



Sunday, 14 July, 2019 | The West Australian (page 20)



Show stopper: Jai Thomas and his award-winning cattle. Picture: Bob Garnant

THE CATTLE BREEDER

It's not your average teenager who has their own registered beef cattle stud, but Jai Thomas is not your average teenager.

And he has the wins on the board to prove it.

Jai shows Shorthorn cattle from his own registered stud, JT Country Life, at Serpentine.

What's more, he started the stud when he was just 13, calling on the help and support of his dad, a dairy farmer and farm manager at

Murdoch University. And at just 17 years old, Jai is already an old hand at genetics and breeding, and also on the show circuit.

His appearances at the Perth Royal Show's junior dairy cattle parade awards earned him wins three years in a row when he was younger.

He has been showing his own beef cattle, under his own JT Country Life Shorthorns name, since 2015.

His wins at last year's Perth Royal Show included supreme champion Shorthorn and grand and junior champion Shorthorn bull.

He also took out senior champion bull, and claimed a string of wins with his cows and heifers.

When he finishes school, Jai hopes to continue his interest in animals and breeding by studying vet science.

Jai is currently Australia's No.1 junior dairy cattle judge.

MEET

These inspiring rising stars have already started their own brilliant careers, writes **Mandy Squires**

WHAT were you doing in your teens?

Probably not making big money, running a successful business, swaying public opinion, or saving the planet.

Meet WA's young guns, who are doing just that.

They're some of the country's most inspiring and influential young people.

Today, we've put together a list of 25 of the country's rising stars. They include young social media influencers, athletes, actors, entrepreneurs, YouTubers, inventors, academics, farmers and scientists, aged from just six months to 18 years. Some have made their names in the online world, while others have done so by pushing their bodies or brain power to the limit.

And if you're wondering why we've listed the Instagram following of many of our child and teen stars, it's because, as a rule of thumb, the amount of

FOR THE FULL LIST OF AUSTRALIA'S 25 YOUNG GUNS GO TO

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money made from Instagram influencer posts is based on how many thousand followers the person has. A person with between 30,000 and 40,000 followers can expect to make about \$400 for a post promoting a product or event; someone with 40,000 to 50,000 followers about \$450; 100,000 to 150,000 followers about \$800 a post, and so on.

YouTubers make money based on the number of subscribers they have, through advertisements on their channels and by selling their own merchandise.