



Local Government Chief Officers Group Conference

Mildura
Regional not Remote



Mildura Rural City Council

15 – 17
Feb 2017



Welcome to Mildura

From the CEO



I am passionate about the future of our region and regional Australia, and I hope that our LGCOG program provides insights and opportunities for rich conversations about the relationship between Regional

and Metropolitan Australia.

Our regional centre offers residents an enviable lifestyle mix of cosmopolitan vibrancy, no traffic congestion and country charm in a Mediterranean climate. Imagine living nestled on the banks of the Murray River amid irrigated orchards and vineyards with our special Aboriginal culture, with the ancient arid red soil and sand dunes as a backdrop.

As a vibrant part of Regional Australia, our dynamic and diverse economic environment supports a broad industry platform.

Mildura is a hub for health services and facilities, servicing the entire north-west region of Victoria and south west New South Wales. A wide array of high quality and varied education and training opportunities are available, from early childhood through to tertiary studies. Personalised care and attention in a safe and accessible regional setting means many of our children and students have an edge over their city counterparts.

Finding things to do in your free time is never an issue when living in the Mildura region. Renowned for its warm climate and relaxed, outdoor lifestyle, the area is an ideal location to enjoy the great outdoors, locally grown food and wine and natural surroundings. The area has a vibrant arts scene, great shopping, excellent sporting facilities and very active community groups and clubs.

Mildura is blessed with one of the most diverse multicultural communities outside of Melbourne, incredibly innovative and self-reliant.

Social participation and helping out is a way of life, whether it's fundraising, encouraging sporting events, promoting the arts, preserving our heritage or looking after our environment. Getting involved is core to our DNA.

Around the world there's a growing understanding that when communities invest in social infrastructure, they're investing in their future. At the core of local government are relationships, services and assets, key elements for growing the social and collaborative processes of communities. For our towns and regional cities to thrive, we need a future built on turning challenges into opportunities and delivering on potential.

But what does social infrastructure look like in regional Australia? Let's explore this over the next couple of days.

CEO Gerard José



Martin Hawson
General Manager
Community



Mandy Whelan
General Manager
Development



Melissa Amos
Events & Projects Coordinator

Key Speakers



ROSS LAKE
MANAGING DIRECTOR
TASCO INLAND AUSTRALIA

Ross is a Mildura based business operator, wine grower, community activist and arts dabbler with a long-standing interest in Murray River water management and water politics. Ross trained as a lawyer, an economist and a teacher, but is now an "accidental capitalist" in his job as Managing Director of Tasco Inland Australia.



TANIA CHAPMAN
CITRUS AUSTRALIA

Tania a leading citrus grower based in Colignan, Victoria. Tania has an Advanced Diploma in Accounting, an Advanced Diploma in Business Management, and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. In 2012, Tania was awarded the prestigious Victorian Rural Woman of the year, and currently holds the title of the 2014 Nuffield Scholar. Tania is the current chair of Citrus Australia Ltd.



JACK ARCHER
CEO
REGIONAL AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE

Jack has worked with the RAI since its inception in 2012 and was appointed CEO in July 2015. Jack developed the RAI's policy and research program as well as major tools. In previous roles Jack contributed to major regional reform in water, climate change, indigenous issues and industry.



FRANK FISSELER
SUNRAYSIA MODERNISATION
PROJECT

Frank was the Project Director at Lower Murray Water for the \$102m Modernisation Project. Which comprises 1.4km of 2m diameter pipe, 3km of 1m diameter pipe, 15 off-takes and a pump station with a capacity of 120mL per day. The project also includes decommissioning and backfilling 5km of redundant irrigation channel.



JAMES FLINTOFT
CEO
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT VICTORIA

James Flintoft has substantial leadership experience in the Victorian and Australian Governments and in the private sector. He was appointed Chief Executive of Regional Development Victoria in November 2015.



WIN SCOTT
REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Win Scott was most recently the Chief Executive Officer of Sunraysia Institute of TAFE until her retirement in June 2016. La Trobe University awarded Win honorary Doctor of Education and she holds a Masters of Education Management. Win is a member of the Loddon Mallee Regional Advisory Committee for the Victorian Multicultural Commission and the Deputy Chair of Arts Mildura.



