

# WHITE AGRICULTURAL CAMPUS

# NEWSLETTER

VOL 2 NO 3 : 1995

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 3 has been a very happy and productive one for the Agricultural Campus with Year 12 students in particular participating in a number of extra curricular activities. A lot of hard work has gone into arranging courses and excursions by Farm staff, Teaching staff and Residential Supervisors and I give great thanks to these people for their commitment and team work.

One person I must particularly thank for his efforts this term is Mr David Webster who has been Acting Head of Department. David has made some very positive changes to residential policies and practices and has been an exemplary leader of the teaching team. His committed and caring attitude towards students has inspired them to work more as a team and has greatly developed the positive tone of the school. We are very fortunate to have a teacher of Mr Webster's many talents on our campus, and I personally wish to thank him for his wonderful support.

Mr Tim Bowden has been relieving in the classroom for Mr Whittock this term and has been a most competent, supportive teacher, willing to help out with whatever he can. I thank him most sincerely for his efforts on behalf of our students and wish him well at his new post in Mandurah next term.

### 1996 ENROLMENTS

Throughout terms 2 and 3 I have been interviewing prospective students and must say the level of interest in the community has

been strong. We currently have 31 enrolments in Year 11 for 1996 and are still receiving enquiries and applications each week. The number of girls applying is increasing and currently we have 7 definite new enrolments for next year with a further 2 possible.

### IMPORTANT TIMES

Graduation time for Year 12 students is looming close and we will soon be saying goodbye. It is very important that Year 12's ensure they finish as well as they can with all assignments completed so that their grades are the highest they can attain. This is an important rounding off time for them all and the remaining weeks will fly by ever so quickly.

Year 11 students are coming into their final term where they need to consolidate and move forward - in all aspects of Agricultural Campus life. They will soon become the leaders of the school and will need to prepare for the responsibilities awaiting them. We hope to involve them in some special programs to develop team work and leadership skills. Their trip north at the end of term 4 will play a big part in this.

I wish all our staff, students and their families an enjoyable and relaxing holiday break and look forward to the challenges and highlights term 4 will bring.

**SUZANNE SAUNDERS  
PRINCIPAL**

## WEBSTER'S WORD

Term 3 is the busiest term of the year, especially for Year 12 students who have to try to be in so many different places and keep focussed on their studies at the same time. Staff also need to organise their timetables and classes to fit around the many activities and to do their best to ensure the students take the best advantage of their educational opportunities. This term there have been many changes made to the way the school operates. The "points" discipline system in the residence has been discarded and a system which relies on all students behaving in a mature and responsible manner has been implemented. I believe the school climate and the general tone of our school has been very positive. I would like to thank the students for their attitude towards the changes I have made, for their acceptance and their cooperation.

Working with the staff this term has given me the sense of being a part of a strong and capable team. I believe the collegiate approach to the running of a residential school is of paramount importance and I would like to thank everyone for their support, their encouragement and for trusting me enough to allow some of my "radical" ideas to become routine policy.

I sense a real rapport developing between staff and students and the belief that we are all heading in the same direction, albeit at different speeds.

This term we welcomed back Mr Rod Hounslow who returned from his long service leave which included a trip to Thailand to the Burma Railway. Like so many people in

this life who go about their business in a quiet and professional manner, the students didn't realise how much they appreciated Rod until he wasn't there!

Our replacement teacher for this term has been Mr Tim Bowden. Tim has proved to be a most capable and well informed staff member. Tim takes up a position in Mandurah next term and we wish him well for the future.

### ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

A number of Year 12 students completed a three day Cattle Artificial Insemination course at the Wokalup Research Station. The course was presented by HISWA (Herd Improvement Services WA). The students will now be able to add this important certificate to their resumes when they seek employment at the end of next term.

### DOWERIN

All students attended the Dowerin Field Day to encourage our successful fencing team and to view new initiatives in Farming. Congratulations to all students on their conduct. Congratulations to the fencing team on their most impressive win. Thanks from everyone to Mr Slee who made the trip possible.

### FARMERS' DINNER

The Farmers' Dinner is the schools way of saying thank you to all work experience hosts and to the many people who assist our school over the year.

This year Mrs Angel and Mrs Willmott impressed all the guests with their innovative decorative

style and je ne sais quoi. It's amazing what you can do with a few balloons and a pile of bed sheets.

