



RST NEWSLETTER

STUDENTS OUT AND ABOUT!

JULY 2019

Word from the CEO

In the last 12 months we have seen some long-term staff retire... in a moment of reflection I realise that RST has been delivering training to the primary industries sectors in South Australia for nearly 20 years so our retiring staff probably deserve a break!

On a very sad note, RST lost our treasured Program Manager and Student Support Officer Jaki Jakomis recently due to terminal illness. Jaki provided a wonderful service to her students and is missed by RST staff, students, parents, employers and schools. Any student who was supported by Jaki through their course will know they were privileged to work with a very special and caring person.

Of course, when staff retire we must fill their roles. We are happy to introduce you to new members of the RST team.

Regards,

Caroline Graham
CEO

To our hosts

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN TO OUR WORKSHOP HOSTS for investing in the future of the next generation of farmers. On behalf of all students and staff, we sincerely wish to thank the people and organisations who have kindly hosted our workshops. We appreciate you having us on your properties and in your businesses. It is our close relationships with industry that make RST special.



Programs

ANIMAL CARE AND HUSBANDRY STUDENTS

In 2019 the school-based Animal Care and Husbandry course has 2 classes at Seaview High School and 1 class at Oakbank training more than 50 students.

Workshops held in Term 2:

- Administer Medication part 2 Field Trips - Seaview groups went to Alistair Just's beautiful Property 'Ashley Park' at Sellicks Hill and the Oakbank group went to Thornby's owned and operated by the McGorman family at Sanderson Flat.
- Animal Welfare
- Rear Newborn and Young part 2 Field Trip - all groups went to Ambersun Alpacas at Mount Compass owned and operated by Adrienne Clarke and Chris Williams.
- Implement Animal Health Control Programs
- Environmental Workshop





PRIMARY PRODUCTION PROGRAM

Majority of the students in this program are school based or young people employed on farm.

Some of the workshops already conducted around the state during Term 2 include:

- Chainsaw Operations
- Chemical Accreditation
- Livestock Feeding Plans
- Welding and Workshop Tools
- Working at Heights and Confined Spaces

Workshops to continue and/or commence in Term 3 include:

- Chemical Accreditation
- Crop Agronomy
- Livestock Feeding Plans
- Machinery Maintenance
- Welding and Workshop Tools
- Working at Heights and Confined Spaces

If you are one of our many school-based students, your school has been updated on your progress so far this year. Interim reports have now been emailed out to ALL school VET and SACE Coordinators for the 60+ schools RST work with.



Using your qualification for SACE results

We are aware that due to the increased use of VET hours for SACE results, schools are monitoring student's hours far more closely to ensure that students are on track to complete their SACE.

Please liaise with your school VET Coordinator regarding your SACE requirements if you have any queries.

Ensure you submit your course work and other requested resubmits before your due date. If you have any concerns, questions or need help then liaise with your allocated Student Support Officer (SSO). If you are unsure who you should approach, then ask RST to give you their contact details again.

Remember that due dates are set to enable RST time to mark and assess them, request any further resubmits and get your work resulted and in our system before mid-October so that the results can be used toward your SACE.

If you are looking to **COMPLETE** school this year and you want your RST training (VET) to go towards your SACE Stage 2, you will need to have all your course work submitted to us by the **18th October**. Check with your Student Support Officer if you are not sure what you have left to finish.

We will be emailing final results to schools during Term 4 Week 6 (week commencing 18th November 2019).

DIPLOMA OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT

In 2019 we saw the commencement of three new Diploma of Agribusiness Management groups based at Cummins, Wirrulla and Maitland. These groups have all started well with good level of involvement from all students as they begin to understand production systems, business management and financial reports. Students have started to compile their business plan and have created some well written SMART objectives that will challenge their family businesses as they step into becoming confident young business managers.

We also have two Diploma of Agriculture groups based at Kimba and in Adelaide. These students have commenced with livestock and crop production planning with a focus on understanding the elements that must be considered when adding an enterprise to the farm business.

Some students are studying online. These students always deserve a special mention for their dedication to improving their knowledge. It is never easy to study alone and is always made more challenging if internet connectivity is also difficult. Despite the challenges these students are continuously confirming knowledge and submitting drafts for checking, gradually getting closer to their qualification goals.

DIPLOMA OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT (continued)...

Finally, well done to students from our Roseworthy and Tintinara groups who recently completed all requirements to achieve their qualification. We look forward to seeing you at Graduation early next year!



Congratulations to our Roseworthy Diploma of Agribusiness Management group who will have an opportunity to attend RST's next Graduation ceremony in early 2020.

TICKETING AND LICENCING PROGRAM

Regional Skills Training (RST) Ticketing and Licencing Program offers you the opportunity to upskill, gain tickets and develop a safe system of work.

This program is suited to all sectors across primary industries including broadacre cropping, livestock, pastoral, mixed farming enterprises, dairy, fruit and vegetable, viticulture, nurseries, irrigation and production horticulture.

RST can assist in your enrolment options and then select appropriate units for the chosen qualification.

Course Fees

Every course has student fees. Please note that if student fees are overdue, we cannot continue to provide training or release your parchment. RST are always happy to agree to payment plans. Please contact us to arrange your plan.

Know someone who is interested?

If you know of someone who is interested in training with RST please encourage them to contact us. RST has a continuous enrolment policy.



Communication

RST provide training across large areas of SA where student numbers are small, and distances travelled for both students and RST can be significant. We also rely on our host farmers to allow us on property for workshops. As such organising workshops is challenging.

We need you to communicate with us frequently... the more we hear from you the better!

- If you have been notified of a workshop then please respond whether you can attend. Communicate by text, email or phone...we don't mind how you communicate, just make sure we know... If you can't attend the workshop the opportunity will be offered to another student.
- Please be punctual to all workshops so that we can start and finish on time. People have a long way to travel or may rely on others for transport.
- If you are genuinely unable to attend a workshop, you will be given the option to attend the same workshop in another region or, by negotiation with our Student Support Officer (SSO), substitute the unit/s for written work.
- If your contact details change, please let us know as soon as possible.
- If you leave school or change employers we also need to know. It may affect your training options.
- If you are on a Contract of Training (CoT or ASbA) you will need to advise your Apprenticeship Network Provider.

