



# eNewsletter



**Edition 12 – September 2011**

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

1. Deniliquin takes on the FITE!
2. RDA Murray goes Down Under?
3. International Day of People with Disability
4. Spirit of the Land Festival in Lockhart
5. The EYE of the Murray

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## *From the Editor*

Welcome to the new look eNewsletter, we have received feedback telling us that reading documents in column format was just plain hard work. RDA Murray welcomes all our readers to provide us with feedback and we would love to hear from you, whether its feedback or to have an article placed in the eNewsletter. All articles (with pictures preferred) can be sent to [Julie.lawrence@rdamurray.org.au](mailto:Julie.lawrence@rdamurray.org.au). Until next time!

*Julie*

## **Deniliquin takes on the FITE!**

No we haven't spelt it wrong, FITE stands for Farm Innovation Technology Expo. This exciting initiative hosted by the Murray Valley Industry Park in partnership with RDA Murray, Murray Now Ltd, Deniliquin Council and Conargo Shire, will be held 30 and 31 March 2012 in Deniliquin.

Andy Walker, Murray Now Limited's Business Development Manager described FITE as "an opportunity for farmers and other interested parties to learn more about how to better manage and work their properties in an innovative and sustainable fashion. It is also an excellent platform for inventors to display and demonstrate their new inventions with the view to launching them into the commercial market." So what does Murray Now, as event coordinator, hope to achieve with FITE? Andy said "It will bring technology and innovation to the land in an expo which will both educate and offer solutions for our farming communities. It will also complement the great work already done by the Deni Ute Muster in consolidating the Deniliquin region as a major destination for events and visitation."

Andy also said "It is fair to say that Deniliquin is the largest populated municipality in the area and certainly has the profile, given the magnificent work done by the Deni Ute Muster Committee, so I expect there will be a keen interest for those involved and visiting the Expo to see what Deniliquin has to offer. It is quite central to many other natural attractions in the region."



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## Deni takes on the FITE (cont)...

Andy notes for potential exhibitors and attendees, "You might even like to hire a bike and pedal around some the historic sites in Deniliquin, but whatever you do don't miss a trip down the road to the world famous and historic Conargo Pub. All in all we would expect this to be a worthy economic contributor to both the Conargo and Deniliquin communities."

The Murray Valley Industry Park is perfectly located to host FITE. The Park's Business Development Manager, Andrew Richardson advises that "we are managing FITE at the ground level. This includes site preparation, power supply, development applications and also being the local 'go to' for sponsors and exhibitors. RDA Murray's links to farmer organisations such as Rice Growers and Landcare will ensure patrons will hear quality speakers throughout the event and RDA Murray will also be coordinating and supporting the New Inventors section of FITE." Andrew said "Within the scope of the Murray Valley Park Management plan we are continually sourcing new opportunities to form partnerships with Agribusiness. FITE will give valuable exposure to exhibitors and highlight investment opportunities available at the Park. We are currently working on projects that will enhance the park and will be showcased at FITE."

If you are interested in being an exhibitor, contact Andy Walker ([Andrew.walker@murraynow.com.au](mailto:Andrew.walker@murraynow.com.au)).

## RDA Murray goes Down Under?

In the last edition of RDA Murray's eNewsletter, readers were informed of the RDA Murray team heading down Melbourne to participate in the Down Under Expo (27 and 28 August). The Expo provided attendees opportunities to secure employment and/or employment related courses and gave the NSW State Government and RDA Murray the chance to meet potential on shore skilled migrants wishing to relocate and settle in regional areas of Australia. It was a hectic two days where the team met and spoke with a diverse range of people from different backgrounds and vocations. The team highlighted the skilled shortages within the Murray and showcased the regions lifestyle advantages as a better place to live, work and grow. A big thank you to John Angeles (NSW Trade and Investment), for all his assistance and fantastic support over the two days.



Julie Lawrence, John Angeles & Sushama Johnson

If you are interested in relocating to the Murray region under the General Skilled Migration Program or Regional Skilled Migration program, go online to [www.rdamurray.org.au](http://www.rdamurray.org.au) for further information or call Sushama Johnson (Skilled Migration Officer) on 02 6058 0600.



## International Day of People with Disability

Homes Out West, Yallambee and the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care have been working together on the opportunity to celebrate this important day in Deniliquin at the end of the year. International Day of People with Disability highlights the opportunity for the community to celebrate and bring together people with disabilities, friends, families and carers. The day will be an occasion to:

- celebrate the achievements and contributions of people with disability and their supporters in our community
- showcase their abilities and skills
- promote a positive image of people with disability.

Why not organise something in your community or at your workplace to celebrate and recognise people and families living with a disability. In Deniliquin, the Awareness Day will be held on the **26<sup>th</sup> November** at the Multi Arts Centre. Disability Awards will be presented on the day with community members being asked to nominate deserving individuals – what the press for nomination details. If you or your agency would like to get involved, please contact Omen at Homes Out West on 03 881 4182.





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## Spirit of the Land Festival in Lockhart

Home of the National Farm Art Sculpture Award

October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2011

9 am to 5 pm Saturday and 9am to 4pm Sunday

Held in Lockhart "The Verandah Town" in the heart of the Riverina

Sculpture, photography, fine arts and indigenous art exhibitions  
only \$5 per person entry to exhibitions children under 16 free

Boutique Markets, music & great food all weekend and  
on Sunday Morning a Lockhart Shire Garage Sale.

There is still time for creative artists to enter our wonderful arts awards for more  
information see website

[www.spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au](http://www.spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au)

Phone 0428 124 838



## The EYE of the Murray

The RDA Murray Deniliquin Team have been a hive of activity working on the EYE of the Murray (Empowering Youth Events). This project was funded under Communities NSW's Better Futures initiative and focussed on teaching young people (Years 10 and 11) how to create and stage events, thus giving them the confidence to go out and connect with other events committees and have a say in their respective communities.

Fifty students broken into five groups each created and held their own unique events:

- 1) Corowa and Rutherglen held *DJ Clash* held at the Corowa RSL
- 2) Thurgoona created the *Grand Lamb Slam* a cook off held at Thurgoona Plaza
- 3) Mulwala produced "*Indahoodz*"
- 4) Finley held their "*Finley's Got Talent*"
- 5) Deniliquin showcased their event at the Youth Conference;

Capping off the project was the Youth Conference held in Mulwala on 8 September with guest speakers Nathan Hulls (motivational speaker) and Ben Suthers (from Big Day Out) providing invaluable information to the participants. It was an incredible project that could not have been achieved without the unwavering efforts of the RDA Murray Deniliquin Team, Craig Dent Event Management and of course, the students who made the whole project a great success. They should all be proud of their achievements.



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