



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

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RAS RURAL ACHIEVERS ANNOUNCED

Over 20 years of recognising NSW's future rural leaders

The **Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS)** is pleased to announce the winners of the **2010 RAS Rural Achiever Award**. Eight young Australians have been selected from across NSW for their contributions, achievements and leadership within the rural sector and their local communities.

The winners were chosen from a strong field of candidates in three separate judging sessions held in Sydney, Tamworth and Parkes. The eight winners receive an all-expenses paid experience at the **2010 Sydney Royal Easter Show**.

The RAS Rural Achievers are:

- Richard Connell, Panuara
- Tom Green, Forbes
- Ruth Redfern, Sydney (originally Narrabri)
- Kiri Broad, Narrabri
- Ashley Strom, Hobbys Yards
- Georgina Oakes, Inverell
- Dougall Roberts, Tamworth
- George Wragge, Scone

"We have been extremely impressed with the quality of this year's finalists," said **Bernie O'Sullivan, RAS General Manager, Agricultural Development**. "Based on previous years, winning the title of RAS Rural Achiever can be an important step in helping young rural Australians achieve their ambitions and kick-start their career."

For over 20 years, the Rural Achiever Award has provided many opportunities for young Australians. Over that time 162 Rural Achievers have enjoyed not only the experience and title, but the networking opportunities that come with the role.

"Many Rural Achievers now work on successful properties and are employed in key rural and agri-business careers, thanks in part to the opportunities on offer via the media attention and prizes associated with the title," said Mr O'Sullivan.

All Rural Achievers will be invited to attend Australia's largest event, the Sydney Royal Easter Show. During their time in Sydney, they will also receive a tour of Rural Press, home of The Land, a trip to Parliament House, and be invited to attend a cocktail reception at Government House. The Rural Achievers will also be tasked with the responsibility of stewarding the livestock sections at the Show.

2010 Sydney Royal Easter Show 1 April – 14 April

Further information & interview requests:

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