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#ISSUE 30 - APRIL 27TH 2017

## Welcome to RDA RiverinE-News

### In this issue:

- [Message from the EO](#)
- [Investing in Skills for Tomorrow's Workforce](#)
- [Abolition and Replacement of the 457 Visa - Government Reforms to Employer Sponsored Skilled Migration Visas](#)
- [Riverina Skills in Demand List Updated](#)
- [Finance and New Technologies to Improve Productivity Industry Presentations](#)
- [Riverina Regional Profile and Investment Propectus](#)
- [Skills Issues in the Horticulture Industry of the Riverina](#)
- [Young Farming Champion Scholarship](#)
- [SEGRA 2017 Conference Call for Speakers NOW OPEN](#)
- [Youth Jobs PaTH Prepare Trial Hire](#)
- [Investing in Women Program](#)
- [Create Riverina](#)
- [Grants Calendar](#)
- [Calendar Dates](#)
- [What's on in the Riverina Region?](#)

## Message from the EO

We've hit the cooler weather in the Riverina this week but have some hot new information for you in RDA Riverina's newsletter including NSW's SkillsPoint Agribusiness headquarters in Griffith, changes to the Skilled Migration programs, and RDA Riverina's Request for Quote documents for our Regional Profile and Investment Prospectus and Skills Issues in the Horticulture Industry Study. We've also been listening to the information about a possible airport investment in Deniliquin which may boost export opportunities for Riverina Horticulturalists.

Read below for our diary dates including an excellent BioEnergy workshop and Tourism Industry Tour. If you missed our Finance and New Technologies to Improve Productivity workshop, you can access the links to the presentations below.

There's lots going on in the Riverina and we are excited to be involved in developing the Region.



**Rachel Whiting**  
**RDA Riverina - Executive Officer**

## Investing in Skills for Tomorrow's Workforce



**Griffith is set to receive an innovative new TAFE NSW *SkillsPoints* headquarters for Agribusiness, as part of the NSW Government's push to create the workforce of the future by collaborating with business and industry.**

Deputy Premier and Minister for Skills, John Barilaro, announced that Griffith is one of six new regional and three metropolitan *SkillsPoints* headquarters, which have been designed to ensure TAFE NSW builds on its reputation as a world-class vocational education and training provider.

The Agribusiness SkillsPoint will design training that looks to the future and responds to emerging trends. Whether in a classroom, on-site, online or any combination of these, *SkillsPoints* training and resources will be tailored to industry needs and reflect the quality, rigour and expertise that has secured TAFE NSW's reputation as Australia's leading education provider

[Click here for more information](#)

## **Abolition and Replacement of the 457 Visa - Government Reforms to Employer Sponsored Skilled Migration Visas**

On 18 April 2017, the Government announced that the Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457 visa) will be abolished and replaced with the completely new Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS) visa in March 2018.

The TSS visa programme will be comprised of a Short-Term stream of up to **two years** and a Medium-Term stream of up to **four years** and will support businesses in addressing genuine skill

shortages in their workforce and will contain a number of safeguards which prioritise Australian workers.

This new visa is part of the Government's significant reform package to strengthen the integrity and quality of Australia's temporary and permanent employer sponsored skilled migration programmes.

[Click here for more information](#)

## Riverina Skills in Demand List Updated

The Regional Development Australia Riverina is a Regional Certifying Body (RCB) for the Department of Immigration & Border Protection (DIBP).

We provide assessment and sponsorship to 2 visa categories being the individual Skilled - Regional (Provisional) Sponsored Visa subclass 489 (SRS) and the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS) subclass 187 (Direct Entry). RDA Riverina's objectives in providing these visas are to:

- assist regional employers wishing to sponsor skilled migrants for skilled positions which cannot be filled using the local labour market.
- to assist skilled people who wish to come to the region. Applicants must nominate an occupation which is reflected on the **Skills in Demand List the Riverina region**. This list was updated on 18 April 2017.

For enquiries regarding Regional Skilled Visas contact RDA-Riverina's **Skilled Migration Officer, Faye Anderson** - [migration@rdariverina.org.au](mailto:migration@rdariverina.org.au)

Office Hours: Monday to Wednesday 9.00am-5.00pm

[Click here to view the list](#)

## Finance and New Technologies to Improve Productivity Industry Presentations

# FINANCE AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY INDUSTRY WORKSHOP



APRIL 4TH 2017 FROM 8AM - 3PM

If you were unable to attend this industry workshop held in Wagga you can still access some facts from these presentations:

## Go to presentations :

- NSW Regional Clean Energy and Energy Savings Scheme
- Verdia Energy Efficient Finance
- Commonwealth Bank Energy Efficient Equipment Finance
- Improving the Energy Efficiency of Steam Boilers, Heating Boilers, Hot Water Heaters and Emissions Reporting – CCM Energy Energy Solutions
- Gas technologies for industry in NSW's Energy Savings Scheme
- Energy Saving Opportunities – Spirax Sarco
- Wagga City Council Cogeneration Case Study

[Click here for presentations](#)

## Riverina Regional Profile and Investment Prospectus

### Request for Quotation

RDA Riverina is seeking a suitably qualified, experienced and capable service provider for the project: *Riverina Regional Profile and Investment Prospectus*

RDA Riverina require the compilation of various social and economic data for all LGAs in the Riverina to create a Regional Profile. This Report will be developed into a more succinct version for marketing the region and will be titled 'Riverina Investment Prospectus'. The purpose is to

- create usable documents and data for LGAs and businesses throughout the Riverina.
- Use data to attract investors and employees, for grant and loan applications.

