

AROUND THE STATE

Leaders program inspires Members

NSW Farmers members David Mailler and Damien Sotter will soon join an influential network of 500 graduates of the Australian Rural Leadership Program (ARLP).

David, a farmer from Uralla in the Northern region has recently been elected to the Association's Business Economics and Trade Committee. Damien, a beef producer from Oberon in the Central region, will graduate in Townsville in September following a year of inspirational learning and activities.

David said the ARLP has given him the capacity to focus on his management role on the farm as well as a role in a rural community.

"The Program has really given me the opportunity to focus on issues that I can control on my own farm," David said

"There are many big picture issues out there that we can't control, but we can have a role in building policy that will benefit rural communities.

"I was too ready to shoot the messenger before I took part in the program, but now I realise I have the capacity to get involved in addressing issues through roles in the community and groups like NSW Farmers," Mr Mailler explained.

David has already stepped into a leadership role with NSW Farmers, taking on chair of Region 2 and a place on the Business, Economics and Trade Committee.

Damien strongly agreed with the benefits of the ARLP, saying it had improved every facet of his life and farm business.

"A lot of it was about learning how to learn again, how to question and how to help grow a community," Mr Sotter said.



Members Damien Sotter, Oberon, and David Mailler, Uralla, have been inspired by the Australian Rural Leaders Program.

"It's taught me that one person can actually make a difference."

Damien is the Vice Chair for the NSW Committee of Angus Australia and the Vice Chair for the Oberon District Council.

He holds a B App. Sc. (Systems Agriculture) which he has implemented in managing an Angus beef property on the Central Tablelands of NSW for the last 13 years.

Former Wallaby talks Pork in Young

NSW Pork is hosting a forum and dinner at Young Golf Club, Young on 14 September 2011, commencing at 5pm.

The afternoon will commence with Tony Edwards speaking on factors affecting the pig, both within and beyond the pig.

Andrew Spencer, CEO of Australian Pork Limited will present information on the levy increase proposed by APL and will give producers an opportunity to ask any question they may have concerns about.

To provide a change from 'pork talk', the evening dinner will also host ex-Wallaby Owen Finegan who is now CEO of Snowy Hydro SouthCare, the primary provider of Aero-Medical and Rescue Helicopter services in the ACT and south-eastern NSW.

If you would like to attend this forum, please contact Emily Kearns, (02) 8251 1825 or email kearnse@nswfarmers.org.au

NSW APAL Director

Association member and Batlow apple grower Mr Greg Mouat was announced the new Apple and Pear Australia Limited (APAL) Director, representing NSW at the Annual General Meeting of APAL in Adelaide earlier this month.

Greg takes over the role from Mr Darral Ashton who has retired as Director representing NSW and also as Chairman of APAL.

Darral, recently retired from apple growing in Batlow, dedicated nine years to leading the apple and pear industry.

Greg is a second generation apple grower and is currently a Director and Deputy Chairman of the Batlow Fruit Co-operative.

He has also served as the Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer of the Batlow Horticultural Branch.

The Association received four nominations for the position of NSW APAL Director, with all NSW Class A Members of APAL being eligible to vote.

Nominees were all members of the Association; Barney Hyams, Guy Gaeta, Peter McClymont and Greg Mouat.

APAL and the Association thank all nominees and look forward to their continued involvement in the Australian apple industry.

UWS performs in meat judging



The University Of Western Sydney's 2011 meat judging team- Cassie Coombe, Donna Gow, John-Michael Nancarrow, Mel Pogson, Stephanie Fowler (Coach), Gabrielle Foster and Prof. Rob Mulley (Coach).



By Frances Tolson - Central East

The University of Western Sydney's meat judging team finished in ninth place amidst some tough competition at the Intercollegiate Meat Judging Competition (ICMJ) and training week in Armidale.

NSW Farmers Region 7 provided sponsorship to the Hawkesbury based team, which has taken part in the competition since it began in 1990.

Team member Mel Pogson was selected in the top 10 Australian students in the completion and will now attend the Meat Standards Australia training week in Brisbane.

"It was a great achievement. The highest scoring 15 Australian students in the competition, along with the highest scoring American Japanese students, are also required to complete one more primal class and an oral presentation," her coach Stephanie Fowler said.

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