

Playford Trust News



PROVIDING PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGH-ACHIEVING SOUTH AUSTRALIANS



L to R: Christopher Gollan, Wendy Sutton, Bradley Bianco, Hon Dean Brown AO (Chairman, Playford Trust), Candice Nayda, Tim Spurling

2014 Playford Trust TafeSA Awards

On 10 November 2014, members of the Board of the Playford Trust met with staff and students of TafeSA and their families and friends for the presentation of the 2014 Playford Trust TafeSA Awards.

The Chairman of the Playford Trust presented awards to five successful TafeSA students.

Congratulations to:

- Bradley Bianco** - Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management
- Candice Nayda** - Conservation and Land Management
- Tim Spurling** - Horticulture
- Wendy Sutton** - Conservation and Land Management
- Christopher Gollan** - Horticulture



Former Playford Trust members Mary Walters and the Hon David Wotton AM at the TafeSA award ceremony.

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The Playford Memorial Trust Inc.

A message from the Chair



The Hon Dean Brown AO
Chairman

The new academic year brings with it the selection of many new scholarship winners for the Playford Memorial Trust. Sir Thomas Playford would have been thrilled with the high calibre of young people who are applicants for the scholarships, and their commitment to use their skills and research to the future development of industry in South Australia. After all, that is the objective of the Trust.

The 2015 University Scholarships will be presented to the successful candidates at a ceremony on 29 April at the University of South Australia. Readers of this newsletter are most welcome to attend and can arrange to do so by contacting Mary Anne Fairbrother on 8226 3627 or by email at maryanne.fairbrother@usa.gov.au. Those attending will have the opportunity to hear from existing scholarship recipients about the research work they are undertaking. It is always an inspiring evening.

This year sees the introduction of five additional scholarships. These include an Honours degree scholarship in Geology through the Geological Society of Australia, an undergraduate scholarship in Electrical Engineering through SA Power Networks, two new PhD scholarships in Cell Therapy Manufacturing through the CRC for Cell Therapy Manufacturing, and an additional undergraduate scholarship in Minerals Processing through AusIMM.

These new partners join our existing partners, which include Scantech Ltd, AusIMM, Hillgrove Resources Ltd, WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff, Beach Energy, St Ann's College, Coopers Brewery, Seeley International, Flinders University, University of South Australia, University of Adelaide and the Thyne Reid Foundation. These partnership scholarships are in addition to those funded by the Playford Trust, which include Regional Science scholarships, Honours scholarships, TafeSA Awards, an Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens traineeship and PhD scholarships.

The South Australian Government has confirmed that it will continue to provide administrative support to the Playford Trust, in addition to its annual grant. Consequently all funds contributed to the Playford Trust by partners go directly to supporting scholarships. Our budget for this year provides for about \$230,000 being distributed in scholarship funds. That ensures the Playford Trust is a valuable and significant contributor to research and further education in South Australia.

It is with regret that I advise that Mrs Helen Nankivell has resigned from the Board earlier this year. The Board thanks Helen for her outstanding contribution to the Trust and wishes her the very best for the future.

Late last year two new Board members were appointed to the Playford Memorial Trust: Dr Leanna Read and Mrs Francene Connor. Dr Read is the Chief Scientist of South Australia, with a distinguished career in medical science. Francene Connor has had a distinguished career in marketing and public relations. Both new Board members bring specific skills and valuable experience to the Playford Board. I look forward to the on-going support of the many donors and supporters of the Playford Memorial Trust.

The Hon Dean Brown AO
Chairman

Playford Trust Scholars Association Networking & communications

Welcome to the New Year, and a new associated group.

The Playford Trust Scholars Association (PTSA) is a group of enthusiastic individuals from different academic backgrounds. These range from Tafe Certification to University Degrees – all with one amazing thing in common: we are all recipients of Awards from the Playford Memorial Trust.

