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#ISSUE 9

## Welcome to RDA RiverinE-News

Welcome to the first May edition of the RDA Riverine-newsletter. It's a busy time at the moment across the region with cotton harvest in full swing and some much needed rainfall for winter cereal and oilseed crops. We held a successful Ag Options workshop run in conjunction with the Riverina Wine Grapes Marketing Board in Griffith, and next week an Industry tour in partnership with Wagga Wagga City Council which connects local businesses and government. The Riverina has some exciting new developments regionally with RIRDC relocating their operations from Canberra to Wagga Wagga at CSU. This is a significant development for the Riverina and agricultural research, development and innovation.

This edition includes a précis of the federal budget and the implications for regional Australia and the Riverina as well as a range of funding opportunities, who's who on the committee and a wrap up of the highly successful Regional Events Conference and the three young tourism and events leaders RDA Riverina sponsored. We also have info on our Digital Skills for Community Groups workshops across the region and the new container deposit scheme recently announced by the NSW Premier. Happy reading.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Mark Ritchie'.

Mark Ritchie

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## Meet the RDA Riverina Committee - Phil Pinyon

Phil Pinyon has had an extensive Local Government career, holding many varied positions in Councils across Australia in four states/territories. These roles include administration, planning and community services in South Australian local government, Chief Executive Officer with Jabiru Town Council in the Northern Territory, Director roles with Tamworth City Council, Toowoomba City Council and Hornsby Shire Council and General Manager positions with Greater Taree City Council, Blue Mountains City Council and Wagga Wagga City Council.



Phil is currently Interim General Manager at Murrumbidgee Shire Council.

This broad experience, much of which has been in regional Australia, provides Phil with a unique perspective on matters relevant to the RDA.

During his career Phil has undertaken tertiary studies including the completion of Master of Business Administration and Graduate Diploma in Public Sector Management and he has a Diploma in Local Government Administration and holds a Municipal Clerk's Certificate.

Phil's professional affiliations include being a member of the Australia Institute of Management and he is a

[Click here to read more](#)

## Young Leaders meet at NSW Regional Events Conference

RDA Riverina EO, Mark Ritchie congratulated successful candidates Nicole Jaffrey Griffith, Maryann Vitelli Leeton and Brooke Brunskill Wagga Wagga on their successful expression of interest to the NSW Regional Events Conference held in Wagga Wagga on May 2-4 to the RDA Riverina.



To coincide with the NSW Regional Events Conference, RDA Riverina sponsored the registration of three young people 18 -35yrs who are committed to the growth and vibrancy of the region. Over 12 applications were received from young entrepreneurs and people committed to improving the livability of their community through the provision of innovative events. [Click here to read more.](#)

## Regional Tourism Awards



The Regional Tourism Awards (Regionals) are held annually to acknowledge excellence in tourism in the four regional tourism areas of Central, Inland, Murray and Riverina.

The Regional Tourism Awards provide tourism organisations and individuals the opportunity to gain an insight into their industry, their business, achieve recognition for their success and promote tourism within their region. One of the main focus points of the awards is to develop quality regional tourism products and provide businesses the opportunity to benchmark their business with similar businesses in activity and size and also have the

opportunity to identify their own personal and professional development within the tourism industry

The Awards close on Friday, 27th May and FREE mentoring/mock judging opportunities are still available. [You can find out more here.](#)

## Budget 2016 - 17



## Budget 2016-17

The Treasurer handed down Budget 2016-17 at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3 May, 2016. The Australian Government budget sets out the economic and fiscal outlook for Australia, and includes expenditure and revenue estimates for the current financial year, the budget year, and three forward financial years. It shows the Government's social and political priorities, and how the Government intends to achieve these.

[Click here](#) and provide your details for a personalised budget.

Or [click here](#) for all Budget documents and supporting papers.

## Aussie Farmers Foundation



Foundation "Rural Hero" Grant. Their project is designed to tackle some of the main challenges facing rural women in smaller and more isolated towns that may be facing harder times at the moment. To learn more about it please go to the link below and check out the video (#2 – "GET SET – Enhancing Wellbeing Among Rural Women"). Riverina Community College has been chosen as one of four finalists for the Aussie Farmers

[Please click here to vote.](#)

Riverina Community College video is # 2 – watch for the message and if you wish to vote click on 'VOTE' immediately below the video.



