



KATHLEEN CRIMP

INTERGENERATIONAL FARMER

“it’s not just about the money, it’s a way of life, and we do this because its important”

Just 26 years old, Kathleen Crimp known fondly as Kat by those close to her, is inspired to be a dairy farmer and continue the hard work and persistence of both her parents and grandparents. The Crimp family farm was established in 1964 by John and Dorothea Crimp (both now deceased) . Tim and Elizabeth Crimp, Kat's parents continued to build on those foundations and now Kat is absolutely immersed in this wonderful family farming business and enthusiastic about the future and farming sustainably in the region.

Kat has grown up on her family farm in Rosa Glen, and it's clear Kat didn't think of time spent on the farm as work, but rather as a way to spend time and connect with her grandparents and her parents. For Kat, farming life has created an indelible family bond. A passion for the land, the animals and the environment. Kat says, “it's not just about the money, it's a way of life, and we do this because its important.”

Growing up in a rural setting Kat was aware that an occupation in agriculture was not looked upon favourably, “...it wasn't considered exciting or prosperous.....There's a negative stigma, a disconnect between people's understanding of food where it comes from and the effort that is put into food production”. That hasn't stopped Kat's passion for having a future in farming. When Kat graduated from high school she was enrolled to study biology at university in Perth, but after a gap year working on the family farm, Kat decided all the biology she was passionate about was right here on the farm, why move away when she could work and experience it every day learning firsthand about the environment and sustainable farming.

Running a small to medium farm is a fine balance but one that Kat is very conscious of, “A lot of work goes into our farm but it's worthwhile being sustainable. It's important to keep it for the next generation”. Kat has heard stories from her father about how the natural environment has changed in his lifetime, Kat also talks of the changes she herself has seen in her twenty six years on the farm. Kat loves it when she spots a bandicoot while doing the early morning calf feeding and she once saw an echidna on their road, both animals have become very rare in these parts. “We need to protect this, without a healthy environment we can't farm, we've made an impact and we need to protect what's left”.

According to Kat the bush plays an important part on their farm, “...it nurtures the soil and keeps everything where it should be... we love our bush”. Kat's family have been leading the way when it comes to revegetation and fencing off their water ways, “...it's a win win situation, we help protect the environment and do not have to search so far for the cows”.

With young farmers like Kat as role models we hope that farming & agriculture will become an occupation of first choice for young people into the future.



Lower Blackwood Catchment

Land Conservation District Committee

A HEALTHY CATCHMENT STARTS WITH
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

