



# NEWSLETTER

September 2023

## INSIDE, WE TALK ABOUT:

2023 GRANT  
FUNDING PROGRAM  
OPENING SOON

A MILLION DOLLAR  
MILESTONE  
CELEBRATION

MICHAEL & WENDY  
COLEY FUND

CROOKWELL  
COMMUNITY TRUST  
FUND

MEET OUR  
DIRECTORS

## Thank you...

### Chris Croker, ULF Chairman

Recently in July the Foundation celebrated our \$1,000,000 milestone and acknowledged 12 years of philanthropy in the shire, with the coming together of over 120 people who over the years have contributed to the success of the foundation. Reflecting on where the foundation started 12 years ago, to where we are now, is a feat the community should be proud of. There have been many people who have contributed time, skills and funds toward this milestone so I thank each and everyone of you for being a part of our community foundation. Read more about this event and our milestone on page 4 & 5.

As the Shire grows, so must we, so I encourage anyone who isn't already one to become a member or better yet a life member. These funds go toward the administration of the foundation which enables us to also raise the profile of our foundation and the community organisations we support for the benefit of the Shire. We also encourage local businesses to consider a commercial partnership with us. Read more about this on pages 9 & 12.

On pages 10 & 11 you can meet all 9 of our Directors to help you put a face to the foundation, and introduces our 3 newest directors appointed in 2023. It is important I also thank and we acknowledge the contributions of our retiring Directors Tim McCarthy, Daniel Mossfield and John Oke who have volunteered countless hours toward the Foundation over their tenure. Thank you.

## Upper Lachlan Foundation Inc

### CONTACT US:

PO Box 242, Crookwell, NSW, 2583  
secretary@upperlachlanfoundation.com

### FIND & FOLLOW US:

upperlachlanfoundation.com  
facebook.com/upperlachlanfoundation

# 2023 GRANT FUNDING PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS OPEN  
25/09/23 - 20/10/23

Calling all not-for-profit organisations in the Upper Lachlan Shire to start putting together your applications for this years ULF Open Fund Grant Program, funded by the ULF Open Fund.

This year the board have approved grants to fund projects or purchases that benefit the Upper Lachlan Shire of up to \$1,000.

AVAILABLE GRANTS OF UP TO  
**\$1,000**

## How to Apply

1. Check your eligible against our list of eligibility requirements.
2. Download the application form from our website, and fill in all sections including a valid email address.
3. Attach required supporting documents including valid Quote for works to be undertaken or equipment to be purchased
4. Submit your completed application by the cut off date 20/10/23, 5:00pm to [secretary@upperlachlanfoundation.com](mailto:secretary@upperlachlanfoundation.com)  
OR to PO Box 242, Crookwell, NSW, 2583



## Eligibility

- Must be a not-for-profit organisation located within the Upper Lachlan Shire.
- Must have a dedicated bank account for the organisation. We can not pay grants to individuals.
- Your application must have all sections filled out, be signed and include supporting Quotes for your proposed project.
- Only one application per organisation will be considered.

## Successful Applicants

- The board will review all applications at our November board meeting.
- Both successful and un-successful applications will be notified via the email address provided on the application form.
- Successful applicants will be required to provide evidence of completed projects.

**Read about last years successful applicants on page 3, or on our website**



## Key Dates

The ULF will be accepting applications for this years 2023 Grant Funding Program from:

**OPEN: 25th September, 2023**

**CLOSE: 20th October, 2023 - 5:00pm**



**Pictured: Mr Charlie Prell (Secretary) Upper Lachlan Foundation, Garden Chairperson Christine Seaman, with garden members and visitors on the day, Trevene, Linda, Ann and Michael**

# CROOKWELL COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Crookwell Community Garden was successful in the 2022 Open Fund Grant Program receiving \$1500.

With this grant funding, and the help of other generous donors the group has been able to install a covered picnic shelter at the Community Garden.

This shelter will give the members, visitors to the patch and community members a covered seating space out of the weather.

The gardens are open to the public to share the space and to harvest the vegetables grown for a kind donation in the honesty boxes provided.

# ROTARY CLUB OF CROOKWELL

A Recipient of \$1,400 via the ULF Open Fund Grant Program in 2022, assisted the Rotary Club of Crookwell with the increased cost of insurance to run their annual Swap Meet event. Offsetting these expenses allowed monies raised to be used for projects benefiting the local community. The Crookwell Rotary Club has participated in the local Crookwell community since 1954, and is a regular donor to the ULF.



