AMP’s Tomorrow Makers 2015
AMP’s Tomorrow Fund supports some truly amazing Australians doing great things. Inspirational, passionate people who are sharing in $1 million in grants to create a better tomorrow for everyone.

Meet AMP’s 2015 Tomorrow Makers
Janice Ablett – nurse, drug rehabilitator, local hero
Drouin, Victoria

Ice is a big issue in Gippsland, where Janice lives and nurses. In the space of a few weeks in 2014, several young locals who were using the drug took their own lives. Around the same time, a friend’s son arrived on Janice’s doorstep at 3am. He had lost everything to the drug and needed help. These experiences prompted Janice to set up The Ice Meltdown Project. This community group gives people affected by ice the medical treatment as well as the detox and emotional support needed to rebuild their lives. Janice is using her AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to establish a local residential rehabilitation program: “It’s a place where people can recover and relearn the skills needed to survive mentally and physically.”

Kirsten Atkinson – designer, Aboriginal arts advocate
Mullaway, New South Wales

Kirsten is a proud Bangerang woman from central Victoria with a passion for creating children’s clothing using fabrics featuring Aboriginal artwork. Each piece produced by her label, Yingarna Designs, is accompanied by a label explaining the artwork’s meaning. Kirsten’s dream is to see her designs embraced by people from all cultures while showcasing the talents of traditional artists in Victoria and the Mid North Coast of New South Wales, where she now lives with her family: “I am a strong believer in reconciliation. Something as simple as people dressing their children in products promoting Aboriginal culture shows they support Aboriginal Australia.”
William ‘Bill’ Bain – resilient, kayaker, Olympic hopeful
Gold Coast, Queensland

Elite kayaker Bill has overcome his fair share of challenges on the road to Rio. For many years he regularly drove 180km from his family home in Buddina to train at the Australian Institute of Sport on the Gold Coast. However, a string of challenges, including a car crash brought on by exhaustion, plus ankle surgery and a disc problem, never diminished his Olympic dream. After placing second at the U23 World Championships in July 2015, the 21-year-old is back in form and confident of making it to Rio with the help of the AMP Tomorrow Fund: “My setbacks have made me more determined than ever to succeed and be a healthy role model.”

Nagmeldin ‘Peter’ Bol – 800m runner, raw talent, role model
Thornlie, Western Australia

Unlike most of his middle-distance running peers, Peter did not hit an athletics track until well into his teens. Born in Sudan, he spent four years in Egypt before moving to Australia at age 10. When a teacher at his Perth high school suggested he give the 800m a go, he had to ask how many times around the track it was. Six years on, at 21, the construction management student is Australia’s third-fastest 800m runner. Peter’s grant is helping him move to Melbourne to train with top coach Justin Rinaldi and qualify for the Rio Olympics: “I want people to believe everything is possible when they see me on screen representing Australia – not just in sport, but in life.”
Genevieve Clay-Smith – teacher, film-maker, social innovator
Alexandria, New South Wales

Genevieve is the co-founder of Bus Stop Films – a not-for-profit that improves the life-ready skills of people with an intellectual disability or who are marginalised by giving them a film school experience. Her projects include the award-winning Heartbreak And Beauty, a short film about love and loss made by 12 people with intellectual disabilities. Genevieve is using her grant to develop a curriculum and formalise the Bus Stop model so it can be scaled up and accessed by more people in more locations: “I’m proud of the fact that, when surveyed, 100% of past students indicated they had become more confident because of the Bus Stop course.”

Zoe Brain – budding conservationist, young inventor
Wildes Meadow, New South Wales

Zoe, a 12-year-old naturalist in the making, has figured out a smart way to safely and discreetly observe endangered animals that nest high up in trees. After much research, Zoe realised the answer was to place solar-powered webcams in nesting boxes. In addition to building her innovative animal-resistant and weatherproof nesting box devices, Zoe wants to create a pilot program in local schools to enable students to study threatened Southern Highlands fauna up close, with the hope of sharing it nationally: “In my shire alone, there are 29 birds and 12 mammals on the threatened list. I believe these nesting boxes could help their survival.”
Ellie Cole OAM – gutsy trailblazer, Paralympian  
Granville, New South Wales

Ellie started swimming at age three, soon after losing her leg to cancer. What began as a form of rehabilitation turned into a stellar sporting career. Competing in the pool at the past two Paralympics, Ellie took home four gold medals, a silver and two bronze. In 2013, following a double shoulder reconstruction, she was told she would never swim again. Her response was to take up – and excel at – wheelchair basketball. Ellie has since returned to the pool and now hopes to be the first female Paralympian to win gold in two sports; swimming and wheelchair basketball: “To me, my disability has never been a limitation. Instead, it’s been my challenge to work on, work through and finally overcome.”