The papers will be launched at a 'State of the Region' dinner in September 2017.

[Click here for more information](#)

## Skills Issues in the Horticulture Industry of the Riverina

### Request for Quotation

RDA Riverina is seeking a suitably qualified, experienced and capable service provider for the project: *Skills Issues in the Horticulture Industry of the Riverina*

RDA Riverina has collected anecdotal evidence of skills issues in the Horticulture Industry of the Riverina. This study will examine:

- available evidence through tools such as literature review, data collection from industry, training providers and community consultation
- determine the issues affecting the horticulture industry in regards to skills
- recommend strategies to address these skills issues.

This project is part of a greater skills project package in industry across RDAC NSW.

RDA Riverina is examining the skills issues and shortages in the horticulture industry of the Riverina. This includes the irrigation crops of citrus, tree nuts and vegetables, the wine grape industry and the cooler climate apple industry.

[Click here for more information](#)

## Introduction to Grantwriting Wagga

RDA Riverina and Murrumbidgee Landcare are pleased to present a FREE workshop - Introduction To Grantwriting which aims to provide core skills for volunteers, staff and fundraisers in writing successful grant applications for your community organisation.

**DATE:** Wednesday 28 June 2017

**TIME:** 5.30 pm – 8.30 pm



**VENUE:** Members Lounge, Murrumbidgee  
Turf Club, Slocum Street Wagga

**REGISTER:** Please complete the registration  
form attached and return to contact details  
below.

**Maddy Gorham** M: 0429 458 717 E:  
mgorham@mli.org.au



[Click here for more information.](#)

## Young Farming Champion Scholarship



Art4Agriculture is thrilled to announce the availability of a one year scholarship to its flagship  
program Young Farming Champions, gifted by an anonymous donor.

Expressions of Interest are now open for the Picture You in Agriculture – Young Farming  
Champions scholarship

This scholarship will allow one young person aged between 19 and 30 to join this illustrious program, which trains the new generation of agricultural advocates by giving them skills in communication, media and professional and personal development.

[Click here for more information](#)

## SEGRA 2017 Conference Call for Speakers NOW OPEN

The banner is split into two main sections. The left section has a green background with a subtle pattern of leaves and contains the text: 'Upper Spencer Gulf South Australia', '24-27 October 2017', a paragraph describing the region as a 'crossroads of Australia' at the intersection of major road and rail routes, and the website '2017.segra.com.au'. The right section has an orange background and features the SEGRA logo, which consists of a stylized sunburst icon and the text 'SEGRA SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR REGIONAL AUSTRALIA'. Below the orange section is a photograph of several white boats moored in a harbor.

The **SEGRA** National Steering Committee is seeking submissions to participate in a range of speaking positions in this years' program.

**SEGRA** this year is being held in the Upper Spencer Gulf, a region of diversity and convergence, focused around the tri-city alliance of [Port Augusta](#), [Whyalla](#) and [Port Pirie](#).

The Upper Spencer Gulf has experienced its fair share of economic shocks and negative perceptions, the reality is they have a lot of new, exciting growth opportunities that are taking advantage of their strengths. This is reflected in this year's theme - *Disruption: a catalyst for change*.

For further information and to submit your abstract, please visit <http://2017.segra.com.au/submit-a-paper/>

Submissions close on **Friday, 19 May 2017**.

[Click here for more information](#)



## Youth Jobs PaTH Prepare Trial Hire



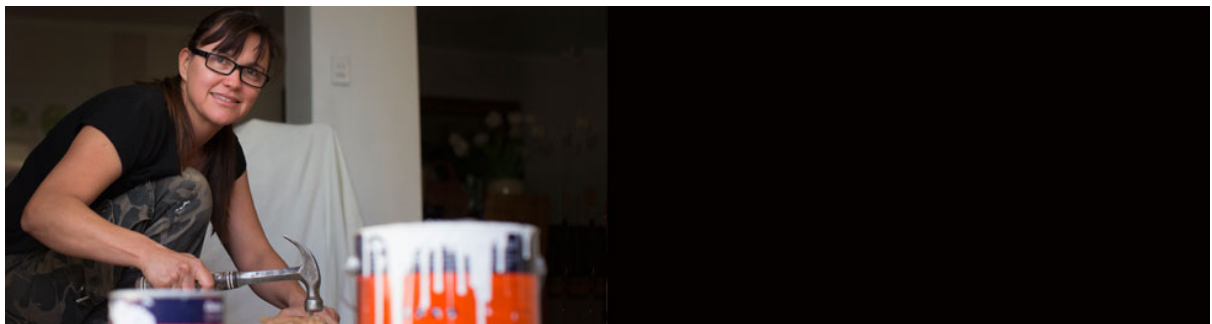
Australian Government



Youth Jobs PaTH helps employers find and recruit the right young person for their business. Through Youth Jobs PaTH, you can trial a young person in your workplace. And you could receive a wage subsidy of up to \$10,000 if you hire them.

