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From the Editor

Welcome to the last edition for 2012, we can’t believe 2012 is almost over! We thank you very much for your continued support and we look forward to fantastic 2013.

Julie

Deni INNOVATION Expo

3 & 4 May 2013

The Deni Innovation Expo (formerly the Farm Innovation and Technology Expo) is on again! The expo will be held Friday 3 & Saturday 4 May 2013 at Murray Valley Industry Park, Todd’s Road, Deniliquin.

Highlights for 2013 include

- Solar & alternate energy technologies
- Precision technologies and farming demonstrations
- Inventions & Sustainable gardens
- Irrigation efficiency,
- Carbon farming and biodiversity
- Livestock equipment & management
- Education and career opportunities in Agriculture

There will be high calibre exhibitors showcasing the best of agricultural, irrigation and energy products and solutions and much more.

Once again, there will be the inventor’s competition and for the first time, the Expo will feature sustainable gardening with workshops and exhibitions giving participants the knowledge to ensure your garden is water efficient and right for the local soils and climate. Expert guest speakers will convey their knowledge on specific subjects, highlighting the issues and solutions that attendees need to know.

The Expo will host the Networking Jazz Evening on the Friday, proudly sponsored by Deniliquin RSL Club and Restdown Wines. Held in the picturesque Waring Gardens, the evening is an opportunity for sponsors, exhibitors and the regional community to come together and celebrate future opportunities in Southern NSW region and enjoy locally produced food and wines.

For more information about the Expo, please contact Andrew Richardson or Sharyn Scott on 03 5881 3010 or go to www.deniinnovationexpo.com.au
**QUICK FACTS – Jerilderie Shire**

**Location and Population** – Jerilderie Shire covers 3,372 sq km and is situated approximately 300 km north of Melbourne and 600 km south of Sydney. Strategically located on the Newell Highway in New South Wales, it is only a short distance from the Hume Highway and is the most direct route from Sydney to Adelaide. Jerilderie has a population of approximately 1,500.

**Key Industries** – The outlying Jerilderie area is responsible for a large contribution to Australia’s fresh produce industry including olives, rice and organic wines. This thriving agricultural area also produces wheat, soya beans, canola, wool, beef, grapes, and onions, and 25 percent of the nation’s tomato crop.

**Facilities** – Jerilderie boasts quality sporting facilities including an 18 hole golf course, swimming pools, tennis courts, bowling greens, turf race track, and a newly equipped gymnasium and stadium. The Jerilderie Lake is a popular place for waterskiing and general leisure time during the summer months. There is a walking and cycling track around the lake which takes in views of the Billabong Creek.

(Source: Jerilderie Shire Council)

**Young Thespians in the Outback!**

Outback Theatre for Young People (OTYP) engages with young people from regional and remote communities to make distinctive contemporary theatre through collaborative processes.

OTYP have been selected as the People’s Choice for artsHub’s ‘Innovation Award for a group, organization or company’ for Secret Places: The Connections Project. The award recognizes a notable highly creative and original piece of work produced by a group of artists, arts organization or company. The artsHub awards were developed to recognize those who create and support work that is exciting, engaging, challenging or simply excellent and to offer recognition of unique and upcoming Australia artists.

OTYP is dedicated to creative innovative, participant owned youth theatre. Engaging with young people aged from 4 to 24 years throughout the Riverina/Murray regions of NSW, in collaborative, generative theatre projects that celebrate their lives and their aspirations. OTYP’s work increasingly explores interdisciplinary arts and the nature of theatrical performance as a means of engaging rural young people and communities.

OTYP’s work increasingly explores interdisciplinary arts and the nature of theatrical performance as a means of engaging rural young people and communities. OTYP aims to raise the profile of and develop support for, regional young people and their objective is excellence in youth theatre. OTYP’s projects create an inclusive and supportive creative environment, where young people have the opportunity to give voice and value to their ideas.

If you want to get involved in OTYP or enquire about future projects, email admin@outbacktheatre.com or contact Mandy Field, Creative Producer on 0417 164 641.
**NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan**

The final NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan was released Thursday 13 December by the Minister for Transport, Gladys Berejiklian and Minister for Roads and Ports, Duncan Gay.

The Master Plan brings together all types of transport across all regions of the State into an integrated, modern system that puts the customer first. The Master Plan sets a clear direction for transport in NSW for the next 20 years.

The Master Plan includes 220 short, medium and long term actions underpinned by a four year investment of over $53 billion in initial funding to lift the standard of transport in NSW. We have also started work on detailed regional transport plans for the regions. These plans will be developed in consultation with local communities to ensure that the unique requirements of the region are carefully considered and planned for.

Issues to be addressed in the Murray-Murrumbidgee region:

- Completion of Holbrook bypass of the Hume Highway (M31).
- Commitment to increasing public transport use to reduce reliance on cars. Flexible bus services tailored to the region’s needs will be considered if they will achieve better results.
- Identify and deliver options to improve walking and cycling infrastructure in the region’s main centres.
- Bridges for the Bush program part one has identified the need for replacement of the Murray River Bridge at Echuca on the Cobb Highway (B75). This will be in conjunction with the Victorian Government.
- Bridges for the Bush program part two will see the upgrade or replacement of bridges at Tooleybuc over the Murray River and Swan Hill over the Wakool River.

For more information, please email masterplan@transport.nsw.gov.au, call 1800 802 888 or write to The NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan team, Transport for NSW PO Box K659, Haymarket NSW 1240.

An electronic copy and summary version of the Master Plan can be downloaded from [www.transportmasterplan.nsw.gov.au](http://www.transportmasterplan.nsw.gov.au)
**ELSA DIXON ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (EDAEP)**

The EDAEP provides funding to organisations to support Aboriginal education, employment and training by
- subsidising the salary, development and support costs of Aboriginal employees in a public service agency or local council
- funding innovative community projects
- supporting work experience for aboriginal students in their final year of a degree or post degree course.

Applications under the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment program (EDAEP) open on **Monday 10 December 2012**. EDAEP encourages employment and professional mobility for Aboriginal people in the NSW public service or local government sectors.

There are six funding elements under the program:

1. Permanent employment
2. Temporary Secondment
3. Career Development
4. Partnership project
5. Graduate Work Experience, and
6. School-based traineeships

The SBT element provides state and local government with a fully funded Aboriginal SBT position for the two years whilst they complete their HSC.

**Applications close on 22 February 2013.** More information on the program, including 2013-14 guidelines and application forms, can be accessed at: [https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/programs_services/funded_other/acp/edaep.html](https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/programs_services/funded_other/acp/edaep.html)

If you have any questions, please contact either your Aboriginal Training Coordinator or the Aboriginal Program unit at Dubbo on stas-det.nsw.edu.au or 6881 6572/6882 8858.

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**RDA Murray will be closed for the holiday season from 5:00pm Friday 21 December and will reopen 9:00am Monday 7 January 2013**

**We wish our readers a happy and safe festive season**