Connecting Community

Calendar of Events

October
- 17: Next Generation: Rural Leaders’ Network Workshop (Leadership & Research)
- 14: National Ride to Work Day
- 20: Women’s Network Dinner
- 21: Southern Grampians Youth Network Meeting

November
- 9: Community Advisory Group Meeting
- 13: RMIT University Hamilton Graduation Ball
- 13: Next Generation: Rural Leaders’ Network Think Tank (Trade & International Economics)

Local Area Access Program (LAAP)

Healthy research for the Shire

Hamilton cyclists and pedestrians – don’t be alarmed when approached by an enthusiastic interviewer requesting a few minutes of your time! The simple questionnaire is part of research for the Southern Grampians Shire, designed to improve the Shire’s cycling and pedestrian infrastructure.

The Local Area Access Program is made possible by funding from the Victorian Department of Transport, for the provision of a strategically positioned bike station, on-road lane marking, signage and bicycle racks.

RMIT University Hamilton will assist the Shire, through research aimed at identifying possible safety issues and current traffic, with the long-term view to evaluate the project impact, objectives and suggestions for future developments.

Surveying will begin 14 October 2009, aptly timed with the annual National Ride to Work Day. The survey has been developed by RMIT University Hamilton’s Regional Development Program, in collaboration with a local reference group.

For more information phone Garth Benneyworth on 03 5572 0503, or email garth.benneyworth@rmit.edu.au.

Next Generation: Rural Leaders’ Network

RMIT leads the way with rural youth

Twenty of the region’s future rural leaders were introduced to potential mentors through a speed-meet activity to break the ice. This was followed by a leadership exercise resulting in dancing, acting and more, much to the entertainment of participants.

The call for participant nominations was announced at Sheepvention in August, with program organisers delighted by the calibre of applications received and the enthusiasm shown by participants and mentors.

The program will improve the leadership and representative capacity of participants, as well as develop networks and knowledge through mentoring and training.

The Next Generation leaders, aged 18-30, come from a range of agricultural business, natural resource management and agri-business sectors.

The first of the learning workshops will take place during October, with the topics of research, leadership and economics to be covered.

For more program information, contact Jessica Still, on 03 5572 0533, or email jessica.still@rmit.edu.au.

Next Generation: Rural Leaders’ Network participants and mentors form a conga line as part of a break-out group presentation on leadership skills.
Professional Development & Short Courses in 2010

Planning for the 2010 professional development and short course program, to be facilitated by RMIT University Hamilton, is underway.

To aid RMIT in best meeting local learning requirements, you are invited to contact the Hamilton site with any suggestions, or identified learning opportunities.

RMIT University Hamilton has access to networks and specialists in a multitude of fields, which can be invaluable in bringing learning opportunities to the region.

For more information contact Marilyn Lyons on 03 5572 0502, or email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au.

Invigilation Services @ RMIT Hamilton

Examination time for all TAFE and Universities is fast approaching. RMIT University Hamilton offers a professional invigilation service to people studying through other education providers.

To discuss your exam supervision requirements, contact Leanne Cottrill on 03 5572 0500, or email leanne.cottrill@rmit.edu.au.

Recognising Farming Women

Young rural women – You are invited to participate in Recognising Farming Women, an initiative aimed at building networks and skills for young rural women. Develop confidence in decision making, networking and public speaking, and discover what sort of leadership qualities you already have.

There will be two workshops in each area;

Cavendish – Town Hall:
Thursday 8 October & Tuesday 27 October

Yambuk – Town Hall:
Wednesday 7 October & Wednesday 28 October

Ararat – Shire Offices (Barkly Street):
Tuesday 20 October & Tuesday 10 November

Lake Bolac – Town Hall:
Monday 19 October & Monday 9 November

The program also seeks experienced women to volunteer as mentors for participants.

This program is facilitated by Glenelg Hopkins CMA and made possible by funding from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

For more information, contact Carolyn Rundell on 0422 908 679, or Glenelg Hopkins CMA on 5571 2526.

L4YP

Landscapes for Young People

The Landscapes for Young People in Glenelg and Southern Grampians Shires (L4YP) will teach participants to work with peers, local government and professionals, to develop local solutions to local problems, and encourages innovative ideas in areas of interest to local youth.

Project staff are currently identifying issues and collating background research to gain a clear idea of the lives of young people across the two shires and working with agencies to identify potential research projects.

RMIT University Hamilton seeks expressions of interest from young people, community youth groups and those who work with young people. Community members are invited to contribute knowledge and skills to the project.

To find out more, or register your interest, contact Sarah Stephens, RMIT Research Officer, on 55720 504, or email sarah.stephens@rmit.edu.au.

Bachelor of Nursing Update

Bachelor of Nursing students are entering their final two weeks of classes, before SWOTVAC and the end of year exam period, with third year students undertaking their final clinical practicum prior to completion of all course requirements for graduation.

The RMIT University Hamilton Graduation Ball will take place 13 November. Graduands will celebrate with families, first and second year Bachelor of Nursing students, local staff and guest RMIT academics.

The annual event is a wonderful opportunity for students to be recognised for standards of excellence in attitude, clinical practice and academia.

Research in Regional Development:
Dr Paul Collits, at paul.collits@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0537.

Nursing and Midwifery:
Kerry McMullan at kerry.mcmullan@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0551.

Community Engagement:
Dr Kaye Schofield at kaye.schofield@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0501.

Short Course Programs:
Marilyn Lyons at marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0502.

Local – Global Program:
Terrie Nicholson at terrie.nicholson@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0549.

General Enquiries and Student Support:
Leanne Cottrill at leanne.cottrill@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0500.

To register for e-NEWS, or for general media enquiries:
Rachel McDonald at rachel.mcdonald@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0505.