



Central Highlands Development Corporation
Economic development agency for the Central Highlands Region

15th March 2010



Welcome to the CHDC eNews

a fortnightly brief to highlight key information in the region.

Topical Ideas?



[Email us](#) if you have any contributions for the next edition of eNews.

Regional Highlights and Updates

Successful Conclusion to 'Central Highlands Inspirational Women' Project

The 'Central Highlands Inspirational Women' project was a success, with tickets selling out for the gala dinner on 8 March. David Jenssen from Westpac conducted an informative workshop during the day, with some of our inspiring women sharing their story as well. Thanks to Alison Ray, the Queensland Olympic Council and Fay Winten from HHH Partners who donated items, we were able to raise \$2,800 for the Neighbourhood Centre in a charity auction to conclude the evening.

Order Your Copy of the 'Inspirational Women' Booklet

Twenty-six inspiring women from the Central Highlands were nominated and their stories related in a booklet which was launched on the night. Copies of the booklet are still available for \$22 plus postage – please contact CHDC on 49824 386 if you would like to order a copy.

Photo Competition

Thank you to all who contributed to the CHDC photo competition, which was conducted as part of the project. The entries received were all of a very high standard, and reflected life and people of the Central Highlands. The photos are currently on display in the Art Gallery at the Central Highlands Regional Council building, and at the Emerald Westpac bank community board. Thanks to James Laws who judged the entries.

Open section

Winner: Nadine Kennedy – 'Nanny's Love'

Highly commended: Ann-Marie Joubert – 'Dancing Queens'

U/18 section

Winner: Indiah Maike – 'Knowing Me, Knowing You'

(Source: CHDC)

CHDC Back Online!

The Central Highlands Development Corporation team has returned to their offices, located at the Wally Mackenzie Building at the Emerald Showgrounds, after the temporary relocation caused by the floods. Normal communication systems have been restored, however please contact CHDC on 49824 386 if you have experienced any difficulties.

CHDC has an important role to play in assisting the community with the economic recovery phase after the floods. This involves working closely with relevant organisations, like DEEDI and the Central Highlands Regional Council to share information and provide practical assistance to local businesses. CHDC has several exciting projects in the pipeline for 2011! Regular activities such as Friday Forums and business breakfasts will recommence in May, and our fortnightly e-news will contain details on these events and other important updates on economic recovery. *(Source: CHDC)*

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM – Supported by Rio Tinto Kestrel Mine and CHDC **Community Grants Officer to visit Capella and the Gemfields**

The Community Grants Program has been extended with additional funding support from Rio Tinto Kestrel Mine Community Development Fund. This further initiative will be known as the “Outreach Program” and run for 12 months.

Benefits will be gained by not-for-profit groups in the Gemfields and Capella areas. Monthly visits, commencing in April, will be conducted by the Community Grants Officer, Debbie Gibson. Debbie will provide assistance to improve the success rate of community grant submissions.

Gemfields – first Wednesday of each month

Capella – second Wednesday of each month

To make an appointment to meet with Debbie, call 4982 4386 or email dgibson@chdc.com.au

(Source: CHDC)

New Year – New Look for eNews

It's a new year and the CHDC eNews is receiving a makeover. Commencing on the next edition, which is due out on 29 March, the newsletter will have a new look. As a new system will be sending the newsletters, the originating email address will no longer be CHDC and may cause some to be blocked by SPAM filters. If you do not receive the next CHDC eNews please let us know and we will sort out any hiccups that might occur. *(Source: CHDC)*

New Staff Member for CHDC

Welcome to Gwen Norman, CHDC's new Grants and Projects Officer. Gwen moved to Emerald last winter and is enjoying the region and its people. Gwen's role includes co-ordinating the Central Highlands Multicultural Festival and assisting various departments of the Central Highlands Regional Council towards grant funding applications and regional projects. She is keen to contribute her extensive experience in education, the rural sector and event management to our organisation.

(Source: CHDC)

Residents to Apply for Rates Deferral by 18 March

Central Highlands residents are reminded that they have until 18 March to apply for a deferral on their third quarterly rates instalments.

An application form has been sent with rates notices advising ratepayers who had been impacted by the floods that they could apply to defer payment until 8 June and still receive the discount. The form can be returned to Council, either by post, or in person at one of the seven customer service centres across the region, and must be received by 18 March (this Friday) to be eligible. *(Source: CHRC)*

2011 Incentives For Your Business

The Queensland Government offers incentives for businesses to develop and implement innovative projects that will bring new technology to Queensland, with the goal of strengthening the Queensland economy. Businesses that are keen to undertake projects in this area can seek incentives from **\$30,000 to \$250,000 (excluding GST)** through the **Business and Industry Transformation Incentives (BITI)** Scheme for approved projects, with the provision of up to 50% of the project cost for eligible activities. Applications for the next round close on **25 March 2011**.

