



eNewsletter

Edition 13 – October 2011

Welcome to another edition of Regional Development Australia (RDA) – Murray's eNewsletter. In this edition, we feature:

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From the Editor

Welcome to the October 2011 edition of the RDA Murray eNewsletter. RDA Murray welcomes all our readers to provide us with feedback and we would love to hear from you. Why not place an article in the eNewsletter? All items (with pictures preferred) can be sent to Julie.lawrence@rdamurray.org.au. Until next time!

Julie

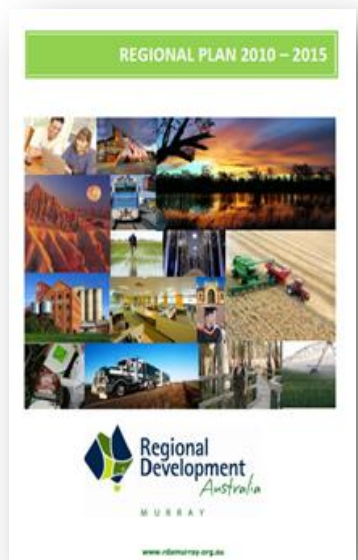
RDA Murray's Regional Plan

RDA Murray's revised Regional Plan is now available on the RDA Murray website (www.rdamurray.org.au). The Plan was devised as a motivator in driving key regional development objectives in the Murray region for the term 2010 to 2015. The key drivers identified are strong leadership and collaboration with whole of government, its businesses, its people, its industries and its communities.

The Plan is intended to outline RDA Murray's objectives, its assessment of the long term issues facing the Murray region and its identification of opportunities, challenges and key priorities.

Ultimately, the document will assist stakeholders and economic and community practitioners to easily identify and embrace the roles and key functions of RDA Murray, enabling development and implementation of new regional programs and initiatives. The priorities contained within the Plan are a result of extensive consultation with the community, local government, business and stakeholder groups. The challenges identified by these groups were categorized into economic, environmental and social issues.

The RDA Murray Committee and its team members are excited at the prospects of what can be achieved under the RDA banner and will continually review and update this 'living' Plan to meet its ever changing economic and social landscape.





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Be part of the FITE!



In our last edition of the eNewsletter, we advised readers of the Farm Innovation Technology Expo to be held in Deniliquin in March next year. Organisation of the Expo is progressing well and there will be exhibitors, displays and speakers on themes such as solar and new energy technologies; carbon pricing and trading; and education and career opportunities. To cap off a great two days, there will be a networking and Jazz night! The team from Murray Now have some fantastic sponsors on board such as TAFE NSW Riverina Institute, Get Farming, Murray Dairy, Essential Energy, Johnsons MME, Ricegrowers' Association of Australia Limited, Commonwealth Bank, Mawsons Concrete & Quarries and Murray Irrigation Limited. If you are interested in being part of the Expo, why not give Andrew Walker or Scott Dunlop a call on 02 6058 0600. It's going to be two days not to be missed!



Aboriginal Employment Program Information Workshops

The Department of Education and Communities is conducting a number of regional workshops to provide agencies with information on the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program, specifically on its guidelines and application process for funding to support increased Aboriginal employment in the public and local government sectors.

The program aims to create employment, temporary secondment and career development opportunities for Aboriginal people in the public and local government sectors by providing salary, training and other support costs.

Information workshops are being conducted in Wagga Wagga (15 November 2011) and Griffith (16 November 2011). Workshops commence at 1:30pm to 3:00pm and there is no cost to attend. For more information about the workshops and to register, go online at https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/programs_services/funded_other/acp/index.html. Registrations need to be received by 19 October 2011.

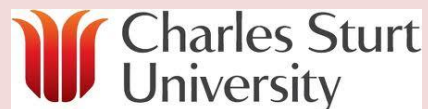
Small Business Management

Given the Global Financial Crisis and potentially the double recession conditions that Australia is likely to be in, the role of small business has increasingly become more important in terms of economic contribution. In particular, the current perceived service gap in the Australian market together with competition from internet providers has meant that many consumers are switching buyer behaviour in favour of online purchases. This presents many threats and opportunities for small business owners. Research suggests that one of the most important contributions to small business failure is a lack of management knowledge.

Charles Sturt University (CSU) understands the unique operating environment of the small business sector. The University has worked closely with a number of small business associations including the government, Business Enterprise Chambers, local council, and small business operators to develop a new graduate certificate in Small Business Management.

This course enables small business operators and employees an opportunity to leverage their existing knowledge and investments to maximise the potential of the business.

If you are interested in learning about the Graduate Certificate in Small Business Management, please go to www.csu.edu.au/smallbiz to find out more.



An Australian Government Initiative



A NSW Government Initiative



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Howlong is having a Bush Bash!

Mark the 26th of November in your diary to get along to Howlong to attend their Bush Market and Bush Bash. The day kicks off with the market being held at the Howlong Country Golf Club from 9:00am to 2:00pm. With arts and crafts and live entertainment, the markets should be fantastic. The kids haven't been forgotten at the markets with an AFL Handball competition and Old Kentucky Animal Farm to delight children of all ages.

The Bush Bash Event also includes Bush Bash Bowls and a Golf Challenge. Entry into the Bowls and Golf is \$20 per head and includes a spit roast lunch on the deck of the Golf Club. The day will be topped off with a Bush Band at 9:00pm. So it sounds like an event not to be missed. For more information about the Howlong Bush Bash, contact Howlong Country Golf Club on 02 6026 5321.



Brits in Albury Wodonga



If you are a British Ex Pat living in the Albury Wodonga region and would like to meet other British families living locally, then why not join Brits in Albury Wodonga!

- * Meet new friends
- * Share immigration experiences
- * Get support from people in similar situations



(or) Call Vicki on : **0458 684 254**

Expats Unite!

What a fantastic idea that Vicki Gilbert has thought up! Brits in Albury Wodonga allows people newly arrived to the area to meet and learn more about the region and to hear about others experiences. So if you and your family have just arrived, why not give Vicki a call.

RDA Murray is accredited by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) as a Regional Certifying Body (RCB). In its role as an RCB, RDA Murray identifies skill and labour shortages and provides regional sponsorship to applicants under the Skilled Regional (Sponsored) Visa (Subclass 475/487). RDA Murray is also authorized to provide certification under the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme.

For more information about RDA Murray in its capacity as an RCB, please contact RDA Murray on 02 6058 0600 or go to www.rdamurray.org.au and click on Skilled Migration.



RDA Murray Deniliquin Office has moved.

The RDA Murray Deniliquin office has relocated to 217 Cressy Street, Deniliquin. The phone number remains unchanged at 03 5881 3010. Call in and see Sharyn Scott or Andrew Richardson or give them a call. They are there to assist you.

