

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Name:

NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA 2023 NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

ENHANCING A RESILIENT
AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY

12-13 SEPTEMBER 2023
PAN PACIFIC, PERTH

NUFFIELD'S MAJOR EVENT FOR SCHOLARS, INVESTORS AND BROADER INDUSTRY

www.nuffield.com.au



THE 2023 NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE PARTNERS INCLUDE:

PLATINUM



Rabobank

NETWORKING COCKTAIL RECEPTION



REGIONAL TOUR



MEAL BREAK

AUSFLOW

SILVER

CLAAS
Harvest Centre





Listen to our
RaboResearch AU



Food & Agri Podcasts



Scan the QR code
& make our insights
your advantage!

Rabobank.com.au/hub



Rabobank



Tuesday 12 September 2023

TIME	THEME	SPEAKER
SESSION 1 – SETTING THE SCENE		Supported by 
FACILITATED BY: Andrew Slade, WA Chair and 2018 Scholar		
8.30am	WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	
8.40am	CBH Group – A grains cooperative story	Simon Stead, Chair, CBH Group
9.00am	Scholarship Presentation – Incubating radical change within an organisation – What are the conditions that need to exist to allow a breakthrough?	Tess Camm, 2020 Scholar, Queensland
9.20am	‘Where are they now?’ – A Nuffield Scholar’s journey	John Foss, 2001 Scholar, Western Australia
9.40am	Q&A	
10.00am	MORNING TEA	
SESSION 2 – PRODUCTION AND INVESTMENT THEME		
FACILITATED BY: Daniel Richards, NT Chair and 2016 Scholar		
10.40am	Nuveen Investment Management – Latest insights	Kristina Hermanson, Head of APAC and Africa, MD
11.00am	Fellowship Presentation – Some of our worst decisions are made in the best of times – Investing a surplus wisely	Jerome Critch, 2017 Nuffield Fellow, Western Australia
11.20am	Scholarship Presentation – What resources are needed to scale insect production facilities, regulations, best practice, and future opportunities within the emerging insect market	Paula Pownall, 2020 Scholar, Western Australia
11.40am	Scholarship Presentation – Pathways for the aquaculture and Barramundi industries to grow more seafood and better manage stock levels	Albertus Hanekom, 2020 Scholar, Western Australia
12.00pm	Q&A	
12.20pm	LUNCH	

Tuesday 12 September 2023 (cont.)

TIME	THEME	SPEAKER
SESSION 3 – WATER AND DATA THEME		
FACILITATED BY: Damian Murphy, VIC Chair and 2012 Scholar		
1.20pm	CSIRO Research and Innovation – The latest Agriculture and Food updates	Dr Ben Trevaskis, Research Group Leader, CSIRO
1.40pm	Scholarship Presentation – Here come the robots, but what do we do with the data?	Hans Loder, 2021 Scholar, South Australia
2.00pm	Scholarship Presentation – New and emerging irrigation methods to reduce vineyard crop losses and sustain fruit quality during extreme heat events	Sarah Keough, 2020 Scholar, South Australia
2.20pm	Scholarship Presentation – Subsurface tile drainage and nutrient management to create more efficient farming practices	Robert Bell, 2021 Scholar, Western Australia
2.40pm	Q&A	
3.00pm	AFTERNOON TEA	
SESSION 4 – SOIL THEME		
FACILITATED BY: Stuart Tait, NSW Chair and 2017 Scholar		
3.30pm	Scholarship Presentation – Cropping systems and methods to retain more crop residue in zero-tillage farming systems	Richard Quigley, 2020 Scholar, New South Wales
3.50pm	Scholarship Presentation – Solutions to executing time sensitive operations on heavy wet soils during monsoon weather conditions	Fritz Bolten, 2021 Scholar, Western Australia
4.10pm	Reengineering Soils project – Million years old soils of WA: old can be gold with good management	Dr Gaus Azam, Principal Research Scientist, DPIRD
4.30pm	Nuffield International – Update	David Brownhill, 1998 Scholar (NSW) and Nuffield International Board Member
4.50pm	Q&A	
5.10pm	Nuffield Global Focus Program report	
5.30pm	CLOSE, NETWORKING COCKTAIL FUNCTION	Generously supported by 

Wednesday 13 September 2023

TIME	THEME	SPEAKER
SESSION 1 – SETTING THE SCENE		Supported by  Rabobank
FACILITATED BY: Nigel Corish, QLD Acting Chair and 2014 Scholar		
8.30am	WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	
8.40am	Rabobank Australia – Opportunities for Australian agribusinesses arising from global trends	Stefan Vogel, General Manager, RaboResearch Australia & New Zealand
9.00am	Scholarship Presentation – Multiply profitable business models, retain the right people and embrace change to become a more attractive investment	Harry Kelly, 2020 Scholar, Victoria
9.20am	‘Where are they now?’ – A Nuffield Scholar’s journey	Tracy Lefroy, 2006 Scholar, Western Australia
9.40am	Q&A	
10.00am	MORNING TEA	
SESSION 2 – PEOPLE THEME		
FACILITATED BY: Tim Napier, TAS Chair and 2005 Scholar		
10.40am	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food – Future Drought Fund update	Stuart Watt, Director, Communities and National Drought Agreement, DAFF
11.00am	Scholarship Presentation – Enhancing the attraction and retention in the northern cattle industry	Nick Krebs, 2020 Scholar, Queensland
11.20am	Scholarship Presentation – Post secondary agricultural education options. How the industry can support and attract people from a non-agricultural backgrounds	Kathryn Fleay, 2021 Scholar, Western Australia
11.40am	Scholarship Presentation – All the talk is about technology, but what about the people?	Charles Downie, 2021 Scholar, Tasmania
12.00pm	Q&A	
12.20pm	LUNCH	

Wednesday 13 September 2023 (cont.)