Elisabeth Cook – organic parfumier, entrepreneur  
Woodville, South Australia

When Elisabeth sold her organic beauty boutique in 2008, she took just one thing with her: her perfume formula. She has since expanded her range and now sells her One Seed organic perfumes locally and overseas through online and traditional stores. With the help of an AMP Tomorrow Fund grant, Elisabeth is upgrading her equipment so she can supply stores in the US and Asia, where there is growing interest in ‘clean and green’ Australian products. Yet the parfumier is determined to keep her business in Adelaide: “One Seed is proudly Australian and supports local businesses, using local suppliers for many ingredients, as well as printing and packaging.”
Una Curry – community-minded cyclist, bike mechanic
Smithfield, Queensland

When she is not studying nursing, Una is getting people on their bikes. In 2014 she started the Rubber Side Down Cycling Collective to promote the health and cost benefits of biking around Cairns. Based on the “teach a man to fish” philosophy, it provides people with the tools and guidance to repair their bicycles. Una is looking forward to nursing in a remote community, but first wants to ensure the collective is sustainable. She is using her grant to buy more equipment and gain the qualification to deliver bike mechanics training: “Being able to train members to a high standard will mean others can run the program, and help make cycling safe and accessible to everyone.”

Saxon Dean – medical researcher in the making
Redfern, New South Wales

A school fundraiser inspired Saxon’s interest in mitochondrial disease, a genetic disorder that affects how the body produces energy and is linked to Parkinson’s disease and diabetes. Now 10, his dream is to study genetics and help find a cure. To get one step closer, Saxon is using his AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to attend the Through The Microscope summer school at the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth in the US. With a focus on mitochondrial disease, it teaches young students lab skills, data interpretation and scientific concepts: “I would love to understand the genetic properties of the human body’s mitochondria and eventually help work out what causes mitochondrial disease.”
Margaret Duncan – artist, businesswoman, teacher
Katherine South, Northern Territory

Margaret took up art later in life as a way of overcoming depression. Her first painting was selected for a national showcase and she has since built a reputation as a master craftswoman who creates beautiful art from natural bush materials. Her dream is to encourage younger Aboriginal people to run their own businesses. Margaret also wants to enrich the lives of non-Aboriginal Australians by providing access to traditional cultural knowledge through workshops: “All my paintings are about healing; I like helping people. Sometimes when you feel sick you want to look at something to feel better and my art makes people feel better.”

Bree De Rome – musician, songwriter on the rise
Stanmore, New South Wales

Originally from the Gold Coast, this talented singer-songwriter has achieved so much in her 21 years. At 15, despite the challenges of dyslexia, she became the youngest person to be accepted into a Bachelor of Popular Music at Gold Coast University. Appearances in the grand finals of Australia’s Got Talent, Triple J airplay and regular gigs have won more music lovers over to Bree’s sweetly nostalgic country sound. Now living in Sydney, she is using her grant to help record an album: “I want to create music that will take listeners to another place, another time. I hope my work ethic and determination will help inspire others to reach their full potential, no matter what they encounter.”
Kristie Findlater – disability advocate, matchmaker
Jamisontown, New South Wales

Kristie is often asked by the people she supports for help to find a boyfriend or girlfriend. But for people with intellectual disabilities, safely navigating the dating world – particularly online – can be challenging. This is why Kristie set up LifeLinks, a program that aims to help people with intellectual disabilities make friends or form relationships through social dinners. She is now using her AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to establish a dating agency that offers supported introductions as well as personal safety and healthy relationship advice: “To love and be loved is a basic human need but this is often not seen as a priority for people with support needs. My agency will help address this need in a safe and understanding manner.”

