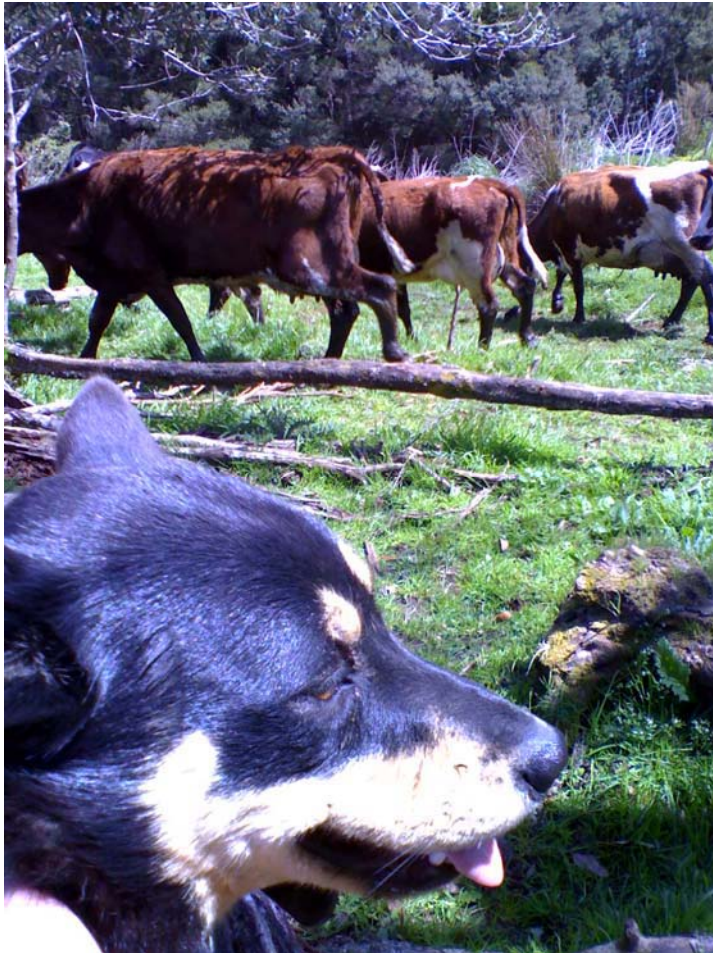


Coming Into The Industry



Lauren Smith

Assistant manager of
Redside farms

This years Rural Women's
Dairy Scholarship winner

Starting out

- Coming from a non farming background
- Family owns a successful computer business
- Always wanted to work with livestock original interests in veterinary sciences
- My first job was on a commercial beef property which also had 100 acres of vines
- I also showed cattle for local studs at local and royal shows



Starting out



- Worked for the Whatmans whilst also vet nursing
- Kept studying
- Started looking for jobs with more opportunity

- My first Dairying Job in Burrawang
- Started as casual weekend milking
- Worked there for 3.5 years



Leaving Home



- I met with Drew and Amanda and really liked the farm.
- I packed my bags, my dog and moved to Tasmania

- I found Three jobs as assistant managers that I applied for on the net
- One at home, one in South Australia and one in Tasmania



My Current Role

- Currently working for Drew & Amanda Tyson as Assistant Manager of Redside Farms in Togari
- Milking 630 Cows, mostly Aussie Red Breed



- Milking area 580 acres
- 320 acres under irrigation
- 3 centre pivots, hump and hollowed paddocks
- 120 acre Run-off block
- We rear all our replacement stock

My current Role



- Look after the day to day management in Drews absence.
- Work with Drew planning and delegating tasks
- Data input for Herd Health and Quality Assurance programs

My current role at Redside farms

- Monitor and order supplies
- Review staff work practices and implement training
- Maintain rosters and staff hours
- Manage herd health and milk quality
- Complete Induction program for new staff
- Act as a point of contact for staff and for Drew
- Implement and review OH&S policies



The Struggles



- Coming into the industry from a non farming background
- Perceptions of Employer/Employees

- Leaving friends and family and the comfort zone
- Keeping inspiration
- Learning to manage staff



Successes in the Industry

- Being 22 and an Assistant Manager
- Own 2 beautiful heifers
- Young dairy farmers program with the Dairy Farmers Co operative
- Participation in study tour to New Zealand
- Sponsored to go on numerous conventions such as the Innovations Forum this year in Victoria, and the Sydney Dairy Symposium
- Chosen as this years Rural Women's Scholarship winner
- Continual study and development opportunities - currently studying Diploma of Agriculture with the NCDEA
- Being happy

Growth

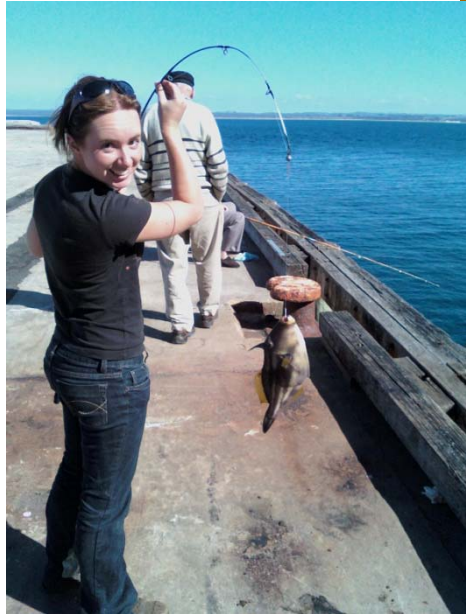
- Planning and involvement in overall farm management
- Learning to manage staff, in particular being personable, but not too open



Growth

- The importance of happiness for all involved in the business
- Balancing work and personal life
- Learning that bad days only make you stronger
- The importance setting short term goals





The Future



- Working closer to learn more about the running of the business
- Finishing my studies
- Owning more cattle
- Learning how to swim and dive
- Managing and being happy

Final Messages



- Bad days come and go, it's how well you rise from them that defines you
- Don't always look for the obvious, sometimes the best solution is a little left of the centre

Thankyou

- Thankyou to my family for putting up with all the early mornings
- Thanks to the industry groups that have supported me



- Thankyou to Amanda and Drew and Wayne and Marylyn for giving me the chance to work along side them at the progressive Redside farming enterprise

