Bec Kelly

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**SPEAKERS**

Oli Le Lievre, Bec Kelly

**Oli Le Lievre** 00:05

This series is a GRDC investment that takes you behind the scenes as we sit down with some of the people shaping our grain industry, uncovering their journeys, learning more about their passions and the projects that are part of their everyday. We are over in Western Australia. This is now the third part of what has been the GRDC In Conversation Podcast. We’ve covered Southern Australia, we’ve covered the north across NSW and Qld, and now we’ve headed west to meet with all sorts of growers, advisers, researchers and people involved in the Aussie grains industry. Welcome to the next series.

**Oli Le Lievre** 02:19

To start off, we and I think the best part of that I get out of coming on the road is I get to go for a bit of a look around different people's farms. But there's lots of people who are probably listening to GRDC podcast and haven't either come over to the West or don't really know much about the wheat belt over here. So if you're able just to give me a bit of a run through and and the listeners as well of like, whereabouts are we on the West Coast and what? What's this region best known for?

**Bec Kelly** 02:45

So we're in Mingenew, which is about 400 Ks, north of Perth. I'm located about 25 minutes in land from the coast, and we're a wheat growing area. So we're wheat, canola, lupins, and we grow some pastures on my farm and around the area, there's also a bit of barley grown as well.

**Oli Le Lievre** 03:04

And so if we're to choose a couple of words or a couple of sentences to summarise the 2024 season for you, how would you describe it?

**Bec Kelly** 03:12

Oh, I think every year…So I've been here eight years now, and every year has been so vastly different, and it's really hard to to find a pattern or to make sense of it. But this year, we were really dry up until the 31st of May. I think I'd had maybe about 29 mil up until that point, and then from May 31st until today. So we're in September. It's just been raining non stop. I think I'm up to three and 380 mil for the year, which has been has been phenomenal considering it's only been a couple of months.

**Oli Le Lievre** 03:47

And so you've been home now for for a few years. So since you came home 2018 was it?

**Bec Kelly** 03:52

Yeah, 2018. So we went to Marcus together. Um, before that. So I finished. I went to boarding school in Perth, and then started marketing, and then I took a gap year that went for a couple of years longer than one year. So I lived in America for a bit, teaching kayaking and canoeing, and then moved down to South America and ran pub crawls for a little bit. And then I moved to Europe, and I was a tour guide over there for a while, and then I came back. We did a uni degree together, and then I've been home on the farm since.

**Oli Le Lievre** 04:29

Okay, so there's a little bit to dissect there. Let's let's jump back. So this this property where we are here, or always been home, for you and your family.

**Bec Kelly** 04:36

Always been home. So I'm third generation on this farm. We've had it for over 70 years. I think 72 years.

**Oli Le Lievre** 04:43

Amazing. And so school down in Perth, and was…you said you studied marketing. So was agriculture of interest to you growing up?

**Bec Kelly** 04:52

Yeah, I loved it. I didn't know how it fitted in with my personality, personality and and where I saw myself going but I always loved it. I always loved coming home and it's a it's a beautiful farm

**Oli Le Lievre** 05:05

If we rewind back to like, I guess, those mid teenage years, like that, 15 16, as you start to choose subjects and potentially, think of what that university degree looks like, what what were the interests, and what do you think defined you back then?

**Bec Kelly** 05:19

So back in primary school, I always wanted to be an agronomist, so that was on my I think it was probably the longest word I knew early in primary school. So that's where I wanted to go. High school, I think, I was more interested in the communication side of things, so I saw myself going into marketing or events or somewhere along that, those lines, and then took a gap year and was always driving past paddocks, and wanted to know what was happening in the paddock. So I'd be driving in Albania, or, I don't know, Russia, places like that, and I wanted to know what was going on. So when I decided to come home to the farm, I did an ag. degree and then tried to give myself the best chance of being here. And I've been here for about eight years.

