

Past Student Spotlight

Rosie Green (1993)



My name is Rosalie Crank, you may remember me as Rosalie (Rosie) Green. Class of 1994 but I did my last year in Mungindi.

I grew up between two small country towns, St George and Mungindi as my parents were divorced. Like many kids who grow up in rural Australia, community, hard work and resilience were simply a way of life. I was part of the Girl Guides, netball and most clubs that were available to a country kid. The values I learned from these clubs and the people involved in them, along with the school shaped me into the person I am today.

I attended St George State High for all but one year of my high schooling and while I didn't know exactly at that time where my life would take me,

I knew I wanted to make something of myself. One of the greatest gifts my time at St George State High has given me, is some beautiful friendships. To this day, many of the people I met during those years, remain lifelong friends. No matter where life has taken us, those connections and memories have stayed with me, and I will always be grateful for them. When leaving school, I did a creative writing course, but my life took another turn, and it wasn't the right time.

I lived in St George for a few years, where I had a few jobs and my two beautiful, older children were born and I moved away after a few years. After leaving St George, I spent most of my adult life in the motor industry, working my way up through the ranks to becoming a service manager, a role that taught me invaluable lessons about leadership, problem solving, customer service and perseverance. It was a rewarding career, and one that helped me grow both personally and professionally. It was also very gruelling. Throughout those years, there was always another dream, quietly waiting in the wings. I wanted to become an author. Like many dreams, life sometimes gets in the way. Work, family, responsibilities, and everyday commitments meant that writing was often pushed aside. However, the dream never disappeared. It remained there, waiting for the right time. I had always written stories and had so many notebooks full of them. Two years ago, I made a decision to stop waiting and start putting my dream into reality.

Taking that first step was both exciting and terrifying. Putting your work out into the world requires a lot of courage, especially when you are stepping into something completely unknown and new. Though I quickly realised that dreams only become reality when you are willing to take a chance on yourself.

Since then, I have become a published author, this still seems so weird to say, sharing stories that come from my heart and connecting with readers in ways I would have never imagined possible. Writing has given me the opportunity to inspire others, tell meaningful stories, and to prove to myself that it is never too late to pursue a passion.

One thing that has become important to me over the years is helping people who are doing it tough and small business support. Growing up in small town, country communities, taught me that people look out for each other, and that's something I have tried to carry with me throughout my life and work. I know how much a bit of support can mean because I have needed it myself at times. Whether it is sharing someone's business, offering words of encouragement, making a purchase or simply cheering them on, I have found joy in helping others and seeing them succeed.

One of the biggest lessons I have learned is that success, doesn't always happen in a straight line. Your path can take you in some many directions and then lead you back to your passion. Sometimes your dreams take longer than you planned, it doesn't mean they won't happen.

If I could give one piece of advice to anyone it would be, never give up on the things that matter to you. The dreams you have today might not happen tomorrow, next year or even in twenty years' time, but if you continue to believe in yourself and move forward, incredible things can happen. I am so very proud of my country roots, proud of where I came from and proud to call myself a former St George State High School student. My journey has taken me from a small-town girl to a successful career in the Motor Industry to achieving a lifelong dream of becoming an author.

As the years have passed (they go quick), I've come to appreciate just how lucky I was to grow up in a community like St George. The friendships I made at school have remained some of the most important in my life, and the memories from those years are ones I will always treasure.

Never let anyone tell you that your dreams are too big for a country kid. Sometimes the dream you carry with you the longest is the one that's worth chasing, take it from me it is one of the best decisions I've ever made. And for me, the best part is this chapter is only beginning.