

Mid North Mutterings



MID NORTH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD INC

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EXCELLENT PARTICIPATION IN MIG PROJECT

Organisers of the Clare-based Metal Industries Gateways (MIG) Project are delighted with the number of enrolments in this inaugural pre-vocational training course. Joint Project Manager, David Hutchinson from Barossa Lower North Futures Inc (BLNF) said that the Project has met its initial enrolment target of 15, and that all participants have settled into the course well.

"The MIG Project is in its seventh week of full-time pre-vocational training in Metal Fabricating, and both the lecturers and participants are pleased with progress thus far", Mr Hutchinson said. "The participants are aware that regional Metal's Industry employers are following the course with interest, and employment possibilities for successful participants are quite likely."

The 6-month course is the product of collaboration (starting in September last year) between TAFESA, regional Metals Industry employers, regional schools, the Mid North Regional Development Board (MNRDB), and Barossa Lower North Futures inc. The MIG Project is largely funded by SA Works money, which is managed by MNRDB Employment Skills Network under the watchful eye of SA Works Coordinator David Furniss. TAFESA won the tender to deliver the training, and the former premises of IKC Sheds in New Road has

been rented and outfitted by TAFE especially for the project. Funding has enabled the Project to be "badged" with its own logo, signage etc, and participants have all received distinctive, personalised uniforms, boots and toolkits as part of the Project. Participants consist of 7 school students, 2 exiting students, and 6 regional unemployed persons looking to improve their skills in the Metal Industry.

Lecturer Shane Krueger supervised the erection of the Project sign last week, and has been very pleased with the early progress of all participants.



MIG Participants

"I was able to bring some scaffolding down from Pt Pirie last week, and generous assistance from the boys at Clare Metal Fabrications has enabled us to place our sign in such a way as to alert the general public to the Project's existence", Mr Krueger said. "Some of the boys are already seeking out Work Experience with the supporting employers, and this is a key ingredient of our program".

SouthAustraliaWorks
linking people, skills and jobs

"Supervising Coordinator for TAFESA, and joint Project Manager, Clive Thomson, is keen for the Project to succeed, as he sees a real need for a more permanent presence in the Clare region of facilities which can cater for these types of courses.

"We are responding to the needs of clients in this area, and the Metals Industry employers have been consulted and involved all along the way. This is a truly collaborative community project, and one which we hope will convince relevant authorities of the merit of basing facilities here in Clare for the benefit of the surrounding region," Mr Thomson added. Participant Shane Allott indicated that he was enjoying the course, even the theory component, because "I like to understand what it is I am doing, not just simply perform an operation. The theory is important, but obviously the skills learnt practically will be very beneficial".



Hard at work



Signage

Special points of interest:

- SEE PAGE TWO FOR MORE BUSINESS WORKSHOPS BEING OFFERED IN BURRA, JAMESTOWN, EUDUNDA, HALLETT, ROBERTSTOWN & CLARE
- CHECK OUR WEBSITE WWW.MNRDB.COM.AU

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EXCELLENT PARTICIPATION IN MIG PROJECT (Cont)

Project Managers Clive Thomson and David Hutchinson are currently visiting the various employers who have already supported the Project, and their travels will take them out to Buschutz Engineering at Eudunda, T and R Engineering at Tarlee, Ashmores at Farrell Flat, and Clare Metal Fabrications and IKC Sheds locally. "We promised the employers late last year that we would keep them regularly informed of the progress of the Project, and we will be doing that personally. We are also

hopeful that they can find time in their busy days to visit the Project site and chat with the lecturers and participants," Mr Hutchinson said. "The early success of the Project is attributable to the terrific work being done by Shane Krueger and his team. The boys appreciate their skill, experience and rapport."

David Furniss at the MNRDB indicated that a formal launch of the Project will be scheduled for after the election, when it is

hoped that the relevant Minister may be able to attend.