**Oli Le Lievre** 06:06

What do you reckon the time overseas and the time away from the farm, like being a kayaking instructor and other things like, how has that benefited you? And why was that time away from the farm so important?

**Bec Kelly** 06:19

I think it was important so that it wasn't I knew what else was out there. It's I didn't, I didn't just, I don't know, not try anything else. I've tried a whole heap of things and worked out that this is exactly where I want to be. And so I think that was important. I think I'm the kind of personality that likes to to experience a lot of things. And if I'd just come home straight to the farm when I was 17, straight after year 12, I might have been burnt out already or wanted to explore and go on my gap years now, whereas at least I've done that and I can…I can give this a crack.

**Oli Le Lievre** 06:52

Yeah, and that marketing degree, partnered with studying at Marcus Oldham, came in in quite handy, I guess, in your first agriculture career type job?

**Bec Kelly** 07:03

Yeah, well, I still haven't finished marketing. I went on, went on my gap year and then changed track. It's…I think studying anything is handy. I don't think it matters what you study. It's just that it gives you the ability to learn and the curiosity, I guess. So it's not so much about what you study.

**Oli Le Lievre** 07:20

And how was your time in Sydney?

**Bec Kelly** 07:22

Yeah. So after Marcus, I went to Sydney. I loved it. I lived in this beautiful apartment with a friend of mine, Leah, and we lived, you could see the Harbour Bridge outside the lounge room, and it was right in the heart of it. And, yeah, it was, it was fantastic. I loved living there. I don't think I'd want to live there forever, but it was definitely perfect for then.

**Oli Le Lievre** 07:45

Did you find you met many people in ag. circles when you're working in Sydney or not so much?

**Bec Kelly** 07:50

No, no, not at all. I, I think I worked in an ag. company, so I worked for Syngenta, and there was a lot of people that were maybe more ag. adjacent than coming from, from farms and things, but everyone else I socialised with where they were brought up in cities, it was they still don't know what I do on a farm. I think they think I grow cotton, but...

**Oli Le Lievre** 08:12

Slightly wrong side of Australia for that.

**Bec Kelly** 08:14

Yeah, yeah, exactly.

**Oli Le Lievre** 08:17

And then, and then coming home for you, like, talk to me about that the decision to leave Sydney and leave the corporate side of agriculture, was it something that you longed for, or was it just the timing to give it a shot came about?

**Bec Kelly** 08:29

It was just the timing. It was my parents were at a stage where they wanted me to have a little bit more direction if I wanted to come home, or if I wanted to continue doing ad-role somewhere else. And, yeah, I needed to come home and give it a crack and see if it's what I wanted.

**Oli Le Lievre** 08:46

So if you, if you go back to 2018, when you first came back, what was the first season at home like? And what have you…what did your parents have you doing?

**Bec Kelly** 08:53

We've always like they've allowed me to do anything I, you know, I could turn this farm into a carrot farm, as long as I had done the right amount of research and report writing like they're very open to change. They're very open to new ideas, not stuck in their way. And they're they're quite progressive. I can't remember what 2018 was like, but I know that 2018 to 2024 not one season’s been the same. Every year there's something I I learn, and I this is fantastic I'm going to take this into the next year. I'm, you know, I'm this little bit more advanced in in whatever I've learned, and then the following year comes and I have no idea what's going on yet again. I I think the more I'm here, the less I actually work out I know.

**Oli Le Lievre** 09:36

Yeah, has a funny way of humbling you, doesn't it?

**Bec Kelly** 09:39

Yeah it does. And there's so much out of my control as well. I I have found that hard the whole way through that the lack of control over a lot of these elements, like you can do everything right and try your hardest and still have a terrible year financially. Not…it's it does take a while to get used to, and I definitely think there's a lot of…I don't know the right word, maybe courage or bravery, for people that are doing this year in, year out, and not knowing the result.

**Oli Le Lievre** 10:08

How do you get comfortable with that, like when it comes to because I'd say my world is so far removed from from that. So when it comes to a new season and fronting up again, how do you how do you personally approach it, knowing that the end result is not guaranteed, and there's so much up in the air?

