

CONNELLAN TRUST NEWS

A newsletter brought to you by the Connellan Airways Trust

8 DECEMBER 2017

Top stories in this newsletter



Mark Coffey



Grant Vickery



Janet Fletcher



Eddie Connellan

A Note from the new Chairman Mark Coffey

I am very excited to be the Chairman of the Connellan Airways Trust and I would like to acknowledge the outgoing chair, Gavin Carpenter for his work and leadership during his chairmanship. For those that don't know me, I am a long term NT resident having lived in remote and urban centres across the Territory and understand the challenges and opportunities this brings.

Into the future, I would like to work with the board to better understand how the trust can support people in the outback given the changes in how people access information, knowledge and services in the bush. With the advances in technology and infrastructure, the opportunities are greater than ever and the trust needs to be responsive to these changes to ensure we are best positioned to support individuals in accordance with the objectives of the trust – I am looking forward to this exciting challenge.

Grant Vickery leaves the country to study

Grant, studying year 11 at Dalby Christian College QLD was offered a place in the Oxbridge Academic Summer Program at Cambridge University from the 5th July to the 9th August 2017. He undertook a major course in Medicine and the Brain and a minor course of Medical Science. The Trust helped with the cost of his airfares to London.

Grant received an A in both subjects, and certainly made an impression as he was awarded the 'Generosity of Spirit Award'. This was for his willingness to help others throughout his time at Cambridge. Participating in the program has given Grant many networking opportunities, he met many new friends and catches up with these connections regularly via skype, messenger, Facebook etc. It has been a life changing opportunity for Grant.

Janet Fletcher is from Nauiyu a community in the Katherine NT Region

Janet Fletcher is a Remote Area Nurse who has worked in remote Northern Territory Communities for 28 years. Her work was recognised after she was awarded Remote Nurse of the Year, NT Local Hero in the Australian of the Year Awards and NT Banardos Mother of the Year. She has also published her autobiography 'Outback Calling'.

Janet attended a course in Public and Tropical Health in PNG. The Trust funded 5 port fees so she could visit local hospitals and health facilities learning about health care in PNG. Whilst there she gave out donated Clinical Procedure Manuals to health centres.

The E. J. Connellan Award closes on the 31 January 2018

The Award provides an opportunity for people living in isolated areas of outback Australia to undertake study, research or invention that might not be possible otherwise. The Award provides financial support of up to \$20,000 in two categories: Junior 16-25 years of age and Senior 26 years of age and over. Merit is the primary criterion, based on either past or demonstrated ability for future achievement in any endeavour acceptable to the Connellan Airways Trust.

Applicants are sought who exhibit the traditional spirit of Aussie Outback pioneers, which includes a healthy element of get up and go, with qualities associated with the late E J Connellan, not least passion, endeavour, innovation and determination.

Connellan Airways Trust

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