

# A commitment to the Peel Region's development



"The \$80 million Regional Investment Fund is just one of the ways the State Government is supporting the sustainable development of WA's Regions," Minister for Peel David Templeman said.

One of the funding programs under RIF is the Regional Development Scheme (RDS), which provides \$500,000 annually to each region. The Peel Development Commission administers the Peel Regional Development Scheme Grants program.

Since RDS was introduced in 2001 it has funded 218 projects in Peel with a total project value of over \$31.5 million.

"I was delighted as always to see the range and quality of successful applicants for the 2007-08 round of RDS," Minister Templeman said

"I know the value of this scheme from talking to many people around the region because of its flexibility, its encouragement of partnerships, and its ability to really respond to the needs of the Peel," he said.

"One of the great features of this scheme is the way relatively small grants can be leveraged by our community groups into real long term benefits."

#### Some examples of this include:

- Murdoch University's Child Development Project: granted \$15,000 in 2007, the project conducts

internationally ground-breaking research on child development in the Peel Region, partnering with the Telecom Institute of Child Health. The information from this longitudinal research will help strengthen the region's families and communities now and into the future.

- Boddington Old School: granted \$10,000 in 2005-06 toward a coordinator's position. Boddington Old School has become a valued and essential community facility in this growing community.

- Wet Trades Training Facility: in 2005 a \$10,000 grant helped Challenger TAFE to partner with industry to build the Wet Trades Training Facility at Mandurah's Challenger TAFE campus, adding up to 70 much-needed training places in the construction industry.

- Redevelopment of Preston Beach Recreation area: a grant of \$15,000 in 2004 to the Shire of Waroona for the redevelopment of Preston Beach Recreation area enabled the Shire and Preston Beach Progress Association to turn this area into a well-used and attractive beachfront barbecue and picnic spot for locals and visitors, as well as reducing the lighting of fires and lessening the impact of people and vehicles on the fragile dune system.

- In 2003-04 a grant of \$9,000 to the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale helped fund the development of a business plan for a Community High School. The High

School is now fully operating over 200 students, and growing.

"The Peel Region is the fastest growing regional economy in WA with an annual growth of 22 per cent, and the fourth largest contributor to the WA regional economy", Minister Templeman said.

"The combination of economic growth, population growth, and our much-valued waterways give the region many opportunities as well as challenges," he said.

"The RDS grants are a great way to help regional groups and agencies start projects now that will help meet these challenges into the future."

The 2008-09 round of Regional Development Scheme funding will be launched in July 2008. For further information contact Jodie Doherty, Grants Officer at the Commission, on 9535 0000 or by email to [jodie.doherty@peel.wa.gov.au](mailto:jodie.doherty@peel.wa.gov.au) or via the website <http://www.peel.wa.gov.au/content/initiatives/>



Minister for Peel  
David Templeman

## What a show!

PEEL's stand at WA On Show 2008 was one of the busiest over the four day event held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre where it promoted the Region's tourist, lifestyle and work opportunities.

Funded by the Peel Development Commission, City of Mandurah, Shires of Murray, Serpentine Jarrahdale and Waroona, and the Peel Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Peel region stand hosted displays from the across the Region including evening wine tasting sessions sponsored by the Peel Wine Association, Mundella foods and Hunsna Smallgoods.

Thousands of visitors to the Peel stand submitted entries to win one of a suite of 'Escape' packages donated by local businesses. These packages included weekend getaways to Mandurah and Dwellingup. Peel Development Commission CEO Maree De Lacey said she wished to thank the Escape



Coastal FM announcer Sam Zilko broadcasts live from WA On Show with Anna Nolan from the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale.

prize sponsors including: Forte Mandurah Quay Resort, the Cut golf course, Quest Apartments, Crest apartments, Dwellingup Chalets and Caravan Park, Nautical Adventures, Stag Watersports, Applied Body Therapeutics, Bouvard Cruises, Mandurah Ferry Cruises, Café Pronto, Mandurah City Hire Cars, Port Bouvard Houseboats, Millbrook Winery and Raven Wines.



PDC Chairman John Cowdell explains Peel priorities to Jose Romero, GHD, and Huo Enquan, Deputy Director General International Cooperation Center National Development and Reform Commission.

## Priorities set and in motion

"2008 has already shaped up to be another big year for Peel Development Commission," PDC Chairman John Cowdell said.

