

PRODUCTIONS TEAM



Leila McDougall — Producer, Writer & Social Impact Catalyst (Attached)

Leila McDougall is an award-winning filmmaker, rural advocate, and regional storyteller dedicated to utilizing cinema as a tool for systemic social change. Nominated as a 2026 Victorian Australian of the Year for her tireless mental health advocacy, Leila has established a reputation for bringing authentic, previously unseen regional narratives to national prominence.

As the founder and owner of VAM Paddock Productions, Leila created, wrote, produced, and starred in the critically acclaimed independent feature film *Just a Farmer* (2024). Without prior formal film industry alignment, she successfully raised \$2 million in independent equity and secured national cinematic distribution. The film has served as a profound national catalyst for shifting community and legislative conversations around regional isolation and suicide.

Leila's work directly bridges grassroots advocacy and institutional reform. She is a Beyond Blue Rural Ambassador and the founder of the non-profit organization Live Rural, which designs preventative mental health interventions for farming communities. Leila's rare intersection of creative vision, direct regional connection, and proven capability to manage high-stakes impact campaigns makes her an exceptional asset to ensure your project delivers tangible, measurable audience action.

IMDB - [Leila Mcdougall | Director, Actor, Writer](#)



Shannon Green — Cultural Producer & First Nations Advisor (Attached)

Shannon Green is a proud Dunghutti woman and the Chief Executive Officer of the Amaroo Local Aboriginal Land Council (Walcha, NSW). A highly respected community executive, youth leadership advocate, and regional policy advisor, Shannon brings over a decade of experience in First Nations community development, cultural asset protection, and land management.

Shannon's leadership spans grassroots cultural preservation to national institutional advocacy. She has driven crucial youth empowerment frameworks through the Light the Fire regional initiative and actively represents Indigenous rights in critical environmental and state-level policy consultancies, including the New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) First Nations Working Group.

In her capacity as a Cultural Producer and Advisor, Shannon ensures that projects achieve the highest standards of First Nations Co-design and Cultural Safety required by premium platforms like Minderoo Pictures. Her deep alignment with the Dunghutti people of the Northern Tablelands provides the creative team with unmatched localized authority, authentic community engagement protocols, and a direct mandate to safeguard the integrity of regional First Nations storytelling.



Chris Odgers - Producer / Assistant Director (Attached)

Chris Odgers is a seasoned Australian production executive with 40 years of industry experience, specializing in physical production, complex logistics, and on-set safety management. A former elite First Assistant Director with credits including *Underbelly* and *Romper Stomper*, Odgers brings rigorous operational discipline to producing roles, suitable for high-level funding applications. For more details, visit IMDB - [Chris Odgers | Second Unit Director or Assistant Director, Location Management, Actor](#)



David Gregory OAM – Producer & Social Impact Advisor (Attached)

David is an accomplished Australian executive producer, senior business leader, and dedicated social impact advocate. Awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2022 for his outstanding service to the small business sector, David brings over 40 years of expertise in corporate governance, risk management, and community-engaged development.

David served as the CEO of the Small Business Mentoring Service (SBMS) for 16 years and was recognized as an SME Global Leader at the United Nations in New York. His extensive work in regional advocacy aligns closely with his film practice. He served as an Executive Producer for the critically acclaimed independent Australian feature film *Just a Farmer*, a powerful social-impact project highlighting rural mental health crises and community resilience.

Deeply committed to systemic change, David serves on Beyond Blue's National Small Business Advisory Committee (NASBO) and is a committee member for Regional Development Australia (RDA) Melbourne. A member of Screen Producers Australia (SPA), David's unique intersection of regional economic development, frontline mental health advocacy, and media production ensures your project maintains the high standard of social impact required to drive audience action and community transformation.



Ash Barnett

Horse Master and Animal Welfare Lead

Ash Barnett is an accomplished horsewoman, trainer and educator from Walcha. She was the 2022 EQUITANA Melbourne Liberty Challenge Champion, has competed in Australia's Greatest Horsewoman and has presented her horsemanship as an educator at the Man From Snowy River Bush Festival. Ash has also worked internationally with respected horse trainers Dan James and Cody Rawson Harris. Her extensive experience in liberty work, horse behaviour, training and performance makes her central to the safe, authentic and visually powerful delivery of Epona's horse sequences.

**Legal Counsel — Shaun Miller (Shaun Miller Lawyers)**

Shaun Miller is one of Australia's premier film and entertainment lawyers, bringing over 25 years of specialist experience to our production. Renowned for navigating complex financing, distribution, and structural frameworks, Shaun ensures our project is anchored on world-class legal foundations. His boutique firm is widely regarded as a trusted cornerstone of the Australian independent film industry.

**Composer — Bryony Marks**

Bryony Marks is one of Australia's most versatile and awarded screen composers. Renowned for creating deeply emotional cinematic soundscapes, her extensive credits include the critically acclaimed rural drama *Just a Farmer*, the hit global series *Class of '07*, and Cate Shortland's thriller *Berlin Syndrome*. Bryony is currently in creative talks to craft the original score for our production.

**Music Supervisor — Norman Parkhill**

Norman Parkhill is a legendary figure in Australian music supervision, shaping the soundscapes of iconic productions like the box-office smash *Red Dog* and the hit drama series *The Secret Life of Us*. With decades of experience across major labels and independent film, Norman is in discussions to oversee our project's music curation and complex licensing.

Cinematography / DOP (In Development)

Our visual department is being developed with some of Australia's finest cinematic voices in mind, including Toby Oliver ACS (*Get Out*) and Marden Dean (*The Dry*). We have initiated contact with both cinematographers, and they have expressed strong interest in exploring the project further. We look forward to convening formal creative meetings with them as we advance into the next stages of development.

Cast & Attached Talent**Robert Taylor (Attached)**

One of Australia's most internationally recognized actors, Robert Taylor is best known globally for his iconic, long-running lead role as Walt Longmire in the hit series *Longmire*. His extensive career spans major Hollywood blockbusters and acclaimed Australian cinema, including *The Matrix*, *The Meg*, and *The Newsreader*. Robert is officially attached to our project, bringing immense dramatic weight and global box-office appeal to the lead ensemble.

Vivian McDougall (Attached)

A compelling and authentic rising talent in Australian cinema, Vivian McDougall brings a powerful screen presence grounded in raw, honest storytelling. Following notable work in deep, character-driven narratives, Vivian is officially attached to the cast, anchoring the project's emotional core and representing the next generation of vibrant Australian screen talent.

Creative Collaborations & Cast Interest

In addition to our attached leads, our script has attracted strong, enthusiastic interest from premier Australian talent. We are thrilled to be in active creative dialogues and look forward to formal character development meetings during our upcoming development phase with:

- Jessica Mauboy (*The Sapphires*, *Windcatcher*)
- Thomas Cocquerel (*The Gilded Age*, *In Like Flynn*, *Red Dog True Blue*).