We share, grow together and mentor each other, using the passion and talent that was recognised by the Playford Trust when we were all granted our awards and scholarships.

We are excited as our primary focus is to promote current and future award recipients with strong networks and candid communications.

The PTSA has a formal committee that meets several times a year to discuss award ceremonies, and ideas for future activities.

The Association has some great ideas for up and coming

events including: PTSA 2015 Launch Party, cocktail parties, a fun science quiz night and a more formal 30th Anniversary dinner...to mention only a few!

Please help us grow the PTSA family by getting in touch and updating your details and don't forget to go to Facebook and join the group at The Playford Scholars Association to ensure you don't miss out!

Dr Kate Delaporte on behalf of PTSA

Awards for 2015

Congratulations to the Scholarship Winners

Winners will be presented with their awards at a ceremony in April 2015

Regional Science and Engineering Scholarships		
Xavier AGNEW	Curramulka [Westminster School] to The University of Adelaide	Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering and Mathematical & Computer Sciences
Samuel ARTHURSON	Lyndoch [Faith Lutheran College] to The University of Adelaide	Civil and Structural Engineering and Mathematical & Computer Sciences
Andrew EDWARDS	Avenue Range [Immanuel College] to The University of Adelaide	Mechanical Engineering
Harrison GLOYNE	Penneshaw [Immanuel College] to The University of Adelaide	Mechanical and Civil Engineering
Sophie HOOD	Port Lincoln [Port Lincoln High School] to The University of Adelaide	Engineering (Mechatronic) and Mathematical & Computer Sciences
Playford Trust Honours Scholarships		
Timothy ATKINSON	The University of Adelaide	School of Mechanical Engineering
Matthew GARD	The University of Adelaide	School of Physical Sciences - Geology and Geophysics
Jordan SCHULZ	The University of Adelaide	School of Chemical Engineering
Georgia WALDEN	The University of Adelaide	School of Biological Sciences
Benjamin CROWE	Flinders University	School of Biological Sciences
Georgina CUSTANCE	Flinders University	School of Biological Sciences
Olivia DAVIES	Flinders University	School of Biological Sciences
Adam SCHILDS	Flinders University	School of Biological Sciences - Marine Biology
David ARGENT	University of South Australia	School of Natural and Built Environments
Jacob ARNOLD	University of South Australia	School of Natural and Built Environments
Dylan HOSKIN	University of South Australia	School of Engineering
Timothy LUKE	University of South Australia	School of Engineering
Playford Trust PhD Scholarships		
Bianca AMATO	University of South Australia	School of Natural and Built Environments
Jason SMITH	Flinders University	School of Biological Sciences
Beach Energy/St Ann's College/Playford Trust Residential Scholarships		
Blake FETHERSTONHAUGH	The University of Adelaide	Software Engineering
Reece LINDSAY	The University of Adelaide	Petroleum and Mechanical Engineering
AusIMM/Playford Trust Honours Geology or 4th year Mining Engineering Scholarships		
Viv NAIDU	The University of Adelaide	Petroleum and Mining Engineering
Eddy SABRE	The University of Adelaide	Mining Engineering and Geology
AusIMM/Playford Trust Honours 4th year Chemical Engineering - Mineral Processing Scholarship		
Danielle WHITE	The University of Adelaide	School of Chemical Engineering - Minerals Processing
Hillgrove Resources/Playford Trust Honours Scholarship in Geology		
Alicia POLLETT	The University of Adelaide	School of Physical Sciences - Geology and Geophysics
WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff/Playford Trust Scholarship in Project Management		
To be announced shortly		
GSA/Playford Trust Honours Scholarship in Earth Science		
Brandon ALESSIO	The University of Adelaide	School of Physical Sciences - Geology
Coopers Brewery Limited/Playford Trust Honours Scholarship		
Tom LANG	The University of Adelaide	School of Agriculture, Food and Wine - Bachelor of Science
SA Power Networks/Playford Trust Scholarship - final year of Electrical Engineering		
John MAKESTAS	The University of Adelaide	School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering - Power Engineering
Scantech/Playford Trust PhD Scholarship		
Jillian Moffatt	The University of Adelaide	School of Physical Sciences - Physics
Cell Therapy Manufacturing/Playford Trust PhD Scholarship		
Hannah THOMAS	University of South Australia	Information Technology, Engineering and the Environment
Sebastian STEAD	The University of Adelaide	Medicine
Seeley International/Playford Trust Scholarship		
Brad DE VRIES	TafeSA	Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanical
Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens - Port Augusta/Playford Trust Scholarship		
To be announced shortly		