As usual the catering department, led by Mrs Cusack and Mrs Jones, provided the sort of meal for 140 people that you would expect at a wedding breakfast at The Savoy. The ladies were assisted by the Year 11 students who helped with the preparation and the waiting at the tables. The students completed their tasks with unexpected flair and not too many thumbs went into the soup.

Our thanks to our guest speaker, Mr Peter Lee, who gave us some real insights into Farmer Politics.

#### **HARVEY SHOW**

Harvey Show is the first weekend of Term 4. All students are requested to stay at school for the weekend to assist with the

school's contribution to the Show.

#### **FINAL NOTE**

As I write this Newsletter some Year 12 work experience reports are on my desk. A number of students have been offered employment by their work experience hosts and judging by the reports to date, our students have presented themselves in the very best light.

I have received a tremendous degree of job satisfaction this term and to read the glowing comments of people in industry about the conduct and quality of our students makes it very worthwhile.

**DAVID WEBSTER  
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

#### **WINNER OF COMPETITION**

The winner of "MAKE A CAPTION" competition from last term's newsletter is DARRELL SCOTT. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to enter.



**ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE - 100% OFF**

# Local star excels in lead role

"IT has been a tremendous experience to perform in front of crowds of 800 people each night."

That is how Harvey school teacher David Webster described his feelings after one of the most successful productions ever staged at the Bunbury Entertainment Centre.

Mr Webster played one of the leading roles, Valjean, in *Les Misérables* and was one of the stars of the show.

The sell-out musical-drama completed its run last week.

It has been described as equal to the performances of professional companies in the major capital cities.

"Audience and community response has been marvellous," says Mr Webster.

"We have been overwhelmed by the support we received.

"I would say the audiences have been stunned by what they have seen."

"The professionalism displayed in all facets of the production by a local amateur team vastly

exceeded their expectations."

The acting head of Harvey's agricultural campus said he was honoured to have been given the opportunity to perform.

"These types of roles don't come along very often," he said.

In fact it was a first time for Mr Webster.

"I haven't been in-

volved with anything on that scale before."

"I had only sung songs with the Armadale City Band, Golden West Opera and local group Pieces of Eight."



**SHOW SUCCESS:** David Webster as Valjean in the Bunbury version of *Les Misérables*.



**FINISHING TOUCHES** Rob Oldfield (left) and Jason Marley prepare to go on stage for the final dress rehearsal of *Les Misérables* at the Bunbury Entertainment Centre.

## Stage is set for *Les Mis*

SOUTHWEST audiences are in for a musical treat if last Sunday's full dress rehearsal of *Les Misérables* is any indication.

The show opens at the Bunbury Entertainment Centre next Wednesday. Marketing manager Jodi Nunn said the rehearsal had the audience weeping with emotion.

She said ticket sales sky rocketed in the past two weeks

with two-thirds of the tickets for the first show season already sold and second shows almost booked.

A joint venture by the entertainment centre and the South West Opera Company, the show is the biggest regional theatre production in WA costing about \$100,000.

*Les Misérables* has a cast of about 60 local performers and an orchestra of 18 musicians.

The musical tells the story of French convict Jean Valjean's release from prison after 19 years.

He meets the prostitute tragic figure of Fantine and her deathbed adoptive son, Gavroche.

The show is set in 19th century Paris and a student of the show is in progress taking on the title role of Jean Valjean.

## DOWN ON THE FARM

At the beginning of the term we welcomed back our butcher, slaughterman, A.T.O., Charlie Landwehr. He had recovered from the shoulder operation that had caused him to be absent all second term.

Historically the third term is another busy term with many interruptions to the normal program, especially for the Year 12's.

We have had visiting professionals, who every year give their time for that bit of extra training. The Computer Aided Livestock Marketing (CALM) hosted an introduction to the Assessor's Course, a shearing instructor from the International Wool Secretariat spent a week with several work experience students, plus an AI course was held. Last week we had the one and a half day Bush Fire "Fire Fighters Course" culminating in a burning and fire control exercise on Saturday morning. Yes, it surprised the students that even after rain earlier in the week, that we could get a reasonable burn, and enlightened them to the fact that given sufficient fuel (ground cover accumulated over a few years) how dangerous and hot it would be if burning during the hot summer months. The successful students in these exercises will receive their relative certificates in the near future.