TIME	THEME	SPEAKER
SESSION 3 – THE LAND THEME		
FACILITATED BY: Andrew Baldock, SA Chair and 2015 Scholar		
1.20pm	‘Where are they now?’ – A Nuffield Scholar’s journey	Andrew Fowler, 2000 Scholar, Western Australia
1.40pm	Scholarship Presentation – Alternative weed control measures for grain producers	Mitchell Henderson, 2020 Scholar, Victoria
2.00pm	Scholarship Presentation – Finding harmony through regenerating people, place and profit	James Alexander, 2020 Scholar, New South Wales
2.20pm	Scholarship Presentation – Benefits of grazing crops to fill the winter feed gap in a changing climate	Dustin Pascoe, 2020 Scholar, Victoria
2.40pm	Q&A	
3.00pm	AFTERNOON TEA	
SESSION 4 – MARKETS THEME		
FACILITATED BY: Robert Bradley, Nuffield Chair and 2009 Scholar		
3.30pm	Scholarship Presentation – The value of dairy welfare benchmarking and opportunities for marketing Australian dairy products with an ethical advantage	Lucy Collins, 2021 Scholar, Victoria
3.50pm	Scholarship Presentation – Export opportunities in the ASEAN region	Luke Cantrill, 2020 Scholar, New South Wales
4.10pm	Scholarship Presentation – Benefits of raw milk cheese (RMC) production	Michael Cains, 2021 Scholar, New South Wales
4.30pm	Scholarship Presentation – Grain diversity and adding value in specialist markets	Jason Cotter, 2020 Scholar, Victoria
4.50pm	Q&A	
5.10pm	Nuffield Global Focus Program report	
5.30pm	FINAL PRESENTATIONS AND CLOSE	

2023
NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL
CONFERENCE

NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA
CORPORATE MEMBERS

Benefits include post-scholarship naming rights, registrations for the National Conference, invitations to state events, alumni engagement and access to Nuffield Scholar publications.

For information or more details please contact Nuffield Australia via enquiries@nuffield.com.au, visit the website www.nuffield.com.au



agri**business**

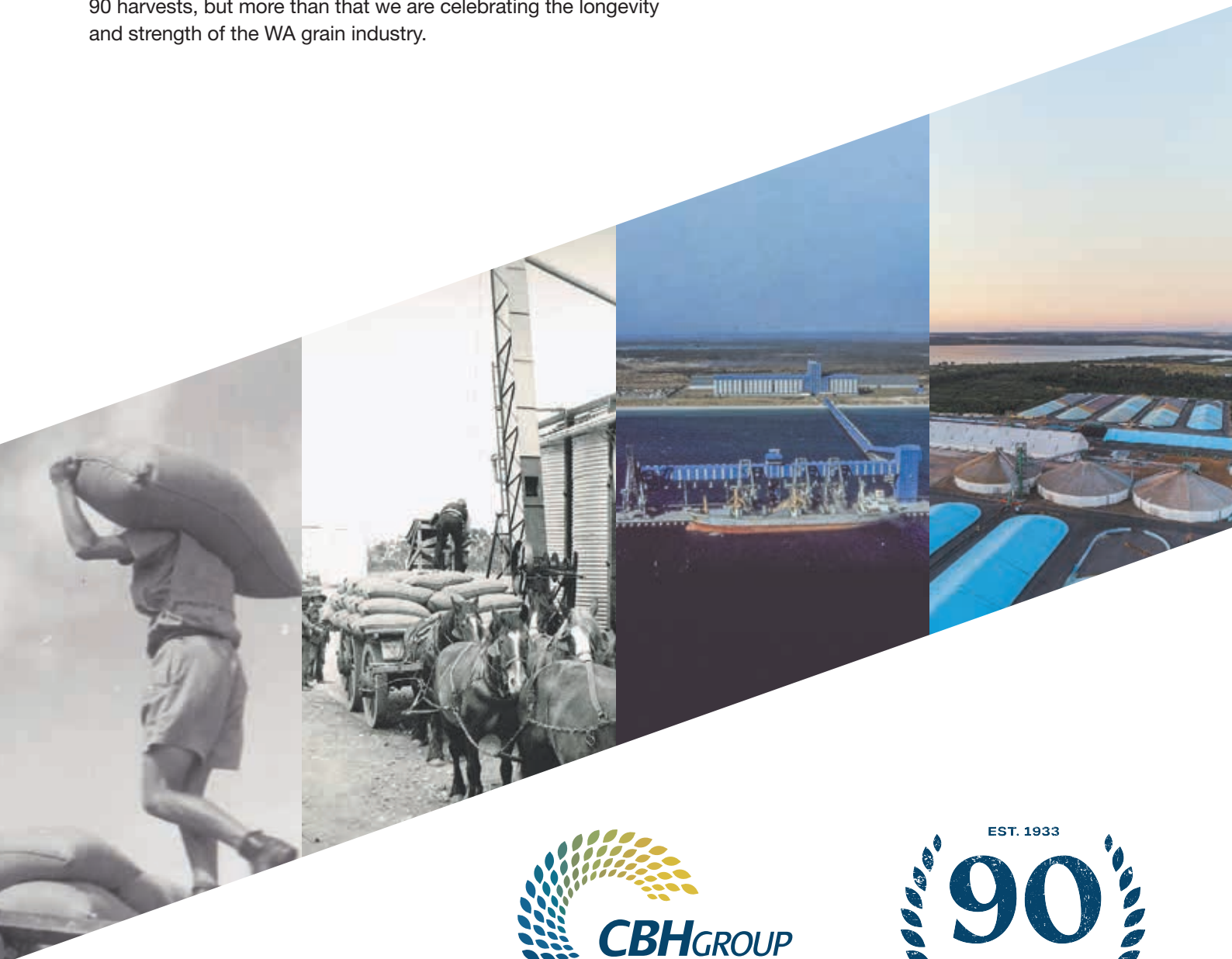


THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY
—
Institute of
Agriculture

Together, we're 90 harvests strong.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who has helped us make it.

