

Nicole Krieg - SA Rural Ambassador 2002



Young Rural Ambassador award - what does this mean? In a nut shell it means making a difference. Being a Young Rural Ambassador brings many fantastic opportunities to serve and help others.

There once was a young boy walking along the beach and on the beach was hundreds of starfish washed up upon the shore. As the boy walked along, one by one he threw the star fish back into the water. A man came along and walked along side the boy and said to him, "young boy what do you think you are doing? What you are doing makes no difference. To this the boy replied, as he picked up another star fish and threw it back

into the water, "it makes a difference to this one."

Being a Young Rural Ambassador is about what you can give, not what you get. My time as a Young Rural Ambassador has brought some of the best experiences of my life, I have met new people, travelled to places in the state that I have never been before, helped out at Country Shows, judged regional finals of the Rural Ambassador Award and made many friends. To be the State Rural Ambassador has been an honour.

Being at the Royal Adelaide Show was such a buzz, learning about what goes on behind the scenes at the show was a real education, it made me realise how many willing volunteers contribute to this event. Spending time with the other finalists was a lot of fun, we had many laughs and enjoyed getting to know each other, it is a time I will never forget. Another highlight is a study tour to New Zealand which myself and other state finalists will be undertaking in April 2003. We are going to the Auckland Easter Show, various farming enterprises and a few tourist attractions to add to the fun.

The process starts on your local level each country show is always looking for interest young people to be their Rural Ambassador. The next step is the regional finals where Rural Ambassadors from each country show in a region are interviewed by a panel of judges about their general and agricultural knowledge, community involvement etc. The winner of the Regional final then goes along to the state final at the Royal Adelaide Show, where again they are interviewed and a winner is selected. I started as Gawler's Rural Ambassador and was privileged to be selected as the State Rural Ambassador for 2002.

I encourage anyone who is interested in this award to put up their hand and give it a go. It is something that you will look back on with many fond memories.