

# Supporting young adults to serve Christ as they go bush for work

**Each year many thousands of young Australian Christians graduate from high school and tertiary studies, and many will move to the bush to start new careers. Can BCA encourage them to consider this as an opportunity for strategic ministry for Christ too?**

This was a key theme of the National Training Event in December, where 1500 Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students from around the country converged on Canberra. Celia Toose from the Evangelical Union at Sydney University spoke at workshops about sending graduates out to the less reached and less resourced areas of Sydney and beyond – taking “Jesus’ words to go seriously and to follow Him no matter what the cost”. During the conference a number of students visited the BCA display and expressed interest in connecting with rural ministry.

There are clear opportunities for BCA



to encourage young people to link in with other Christians as they head out to work in rural locations. To this end, BCA is launching a new area of support which we have called “Going Bush.” One of the components of this support will be BCA staff contact with interested graduates.

A new section of the website has been developed with a registration section: [www.bushchurcaid.com.au/supportingmission/goingbush](http://www.bushchurcaid.com.au/supportingmission/goingbush).

**Please encourage your youth to check it out and please pray for this new area of BCA activity. We’re hoping to do more work with university students this year.**

## Jen Schabel

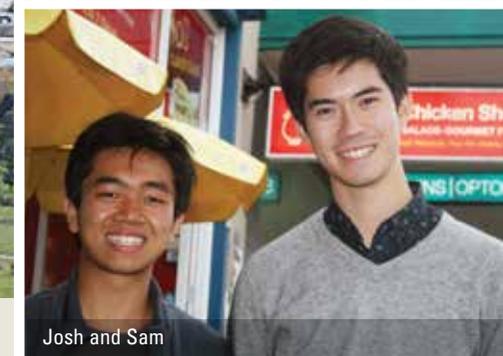
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## Coober Pedy’s plea for young workers:

“Our town has 40 different nationalities and 100,000 tourists through town each year. It doesn’t take long to be known here! Life here allows us to mix freely with people from all walks of life and from overseas. There are so many opportunities to build relationships and speak of Jesus but our church is small and what a difference one or two new enthusiastic serving Christians can make to the whole feel and ministry of our church.”



Geoff and Tracey Piggot



Josh and Sam

Two students who visited the BCA display were Josh and Sam, who have known each other since Year 3 and are now studying 3rd year medicine together at the University of New South Wales. Like all students in medicine they will both get to experience life in the bush on rural placements before

different and being more independent. It helps that he’ll be heading there with two Christian mates, and that their “Christians in Med” group at Campus Bible Study (CBS) at Uni will be praying for them. Compared

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Are you a recent school or Uni leaver and thinking about work in a rural part of Australia? Would it be helpful for you to know Christians in the place you are going, or learn about where you might serve God?

### Going Bush involvement may include:

- receiving prayer support
- connecting with local Christians and churches
- sharing your journey with other Christians going bush

<http://bushchurcaid.com.au/supportingmission/going-bush>

they graduate. Josh will be spending most of 2015 on placement in Griffith, country NSW. Sam will probably head to the country in 5th year. Josh and Sam have both grown up in Sydney in Christian families, made personal commitments to follow Jesus as teens, and are active in their churches. Neither have spent much time in the bush though. Josh is heading away from family, friends and his church for the first time to live in a town seven hours away, but he is excited. He is looking forward to experiencing somewhere

to many students going bush Josh and his friends will have support.

Many students who go bush do make an impact while they are there. Some, whom Josh and Sam know, recently came back from the country where they’d spent all their spare time involved in the local church scene and running evangelistic events. Wouldn’t it be great if BCA could help support and encourage other young Christians going bush to be as intentional in mission while they are there too?