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#ISSUE 18

SEPTEMBER 20TH 2016

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Message from the EO

Welcome to another edition of RDA Riverina E- news.

The significant rainfalls across the region have been a major talking point of late with moderate to major flooding in some catchments across the region. It seems there's a duck on every puddle at the moment. This will have an effect on grain and oilseed production across the region with the Canola crop suffering in some parts. The Henty field days are on this week and it looks as though it will be a wet few days there too.

The Office of Local Government recently released the proposed map of the state Joint Organisation boundaries based on feedback and consultation from Councils and Community. Further consultation is now sought on the proposed boundaries with feedback sought on the proposed boundaries by 5pm, Thursday 27 October.

The Taste Riverina festival kicks off in October and I encourage everyone to get along and attend one of the many wonderful events across the Riverina and celebrate our fantastic local produce.

This edition outlines a host of interesting bits and pieces from the opening of the Coolamon Cheese Factory, the highly successful 'Grow our Own' workforce futures program, job creation and e-business strategies.

Happy reading.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Mark Ritchie', written in a cursive style.

Mark Ritchie

Riverina's latest Agritourism Enterprise Opens its Doors



Last Saturday the long awaited Coolamon Cheese Company opened its doors for the first time. This marks the latest addition to agritourism infrastructure and investment in the Riverina Foodbowl.

In 2014 the Coolamon Cheese Company was awarded funding through the Murray Darling Basin Economic Diversification Fund to purchase and restore the original Coolamon Co-operative building (built in the early 1920s), to house a boutique cheese making facility utilising Riverina milk. Coolamon Cheese also received overwhelming support from the local community, the Riverina as a whole and private investors to ensure the success of its establishment. This development will now provide an iconic agri-tourism destination, with guided tours and cheese making courses, and is expected to create up to 16 new jobs. The Coolamon Cheese Factory will now complete the Canola Trail, a trail of history, a tantalizing food and wine experiences, spectacular landscapes and award-winning attractions, taking in the shires of Coolamon, Junee and Temora

Keep up to date!

Grow Our Own Western Riverina



Workforce Future Forum Showcase

The Grow Our Own Western Riverina working group hosted over 80 businesses and education representatives to the Workforce Future Forum breakfasts held in Leeton and

Griffith last week. RDA Riverina Chair Diana Gibbs hosted the breakfasts thanking Deakin University and Bendigo Bank for initiating this pilot program. A short video has been produced as a resource for school and uploaded to the website. It showcases successful learning and career pathway strategies implemented by local businesses to develop and retain local talent. View link.

[Check out the 'Grow Our Own' website here!](#)

NSW Targets One Million New Jobs for the Future



Premier Mike Baird has released the Jobs for the Future report, outlining how NSW can reach its target of creating one million new, rewarding jobs by 2036.

Regional Jobs Now portfolio

Under the Regional Jobs Now portfolio, at least 30% of the \$190 million Jobs for NSW Fund will be allocated to supporting the growth of businesses outside of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong.

Regional [start-ups](#) and [small to medium enterprises](#) can apply for any of the grants and support services provided by Jobs for NSW. These include:

- [Minimum Viable Products Grants](#) and [Building Partnerships Grants](#) for high-potential start-ups
- **Gazelle Loan Guarantees** and the **Accelerating Growth Loans pilot** (open for applications in the near future)

[Click here for more information](#)

Request for Proposal: Advancing Women's Leadership

Across the Australian Horticulture Sector

Hort Innovation is seeking a suitably experienced and qualified firm to provide a program for "Advancing women's leadership across the Australian hort sector" that fits within the theme of "Under this project, the respondent is required to work with Hort Innovation to provide women across the Australian horticulture sector with access to a range of women's leadership programs. The programs should be tailored to women at different stages of their leadership journey including:

1. Women in the early stages of their career
2. Women working at mid to senior level management
3. Women with highly advanced leadership skills.

