

29 October 2007

\$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNI STUDENTS WITH WESTERN INTEREST

University students with a commitment to far-western NSW are encouraged to apply for the \$5,000 Russel Harland Memorial Scholarship, provided by the State Government through the Western Catchment Management Authority (CMA).

2008 will be the third year that the scholarship has been awarded. Previous recipients include Matt Goulton, who is completing a Bachelor of Applied Science at Charles Sturt University, and Jenny Sandow of Pimpara Lake Station, near Milparinka, who is completing a Bachelor of Environmental Studies at Adelaide University.

Mr Rory Treweeke, Chair of the Western CMA, says applications will be accepted until January 31, 2008.

"The scholarship is awarded annually to a university student from NSW doing their first degree, who displays strong personal, community and educational commitment to rural or regional areas, with particular reference to the Western Catchment of NSW," Mr Treweeke said.

"Students returning for their second year of university study in the areas of agriculture, natural resources, Aboriginal or cultural heritage studies, communication or business are strongly encouraged to apply.

"A scholarship assists students in advancing their educational qualifications and personal skills, so that they can contribute to improved natural resource management in the future and build upon the expertise within the Western Catchment community".

"The Western CMA has been established to invest in the future of the Catchment and its people and this is just one, very practical, way in which we can achieve that goal," Mr Treweeke said.

The Russel Harland Memorial Scholarship provides \$5,000 per year for up to three years to the successful applicant.

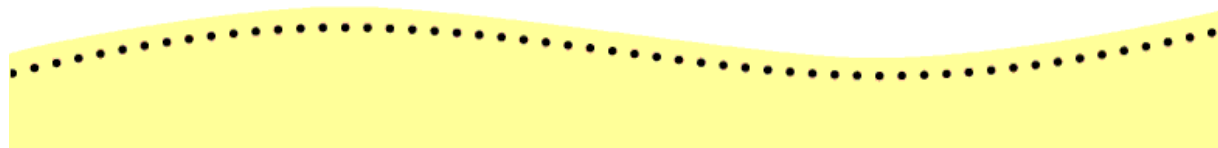
The scholarship recipient will be expected to complete at least four weeks paid work with the Western CMA for each year of their scholarship. Following the successful completion of their studies, scholarship recipients will be contracted to work with the Western CMA for at least one year.

Applicants must meet certain criteria including being a full-time internal student entering their second year of an undergraduate course in an area of study relevant to the skills required within the WCMA. These include agricultural science, natural resources, earth sciences, aboriginal/cultural heritage or communication.

The scholarship is named in memory of Mr Russel Harland, a stalwart of natural resource management in the Western Catchment, who passed away suddenly at the age of 44 in November 2002.

For more information please call 1800 032 101 or visit the Western CMA website www.western.cma.nsw.gov.au

ENDS



MEDIA RELEASE



For further information:

Maree Barnes, PR and Media Officer, Western CMA. Ph: 02 6883 3058/0427 256814

Rory Treweeke, Chair Western CMA. Ph: 0428 634204

Caption: 2006 scholarship recipient, Matt Goulton, undertaking cactus mapping in Broken Hill.