When CBH formed 90 years ago, the vision was for WA growers to work together to get their grain to market and strengthen the then struggling wheat industry. Now, we're celebrating 90 harvests, but more than that we are celebrating the longevity and strength of the WA grain industry.



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Simon Stead **CBH Chair**

CBH GROUP

Simon Stead was appointed as a Director of the CBH Board in February 2015, as Deputy Chair in April 2019, and as Chair in April 2020.

Simon runs a mixed sheep, cattle and cropping operation in Cascade and Dalyup in the Esperance port zone. He is a member of the Industry Advisory Board of the UWA Institute of Agriculture and is also a founding member and a past Chair of the Association for Sheep Husbandry, Excellence, Evaluation and Production (ASHEEP).

Simon holds an Executive Certificate in Agribusiness Marketing from Monash University and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Kristina Hermanson **Head of APAC and Africa**

NUVEEN NATURAL CAPITAL

Kristina Hermanson is the Head of Asia Pacific and Africa at Nuveen Natural Capital. She targets growth in the region in farmland, timber and nature-based investments in collaboration with the expertise across Nuveen.

With proud roots on a dairy farm in Wisconsin, Kristina has more than 25 years of international leadership experience, most recently serving as Managing Director of ANZ & ASEAN at FMC Corporation.

Kristina started her career as a mechanical engineer based in Europe and worked in commercial, strategy, and Mergers & Acquisition roles in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific over a decade with global agribusiness firm, Archer Daniels Midland. She also served as Director of Growth & Collaboration, at Coca Cola Amatil in Australia before joining FMC.

Kristina is a Non-Executive Board member at the Australian Farm Institute and has recently served as a Director of AgSafe, CropLife Australia, and non-profit, Business for Development.

Kristina holds an Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin and an Master of Business Administration from the University of California-Los Angeles. Kristina is a passionate thought leader for Inclusion in Agriculture and a strong believer that a truly inclusive industry drives innovation and profitability.

nuveen
NATURAL CAPITAL



Dr Ben Trevaskis **Research Director**

CSIRO

Ben Trevaskis is Research Director for the Systems Program in the CSIRO Agriculture and Food business unit. The purpose of the Systems program is to improve productivity, profitability and sustainability of Australian Agriculture through research and innovation.

This includes integrated farming systems management spanning crops and livestock, farmer facing digital technologies to improve farm productivity, resilience and natural resource management, advance on-farm decision-making for gains in production and quality of food and fibre, innovations in pest and weed management and the diversification of farming systems and integration of sustainable practices for production resilience. The Systems program has a national footprint with people located in most states and territories.

Prior to his current role Ben completed a PhD through the Australian National University, based at CSIRO Plant Industry in Canberra. He then travelled to Germany for three years for a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Plant Physiology in Potsdam. He has been with CSIRO since returning to Australia in 2002.

From 2002 to 2015 Ben focused on researching the genetic pathways that control the seasonal flowering-behaviours of crops. This topic is important to agriculture because understanding how genetic variation influences flowering can help plant breeders adapt future crop varieties to target growing conditions.

From 2015 to 2022, Ben was a Group Leader who led teams of researchers working on developing new approaches to accelerate crop improvement, including genomics, phenomics and computational biology.

Ben is a creative leader focused on building a culture that helps people be the best that they can be.



Rabobank

Stefan Vogel **General Manager,** **RaboResearch Australia & New Zealand**

RABOBANK

Stefan Vogel is the General Manager of RaboResearch Australia & New Zealand, working to provide unparalleled knowledge, insight, and value to clients across Australia and New Zealand and around the globe.

Stefan joined Rabobank in London as Head of Agri Commodities Markets Research and Global Sector Strategist, Grains & Oilseeds in 2014. Under his leadership both the London-based Agri Commodities Research and the global Grains & Oilseeds research teams delivered client-centric, impactful research to the benefit of various global Rabobank businesses.

He brings a wealth of experience to the role. His almost 20-year career has been focused on the food, agribusiness, and trade industries. Prior to joining Rabobank, Stefan worked for more than a decade in strategy and market research positions with Archer Daniels Midland, including in the US as Director Market Research & Business Analytics and in Germany as Head of Economics Department. Stefan holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Agricultural Economics from University of Giessen, Germany.



Stuart Watt Director, Communities and National Drought Agreement

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Stuart Watt, from Perth, WA, is Director of the Communities and National Drought Agreement section at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF).

Stuart's team is responsible for the delivery of the Future Drought Fund's Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative in conjunction with delivery partners the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation, and the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal. The team is also working with states and territories to negotiate a new National Drought Agreement.

Stuart joined the department in 2017 and has worked in areas including establishing the Regional Investment Corporation, Climate Policy and Horticulture. Before joining the department, Stuart worked in the education and not-for-profit sector throughout the Kimberley, NT and in Timor Leste.



Dr Gaus Azam Research Scientist — Reengineering Soil

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Gaus Azam is the Principal Research Scientist at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD).