Kate Gross – book lover, storyteller, literacy champion
Moonah, Tasmania

Kate is passionate about raising the status of literacy in Tasmania, where half of the population has inadequate reading and writing skills to manage daily living and employment tasks. Believing the challenge of improving the state’s low literacy levels should not just rest with teachers, Kate and her colleague Emily Bullock started The Story Island Project. It is based on a model created by US author Dave Eggers and uses fun, interactive storytelling projects to engage young people in literacy. Kate is using her grant to expand the project: “All Tasmanians have a role to play in creating a cultural shift so that reading and writing are valued pursuits.”
**Fernanda Helfer – engineer, clean energy researcher**  
**Surfers Paradise, Queensland**

Pressure-Retarded Osmosis (PRO) is a technique used to harness the energy released when waters with different salinities mix. Fernanda, a Research Fellow at the Griffith School of Engineering, believes Australia has enormous potential to use PRO to capture the energy from the mixing of brine – the reject water from desalination plants – and seawater. Australia’s desalination plants produce a great quantity of brine that could be used to generate power. Fernanda is using her AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to build a lab-scale PRO mixing device to determine the amount of power generated using brine: “My intention is to help save costs involved in the desalination process as well as reduce the industry’s reliance on fossil fuel energy.”

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**Stephen Harrison – sculptor, artist, teacher**  
**Downer, Australian Capital Territory**

Award-winning sculptor Stephen considers art his saviour after a vicious home invasion triggered a mental breakdown and left him with post-traumatic stress disorder. He enrolled to study sculpture as a form of therapy and soon discovered his calling. With a Masters of Art from ANU, Stephen’s works have featured in popular outdoor exhibitions such as Sculpture By The Sea and Sculpture In The Paddock. His goal is to create four bronze sculptures and hold his first Sydney solo exhibition, with help from AMP’s Tomorrow Fund: “I want to show that mental disability and depression are not a hindrance to success. Although I will always suffer bouts of mental darkness, I’m determined to create bold, beautiful and contemporary artwork.”
**Lorraine Hull – carpenter, teacher, role model**  
**Mt Lawley, Western Australia**

When visiting friends in the country, Lorraine realised how difficult it can be to get tradespeople out to rural properties for small jobs. A big believer that anyone can learn home maintenance skills, the carpenter started planning ways to teach basic woodworking skills to regional women. She is using her AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to run workshops that empower rural women – and even encourage them to consider carpentry as a trade: “Woodwork does not come naturally to anyone and there is still a stereotype that these are male duties. These workshops can help women build pride, self-sufficiency and save money.”

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**Morgan Hunter – engineer, inventor, biofuel champion**  
**O’Halloran Hill, South Australia**

Raised in Adelaide, Morgan developed an interest in farming while attending an agricultural high school. The young engineer is now trying to give rural communities access to cost-effective biodiesel produced from unusable crops – effectively turning grain into oil, then into fuel. Morgan has built a working biodiesel machine and will use his AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to create a demonstration model and promote the concept. He envisages these facilities, which could save farmers up to 50% in fuel costs, will be owned by communities: “They will not only create jobs for skilled and unskilled people, but also produce cheaper fuel. And any profits can be reinvested into local programs.”
Helen Keevers – social justice campaigner, community builder
Newcastle, New South Wales

A child protection services veteran, Helen played an instrumental role in triggering the NSW Inquiry into Institutional Responses to Child Abuse and the Federal Royal Commission. Now she is drawing on her considerable community services experience to establish Justiz, a social justice agency operating out of an Indigenous art gallery in the suburb of Mayfield. Justiz helps vulnerable people of all ages to find their voice and pursue a socially just community. Helen is using her grant to set up Justiz’s infrastructure: “We aim to address intergenerational disadvantage in marginalised communities through grassroots consultation and service delivery”.

Katie Kelly – Rio-bound paratriathlete, leading light
Macquarie, Australian Capital Territory

Katie was born with Usher syndrome, a rare degenerative condition that affects both sight and hearing. Early in 2015, just before her 40th birthday, the then “weekend warrior” triathlete was declared legally blind. Amazingly, the day after her ophthalmologist delivered the news, Katie signed up for her first paratriathlon. Having already claimed her first World Championship title with her guide, Sydney Olympics silver-medallist Michellie Jones, Katie is on track to make it to Rio where her event will make its Paralympic debut: “By representing Australia at the Rio Paralympics I hope I can inspire others to achieve their goals, whether in sports or their daily lives.”
Naomi Lake – children’s author, travelling storyteller
Albany, Western Australia

Growing up, Naomi turned to books as a way to escape bullying and isolation. Now 25, she has written a well-received children’s book – Harmony The Forgetful Hen – and is working on a second. Naomi, who has Down Syndrome, is passionate about literacy and loves reading her book to children in libraries and schools. She particularly loves visiting children in remote areas who may never have met an author, and showing them that with the right support anything is possible. Naomi is using her AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to publish her second book and embark on a regional tour: “I want to inspire children to read and follow their dreams too.”

