

**the ARCHIBULL PRIZE**

# THE ARCHIBULL PRIZE **TEACHER** **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** **WORKSHOP**



**TOCAL COLLEGE**  
**11TH & 12TH AUGUST 2018**

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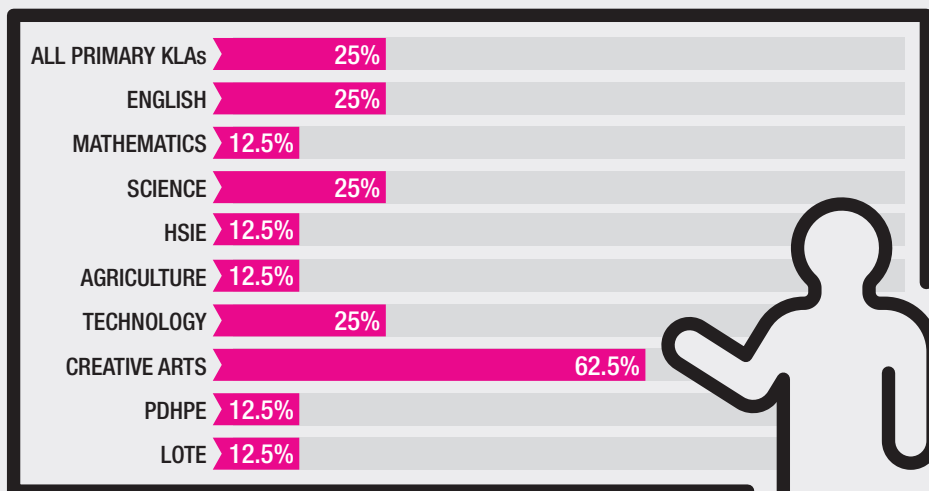
## TOTAL COLLEGE - 11TH TO 12TH AUGUST 2018

**20** PARTICIPANTS

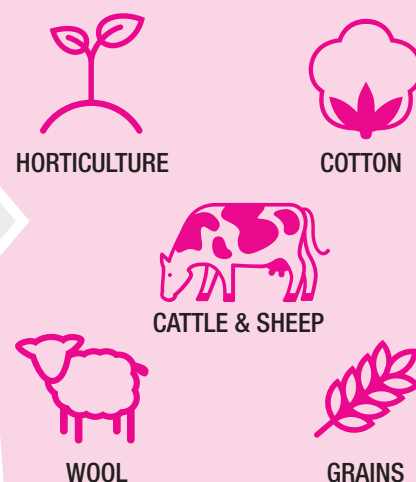
**05** SPEAKERS

**04** FACILITATORS

### -MAIN SUBJECT/KLA TAUGHT-



### -INDUSTRY INVESTIGATING-



### -TOP RATED SESSIONS-

1. TEACHING AGRICULTURE FOOD AND FIBRE USING SUSTAINABILITY THINKING AND SOLUTION FLUENCY WITH GREG MILLS AND YOUNG FARMING CHAMPIONS.

**100%** of teachers declared this session highly relevant

“The synergy between Young Farming Champions and teachers was powerful and should create exciting outcomes in the class rooms. It connected the teachers to the content they are delivering in a practical and meaningful way.”

“The experience of Tocal College and their approach to learning, as well as opportunity to engage with the young farming champions, made this a worthwhile experience.”

**85%** of teachers declared this session highly relevant

2. FARM TOUR WITH MIKE ISON.

**100%** of teachers agreed they had a LOT MORE confidence in teaching about food and fibre

**100%** of teachers agreed they had a LOT MORE knowledge of the primary industries sector

**100%** planned to do something different as a result of participating in the workshop

**100%** of teachers said the workshop had provided them with skills and knowledge they can use in other areas of their teaching

**100%** of teachers said they would recommend the workshop to their colleagues





## INTRODUCTION

**FROM 2019 A NEW AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM IS BEING INTRODUCED WITH AN EMPHASIS ON TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURAL SUBJECTS. AGRICULTURE, FOOD TECHNOLOGY, INDUSTRIAL ARTS AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY WILL FALL UNDER THE TECH-MANDATORY BANNER FOR YEARS 7 AND 8 WITH TEACHERS EXPECTED TO DO FOUR DESIGN PROJECTS OVER THOSE TWO YEARS. PROJECT BASED LEARNING (PBL) IS ADVOCATED AS THE PEDAGOGY OR METHODOLOGY TO BE EMBRACED IN NSW.**

With STEM education now, a national priority The Archibull Prize PBL design uses agriculture to explore real life implications of students learning. Using creative thinking, imagination, innovation and digital technology the aesthetic values of art in The Archibull Prize support the understanding and application of all STEM subjects.

