



YOUR



SAY



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## Meet our State and Territory Rising Champions of the Australian beef industry...

Over 30 years ago, beef producers from across Australia came together to protect their rights and ensure a sustainable beef industry into the future. Today, Cattle Council continues to drive this mission, through its President and beef producers from around Australia who volunteer their time to represent our national interest.

In order to retain and strengthen the beef industry's voice at the national level we need to attract and encourage the younger generation to play a role in championing our industry's challenges and opportunities.

Cattle Council Rising Champions Initiative aims to inspire, empower and support young people who are passionate about Australian beef to provide input into the issues challenging our industry now and into the future.

Alison McIntosh, NSW Farmers' Association



Alison hails from Crookwell in Southern NSW, where her family run a stud and commercial Angus cattle operation, Myanga. Alison is very actively involved in the family business, and has also recently established her own line of stud Angus females.

With a degree in Rural Business and experience in cattle management, Alison runs her own business 'AJM Livestock Solutions' which provides a variety of services, consultancy and training to beef producers.

She utilises the latest technology to capture and manage cattle data and also offers services to farmers and stakeholders in complying with the National Livestock Identification System.

Alison is the NSW Runner up in the 2010 RIRDC Rural Women's awards, she is an active member in her local community and show society, as well as a member of the Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) of NSW Youth Group, a new Councillor to the RAS of NSW, a Next Generation member of RAS Society of NSW and a newly appointed young farmer delegate to the NSW Farmers Association Cattle Committee.

Mark Hodge, Victorian Farmers' Federation



Mark produces cattle on a 600 hectare property nestled in the King Valley in North East Victoria. 'Parklands' has been the family home for 3 generations and is currently home to both Mark's wife Laura, and his mother Beth. Mark's family have been farming since first selecting land in 1877. 'Parklands' runs 500 steers and also has a 5 hectare vineyard.

Combining with cattle production is Mark's other role as a Rural Lender, this leads to a hectic life travelling throughout Victoria for Rural Finance. Whilst his employer previously saw him servicing clients in South Western Victoria, he is pleased to now provide services to the rural industries in his home region.

Mark has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Agriculture) from Charles Sturt University, and has furthered his studies with the successful completion of a Graduate Diploma of Finance and Investment with FINSIA Education. He enjoys travelling throughout Australia and can't help but have an eye to the land and its uses. He has observed farming practices on overseas trips and has been fortunate in undertaking a New Zealand study trip on farming practices. Mark enjoys horse related activities, including breeding, competing in events and coaching the young stars of the future.

Christian Coffey, AgForce Queensland



Christian Coffey and his wife, Rebecca, currently manage the aggregation of Paraway Pastoral Company stations located 70km north of Cloncurry: 'Clonagh', 'Kalmeta' and 'Violetvale'. They have two children Hannah and Hughen.

Christian grew up in Singleton NSW and has always had a keen interest on working on the land after his involvement with his family's small beef cattle operations. After finishing school in 1995, he commenced employment with Australian Agricultural Company (AAco) as a Jackeroo at Austral Downs on the NT / QLD border and thereafter spent 13 years on various AAco properties within the Barkly tablelands and Queensland's gulf.

In January 2006, Christian and his wife were promoted to manage 'Clonagh' station, which at this time was owned by AAco as a steer growing-out property. They thrived in the role of station management and were committed to improving operational efficiencies. In March 2009, 'Clonagh' was purchased by Paraway Pastoral Company and their management duties were extended to amalgamating 'Clonagh' with neighbouring properties 'Kalmeta' and 'Violetvale' stations. Today the properties comprise of 8000 breeding cows and 32 000 growing-out cattle.

*The 2011 NAB Agribusiness Rising Beef Industry Champion is awarded by Cattle Council of Australia in partnership with NAB Agribusiness for outstanding leadership potential in the Australian beef industry.*

Penny Schulz, South Australian Farmers' Federation



Penny and her husband Jason run Schulz Livestock in the Upper South East region of South Australia, in conjunction with her mother-in-law, Joanne. Their operation consists of beef and sheep enterprises, producing prime lambs, first cross ewe lambs and milk vealers, as well as their Raven Limousin beef stud. Their stud produces predominantly black Limousin and Limflex bulls, which is a registered Limousin-Angus cross.