"In 2007 we saw over \$160 million committed toward the highest Peel Region priorities advocated by the

Commission. This reflects the strengths of the Commission in working closely with our many partners in government, industry and the community as well as our credibility in advocating those priorities that will make the greatest positive

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# Boddington water flowing

WITH the restart of the Boddington Gold Mine project the Water Corporation has been preparing a number of water and wastewater options for the future growth and development of Boddington and the surrounding towns.

These plans have been reviewed and the Water Corporation has now commenced work on the final planning for a new water storage tank, pipeline and an upgrade to the existing waste water treatment plant to provide for additional land development in Boddington town.

The Corporation's Regional Business Manager for the Great Southern, David Hughes-Owen said the combined projects had a budget of approximately \$28 million dollars and would meet the growth demands of Boddington.

"The first stage of the project will be to replicate the existing extension water main to Boddington which will mean the laying of a 25 kilometre pipeline." Mr Hughes-Owen said. "The extension will come off the Collie to Williams pipeline which is the main conduit for the

Great Southern Towns Water Supply Scheme and will be delivered to a new two megalitre holding tank at the water treatment plant."

"This will almost double the flow of water to town and will meet the current and future growth demands." Mr Hughes-Owen said.

Planning for an upgrade to the Boddington wastewater treatment plant will include a new pumping station and the development of two new treatment ponds.

Mr Hughes-Owen said the upgrade will almost double the capacity of the plant and construction is expected to commence early in 2008.

"We are continuing to work closely with the Shire of Boddington and the community and believe we will be able to deliver the upgrades to support the expansion of the town." Mr Hughes-Owen said.

Growth in the surrounding towns of Dwellingup, Wandering and Williams are also being monitored

closely to ensure future upgrades are planned to meet the increased population.

Peel Development Commission Senior Policy and Research Coordinator Stephen Cummins said the announcement of the new works by the Water Corporation were a satisfying outcome for the Boddington Infrastructure Project Committee, led by the Commission.

"The Committee is pleased that the ongoing needs of Boddington are being met by the relevant agencies, including Water Corporation," he said.

For more information regarding Boddington contact Greg Robertson, Boddington project officer Peel Development Commission [greg.robertson@peel.wa.gov.au](mailto:greg.robertson@peel.wa.gov.au)



# Land deal moves BGM staff into town

Boddington Gold Mine (BGM) has negotiated an agreement with WA Country Builders (WACB) for a major property development in Boddington in a bid to meet some of the demand for land and housing created by the expansion of the gold mine.

Under the innovative plan announced in January, BGM has provided 15 acres of land to WACB for development into about 64 affordable house and land packages, to be released from 2008.

As the project developer, WACB will provide all infrastructure including roads and will provide a range of housing options with all the modern amenities.

BGM Project Director Tom McCulley said the joint venture partners, Newmont Mining Corporation and Anglo Gold Ashanti, are serious about their commitment to have as many of the 800-strong workforce as possible live within a 50km radius of the Boddington

gold mine site. The land initiative is a major step towards achieving that goal, he said.

"As part of our social contract with the people of Boddington and surrounding communities, BGM is committed to assist in ensuring that affordable land and housing is available," Mr McCulley said.

"BGM has owned the land at Banksia Crescent for a number of years which meant we were able to negotiate an agreement that would ensure the lots could be developed and released in a timeframe that would kick-start other development in the Region," he said.

WACB General Manager Ian Holloway said WACB's approach is to employ people from Boddington and surrounding areas to build, sell and manage the development.

He said WACB will donate \$2000 per lot to a community

fund managed by BGM and WACB for use on community projects.



The temporary workers' camp at Boddington Gold Mine

# WHIP opens up doors to better health services

Waangkininy Health in Peel's vision is to "Improve the Quality of Life (Mind, Body & Soul) for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families in the Peel region" - Lorraine Morrison, coordinator.

The establishment of Waangkininy Health in Peel (WHIP) is a result of recommendations contained in the comprehensive Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Health (OATSIH) funded study— Health Needs Analysis of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community in the Peel Region (2003).

The study revealed a number of gaps in the health services available to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Peel Region.

Among the gaps identified was that although in some instances services did exist the level of service was inadequate or that the service was not provided in an appropriate way for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

To address this, it was suggested that gateways to services and appropriate facilitation processes be set-up for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to fully access the main-stream health services. Waangkininy Health in Peel (WHIP) was the proposed mode of achieving this.

