

Calrossy Anglican School

TANGARA

Tamworth Area Agri-Skills Trade Training Centre



Phone: 02 5776 5100
www.calrossy.nsw.edu.au

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WELCOME TO TANGARA

Our agricultural and cattle programs were originally established by Mrs Susan Barlow with the help of the Richards Family of Tamworth. It soon became evident that significant expansion was required to support our programs and all of the students with an interest in Agriculture. Our cattle herd moved to the Nielsen Farm until 2010 when the purchase of Tangara was made with the support of Federal Government funding and support from our Calrossy Community.

Tangara Trade Training Centre has become the heart of the Calrossy Anglican School agricultural programs and initiatives. Known as Tangara, it is a 230 acre property with a 100 megalitre ground water licence, located off the Oxley Highway, just west of Tamworth.

Tangara functions as a working farm on which students are provided with the opportunity to learn in context. Learning is achieved as students undertake activities that are consistent with those of a working farm, including farm development, livestock handling of cattle and sheep, enterprise management and marketing of agricultural products.

Tangara allows for flexibility in the education of our students and encourages them to actively explore all of the benefits that the Agricultural Sector provides. Calrossy Alumni have gone onto pursue careers in Agriculture using the skills and knowledge learnt at school and then expanding on these skills with further study and employment.



EDUCATION AT TANGARA

Tangara affords our students the opportunity to access hands on practical experiences that complements their HSC studies along with Secondary electives in Agriculture and Primary Industries. Our students regularly use the Tangara facility to test the theories learnt in the classroom along with visits to other research stations, feedlots and large scale farming operations throughout the North West of NSW.



Students are involved in all aspects of:

- Fence construction & repair (both conventional and electric).
- Operation of vehicles and farm machinery.
- Livestock mustering and handling.
- Preparation of stud livestock for sale.
- Applied work health & safety.
- Grazing management.
- Assisting with irrigation of pastures and forage crops.
- Climate/weather and the workplace.
- Livestock selection.
- Artificial breeding techniques including oestrous synchronisation, AI and ET work.
- Safe chemical usage
- Animal health including monitoring, vaccination, drenching, basic veterinary treatment (for example pinkeye, calf scours).
- Tree planting
- Lot feeding vs grass feeding of livestock



CATTLE AND SHEEP TEAMS



The Calrossy Cattle and Sheep Teams allow students to experience a range of practical activities and develop a wider range of skills involving the judging, handling and preparation of cattle and sheep for show and sale.

The Calrossy Cattle Team has an outstanding record of performances in both school and open competitions with our students receiving awards such as Grand Champion Parader, Most Successful Exhibitor and Champion Beef Cattle Junior Judge at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in recent years.

The Cattle Team and Primary Industry students are heavily involved in all management activities and decisions involving the School's very own Shorthorn Cattle Stud, Kamilaroi Shorthorns and Calrossy White Dorper Stud, based at Tangara.

All students are welcome to become part of the Cattle and Sheep Teams from Year 7 onwards as a co-curricular activity, outside of or in conjunction with their Agriculture studies at school.

Stock Appraisal can be taken as a Performance Elective from Year 8-10. It is a practical course where students are exposed to the handling use and assessment of all types of agricultural products from sheep, cattle and horses through to grains, fruits, fleeces and meat.

KAMILAROI SHORTHORNS

In 2003 it was decided to add an extra dimension to the program by establishing a Shorthorn stud, in the belief that this would enable us to offer a far more extensive range of activities for those students interested in the beef industry specifically, or agriculture in general.

Arguably the most notable feature overall however, is the depth of hands-on involvement by students in the operation of the stud and the preparation and showing of sale cattle. Calrossy students are known throughout the Shorthorn world for the quality of their work. A surprisingly large number of them have started their own studs or are heavily involved in family operations after graduating from Year 12.

Currently we run around 45 breeding cows, which is probably the upper limit for Tangara. Most females are joined using AI methods each year and Kamilaroi yearling bulls are used as cover bulls.

