



GippsLeader

GCLP news, notes & events

24 February, 2006

Great turnout for 2006 launch

Qantas chairman, Margaret Jackson, called on Gippslanders to be bold, skilled and connected to meet the challenges of the region over the next 10 years. Ms Jackson proved to be an inspiring speaker for the 260 people attending the GCLP 2006 launch at the West Gippsland Arts Centre earlier this month.

The crowd was made up of the 25 participants and their family and friends, about 90 GCLP graduates, past and present GCLP and i-GAIN committee members, sponsors and other interested members of the public.

Highlights of the evening included special recognition of the program's inaugural executive officer, Heather Farley, and long-time committee member, Wayne Casey, as well as the launch of a DVD about GCLP. The DVD was put together by Dan Clancey (2004) on a voluntary basis.

Federal Agricultural Minister and Member for Gippsland, Peter McGauran, continued his long association with GCLP by introducing Ms Jackson.



The 2006 participants get to know each other at the program launch.



About 90 graduates joined celebrations for the 10th anniversary of GCLP at the 2006 program launch.



Left: Inaugural GCLP executive officer, Heather Farley, is presented with an honorary fellow certificate by Federal Minister for Agriculture, Peter McGauran. Long-time committee member, Wayne Casey, was also recognised as an honorary fellow.



Right: Qantas chairman, Margaret Jackson, accepts a thank you gift from i-GAIN CEO (and GCLP graduate) Jenny Hammett.



Above: Many past and present GCLP committee members attended the launch.

Additional photos can be viewed at www.gclp.asn.au

Amongst the feedback received from the evening:

- “Congratulations to Nicola, Tracey, Ian and all the Team for putting together such a fantastic 2006 Launch and 10 year celebration on Friday night. It was a great night for all who attended, and in particular for the 2006 participants. Margaret Jackson was inspirational and so humble - certainly a role model for all of us.
Well done and thanks once again.” Carol Blandford (1999)
- “Dear Barry, I write to thank you for the invitation to the GCLP Launch at Warragul last Friday evening and to congratulate you, Ian, Tracey and Nicola on your organisation and presentation of a great celebration of the 10th. Anniversary and launch of the 2006 Programme.
It was great to catch up with lots of people throughout Gippsland and it was also good to see a participant of the Program, now Councillor, involved in the welcome to Baw Baw.
The catering for the evening was superb and the Guest Speaker certainly made the night a memorable one.
Thank you again, congratulations and best wishes for the continuation of the programme into the future.
Regards, John Guy.”
- “The launch was magnificent. I really enjoyed catching up with the 05 team, feeling the energy from everybody and witnessing the nervousness of the 2006 group. Margaret Jackson was unbelievable and Dan's video really set the scene for what was all a very successful weekend. (Opening residential)” Nigel Browne (2005)

2006 Program News

The 2006 group are holding their first program day today, Friday, 24 February, focusing on Gippsland's Identity. Based at Stratford, they are hearing from speakers such as Jeremy Reynolds, Manager Demographic Research Department Sustainability & Environment, Melbourne and Gerry Laughton, Indigenous Cultural Heritage Officer, Department Sustainability and Environment. GCLP Chairman, Barry Rogers (1996), also spoke about Gippsland's place in the world.

SkillsBank Gippsland

An innovative approach is needed for a SkillsBank Gippsland project. GCLP has been approached by the Monash University Gippsland Regional Clinical School Community Support Group.

Medical students on community health placement to Gippsland find it difficult to break into the local community so the School has asked GCLP for ideas and support for engaging the students. Do you have a household with young people in their late teens or early 20s who would welcome a medical student to the region (hosting is not required)? Do you know of or are you involved in a community organisation which may interest these young people?

Share your ideas and/or volunteer to help make these medical students feel involved in the Gippsland community by contacting the GCLP office – gclp@igain.vic.edu.au

News from the GCLP office

Program Manager, Nicola Epps, reminds all graduates to use the discussion forum.

“There is the opportunity for discussion and posting information in various topic areas,” Nicola said, “Plus I know there are some graduates going in there regularly who would like more dialogue!”

The Gippsland numberplate project is off to a great start although additional commitments are needed before the first order can be placed. If you haven't already done so, register your FIRM expression of interest in ordering a set of Gippsland numbers plates by emailing gclp@igain.vic.edu.au

Update on memorabilia orders: Thank you to everyone for your patience on this project. We are about to start processing orders received for GCLP coffee mugs, wines and polo shirts and will advise of arrangements to pick up completed orders as soon as possible.

Graduate Support Sought

A number of opportunities exist for graduates to support GCLP, fellow graduates and the Gippsland community.