**Bec Kelly** 10:23

I think you just have to get comfortable with not being comfortable. So it's, I'm not sure. I don't have an answer. I I still haven't worked it out. It's still, it's still something that you can control, what you can control. But I mean, I come from two very positive and optimistic parents, and we get along really, really well. And if you can't change it, just don't worry about it. Don't stress about it.

**Oli Le Lievre** 10:47

How quickly and can you talk through that transition period that happened? So from coming home alongside your parents to now, obviously still working with them, but it's slightly different now.

**Bec Kelly** 10:58

Yeah. So we we make every choice together still, I reckon I'd, I'd talk to him on the phone 10 times a day, every day, like just, just so that everyone's got the free reign to make their choices and you automatically know what someone else is up to. It's been quite easy. We get along…we get along really, really well. And there's different parts of the business as well. My parents have definitely given me a lot of a lot of free rein to do what I like, but they are here for every decision if I want them to, or I can make it myself if I want to.

**Oli Le Lievre** 11:30

And so who's involved in the business today alongside you? Yeah.

**Bec Kelly** 11:34

Yeah. So my parents myself make the decisions for the farm, and then we've got brilliant people that work with us as well. So yeah, we've got great staff, and we've got a lot of great contractors and a great community around us. So that side always helps.

**Oli Le Lievre** 11:50

The township of Mingenew, I've only, like, literally driven through, went to the bakery I could after going through some of the other towns. It is absolutely bustling in there at the moment, it's all happening.

**Bec Kelly** 12:02

Yeah, it looks like that, but you give it a month. So our town is really famous for wildflowers, and right now it is one of the best wildflower seasons you've ever seen. So I'd say there's probably, I don't know, how many cars would you have thought were there? 30?

**Oli Le Lievre** 12:18

I reckon there's probably, like 15 people in the bakery.

**Bec Kelly** 12:21

Yep. But that that will change in a month's time. It will start getting hotter here and and no more tourists, but at this time of year, it is. It's a bustling town.

**Oli Le Lievre** 12:30

And there's a few different businesses down the main street there, but the the grower group and obviously the bakery. But the town itself, not huge, but a pretty important centre.

**Bec Kelly** 12:40

Yeah. So we used to be the grain centre. So we used to be the highest or the largest, inland receivable point in WA so there's a fair bit of grain around here. And we've got lots of great businesses. We've got MIG is one of them, so Mingenew Irwin Group. And so they do…yesterday, we had a field day. And so it's, I don't know how many people, maybe, maybe 60 odd people. And we go around and look at crops and chemistry and fertilizer applications and try and have group learnings from it.

**Oli Le Lievre** 13:09

And that side of things, can you explain that a little bit more in terms of how you've used the different grower groups, and how you've surrounded yourself with the right people, both in the day to day, but also outside?

**Bec Kelly** 13:20

Yeah, it's it is all about the right team around you, isn't it? So we've got great agronomists. We've got a great community. The Grow Group is fantastic. So they do trials every year and and it's very specific to the town, so we know exactly what the best variety of wheat that was grown here in 2024 or or 2023, or whenever it was, and we can change our practices to make sure that as a community, we're getting the best results.

**Oli Le Lievre** 13:46

Yeah. And so what came out of yesterday’s field day. Yesterday was really

**Bec Kelly** 13:50

Yesterday was really good. It was a really varied Field Day. We looked at fire breaks and so new chemistry on fire breaks. We looked at Sclero in lupins. We looked at noodle wheat, a few different varieties coming through. We had the AGIC team up, and they did a tasting and noodle wheat, so we could look at what the Japanese market actually looks for in their noodles. So we did udon noodle tasting, and we had a talk from swarm bot, which is robotics, financial implications on wheat, net zero. So it's quite a varied program. It's really, it was a good one,

**Oli Le Lievre** 14:30

And I think we'll get to you Nuffield in a sec second. But even that, you've talked to a few different topics right there, in terms of autonomy, chemistry, I guess, and consumer and market insights. How are you staying across what's happening and what are the things that you're really prioritizing, I guess, for your business now?

