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Welcome to RDA RiverinE-NEWSLETTER

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COMMITTEE PROFILE

The **RDA Riverina Committee** comprises 12 members from the Riverina region who represent local communities, businesses and local

government. These members have a broad and diverse skills base and demonstrated networks and alliances. This issue we introduce:

RDA Riverina Chair – Diana Gibbs

Diana is an economist, with post-graduate qualifications in environmental studies. She is Principal of Diana Gibbs and Partners, a strategic planning and economic analysis consulting group established in 1991.

[Click here for more information.](#)



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Young People 18-35 yrs

Regional Development Australia - Riverina is calling for expressions of interest from young people residing in RDA Riverina communities to attend:

The Inaugural NSW Regional Events Conference

The NSW Regional Events Conference is the first conference of its kind in NSW where event professionals and event stakeholders have the opportunity to get together and hear from targeted and experienced presenters, discussing issues and topics that directly impact the regional event industry.

[Click here for more information.](#)



THE BEYOND BANK Regional Pitchfest is the Platform for Regional Ideas and Innovation
Think Shark Tank on a live stage!

Regional Pitchfest is an annual event that allows anyone from the Murray - Riverina area with a BIG INNOVATIVE idea to pitch to an expert panel in front of a live audience. Regional Pitchfest is part of building a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation in Regional Australia.

[Click here for more information.](#)

"Understand your market. A great idea isn't great if it just sits on a shelf. People have to need it, or they have to want it."
– Liane



REGIONAL TOURISM AWARDS

The 2016 Awards are now open

Submissions for the 2016 Regional Tourism Awards are now open!

We encourage you to start your submission early, make the most of the time you have and remember this process is not something that can be done overnight – it takes time!

We are using the eAwards system again this year, [click here to begin](#).

The 2016 categories, criteria, changes and other important information are available for download from our website. [Click here to view the 2016 categories.](#)

GRIFFITH INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE SYMPOSIUM 2-18 MAY 2016



Seven master sculptors from across the globe will gather in Griffith, Riverina NSW this year to create beautiful stone sculptures. Each artist offers a unique style and personality and will develop a work based on their interpretation of the theme: 'The meaning of water in Griffith and the city's multicultural diversity.' World-class art, carved from large blocks of granite will become a permanent part of the landscape located along Centenary Walk in IOOF Park, adding to the beautiful City Park precinct alongside the Main Canal. The Sculptures will be officially launched on Friday 5 August as part of Griffith's 100- year birthday weekend celebrations.

[Click here for more information.](#)

The Australian Drug Foundation recently launched a new 'Breaking the Ice in our community' project in NSW and need your support.

The project aims to empower communities to come together and talk about practical solutions to issues with crystalline methamphetamines ('ice'). We've put together a short video featuring people directly impacted by the drug to communicate the project's key messages:

Be informed | See the person not the drug | Treatment and support is available |

Be part of the solution

How can you support? Send the following links with the video and its messages through your networks:

• [Facebook link](#)

• [YouTube link](#)

You can find out more information about the Breaking the ice in our community [clicking here.](#)



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



no plum crazy about **Australian Prunes**



Did you know?

- The heart of the Australian prune industry is in the temperate areas of the MIA and Young which offer ideal conditions plum orchards.
- Around 60 growers produce up to 3,000 tonnes of premium quality Australian prunes every year.
- Not all plums are suitable to dry as prunes. The classic French D'Agen remains the ideal plum variety for drying because of its high level of natural sugars, the thickness of its skin, its ability to absorb liquid after drying and its intense flavour. The D'Agen is recorded as being imported into Australia as early as 1866; and at the time, prunes were seen as potentially "a great source of wealth to the country".
- Australian prunes are dried on the farms where they're grown. Growers pick in late summer

and early autumn, when the fruit has ripened and the sugar levels are high. The plums are picked very quickly using mechanical shakers and are immediately placed in large hot air tunnels for drying overnight. The picking and drying process is complete within 24 hours, with plums dried to one third of their original moisture content.

