




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

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ADJOURNMENT

Nuffield Scholarship

 **Mr BOYCE** (Callide—LNP) (7.06 pm): I rise to congratulate three rural constituents from Callide, winners of the prestigious 2019 Nuffield scholarship. Agriculture in Queensland contributes over \$19 billion to our economy. The importance of this industry cannot be discounted. Lord Nuffield, the scholarship's founder, was originally William Morris, a self-made entrepreneur who invented the Morris Minor car. He was himself a visionary and had considerable engineering skills. He was gifted the title of Lord Nuffield in 1938. The foundation was his original idea to allow farmers to study agricultural developments which had occurred during the war in very testing times. This year five Queenslanders were fortunate to receive the coveted Nuffield scholarship, three of them from the Callide electorate.

I congratulate these forward thinking, innovative rural producers. Tamara Uebergang from Miles recognises the effects of high energy prices on the rural industry. Tamara will travel to Brazil and India researching alternative fuel and energy solutions for agriculture production. She hopes to find more economically viable energy sources for farmers. Her focus is to reduce the reliance on high-cost diesel and synthetic fertiliser.

Rebecca Comiskey is a young beef producer from Monto who will be exploring beef production methods around the world, researching genomics in cattle. Her aim is to increase genetic gain in the beef herd, producing more beef using the same amount of natural resources. She will be exploring modern technologies to enhance fertility, ultimately improving production and profitability.

Alistair Corr is a typical beef producer who believes in the benefits of animal wellbeing. He will be researching better ways to prepare our cattle to cope with the stress of handling and transport. Alistair plans to investigate the links between animal wellbeing and the production outcomes of cattle. He has set himself the daunting task of putting a number value on the wellbeing of cattle.

I believe the real environmentalists are the farmers and graziers, like these three innovative rural ambassadors. All of these talented researchers have a goal of improving profitability in agriculture. It is a well-known fact that the cost price squeeze is just one of the many challenges agricultural businesses face today.

Those three ambassadors for the Australian agricultural industry will travel the globe to study the world's best management practices in their chosen fields. I congratulate all three Callide winners, Tamara, Rebecca and Alistair. I thank them for their commitment to the future of our rural industries.