



▶ IAN GREGORY

As a farmer for 40 years and ‘of an era when you had to work things out for yourself’, Ian proudly points out his many skills that have seen him mend, weld, transform, build, solve problems - the list is endless - only Ian’s abilities are not.

Having worked on his family’s farm as a youngster and leaving school at the age of 14 years, taking over the farm at the age of 17 after his father’s death, Ian, you might say, is a self-made man.

Like his forefathers. Ian’s agricultural ‘lineage’ goes back to 1830 when his forefathers settled in the Mt Lawley and Highgate areas eventually moving south of York and finally into the Northam area.

Ian sold the family farm when it became too small and less viable, moved from Northam to Northampton and finally, Badgingarra running cattle and sheep, and growing wheat.

When the ‘hard times’ in farming came Ian divided his time between working on the land and shift work at a mine – the latter for more than 11 years in which time Ian, who had previously been studying for an accounting degree, gained a restricted quarry managers certificate and a Certificate IV front line.

A man who believes in promoting community spirit Ian has been involved in various associations including branch president of the now Farmers’ Federation in Northampton, junior vice president of the P & C and Community Association and Church Council at Badgingarra.

His involvement with the RAS has seen Ian take up many duties in a variety of section and drawing on his interest in supporting country people and rural communities Ian is intent on encouraging the RAS’s promotion of building the bridge between city and country.

Ian’s view as the RAS moves forward into a different phase is a welcoming one – knowing he has many attributes to ‘bring to the RAS table’ including mediation and a visionary ability to look at the bigger picture.