MIG PROJECT

RESPONDING
TO NEEDS OF
CLIENTS IN
THIS
AREA

FREE BUSINESS WORKSHOPS THROUGHOUT REGION

The next round of business workshops kicks off on March 28, in Clare, with a "Starting a Business" workshop. The same workshop is scheduled to be held in Burra on 9 May.

CEO Geoffrey Gray said "This workshop has been designed to help potential business owners in their decisions on whether they should go into business."

In Burra and Jamestown, two "Small Business Marketing" workshops are being held back to back looking at ways to help business to improve their marketing and get better value from their marketing dollars.

Later in the month the successful "Lorraine Thornton & Associates" Retail Training workshops continue in Hallet and Robertstown with the Business Building Workshops. These will be held on 22nd and 23rd May.



Participants at a recent workshop in Clare

Eudunda businesses will be able to attend two sessions of "Customer Service & Selling Skills" workshops, which backs up the Better Business Workshop held late last year. Local business person, Judy Partington, part owner of Goyder Electrical has said "This type of training for the staff at my business is invaluable, and its free! Lorraine Thornton has already provided excellent information at the last workshop".

Other workshop topics being offered include e-business and Benchmarking.

These workshops are being sponsored by SA Works and hosted by the Board. If you would like any further information checkout our website, www.mnrdb.com.au where you can register online. If you would like to know more call our Business Development Officer on 88423115



Workshop recently at Jamestown

CHECK OUT
OUR FREE
BUSINESS
WORKSHOPS
ON THE WEB

BOWER BOUNDARY ROAD

In December 2005 the Mid North Regional Development Board [MNRDB] in association with the Murraylands Development Board, Mid Murray Council, Regional Council of Goyder and the Central LGA commissioned a study to assess and evaluate the current and future demand for heavy vehicle freight transport access between Fleurieu, Murraylands, Barossa Valley and the Mid North regions.

Transport operators including local, inter-regional and interstate grain, livestock, wine and general freight and logistics companies and key agricultural and export industry stakeholders are being consulted. A broad based survey is also being conducted to identify any likely future changes in industry patterns. The aim is to develop a 'business case' to

support the progression and implementation of a proposed North South Transport route connecting Murray Bridge, Burra and Pt Pirie.

It is anticipated that survey results will also highlight the strategic importance and economic value of a North South transport route. The proposal if implemented will service the growing needs of the grain, livestock and wine industries whilst at the same time address the needs of freight and logistics operators by providing a viable option for through-freight to bypass the Adelaide metropolitan area.

The study is expected to be completed by early April and information collected from the study will be used by the Regional Development Boards to lobby for the corridor and by local government to support future grant fund-

ing applications to both state and federal governments.



Photo courtesy Vanderfield.com.au

SURVEY TO HIGHLIGHT THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE AND ECONOMIC VALUE OF A NORTH SOUTH TRANSPORT ROUTE

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY—REGIONAL AND RURAL SCHOLARSHIP

In an Australian first, American degrees will be available in Adelaide, South Australia from May 2006. The H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management (Heinz School) of Carnegie Mellon, the top ranking and prestigious American university, will deliver two world-class postgraduate Masters degrees:

Master of Science in Public Policy and Management (full-time or part-time)

Master of Science in Information Technology (part-time only).

Each program will be taught in the newly refurbished

Torrens Building, Victoria Square.

As part of the Premier's Community Development Scholarships, the Regional and Rural Scholarship has been established.

The Mid-North Regional Development Board is encouraging prospective students from the region to apply for admission and a scholarship at Carnegie Mellon's Heinz School, Adelaide.

South Australia's Strategic Plan (SASP) places considerable emphasis on building and sustaining healthy regional communities. These scholarships will ensure that South Australians from regional and remote areas of

the State share in the benefits of Carnegie Mellon's presence here in South Australia. By developing leaders from regional communities, the scholarships relate to SASP objectives to develop and maintain viable and sustainable regional communities.