**Bec Kelly** 14:52

I think WA has a lot of advisers, in general compared to the East Coast. So we've got grain brokers, we've got agronomist teams, we've got accountancy teams. So we've got a lot of people advising us. We've got, yeah, farm consultants, a lot of people advising us on areas that they are the authority on and and can provide that information. So it means I don't look at the grain prices from all the different companies. Every single day, I get one message from my broker every single day telling me where it's sitting, where it's sitting on the world markets, his advice on where to go next. So I think that really helps cut down a lot of well, it makes me more efficient.

**Oli Le Lievre** 15:36

And do you find yourself talking to many of our friends and people you went through Marcus Oldham with on the east coast as well, like from a from a business insight perspective?

**Bec Kelly** 15:45

I probably I don't enough. I definitely should, but I do have a range of different people I consult for where Australia sits on the market and where prices are sitting, or inputs and outputs. So I do talk to a lot of people.

**Oli Le Lievre** 16:01

I do want to ask you about your Nuffield topic, and you've literally kind of stepped off stage presenting it, so a big couple of years building up to this point. Firstly, I guess, what does it feel like at the other end of your Nuffield…won't call it experiment, but your Nuffield like scholarship and yeah, the journey you've been on around the world over the last couple of years?

**Bec Kelly** 16:22

I felt like it was good to finish it, but I've been advised by everyone that you're not like, this is just a start. This is the two years are done, but now it's what you can give back and where else you can grow and learn from. So I don't think it's…I kind of, I didn't put as much emphasis on the rest of the process, but it's been good. I presented on Wednesday, so I think there was 17, in my cohort, and about 14 of us presented. And it's it was great. I was so proud of everyone getting up there, and what they've done in a couple of years.

**Oli Le Lievre** 16:57

Was there any any particular topics that you I guess. Yeah, listen to extra closely.

**Bec Kelly** 17:04

I listened to them all. I was taking notes. And, yeah, I've heard a lot of their topics over the past two years. We we've got a really strong cohort, and so we've been talking the whole way through, and I knew what they've found and the direction they've gone. But yeah, there was, it's so varied. There was every animal you can think of, every topic you can think of was covered in the last, well it's been covered in Nuffield, but we had someone representing it in the last couple of years.

**Oli Le Lievre** 17:31

That's awesome. And so your topic…can you explain your topic and what it was that you set out on a couple of years ago?

**Bec Kelly** 17:38

Yeah. So when I came home in 2018 we had a knock at the door from a gas company, and so they wanted to put a few gas rigs on the farm. And we can grow wheat. We know how to grow lupins and canola, but we were out of our realm or out of our depth when it came to this gas…we didn't know which way to go for information, and a lot of the information online is sponsored or funded by some of these resource companies, so it's quite hard to know if the information is biased or where the benefit for farmers are. So I did a Nuffield on that subject, and it was about the negotiations with the energy companies. So it's I've got gas, but it could easily be wind or solar or telephone lines or roads or something like that, and it was just a negotiation process. And it's been great. I went to Canada, America, Germany, Scotland, Netherlands, and about five other countries as well, looking at energy negotiations. And I thought I was going to come away with a with a formula or a theory or or a way to really make it work for us, but I did find that most people are getting taken advantage of, or most farmers are getting taken advantage of in most countries. Um, slightly different with renewables, because it's on your top soil, so you get more of a more of a say of how it goes. And you're, you're compensated a little bit higher, but for the gas and the mining, it was, yeah, a lot of learnings.

**Oli Le Lievre** 19:16

And because I think, like, well, I feel like it came up at university a bit, but you technically, I think it's only like your first six inches or something of soil you technically own, and then underneath that is where the the mining companies and whatnot could come in and realistically, like, take it out from underneath your feet.

