

PROGRAM

Thursday 29th November 2007

8.30a.m	Registration
9.00a.m	OPENING Libby Price - ABC Country Hour Mike Stephens MS&A Advisors to Aust. Agriculture <i>"Busting the 5 myths & accepting the 4 truths of Agriculture"</i>
9.30a.m	SESSION CHAIR - RURAL CITY OF WANGARATTA SECURITY FOODS "WAGYU BEEF" FODDERKING "LUCERNE FOR FODDER" MURRAY GOULBURN CO-OPERATIVE "OPPORTUNITIES IN DAIRY"
10.15a.m	PANEL DISCUSSION
10.30a.m	MORNING TEA
11.00a.m	SESSION CHAIR - ALP VALLEYS AGRIBUSINESS FORUM WEBSTERS WALNUTS TASMANIA "WALNUTS – OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRACT GROW" CHERRY GROWERS ASSOC. "CHERRIES" SERPELLS BERRIES "BERRY PRODUCTION"
11.45a.m	PANEL DISCUSSION
12.00noon	SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS Alpine Shire to introduce NEVACC spokesperson PRIME SUPER "SUPERANNUATION & SUCCESSION PLANNING"
12.30p.m	LUNCH
Optional 12.00-2.30p.m <i>FREE HEALTH CHECK!!</i>	
1.30p.m.	SESSION CHAIR - RETD. MANAGER OVENS RESEARCH STATION FLAVORITE TOMATOES "HYDROPONIC TOMATOES – GRANDSCALE!" MELBOURNE MARKET AUTHORITY & ARNOLDS FRUIT MARKET "FRESH VEGETABLE MARKETING" REDPATH IDEAL GREENHOUSES "EXISTING HOTHOUSES POTENTIAL USES"
2.30p.m	PANEL DISCUSSION
3.00p.m	AFTERNOON TEA
3.30p.m	SESSION CHAIR - NECMA KING & ALPINE VIGNERONS ASSOC. "ESTABLISHMENT OF COLLABORATIVE MARKETING GROUP FOR GRAPES & WINE"
3.35p.m	WORKSHOP SESSION Mike Stephens <i>"View from the Verandah"</i>
4.20p.m	Centrelink Assistance to farmers on offer in EC areas – Irrigation Management Grants & more
4.25p.m	Libby Price - ABC Radio - Wrap up – the day in context.....
4.30-6.00p.m	EXPO – Find out more about lots.... <small>*program may change given unforeseen circumstances</small>
6.30p.m	REGIONAL BUSINESS OUTLOOK DINNER Hosted by the Myrtleford Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc. SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER Mick Borzi – Mayor Mareeba Shire (ex-tobacco growing region Far North Qld) How communities can turn times of economic downturn into opportunities... facilitated by Doug Sharp CEO – Rural City of Wangaratta and Ian Nicholls CEO Alpine Shire.

PLENTY OF OPTIONS AT OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

Landholders in the King, Kiewa and Ovens Valleys are invited to explore a variety of uses for their land at a conference to be held in Myrtleford on Thursday, 29 November. The Alpine Valley's Outlook Conference, to be opened by Libby Price from ABC Radio's Country Hour, is an initiative of P-TAG (the Post Tobacco Action Group) which has identified a number of initiatives in their strategy to address the economic, social and land use issues since the loss of a major industry to the region. Alpine CEO, Ian Nicholls, said he looked forward to landholders making the most of the opportunity

to hear from industry leaders.

"We are privileged to have this much knowledge on offer in the one place on the one day and so I strongly encourage all landholders to make the most of the day," Mr Nicholls said.

Rural City of Wangaratta CEO, Doug Sharp, reinforced that farmers who attended the conference would be given support in pursuing options through TAFCO's 'SMARTchoice' National Landcare Project. "Farmers will see and hear industry snapshots at the conference – if enough interest in any industry pursuit is shown; then industry specific targeted workshops could be conducted," Mr Sharp said. A highlight of the conference is

the evening's guest speaker, Mick Borzi, Mayor of the Mareeba Shire in Queensland. Mareeba was formerly a tobacco growing community and has since re-invented itself. Cr Borzi will talk about how communities can make the most of opportunities. Two years ago, Doug Sharp met with Mareeba Shire Representatives in foresight that the industry in Victoria could one day close. All regional business operators are encouraged to attend the business dinner and interact with Mick following his address.

Outcomes of the business dinner may form part of the P-TAG strategy as it continues to develop and assist economic growth within both Shires.

MAREEBA SHIRE PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS THE MYRTLEFORD AND DISTRICT BUSINESS COMMUNITY

It was some 4 years ago that the small town of Mareeba, located on the Atherton Tablelands in Far North Queensland lost their \$50million tobacco industry. Manufacturers did not renew their contract and there was no Federal Government exit package offered at that time. Effectively the industry closed overnight, and without warning. Growers had always been able to have contracts renewed... often at the close of previous contract. Does this sound familiar?

How did the Mareeba business community react, survive, continue, prosper?

Mayor of Mareeba Shire Council Mr. Mick Borzi and his wife will be hosted by the Myrtleford Chamber of Commerce at a Business Dinner to talk to our business community about exactly that – how the Mareeba business community dealt with the challenge of picking up the pieces from losing a major agribusiness venture in the region.

The business dinner has received support from Regional Development Victoria, the Alpine Shire and Rural City of Wangaratta.

The dinner will follow a major regional conference being co-ordinated by TAFCO for the farming community.

The Alpine Valley's Outlook Conference is an initiative of P-TAG (The Post Tobacco Action Group auspiced by the Alpine Shire) and is being held at the Savoy Club on Thursday 29th November throughout the day. The conference will provide a snapshot of potential agricultural opportunities for the region and has attracted guest speakers from around the country.

LIBBY PRICE FROM ABC COUNTRY HOUR WILL MC THIS EVENT



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Address.....

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☐ Conference registration @ \$22 pp

☐ Community Business Dinner ONLY @ \$25 pp

☐ BOTH Conference & Dinner ONLY @ \$45 pp

CONFERENCE

\$22.00 (including GST)

(A limited number of concessions are available upon request) includes • entrance to conference • copies of available papers • expo attendance • morning & afternoon tea • lunch • free health check available

DINNER 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

\$25.00 (including GST)

Please advise of any dietary requirements at time of booking. An informative evening including special guest speaker, Mayor of Mareeba Shire, two course meal and some refreshments

CONFERENCE & DINNER PACKAGE

\$45.00 (including GST)

Enquiries:
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