## BACKGROUND

Each year at the end of The Archibull Prize teachers are asked to complete an exit survey that asks, among other things, why they want to participate in The Archibull Prize and how Art4Agriculture can better support them.

Overwhelmingly the top answer to WHY is because The Archibull Prize is a quality teaching and project-based-learning experience that empowers teachers to meet the needs of their students. Teachers agree the program design mobilises their students to work in teams to solve tomorrow's problems, today – an increasingly important indicator for the jobs of the future.

In addition, the program's ability to link students with farmers and the paddock to plate process helps them gain an appreciation of the people behind the food they eat and the fibres they use.

Asked how Art4Agriculture can better support teachers in this learning journey and one of the major responses is a request for professional development with hands-on experiences. In response, the [New to Teaching Agriculture/Food and Fibre Production workshop](#) was created.

On 11th and 12th August 2018, with generous funding support from Hunter Local Land Services (LLS), a pilot Archibull Prize Teacher Professional Development workshop was held at Tocal College, Paterson, NSW bringing together education and multi media professionals and Young Farming Champions (YFC) over three separate sessions.

The emphasis of the workshop sessions was to provide teachers with ideas and activities that enable students to investigate and respond to a challenge, task or project which enable students to pursue deep real-world investigations where they:

- Design real and complex projects for learning;
- Think and create in digital and non-digital environments to develop unique and useful solutions by both adapting and improving on current designs as well as the innovation of new possibilities;
- Think analytically and communicate using multi-media formats and engage in authentic assessment; and
- Present their learning via exhibitions.

The first session included an introduction by Greg Mills and the YFC each presenting for ten minutes. The YFC shared experiences of their career role in industry and demonstrated how farmers and young people in agriculture are rising to the sustainability challenge illustrated by the Sustainability Circle.

The second session consisted of digital media training including photography, interviewing and video skills. In the third session, on the second day, the teachers put their new skills into practice on the Tocal farms to see, and report on, agriculture in action.

## SPONSORSHIP

Hunter Local Land Services has been a sponsor of The Archibull Prize since 2016 and is committed to continuing this sponsorship through to 2020. It is through this support that the Tocal workshop was made possible.

“Hunter LLS sponsors the Archibull Prize because the service provided by Picture You in Agriculture is specialised and particularly relevant to LLS business,” Hunter LLS Chair Lindy Hyam says. “The education program covers educational resources in climate change, biosecurity, land, energy and water, innovation, technology and careers in agriculture; and targets agricultural schools in our region. The program has 7000 twitter followers, 250,000 blog hits, 4000 Facebook followers, and an excellent website with teacher support and resources.”

## PARTICIPANTS

Eight teachers, who are in the process of guiding their students through [The Archibull Prize](#), attended the Tocal workshop.

[Five Young Farming Champions](#) made presentations on the sustainability challenges in their industries. Representing the dairy industry was Jo Newton; representing wool were Peta Bradley and Dione Howard, representing cotton was Casey Onus; and Anika Molesworth.

[Educational, agricultural and media experts](#) in attendance were Australian Rural Business Consultant of the Year Greg Mills, photographer Linda Faiers, marketing professional Gaye Steel, science journalist Jenni Metcalfe and Tocal farm manager Mike Ison.

Chair of Hunter LLS [Lindy Hyam](#) and YFC [Anika Molesworth](#) spoke at a dinner held on Saturday night.

*“I chose to participate in this workshop to learn more about the agricultural industry directly from people within it, to learn more about how the Australian Curriculum can connect with Project Based Learning, to learn how I can record the learning that is occurring in PBL lessons with still and video camera, to learn tips on how to conduct interviews, and how to present reports to the video camera.”*

teacher comment from Granville Boys High School.



## THE VENUE

Tocal College, in the NSW Hunter Valley, was chosen as the venue for the workshop as it combines an educational facility with a working farm, allowing teachers to benefit from practical aspects of agriculture. The College is part of the Tocal Agricultural Centre - a Centre of Excellence within NSW Department of Primary Industries. Farm manager Mike Ison was available to conduct a tour of the farm and was a valuable resource in the media training sessions on day two.

**100%**  
OF PARTICIPANTS  
RATED THE VENUE AS  
**EXCELLENT**

*“Tocal Collage was a great venue and very appropriate based on our context!”*

Teacher comment Parramatta Public School.

*“Very suitable venue for such a workshop; a well-equipped learning institution,”*

Dione Howard, Wool YFC.

*“The experience of Tocal College and their approach to learning, as well as opportunity to engage with the young farming champions, made this a worthwhile experience.”*

Teacher comment Hurlstone Agricultural High School.



# OBJECTIVES AND PEDAGOGIES

The two-day workshop was designed to equip teachers with the knowledge and understandings about teaching of food and fibre production, agriculture and primary industries in The Archibull Prize, in line with the new NESA syllabuses to be implemented in 2019.

