



Chairman's report



We've had some great success over the past months, and this was strongly highlighted at our Inaugural Annual General Meeting that was held on 11 August.

Thank you to those local businesses and community members that made themselves available to attend our AGM and learn more about how MDC is creating our region's future. Our guest speaker Adrian Nelson from Future Energy gave a fascinating presentation about the renewable energy sector, and it was very well received by those in attendance.

At our AGM we bid a fond farewell to three members from our Board of Directors that have been instrumental in the establishment of MDC: John Irwin, Mark Wilson and Eileen Pica. Thank you all very much for your support and dedication since MDC's inception in early 2009. And with that we warmly welcome three new Directors to our Board: James Golsworthy, Mike Mooney and Tony Martin.

We continue to forge the path on renewable energy, and we will undertake our second study tour to the USA in October to build on the relationships we have in place, and take local businesses and those from the education sector with us to broaden the Green Economy opportunities available to our region.

In September the CEO and myself will take part in a Victorian Employers Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VECCI) led business mission to Shanghai, which will provide high level industry and business meetings to discuss export opportunities and business development potential.

We're excited about the launch of our program 'Resilient Women Leading the Mallee' and look forward to the range of events being run through this program over the coming months - see article below for further information.

Visit www.milduraregion.com.au to learn more about us, and find out how we're creating our region's future.

Dane Huxley - Chairman

Resilient Women Leading the Mallee

Funded by the Victorian Government through the Department of Planning and Community Development, the launch of Resilient Women Leading the Mallee provided an opportunity for women to share their leadership experiences as well as fostering leadership development.

Over 100 women from all age groups across the Mildura and Wentworth regions came together to network and discuss support and involvement in leadership opportunities.

The launch featured four local women, each talking about their experiences as women in leadership or senior roles:

- Ellen White – Department of Planning & Community Development
- Annelis Bos and Kay Martin – Martin, Irwin & Richards Lawyers
- Metaxia Tsoukatos – Mallee Family Care



The program will continue over the coming months with women from across the region and across industry sectors encouraged to attend and hold networking morning teas where further mentoring and sharing of experiences can take place.

The program will conclude on 1 December with an event featuring 2007 Young Australian of the Year, Tania Major.

Any women wishing to be involved in any future events, or wish to gain assistance with running an event of their own, should contact our office.

Fast Facts

The population of the Mildura region is 61,004
53,877 in Mildura Rural City Council
7,127 in Wentworth Shire Council

24% of all Australian citrus is grown in the Mildura region

Almost 15% of all people employed in the Mildura region work in the sector of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

The name 'Mildura' is of Aboriginal origin and means either 'red sand' or 'sore eyes'

The median house price in Mildura is \$205,000, compared with \$160,000 in Merbein, \$148,000 in Red Cliffs, and \$110,000 in Ouyen

Fact Sheets about the Mildura Region can be downloaded from the Regional Data section of our website:

www.milduraregion.com.au

Industry Capability Network Regional Industry Link

Businesses in the Mildura region are encouraged to register with Regional Industry Link (RIL), a program that matches local firms and contractors to relevant business opportunities and provides automatic notification when their goods or services are in demand.

The program is available free to businesses across all industry sectors and provides up-to-date information on business and project opportunities both locally and further afield. Registered businesses can record their interest against selected projects.

RIL is a Victorian Government initiative that is managed by the Industry Capability Network (ICN) Victoria, an independent organisation that supports Australian and New Zealand industry by matching businesses with relevant opportunities and assisting purchasers to locate competitive local suppliers.

RIL has been rolled out state-wide following a successful pilot program in which it delivered \$15 million in new business to provincial Victoria and connected 3,000 businesses to projects across Victoria.

The web-based program, which allows purchasers to search its database for local capability, has been used to collect business registrations and data on industry capability for several Victorian projects, including major water infrastructure projects under the Government's Our Water, Our Future plan.

For more information visit

www.regionalindustrylink.com.au

or contact Noel Morton at Industry Capability Network
Mobile 0409 182 952 or email nmorton@icnvic.org.au



Mildura Development Corporation Inaugural Annual General Meeting

Mildura Development Corporation's inaugural annual general meeting was held on Wednesday 11 August 2010.

40 members of the local business community were in attendance and during the official proceedings Dane Huxley was reappointed as MDC's Chairman, Jenny Grigg was appointed as Public Officer, and Shugg Group appointed as MDC's Auditors.