**Bec Kelly** 19:32

Yeah, so it's different. So it depends on your title. So some of my titles I own down to the core. So it's, it's called a heaven to hell title is the nickname for it, and you can go the whole way down, but you don't own any of the natural resources. So I don't own gold, silver, petroleum, oil, some of the royal minerals, and then some of my other titles are 2000 feet. I've got a few at 80 metres. So they they changed metrics as well.

**Oli Le Lievre** 20:02

And did you find that, like, early on in that process, you were literally just trying to get yourself up to speed, like thinking, Did you come in at it as a blanket understanding of, oh, we must own that.

**Bec Kelly** 20:12

Yeah, yup.

**Oli Le Lievre** 20:13

So big, big educational journey too.

**Bec Kelly** 20:15

Yeah, huge. I had no idea of what we owned. And it’s been a whole roller coaster the whole way through thinking, um, yeah, not understanding what our rights were, and then understanding what our rights are, and sometimes getting a little bit disheartened that everything is followed…everything comes from an act that is, I don't know, 50 years old. So it's been a big learning so far.

**Oli Le Lievre** 20:37

And so travelling the world, the questions, and did you have, like, a hypothesis or something that you started with that you wanted to test?

**Bec Kelly** 20:45

And not really, I didn't even, I didn't even know what my hypothesis should be. I I just wanted as much information as I could. And I think because I broadened it, it couldn't have a hypothesis, because it was, it was over six different enterprises that could come through.

**Oli Le Lievre** 21:00

So it was really looking at like how to…when it comes to not farmers pushing back as such, but yeah, when it comes to understanding where your point is of what you can give versus what you can get, that's what you wanted to understand whether, and it was across whether someone wanted to put or get oil out or gas or put solar panels on, or, as you say, a telephone line kind of through the property.

**Bec Kelly** 21:25

Yeah, exactly it was. Yeah. Working out, working out what the loopholes are, what can be in it for farmers, what are the repercussions where people have gone wrong, and what I should look out for, because it's, it's a 30 year contract is, is trying to do things like I know what I know today, and it's hard working out what I need to know in 30 years time to make sure I'm still benefiting from the situation.

**Oli Le Lievre** 21:50

And it's so hard going into that, because things are going to change so much as well.

**Bec Kelly** 21:55

Oh, exactly, yields, prices, inputs, what we're growing, what the land looks like the environmental issues, it's all it's so up in the air and and you can do your best. But I know people that have had contracts for, you know, 30 to 40 years, and what they had 40 years ago is worth nothing now. It's worth I don't know…

**Oli Le Lievre** 22:16

The paper it’s written on paper.

**Bec Kelly** 21:17

The paper it’s written on.

**Oli Le Lievre** 22:18

And so as you went around the world looking at this, what were some of the things that you picked up and talk to me about, yeah, some of the regions that you went to and why?

**Bec Kelly** 22:26

Yeah. So the one that I found had the best situation for farmers, for the gas situation, definitely Texas. They own about, well, if you owned mineral rights so some people own surface rights, mineral rights, or they can own both. But if you own mineral rights, you are getting up to 28% royalty, which is huge. And then if you owned only the surface rights, you were still getting paid for water rights. So it's you were still making a fair bit of money out of it that way. And then in terms of renewables, if you were in the EU with the subsidies, it was you're making more money from that than you were from farming the land beneath it. So it is really attractive in that sense, but it was also like the financial component is such a small component of this, it's…you can be dazzled by shiny Numbers, but it is the the environmental aspect of it, or your time that you're putting into it, you need to make sure that your mental health at the end of this is that you're still benefiting from a situation that is mostly out of your hands.

**Oli Le Lievre** 23:31

And so when you looked at agriculture around the world, what were some of the things like, what what hit you as being like, incredibly similar, but also, what were some of the differences that you had?

**Bec Kelly** 23:41

Just with agriculture?

**Oli Le Lievre** 23:43

Yeah, just agriculture generally.

