



Edition 26 – November 2012

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Regional Development Australia – Murray

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From the Editor

Welcome to the latest edition. Christmas is fast approaching! If you would like to place your community's upcoming Christmas event in the next edition of the RDA Murray eNewsletter, please email us by COB 7 December 2012.

Julie

Regional Development Australia Fund

RDA committees have a key role to play in shaping infrastructure investment to meet regional needs during Rounds 3 and 4 of the RDA Fund.

The Minister for Regional Australia, the Hon. Simon Crean MP, announced the funding rounds in late October, inviting applicants to submit Expressions of Interest for projects that will support local economies, build dynamic communities and enhance liability across the country.

Round 3 is worth \$50 million and will provide grants of between \$50,000 and \$500,000 for projects located in towns with a population of 30,000 or less.

Round 4 will allocate \$175 million through grants of between \$500,000 and \$15 million for priority regional infrastructure projects that also leverage funding from state and local governments and the private sector.

Peter Crowe of RDA Murray said that RDA committees are community leaders uniquely placed to determine viable projects that align with local priorities and regional plans.

"RDA committees are jointly appointed by the Australian and State and Territory Governments and we are closely in touch with our local communities," Peter said.

In prioritising projects, Minister Crean has asked RDA committees to take into account regional priorities, the level of community support for the project, the impact of the project on the region and neighbouring regions, and its readiness to proceed.

Mr Crean said the Federal Government has improved the RDA Fund guideline to make it easier to apply and broaden the sorts of projects which can be funded.

More information, including Round 3 and 4 guidelines, can be found at www.regional.gov.au/regional/programs/rdaf. Applicants should direct questions in relation to the application and assessment process to rdaf@regional.gov.au.

Expressions of Interest MUST be submitted no later than 5:00pm 6 December 2012.





QUICK FACTS – Wentworth Shire

Location and Population – Wentworth is considered the gateway to Outback NSW, and is situated on the junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers in south western NSW. The shire covers an area of 2,616,926 hectares (26,000 sq kilometres) and has a population of approximately 8,000 people. The southern boundary (along the Murray River) has the greatest population density in the townships of Wentworth, Dareton, Buronga and Gol Gol. Wentworth is situated 1,075 km from Sydney, 585 km from Melbourne and 420 km from Adelaide and is located within New South Wales, on the border of Victoria.



Key Industries – The agricultural industry is considered one of the most important industries to the Wentworth Shire where significant areas of land is being used for irrigated horticulture with balanced dry land farming. Tourism is strong within the Mildura/Wentworth region. Each year there are more than 300,000 visitors to the junction of Australia's two greatest rivers.

Facilities – Wentworth Shire enjoys a high level of amenity and community infrastructure e.g.; sporting facilities, schools, art gallery, libraries, a hospital that provides residential aged care and respite care, home and community care services to the frail, aged and disabled clients.

(Source: Wentworth Shire Council)

Seeding for the Murray Valley Industry Park

ANZ recently announced that the Smart Learning project submitted by Regional Development Australia Murray in Deniliquin will receive \$9,224 in funding from the ANZ *Seeds of Renewal* grants program.

Funded by ANZ and independently administered by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR), *Seeds of Renewal* provides grants of up to \$10,000 for education and employment programs in regional communities.

Tony Williams, Regional Executive for NSW South West, ANZ Regional Business Banking said: "This project by Regional Development Australia will benefit a lot of people in the Deniliquin community and we're pleased to be involved. ANZ has a long history of supporting customers in regional Australia, and through programs like *Seeds of Renewal*, we're committed to helping make a significant and sustainable difference."

Regional Development Australia Murray will use the grant to install a smart-board and projector in the Multi-Purpose Learning Centre located at the Murray Valley Industry Park to be used in education and information workshops, agricultural training programs for farmers, primary and secondary students as well as the community as a whole.

Alexandra Gartmann, FRRR's CEO said one of the great things about this program is that it helps local people implement local solutions. "There were some really innovative proposals this year and it's great to be part of helping build local capacity and skills to sustain and strengthen local communities."

ANZ's *Seeds of Renewal* program is in its tenth year and has provided more than \$3 million to 635 community projects in regional communities across Australia since 2003. ANZ will also be working with some applicants who were not successful this year, through providing local staff volunteering opportunities. For more information about the ANZ *Seeds of Renewal* program, visit www.frrr.org.au.



L-R Vanessa Flight – ANZ, Janine Wallace – ANZ, Peter Clinnick - RDA Murray, Barbara Hull- RDA Murray, Tony Williams - ANZ, Cr Lindsay Renwick - Mayor of Deniliquin, Andrew Richardson - RDA Murray & Martin Driver - Murray CMA



Graduation day marks stepping stone to brilliant future

Beginning next week, thousands of [TAFE NSW Riverina Institute](#) graduands will celebrate the end of their studies at 18 separate Graduation Ceremonies across the Riverina – Murray region.