Each year we select those animals we believe to be our best; the bulls and heifers are shown at various events including The Sydney Royal Easter Show. The bulls are then prepared for Sale at the Dubbo National Shorthorn Sale, while the elite heifers are joined and take their place in our herd.





CALROSSY WHITE DORPER STUD

Was established in 2010 and the William Cowper Campus is where our show team prepares our rams for parading. They regularly travel to regional shows to compete, throughout the year across the New England & North West including the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Tangara is where our breeding stock are based and cared for by our students and staff. Calrossy students have the opportunity to be involved as a member of the Sheep Team or through HSC study areas of Agriculture and Primary Industries.

Calrossy rams are sought after and have proven success for our vendors in the paddock. Many of our Alumni now undertaking further studies and employment within the agricultural industry.



RECENT STUDENT HONOURS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Pia Logan – 2018 HSC – 3rd in State for Agriculture
- Riley Catts – 2018 HSC – 9th in State for Agriculture
- Bonnie Mitchell – 2017 HSC – 2nd in State for Primary Industries
- Chelsea Walker – 2017 HSC – 4th in State for Primary Industries
- Claudia Nielsen – 2016 – 1st in State for Primary Industries

Our Cattle Team has had recent success with three consecutive Grand Champion Carcase titles at major hoof and hook events (Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza 2017, Sydney Royal Easter Show 2018 and now Wingham Beef Week 2018)

Our sheep team have also had success with the Tamworth Junior Judging Day, Meat Sheep and First in Class at the Walcha Show 2019.



INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Industry and Community Partnerships are important to Calrossy. These partnerships allow for more opportunities for our students to access expert knowledge. As part of our programs we tour local farms, saleyards, abattoirs, scientific and research centres as well as stock and station agents.

These partnerships support the learning in the classroom and allow for our students to access work experience and further opportunities within the agricultural industry.

Local companies including Furneys Stock Feeds and AMPS Agri Business Limited are working closely with Tangara and kindly providing support which is helping our students and staff on site to develop Tangara for the future.

Our herd & flock are also kindly supported by local breeders who donate animals to assist in the development of our breeds through shared knowledge.



02 6762 1363

7 Wallamore Rd, Tamworth NSW 2340



MEET OUR AGRICULTURAL TEAM

MR GEOFF NIELSEN:

Geoff has been working for 17 years with Calrossy Anglican school and has 40 years involvement in agricultural education including 9 years Lecturing in Grazing Systems Management at Orange Agricultural College (University of Sydney) and 5 years as OAC Farm Management Course Co-ordinator. Geoff is married to Bronwyn with two children, Tom and Claudia, who are also both Calrossy Alumni.

Geoff teaches Primary Industries, Certificate II and Certificate III Agriculture and also manages our Tangara Trade Training Centre. Geoff's responsibilities include the integration of student learning activities with the operations of a working farm. All our students have a unique opportunity to learn in context, things such as farm development, the operation of a stud cattle enterprise, custom feeding of cattle for show, and sale and the marketing/sale of stud cattle. Geoff has been heavily involved with our Calrossy Kamilaroi Shorthorn stud since its establishment in 2004 and works extensively with our Cattle Team travelling to regional shows to support them. Geoff is also able to draw upon his own previous experience from operating a family-run stud Limousin cattle herd from 1991-2011.

MRS BRONWYN NIELSEN:

After completing Agriculture Science and later a Diploma in Education, Brony secured employment in Orange teaching Stage 4-6 Science, Biology and Agriculture over 17 years before lecturing in Animal Production at Orange Agriculture College. Brony and her husband Geoff moved their young family to Tamworth and worked locally before she commenced as a teacher of Agriculture, Science and Biology at Calrossy Anglican School in 2001.