### **10c CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME**

The Baird government has supported a recycling scheme for drink containers that will go into effect in July 2017.

The plan was developed with the NSW Environment Protection Authority.

Here's how the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) will work:

- 10 cents will be paid for drink containers returned to a depot or reverse vending machine.
- The containers must display a NSW CDS label, and be between 150ml and 3 litres.
- Wine, milk, and juice will not be eligible for the scheme.
- Depots will be both large-scale operations and pop-ups.
- Anyone returning a container is eligible for a refund.
- Drinks containers can still be disposed of in council-run waste and recycling collection schemes, but the household won't receive a refund – the 10c will go to the councils, which will go towards waste collection costs in their local area.
- The 10c refund, and administration and handling fees, will be covered by the beverage industry.

[Click here to read more.](#)

## Digital Skills for Community Groups



RDA Riverina have partnered with TAFE Riverina Institute to develop FREE Digital Skills For Community Group workshops to be rolled out across nine Riverina Shires.

For further information contact: Marg Couch [po@rdariverina.org.au](mailto:po@rdariverina.org.au) or [click here](#) to find a workshop location nearest to you.

## Importance of Contracts



Importance of Contracts is the second in a series of FREE workshops presented by the Riverina Business Enterprise Centre in conjunction with the Riverina Wine Grape Marketing Board in May and June. This unique opportunity includes two hour workshops and one-on-one meetings with the presenter.

This workshop will give you an overview of the importance of contracts in any business relationship including:

- Responding to a contract for the supply of goods or services;
- Understanding written contracts;
- Writing contracts that are clear and unambiguous; and
- What it means when you agree to sign and be bound by a contract

[Click here for more information](#)

## Conference



## Call for Abstracts

Share your knowledge at the  
2016 National Landcare Conference



The 2016 National Landcare Conference is to be held between 21-23 September at Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, will centre around conference theme 'Collaborative Communities – Landcare in Action'.

Landcare Australia are seeking presentations from those involved in the Landcare movement including; farmers, volunteers, Landcare groups, and natural resource management organisations, in addition to primary industry representatives, environmentalists and conservationists, academics and researchers.

If you are interested, [click here](#) for further information from Landcare Australia.

The closing date for abstract submissions has been extended to 20 May 2016.

### Grant Tip

#### Eligibility

Make contact by phone with the organisation administering the grant and explain your project. The funder will quickly help you define what part of your project most fits their guidelines.. It also starts a relationship with the funding body and they may give you further information on the grant that is not stated in the guidelines.

***Check:*** Does your organisation need an accreditation (eg does it need to be incorporated, registered for GST or have a tax deductible donation status)? If your organisation does not have the required accreditation can another organisation who does apply on your behalf (eg sponsor your application)?

**Think** carefully about the project. Ask yourself " What is the outcome we would like to achieve for the community, and how will we achieve it?"

### Grants Calendar

## ARTS

### Arts Leaders Program

Australia Council | As per Application | Closes 7 June

## ARTS

### Catalyst - Australian Arts and Culture Fund

Australian Government Dept Communications and The Arts | As Per Application | Ongoing

## COMMUNITY

### nib Foundation Grants Program Communit Grants

nib Foundation | up to \$50,000 | Closes 16 June

## COMMUNITY

### Social Housing Community Improvement Fund

Dept Family & Community Services | \$Up to \$50,000 | 9 June

## COMMUNITY

### Community Hall Scheme

Essential Energy | \$200 | Ongoing

## ENVIRONMENT

### Waste Less Recycle More

Environment Protection Authority | Various | Ongoing

## SME BUSINESS

### Global Connections Fund

Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (ATSE) | \$7,000 | 27 May

## SME BUSINESS

### Jobs Action Plan (JAP) Payroll Tax Rebate Scheme

NSW Office of State Revenue | \$2,000 - \$5,000 | Ongoing

## SME BUSINESS

### Small Business Grant

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

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)
- Grants Link: [www.grantslink.gov.au](http://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](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)

## RDA Riverina Diary Dates 2016



- **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

## 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](#)
- [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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