Guidelines and application forms for **BITI** are available at www.industry.qld.gov.au For general enquiries please contact the **DEEDI Service Centre** on **13 25 23** or forward an email with a brief outline of your project to BITI@deedi.qld.gov.au.

Before lodging your application, please discuss the project with your local DEEDI Centre officer and ensure all supporting documentation is attached. Applications are to be lodged via your local DEEDI Centre.

Central Highlands Contact: Doug Sands, Industry Development Officer, DEEDI, at State Government Offices on Hospital Rd, Emerald or on 49837 411. *(Source: DEEDI)*

Capacity Growth for QantasLink in Queensland

QantasLink has announced that from 6 April it will add approximately 5,000 seats across a range of Queensland regional routes. Over coming months several western and central Queensland centres will benefit from additional and upgraded services to and from Brisbane, with many flights operated by the 74-seat jet-like Q400s.

Details of the additional seats and Brisbane return services per week (from 6 April):

- **Emerald** Additional 888 seats per week (22 per cent growth). Weekly return services to increase by six to 34 return flights, most operated by Q400 aircraft
- **Gladstone** Additional 392 seats per week (six per cent growth). Weekly return services to increase by two to 46
- **Mackay** Additional 148 seats per week (four per cent growth). Weekly return services to increase by one to 25, all operated by Q400 aircraft
- **Moranbah** Additional 868 seats per week (86 per cent growth). Weekly return services to increase by nine to 20, including a new early morning flight from Brisbane on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday allowing same day return travel
- **Rockhampton** Additional 880 seats per week (13 per cent growth). 47 return services per week, mainly operated by Q400 aircraft

Further expansion of Moranbah capacity, by upgrading more services to Q400 aircraft, will follow once the local airport upgrade is completed.

For up to date flight arrival and departure information on QantasLink flights between Emerald and Brisbane, refer to the Central Highlands Regional Council website. This useful service is available at <http://www.centralhighlands.qld.gov.au/web/guest/emerald-airport-flights> (Source: QantasLink and CHRC)

Get Involved with the Working Women's Network!

Anyone interested in participating in the Working Women's Network Committee please come along to a meeting on **Wednesday 16 March** at the Emerald Golf Club from **6pm-8pm**. We are in need of a few more hands on deck to help ensure our WWN functions *continue!* The WWN committee generally meets for an hour before and after each function (currently held monthly) to organise, plan and debrief. Varying commitment levels are welcome, and we hope to share duties around if enough interest is generated. If you have any questions please contact Sherry Smith on 0439 349372.

(Source: WWN)

Housing Assistance Available Through Department of Communities

The Department of Communities has a number of programs and products available through their Housing and Homelessness Services. These programs aim to assist in Community Recovery and include bond loans, rental grants, advice on finding and renting properties, and short-term mortgage relief loans. There is also information available for emergency and social housing. To find out more about these services, or determine eligibility, contact the Emerald Housing Service Centre at 27a Hospital Road, Emerald, or call 4987 4871, or 1800 659 160. (Source: Department of Communities)

Nominate a Small Business That Deserves a Helping Hand

Suncorp Bank will be handing out **10 grants** worth **\$5,000** each **every week for five weeks**. Do you know a local business that needs a helping hand after the recent devastation? Or would you like to thank a small business who really helped out? To nominate and vote for your own business, or any other business go to: www.suncorpbank.com.au/backtobusiness (Source: Suncorp)

Social Impact of Mining Survey

A research team at QUT has ethics approval to conduct an on-line survey on the social impact of mining. This survey is being undertaken by the School of Justice at the Queensland University of Technology, to assess the impacts of non-resident mining labour on local communities. Aggregated data will be shared with community organisations and representatives to benefit your community.

This survey aims to assess how these organizational shifts in the mining industry sector are impacting on the local economy, employment, the provision of social services and recreational activities, housing, community safety, crime, and community lifestyle and wellbeing.

To complete the survey participants have to be over 18 and work or live in a community impacted by mining development.

For more details follow this link to the Survey:

https://qutjustice.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_82McQUH2sn5wrVG

The leader of the research team is Professor Kerry Carrington, Head of School of Justice, Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology (Gardens Point campus) GPO BOX 2434 BRISBANE QLD 4001.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact either Margaret Pereira, PhD candidate, at m.pereira@qut.edu.au or Professor Kerry Carrington on kerry.carrington@qut.edu.au or ph: 07-31387112. (Source: Queensland University of Technology QUT)

Category D Relief to Queensland

The Gillard and Bligh Governments have announced additional assistance to 33 Queensland Local Government Areas affected by recent flooding and Cyclone Yasi. This extra support will allow eligible businesses, primary producers and not-for-profit organisations that have suffered extreme damage to access special concessional loans of up to \$650,000, with a grant component of up to \$50,000.