Gaus grew up on a small farm in a remote village in Bangladesh. He was awarded a scholarship for his PhD at the University of Adelaide. Gaus worked in a number of agricultural industries in various countries before beginning work with DPIRD in 2016

Gaus began working with DPIRD as a Research Scientist at Northam. Currently he manages the 'Re-engineering Soils' project co-invested by DPIRD and GRDC. He is interested in researching soil-plant interactions under different cropping systems on different soil types for efficient use of soil water and plant nutrients. Due to his outstanding research in soil science Gaus was awarded the Rewarding and Recognising Excellence Award 2023 by GRDC.

Qualifications include a PhD (Soil Science), The University of Adelaide; MSc (Ag), Asian Institute of Technology, BSc (Ag), Khulna University.





John Foss 2001 Nuffield Scholar, CEO

FANCY PLANTS AND THE CHIA COMPANY

John Foss is seasoned entrepreneur of the plant-based food, agribusiness and farming industries. After being awarded the Nuffield Scholarship in 2001, he went on to become the founder and CEO of The Chia Company, and more recently Fancy Plants Australia, involved in production, processing, manufacturer and marketing of chia and other plant-based health foods and functional ingredients with operations in Australia, Asia, UK and USA.

He is also a founding director and chairman of Northern Australian Crop Research Alliance, which conducts crop research on cotton, corn, chickpeas, chia and other crops in the Ord Valley.

John is the founder and director of Living Farm, a leading crop research company based in WA that provides research services in crop breeding, ag chem, agtech, horticulture and soil carbon to the leading global ag input companies and resources companies as well as GRDC and local grower groups.

John is an owner and director of Augment Agriculture that owns, leases and manages farmland in WA.

His passion for producing healthy and nutritious food, sustainable farming, R&D and the environment, and his relentless entrepreneurial spirit, has led to John becoming a well-regarded leader in the international food and agricultural industry.

John is an excellent communicator and an accomplished speaker with experience as keynote presenter at global conferences, television interviews, radio and other press. Along with being a Nuffield Farming Scholar, he is a graduate of the Australian Rural Leadership Program and holds a Bachelor of Business majoring in Agriculture, a Diploma in Farm Management and a Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing and Asian Business.



Tracy Lefroy 2006 Nuffield Scholar

FARMER, LEADER, ADVOCATE

Tracy Lefroy is a farmer in the Shire of Moora, working in partnership with her husband, Kristin, in their diversified farming enterprise.

She is also the Moora Shire President and a Director at InterGrain. With a Nuffield scholarship and extensive industry experience across a range of agricultural disciplines including as an agribusiness analyst, communications manager, and freelance agricultural journalist, Tracy brings a wealth of knowledge around the ag industry.

She actively contributes to national agricultural policies as a member of Grain Growers' National Policy Group and the National Farmers Federation Telecommunications and Social Policy Committee.

Tracy has strong networks with stakeholders at all levels of government.



Andrew Fowler 2000 Nuffield Scholar

CHILWELL FARMS

Andrew Fowler is a former Chair of both Nuffield Australia and Nuffield International. He and his wife Marie farm over 50,000 ha with his family outside Esperance, producing canola, barley, wheat, lamb, wool and beef, with focus on livestock and crop synergies. Andrew was awarded life membership of the South East Premium Wheat Growers Association and is chair of the Mt Burdett farm board. He studied the future for GM crops in Australia.



David Brownhill 1998 Nuffield Scholar
and Nuffield International Board Member

DIRECTOR, AMPS AGRIBUSINESS

David Brownhill is a 1998 Nuffield Scholar and past Chair of the Nuffield Australia Board. He and his wife Liz, manage Merrilong Pastoral Company, with David's brother, Gordon and his wife, Anne — covering 10,000 hectares, which focus on dryland and irrigated grain and cotton production.

His key interests are no-till farming, controlled traffic farming systems and high value crops. Understanding businesses, not just in farming and what makes them tick, is also a particular interest. David completed a Bachelor of Applied Science — Agriculture at Hawkesbury Ag. College and graduated with awards in Leadership and Sportsmanship.

He is currently a director of AMPS Agribusiness, Merrilong Pastoral Company, AFF, Nuffield International and Farming for Kids. Hobbies include golf, cricket and V8 bush rally cars.



James Alexander 2020 Nuffield Scholar

NEW SOUTH WALES

James Alexander of Cootamundra, New South Wales, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

His study topic was: 'The positive influence of regenerating people, place and profit'. He researched how mixed farming businesses can improve human health and wellbeing, the environment through a focus on soil health and profitability. He also looked to identify any links between these areas.

Having worked as an agronomist and a farm overseer, James and wife Emily currently operate their own business, Long Grass Ag. They consult and mentor other farmers in working with natural intelligence farming through a focus on soil and human health. Additionally, his family runs a composite sheep stud on 465 hectares at Cootamundra.

"I believe Australia can be a leader in sustainable agriculture. My scholarship will seek to build on the philosophies of regenerative agriculture, and to identify practical solutions across a wide range of industry challenges," James said.

"The aim of my research was to unearth potential ways that regenerative approaches could lead to greater landscape functionality, improved social wellbeing of farmers, and increased profitability of farm businesses.

James visited the United Kingdom and the United States to attend regenerative agriculture industry events, as well as a selection of farms in New Zealand and Australia, which are practicing key principles of regenerative agriculture and building greater pasture diversity.



Department of
Primary Industries



Robert Bell 2021 Nuffield Scholar

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Robert Bell from The Plains, Western Australia, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by the AgriFutures Pasture Seeds Program. Through his research, Robert investigated subsurface tile drainage and nutrient management to create more efficient farming practices.