The Waangkininy Health in Peel (WHIP) project is funded

by the Federal Government through OATSIH.

WHIP sits under the auspices of Peel Community Development Group with community consultation through the Waangkininy Health in Peel Reference Group.

Waangkininy Health in Peel has a coordinator, a male health worker, one part-time funded office support/receptionist and 2 voluntary office support/receptionist

Services offered by Waangkininy Health in Peel are:

- Primary health service
- Men's and Women's health
- Health checks for children and for adults
- Access to health services in the Peel and wider community
- Programs and workshops appropriate for the community

Doctors will be available for two and a half days per week.

"Waangkininy Health in Peel and the services this can provide will only be as strong as the community participation from the input and support of the community," Coordinator Lorraine Morrison said.

The Peel Development Commission has supported the start-up of this important project.

waangkininy Health in Peel can be found at 370 Pinjarra Road, Greenfields.

Phone number (08) 9582 9396

Hours 08:30 – 4:30 Monday – Friday



Lorraine Morrison, WHIP coordinator, Aboriginal health worker Peter Woods and Volunteer office support worker Peta-Renee Woods

# Hotham Railway recovery on track

Progress on the restoration of the Hotham valley Tourist railway tracks following bushfire damage has been proceeding well with a mix of State recovery funds, innovative engineering and sponsorship of materials to the badly damaged rail network.

As a result of fires in October 2006 and January and February 2007, track and infrastructure were destroyed on the tourist railway operated by Hotham Valley Tourist Railway between Pinjarra and Etmynlin.

The State Government provided \$2.1 million for the restoration of the burn damaged infrastructure. These funds have been allocated to the Hotham Valley Tourist Railway to project manage the works and administered by the Peel Development Commission.

Managing director Ian Willis said costs had blown out in

the initial recovery budget, due to the building and construction boom, but progress had continued through implementation of innovative and cost effective solutions including development of bridge span infrastructure designed and made locally in Peel.

Mr Willis said sponsors were too numerous to be named but the support outside of the substantial State funding had shown that the project was considered valuable and worthwhile by the wider community.

Peel Development Commission regional development coordinator Nicole Nugent said progress made in the recovery should see the important tourism icon back to full steam by the end of 2008.

For more information on the restoration go to <http://www.hothamvalleyrailway.com.au/news.htm>



Work on 13km bridge continued thanks to the purchase of a Mustang bobcat.

## Waroona Town Upgrade Continues

The vehicular and pedestrian access to Drakesbrook Place, funded through the Pinjarra-Brunswick Sustainability Strategy, was completed in late 2007 as part of the Waroona townsite upgrade.

What had been a gravel carpark is now a sealed surface with drainage, and a new car park has been created on the southern side of Memorial Hall.

A new vehicle entry to the showground was created at the rear of the Senior Citizens carpark and is linked to Drakesbrook Place and Memorial Hall.

The upgrading of the Memorial Hall amenities building was also completed in October 2007 ready for the Waroona Show, Matthew Turner Director Strategic Development Shire of Waroona said.

"The building was re-roofed and rendered and a covered link created between the Memorial Hall and the amenities," he said.

Other Waroona townsite upgrades funded through the Pinjarra-Brunswick Sustainability Strategy and administered by the Peel Development Commission include the new drainage infrastructure and parking bays in the central section of the Main Street. This work was not due to commence until May 2008 but the Shire was able to secure a contractor for an earlier start.

"The first section is almost finished and we have just started verge paving," Mr Turner said.

The second stage of underground power in the Main Street (IGA to Wass Street), is also due to start imminently and Main Roads WA have also approved the plans for the upgrading of the Main Street (South Western Highway). Resurfacing, kerbing and paving work in the remaining sections of the Main Street will follow in the second half of 2008.



Supporting education and training will remain a focus for the Peel development Commission in 2008-09 - Hon John Cowdell PDC Chairman

## Priorities set and in motion

difference to our region into the long-term," Mr Cowdell said. **From page 1**

One of the Government's most popular funding rounds is the Regional Development Scheme, with \$500 000 administered annually by each Regional Development Commission. In 2007-08 in Peel we funded 33 projects with a total project value of \$8.8m.

"The Regional Development Scheme is a flexible, regionally-based program that supports community-based groups, local governments and others to deliver projects that respond to the region's needs", Mr Cowdell said.