During the term we have had various volunteer groups of students performing for or competing in various competitions. One of these groups included James Jefferies (home town Duranillin), Gordon

Mullins and Shannon Osborne (both from Waroona) with Andrew Ponsford (Baldivis), successfully representing our school with a win, at the Dowerin Field Day "Cyclone Fencing" competition. Congratulations to these four, and their instructor Mr Robins. Another "optional extra" group is the group who have been training the stock to compete in the "Led Steer" competition at both the Royal Show and the Brunswick Show. This term, Bernadette Pearson (Duncraig), Jessica Welsh (Kelmescott) and Geoff Hine (Mandurah) ably led by Helen Barratt (Gosnells) and Adam Gregory (Armadale) have put hours and hours of their spare time into preparing these animals. These four steers will be on "parade" on Field Day. The next day, two of these steers are off to the Royal Show for the "Paraders" competition on Friday, the Led Steer "on hoof" competition on Saturday with judging "on hook" early the following week. The remaining two animals will be competing at the Brunswick Show on the 28th October. We wish both groups all the best and thank the students for their endeavour.

Also on the 28th October, which is the last weekend that we will have the Year 12's as our students, Darrell Scott (Yallingup), James Jefferies (Duranillin) and Ben McDonald (Karridale) will be competing at the Katanning "Shears Ag College" shearing competition. We wish them all the best.

On three days of the final week leading up to Graduation Day, it is planned for more excursions. Day one includes visiting the



Cyclone Fence and Wire factory, the Coca Cola factory, the Wesfarmers Wool Store, the Australian Wool Testing Authority, the Wool Scouring Works followed by a visit to a hydroponics display. Day two and three include visiting Peters Creameries, Cullities pine plantation, a prominent table grape and protea exporter followed by camping overnight, visiting the coast for a swim and the Wesfi board factory.

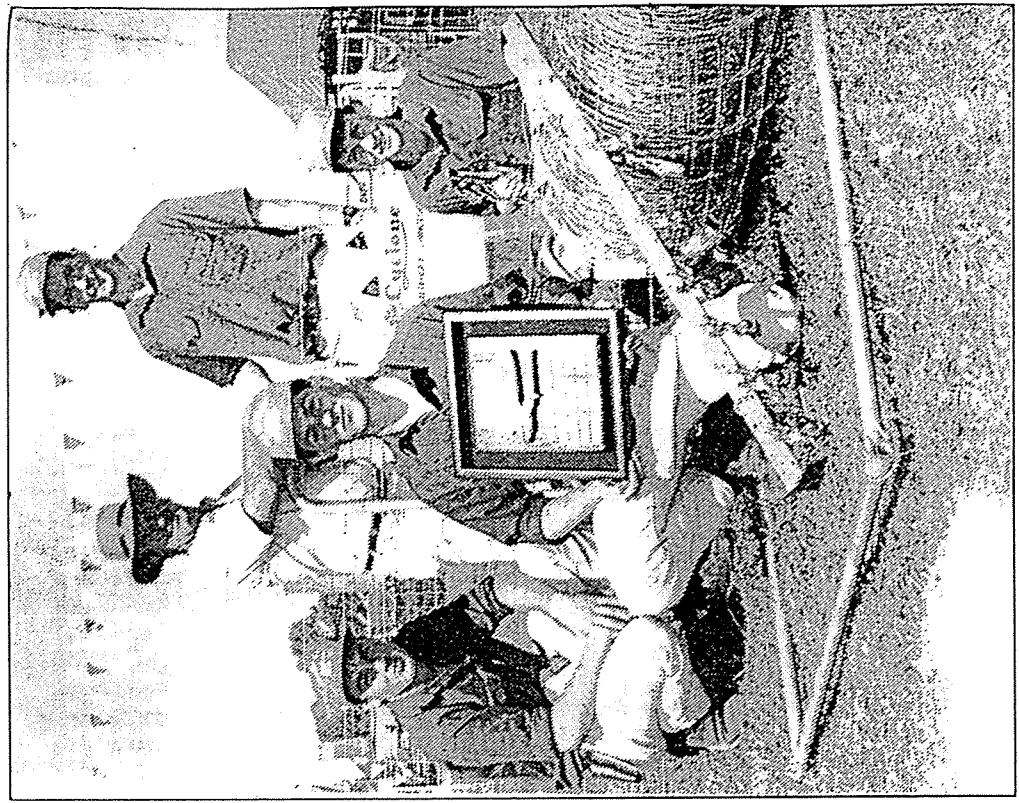
After these visits along with the normal farm program of making

hay, exams, skills test etc. etc., time will fly by until the Year 12's graduate and then the Year 11's depart for the Christmas break.