[Click here for more information](#)

## Investing in Women Program



NSW Government is providing funding for NSW organisations to develop and implement projects that support the economic empowerment and leadership of women in NSW by providing grants across the state that meet the three strategic directions of:

- **Work and financial security**
- **Education and learning, and**
- **Leadership.**

Grants of up to \$25,000 are available for projects that support the economic empowerment and leadership of women in NSW. A total of up to \$200,000 has been made available for this funding round.

#### **Who can apply ?**

Local councils, not-for-profits, industry bodies, community groups and other NSW Government Agencies

[Click here for more information](#)

## **Create Riverina**



Keep updated with the latest Arts, Screen and Culture activities in the Riverina!

Eastern Riverina Arts - <http://easternriverinaarts.org.au/>

Western Riverina Arts - <http://www.westrivarts.com.au>

South West Arts - <http://www.southwestarts.com.au>

The CAD Factory - [www.cadfactory.com.au](http://www.cadfactory.com.au)

WiredLab - <http://wiredlab.org/>

Griffith Regional Theatre <http://www.griffithregionaltheatre.com.au>

Griffith Regional Art Gallery <http://www.griffithregionalartgallery.com.au>

Arts Centre Cootamundra - <https://www.theartscentrecootamundra.org.au/>

Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre - <http://www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/civic-theatre>

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery - <http://www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/art-gallery>

## Grants Calendar

### ARTS

#### Career Development Grants for Individuals

Australia Council of Arts | \$5,000 - \$25,000 | Closes 6th June 2017

### ARTS - SCHOLARSHIP

#### Young Regional Artist Scholarship

Create NSW | \$10,000 | Closes 19th June 2017

### ARTS

#### Arts Projects for Individuals and Groups

Australia Council of Arts | \$10,000 - \$50,000 | Closes 6th June & 3rd October 2017

### ARTS

#### Arts Projects - Organisations

Australia Council of Arts | \$10,000 - \$100,000 | Closes 6th June & 3rd October 2017

### ARTS TOURING

#### Contemporary Music Touring Program

Australia Council of Arts | \$15,000 | Closes 3rd October 2017

### ARTS TOURING

#### Regional Arts Touring

Create NSW | \$150,000 | Closes 13th June 2017

## **BUSINESS**

### **Business Connect**

NSW Dept Industry | Service & Subsidy | Closes 30th June 2020

## **BUSINESS**

### **Bin Trim Rebates Program**

NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) | \$1,000 - \$50,000 | Closes Closes June 2017

## **COMMUNITY**

### **AMP Tomorrow Fund**

AMP | \$10,000 - \$100,000 | Closes 16th May 2017

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CITY OF WAGGA**

### **Economic Development Grants Program 2016 - 2017**

City of Wagga | \$3,000 | Closes 30th June 2017

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

### **40-50% Discount on Fridge or TV**

NSW Office of Environment and Heritage | Closes 30th June 2017

## **FARMING**

### **NSW Sustaining the Basin: Irrigated Farm Modernisation Rd 9**

NSW Dept Primary Industries | Closes 30th June 2017

## **RURAL WORKPLACE**

### **Quad Bike Rural Safety Program**

Safework | \$500 | Closes 30th June 2017

## **SENIORS**

### **Digital Literacy for Older Australians**

Australian Government | \$Open | Closes 28th April 2017

## **SMALL BUSINESS**

### **Jobs Action Plan Rebate Scheme - Payroll Tax**

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

## **TECHONOLGY - URBAN SOLUTIONS**

### **Smart Cities and Suburbs Program**

AusIndustry | \$100,000 - \$5m | Closes 30th June 2017

## WOMEN

### Investing in Women Funding Program

Women NSW | \$25,000 | Closes 24th May 2017

## YOUTH INNOVATION

### FRRR ABC Haywire Youth Innovation Grants

FRRR/ABC | \$100,000 | Closes 17th May 2017

## CLICK HERE FOR A LIST OF ONGOING GRANTS

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

- Community builders: [www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au)
- Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal: [www.frrr.org.au](http://www.frrr.org.au)
- Regional Arts NSW: <http://regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants>
- Business: <https://www.business.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](mailto: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](http://www.rdariverina.org.au)

## Calendar Dates





4 April - Finance and New Technologies

Workshop Wagga

18 May - Industry Tour Batlow/Tumbarumba

25 May - RDA Riverina Committee Meeting

14 – 16 June - Regional Events Conference

Wagga

24 August - RDA Riverina Committee Meeting

23 November - RDA Riverina Committee Meeting

## What's on in the Riverina Region?

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