**Bec Kelly** 23:44

I think, I think that Ireland, or the EU, but especially Ireland, is so much more environmentally focused and environmentally strong than we are, and it's something that we're getting into. It's something that we're we're getting a lot of pushback on and we're going to have to go that direction, but we are so far behind in that sense. I think another one thing about Australia is that we are fairly good with our grower groups, and I think we're very good at being transparent with information.

**Oli Le Lievre** 24:17

Yeah.

**Bec Kelly** 24:18

I don't think that's a strong enough answer. Actually, I I'm not sure what I have…It's so varied I haven't actually sat down and put it together where I think Australia sits in agriculture compared to all these other countries.

**Oli Le Lievre** 24:32

And then from a coming back to the nuances of your topic, what were the some of the similar things that you learned across the board?

**Bec Kelly** 24:40

I know this is going to be not like a wishy washy answer, but I think it comes down to the people. It's yeah, good people, wherever we went, everyone's so invested and excited and and you have to love what you do. It's not...I mean, there's good seasons, bad seasons. You're not going to make money every single year, but if you enjoy it and you're learning from it, and you're surrounding yourself with the right people, then it's, it's a good way of life.

**Oli Le Lievre** 25:10

And for you right now, like, what is it? What like, why are you what are you really getting out of farming here at home?

**Bec Kelly** 25:16

What am I getting out of being here?

**Oli Le Lievre** 25:18

Yeah.

**Bec Kelly** 25:19

I enjoy it like we went…I mean, my my day to day. I, yeah, I had two meetings over zoom this morning, a little bit of farm work, work for some bugs, and then, yeah, drove around the farm with you and looked at gas rigs and beautiful wheat crops. I guess I'm not trapped in an office for the entire day. I can plan my own time. Sometimes it is very busy and you are a run off your feet, but other times you're you're able to sit back and enjoy it. So…

**Oli Le Lievre** 25:53

Enjoy having a cuppa on the on the veranda.

**Bec Kelly** 25:55

Yeah, exactly, yeah.

**Oli Le Lievre** 25:58

And so looking ahead, what's what's next for you? What do if we look down the barrel of maybe, yes, like 10 years time? What a what do you think it looks like here for you personally farming here at Mingenew?

**Bec Kelly** 26:11

So a lot more robotics coming into it, hopefully, a little bit more certainty on how each season is going to play out, and know where you can maximise inputs and outputs, growing more wheat, growing better wheat, I'm not sure, still enjoying it.

**Oli Le Lievre** 26:31

Yeah.

**Bec Kelly** 26:32

Sitting outside with a cuppa.

**Oli Le Lievre** 26:33

So on that is there something that you want to throw into a time capsule in 10 years time? You'd love to remind yourself of where you're at right now, and I guess, yeah, what's what's got you involved in agriculture? What's something you'd like to tell back in 10 years time?

**Bec Kelly** 26:47

I feel like it's easier to tell my past self 10 years ago, information. What would I want to know in 10 years time? I'm not sure I I've never thought about this before. Where would I so ask me the question again?

**Oli Le Lievre** 27:02

Well, I think yeah, just to throw something in a time capsule, what would you love to open up, whether it's yeah, a few words, a paragraph, or whatever? What would you love to be able to remind yourself of in 10 years time of where you're at today?

**Bec Kelly** 27:16

Definitely a photo of the wheat crop behind me. I think I want to remember that one, and maybe just how, how it all looks at the moment, how the community looks, the grower groups look, the information that we've got on hand at the moment, and just see where it changes in 10 years time, and what, what else is available to us.

**Oli Le Lievre** 27:37

And so if we go back a few years as well. So for and I love asking it, because I think for young people who are especially in the sector today, like we're we're not that far out of school, although it feels like it was a while ago, but for kids now who are who might be thinking about a career in agriculture, what would you love to tell them about the opportunities it's given you?