PETER O'DONNELL
B. EC COMMERCE/MILDURA AIRPORT

Peter, a certified practicing accountant is the Executive Director of Southern Cross Farms. Peter is Chairperson of the Mildura Airport Pty Ltd, a board member of MASP, a member of the Sacred Heart Parish Council and finance committee of the Mildura Special School.



PETER BROOKS
NATIONAL CONVENOR LG COG



Delegates Program

Wednesday 15 February

6.15pm – 7pm

Welcome to Mildura

Committee Room, Deakin Avenue Service Centre, Civic Building, Mildura Rural City Council: 76 Deakin Avenue, Mildura

7pm

Coach transfer from Council offices to a unique location for a dining experience not to be missed

7.30 – 9.45pm

Grandeur Dinner

Coach transfer at conclusion of dinner *Smart casual, flat closed in shoes please.

Thursday 16 February

7 - 7.30am

Coach transfers

Delegates not staying within walking distance will be collected from Quality Hotel Mildura Grand, Quest Mildura Apartment Hotel and Mecure Hotel Mildura

7.30am

Rio Vista Breakfast

Ross Lake - Arts, culture and history

8.30am

Bus to Mildura Visitor Information Centre
Smoking Ceremony on Entry

8.45am

Registration of Delegates, Benetook Room

9am

Welcome

Gerard Jose - CEO, Mildura Rural City Council

9.15am

Opening of the Local Government Chief Officers

Group meeting

Peter Brooks - Convenor

9.20am

Overview of the Mildura municipality

Gerard Jose

Mandy Whelan - White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation

9.40am

Jack Archer - Policy and research

10.20am Morning Tea

10.45am

Tania Chapman - Citrus Australia

11.15am

Frank Fisseler - Sunraysia Modernisation Program

Thursday 16 February (cont)

11.45am

Peter O'Donnell - Economic investment perspective
Southern Cross Farms

12.15pm Panel question time

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm

James Flintoft - Economic development focus

2.15pm

Martin Hawson, Riverfront project

2.45pm

Melissa Amos, Mildura Motorsports and Community
Precinct project

3.15pm Break

3.30pm

Tour of city, marina and riverfront

5pm

Delegates returned to accommodation

6.15pm

Mildura Wharf

Coach pick ups from 6.10pm from Quality Hotel Mildura
Grand, Quest Mildura Apartments and Mecure Hotel Mildura

6.30pm

Paddleboat Mundoo Dinner Cruise

Departs from Mildura Wharf

10 - 10.30pm

Coach transfer to accommodation

Friday 17 February

6 - 7am

Morning exercise (optional)
Breakfast (by your own arrangement)
Mildura Waves gym session / water aerobics or
historic walk along the riverfront

8.30 - 8.45am

Coach pick up
Delegates not staying within walking distance will be collected
from Quality Hotel Mildura Grand, Quest Mildura Apartments and
Mecure Hotel Mildura

9am

Speaker to be advised

9.45am

Win Scott, Mallee Regional Partnership

10.15am Panel question time

10.30am Morning tea

10.45am

LG COG Program
Peter Brooks, LG COG
Close of Conference

1 - 1.45pm Lunch

1.45pm

Delegates dropped off at accommodation

7.30pm til late

Special dinner arranged (optional)
Award winning restaurants

Saturday 18 February

Sunraysia Farmers Market

Enjoy a hearty breakfast, fresh local produce and cooking
demonstrations

Optional tours of the region

Refer to pre and post touring options for more information

Program subject to change current as at November 2016

About Mildura

Talk about Mildura!

That's exactly what you'll do once you've experienced the cuisine in Mildura. You'll be talking about our amazing local quality produce for years to come.

And you'll be talking about how smart it was to extend your stay to do some extra touring – maybe a day tour; some cruising along the Murray; a trip out to the enchanting Mungo National Park; or simply discovering the many more secrets of our food bowl.

