



▶ HUGH HARDING

Hugh Harding, ex president of the RAS, is particularly proud of the educational aspect of this not for profit organization.

For education has played a pivotal role in his life having gained his farming experience in stud Hereford and commercial cattle, stud Dowsett and Corriedale sheep, commercial sheep and crops.

A former stock agent Mr Harding's experience has seen him sought by many including Wesfarmers, Harvey Beef, Pastoralist and Graziers' Association and taken his knowledge with him as a serving member of many committees.

Having undertaken the role as president in 2011 – his tenure coming to an end in June – this man has overseen the growth of the school incursion program – Farm 2 School – which has been rolled out to 35000 children in 85 schools throughout WA during the past three years.

“I am a strong supporter of young people gaining a better understanding of agricultural products and where they come from,” says Mr Harding who has taken full advantage of his ‘term of office’ to promote agriculture.

“Education about agriculture is the number one priority of the RAS. The initiative that was rolled out at last year's Show – the Farm 2 Food exhibition pressed all the right buttons in terms of being education, engaging and entertaining.”

According to Mr Harding it is imperative the RAS continues to promote and educate the benefits of West Australian agriculture.

“Particularly as more and more products are being imported and we have no knowledge or understanding of what was used or how it was produced,,” says Mr Harding who believes: “The RAS will continue to be a vitally important vehicle for the education of the growing community of the population that has not been exposed to the rural industry.”