Robert is general manager of the family-owned small seed production and intensive beef cattle grazing operation, M & AJ Bell. The only commercial grass seed producer and the largest small seed supplier in WA, M & AJ Bell also run a beef operation trading between 1,500 and 2,000 cattle per year.

On farm, Robert commenced his own research trial comprising an eight-hectare trial site with three different trial drain treatments and six surface water bores and witnessed a tenfold reduction in phosphates leaching into the Geograph Catchment.

"Water is arguably the world's most precious resource. The climatology in the southwest corner of Western Australia is rare and presents a great opportunity to fuel an emerging small seeds industry without water waste.

"Through my Nuffield Scholarship, I explored this further and researched environmentally conscious, innovative circular economy principles to water management that could be utilised in Western Australia."

Robert investigated existing research, water storage infrastructure and subsurface draining sites across Australia, New Zealand, and the United States during his Nuffield Scholarship.





Friedrich (Fritz) Bolten 2021 Nuffield Scholar

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Friedrich (Fritz) Bolten from Kununurra, Western Australia, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by Cotton Australia and ANZ Bank.

Through his research, Fritz investigated solutions to executing time sensitive operations on heavy wet soils during monsoon weather conditions.

Fritz owns and operates an irrigated mixed grain and cotton farming enterprise, across 975 hectares of land.

“As a sector we face unpredictable and extreme climate patterns and we can experience excessive delays and missed opportunities to plant crops as we wait for dry periods, so it’s critical that we learn to farm smarter in these conditions.

“Through my Nuffield Scholarship, I explored the options and opportunities for utilising environmental and mechanical tools and techniques to reliably and sustainably execute timely operations on-farm.

“Seeking to enhance future productivity and sustainability amidst challenging climatic conditions, my research also focused on creating more trafficable and protected soils.

“This knowledge will open up a host of benefits for the cotton industry, from ensuring year-on-year production and maintaining continuous access to marketing pathways, to establishing a continuous cropping enterprise.”



Michael Cains 2021 Nuffield Scholar

NEW SOUTH WALES

Michael Cains from Robertson, New South Wales, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Foundation (RASf).

He researched the benefits of raw milk cheese (RMC) production for the dairy industry, investigating best-practice approaches to production and RMC’s position within the mature cheese market.

Michael is the owner of Pecora Dairy, the sole sheep milking enterprise in New South Wales, milking 150 ewes across 80 hectares and producing over seven tonnes of cheese annually.

Michael was particularly focused on exploring the education and training required for Australia’s local cheese industry to have the expertise and confidence to diversify through the production of RMC.

“There is a growing enthusiasm for Australian specialty cheese, yet imported cheeses continue to outsell.”

“Through my Nuffield Scholarship, I investigated global agricultural methods of dairy farming for RMC production. I also looked at global education, skills and training initiatives that can be implemented in Australia, to share the productivity and profitability benefits in RMC production.”

Michael explored best-practice approaches to RMC production, training and marketing across the United States and Canada during his Nuffield Scholarship.





Tess Camm 2020 Nuffield Scholar

QUEENSLAND

Tess Camm from St Lawrence, Queensland, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by The Yulgilbar Foundation. Tess has investigated: 'Incubating radical change within an organisation' — What are the conditions that need to exist to allow a breakthrough?

A fifth-generation grazier, Tess runs the successful branded beef company 'Signature Beef', a role that oversees the coordination and production of livestock to ensure carcasses meet market requirements and customer expectations, as well as new product development and sales. Tess holds a Bachelor of Business Management, and previously worked on her family's grazing properties in Central Queensland.

"Within this study, I have explored my current network, and the Nuffield Alumni to gain exposure to businesses and people in agriculture who have radically shifted the trajectory of their business growth, and explore the appropriate measures for said growth.

Tess has shared her findings with stakeholders across the supply chain. She has visited leading enterprises across Europe, USA, South America, China and South East Asia to inform her research.



The Yulgilbar Foundation

CLAAS
EVERYTHING
YOU NEED



We've got everything you need to harvest and handle your crops with maximum efficiency.

From high-performance grain and fodder harvesting equipment, to advanced-technology, high-horsepower tractors, you can be sure that CLAAS equipment helps you get the most out of your farming operation.

For your local dealer go to:
claasharvestcentre.com

CLAAS
Harvest Centre



Luke Cantrill 2020 Nuffield Scholar

NEW SOUTH WALES

From Nashdale in New South Wales, **Luke Cantrill** received a Nuffield Scholarship with support from Woolworths to research export opportunities in the ASEAN region.

Based near Orange, Luke currently grows fresh, organic cherries across two orchards with over 8,000 cherry trees. Supplying produce to local markets and supermarkets, Luke is keen to evolve the exporting side of his business and the cherry industry as a whole.

“Like many growers, we are challenged by high volumes and low demand in the domestic market. Using my Nuffield Scholarship, I wanted to bring back lessons from successful and profitable overseas enterprises and identify new market opportunities for our industry,” Luke said.

“I also see emerging ‘second tier’ markets in China, in places like Sheyang, Xi’an and Quhan, as holding great potential for Australian growers, and wanted to evaluate access pathways and opportunities in these markets.”

Luke travelled throughout Canada, the United States, Chile, China and New Zealand on his Nuffield research, gathering insights into emerging trends, markets and technologies important to the growth of the Australian horticulture industry.



Lucy Collins 2021 Nuffield Scholar

VICTORIA

Lucy Collins from Dixie, Victoria, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by the Gardiner Dairy Foundation. Through her research, Lucy investigated the value of dairy welfare benchmarking and opportunities for marketing Australian dairy products with an ethical advantage.