We, the farm staff, one and all take this opportunity to wish our Year 12's all the best for their future endeavours and especially thank the Prefects for their input over this last year.

**PAUL EGERTON-GREEN  
FARM SUPERVISOR**





RIGHT: The Smorgan Cyclone Agricultural College Fencing Challenge was won by Harvey Agricultural Senior High School. Pictured with the winning plaque are Year 12 competitors Andrew Ponsford, left, Gordon Mullins, Cyclone national fencing supervisor Joe McGree, Shannon Osborne and captain James Jeffries, front.



## Girls in fencing display

CUNDERDIN Agricultural College girls put on an impressive fencing demonstration at the Dowerin Machinery Field Days.

The six girls were unable to compete in the Smorgan Cyclone Agricultural College fencing challenge because only one entry per school was allowed and the college's boys team narrowly pipped them at the post to compete.

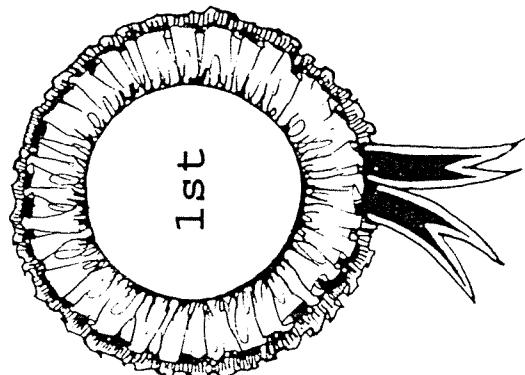
Nevertheless, the Year 12 girls were able to complete the challenge after the big event in the 15 minutes allocated and attracted a big crowd of onlookers.

The competition, in its second year, was won by Harvey Agricultural Senior High School which scored 96 per cent, followed by Narrogin at 83 per cent. Denmark

whole farm yet but have set up a course similar to the competition design which they set up and pull down.

Mr McGree said the competition increased students' understanding of fencing techniques and exposed their skills to the public.

"Fencing skills are very important and you will get the best out of the products by erecting them correctly," he said.



■ **Cyclone Rural fencing supervisor Joe McGree congratulated Harvey Agricultural College for winning the Agricultural Fencing Challenge.** The team — consisting of James Jeffries (back), Darkan, Andrew Ponsford (left), Baldivis, Shannon Osborne, Waroona and Gordon Mullins (right), Coolup — won \$100, four pairs of pliers and the Cyclone-sponsored Perpetual Trophy.

## RESIDENTIAL REVIEW

The residential students have been very busy this term with the usual sports training - football, hockey, squash and badminton. On top of that, training for the Debutante Ball followed by the School Ball.

On the weekend of September 9th and 10th, due to Year 12's Work Experience, only Year 11's stayed in the residence. A weekend of sheep manure sales took place which achieved a result of \$450, at \$20 a trailer load. This was very good value. Our client base was the result of one "For Sale" advertisement in The Harvey

Reporter. Subsequently an advertisement in The South West Times brought more responses.

The sheep manure for sale was brought from Wandering during first term as an excellent student fundraising effort.

I am happy to report that today 19/9/95 the manure has been sold.

**ROD HOUNSLOW  
RESIDENTIAL SUPERVISOR**

## ENGINES

If anyone has any small stationary engines which are of no further use and are cluttering up your shed/workshop, their donation for use in the Farm Vehicles and Machines, Year 11 course would be very much appreciated. Please contact Bob McManus on (097) 291 302

## THE SCHOOL BALL

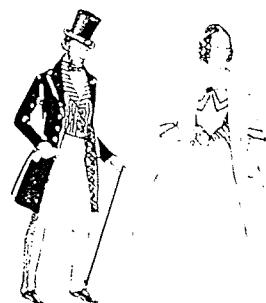
On the 15th September, the 1995 School Ball was held. The venue for this year's Ball was the Harvey Recreation Centre, function room.