**Pictured: Rotary Committee Members Ken Leech, Geoff O'Connor, Rob Cameron, President: Rob Edwards, Mike Walsh, Justin Wright**

# TARALGA AUSTRALIA DAY RODEO

The Taralga Australia Day Rodeo committee holds this exciting annual event over the Australia Day weekend, and this not-for-profit event donates all money raised back into the Taralga community. Following cancellations over the prior 3 years due to bushfires and COVID-19, in 2023 the Rodeo was able to go ahead. The Rodeo committee was awarded a \$700 ULF grant in 2022 to assist with running this event.



**Pictured: Photo credit to All Time Imagery of Jack Charnock in the Open Bareback**



**\$1,000,000**  
*Milestone*

CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY  
IN THE UPPER LACHLAN SHIRE

## **\$1 Million Milestone Celebration!**

On Saturday 29th July, 2023, the Crookwell Services Club became the epicentre of joy and camaraderie as over 120 people gathered to commemorate our remarkable achievement at our \$1 million milestone dinner celebration. The event served not only as a testament to the Foundation's impact but also as a rallying call for the entire Upper Lachlan Shire to come together and support one another.

The Master of Ceremonies for the night was the talented Aussie actor, writer and ULF ambassador, William McInnes. His warm and gracious welcome set the tone for the evening, creating an atmosphere of togetherness and shared purpose.

Adding to the festivities, the Royal Military College Band filled the venue with delightful melodies, captivating the attendees and adding an extra touch of grandeur to the celebration.

A highlight of the night was the guest speaker, Dick Kearins, whose dedication to rural communities over his 45-year career with NSW Agriculture has been exemplary.



**\$325,489.78**

provided to the community, with a remarkable total investment of

**\$1,178,317.99**

Working tirelessly to help primary producers improve their on-farm productivity, Dick also extended a helping hand to these communities during times of hardship, be it droughts, fires, floods, grasshoppers, or animal disease outbreaks. Leveraging resources provided by Federal and State Governments, Dick spearheaded the evolution of new ways for communities to support each other during challenging periods.

## ***\$1million milestone celebration continued.***

The Upper Lachlan Foundation, born amidst a severe drought, is one such initiative that emerged as a beacon of hope for the region. Chris Croker, the current ULF chairperson and a local grazier from the Golspie area, has been an indispensable part of the ULF board since its inception. As a key member of the steering committee that developed the concept for the Foundation, Chris played a vital role in shaping its vision. During the event, Chris extended his heartfelt gratitude to all those who have contributed to the success of the Upper Lachlan Foundation through individual pledges and memberships. Their unwavering support has helped the Foundation achieve an incredible milestone of providing a total amount of \$325,489.78 to the community, with a remarkable total investment of \$1,178,317.99.

Chris emphasised that the Upper Lachlan Foundation is a collective effort for the entire Upper Lachlan Shire, illustrating its impact through the works done at the Dalton Hall, supported by a grant through the Foundation.

The evening also saw generous donations from businesses across the shire being raffled off, with the proceeds going towards the Foundation's ongoing administration costs. A delightful fruit cake, lovingly prepared by Crookwell local Reta Beattie, was enjoyed by all, adding a personal touch to the celebration. As the night progressed, the dance floor came alive with exuberant revellers, celebrating not only the Foundation's success but also the spirit of unity and support that defines the Upper Lachlan community. The event received glowing feedback, with attendees expressing their joy and appreciation for a truly enjoyable evening.



*Thank you*

**to everyone who has donated  
time, skills or funds towards this  
amazing milestone!**

# OUR NAMED FUNDS

## *A part of the GreaterGood, ACT Public Trustee & Guardian*

Following the closing down of Gunning Lions Club, the Gunning Lions Centennial Fund has been drawn down as of 30th June, 2023 with a new fund expected to be formed for the ongoing benefit of the Gunning Community once affairs have been finalised.

The Uniting Care Fund remains unallocated as the board deliberates on what has been a very difficult decision making process. Once a solution has been reached the board will report outcomes to the community.

This year our named funds have distributed funds to many local causes including the Gunning District Health Service, Crookwell Hospital, Crookwell Highschool SRC Leadership Camp, and Upper Lachlan Landcare, to name a few. See all of our named fund balances as of 30th June, 2023 below.