**Bec Kelly** 28:00

Agriculture can be part of absolutely any job, any job you go to uni for any job you do it in general, you can have as a former agriculture as well. I think we need more people thinking this is a viable career option. It's not. It is an exciting area. It's got everything you could want. It's got the robotics, it's got new tech, it's got great people. It's, yeah, I want everyone to to consider it as a career, and I want more education and funding to try and push more people going through to see it is a good career.

**Oli Le Lievre** 28:36

Is there anything…maybe it's my last question, but is there is there different things that you've done which you feel like you've benefited a lot from, that you could share maybe some some secret tips that maybe aren't so secret that, yeah, others could learn from as well.

**Bec Kelly** 28:52

I think there's such a benefit of being able to ask questions. And so I went to my first field day when I got home, and I was so out of my depth, and they were using all of these acronyms, and I felt like I I shouldn't be in that shouldn't sit in that room at all. And they said something up on stage, and I asked a guy who was a very well known, very intelligent farmer, he was sitting to my right, and I asked him what that meant. He me shrugged and said he had no idea. Asked the guy to my left. And so I did that, and I realised that none of us know, and that you have to feel comfortable asking the question, because, at least I feel I can, because I'm newer into the game, but no one else knows the answer either.

**Oli Le Lievre** 29:37

Very wise, yeah.

**Bec Kelly** 29:39

That whole being comfortable, with being uncomfortable is huge, and worrying that you ar… like the imposter syndrome for Nuffield has been talked about at every every event we've gone to. But it it is, it is so apparent. It is. You never feel like you're you're good enough to sit in in the room with these people, or that you have enough information. But if we all feel like that, maybe we should just keep on turning up.

**Oli Le Lievre** 30:06

Yeah, it's so like, it's so funny when you talk to like, even people who we view as like experts and whatnot, and they think, like, they show up and be like, what on earth would I know? And what can I tell these people? I feel like everyone's kind of continually learning, and it's just part of continuing to share stuff, isn’t it?

**Bec Kelly** 30:24

Well, I I was so nervous about, like, I've known you for years. I've seen you at a heap of events. We catch up, we have a drink. I was so nervous about even seeing you to do this interview, because I was just worried that there was so many other people that you should be interviewing, or if I was the right choice? So yeah, the imposter syndrome is is definitely a big part.

**Oli Le Lievre** 30:48

And but I would say as well, when it's come, when I've looked at potential people that I could interview, whether it's for the grains thing, or a young woman in agriculture, or whatever it is, I would say you'd nearly always be on that list of people who I'd want to talk to as part of it. And so that's where I feel like this GRDC thing, your name was absolutely there from multiple people. And when I was thinking about coming West, I was like, oh, yeah, cool. There's Bec’s name. Awesome. Let's make sure that happens. So...

**Bec Kelly** 31:15

Yeah, I thought you're catching up because we're friends.

**Oli Le Lievre** 31:18

That too, we can do both.

**Bec Kelly** 31:19

Yeah.

**Oli Le Lievre** 31:20

And I think that's the thing. There's so many different avenues and parts of your story are going to resonate with certain people in the in the sector and outside. And then there's also, yeah, people who might necessarily relate to yours, but they relate to Aaron or someone else who we've had on the podcast. This time, I think that's the importance of diversity in stories. So…

**Bec Kelly** 31:38

Yeah, definitely.

**Oli Le Lievre** 31:39

So I reckon there'll be lots of people that will get a lot out of hearing your chat and probably reach out to you after it as well.

**Bec Kelly** 31:45

Well, they're welcome to.

**Oli Le Lievre** 31:47

Beautiful, thanks so much Bec.

**Bec Kelly** 31:48

Thank you.

**Oli Le Lievre** 31:49

Cheers.

**Oli Le Lievre** 31:51

Thanks for joining us for the GRDC in conversation podcast. This series is a GRDC investment that's sharing the stories of the people who are living and breathing the Aussie grains industry, make sure you check out some of our other conversations and hit follow on Your favourite podcast app to never miss an episode.