These scholarships will be offered in either the MSPPM or the MSIT program for full-time or part-time study. Cost of living support will be considered depending on the circumstances of the recipients.

To be considered for admission and scholarships, students will have an undergraduate degree from any internationally recognised university, including Australian universities, and at least three years relevant work ex-

AMERICAN DEGREES AVAILABLE IN ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY—REGIONAL AND RURAL SCHOLARSHIP (Cont)

perience. They will also need to be able to commence study in Adelaide from May 2006. If studying part-time, classes will be in the evening at the Torrens Building, Adelaide.

The requirement to take the graduate admissions test is waived for the May 2006 student intake (subject to a minimum three years relevant work experience).

The process for students to be considered for the Regional and Rural Scholarship, is as follows:

Prospective students from regional and rural areas apply directly to Carnegie Mellon, by completing the application details at

<http://www.heinz.cmu.edu/australia> as soon as possible, preferably

by Friday 31 March 2006.

Prospective students should indicate on their application that they wish to be considered for a scholarship.

Admissions assessment at Carnegie Mellon's main campus in Pittsburgh, United States.

South Australian scholarship panel provided with a list of scholarship candidates for assessment.

Scholarship offers made to the selected students.

Upon acceptance, students will commence on 22 May 2006.

Please contact h.nzadmit-australia@andrew.cmu.edu with any queries related to

applications for admissions and scholarships.

This is an exciting opportunity for students to obtain a world-class qualification from the first foreign university to establish a campus in Australia.



WORLD CLASS
QUALIFICATION
FROM FIRST
FOREIGN
UNIVERSITY TO
ESTABLISH A
CAMPUS IN
ADELAIDE

BUSINESS COACHING PROGRAMS

This Department of Trade & Economic Development (DTED) program has been designed to support the growth and development of South Australian business by encouraging business interaction. By providing participants with a forum where they are able to meet regularly to discuss issues and obtain objective solutions, the program aims to enhance the overall management and business skills of South Australian business owners.

A survey of previous participants has found strong positive growth as a result of the program with development areas being: improved management, strategic direction, marketing and communications both within the organization and with customers.

Lead by a coach, groups of up to 10 business owners meet for three-hour sessions once a month for ten months. In addition, the Coach will offer hourly individual sessions each month per participant, either by phone or in person. DTED will allocate participants to a coach on the basis of participant needs and the coach's abilities and strengths.

Group sessions are not designed to be training sessions but to provide participants with a forum where they can discuss such issues as:

- Marketing
- Identifying new customers
- Staff issues
- Motivation
- Profitability
- Success measures
- Structuring your Business

For more information please contact:

MNRDB's—Business Development Officer on 8842 3115



APOLOGY; In the first edition one of the Board members surnames was mis-spelt. Sorry Kay Matthias. ED.

“Fostering Economic Development in our Region”

MID NORTH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD INC

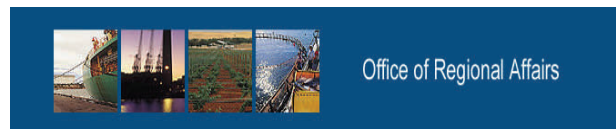
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The Mid North Regional Development Board Inc. (MNRDB) is funded by the South Australian Government through the Office of Regional Affairs in partnership with the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council, Northern Areas Council and Regional Council of Goyder.

The Board is structured as an independent incorporated body with its own Board of Directors and operates at a strategic level to facilitate economic development and deliver enhanced employment opportunities for the region’s rural and tourism based economy.

The Board’s vision for economic development is founded on building an economy which is diverse, sustainable and appropriate for the region. Board activities focus on delivering economic and social benefit to the region by increasing the profile of the Mid North and enhancing the regions national competitiveness to provide ongoing employment opportunities for the region’s rural community.

We’re on the web.
www.mnrdb.com.au



SouthAustraliaWorks
linking people, skills and jobs



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