Three new Directors were appointed to the Board, being James Golsworthy, Mike Mooney and Tony Martin. And we bid a fond farewell to Mark Wilson, John Irwin and Eileen Pica and thanked them for their substantial contributions to the Board since MDC's inception in early 2009.

Guest speaker, Adrian Nelson from Future Energy gave an informative presentation about the renewable energy sector and fielded questions from the floor.

Learn more about MDC's Directors on the back page of this newsletter, or visit the 'About Us' section of our website www.milduraregion.com.au to read full profiles on each Director or to download a copy of our Annual Report



MDC visits Murrayville, Underbool and Walpeup

We hit the road again in July to visit some of the great people of the Mallee and had an opportunity to meet with local representatives from Murrayville, Underbool and Walpeup.



A very special thanks to the members of those great communities that made the time to meet with us and highlight their issues to us on an individual basis, and in particular Peter Willersdorf, Howard Crothers and Jenny Heaslip.

Pictured are Jenny Grigg, Anne Mansell, David Stevenson, Dane Huxley, Howard Crothers, and Chris Ellis during a site tour of The Pink Lakes in The Murray-Sunset National Park.

Have you subscribed to our News & Updates Service?

Send an email to info@milduraregion.com.au or call 5022 0722 to subscribe and you'll receive a weekly email from us informing you about business and networking events in the region

USA Solar Mission 2010

During the first 2 weeks of October MDC's Chairman Dane Huxley, and CEO Anne Mansell, will lead a Solar Mission to the United States. This will be the second delegation to the States, and both times The Solar Power International Conference in California has been on the agenda.

USA Solar Mission 2010 will also involve business leaders from the local manufacturing and engineering sectors, along with representatives from the educational sector.

This mission aims to build on the relationships already established, and to increase knowledge of technologies with the impending government announcements relating to large scale solar.

For further details about the USA Solar Mission 2010, please contact Anne Mansell at this office.



Innovative & Sustainable Manufacturing Presentation and Networking Event

The Mildura Development Corporation invites members of the manufacturing sector to attend a presentation and networking event on sustainability and the adoption of new technologies.

The event will feature key note speaker Roger La Salle, who featured on the ABC TV show the New Inventors. Roger is also Chair of Innovation at the prestigious The Queens University in Belfast, an author, an engineer, director of a number of companies and a successful business entrepreneur.

Roger will be joined by Paul Allen, General Manager of Sustainable Development with Australian Paper who will be discussing sustainable initiatives.

This event will be held:

2.30pm - 5.30pm on Tuesday 21 September 2010
at Quality Hotel Mildura Grand, Seventh St,
Mildura

To RSVP to this event contact the event manager,
Helena Howe at this office.

P: 5022 0722 or

E: helena@milduraregion.com.au



Events round up

Networking Breakfast with Paul Constantinou

Another successful partnership event was held in conjunction with The Rotary Club of Mildura Deakin, Mildura Young Professionals Network and Mildura Tourism where 170 people braved the chill to attend the Networking Breakfast on Thursday 29 July 2010.

Paul delivered an inspirational presentation focused on customer service, the value of your brand and anticipating your customers needs.

Paul Constantinou is the winner of the 2009 Entrepreneur of the Year (Services), and Chairman of Quest Serviced Apartments.



Project Launch:

Resilient Women Leading the Mallee

The first of a series of events to be held over the next six months examining the impact that women have in rural and remote communities.

This networking event was held on Friday 27 August and attracted 100 women from the local area.

Presenters at the event were Annelis Bos and Kay Martin - both from Martin, Irwin & Richards Lawyers, Metaxia Tsoukatos from Mallee Family Care, and Ellen White from the Victorian Government's Department of Planning and Community Development. This program will culminate with a presentation by 2007 Young Australian of the Year, Tania Major, at a morning tea event on 1 December 2010.



Project Launch:

Industry Workforce Development Strategy - Stage 2 On Thursday 26 August

The Hon Candy Broad launched Stage 2 of the Wine, Beverage & Olive Industry Workforce

Development Strategy (IWDS). Over the last twelve months, MDC along with representatives from Mildura Wines, the processing and olive sectors and government agencies, developed a plan which will assist with engagement, retention and attraction of staff to these industries. For many years these industry sectors have experienced some challenges in relation to employing trained and professional staff. Stage 2 will ensure the continued involvement of each industry sector as strategies are actually put into place, including government programs that will facilitate employment outcomes.

For further information about the IWDS, please contact the Program Manager, Karla Fox

P: 50220722 E: karla@milduraregion.com.au

Are you a part of the Mildura Region Business Directory?