"The Board always looks forward to seeing the range of applications as well as the results that continue to be delivered by projects we've funded over the past years," he said.

The 2008 Regional Development Scheme round will be opened later this year, and it will be announced through all local media.

**2008 will see the Commission's priorities include:**

- Planning for, and supporting the delivery of, community and economic infrastructure that positions the region to the best advantage into the long term. This includes industrial land, Pinjarra Southern Bypass, Waroona's town centre redevelopment, transport infrastructure within the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale, Mandurah's Central Business District and the east-west road link, Boddington's community infrastructure, and transport and telecommunications infrastructure across our region.
- Development of optimal education, training and employment options into the next decades;
- Development and promotion of new tourism packages and new industry clusters throughout the Region to support our small and medium businesses.
- A continued focus on the creation of sustainable employment opportunities across the range of skilled, unskilled and professional areas;
- Promotion of affordable housing on a regional basis; Advocacy of regional priorities with all levels of government;
- Community involvement in environmental and sustainability projects.

## New Peel business manager up and running

PEEL's new business development manager Lindsay Ginbey has taken up the reigns, replacing Peter Reading in the role.

The vital role is funded by the Peel Development Commission (PDC), the Peel Economic Development Unit (PEDU) and the State Government's Regional Development Scheme grants program, managed by the PDC.

Acting Regional Services Manager Colleen Yates said the appointment of Mr Ginbey meant even more effort could now be put into continuing the attraction of business and investment to the region.

"Living locally I am impressed with what the Peel Region currently has to offer for local residents and tourists. I want to be part of the ongoing growth in the region," Mr Ginbey said.



Lindsay Ginbey

Ginbey said his new role as Peel's Business Development Manager would see him focus on encouraging economic activity, increasing employment opportunities through creating business and industry relationships, and facilitating access to regional business opportunities.

## Wiser, greener gardening

The 2007-08 round of the Regional Development Scheme provided Serpentine Jarrahdale Landcare with a \$20,000 grant to coordinate the second round of the Great Gardens Workshops throughout the region.

The Great Gardens Workshops provide experts to deliver information and advice on planting and maintaining innovative water wise gardens.

Ideas include not only the use of water wise plants, but also the use of good compost and fewer chemicals. The workshops also update people with information regarding new and improved varieties of water wise plants that have become available.

The 2007-08 workshops are underway and there has been positive feedback so far from participants around the region who all want to 'do their bit for the environment' and implement some of the ideas that are



Peel Minister David Templeman is shown some water wise products from Garry Heady of the Peel Havey Catchment Council.

being promoted through the workshops. The Peel Development Commission is pleased to be associated with this worthwhile project and encourages residents in the region to learn more about gardening whilst being mindful of our environment.

# A Fine Year for Peel brand in Food and Wine

PEEL's profile as a producer of fine food and wine has gathered momentum in the past 12 months.

Led by the the efforts of the Peel Development Commission, and its support to external projects such as the Innovative Partnerships in Food and Wine project, Peel's reputation for wholesale product as well as fine cuisine, has grown.

2007 saw Peel for the first time enter the Tastings Australia Regional Culinary Competition. Although Peel did not win, it put up a grand showing and led by the Commission's team, showcased to Australia's critics and industry the nation's first certified organic hamburger.

Swedish Daily food and wine critic Agneta Ellenius visited Peel in 2007 and after a food and wine matching session at the Brighton Hotel described the Peel showcase as one of the best she had experienced in a tour of Western Australia.



**Wine tasting was very popular at WA On Show.**

Will Nairn, who to date is the Region's most successful winemaker, said the efforts in promoting Peel food and wine were vital for the industry at all levels.

"It's important that Peel is known as a Region. When you are so small you need to promote yourself," Nairn said.

"You have to do these things to get your name out there."

Nairn knows better than most sustaining a brand from Peel. The 'godfather' of the Peel wine industry continued his reputation as a master winemaker when Winestate magazine in 2007-08 voted his 2001 Shiraz as one of the two best Shiraz wines on the planet - not bad press if you can get it, and again, great promotion of the Peel name.

Nairn's success has been by breaking new ground, with his decision many years ago to embark on Shiraz when everyone else was doing Cabernet Sauvignon, proving to be a

wise move showing that innovation and foresight can pay off.

