

Desert Innovation Festival 2009

In association with the Australian Innovation Festival



The Desert Knowledge Australia Desert Innovation Festival features a series of local and cross border events spanning desert Australia. Events in the festival are organised by Desert Knowledge Australia and other partners in the desert knowledge movement.

The festival celebrates how people in desert Australia are meeting desert challenges through partnerships, ideas, know-how and innovation.

Friday 24 April 2009

Our Outback Tourism Partnership Meeting

Meeting

All Day

Tourism Australia, 201 Sussex Street, Sydney NSW 2000



Meeting of the Our Outback Tourism Partnership: a partnership of State Tourism Organisations, Regional Tourism Organisations and Tourism Australia, the aim of which is to progress the Our Outback Tourism Action Plan.

Invitation only.

Friday 24 April – Sunday 26 April 2009

Flinders Ranges Bush Festival

Festival

All day

Various venues in Quorn, SA, 5433



Bush foods and regional produce, native plant workshops, self-drive farm gate tours, sunset film screenings. This is an official 'Tastes of the Outback' Event.

This event is organised by the Quorn Bush Festival Committee, a member of the Desert Knowledge Australia Bush Products and Local Foods Network.

Visit the website for more information:

http://www.tastesoftheoutback.com/index.php?id_pag=67

Wednesday 29 – Thursday 30 April 2009

Global Maintenance Upper Spencer Gulf Resources Conference and Trade Expo

Conference and Expo

All day

Standpipe Hotel, Cnr Eyre and Stuart Highway, Port Augusta, SA, 5600



The GMUSG 2009 Resources Conference will have a great line up of industry speakers, highlighting opportunities and developments in the north of South Australia. It looks to be an exciting and informative few days, with a strong emphasis on ensuring local companies have all available information to be competitive in the winning of projects in our region. We believe that this is such an important time to support the conference, we all realise it has never been a more vital time to stay connected and utilise every valuable networking opportunity.



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There is an associated Trade Expo, which proved to be very popular in 2008 and is a good chance for companies to showcase their capabilities to delegates.

The conference begins with a networking day and is followed on Friday 1 May by a Desert Knowledge Australia Mining Services Network Industry forum (half day) for delegates/local SMEs to participate in (see associated listed event)

Bookings: Lynn Wallace, Development Manager, 08 8632 5633, gmusg@bigpond.com
Further information <http://www.gmusg.com>

Friday 1 May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Mining Services Network Industry Forum

Forum

Morning

Standpipe Hotel, Cnr Eyre and Stuart Highway, Port Augusta, SA, 5600



The Desert Knowledge Australia Mining Services Network Industry Forum follows the Global Maintenance Upper Spencer Gulf Resources Conference. The purpose of the forum is:

- 1) Discuss the principles of business clustering at a local level and the opportunities presented to SMEs in the mining services industry through connecting SMEs in Upper Spencer Gulf and Far North South Australia with SMEs in eight other regions of desert Australia: Far West New South Wales, Central West Queensland, North West Queensland, Barkly NT, Central Australia, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Mid West and Gascoyne and the Pilbara.
- 2) Identify business opportunities emerging from the conference and other potential collaborative business projects for GMUSG members linking with other SMEs in the Mining Services Network and develop an action plan.

Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,
matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au

May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia COOLmob Gardens Challenge Workshop

Workshop

Times TBC

To be held in Alice Springs' gardens selected by the community.



Desert Knowledge Australia COOLmob is presenting a series of free workshops aiming to raise awareness about water conservation issues and increase water efficient gardening practices.



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Outdoor water use makes up 65% of total water consumption in a typical Alice Springs household. The workshops are an opportunity to learn from experts, and exchange ideas with other community members, while developing new “hands-on” skills. The workshops are conducted in gardens selected from the community. The date, time and locations are to be confirmed.

For further information contact Robbie Henderson, 08 8952 0299, dka.coolmob@coolmob.org

Saturday 2 May 2009

Launch of Geraldton-Greenough Farmers' Market

Market

From 8.00am WA time

Maitland Park, Geraldton

Since mid 2008 a group of local producers, representatives from the local council, health service, development commission, regional catchment council and community members have been working hard to establish the Geraldton-Greenough Farmers' Market. The idea was raised initially as a way to improve access to nutritious and affordable foods and the concept has broadened to include a focus on providing an alternative avenue for the sale of local products and an opportunity for producers to gain direct feedback from the customers and to trial new products. Farmers' Markets have been shown to impact significantly on the economic development of communities with over \$40 million passing through Australian farmers' markets annually. The market also offers broader social benefits by encouraging social interaction and adding to the vibrancy of a community space.