TafeSA award winner reports



Bradley Bianco



Christopher Gollan

Christopher Gollan

Since finishing high school in 2007, I have been searching for a career that I would love and in which I could excel. However due to my inability to pick up skills quickly, I could not hold on to a job for very long. This all changed when I enrolled in a Certificate II in Horticulture course during 2013. As I picked up the concepts and ideas quickly and easily, I knew I had found my future career.

I completed Certificate III in Horticulture during 2014 and this year I start my Diploma. It won't be easy, but I look forward to the challenge and the chance to grow. Of all the aspects of horticulture I've participated in so far, I love growing plants: especially roses, fruit and vegetables.

It has been thanks to my lecturers, family and a few close friends at Urrbrae Tafe that I have been able to come so far and ultimately to be able to win this award. I offer my thanks to those who helped me and to the Playford Trust for choosing me so I can keep moving forward.

Bradley Bianco

I have a keen and ever-growing interest in all things botanical. A lot of my spare time is spent tending to my herb and vegetable garden and growing local native plants.

At the beginning of 2014 I started as a horticultural student at TafeSA's Urrbrae campus. As the year progressed, I began to take more of an interest in nature conservation, particularly in a botanical sense, and so I commenced Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management.

This year I will be continuing my studies as a student in the Diploma of Conservation and Land Management under the Adelaide University Bachelor of Science Natural Resources Management pathway.

My studies in Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management have given me the skills required to enter the workforce. I have been working with Greening Australia in their Pasadena nursery and am working in the field with Environment and Biodiversity Services. This has given me the opportunity to follow my passion to make a physical difference in my community, our country and our world.

In the past couple of centuries our natural environment and many ecosystems have been subject to radical and often negative change. My passion is simply to have a positive impact on our surrounding ecosystems.

Candice Nayda

Since I was a child I have been very passionate about the Environment and particularly the ocean.

At 16 years of age, while at school, I started volunteering with Project Dolphin Safe (now called Australian Marine Wildlife Rescue Rehabilitation Organisation) on the Port Adelaide River. I completed an Apprenticeship in Conservation and Land Management in 2008 and for the past two years have been studying my Diploma in Conservation and Land Management.

I am an on-shore volunteer for Sea Shepherd and a volunteer for the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary and I help out other organisations where possible eg Wilderness Society, Adelaide Snake Catchers and Conservation Council of SA. I am currently employed at Ecodynamics undertaking revegetation work and I am a mother of two children. I hope to pursue a career in Environmental Law.

I am delighted to report that I have recently been successful in my application to study Environmental Policy Management at The University of Adelaide in 2015.

I am extremely passionate about the environment and the issues it faces and I am dedicated to making a difference.

Candice Nayda



TafeSA award winner reports cont

Tim Spurling

Horticulture training creates opportunities for enhancing our natural landscape and caring for an environment by explaining and demonstrating effective procedures that enhance the longevity of a plant. It's easy to say 'right plant, right place, right time', but often what's missing is the 'how'.

The Playford Trust award is an important part of assisting with funding to complete my further training and personal development. The scholarship will assist me with the cost of completing training so that I can deliver horticulture training to the recognised Australian standards of competency.

