



NSW DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

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<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn/country-web>

Equine Influenza: Help stop the spread in your community

Horses in NSW have tested positive for equine influenza (EI). Whether you have horses or not, you need to be aware of what this means for you.

If you know or suspect that your horse has horse flu, you must ring the EI Hotline on 1800 675 888.

NO HEALTH RISK TO HUMANS

The disease represents significant costs to the industry and all horse owners. Economic impacts include large veterinary bills, loss of business and employment. EI can also seriously affect foal mortality rates. If we do not work together now to eradicate the disease there will be additional costs for the horse industry and horse owners to bear for many years to come.

EI is a highly contagious respiratory disease, so it is important to prevent your horses having any direct contact with other people's horses.

It is important you follow good hygiene practices to prevent further spread of this disease.

Under a nationally agreed response, the Australian Government and the NSW Government are working hard to control this disease in NSW, with support from industry, veterinarians and other organisations, but your day-to-day assistance is just as important.

Please adhere strictly to the movement restrictions as they apply to your area, and do not move your horses off your property unless you have the

necessary permit or permission.

CAUTION – PEOPLE & EQUIPMENT SPREAD THE DISEASE

- Movement restrictions are based on location. Don't move (or ride) any horses off your property without a permit.
- Keep horses as far away from your boundary with other horse properties as possible.
- Prevent all non-essential vehicles and visitors from entering areas of the premises that hold horses.
- After horses, the biggest risk of spreading influenza is people. Wash all exposed skin with soap and water.

- Always decontaminate yourself and your vehicle before leaving your property. Do not go near any horse on other properties.
- Change your clothes, including hat and footwear, immediately after handling horses, and decontaminate them. Use hot water, soap, disinfectant, detergent or household bleach.
- Remember, you are protecting everyone else's animals as well as your own.

**For more information
Ph: 1800 675 888 or go
to: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/
equine-influenza](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/equine-influenza)**

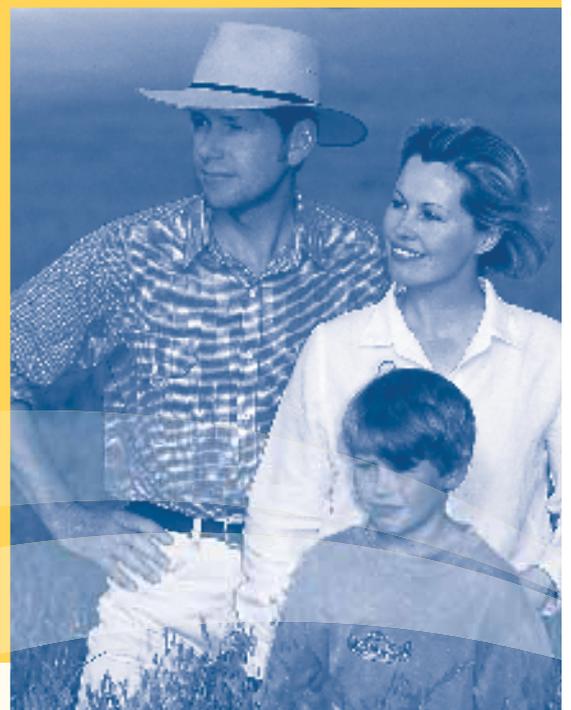
PROfarm

Through PROfarm, farmers across NSW now have access to an expanded range of new and improved courses and training opportunities to improve skills and keep up-to-date with the latest farming practices.

There are now over 130 PROfarm courses available. Courses available over the coming months include SMARTtrain chemical risk management & OHS risk management on farms, Better bull buying, Safe tractor operation & maintenance, Topfodder™ silage, Wean more lambs, and Prograze™. Many PROfarm courses are subsidised, reflecting the benefits to the community of land managers adopting sustainable farming practices.

To find out more about PROfarm courses in your area:

- see the PROfarm website www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/profarm
- in northern NSW, phone 1800 025 520
- in southern NSW, phone 1800 628 422.



PROfarm... we've got the right course for you



The State Advisory Committee (SAC) is the RWN's advisory team. It is made up of women from rural, regional, or remote communities, who come from diverse backgrounds and represent the many interests of rural women.

The primary purpose of the SAC is to provide independent advice and strategic direction to the RWN by:

- developing strategies to address priority issues specific to women living in rural, regional and remote NSW communities;
- promoting and advocating RWN initiatives;
- providing feedback on the effectiveness of the RWN programs;
- being a consultative body for NSW DPI providing feedback on the effectiveness of relevant programs and initiatives; and
- identifying hot and emerging issues for rural, regional and remote NSW communities.

The SAC is currently Co-chaired by

- **Barry Buffier**
Director-General, NSW DPI; and
- **Elaine Armstrong**
Country Women's Association of NSW

The RWN and SAC invite you to contact them with your views, ideas and questions.