# \$1,178,317.99

*"held in trust for the benefit of  
Upper Lachlan Residents &  
Organisations"*

<b>FUND</b>	<b>FOCUS</b>	<b>\$</b>
Bub 4 Life	Mental Health	\$32,222.94
CCT2	Emergency Relief	\$142,222.09
Crookwell Community Trust	Emergency Relief	\$76,342.87
Crookwell Potato Association	Education	\$40,893.26
Foundation Challenge Fund	Education	\$28,977.77
Frank Willis Memorial Fund	Aged Care	\$34,326.02
Global Power Generation	Education	\$29,734.55
Lindsay Dove	Health	\$44,313.42
Lions Gunning Centennial Fund	Community	closed
Nancy Martin Memorial Fund	Education	\$32,202.29
Roslyn Landcare Fund	Landcare	\$19,996.60
The Michael & Wendy Fund	Health	\$40,065.82
ULF Gift Fund	Community	\$895.25
ULF Open Fund	Community	\$163,854.62
Uniting Care Fund	Yet to be determined	\$492,270.49

# CROOKWELL COMMUNITY TRUST FUND

*Assisting those in their greatest  
times of need*

The Crookwell Community Trust (CCT) established over twenty years ago identified a need for immediate funds to be available to persons in distress who have experienced extreme difficulties due to personal trauma or natural disasters, without the need to raise money after an emergency has arisen or to await the receipt of government assistance.

Since their inception through bequests, donations, fundraisers and community collective giving the CCT have created a pool of funds enabling them to meet a regular and constant demand for donations and assistance for the Upper Lachlan community.

The CCT's pool of funds includes a named fund with the ULF which was established back in 2011 and was also one of the very first named funds opened with the Upper Lachlan Foundation. Earnings from this fund act as an additional income stream to boost the CCT's available funds for charitable giving.

The purpose of CCT is often confused with that of the ULF, however the main difference being the ULF Open Fund supports organisations via our annual grants program. In contrast the CCT's focus on assisting individuals and is reliant upon receiving information from the public as to who may require assistance.



The CCT is administered by a committee of 10 people who receive and deal with applications for assistance with absolute confidence and remit funds as quickly as possible.

Past aid has gone to those in need of urgent medical assistance, or who have lost their homes due to fire, as well as assisting those that have experienced a death in the family. Just in the last three months the CCT have provided;

- \$750 to assist in accommodation in Sydney during operation and recovery for Crookwell residents.
- \$1000 to assist with fuel and accommodation whilst a partner was having an operation in Sydney.
- \$3000 to assist with recovery from house fire and replacement of household goods.
- \$1000 to assist with transport to Canberra and accommodation in Canberra whilst undergoing treatment for cancer.
- \$1000 to Crookwell residents undergoing cancer treatment (chemotherapy & radiotherapy) and being unable to work or access Centrelink payments.
- Assistance to a Crookwell family recovering from a house fire and assisting in replacement of household and personal goods.
- Assistance of \$2000 to Crookwell resident diagnosed with aggressive cancer and being unable to work.

Assistance is provided prior to receipt of Centrelink benefits.

***Find out more - [acnc.gov.au](http://acnc.gov.au)***

If you or someone you know in the shire is in desperate need of assistance or, you would like to get involved or make a donation we encourage you to reach out.

CCT is a registered Charity ABN 37 711 357 408 with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC)

Address: PO Box 229, Crookwell, NSW, 2583

# MICHAEL & WENDY COLEY FUND

*Addressing the issues of community health and associated health services in the Gunning locality and outlying regions, and the Gunning Focus Group*



*Pictured: Wendy Coley at Caxton House, Gunning  
Co-founder of Gunning Focus Group in 1998, & organiser of  
Gunning main street pistachio trees.*

Michael and Wendy Coley have voluntarily contributed to the Gunning locality for almost 30 years since arriving in Gunning in 1995. They had been lucky enough to buy Caxton House, a two storey granite house on Gunning's main street with an iconic front veranda. This is where their story in the Shire begins.

Upon their arrival Michael and Wendy began volunteering with the Gunning Village Sub-Committee, temporarily established in 1995 by Gunning Shire Council to advise on village needs, with Mike soon after becoming chair. As part of their work, they suggested to Council that the planned main street trees should be Chinese pistachios. This was agreed and trees were planted in June 1996.

In 1997 the Village Sub-Committee was to be closed, but at that time the Regional Arts Development Officer, Mark Viner, came to Gunning seeking to establish an arts council for the Shire. He spoke to Wendy and offered an incentive for the Village Sub-Committee to become an incorporated arts council. This took the name Gunning Focus Group, and from 1998 began a long series of theater, music and arts events. The Focus Group still exists and runs about eight music events each year.