I will be studying Certificate IV in Training and Assessment so that I will be able to effectively deliver the 'how' to aspiring horticulture students.

My background is in mining, nature-based tourism, retail and horticulture. The common thread to these seemingly separate vocations centres on a respect for the natural environment, a desire to cultivate plants and to link people to the landscape in which they work and live. I hope to enthuse people and help motivate them to create wonderful green spaces and contribute to plant propagation.

Wendy Sutton

I have always been enthusiastic and passionate about learning to care for our natural environment and I enjoy sharing ideas and knowledge with like-minded individuals. After completing my Bachelor of Applied Science in Biodiversity, Environmental and Park Management, I felt that there were some gaps in my practical experience and skill set. Through my employment with Balanced Habitats, an environmental restoration business, I was given the opportunity to study the Conservation and Land Management (C&LM) course while I worked. This helped me to become a more skilled environment worker.

The field and practical experiences I have gained through TafeSA and Balanced Habitats have been invaluable. With Balanced Habitats strongly focussed on restoration activities, I have used the Diploma in C&LM to develop my report writing skills, presentation skills, and Geographic Information Systems abilities.

I am now combining my passion for the environment with education by volunteering with Natural Resource Management (NRM) Education. I would like to pursue a career that encourages children, parents, teachers and the community to embrace sustainable lifestyles through education. I will focus my future studies in the area of education and sustainability and continue volunteering for NRM Education.



Tim Spurling



Wendy Sutton

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden

Ryan Hayward



Ryan Hayward at Port Augusta

Ryan Hayward started work with the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG) as a school-based trainee. His strong work ethic, willingness to learn and his genuine interest in Australian native plants saw him taken on as a full-time horticultural trainee. Ryan recently completed his Certificate III in Horticulture and is now studying for his Diploma.

Ryan has used his scholarship funds to increase his knowledge and understanding of arid land plants, and gardening generally, by spending time at other botanic gardens around Australia. He travelled to Alice Springs and spent two weeks working at the Alice Springs Desert Park, also visiting Olive Pink Botanic Garden and generally studying vegetation in the area. Ryan has travelled to Adelaide on a number of weekends to undertake one and two day courses offered at the Botanic Gardens of South Australia and also travelled to Canberra, visiting Floriade and meeting with staff and touring the Australian National Botanic Garden. He also attended the Melbourne International Garden Show.

As an exceptional trainee, Ryan finished his traineeship eleven months early and has just gained full-time work as a gardener at the AALBG. He has now been given set areas of responsibility and takes great pride in presentation of the areas and has many exciting ideas for improvement - some that he is already putting in place. The funding from the Playford Trust has provided Ryan with opportunities and it has given him valuable skills and knowledge that he is now using at the AALBG. As an employee and a person, it is clear that these experiences have provided Ryan with considerable personal growth. The support of the Playford Trust has been a significant factor in Ryan's development.

Information report from Cherie Gerlach (AALBG)

Research Reports

2014 Playford Trust Honours Scholarship

Bianca Amato

Bachelor of Sustainable Environments (Honours)

**School of Natural and Built Environments,
the University of South Australia**

Pollinators are required for 90% of flowering plants and can improve production by 70% for pollinator-dependent crop species. Nectar is the main floral reward for pollinators and the sugar characteristics of nectar can be shaped by the plant's interactions with its visitors. Analysis of nectar sugars can help us understand the interspecific interactions between flower and pollinators.

Detailed analysis of nectar sugars requires expensive laboratory equipment. Sugar concentrations can change quickly after sampling, and prompt analysis is necessary to obtain accurate data.

During lengthy or remote field work, immediate nectar analysis is often unavailable. During my Honours year, I investigated methods of storing nectar on filter paper in the field. I have continued to develop an effective nectar storage method during a summer research vacation scholarship at UniSA.