The overall philosophy of the Farmers' Market is local produce, sold locally, by the person who produced it. When the market is launched on 2 May 2009 it will feature fresh food and other value-added produce from Geraldton and the surrounding shires. The producer themselves will be the person selling the produce, allowing customers to discuss their purchases and to find out where their food was grown and how it was produced. The Geraldton-Greenough Farmers' Markets will run every Saturday morning from the 2 May 2009.

For more information contact Liz O'Neill, 08 9956 1961, liz.oneill@health.wa.gov.au

Website: www.geraldtongreenoughfarmersmarket.com

Tuesday 5 May 2009

Creative Industry Innovation in desert Australia

Forum

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

A networking forum to highlight innovation by businesses in the Creative Industry across desert Australia.



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Afternoon tea will be provided at each regional centre following the event to provide participants with a networking opportunity.

Bookings: Joy Taylor, Manager, Network Development, 08 8959 6016,
joy.taylor@desertknowledge.com.au

Thursday 7 May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Virtual Meeting Place



Forum

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

Key topic: Desert Knowledge Australia Outback Business Networks Project.

The Desert Knowledge Australia Virtual Meeting Place connects people working in a range of fields across desert Australia and beyond, linked by a common interest in building economically and environmentally sustainable and harmonious communities in inland Australia.

The network meets every six weeks via audio or videoconferencing with web support.

Members share information about projects and activities in their regions which have cross border interest. It is also a forum to discuss issues in common across desert Australia, identify gaps requiring research or resources and opportunities for cross border projects and initiatives.

Afternoon tea will be provided at each regional centre following the event to provide participants with a networking opportunity.

Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,
matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au

Friday 8 May 2009

2009 World IP Day Forum – Alice Springs & Tennant Creek



Forum

5.00pm – 8.30pm CST

**Desert Knowledge Business and Innovation Centre Conference Room,
Desert Knowledge Precinct, South Stuart Highway, Alice Springs, NT, 0870**



Do you have an innovative idea that has potential for commercialisation?

Businesses and individuals are invited to attend a free workshop providing practical advice from experts on how to move your innovative idea from concept to commercialisation. The evening includes presentations and a Q&A session, followed by networking and refreshments. In addition,



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free 10-15 minute one-on-one sessions with an NT-based patent and trademark attorney are available during the networking session, if booked in advance.

Bookings: Joy Taylor, 08 8959 6016, joy.taylor@desertknowledge.com.au

Registration and bookings with patent attorney must be made by COB Friday 25 April.

Tuesday 12 May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Tourism Network Business Forum



Networking

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

A networking forum for members of the Desert Knowledge Australia Tourism Network. The forum links tourism operators and other businesses in the tourism industry across desert Australia.

Afternoon tea will be provided at each regional centre following the event to provide participants with a networking opportunity.

Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,

matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au

Thursday 14 May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Mining Services Network Business Forum



Networking

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

A networking forum for members of the Desert Knowledge Australia Mining Network. The forum links businesses which provide services and goods to the mining and exploration industry across desert Australia.

Afternoon tea will be provided at each regional centre following the event to provide participants with a networking opportunity.

Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,

matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au



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Tuesday 19 May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Sustainable Buildings Network Business Forum



Networking

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

A networking forum for members of the Desert Knowledge Australia Sustainable Buildings Network. The forum links architects, building designers, building trades, real estate agents, landscapers, retrofitting businesses, renewable energy businesses, water efficiency services and suppliers across desert Australia.

Afternoon tea will be provided at each regional centre following the event to provide participants with a networking opportunity.

Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,
matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au

Thursday 21 May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Virtual Meeting Place



Forum

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

Key topic: Innovations on the delivery of literacy and numeracy education and training programs in desert Australia.

The Desert Knowledge Australia Virtual Meeting Place connects people working in a range of fields across desert Australia and beyond, linked by a common interest in building economically and environmentally sustainable and harmonious communities in inland Australia.