- Growers then supply their dehydrated product to processors, with prices dependent on gradable sized fruit. The major processors clearly label their packages with Australian Prunes or they use the Ausprune logo to differentiate between locally grown and imported product
- [Click here](#) to find out more about AusPrunes.

ARTLANDS DUBBO 2016 is a four-day conference and festival that will take place from 27 to 30 October. Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts, Troy Grant MP, launched it recently at the Sydney Opera House.

This marks the first time in over a decade that the national conference for regional arts has been held in New South Wales and it will feature contributions from Narrandera-based artists from The CAD Factory. [Click here](#) for more information on Western Riverina Arts.

More conference information [click here](#).

The Workplace Updates Seminars are approaching fast!

18,000 workplace claims were recorded last year alone. Could you be hit next? As an employer, are you across everything that could potentially go wrong in your workplace? Do you know how to get the most out of your star employees or handle tough conversations fairly? [Click here](#) for more information on workshops in **Griffith** and **Wagga Wagga**.

safeTALK is a free 3 hour presentation designed to increase awareness of suicide and alert people to the signs of suicide. Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network in conjunction with Murrumbidgee Partners in Recovery, the Wagga and Region Suicide Prevention Network and the Aboriginal Health Consortium are bringing safeTALK to the communities of [Leeton](#), [Narrandera](#), [Tumut](#) and [Griffith](#). Please click towns for flyers with workshop dates and details.

At **CCRSPI 2016** delegates will discuss the commercial drivers for climate resilience and focus on steps being undertaken to grow the resilience of primary industries across Australia. The issues presented at CCRSPI 2016 are targeted to deliver discussion focused on where next for primary

industries with climate resilience. This conference is tailored for industry, government, policy and science leaders. [Click here](#) for confence details.

Inland NSW Complying Development Review

Changes to regional building approvals

Comment on the proposal to make approvals for simple and low-impact building projects easier and faster for homeowners and businesses in rural and regional NSW.

[Click here](#) for more information.

GRANT TIP: *Collaborate, don't replicate*

More and more funders are asking for the details on how you collaborate with like service providers, rather than replicating their offering. How do you collaborate?

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

GRANTS CALENDAR

COMMUNITY

- [**Stronger Communities Programme**](#)

From \$5,000 to \$20,000 | Closing: 26 Apr 2016 | Australian Government Culture

CULTURE

- [**Australia-ASEAN Council Grant Round 2016-17**](#)

\$10,000 to \$40,000 | Closing: 18 Apr 2016 | Australian Government Employment

EMPLOYMENT

- [**AMP's Employment Boost**](#)

\$100,000 to \$300,000 | Closing: 04 Apr 2016 | AMP

- [**Training for Employment Scholarships**](#)

\$7,500 | Closing: 30 Jun 2016 | Australian Government

- [Industry Skills Fund – Youth Employment Pathways](#)

\$2000 per individual | Closing: 30 Jun 2016 | Australian Government

INDIGENOUS

- [Our Languages, Our Way' Community Language Grants](#)

Up to \$30,000 per project | Closing 6 May 2016 | NSW Government

- **April 7:** Introduction to Grantwriting -
Narrandera

- **April 22:** REROC - *Wagga Wagga*

- **May 2- 4:** NSW Regional Events
Workshop - *Wagga Wagga*

- **May 12:** Ag Options Workshop *Griffith*

- **May 20:** Industry Tour - *Wagga Wagga*

- **May 26:** RDA Riverina Committee
Meeting - *Coleambally*

- **May 27:** Beyond Bank Pitch Fest -
Wagga Wagga

- **June 16:** Development Officer Forum
- *Narrandera*

- **June 28:** REROC - *Wagga Wagga*

- **August 23:** REROC - *Wagga Wagga*

- **August 25:** RDA Riverina Committee
Meeting - *Gundagai*

- **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*

- [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](#)
- [Tumut Shire Council](#)
- [Wagga Wagga City Council](#)



Facebook



Website

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

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