A strong understanding of the relationship between nectar and pollinators and how both are affected by disturbances (eg the absence of nectar-producing flowers and native bees as a result of habitat clearance), is essential to protect natural environments, pollinator biodiversity, and to manage agricultural systems. However, accurate and effective methods to store nectar in the field must be developed first.

My work in pollinator systems will continue in 2015 as I start my PhD, in which I will be investigating the benefits of native pollinators and remnant vegetation on crop systems.

Bianca Amato



Jamie Price

2014 WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff/ Playford Trust Scholarship in Project Management

Jamie Price

Bachelor of Chemical Engineering (Honours)

I am currently undertaking a Masters of Applied Project Management at the University of Adelaide. In 2014, I achieved a High Distinction for all of my subjects. I am especially pleased with the result of 91 for my elective 'Systems Engineering I', as this subject further developed my project management knowledge whilst applying my passion for engineering. These results are also a reflection of how this valued scholarship has contributed towards my higher education.

I am currently undertaking a Graduate Access Program as a Process Engineer for Obela Fresh Dips & Spreads. Obela is a global company that manufactures a range of high quality dips for retail and food service applications. I lead yield and production efficiency projects, safety, quality, and I provide technical judgment and analysis on data.

As an undergraduate, I completed a successful twelve week Vacation Program on the cement and lime manufacturing plant with Adelaide Brighton in Angaston. My proactive commitment to the environment is demonstrated through the substantial water conservational opportunities I identified in my Honours Research Project conducted at Angaston. This project required me to guide and engage employees in the process of developing and implementing innovative water reduction and recycling strategies. My background also involves the completion of a six week Vacation Program on an Air Separation Unit with Air Liquide in Western Australia.

While I have a passion for the discipline of Chemical Engineering, I seek to couple these credentials with Project Management in the future. I want to support the growth of women in engineering, and being driven and motivated, I aspire to be a role model for future female engineers.

I will be approaching the final stages of my Masters degree with commitment and drive. I recognise the value of my Masters degree not only in securing professional qualifications, but also in enabling me to positively contribute to South Australia's growth in the future. I look forward, with excitement and anticipation, to the challenges that lie ahead.

The Playford Years.

Sir Thomas Playford

GCMG (1896–1981)

From time to time, The Playford Trust News provides information about the former Premier of South Australia whose memory is perpetuated by The Playford Memorial Trust.

In this edition a look at Playford's early efforts to industrialise the economy and to position South Australia as The Defence State, as presented in Stewart Cockburn's 1991 *Playford - Benevolent Despot* sees a number of parallels with the politics of South Australia today.

"At the height of the Great Depression, one trade unionist in every three was out of work in South Australia. At the peak of what might be called the Playford heyday, the State had only 46 persons out of a population of 797,000 classified as unemployed. It was an astonishing turnaround in a period of ... less than 20 years."¹

Playford explained:

*Many citizens didn't realise how desperate the position of South Australia became every time there was a drought. When the prices of wool, wheat, barley and other primary products fell sharply on export markets ... the State came close to bankruptcy in the early 1930s. So we had to have a balanced economy.*²

Cockburn continues,³ that one of Playford's first challenges as Premier (1938) was to secure for South Australia - against interstate competition - an Australian subsidiary of British Tube Mills. The parent company in Britain made a high quality steel tube convertible into vital components for the aircraft, motor car and munitions industries. This company could see the war coming and was anxious to get production facilities established in less threatened parts of the Empire.

"Young, eager, new to the job, Playford went further than his competitors in the older States in offering incentives, which included cheap land at Islington and infrastructural facilities such as roads, water, electricity and housing on extremely attractive terms."