Yu Xiang ‘George’ Kong – ophthalmologist, humanitarian, techie
Fitzroy North, Victoria

Glaucoma affects more than 300,000 Australians, with the prevalence expected to grow as the population ages. Screening is currently only offered by ophthalmologists and some optometrists, which means people in rural areas often don’t get detected until it is too late to save their sight. George, an ophthalmologist with an interest in software development, wants to change this. He has developed VisualFields Easy, a tablet app that can help doctors and patients identify glaucoma. It will also provide the user with information about glaucoma, support services and the location of their nearest optometrist or ophthalmologist: “Tests in Australia, the US and Nepal have indicated the app can detect glaucoma with a high degree of accuracy, so I am hoping it will make a difference, especially in rural areas.”
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Annabelle Laughton – young marine conservationist, educator
South Turramurra, New South Wales

Having snorkelled alongside injured sea turtles and swum with stingrays and sharks, 12-year-old Annabelle is determined to protect threatened marine life. She is on a mission to educate others about ocean conservation, especially shark protection, through her youth ambassador role with the Sea Life Trust organisation. Annabelle is using her AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to buy her own wetsuit, snorkelling gear and underwater camera so she can share more conservation adventures with her school mates and the community: “I hope this will be the first of many steps I will take towards saving our marine creatures – particularly sharks – and our oceans.”

Megan Lim – senior research fellow, sexual health pioneer
Melbourne, Victoria

Social media and smartphones have changed the way young people communicate and learn about sex. Megan, a research fellow at the Burnet Institute, is interested in the impact these new technologies are having on their sexual health and wellbeing – particularly with regards to ‘sexting’ and online pornography. Megan will use her grant to research the experiences and attitudes of Victorians aged from 15 to 17, with a view to developing an evidence-based sexual health education guide: “The research will assist and benefit both the community health and youth sectors, including schools and parents that are grappling with responses to this difficult issue.”
Lewis Major – choreographer, dancer, arts advocate
Millicent, South Australia

After building a successful dance career in Europe over five years, Lewis has returned home to Australia to re-establish himself as a choreographer. Having grown up on a sheep farm in rural South Australia, he is passionate about inspiring other young Australians in country areas to participate in the arts. Lewis is using his AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to become an internationally recognised local choreographer and produce his first full evening of work: “This grant is giving me the time, space and resources to fulfil my choreography dream and re-orient my arts practice back to my first passion – connecting with Australian audiences.”

Peter Macreadie – marine scientist, blue carbon leader
Box Hill North, Victoria

Originally a biochemist, a cancer diagnosis in his mid-twenties caused Peter to re-evaluate his life and follow his true passion – marine science. He is on a mission to raise awareness of the carbon storing potential of Australia’s coastal ecosystems, which can hold up to 40 times more carbon than inland areas. Peter is using his AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to help measure greenhouse gases from degraded coastal habitats with the aim of highlighting the need to protect key sites around Australia’s coastline: “My research will develop new knowledge of how coastal ecosystems should be managed to ensure our vast reservoirs of coastal carbon achieve maximum carbon offset capacity.”
Kurtis Marschall – pole vaulter, Olympic hopeful
Happy Valley, South Australia

Not many South Australians would forgo a promising AFL career to devote themselves to pole vaulting. Yet Kurtis believes he made the right choice by channelling all his energies into the Olympic sport back in high school. Sitting on top of the Australian rankings, he is now closer to his ‘ultimate life goal’ – winning Olympic gold. The 18-year-old university student is using his grant to help pay for competition fees and travel on his way to Rio 2016: “I want to get the message out that anyone who wants something bad enough can achieve anything.”