After retiring from the Australian Public Service in 1998, Michael stood for Council, and to everyone's surprise was the last councilor elected to Gunning Shire Council. Having run the Focus Group, and as a councilor, Mike also joined the management committee of Gunning District Community and Health Service, where he still remains, having been President and Secretary off and on during that time. He also joined the SES and having been to Thredbo for the landslide in 1997 he also trained as a snake catcher under the SES' auspices, a voluntary activity he still pursues.

Mike was not elected to Upper Lachlan Shire Council in 2004, but continued as a voluntary member of various Council committees. He was awarded Gunning's Citizen of the Year in 2006, Wendy having received a special achievement award some years previously. Mike was elected to Upper Lachlan Shire Council in 2009 but was not re-elected in 2012, though once again he continues as a voluntary member and some time secretary of several Council committees.

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## **Michael & Wendy Coley Fund continued**

In 2018 Wendy began to suffer from dementia. For a while this was not always serious, but she gradually deteriorated and sadly passed on 13 April 2021. As they had no children Mike inherited Wendy's superannuation funds and sold a block they had bought when they arrived in Gunning. This gave him some extra funds so Mike decided to establish a fund in both their names with the Upper Lachlan Foundation. The revenue from the fund will go to community groups in Gunning, especially initially the Health Service and the Focus Group.

Mike and Wendy lived together in Gunning for more than 25 years and Mike continues there. Mike, born in England has since lived in Germany, Singapore and Canberra but he regards Gunning as the most important place he has ever lived.

The Michael and Wendy Coley Fund was established in 2022 to reflect Mike & Wendy's tireless contributions to the Gunning community. Mike intends for the fund to be a major beneficiary of his will, and therefore their legacy may live on through this fund.



*Pictured: Wendy and Mike presented with life membership of the Gunning Focus Group by Alice Giles AM on 19 March 2019*

## **Are you a local business? We need you!**

### **Give back to the community who supports you via a commercial partnership with us**

If you are a local business owner, and looking for ways you can further support the community that supports you, then consider a commercial partnership with us.

By entering into a trade agreement with the ULF you will gain exposure building your brand awareness, gain a marketing partner and reach a new segment of customers.

Small businesses especially ours in the Upper Lachlan Shire are known for giving back to their communities in various forms such as creating employment opportunities, and supporting local produce at a local level. Aligning with the ULF is an innovative way to create visibility for this community spirit your business possesses, whilst also directly involving your customers in your charitable giving.

To discuss this opportunity further we encourage you to reach out by sending us an email:  
[secretary@upperlachlanfoundation.com](mailto:secretary@upperlachlanfoundation.com)

# MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Lending their time & skills toward making a positive difference in the Upper Lachlan Shire*



## **Chris Croker - Chairman**

Chris is a local grazier from Golspie, and current chairman of the ULF Board of Directors. Chris has played an instrumental role in building the foundations capital through instigating the Laggan Pig Races Fundraiser, organising the Sportsman's Lunch Fundraiser & the 2020 Challenge. Chris was a member of the original ULF Steering committee, and is also an active member of the community with the Taralga Show Society, Taralga & Regional Flock Ewe Comp Committees, Captain of the Golspie Fire Brigade and member of the Golspie Progress Assoc. Chris emphasises that as the ULF's capital grows so will our importance to the future of local not-for-profits by alleviating funding shortfalls and in turn keeping the fabric of the community together.



## **Pip Frost - Deputy Chair**

Pip joined the Upper Lachlan Foundation Board in 2017, initially taking on the role of Treasurer and currently the Deputy Chair. Pip completed a Bachelor of Business at Sydney University and has worked in banking since graduating. She was also the project officer for a local farmers group for 3 years and is the current treasurer for the Bannister Hall committee. The purpose of the Foundation and how it strives to support the whole of the Upper Lachlan Shire appealed when joining the Board. The cohesive way the Board works together in carrying out the Foundation's aims is another reason Pip continues to support the ULF.



## **Charlie Prell - Secretary**

Charlie is a grazier from the Pejar district, who is married with 2 children, and has a long history of engagement with agriculture and the Upper Lachlan district. Charlie has been involved with the Upper Lachlan Foundation from the beginning, being on the Board since its inception in 2012, serving as both Secretary and Public Officer of the Foundation. He is passionate about supporting regional communities such as the Upper Lachlan region and has worked hard to make the Upper Lachlan Foundation a vital part of the health of our community.