Thank you to Mr Derums and the Year 12's that helped with the setting up of the function room. A special thank you to Miss Ryan and the P & C for organising and supervising the Ball this year. Also to the staff for giving such tremendous support, even though many of them could not attend.

The decor for the night was excellent with the main colours of course being red and white, to suit the theme of romance.

The band "Kyst", was brilliant, playing music that made an excellent contribution in making this a Ball that will be remembered.

Congratulations to the winners of the Beau and Belle award, which went to Andrew Ponsford and Rebecca Hollet.

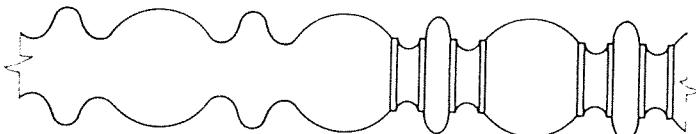


BY JAMES JEFFERIES

## WOODTURNING COURSE

On the weekend of the 12th of August on a brisk Saturday morning there were four students about to undertake a one day woodturning course at Cross Electrics in Bunbury. The course started at 8.00 am and ran the entire day until 5.30 pm. The students that undertook this challenge were Shannon Osborne, Andrew Ponsford, Ben McDonald and Kris Dawe. The course dealt with a variety of things like safety, tool preparation, wood selection, turning methods and techniques, sanding and finishing some great pieces of work. Instructor John was thoroughly pleased with the progress that these students made as each made an exceptional egg cup. As a group effort there was a marvellous pine bowl turned out. After many piles of shavings and sawdust the four students were very happy with the learning and turning outcome for a well spent Saturday.

BY BEN McDONALD



## EXCURSION

At the end of last term, the Year 12's went on a two day excursion which was organised by Ms Akkari and Mr Slee.

### Day 1

- Mr & Mrs Armstrong's beef property at Benger
- Sumich's market garden
- Talk on Muresk given by Alex Ferraro

### Day 2

- Westralian Artificial Breeding Services, Marybrook
- Happs Vineyard & Winery
- Vasse Research Station

## LEAVING JUMPERS

The Prefects have been organising leaving jumpers for the Year 12's. They will be burgundy and white rugby style tops with "Leavers '95" printed on the front left hand side. On the back will be the student's nickname in large print at the top, with all the graduating students' names listed below.

### A GROUP

Helen Barratt	HB
Gavin Craske	Boony
Andrew Duce	Juicey
Nycole Gardiner	Nyc
Lyndal Hayes	Junior
James Jefferies	Goofa
Kane Luzny	Luz
Ben McDonald	Macca
Gordon Mullins	Snapper
Andrew Ponsford	Pono
Kent Rochester	Rocky
Darrell Scott	Dazza

### B GROUP

Erin Dickson	Diesel
Andrew Dunnet	Dunny
Adam Gregory	Dexter
Geoff Hine	Hinesy
Nadine Hoeberigs	Chook
Nyall Monks	Zuma
Shannon Osborne	Shagsa
Michael Parkin	Parky
Ryan Reeve	Reevesy
Nathan Sebbes	Seppo
Craig Warburton	Bonger

# Colleges open up career choices



AGRICULTURAL colleges offer upper-school students much more than the chance to get out of the classroom and into a unique learning environment — the wide open spaces of rural WA.

Although, as our feature starting on page 10 shows, at this time of year that's definitely one of the selling points.

Increasing numbers of students, including some from the metropolitan area, are using the colleges as a launching pad for not only the agricultural and allied industries but many other trades and careers.

The work of the department's colleges will also be featured as part of this year's education display in Campbell Pavilion at the Perth Royal Show from 30 September-7 October.

■ LEFT: Harvey Agricultural Senior High School Year 12 Helen Barratt tries a college-grown orange for size.

## Harvey Agricultural Senior High School

HARVEY is the only college which is technically an agricultural wing of a senior high school. The school's agricultural and town wings share a principal and core subject staff.

Principal Sue Saunders says she can't say for sure whether having a woman principal has encouraged girls to enrol, but there does seem to be a lot of interest, with up to 15 girls expected to enrol next year.