It was evident there was potential to expand the Calrossy Agricultural programs with strong foundations laid by Mrs Sue Barlow and Mrs Jo Moore. Calrossy already had students showing cattle and competing successfully at Sydney and Brisbane Shows and studying agriculture. Over time The Kamilaroi Shorthorn stud was developed and in 2004 foundation cows from Moombi, Sprys and Nero Studs were purchased. Throughout the last 18 years Brony has enjoyed networking and supporting Calrossy students through access, exposure and practical hands on experiences with Intercollegiate and Interschool Meat Judging, Cotton Agribusinesses, UNE GRASS Scholarship organisers, Agricultural Societies Council members, Total Judging School organisers, stud and commercial cattle breeders, Killara Feedlot and TEYS Tamworth management, Shorthorn Youth Committees, Tamworth Agriculture Research Station scientists, fellow teachers and a range of community minded parents, friends and agribusiness specialists who enthusiastically offer their help, advice and services to the school and our Ag programs.

MR BART LEACH:

Bart commenced with Calrossy in July 2011 and took on the management of the white dorper stud at the start of 2012. We have built up the breeding numbers of the stud and have been selling rams commercially to producers of white dorpers and cross breeders across the Central North and New England. Our sheep team regularly attends shows in Sydney, Gunnedah, Tamworth, Walcha and Barraba and the hard work of the students is rewarded with great results across all categories. We continue to improve our quality through selective breeding to get more size and length in our rams with the aim to sell them to stud breeders. Our rams have been typed 3 and 4 out of 5 with our flock brucellosis accredited and are a closed flock with no risk of Ovine Johnes disease. Our sheep and cattle programs allow for much needed hands on experience and our Tangara Trade Training Centre plays a significant part in putting classroom theory into practice.

MRS KATHY DE JONG :

Kathy and her husband live at Manilla NSW on a small property and have Shorthorn cattle as well as a horse stud called Ophir Stock horses. They have two daughters; Katie is currently studying Veterinary Science at University at Gatton QLD following her schooling at Calrossy, and Lara who is completing year 10 at Calrossy. Kathy has been teaching full time at Calrossy for the past 7 years. During her first 5 years, Kathy taught Science and Agriculture before moving into the TAS department. Kathy has developed the Year 7 Mandatory Technology program which we have called Paddock to Plate, while teaching Stage 5 Agriculture classes as well as Team Teaching Primary Industries Mr Geoff Nielsen. Kathy is heavily involved with the school's cattle and equestrian teams and attends many shows, sales and events throughout the year with the students. It is a wonderful team effort and "I really enjoy my job and working with the students of Calrossy and watching them go onto further studies or employment within the Agricultural Industry."

COMMUNITY ACCESS

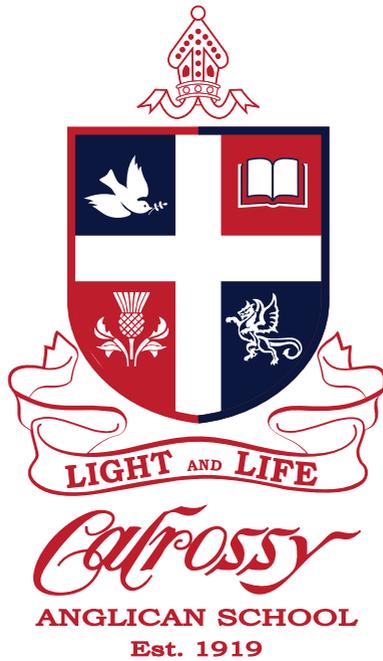


Tangara can offer approved short course group training to the public in Primary Industries using our certified trainers. For more information on our publicly available training courses please contact our reception on 02 5776 5100 and speak with any of our agricultural team to discuss your needs.

Tangara along with our purpose built training facility is available for public hire and over recent time the Farm Safety Days have been hosted by Safework NSW and the NSW Rural Fire Service who regularly conduct Bush Fire Fighter Training Courses. Catering can be arranged and for all enquiries please contact our Development Officer on **02 5776 5100**.







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