

## RF (Bob) Pitman Award 2023

At the previous Macalister Demonstration Farm AGM, Alan Clyne was announced as the winner of the RF (Bob) Pitman Award for 2022. This award is in honour of longstanding and well respected MDF Secretary, Bob Pitman, to recognise others within our farming community who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to strive to better the lot for the broader farming community.

Previous winners of the RF Pitman Award are:

2008	Dr. Jakob Malmo	2016	Robert Noble
2009	Graeme Anderson	2017	Jennifer McMillan
2010	John Osborn	2018	Robert White
2011	John White	2019	Greg Hair
2012	Peter and Margaret Stewart	2020	NA (Covid)
2013	Michael Larcombe	2021	Jeanette Howie
2014	Alex Arbuthnot	2022	Alan Clyne
2015	Dale Scott	2023	

This year's winner has been a part of the MID dairy industry most of his life, starting off as a well-established sheep and crop farmer he soon realized that his farm would have to evolve as the industry around him was changing. In 1981 the decisions to go dairy farming wasn't overly supported by his father and he had to learn a lot himself while providing for his family. He has been able to support many other dairy farmers in the area as they strive to better themselves. His commitment to the dairy industry has flowed on to his 3 sons who have all followed in his footsteps to operate successful dairy farms on the original land that he once farmed.

The continuing need to move with the times has seen him adopt many aspects of the dairy industry before it was seen as mainstream: leading genetics, water efficiency, soil and cow health, rotational grazing to name a few.

He has always been community minded from when he was very young as his father was on the local council and involved in many sporting committees. His love for football and the need for local farmers to have an interest off the farm allowed him to become life members of both the Nambrok Football Club and recently the Boisdale Briag Football Club. This commitment to the community that actively supports the dairy industry is why he is so regarded by his peers. He was extremely generous with his time and knowledge to everybody in the industry, but particularly to other dairy farmers. If you asked for help, he would be there to do whatever he could or what was needed.