In addition to working alongside her partner Matthew on the family’s 650 cow dairy farm, Lucy is a dairy veterinarian with Apiam Animal Health and forms part of the leadership team at Kyabram Veterinary Clinic. She is also currently completing a Masters in Veterinary Science (Dairy), with a focus on public perceptions and welfare enhancement in the Australian dairy industry.

Lucy’s research explored overseas dairy welfare auditing programs and the potential for diversification of Australian dairy products into the ethical or high welfare space.

“To ensure future profitability and viability, our industry needs to be both proactive and progressive in this space. It is imperative we continue to strive towards more ethical practices that will foster and maintain confidence amongst Australian consumers and overseas markets.”

“I explored existing strategies and emerging trends that successfully align the priorities of both farmers and the public whilst maintaining trust and transparency for all.”

Lucy investigated and assessed global welfare practices and assurance schemes across the United Kingdom, the European Union, the United States and Canada during her Nuffield Scholarship.





THE
WILLIAM
BUCKLAND
FOUNDATION
— WBF —

Jason Cotter 2020 Nuffield Scholar

VICTORIA

Jason Cotter of Tuerong, Victoria, received a Nuffield Scholarship with support from the William Buckland Foundation to research grain diversity and adding value in specialist markets.

As the owner and operator of Tuerong Farm, a 60-hectare mixed farming enterprise on the Mornington Peninsula, Jason grows and mills heritage, ancient and modern grains for direct sale and distribution to leading restaurants, bakeries and home-bakers.

“I am passionate about cultivars and practices that prioritise flavour, nutrition and sustainability over convenience. Internationally, there is a burgeoning movement which has provenance, food sovereignty, sustainability and flavour at its core, and I believe we have an opportunity to further this at home,” Jason said.

“My research explored methods of achieving quality grain in low input and organic farming systems, propagation and processing techniques that prioritise flavour, establishment of population, and winter wheats with greater climate resilience, and restoration of direct farmer, miller, baker and breeder relationships.”

Travelling throughout Europe, the United States, Mexico, Canada and Turkey, Jason aimed to use his research to establish common threads between his peri-urban business and broadacre cropping operations, unlocking the benefits of genetic diversity and bolstered consumer trust.

Farm HR & Safety Compliance. Sorted.



Our experienced team are here to help you get your farm HR & WHS compliant.

- Employment Contracts & IFAs
- HR & WHS Management System
- Easy to use software
- Personalised coaching & training
- Updates when legislation changes
- Help Line
- 24/7 emergency support
- Employee Assistance Program
- Mobile App coming soon

Call us today to fast track your
HR & WHS Compliance
08 9316 9896



enquiries@processworx.com.au



Jerome Critch 2017 Nuffield Fellow

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Jerome Critch is a grain marketing advisor and Director with Planfarm Marketing. He has more than 15 years experience working with farming clients to provide tailored advice, management and analysis, including strategy, brokerage and derivatives trading.

Jerome grew up on the family farm in Mullewa (WA) where his brothers still farm today. Jerome has performed voluntary roles with the WAFarmers Grains Council and GRDC. He completed a Nuffield Fellowship in 2017 on 'Industry good functions necessary for an efficient and competitive Australian grain industry'.

Jerome holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, a Masters of Applied Finance and is a recent Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Charles Downie 2021 Nuffield Scholar

TASMANIA

Charles Downie from Gretna, Tasmania, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by the JM Roberts Charitable Trust and the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture.

Charles studied: 'All the talk is about technology, but what about the people?'

He investigated how agricultural businesses can set themselves up in a technological sense to easily train their workforce to fill on-farm requirements in the short term. While he sees a need for highly skilled people to come into agriculture, he knows it is important to offer user-friendly technology so the current available workforce can quickly become productive.

Charles is the general manager of the family's enterprise, Glenelg Estate, running a mixed production system with 14,000 merino sheep, 150 Angus cattle and a 20-hectare vineyard across 5,500 hectares in Tasmania.

"As the use of technology in the livestock industry increases, the skills required for employees to be effective are advancing. In order to secure a sustainable workforce, there needs to be greater funding for training and simplification of available technologies to ensure we are equipped with the skills and tools to drive the industry forward," Charles said.

"As part of my research, I explored the entrepreneurial development of technology in the United States, the value and utilisation of technology in the Netherlands and other European countries, and also the sector's technological training methods in Indonesia."





Kathryn Fleay 2021 Nuffield Scholar

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Kathryn Fleay from Mingenew, Western Australia, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by CSBP Fertilisers. Through her research, Kathryn explored post-secondary agricultural education options, and how the agricultural industry can support and attract people from non-agricultural backgrounds.

Kathryn is Operations and Agronomy Manager at Living Farm, a private agricultural R & D company in York, WA. They provide field trials for the grains industry, providing independent research for the WA grains sector, as well as farmer extension and project management.

Working to improve farm sustainability, Kathryn is passionate about ensuring all Australians have a strong understanding of food production, the supply chain and factors affecting production, to bridge the gap between consumers and the agricultural sector.

“If we’re to address future workforce challenges and create innovative solutions to problems within the industry, it’s critical that as a sector we’re educating consumers and promoting career pathways in agriculture from an early age. If we’re to ensure future sustainability and prosperity within the sector, we must focus on educating its future workforce and consumers.”

Kathryn explored how new technologies are being incorporated into agricultural university courses across the United Kingdom and the United States, and the factors driving agricultural production in the European Union.



100 years of transforming the way we farm, together.