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Members share information about projects and activities in their regions which have cross border interest. It is also a forum to discuss issues in common across desert Australia, identify gaps requiring research or resources and opportunities for cross border projects and initiatives.

Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,
matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au

Saturday 23 May 2009



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Solar Open Day

Open Day

9.00am – 11.00am CST

Desert Knowledge Australia Solar Centre

Desert Knowledge Precinct, South Stuart Highway, Alice Springs, NT, 0870

Desert Knowledge Australia in association with Alice Solar City and CAT Projects are hosting an open day showcasing innovations in solar technology.

Come and learn about the innovations being made towards a solar future at Australia's first large scale solar demonstration facility.

At the open day see the \$3 million Desert Knowledge Australia Solar Centre which has:

- 16 solar installations
- An interpretive visitor centre and walk
- A world-first interactive website providing live data feeds from the Solar Centre and information on the operational performance of the different solar technologies.

There will also be displays, giveaways and a sausage sizzle.

For further information contact: Rebecca Farrell, 08 8959 6022,
rebecca.farrell@desertknowledge.com.au

Wednesday 27 May 2009

remoteFOCUS update

Forum

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.



remoteFOCUS is concerned with the way governments currently govern, administer and engage with Remote Australia, the vast 85% of the Australia continent laying outside the nation's populous coastal fringe. The initiative aims to encourage major community engagement and discussion to develop practical options and approaches to improve governance, policy and infrastructure and service delivery in Remote Australia.

This forum will provide an update on the remoteFOCUS initiative, including the outcomes of workshop held at GARMA Festival 2008, and the workshops held at the 2008 Desert Knowledge Symposium and Business Showcase.

Bookings: Miranda Daniels, Project Development Officer, 08 8959 6020,
miranda.daniels@desertknowledge.com.au



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Thursday 28 May 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Bush Products and Local Foods Network Business Forum



Networking

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

A networking forum for members of the Desert Knowledge Australia Bush Products and Local Foods Network. The forum links businesses operating across the value chain/supply chain (primary producers, wild harvesters, wholesalers, food manufacturers, bush product manufacturers, retailers, and caterers, hospitality businesses specialising in local, regional and desert cuisine) across desert Australia.

Afternoon tea will be provided at each regional centre following the event to provide participants with a networking opportunity.

Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,
matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au

Wednesday 3 June 2009

Desert Knowledge Australia Outback Business Networks Project Reference Group Meeting



Meeting

All day

**Desert Knowledge Business and Innovation Centre Conference Room,
Desert Knowledge Precinct, South Stuart Highway, Alice Springs, NT, 0870**

This is the first face to face meeting of the Reference Group for the Desert Knowledge Australia Outback Business Networks Project Reference Group.

The \$10 million Desert Knowledge Australia Outback Business Networks Project connects small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) across desert Australia, linking across nine regions and five industries.

The Outback Business Networks Project will develop networks and business opportunities over the next 3 years by facilitating:

- training programs
- information sessions
- meetings
- collaborative projects and forums
- links to key corporate partners
- links to established regional services



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Wednesday 3 – Friday 5 June 2009
Desert Knowledge Australia
Outback Business Networks Project
Network Development Officer Training



Meeting

All day

**Desert Knowledge Business and Innovation Centre Conference Room,
Desert Knowledge Precinct, South Stuart Highway, Alice Springs, NT, 0870**

This is the first face to face training of the Network Development Officers for the Desert Knowledge Australia Outback Business Networks Project.

The \$10 million Desert Knowledge Australia Outback Business Networks Project connects small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) across desert Australia, linking across nine regions and five industries.

The Outback Business Networks Project will develop networks and business opportunities over the next 3 years by facilitating:

- training programs
- information sessions
- meetings
- collaborative projects and forums
- links to key corporate partners
- links to established regional services

Thursday 11 June 2009
Desert Knowledge Australia Virtual Meeting Place



Forum

1.00pm CST

Virtual meeting linked by audio-conference and website. Coordinated out of Alice Springs with various locations across Desert Australia.

Key topic: TBA

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Bookings: Matt Wait, Project Support Officer, 08 8959 6019,
matthew.wait@desertknowledge.com.au



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