With the reduction in resources available in the office and a steadily increasing role for GCLP in the community, we are seeking help from graduates to carry out a range of tasks including:

- Co-ordinate the Gippsland Number Plate project, including assistance with marketing and administration;
- Assist with the preparation of submissions for funding;
- Assist with design, preparation and production of the 2006 Yearbook; and
- Organise the conduct of sub-regional events for graduates and other GCLP supporters during the year.

Please contact Ian Gibson on 0427 376 776 or the office on 5135 4304 or gclp@igain.vic.edu.au to volunteer your support.

Richard Teychenne (2004) has requested any volunteer assistance from GCLP people for helping out with the running of the Boolarra Folk Festival, to be held on Saturday, 4 March. The 2005 Festival was assisted by a number of GCLP volunteers, who helped with jobs ranging from directing traffic to assisting backstage. Anyone wishing to help can contact Ray Stewart at Boolarra on 5169 6275.

Baw Baw Shire Chief Executive Officer, Glenn Patterson has issued this appeal to the GCLP community:

“Dear GCLPers

“The Gippsland Tourism Recovery & Response Group (GTRRG) was convened on Friday 3 February 2006 in response to requests for assistance from the Walhalla & Mountain Rivers District tourism operators, after the Moondarra fire caused a major drop in visitation to their area.

"The GTRRG has used Tourism Victoria's Crisis Communications Handbook for regional and local tourism as a key tool to guide activities over recent weeks. A survey of the economic impact on our region has been commissioned through Gippsland Regional Information Services (GRIS), with a report due in approximately six weeks.

"The GTRRG has developed a communications plan to guide promotional activities over the next 2-3 months. We recognise the need to positively promote tourism throughout the region and seek your support in letting people in your organisation and community know that it would be very helpful for Gippslanders to get out in their own backyard and visit a local attraction.

"A major public relations and community event was conducted last week to let people know that the fire is now contained and that the communities of the Mountain Rivers District are open for business. To encourage the people of Gippsland to be aware of their region a short burst of advertising started this week on radio and television asking the question - When was the last time they visited the region and encouraging them to go out and visit their own back yard - NOW!

"If you are responsible for a website with a regional presence, please ensure that it is updated to reflect that the fires are under control and that Gippsland Tourism is open for business.

"Mr Chris Buckingham (GCLP 1999), General Manager of Gippsland Tourism is the interim public spokesperson and can be reached on 0429 869 638. Ms Janiene Ayre (GCLP 2002), Manager, Innovation, Development and Marketing Baw Baw Shire has been appointed Chairperson of the GTRRG and is the key point of contact for all other enquiries phone 5624 2538.

"It is encouraging to see business, community and government from across Gippsland working together as one through the GTRRG to address the local and regional challenges.

"Thank you for your assistance to date and I am confident we will all move forward together to promote this great region over the coming months."

Items of Interest

Does your business need a website? Michelle Weatherall (2005) and Loretta Willaton (2004) are running a program which gives IT students hands on experience in building real websites for actual businesses. To find out more read the attachment with this newsletter, and contact Loretta Willaton – Telstra CountryWide Gippsland: Ph: 0351424546. or email: Loretta.Willaton@team.telstra.com

Nigel Browne (2005) is very proud of the girls' soccer team that he coaches after they won the Victorian Academy Gala Day and were named age group champions.

Deb Bye (1996) is pleased to report on the successful conclusion of a project she has been involved with for some time.

"Last Friday & Saturday over 100 women gathered in Sale to showcase and celebrate The Women Who Mean Business - Selling Gippsland's Finest Project. This was the culmination of the \$450,000 - three year project.

GCLP 1996 graduate Deb Bye facilitated the 2 day event. After showcasing the eight projects across the region, former Premier of Victoria, The Hon. Joan Kirner responded. Mrs Kirner said "It's fantastic to see what

you're doing; one of our next steps is to make sure that we have the capacity to share that with other women, not only rural women but urban women as well, to say this is what we can do"

Member for Gippsland South Peter Ryan made a brief appearance to reiterate his support of the project. Mr Ryan said "the women of our community are so often the leaders in the way in which Gippsland functions. The program today is a testament to the remarkable diversity of women in Gippsland"

The Marketing Forum on Saturday with Jill Gael, Sophie O'Neill - a specialist in food marketing, Lynda Bertoli - Sage Technology's Managing Director and Dr Sharron Dickman, - general manager of Pathfinder Marketing proved to be an outstanding success as the speakers revealed not only the positive aspects of marketing but also pitfalls from their own experience. Participants were disappointed when question time came to an end because of time constraints.

Women participating in the projects are keen to expand the network that's been created and to share their experiences with other women in the region and beyond."

Gippsland Community Leadership Program
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