Timothy McCallum – analyst, open information champion
Toowoomba, Queensland

While there has been an exponential growth in publicly funded research literature in recent years, user paywalls and disparate websites make accessing this information difficult. Timothy, a senior analyst at the University of Southern Queensland, is determined to unlock this wealth of information. He has created an easy-to-use website that provides centralised and free access to publicly funded research. Timothy is using his AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to further develop and promote his website: “Students, business owners, farmers and more, will be able to locate information and improve their knowledge by reading high-quality, current research at no cost.”
Shaun McMahon – public policy student, change agent
Manly, New South Wales

Shaun has a longstanding interest in social change. At university, he participated in international model UN conferences. On graduating, he travelled to Bolivia to help grow a conservation social enterprise in the Amazon. Through his subsequent strategy consultant role at Social Ventures Australia (SVA), Shaun has come to understand the structural challenges impeding the non-profit sector. His AMP Tomorrow Fund grant is helping to fund his Masters of Public Policy studies at the Harris School of the University of Chicago: “It will allow me to make a greater contribution towards advocating for crucial reforms that could transform the sector and our communities.”

Duncan Meerding – designer, craftsman
South Hobart, Tasmania

This furniture designer’s fascination with light and form, and the highly tactile nature of his carefully crafted work, reflects the sensory world he inhabits. Being legally blind, Duncan has less than 5% vision concentrated around the periphery. Duncan says his work is a reminder of humankind’s intrinsic connection with nature, which is why he uses sustainably sourced timber for his furniture and lighting designs. One piece in particular, the cracked log light, has been acclaimed both locally and internationally. His AMP Tomorrow Fund grant will help Duncan to reach an even wider audience at European trade shows: “It is important to show that someone with severely impaired vision can succeed in the visual arts and create a career for themselves.”
Ian Phipps – emergency services worker, rural champion
Taroom, Queensland

Over the years, Ian has seen many locals mourn loved ones who died due to a lack of emergency medical care. Sitting 464km from Brisbane and 314km from Rockhampton, Taroom is just outside the reach of three helicopter rescue services, so emergency patients must endure long road trips before they can be airlifted to hospital. The former policeman, veteran ambulance and emergency services volunteer wants to use his grant to obtain his accredited first-response training so he can provide greater support to Taroom’s only ambulance officer. “Without this help it would take years to undertake this training; time that could impact upon people’s lives.”

Lakeisha ‘Lucky’ Patterson – elite swimmer, Paralympic hopeful
Caboolture, Queensland

When she was small, Lakeisha was told it would be very difficult for her to walk. Today, despite having cerebral palsy, epilepsy and early onset Parkinson’s disease, the 16-year-old known as ‘Lucky’ is not only walking but also swimming at an elite level. Determined to make it to the Rio Paralympics, Lucky and her mum Sherryn drive two hours a day to train at Sunshine Coast University. The world number two is using her grant to pay for her travel costs and help realise her 2016 Paralympics dream: “Swimming has saved my life. By displaying my commitment, I hope others will be inspired to make healthy changes to their own lives.”
Ray Pickard – educator, astronomer, observatory owner
Bathurst, New South Wales

A childhood visit to a small observatory first sparked Ray’s interest in astronomy. In 2000, after decades exploring the cosmos through a lens, Ray opened his own observatory on the outskirts of Bathurst. With its variety of imaging and research telescopes, as well as a world-class mineral collection, the centre regularly hosts school students. Now Ray, a qualified teacher, is using his AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to educate and inspire more young people to learn about the heavens: “It’s always been my goal to improve the site as a focal point of learning about astronomy and cultural sky law of the local Wiradjuri people – through both online and on-site education.”

Ravi Prasad – social entrepreneur, welcoming Australian
Erskineville, New South Wales

After working in advertising for 20 years, Ravi decided it was time to do something different. In 2013, he and wife Della opened a café in his inner-Sydney lounge room with the aim of helping refugees and asylum seekers settle into their new home. Parliament On King not only trains new arrivals in barista skills and food preparation, but also connects them to the community through welcome dinners and catering jobs. Ravi is using his AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to build Parliament’s catering social enterprise: “I want to give asylum seekers, refugees and recent arrivals the opportunity to meaningfully participate in both the social and economic life and prosperity of our country.”
Katelyn Rika – golfer, high achiever, role model
Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory

Katelyn’s achievements in the sport of golf belie both her age and location. Hailing from remote Arnhem Land, she first picked up a golf club at the age of eight. In four short years, she has won a host of local and state-based titles, including the Northern Territory Junior Masters. Although the local Gove golf course only has nine holes and the nearest competitive events are over 1,000km away, Katelyn is determined to be the first junior Territorian to win the Australian Amateurs: “No matter where you live, dreams can be achieved with the right support. I hope my story and success will inspire more young people, especially young women, to keep working hard to achieve their dreams.”
Shantelle Thompson – Barkindji warrior, leader, wrestler
Thomastown, Victoria

One of 17 children, Shantelle is a proud Barkindji woman, mother of three, teacher and world-class Brazilian jiu jitsu competitor. She also works with members of the Stolen Generation, providing support and mentoring. Now Shantelle wants to add Olympic wrestler to her impressive list of accolades. Although relatively new to the sport, she believes she has the drive and strength to represent Australia and become a role model for Aboriginal women: “I want to empower people to take control of their own lives and learn the skills to heal and grow. Competing in the Olympics would show that it is possible to overcome adversity and rise to the top.”

Shaye Starr – interior architect, PhD candidate, dementia fighter
Carlisle South, Western Australia

A graduate of Interior Architecture at Curtin University, Shaye is interested in how the interior environment impacts the wellbeing of people with dementia. Her PhD project explores this concept by exposing aged care facility residents to a special room with 180-degree projections of natural landscapes. She is using her grant to purchase technology and software. Her hope is that her immersive experience research will also improve the symptoms of people with acquired brain injuries, severe autism and psychological disorders, and reduce the reliance on medication: “Improving the lives of people who can’t communicate their needs is my passion. I hope my efforts not only improve the quality of life for individuals with dementia, but that of their caregivers as well.”
Airlie Trescowthick – agricultural analyst, communicator
Orange, New South Wales

Born and raised on a sheep and cattle farm in the Southern Riverina, Airlie has a strong connection to the land and the agricultural industry. After school she headed to Melbourne to gain a Commerce/Arts degree before becoming an economics consultant. But she was drawn back to agriculture and went on to gain a Masters in Food and Resource Economics in Canada. Now, Airlie is combining her analytics skills, love of the land and first-hand farming experience to create The Farm Table – an easy-to-use central online resource that aims to connect, inform, teach and unite farmers and students: “I want to help farmers overcome the isolation and barriers to learning by connecting them to timely, practical, relevant and high-quality research and business resources.”

Debbie Watson – determined doctor, medical researcher
Mollymook, New South Wales

A medical researcher specialising in the field of transplantation and immunology, Debbie has spent many years focusing on graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), a complication of donor bone marrow transplantation. Such is her determination to overcome GVHD that when she moved back to the South Coast for family reasons she set up a genetics research lab at the University of Wollongong’s Shoalhaven campus from scratch. The AMP Tomorrow Fund grant will enable Debbie to continue her vital research: “GVHD affects half of all donor bone marrow transplant recipients and can be fatal in up to 30% of patients. This research has the potential to lead to exciting outcomes that will prevent GVHD and benefit cancer patients.”
Stefanie Young – educator, tech enthusiast, problem-solver
Mont Albert, Victoria

As a special education teacher, Stefanie knows only too well the barriers to literacy children with complex physical disabilities face. Being unable to pick up a book and turn the pages like most children puts them at a significant disadvantage when learning to read and write. To overcome this, Stefanie is creating a digital book reader for mobile devices that is entirely accessible using external switches located near the child’s head or hands, or mounted on their wheelchair. This low-cost app will enable the child to independently select a book and turn the pages: “This app could provide the students at my school, and beyond, access to a world of books and give them a huge literacy boost.”

Emily Wurramara – songwriter, Aboriginal performer, leader
Sandgate, Queensland

As a girl growing up on Groote Eylandt in the Northern Territory, Emily loved hearing her uncles sing at community gatherings. This spurred her on to write and share her own songs. A gifted musician who plays guitar, keyboard and ukulele, and performs her own songs both in English and Anindilyakwa languages, Emily is using her AMP Tomorrow Fund grant to tour and promote her debut CD: “I want to not only share my culture with Australia, but also inspire and empower members of my own community, especially young Indigenous women, to find their voice.”
To keep up with our AMP Tomorrow Makers and to learn more about applying in 2016, visit ampstomorrowfund.com.au

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