) – The estate of the late Bruce Wall supports a number of projects for young Tasmanians. A significant member of the farming industry in Tasmania, Mr Wall applied latest methods and practices on his farm and supported research and development in agricultural studies. *Recipients*: Ryan Warren.

- **Bert Campbell Memorial Scholarship in Agriculture** ($2,000) – This scholarship is provided by the Agricultural Contractors of Tasmania to honour
the memory of Bert Campbell, a pioneer in harvesting, cereal production and the poppy industry. It supports the development of young people in agriculture, particularly in the area of harvesting and cereal production. 
*Recipient:* Kathryn Cenin.

- **Cuthbertson Elite Research Scholarship** ($10,000 a year for three years for a PhD candidate) – These scholarships, which honour Sir Harold Cuthbertson and Lady Cuthbertson, are to be offered in agricultural, horticultural, aquaculture or silviculture research. 
*Recipient:* Adam Langworthy.

- **Neale Edwards Scholarship in Agricultural Science or Forestry** ($6,500 per year for up to three years) – Launceston-born Neale Edwards founded his company, Neale Edwards Pty Ltd when he was just 26. Beginning as an exporter of skins and hides, the company developed interests throughout the agricultural sector through investments in wool scouring, fellmongering, meatworks, forestry, stock and station agents and in the Tasmanian company Roberts Ltd. Mr Edwards’ family endowed this scholarship to encourage interest and involvement in the State’s rural sector. 
*Recipient:* Patrick Groenewold.

- **Roberts Ltd Scholarship in Agricultural Science** ($4,000 per year for up to two years) – Rural supplies and services company Roberts Ltd supports students in the agricultural sciences through this scholarship. Established in 1865, Roberts has extensive interests in wool and livestock agency, real estate, irrigation, rural finance and insurance and rural merchandise. 
*Recipient:* Robert Dudgeon.

- **Country Womens Association Bursary** ($500) – The Country Women’s Association Bursary is made available each year through the generosity of the Tasmanian Branch for a rural student who is undertaking a course which has relevance to regional communities. 
*Recipient:* Georgina Moore.

There are a total of 23 awards provided by individuals, organisations and the Tasmanian Government specifically for Agricultural Science students at the University of Tasmania.

Along with the 10 recipients outlined above, a number of current scholarship holders attended the presentation to catch up with their donors and meet the new award winners.
The University of Tasmania would like to acknowledge the donors who provide awards to the program but who did not award a scholarship in 2014: AgVita, City of Devonport Lions Club, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Peracto Limited, Tasmanian Wine Show Society, Rural Industries Regional Development Corporation, Tasmanian Beef Industry Trust, Robert Gatenby Trust, Professor Robert Menary, Horticulture Australia Limited, the Lewis Family, Cheryl Turner, the late Beryl Bennett, family and friends of Graeme Tole, the Wade family and all donors to the Professor George Wade Appeal.

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