Using originality John Buncle and son Daniel of Lake Clifton Wines have also reaped the rewards.

At the Perth 2007 Royal Show their Mulberry wine won Gold for the best sweet red in its class.

Their strawberry, passionfruit and mango wines won Silver for excellence, and their apricot wine and plumb port won Bronze.

"We are very proud of our achievements for 2007 and will continue to set high standards for all wineries in the Peel Region," John says.

Peel Wine Association President Bernie Worthington, whose own Drakesbrook 2005 Merlot took out bronze at the Australian small winemaker's awards, said the Region still had a challenge in accepting its own product.

"Quite simply we need to get more businesses in Peel, including restaurants, to stock Peel wines," he said.

"The Association will soon be offering mixed dozens to attract more purchase of Peel product."

In food, Mundella Foods scored a top award for the second consecutive year in the dairy industry's major national awards, winning the champion natural yoghurt section in the 2008 Australian Grand Dairy Awards for the Mundella Greek Style Natural Yoghurt.

Mundella have been very pro-active in assisting the Peel brand promotions, including at Adelaide's Feast of the Senses and more recently, WA On Show.

"Mundella Foods is extremely proud to receive its third, consecutive Australian Grand Dairy Award for Champion Yoghurt," CEO David Day said.

"I firmly believe we stand very alone in regard to the integrity of our products and it is a huge thrill to be recognised as 'Australia's Best' again," Mr Day said. "We are totally committed to the production and delivery of quality, natural delicious products to our wonderfully loyal customers."

Hunsa Smallgoods, another quality Peel brand, are also committed to being the best not only in the Westy, but elsewhere, with Hunsa's Paul Di Lollo meeting the Pinjarra Brunswick Sustainability funded agriculture development officer Richard Yates recently to look at synergies in primary and secondary production to



**Peter Rigby of Innovative Partnerships hosts a famil of international journalists at Raven Winery, Pinjarra. The famils were part sponsored and co-hosted by the Peel Development Commission.**

ensure his company's products continue to be recognised as the highest in quality and choice.

Peel Development Commission CEO Maree De Lacey said the promotion of Peel will continue in 2008 and build on the work undertaken in 2007.

"There is a buzz developing about what Peel has. We might not be the biggest but we certainly have the potential to be both unique and the best as region," Ms De Lacey.

"Whether its our larger commercial brands like Hunsa and Mundella, or our smaller boutique brands and producers whose products are only available in the Peel, collectively we are a growing force," she said.

"In regard to wine, at the Commission we are serving Peel wines at official functions or as gifts, and we encourage other businesses and organisations to do the same."



**Mundella's range of yoghurts and cheese are recognised brand products that are growing in reputation and distribution.**

## New Campaign continues promoting Peel as the 'natural choice'

TEN new images promoting the Peel Region have been unveiled at WA On Show as part of the Peel Your Natural Choice 2008 Campaign.

The images were developed by the Peel Development Commission in consultation with the Region's five local government authorities with funds from Tourism WA.

The campaign is part of a renewed push to encourage people in the Perth metropolitan area to use the Peel Region's major attractions for day trips and longer escapes.

"Peel has many attractions and this promotion highlights some of the aspects that make it an appealing day and weekend destination," Peel Development Commission Corporate Communications Coordinator Peter Collins said.

"Already with the arrival of the southern suburbs rail we've seen more than 90,000

people access Mandurah over the annual Christmas break as a day tripper destination," he said.

"This campaign promotes all parts of our Region as self-drive destinations, weekend escapes and a fabulous suite of opportunity for inbound tourism operators to utilise."

"The campaign materials will be used by the local governments and their Visitor centres, as well as the Commission and partners such as Experience Perth, to promote the Peel brand at home and elsewhere.

"The new theme showcases the quality and variety of the Peel experience, paying particular attention to the unique rural aesthetic that remains as part of Peel's pioneer history.

"It continues Peel as 'the natural choice' as a destination."



**An advertisement promotes the Hotham Valley Tourist Railway on the back of the popular Mandurah Foreshore Express Service. (Inset) One of the new campaign ads promoting Serpentine Falls.**

To contact the Peel Pulse please ring editor Peter Collins on 9535 0000 or by email [peter.collins@peel.wa.gov.au](mailto:peter.collins@peel.wa.gov.au). You can also visit the Peel Development Commission website [www.peel.wa.gov.au](http://www.peel.wa.gov.au).