Playford promoted the cheap worker housing available in Housing Trust homes which enabled the lower wages of South Australian workers, and the State's good industrial peace record which would increase productivity. When he still did not receive the desired agreements, Playford demanded to know what would be the key factors in the BTM decision. The company emissary R. F. Moynihan replied that the Commonwealth Government would be asked to advise which site in which State it preferred for defence reasons. Playford then asked for two days before BTM took any further action, and on receiving this, he instantly took the train to Canberra,



Photograph courtesy of the State Library of South Australia - B7756
- Sir Thomas Playford, 1938

secured an immediate appointment with Joe Lyons, the Prime Minister and convinced him "that South Australia's strategic isolation made it the unchallengeable choice as a site for the new industry".⁴ Lyons ... advised Moynihan accordingly and the deal was done.

Playford built on this strategic advantage of isolation and the fact that the State was less exposed to the risk of enemy attack by being a driving force behind the development of the munitions industry. Playford and his Department of Manpower got a million square feet of factory space at Salisbury built in five months, and put up three new railway stations to serve the new factories.

Meanwhile, Playford's Adelaide-born friend Essington Lewis had been appointed Commonwealth Director-General of Munitions and Aircraft Production. This partnership supported establishment of numerous smaller ammunition production facilities in suburban as well as country centres.

Following the war, the ongoing partnership with Lewis facilitated the establishment of the shipbuilding industry at Whyalla, and the expansion of the Salisbury factory becoming the Long Range Weapons Establishment, a research and defence centre, which at one stage, was "the second largest employer of labour in South Australia".

All these developments were significant in Premier Tom Playford's goal of building a balanced economy in South Australia.

¹ Stewart Cockburn's 1991 *Playford - Benevolent Despot* Axiom Adelaide p.84
² *ibid* p. 84
³ *ibid* p. 85

⁴ *ibid* p. 85

News from the Board Room

Members of the Playford Trust were sorry to learn that Mrs Helen Nankivell decided to step down as a board member of the Playford Trust late in 2014. Helen has served on the Scholarship Committee and was a valuable member of the Trust. We send Helen our best wishes for the future.

The Trust is pleased to welcome two new Trustees: Mrs Francene Connor and Dr Leanna Read. (see right)

We are also very pleased to welcome the new Administrative Officer to the Scholarship Committee Ms Vicki Evans.

Vicki joins the Executive Officer, Mary Anne Fairbrother, in providing support to the Playford Trust.

Vicki has already provided most efficient assistance in organising the scholarship assessment process and revisions to our website.

Vicki will keep in touch with our Scholarship winners asking them to report on their studies and research, and all our scholarship and award winners are asked to keep Vicki informed of any changes to their contact details.



New Playford Trustees from left, Mrs Francene Connor and Dr Leanna Read.

Mrs Francene Connor

Francene Connor is an events marketing and public relations specialist who has worked in the private and public sectors including at RiAus and the Royal Adelaide Show. Francene is a Board Director of the Australia Day Council of SA and an Australia Day Ambassador. Francene was an elected Councillor and Alderman on the Adelaide City Council and has been a Board Director of the South Australian Tourism Commission, TafeSA Council and Adelaide Convention and Tourism Authority. She is a Certified Practising Marketer and Fellow of the Australian Marketing Institute.

Dr Leanna Read

Dr Leanna Read is a renowned biotechnology expert who is the fourth Chief Scientist for SA and chairs the South Australian Science Council. Leanna chairs the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Cell Therapy Manufacturing, is a member of the SA Economic Development Board and the Council for the University of South Australia. Prior roles included CEO of the CRC for Tissue Growth and Repair and the founding managing director of Adelaide biotechnology company, TGR BioSciences Pty Ltd. Leanna has an Honorary Doctorate from the University of South Australia, and was the 2006 South Australian of the Year (Science and Technology).



Back row L to R: Mr Dean Standish, Mr Danny Watson, Dr Kate Delaporte, Hon Robert Lawson RFD QC, Mr Keith Yates, Mrs Francene Connor, Prof David Day, Dr Leanna Read Front row L to R: Mrs Susie Herzberg, Hon Dean Brown AO, Hon Don Hoggood AO, Prof Don Bursill AM

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