This year, we’re proud to celebrate 100 years of trials and industry-leading research working in partnership with Western Australian growers. Together, we’ve tried, tested and transformed the way WA farmers grow. We have delivered profitable, efficient and sustainable ways to improve soil and plant nutrition. We thank our growers for their invaluable support and look forward to leading our shared journey of innovation for better growth.

CSBP. For better growth.



Albertus Hanekom 2020 Nuffield Scholar WESTERN AUSTRALIA

From Kununurra, Western Australia, **Albertus Hanekom** received a Nuffield Scholarship with support from the Fisheries Research & Development Corporation (FRDC) to research pathways for the aquaculture and Barramundi industries to grow more seafood and better manage stock levels.

With the Australian Atlantic Salmon industry more effectively using on-land nurseries to grow stock before transferring to sea cages, Albertus used his research to explore the viability of replicating some of their practices in the Barramundi industry.

“Seed stock security is vital for every aquaculture industry, and a better understanding of the methods of on-land nursery rearing of Barramundi fingerlings, will allow us to better control stock, be able to time nursery stock transfers and monitor performance more effectively,” Albertus said.

“At present, Barramundi farmers avoid producing fingerlings at certain times due to poor performance in colder months, which creates a gap in production for large volume producers. If we can more effectively use on-land nurseries as seed banks, we will unlock better surety of supply and grow more fish in a shorter time frame.”

Exploring on-farm nursery systems in Tasmanian and South American Atlantic Salmon farms, and Barramundi farms in the Middle East, Albertus observed methods of growing larger stock on-land and gather insights on best management practices and associated technology uses.



Mitchell Henderson 2020 Nuffield Scholar VICTORIA

Mitchell Henderson from Berrwilllock, Victoria, received a Nuffield Scholarship with support from the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC). Mitchell used his scholarship to research alternative weed control measures for grain producers.

Managing his family’s 8,000-hectare broadacre cropping business, Mitchell produces wheat, barley, lentils, field peas and oaten hay, while another part of the family business supplies 1.5 million free range birds to Hazeldene’s Chicken.

Recognising the double benefits his business receives by using the phosphorus-rich chicken manure as fertiliser and the potential to feed chickens their own grain, eliminating freight costs, Mitchell believes there is an opportunity for Australian growers to get more for their grain.

“The current cost of grain production in Australia is US\$169 per tonne, while in Russia and Ukraine it is US\$120 per tonne. As an industry, we need to find ways to raise the value of our produce and I want to investigate diversification and integration as pathways to achieving this,” Mitchell said.

“If we can use our grain closer to where it is produced, for example, by on-site milling for chicken or other stock feed, then we can limit freight costs and obtain natural fertiliser benefits from manure, as well as obviously minimising business risk through enterprise diversification.”

Mitchell visited the United States, Canada and Brazil to explore their large-scale cropping and feed mill industries, as well as Europe and Ireland to understand the role strict environmental regulation plays in food production systems.





Rabobank

Harry Kelly 2020 Nuffield Scholar

VICTORIA

Harry Kelly from Caramut, Victoria, received a Nuffield Scholarship with support from Rabobank Australia. He researched ways for the Australian agriculture industry to multiply profitable business models, retain the right people and embrace change to become a more attractive investment.

Harry runs a diversified Angus beef, prime lamb and Merino and cross-bred wool business across his 1,200-hectare farm in Victoria's southwest. Since his full-time involvement in 2014, on-farm expansion projects have seen the business grow to turn off Angus weaners into both the feeder and Asian live export markets, prime lambs, and broadacre wheat, canola and beans.

Passionate about how primary producers can embrace change over the coming generation, Harry used his Nuffield Scholarship to research ways to secure a stronger, more sustainable future for Australian agriculture.

"If we are unable to keep pace with other industries and compete for investment, then the industry is at risk of stagnation. I want to unearth pathways to growth for farming businesses by positively embracing change and capitalising on the opportunities it can bring through diversification of the primary production portfolio."

Exploring and comparing different investment and funding models for agricultural enterprises, from the state-owned to free market enterprise, Harry travelled throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia.



Wine
Australia

Sarah Keough 2020 Nuffield Scholar

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Sarah Keough from Strathalbyn, South Australia, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by Wine Australia. She used her scholarship to investigate new and emerging irrigation methods to reduce vineyard crop losses and sustain fruit quality during extreme heat events.

As a viticulturist at Bleasdale Vineyards and member of the Langhorne Creek Grape and Wine Association, Sarah works closely with the region's growers, as well as those in the Adelaide Hills and McLaren Vale. She believes her Nuffield research was a valuable extension to existing work in the sector on reducing the impact of heat in vineyards.

"A gradual increase in the number of days reaching 40 degrees has prompted local growers to look at new approaches, such as mulching and alternative irrigation schemes, to reduce the soil temperature and enable vines to endure prolonged heat stress," said Sarah.

"While growers have seen great success by using undervine misters, low volume overhead sprinklers and misting fans, there was a need to look at more cost-effective and water-efficient alternatives. In particular, my research looked to unearth new technologies to better manage and improve irrigation scheduling."

Through her Nuffield Scholarship, Sarah met with water irrigation leaders in Israel, investigated innovative irrigation methods being used in semi-arid climates like Argentina, and visited America's Napa Valley, which is increasingly experiencing higher than average temperatures.



Nicholas Krebs 2020 Nuffield Scholar

QUEENSLAND

Nicholas Krebs from Moura, Queensland, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA). He investigated new ways to attract and retain more people into beef enterprises and help position the industry as a long-term career choice.

Nicholas is currently the Aggregation Manager of 'Pegunny' for Hewitt Cattle Australia, a role that sees him manage four adjoining cattle properties in Central Queensland, including 10,000 head of cattle across 26,300-hectares and 2,400-hectares of dryland cropping.