Free registration is available from our website www.milduraregion.com.au

Meet the Directors of Mildura Development Corporation



Dane Huxley - Chairman

Dane is the Chief Executive Officer of the Mildura Base Hospital. He made Mildura his home in January 2000, and since that time has been actively involved in a number of local organisations including the Mildura/Wentworth Arts Festival, Northern Mallee Primary Care Partnership and Mildura Rural City Council's Audit Committee.



David Stevenson - Director

David is the Managing Director of Sunraysia Murray Group Training. He is also a Director of the Mildura District Hospital Fund, and a Director of the Northern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network (NMLLEN).



Jenny Grigg - Director

Having spent 30 years as partner of a family farm at Patchewollock, Jenny is now a Mildura resident and currently Director Business Development at Sunraysia Institute of TAFE. She is also a Board member of Mallee Agricultural Research Foundation (MARF) and Foundation for Australian Agricultural Women (FAAW).



Marian Luehman - Director

Marian is the Chief Executive Officer of Sunraysia Residential Services and has over 30 years experience in human services. She has dedicated over 10 years in voluntary roles with the Office of the Public Advocate of Victoria and is also a member on state, national and regional Boards and committees representing people with a disability.



Pam Strange - Director

Pam is the Climate Adaptation Manager for Horticulture and Forestry with the Victorian Department of Primary Industries. She is a volunteer with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Mildura Branch, since its inception in May 2008, and has lived in the Mildura region since 2005.



Chris Ellis - Director

Chris is General Manager Fruit Supply with Sunbeam Foods. He is a Board Member of Dried Fruits Australia, Industry Research and Development and Marketing committees, Chairman of St Joseph's College Advisory Council and has held various roles in junior sporting clubs.



James Golsworthy - Director

James is a Director of the planning and development consulting firm James Golsworthy Consulting Pty Ltd which specialises in land use planning matters for retail, commercial, industrial and residential projects. He has professional experience in areas of local government, management, land use planning and consultancy.



Mike Mooney - Director

Mike is the Executive Manager of Mallee Sustainable Farming Inc. Mike is a Director of Sunraysia Regional Consulting Inc (formerly known as the Sunraysia Area Consultative Committee), is a Director of the Mildura Chaplaincy Board, and is on the Committee of Management of Chances for Children.



Tony Martin - Director

Tony Martin has spent the last 30 years as a horticulturist within the Merbein Irrigation District and as a private diverter at Boeill Creek. He is Deputy Chair of the Mallee Catchment Management Authority and also Chairs the Industry Advisory Committee of Horticulture Australia Ltd. for the Dried Grape Industry.



Cr Nick Cavallo - Observer

A Councillor of Mildura Rural City Council, and partner of Leading Edge Computers Mildura, Nick maintains an observers' position with the Board of MDC.

Business Events in the Mildura region

7-16 September

Stepping back into education: Getting prepared to go to university

A free short course that has been designed to give mature age students (aged 21 years or older) a head start

7 September

OH&S Awareness Course

This course is designed for people who have completed the 5 day course and require current updates to the OHS act

8 September

Business After Dark – networking evening

Guest speaker: Bill Burke – CEO of Mildura Airport

8 September

Minute Taking Made Easy

This informative workshop aims to give you skills, tips and tools to take minutes accurately, efficiently and with confidence

21 September

Innovative & Sustainable Manufacturing Presentation and Networking Event

refer to article on page 3 for event details

11 October

Governance training - Board members: Roles, responsibilities, liabilities and protections

This 'back to basics' training is suitable for new not-for-profit board / committee of management members or existing boards or committees that want a refresher on the role and legal responsibilities that come with running an effective community organisation in Victoria. This training is only available to employees and volunteers of community organisations

29-31 October

Wentworth Rural Women's Gathering

Mark these dates into your diary for a weekend of networking, skill development and laughter. The Gathering is open to all women.

1 December

Morning Tea with Tania Major

The final event in the series Resilient Women Leading the Mallee has 2007 Young Australian of the Year, Tania Major, sharing her stories about her experiences in Indigenous and Youth Affairs.

For further details about these and other business events, visit www.milduraregion.com.au and select 'Events Calendar'

If you have a business event you would like promoted via our events calendar, please contact this office

MEET THE STAFF AT MDC



Anne Mansell
Chief Executive Officer



Helena Howe
Economic Development Project Officer



Karla Fox
IWDS Project Manager



Cathy Violi
Economic Development Officer