The Request for Proposal is available by emailing Jo Houssenloge
at tenders@horticulture.com.au

The response closing time is 5pm Friday September 30, 2016

Understanding and Developing E-Business Strategies

In this **FREE** seminar presented by Akash Malik you will discover the vital components of successful online marketing opportunities including:

- How to develop the RIGHT e-business strategy
- What is SEO and how to rank higher in Google
- Website analytics, visitor interaction and customer segmentation
- Online marketing strategy.
- Social media and online marketing opportunities including; Banners, Google AdWords, Affiliate Marketing, Email Marketing, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and more...

Seminar Times

6.00pm-9.00pm for all seminars.

E-Marketing Dates - September

26 - Gundagai

27 - Cootamundra

28 - Junee

29 - Temora

Contact Fiona Webb on bus.support@riverinabec.com.au or 02 6925 6588.

StartupSmart Innovative Business Podcast Series



StartupSmart publishes business news, information and advice daily and is a leading participant in the momentum that surrounds the world's focus on technology, creativity and entrepreneurialism.

StartupSmart includes a series of [business podcasts](#) on their website including their current podcast series on Starting Change and their most recent podcast series [Audacity to Fail](#).

[Click here to visit the website](#)

Free Trade Agreement Program Helps NSW Agribusiness



Centre for Customs and Excise Studies

The Centre for Customs and Excise Studies is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a grant by the Australian Government to deliver a training program to help small and medium sized agribusiness companies, access and utilise Australia's Free Trade Agreements with China, Japan and Korea. The program will be delivered through Charles Sturt University's campuses in Canberra, Wagga Wagga, Bathurst and Port Macquarie.

[Click here for more information](#)

Green Army is Recruiting



The Green Army program provides 17-24 year olds with new skills, training and experience to improve their employment prospects while they work on projects that generate real and lasting benefits for the environment and Australian heritage sites.

To join one of the upcoming projects in the Snowy Valleys LGA or to find out more about Green Army.

Droving the Blues Away



Droving the Blues Away is an event that raises funds and builds awareness of mental health issues in the Riverina . In 2016 this event will commence at the Henty field days. Droving the Blues Away is an initiative of Riverina Local Land Services and Riverina Bluebell where they drove donated cattle around the Riverina hosting community events at 4 stockcamps in Lockhart, Narrandera, Ganmain and Wagga.

[Click here for more information](#)

Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) - 2016 Community Survey

Invitation to Participate in Murrumbidgee Healthcare Survey

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The MLDH 2016 Community Survey gathers information from people across the Murrumbidgee region about their experience with and knowledge of services in hospitals and other healthcare facilities.

The Survey is anonymous and participation in the survey is voluntary and respondents cannot be identified from the information provided.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the 2016 MLHD Community Survey is to:

- * measure consumer's level of awareness about services offered
- * identify gaps in the provision of information
- * identify best communication channels to inform, consult and engage with specific communities

DISTRIBUTION

[Click link for electronic survey.](#)

DURATION

The survey will run from 7 September 2016 – 31 December 2016.

Analysis of results -February.

A summary of the findings on the Murrumbidgee Local Health District website in mid 2017.

[Click here for electronic survey](#)

Spotlight on the Grant Makers



An enterprise of:
ourcommunity.com.au
Where not-for-profits go for help



The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) does a power of work supporting communities around Australia through its grantmaking and other methods of support.

Recently, FRRR CEO Natalie Eggleton chatted with the Australian Institute of Grants Management (AIMG) about how the foundation works in communities hit by natural disasters – how it helps recovery efforts in these regions, as well as how it works to build

community resilience and preparedness.

The interview provides some invaluable insights into how a grantmaker like FRRR approaches funding in rural, regional and/or disaster hit communities. It also acknowledges the local knowledge and insights grant applicants and community groups can bring to the table when working with a funder.

It is well worth a read.