"Farm businesses know the importance of finding and retaining the right staff. To achieve this, we need to promote the diversity of roles within our industry, as well as adopt new technologies and approaches to foster a vibrant and professional working culture."

"While other countries have held onto their traditional ways, Australia needs to be on the front foot with innovation if it's to successfully attract young people into agriculture. Whether it's a role in science, sales or out in the field, the opportunities for a long-term career in agriculture are endless."

Throughout his study program, Nicholas travelled to North, Central and South America, as well as European countries that are utilising a range of methods and technologies to attract, retain and secure their agricultural workforce.



Hans Loder 2021 Nuffield Scholar

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Hans Loder from Coonawarra, South Australia, received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by Wine Australia. Through his research, Hans investigated vineyard data collection and management options that provide the greatest value and insights for Australian viticulturists.

Hans is a viticulturist at Penley Estate, a grape growing and wine production business that comprises an 800-tonne winery and 80-hectares of vineyard.

As someone who is responsible for implementing precision viticulture initiatives, Hans was particularly focused on identifying efficient data management and storage pathways that allow data to be more easily accessed, interrogated and analysed.

"To increase the value of investments in precision viticulture, we need to utilise this data to bolster productivity and profitability. There's a lot of interest from Australian viticulturists in vineyard data collection and management, but we're lacking the knowledge and tools to convert the data into practical applications in the field," Hans said.

"I investigated established frameworks, technologies and systems across Australia, the United States, Germany and France, to identify data management and storage technologies that provide the greatest value and insights."

Hans also investigated concerns around data ownership and the interoperability of technology platforms, to identify practical opportunities and challenges surrounding modern database systems in viticulture.

Wine
Australia



Dustin Pascoe 2020 Nuffield Scholar

VICTORIA

From Raywood in Victoria, **Dustin Pascoe** received a Nuffield Scholarship with support from the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC) to research the benefits of grazing crops to fill the winter feed gap in a changing climate.

Running a self-replacing Merino ewe flock and growing cereals, hay and oilseeds across his 1,578-hectare farm, Dustin has been grazing roughly half of his cereal crops to both fill the winter feed shortage and split his exposure to frost risk.

“Realising that the changing climate is impacting the reliability and amount of winter feed available, I wanted to further research the benefits and disadvantages of grazing crops,” Dustin said.

“Grazing crops can allow more stock to be carried through winter, while freeing up grazing pressure on pasture paddocks and staggering exposure to frost risk by delaying growth stages of the grazed crops.”

Having conducted trials for the past four years on his own farm, Dustin has observed improved animal health and better pasture paddock performance, as well as reduced labour input through avoidance of supplementary feeding.

He used his Nuffield Scholarship to gather data from around the world and further quantify the pros and cons of grazing crops, and the impact it can have to a farm business’s bottom line.



Paula-Lee Pownall 2020 Nuffield Scholar

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Paula-Lee Pownall from West Coolup, Western Australia, received a Nuffield Scholarship to investigate what resources are needed to scale insect production facilities, regulations, best practice, and future opportunities within the emerging insect market.

Paula-Lee is the founder of Western Australia’s first edible insect farm, Grubs Up. Established in 2016, the business produces, processes and manufactures high-protein insects, most notably domestic house crickets and mealworms, for human food and animal supplements.

“Our goal is to become commercially viable and be as sustainable as possible. For instance, our business currently utilises vegetable waste to feed the insects, recycled egg cartons to house the crickets, and turns all manure and exoskeletons into a natural fertiliser product,” Paula-Lee said.

“My research aimed to identify the necessary steps to scale this type of insect production facility while continuing to produce a high-quality product for human and animal consumption. To achieve this, I looked at existing procedures, policies and incentives, and explored what other industry leaders are doing well.”

Through her Nuffield Scholarship, Paula-Lee visited leading commercial insect production facilities in Canada, Germany and Thailand, as well as spoke with human food and animal feed regulators in the United Kingdom.





Richard Quigley 2020 Nuffield Scholar
NEW SOUTH WALES

Richard Quigley from Trangie, New South Wales, received a Nuffield Scholarship with support from the Cotton Research & Development Corporation (CRDC) and Cotton Australia. Richard investigated cropping systems and methods to retain more crop residue in zero-tillage farming systems.

With his family, Richard manages their mixed farming enterprise consisting of sprinkler and furrow irrigated crops, dryland wheat, barley, chickpeas, canola, and opportunity dryland cotton, as well as a grazing operation focused on breeding and finishing sheep and cattle.

Richard looked at enhancing the method of zero-tillage farming by retaining more crop residue above ground. He believes this will increase infiltration rates and the ability to store moisture, as well as limit erosion and the rate of water evaporation.

“If we can utilise techniques that help us preserve more moisture, it could produce a range of benefits, from increased productivity, soil health, yields and reduced weed pressures,” said Richard.

“The outcomes of the research could provide increased planting opportunities within, and outside, traditional planting windows, opening up potential to grow different crop types in marginal environments.”

Richard visited well-established cotton and grain production areas like Brazil, United States Canada, and England, where growers are using a range of methods and technologies that may be applicable in Australia.



Notes:

NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA DEVELOPING CURRENT, EMERGING AND FUTURE LEADERS

Applications for
the 2025 Nuffield
Scholarships open in
February 2024.

Visit the website for details.

www.nuffield.com.au





The 2023 Nuffield Australia National Conference has been supported by Platinum Partners CBH Group and Rabobank:



Rabobank

www.nuffield.com.au

@NuffieldAust

#nuffieldag