## **Kate Price - Treasurer**

Kate joined the Upper Lachlan Foundation Board in 2014, acting in the role of Treasurer from 2014 - 2017, and returning to the role in 2021 to present. During her time with the ULF, she has helped to digitise and streamline our business and administration procedures, setting up our current website and introducing the Foundation to cloud-based accounting systems. Kate has seen the Foundation grow exponentially during this time and is proud and thankful to be involved in something that will prove to benefit our Upper Lachlan community for years to come.



### **Ben Carter - Director**

Ben was on the original steering committee and subsequently elected as the first Chairman of the ULF. Work opportunities took Ben out of the shire 10 years ago, leading to travel overseas selling beef to our major trading partners. This experience and exposure to different cultures and at times challenging situations, makes you realise how important family and community is to our wellbeing. Ben has recently re-established himself in the shire in a more permanent capacity and in 2023 was re-elected to the board, having the desire to become involved again, and help contribute to the growth of the foundation for our wonderful community.



### **Susan Reynolds - Director**

Susan Reynolds is an Alpaca farmer, President of Crookwell CWA, Councillor on the ULSC, and has been an active Board Member of the Upper Lachlan Foundation for over six years. The concept and ethos of the ULF to provide a vehicle to assist our community with funding to support their causes, was the driver to join and contribute to the ULF. "Achieving \$1 million in named Trusts and the Open Trust has been very satisfying and offers a strong building block for future growth of the ULF and our communities"



### **Garry Kadwell - Director**

Garry is a 4th Generation farmer in Crookwell NSW. He has received many accolades during his career including 2020 Harvey Norman Producer of the year, Landcare Grand Champion for innovation and Sustainability and Citizen of the year. Garry is also a Recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal. Garry is the past Chair of Crookwell Taralga Aged Care, and most importantly has been Director of the ULF since inception, having a direct impact on our community by establishing the Foundation Challenge Fund and the Crookwell Potato Association Fund.



### **Graham Dyer - Director**

Graham spent several years in the Royal Australian Air Force in the 1970s, following that owned and ran a variety of private companies. He then served for over 21 years in the Australian Federal Police where he recently retired from. Graham is one of our newest Directors being elected in 2023. Graham's community engagement includes holding executive positions with Gunning Lions Club, Gunning Historical Society, Gunning District Association, and the Gunning 200 Committee member assisting with celebrations. Graham has also been a member of the RSL for over 40 years and assists with activities.



### **Simon Peirce- Director**

Simon has been a resident of Gunning since 2015 having a 21 year career in Customs and Border Protection in Operations and Operational Safety (Training) and 11 years in Defence Contracting and procurement. Simon obtained a Graduate Diploma of Criminal Intelligence from Charles Sturt University 2003, Certificate of Project management, 2014. Simon is the Brigade President and current member of Oolong RFS, and President of the Friends of Gunning Library, and Gunning RSL Chapter Member. Simon is one of our newest Directors having been elected to the ULF Board of Directors in 2023.

# MAKE A DONATION

## *Give where you Live*

We have moved our operating accounts to the Bendigo Bank which means we have new account information. To make a donation, or pay a membership you can do so by making a deposit into the below bank account.

**Acct Name: Upper Lachlan Foundation Inc**

**BSB: 633-000**

**Acct: 198 355 174**



# BECOME A MEMBER

## *Start your philanthropic journey for as little as \$20*

Being a Member of the Upper Lachlan Foundation means you can become a part of a community of people giving back to the community we live in.

The ULF rely on Memberships to fund the administration of the Foundation enabling us to grow and spread our reach to every corner of the Upper Lachlan Shire.

Become a member today for as little as \$20 per annum from October to September.

We now also have a **Life Membership** Tier so you can make a greater impact! Life Memberships are a one off donation of \$500.

Download a membership form from our website or get in touch for more info.

# PARTNER WITH US

Become a commercial partner with the ULF by making a periodic financial contribution. In return we will use our resources to advertise your business and the contributions you are making in the community. Contact us to discuss what your business may be able to offer the ULF.

*Thankyou to our existing commercial partners, Crookwell Potato Association & Lidner Socks*



**Crookwell  
Potato  
Association  
Incorporated**



## **Upper Lachlan Foundation Inc**

### **CONTACT US:**

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