



MEDIA RELEASE

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Family matters as Lawson siblings take out prestigious scholarships

GUC students and Kalbarri siblings Rebecca and Max Lawson have recently been recognised for their commitment to study and community engagement by being awarded prestigious scholarships through the Hollomby Foundation.

Rebecca, in her first year of University of Southern Queensland's Bachelor of Nursing was presented the Hollomby Foundation Scholarship in Nursing, a \$5000 scholarship in honour of the late Joe Hollomby.

Three-years Rebecca's junior, Max took out the \$3000 Mid West Development Commission scholarship as a high achieving recent school leaver commencing full-time studies at GUC. Max is in his first year of a Diploma of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Primary) through CQUniversity.

Whilst the pair were recognised particularly for their outstanding community volunteer work and commitment to studying at GUC the scholarships are sure to ease the enormous financial pressure of full-time study. The Lawson's come from a large family of 6 siblings who are based in Kalbarri. With hundreds of kilometres to travel and the high living costs associated with boarding the young students are delighted that the award of the scholarships will help them to reach their education dreams.

'Receiving this scholarship will make a huge difference to my family and me. My goal is to remain in the region and when I finish my course I want to teach in WA close to my family and friends, preferably in the Mid West and ultimately in Geraldton,' Max said.

While Max boards in Geraldton, Rebecca juggles living in Kalbarri with her partner and traveling to classes at GUC each week - a 360km round trip. Whilst studying each week she also boards 3 days a week in Geraldton in order to undertake her studies.

'The Hollomby Foundation scholarship will definitely ease the pressure and stress of paying double rent and fuel, especially while I try to find sustainable ways to support myself and adopt an appropriate study routine,' said Rebecca.

'I want to be helping others, which is why I chose Nursing. I plan on travelling the world, especially to underprivileged and third world countries. Through nursing I can not only experience these places but also undertake aid work in what is an important career,' she added.

Ends For further information please contact the GUC on 9920 4400

Photo Credit: Rebecca and Max Lawson in GUC's Birndu Nyina Garden.