From the Mildura Brewery, Rendezvous or Stefano's Cellar to multi - cultured restaurants with Thai, Indian and Italian cuisine, just naming some of the variety available.

Ah yes, Mildura. Keeps you talking!

With its fine, mild weather, cosmopolitan flavour, unique local native and indigenous food, world class wines, stunning restaurants, vibrant arts culture and busy calendar of events, Mildura is a wonderful destination to host your conference.

Mildura possesses extensive accommodation options and excellent transport links and services. It is the contrast between outback solitude and the celebrations of a vibrant culture that is sure to impress during your stay.

Why Mildura?

- Serviced by 3 airlines
- 7 golf courses
- Over 6000 beds available in the region
- 27 wineries
- Regional population almost 60,000
- With over 60 activities and attractions available

We look forward to seeing you in Mildura!





GRAND

HOTEL

GRAND HOTEL



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Accommodation

Mildura has a large range of Hotels, Holiday Parks, Self Contained Apartments and Houses to suit any budget.

Bookings

Mildura Visitor Information and Booking Centre 1800 039 043 or visit www.visitmildura.com.au

Coach transfer will be offered for those staying at Quality Hotel Mildura Grand, Quest Mildura Apartments and Mercure Hotel Mildura.

How to Get Here

Mildura has the busiest regional airport in Victoria, with three commuter airlines offering a number of daily return flights.