In addition, quality project based learning (PBL) pedagogies developed by Angela Colliver Consulting using the Solution Fluency framework were presented. The six fluencies are define, discover, dream, design, deliver and debrief, and their application to The Archibull Prize was discussed.

Presentations were made by Greg Mills and Young Farming Champions to showcase sustainable resource management practices using the Sustainability Circle. The Sustainability Circle is a demonstration of the range of issues (not just environmental) that must be balanced and managed by farmers and agricultural professionals in producing food, fibre and energy.

The second day of the workshop included a Tocal farm tour. Tocal College Farm Manager Mike Ison explains to teachers:

- [The cattle breeding strategy](#)
- [The farm weed management strategy](#)
- [The cattle drought management strategies](#)

Using information and communication technologies (ICT) to take quality photos, record video and create blogs for The Archibull Prize. This session was facilitated by Linda Faiers, Greg Mills and Mike Ison.



# TEACHER FEEDBACK

Teachers participating in the workshop taught all Key Learning Areas (KLA) including agriculture, English, mathematics, science, HSIE, technology, creative arts, and PDHPE. Through The Archibull Prize they were investigating the horticulture, cattle and sheep, cotton, wool and grains industries.

At the conclusion of the workshop ALL teachers agreed they had a LOT MORE confidence in teaching about food and fibre, a LOT MORE knowledge of the primary industries sector, and had gained skills and knowledge they could use in other areas of their teaching.

*"It has personalised the experiences of others for me and contextualised the issues we study. The Sustainability Circle was very powerful."*

teacher comment Hurlstone Agricultural High School.

*"The exposure to agricultural experts who work directly with farms removes many assumptions that I had as a city teacher. Greg's connection of Australian Curriculum to the Archibull was very helpful. Camera skills gained give you confidence to engage in more video work."*

teacher comment from Granville Boys High School.

*"There is a great deal of misconception around farming and agriculture in Australia and the media does portray it in a very stereotypic manner. However, the technology used, critical thinking, forward planning that occurs, the strive to make farming more sustainable and economical, that also meets the consumer needs, is all complex. Furthermore, hearing how the Young Farming Champions are making a difference in agriculture both locally and internationally is mind blowing. So, yes...it has changed the way I view and think about agriculture."*

teacher comment Parramatta Public School.

See more teacher feedback [HERE](#).



## YFC FEEDBACK

The Young Farming Champions valued being able to partner with teachers to gain a clearer understanding of the curriculum, the perspective of teachers and the role The Archibull Prize plays in empowering teachers to meet the needs of their students.

*"The workshop was beyond expectations. Being able to work content around current projects was exceptionally beneficial. I gained a stronger understanding of curriculum changes, how the Archibull ticks the boxes and what will be expected of school visits."*

Sam Wan, Wool YFC

*"This workshop exceeded my expectations in both the teacher collaboration and professional development realms."*

Dione Howard, Wool YFC

## FLOW ON EFFECT

Young Farming Champion Jo Newton was invited to be part of a keynote presentation panel at the [Geography Teachers Association of Victoria Conference](#). Jo used her Tocal presentation as the foundation for her presentation with two major outcomes.

1. The Chair of the Geography Teachers Association has reached out to Jo with a view.
  - a. to imbedding her research as part of the Geography curriculum.
  - b. developing a partnership with the Young Farming Champions program.
2. Her Manager has requested a copy of her presentation to use as a template for Agriculture Victoria researchers to share their science with the community.

*"At the recent YFC and Teacher Development workshops at Tocal I was introduced to the concept of the Sustainability Circle. To me it was a totally different way of thinking about and describing my research. After discussion with my manager I used the sustainability circle as the framework for a keynote for the recent GTAV conference. The brief I had was to discuss innovations in agriculture that contribute to food security. I was able to use the circle to effectively convey how the research my team does helps equip farmers with the tools to breed healthy, productive cows, whilst managing the needs of the landscape and their farm team to produce safe, affordable and nutritious dairy products. I received very positive feedback from the presentation & have even had students email and ring me at work following the presentation!!!! Without the YFC workshop and training I would not have been able to communicate my work in such an impactful way."*

Dr Jo Newton Research Scientist







## CONCLUSION

The New to Teaching Agriculture/Food and Fibre Production workshop achieved its objectives of giving teachers the skills and understanding to confidently teach project-based learning of agriculture under a new curriculum. Teachers were exposed to not only a working commercial farm and agricultural college, but to multiple Young Farming Champions with their varied career paths and experiences. Training in digital media skills was also found to be extremely beneficial to both The Archibull Prize and as techniques to be used across many Key Learning Areas.

### CONTACT

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