Eligibility will be assessed on a case by case basis, and assistance is targeted towards those industries that are particularly significant to local communities and whose prolonged closure will have a detrimental impact. Under Category D arrangements, the standard 20 employee definition of a small business has been lifted, giving more small to medium operations the chance to rebuild with concessional loans. More information can be found at www.disasterassist.gov.au or via the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority 1800 623 946 or www.qraa.qld.gov.au

(Source: Queensland Government)

New Project Opportunities

A new Central Queensland project has been listed on Project Gateway

<http://gateway.icn.org.au/project/2561/50mw-solar-pv-power-project-emerald-qld>

Project: 50MW Solar PV Power Project - Emerald Qld

Project Owner: First Solar (Australia) PTY LTD

Project Value: TBA

Project Status: Feasibility

Location: Emerald, QLD, Australia

Expressions of Interest are being sought for the following:

50MW Solar PV Power Project - Emerald Qld - Any Opportunities

Civil Work - Site Mobilisation; Electrical; Mechanical Assembly

To register your interest in this, and other major projects, log onto

http://gateway.icn.org.au/project/search?project_directories=&project_regions=QLD&keywords=&x=57&y=24 (Source: ICN)

ATO To Visit Emerald

Representatives from the Australian Taxation Office will be in Emerald, week starting the 14th March 2011 to assist clients who have been affected by flooding with any questions they may have with taxation issues. This could include fast tracking refunds, extra time to pay debts, helping to reconstruct records, and providing assistance to those who have suffered serious hardship. For assistance with the reconstruction of records, visit www.ato.gov.au/assistancevisit. For other information, visit the website www.ato.gov.au or call 1800 806218 between 8am-6pm Monday to Friday.

Contact: Yvonne Green, ATO, 1800 806 218 or 0401 142 945 to make an appointment. (Source: ATO)

AgForce Events

29 March – Rolleston Computer Mapping workshop. For more information or to register contact Paddy Roe 07 3238 6048, paddy.roe@agforward.org.au

6 April – CHRRUP Natural Resource Management Expo at the Emerald Showgrounds from 9am-2pm.

14 -15 April – Emerald Technology of Growing Grass workshops. Presenters Mick Alexander and Shane Krafft. Contact Cathe or Mick 07 4938 3919, 0438 395 255.

20 April – Emerald Computer Mapping Workshop - For more information or to register contact Paddy Roe 07 3238 6048, paddy.roe@agforward.org.au (Source: AgForce)

Adaptive Communities – Vote Now – an Initiative of Isaac Regional Council

Residents of the Isaac Regional Council are invited to have their say on future planning. Vote for your preferred concept for future non-resident workers' accommodation by doing one of the following:

- Going to www.adaptivecommunities.com.au
- Going to Moranbah Shopping Fair, 10, 11, 17 & 18 March
- Attending an information session at Moranbah Community Centre at 7.30pm on 10, 11, 17 or 18 March, or
- Filling out the voting slip which will soon be arriving in residents' letterboxes. (Source: Isaac Regional Council)

Mental Health First Aid Course – 2 Day Workshop - Emerald

Do you want to know about mental health? Do you care for people that suffer with mental illness? Do you deal with people with mental illness in your work? This course teaches people how to provide initial support to a person experiencing a mental health crisis or developing a mental illness.

Come along to a 2 day workshop on mental health.

Date: **Mon 30 May & Tue 31 May 2011**

Venue: 3CI –Hospital Rd, Emerald

Time: 9.00am – 4.00pm **Cost:** \$40

RSVP: 16 May 2011 **T:** 4982 4062 **F:** 4987 5354 **E:** ddziewicki@anglicarecq.org.au

For more information on the workshop leader, Fay Jackson, go to www.visioninmind.com.au (Source: Anglicare)

Stress Management in the Workplace

Do you suffer from stress and worry? Would you like to have more control over your thoughts, moods and future? Join us in this 1 day workshop.

Date: **3rd June 2011**

Venue: 3CI – Hospital Rd, Emerald

Time: 9.00am – 5.00pm **Cost:** \$20

RSVP: 19 May 2011 **T:** 4982 4062 **F:** 4987 5354 **E:** ddziewicki@anglicarecq.org.au

For more information on the workshop leader, Fay Jackson, go to www.visioninmind.com.au (Source: Anglicare)

Central Highlands Multicultural Festival - A Significant Regional Event

Date Claimer – Saturday, 27 August 2011, Emerald Showgrounds (Source: CHDC)

Free advertising for Community Events

Community groups and organisations can now add and promote their own events in Council's Events Calendar, on its website. This is a free service. Simply go to Council's website, www.chrc.qld.gov.au and hover your mouse over Events, then open the Add an Event page, which will guide you through the easy, step by step process. (Source: CHRC)

CONTACT US

For more information about **Central Highlands Development Corporation** contact
(07) 4982 4386 or e-mail enquiries@chdc.com.au

www.chdc.com.au

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