Visiting the following websites for flight bookings

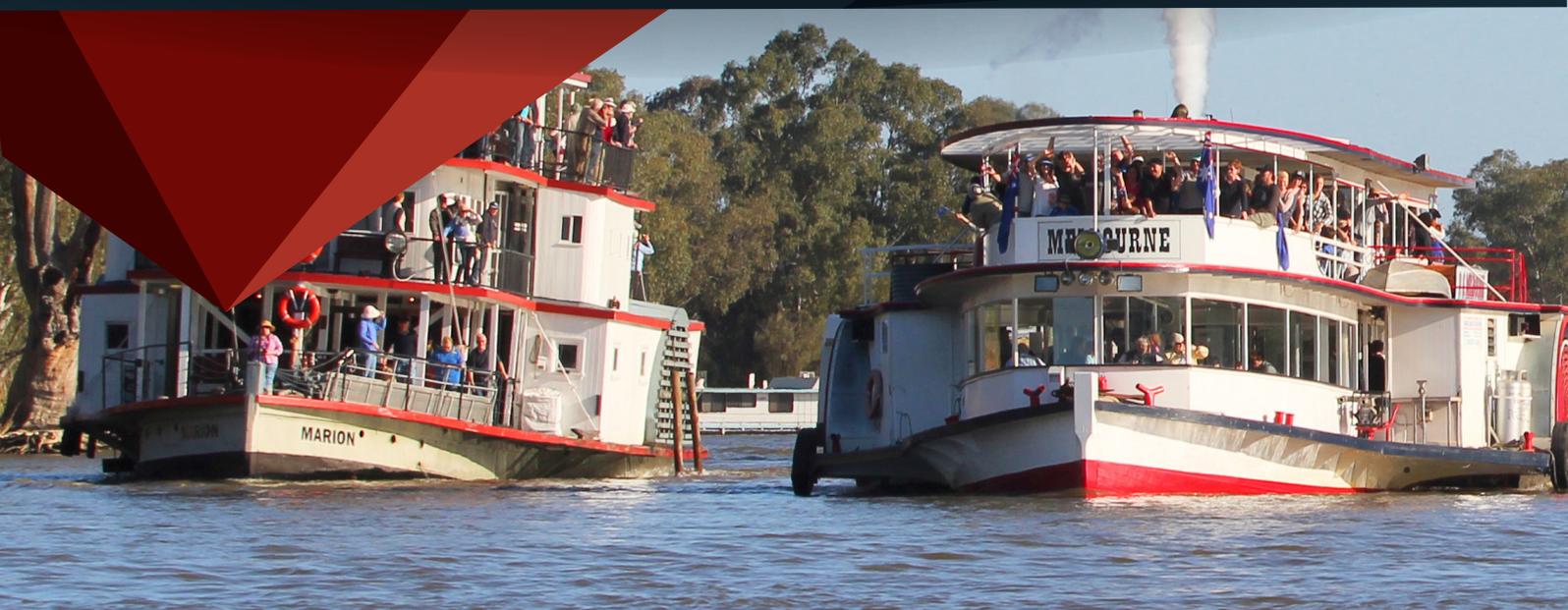
www.qantas.com.au

www.rex.com.au

www.virginaustralia.com.au



Partner Programs & Tours



Discover Relaxation 10am – 4pm \$150pp

Visit three of the region's well known wineries, with a two course lunch at the iconic Trentham Estate Winery, and a two hour cruise aboard a steam powered paddle steamer.

Pick up and drop off to your accommodation is included for your convenience.

Discover Farmgate Foods 9am – 3.30pm \$150pp

Visit two of Mildura's leading wineries, including a gourmet lunch at Trentham Estate, a visit to Murray River Pink Salt, Varapodio Estate Olive Oil plantation and a scenic paddle boat cruise.

Pick up and drop off to your accommodation is included for your convenience.

Discover History – Half day and full day options available. Half day - \$55pp (minimum of 2)

Visit iconic historical sites in and around Mildura including Rio Vista House and key Chaffey Trail attractions. Tours can be customised to suit individual needs and can be short half day or full day duration.

Pick up and drop off to your accommodation is included for your convenience.

Winery Cruise aboard PV Rothbury. Thursday 10.30am – 3.30pm. Adults \$70

Take a leisurely cruise upstream to Trentham Estate Winery, with river commentary, tea and coffee, winery tour and tastings. A BBQ lunch with salads and sweets is served on the riverbank overlooking Kings Billabong.

Paddle Steamer Cruises

Daily 2 hour cruises aboard PS Melbourne. Departing 10.50 am and 1.50pm daily. Adults \$30

Travel aboard PS Melbourne and watch the original steam boiler being fed with wood, whilst cruising through Lock 11 and beyond, supported by captain's commentary.

Light lunch and refreshments available on board.



Harry Nanya Tours – Mungo National Park Sunset Tour 2.00pm – 10.00pm \$180pp

Harry Nanya Tours of the famous Mungo National Park in air-conditioned comfort with expert commentary, pick-up and return to your Mildura accommodation.

Tours visit the historic Mungo Information Centre, historic woolshed, Mungo Lookout and the famous Walls of China.

Mungo National Park Tour by Land and Air with Pearson Aviation – 8.00am start \$295pp (min 2)

This exciting tour offers aerial views of the entire Mungo lunette, where you can see many features and colours not seen from the ground.

The tour begins at 8.00am with a 30 minute flight to Mungo, where you will be treated to a cooked breakfast at Mungo Lodge, visit Mungo Visitor Centre, historic shearing shed and take a ground tour of the Walls of China.

You will be treated to an aerial tour covering a scenic flight over the Walls of China and historic Zanci Station ruins before returning to Mildura.

ECO TOURS Moontongue Eco-Adventures

Guided adventure tours for people of all ages using very stable kayaks. Cruise through some of the most breathtaking scenery the Murray River has to offer.

All safety gear provided.

**Bruces Bend – Murray River, Billabongs and Creeks
\$65pp**

Gol Gol – Murray River and Billabongs \$35pp

Wildside Outdoor Eco Tours

King's Billabong Sunset Paddling Tour – 2hrs - \$35

Enjoy Sunraysia's best paddling at the best time of the day.

**Hattah Kulkynne Drive, Walk and Talk Tour Full Day
\$85pp**

Explore the World Biosphere Reserve with its unique lake system, rich cultural history, diverse flora, fauna and landscape.

Bookings available by contacting

Mildura Visitor Information and Booking Centre 1800 039 043 or visit www.visitmildura.com.au

Registration



Mildura Rural City Council

Registration Due: Monday 30 January 2017

Please register online www.mildura.vic.gov.au/LGCOGC
A confirmation of your booking will be sent along with an invoice to follow.

Inquiries to:
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