"We can cater for 60 students and we have 50 at the moment including nine girls, so we're looking to increase our numbers," Sue said. "Our main aim is to give students a broad base of skills, but we're also committed to developing personal qualities through our residential program."

The school aims to foster teamwork, leadership and equal opportunities for all students.

Harvey can already point to many success stories in this area, with one Year 12 girl currently deciding between about five options for post-school life, including running a riding school.

"We are keen to give students a diverse background, and we do this through experience on our intensive farm and in our workshops," Sue said. For example, the school runs four nationally-accredited metals units.

The farm is 220ha of scenic hills and irrigated valleys, 140km south of Perth. The Harvey River runs through the property which carries beef and dairy cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry as well as citrus, viticulture and horticulture.



■ Harvey Agricultural Senior High School student Kane Luzny mulches vine prunings.

# 'Debs' have a real ball

THE first debutante ball in this district for seven years was recently held at the Brunswick Recreation Centre on August 25.

The 10 beautifully presented debutantes came from Harvey, Yarloop, Duncraig, Parklands and Kelmscott.

They were partnered by men from Busselton, Waroona, Keysbrook, Baldwins and Harvey.

Several of the participants are students from the Harvey Agricultural Senior High School and Campus.

The debutantes were received by Wellington MLA John Bradshaw and his partner Liz Rocci.

Picture: ANIKA PHOTOGRAPHY



Wesfarmers regional manager Deane Allen hands a \$700 cheque to HASHS agricultural campus head boy Shannon Osborne in front of school principal Suzanne Saunders and prefect Nycole Gardiner

## Scheme buys school books

WESFARMERS Harvey agents L.P & J.A. Fryer have a connection with Harvey's Agricultural Campus.

Employee Allan Cooper was one of the first day students to attend the agricultural wing.

The agricultural farm and campus of the Harvey Senior High School was established in 1953.

It now houses 52 boarding students and has 250 acres of farm area.

The school is always in need of

new resources.

To this end Wesfarmers Ploughback scheme came to the rescue recently with a cheque for \$700.

It will be used for books for the school library.



**THOUGHT-PROVOKING:** HASH school principal Suzanne Saunders and Agricultural Campus head David Webster with guest speaker Peter Lee.

# Farmers told of US policies

ABOUT 150 people attended the recent Farmers Dinner held at the Agricultural Campus of the Harvey Agricultural Senior High School.

Highlight of the evening was an address given by former Farmers Federation president Peter Lee.

For those who were able to keep abreast of it, his 4500 word dissertation, was thought provoking and informative.

He spoke of his father's experience in farming at Trayning in times when clearing the land and fencing it was the priority.

But the theme of his talk was government intervention and his philosophy on its usefulness.

He spoke of the situation in Europe and America and the impact on the Australian farmer and subsequent dumping on the world market.

He spoke of the major restructuring that had occurred in the dairy industry and measures which had greatly improved the lot of local farmers.

"Dairy farmers were more organised than the rest of us."

He cited the US example where "in the land of the free" of two million farmers only 314,000 could be classed as full-time farmers.

He said that the US Farm Bill had proved a costly exercise costing \$134 billion in 1985 and another \$67 billion in increased supermarket prices.

"In 1985 the US Government paid farmers not to farm 24 million hectares and in the past 10 years subsidies could

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By KEN UTTING

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have bought every farm in 33 states.

"For every \$1 of profit made by US farmers in 1988, 35 cents came as a direct payment from the Government.

"The justification for this intervention is sold in the public arena as helping the family farm or the small farmer."

Mr Lee said this had resulted in the top 2 per cent of farmers producing 43 per cent of gross farm income while the bottom 70 per cent produced just 9.6 per cent.

"In the past 10 years, 400,000 farmers in the US left their farms.

"Hardly a roaring success."

Mr Lee said Australian farmers shouldn't feel too virtuous about the adherence to market forces and free enterprise.

"We haven't got a large enough tax base to allow us the opportunity of being the pampered minority," he said.

He then talked about the current Government led "stupidity" of "political correctness" and the increasing influence of "trendies".

Mr Lee said Australian farmers were good farmers by world standards and yet poorly educated by those same standards.

"The real lesson of formal education is that it is actually a preparation for learning."

"The better and more thorough this formal education, the better and faster the learning process can be completed," Mr Lee concluded.