For the past two years Penny has worked as an extension officer for the Department of Primary Industries and previous to this was a pasture agronomist for four years. Penny is currently undertaking a Masters Degree majoring in Animal Breeding with a focus on beef genetics.

She has been a member of the SA State Committee of the Angus Society for several years and was also a member of Angus Youth for many more years, including the role of Chairperson for two years on the Angus Youth National Management Committee. Through these connections and cattle judging competitions, she became involved in the organising of the SA Beef Cattle Assessment School, which is an annual beef cattle education event held in the South East of the state. Penny endeavours to get involved in the industry past her farm gate.

Anthony Cox, Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association



Anthony spent his adolescent years in Brisbane with a family that is agriculturally minded. During this time he completed his primary and secondary education, however education wasn't his highest priority with sport, outdoors and anything to do with competition playing a major role in his development. In his final year at Brisbane Boys College he was elected school prefect and vice-captain of rugby and cricket.

Post secondary education, Anthony followed his passion in rural industry completing certificate 3 & 4 in Agricultural Production at Dalby Ag College. He commenced full time employment as a Jackeroo at 'Glentana' station, Springsure QLD (central highlands area) with AAcO. He progressed through the ranks working on various stations throughout the Barkly Tableland in the Northern Territory and Gulf of Carpentaria in Northern Queensland.

In 2006 Anthony decided to pull on the travel hat and for the following 12 months worked in a variety of roles in Uruguay, Argentina, USA and Canada along with backpacking around the United Kingdom. Upon his return to Australia, he found himself re-joining AAcO Ltd and working back up the ladder where he is now Assistant Manager at 'Brunette Downs' station on the Barkly Tablelands.

Courtney Clemons, Western Australian Farmers' Federation



Courtney is currently in his final year of university studying a Bachelor of Agribusiness Marketing. Courtney was raised in the South West Corner of Western Australian on a family run beef breeding operation.

Courtney completed year 11 and 12 studies at the Western Australian College of Agriculture Harvey. In year 11 he served on the student executive and in year 12 he was head prefect. He has represented Western Australian Charolais Society for a cattle muster in Toowoomba and has participated in cattle and sheep judging at Wagin Woolarama. On completing school, Courtney worked over the summer at a quarantine centre for the live export of cattle. Following, he commenced with Elders Livestock throughout Western Australian before starting studies at Curtin University, Perth in 2008. Courtney is currently completing his final semester of this course while working with Wellard Rural Exporters.

Courtney's future aspirations include gaining successful employment in the live export sector, followed by a Masters in International Business (MIB). Aside from studies, Courtney is an active sport participant, playing hockey and participating in his local surf club. Courtney also enjoys helping out on the family farm located south of Perth.

Richard Andrew Sutton, Tasmanian Farmers' Graziers' Association



Richard's passion for the meat industry began from an early age. His parents operated an abattoir and a sheep property in Western Victoria. In the eight years between finishing secondary education and returning to the farm full time, Richard worked, studied and travelled. Richard had the opportunity to work with two respected cattlemen, Kim Kelly of Mooramook, Caramut and Charles Wallace of Woodbourn Angus & Murray Grey, Cressy.

Education was Richard's biggest influence on his chosen career. After spending three years studying Farm Business Management at Marcus Oldham College his eyes opened to the different ways to run a profitable and sustainable agricultural business. After a brief stint travelling, Richard returned home with a hundred and one ideas of how to increase the productivity of the farm.

Today, he manages 2500 acres over three different land classes, running 400 spring calving British Bred cows, a small performance recorded Angus stud, trade and backgrounding cattle, marketed to the grass fed yearling market, and the latest venture of turning back the clock and starting a self-replacing Autumn herd. Outside of work Richard enjoys playing football and cricket, diving for abalone and crayfish, socialising with mates and dreaming about how he can one day buy his own farm.

*Cattle Council works across key policy areas essential to the industry's success, including trade and market access, biosecurity, research and development, environment and animal health and welfare. As the prescribed industry body for the nation's beef producers under the Australian Meat and Livestock Industry Act 1997, Cattle Council oversees how levy monies are spent by Meat and Livestock Australia, National Residue Survey and Animal Health Australia to deliver real outcomes to industry.*

*For more information about our role, visit [cattlecouncil.com.au](http://cattlecouncil.com.au)*