[Click here for the full interview](#)

Grants Calendar

ARTS

[NAVA Visual Arts Fellowships](#)

National Association of Visual Arts | \$20,000 | Closes 8th October 2016

COMMUNITY YOUTH

[2017 Ansvar Community Education Program Grant](#)

Ansvar | Up to \$50,000, Lenovo tablets & laptops | Closes 14th October 2016

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

[The Community Resilience Innovation Program \(CRIP\)](#)

NSW State Emergency | \$5,000 - \$100,000 | Closes 26th September 2016

ENVIRONMENT

[Restoration & Rehabilitation Grants Program](#)

NSW Office Environment & Heritage | Closes 26th September 2016

EXPORT

[Export Market Development Grants \(EMDG\)](#)

Austrade | 50% of eligible expenses above \$5,000 provided that the total expenses are at least \$15,000 | Closes 30th November 2016

FARMING

[Farm Innovation Fund NSW](#)

Rural Assistance Authority | Loan | Ongoing

FARMING

FIAL Project Fund

Food Innovation Australia | \$100,000 matched | Closes 30th September 2016

FREIGHT

Fixing Country Truck Washes

Transport for NSW | Negotiated subject to Cost Benefit Analysis | Closes 30th September 2016

HOMELESSNESS

Grants to End Homelessness

Mercy Foundation | Up to \$50,000 | Closes 14th October 2016

LANDCARE

How can we help you? 2016 - 2017 Funding Program

Local Land Services Riverina | Expressions of Interest | Closes 30th September 2016

LANDCARE

Riverina Local Land Services

Local Land Services Riverina | Up to \$2,000 | Closes 30th October 2016

LANDCARE

Community Landcare Pop-up Grants

Australian Government National Landcare Programme (NLP) | Up to \$20,000 matched |
Closes 30th September 2016

RURAL WORKPLACE

Quad Bike Rural Safety Program

Safework | \$500 | Closes 30th June 2017

SMALL BUSINESS

Small Business Employment Incentive

NSW Office of State Revenue | \$2,000 | Ongoing

SMALL BUSINESS

Jobs Action Plan Rebate Scheme - Payroll Tax

NSW Office of State Revenue | \$6,000 | Closes 19th June 2019

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR

School for Social Entrepreneurs Accelerator

WOMEN

Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship (WISE) Programme

AusIndustry | \$5,00 - \$250,000 | Closes 6th October 2016

**The following websites have information about many grant
and funding opportunities**

- Community builders: www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au
- Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal: www.frrr.org.au
- Grants Link: www.grantslink.gov.au
- Regional Arts NSW: <http://regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants>
- Business Projects: <http://ausindustry.gov.au>
- Our Community: <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au>
- Philanthropy: <http://www.philanthropy.org.au>

For further assistance in locating grants for your projects

Email: po@rdariverina.org.au

You can also Like us on Facebook to get regular updates

Further information on grants and grantwriting www.rdariverina.org.au

RDA Riverina Diary Dates 2016



- **September 27:** RDA Riverina Industry

Tour - *Tumut*

- **October 1-31:** Taste Riverina

- **October 20:** Development Officer

Network Forum - *West Wyalong*

- **October 25:** REROC - *Wagga Wagga*

● **October 26:** Regional Outlook 2016
Conference - *Griffith*

- **November 24:** RDA Riverina AGM &
Committee Meeting - *Junee*

What's on in the Riverina Region?

- [Bland Shire](#)
- [Carrathool Shire](#)
- [Coolamon Shire](#)
- [Cootamundra Shire Council](#)
- [Griffith City Council](#)
- [Gundagai Shire Council](#)
- [Hay Shire Council](#)

- [Junee Shire Council](#)
- [Leeton Shire Council](#)
- [Lockhart Shire Council](#)
- [Murrumbidgee Shire Council](#)
- [Narrandera Shire Council](#)
- [Temora Shire Council](#)
- [Snowy Valleys Council](#)
- [Wagga Wagga City Council](#)



Facebook



Website

"RDA Riverina builds partnerships that facilitate the development of a sustainable region."

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