“Our graduates rely on their qualifications to gain jobs, promotions and chase their career goals,” commented Riverina Institute Director Kerry Penton. “So receiving their testamurs immediately on completion certainly helps our graduates follow their dreams.”



Over thirty thousand students studied at Riverina Institute in 2012. In addition to the traditional trades areas, many studied higher level courses such as Diplomas or Advanced Diplomas in Business, Health, Children’s Services and Information Technology. 2011 State Medallist David McColl and graduate of the Diploma of Conservation and Land Management said the course was a great way to move his career in the right direction.

“The Diploma has given me a much better understanding of natural resource management issues and the practical nature of the course made it very easy to apply what I learnt to my work. There are environmental aspects to my job that I am now better equipped and qualified to manage.”

Human Resources Officer Carissa Burge said completing the Diploma of Business Management has enabled her to secure work. “Completing the Diploma gave me a deep personal satisfaction. Knowing that I am capable of achieving that and knowing that my skills are up to date fills me with confidence to perform my job and seek employment or take my career further. I now believe that anything is achievable.”

Former trade graduate Craig Stephens is now the Director of one of the Riverina’s leading kitchen design and joinery business, Interior Constructions. “The training I completed at TAFE has been useful every single day of my working life – the qualification is at the core of everything I do. The practical skills and base knowledge were obviously invaluable as a tradesman working on the tools, but my training came in just as handy when starting on the business side of things.”

National WorldSkills medallist and Diploma of Beauty Therapy graduate Saan Williamson said Riverina Institute has opened many doors. “My experience with Riverina Institute was fantastic and I was fortunate to have had amazing opportunities presented to me that would not have been possible otherwise.”

“We love to hear our graduates’ stories of success and follow their careers,” commented Ms Penton. “That’s the real outcome of the service we provide here. It’s not just about providing the very best high quality training... it’s about ensuring our graduates have exciting prospects, can get the job they want and follow their dreams.”



HOWLONG TWILIGHT BUSH MARKETS

Planning is well underway for the Annual Twilight Howlong Bush Bash Markets which will be held on **Saturday 19 January 2013**. The organising committee is delighted with the progress to date. Expressions of interest are being called for stallholders for the event and a strong response has already been received from those stallholders that attended last year.

The event will be held in conjunction with the Howlong Lions Club and is set to be a fun and exciting evening. The Markets will include numerous activities for children, a great array of market stalls from local providers and live entertainment. The markets provide a great opportunity to promote local produce, hand crafted goods, art and craft and to raise valuable funds for the local community.



The twilight markets are set in an idyllic location on the 6th fairway of the picturesque Howlong Country Golf Club with the lake and fountains as a backdrop. Despite the warm conditions last year around 2,000 people gathered to enjoy the festivities with more than 70 stallholders in attendance with the Markets comprising of art, crafts, fairy floss, fresh local produce, jumping castle, wood fired pizza, ice cream, Devonshire teas, bric a brac, handmade soaps, jewellery, plants, cakes and much more. The committee has expanded the area of the markets for this year and is expecting the event to be bigger and better.



South West Music in partnership with South West Arts received funding through Arts NSW and Regional Conservatorium Association, to hold a series of concerts in Deniliquin in 2012.

The trio 'Cafe Noir' will be performing in Mathoura, Hay and Deniliquin.

Comprising Deniliquin musicians Delena Gaffney, Chris Bodey and Danielle O'Keefe, the trio will be performing a few of their favourite songs and music.

Delena studied music at the Queensland University of Music and has been living in Deniliquin for 3 years now and has been working with South West Music teaching a variety of instruments. Delena will be playing the piano, flute and singing throughout the concerts.

Chris Bodey will add his skills on guitar and the double bass to the trio's performances. As well as gigging around the region with his various ensembles, Chris also is a guitar and ukulele tutor and teaches people of all ages.

Danielle is currently the Artistic Director of *Reverberate* for Outback Theatre for Young People and she is working on creating an electronic opera with the young people in Deniliquin to be showcased as part of a youth music and theatre festival.

To see Cafe Noir, performances are being held at

Thursday 6 December 2012 – 8:00pm

Mathoura Town Hall

Tickets \$8.00 Adults

Light supper included

Bookings: Heidi Glenn 0429 091 712

Saturday 8 December 2012 – 7:30pm

Bishop's Lodge Historic House

Tickets \$20 Adults / \$15 – Friend/Member

Welcoming glass of champagne on arrival

Tickets available at Betta Electrical or

Bishop's Lodge Museum 02 6993 1727

Sunday 9 December 2012 – 8:00pm

The Deniliquin Club (George Street)

Tickets \$20

Champagne on arrival & supper included

Bookings: South West Music 03 5881 4736

For more information contact South West Arts on 03 5881 7749 or South West Music on 03 5881 4736.



OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT IN ALBURY

We have a good size office available in the Albury CBD

Perfect for small business owners (e.g. financial planners, web designers)

Use of kitchen, office facilities and meeting areas are included. Reasonable rent inclusive of electricity and overheads on offer

Interested? Then give Julie a call on 02 6058 0667 (BH)