Current members are:

- **Bourke:** Patricia Bates-Canty
Aboriginal women's interests
Ph: 02 6872 3021, Fax: 02 6870 8892
Email: pcanty@gwahs.nsw.gov.au
- **Coonamble:** Susan Ainge McLeish
NSW Farmers' Association
Ph: 02 6824 2091, Fax: 02 6824 2408
Email: mcleishs@nswfarmers.org.au
- **Gleniffer:** Julie Woodroffe
Natural Resource Management
Ph: 02 6655 1420, Fax: 02 6655 0864
- **Goulburn:** Nerida Cullen
Rural Lands Protection Board
Ph: 02 4822 6986
Email: colepark@goulburn.net.au
- **Inverell:** Kim Deans
Rural Financial Counselling Program
Ph: 02 6721 0030, Fax: 02 6721 0960
Email: kim.deans@rfcnsw-northernregion.org
- **Lightning Ridge:** Rebel Black
Far West Area representative
Ph: 02 6829 1671, Fax: 02 6829 1673
- **Mandurama:** Sally Green
Minister's representative
Ph: 02 6366 7209, Fax: 02 6366 7256
- **Sydney:** Assoc. Prof. Dr Frances Parker
Academia/Research Interests
Ph: 02 4736 0049
- **Wagga Wagga:** Elaine Armstrong
Country Women's Association of NSW
Ph: 02 6931 7639, Fax: 02 6391 7639
Email: ear86878@bigpond.net.au

rwn sac update

Update from Elaine Armstrong, Co-Chair & CWA Representative

It was with pleasure that Rebel Black, from Lightning Ridge, was welcomed to join our SAC Committee as the Far West Area Representative. Rebel brings youth and enthusiasm, and we look forward to her contribution in sharing and promoting action on rural women's issues.

The 2007 Women's Gathering – Flat Our in Hay – was inspirational in so many ways. I felt honoured to be present to hear the moving stories told by women of courage. With huge support of the Hay community it was a great success. Well done to the Hay ladies.

Many priority issues were raised at our SAC meeting held in Dubbo on 20-21 November, including a presentation on the outcome of the recent Premier's Rural Taskforce consultations. The following three issue areas will give you a flavour of some of our Dubbo discussions.

1. Managing Climate Change. We all need to acknowledge our collective responsibilities to plan for alternative futures in changing climates which should include social, economic and environmental perspectives. It is more than farming and weather. Risk management training was seen as a key strategy and future scenario planning suggested as a useful tool to be explored. Susan Ainge McLeish introduced a concept whereby farmers could become carbon 'banks' and provide 'credit' to companies wanting to offset carbon debts.

2. Small Business & Drought. The survival of small businesses is important as they are often the backbone of towns providing employment and generating economic benefits to local communities. Rural Financial Counsellors play a key role but are limited to farmers. We would like rural businesses to have access to similar information and assistance.

3. Supporting Communities Through Change. Change is ongoing but has been accelerated by drought. Many populations are in decline. This leads to reduced

services and an inability to attract staff and professionals. We recognise a need to continually skill women to actively support themselves, their families and communities going through these changes. Community development positions helping to manage these changes are often held by women and are short-term. There is a need for long-term job tenure so communities can attract and retain quality staff while providing security for workers and communities.

We see the RWN and its initiatives such as *The Country Web* newsletter, Shaping Our Futures Together workshops and Women's Days as important ways of promoting information exchange, providing skills development opportunities and supporting rural women.

At the meeting I also gave a presentation on the Associated Country Women of the World Triennial Conference held in Finland which I attended as CWA of NSW delegate. The Conference focused on the eight United Nations Millennium Goals 2000-2015. These aim to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability, and develop a global partnership for development.

We bid farewell to SAC member Susan Ainge McLeish from Coonamble who has been the NSW Farmers' Association representative for the last three years. Yet it is not really goodbye as Susan is the Honorary Treasurer for the next Women's Gathering to be held in Coonamble from 17-19 October 2008. Women's Gatherings provide unique opportunities for women to take time out, learn, discuss issues and build support networks. We look forward to working with Coonamble over the coming months.

The next issue of *The Country Web* has a theme of 'At the Crossroads'. Readers contributions are always welcome so why not put pen to paper and write something!

The RWN State Advisory Committee has welcomed three new members to the Committee in recent months – each bringing their own unique set of skills and experience. We look forward to working with them over the next three years, addressing rural issues.



Nerida Cullen, Goulburn State Council of Rural Lands Protection Boards representative

Trained as an educator, Nerida taught secondary English and History in rural NSW and VIC. She and her husband worked in a number of country towns over some twelve years and contributed to community life through the theatre and community service organisations. A move to Sydney saw Nerida involved in curriculum development and school building design.

A move to Goulburn in 2000 was a return to rural and more community focused living, buying a small property and agisting cattle. Planting lavender in 2001 at the 'start' of the drought, and wingless grasshoppers over the last two summers, have added an extra dimension.

A desire for the RLPB (and other planning/decision makers) to recognise the issue of changing land use motivated her to seek election to the Board of the Goulburn RLPB where she has been active in the Board's communication strategy and management of Travelling Stock Routes.

Nerida contributes to the community as a member and office holder of a number of organisations; Soroptimist International – Goulburn, Goulburn & District Education Foundation, Southern Region Community College, the Community Liaison Committee of Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Goulburn AP&H, and is a member of Parkesbourne Landcare Group.



Kim Deans, Inverell Rural Financial Counsellors Program representative

Kim is employed as a Rural Financial Counsellor with the Rural Financial Counselling Service NSW – Northern Region, based in Inverell. She completed a Bachelor of Rural Science (Honours) through the University of New England in Armidale and has previously worked in a wide range of agricultural industries including the cotton industry, feedlot industry and a family farming business.

Kim finds it rewarding working with farming families in her community and empowering them to deal with the challenges of change and adjustment. She has well developed networks within her local community and works closely with the NSW Department of Primary Industries, Rural Lands Protection Boards, Hunter New England Area Health Service, Landcare, Centrelink's Rural Services officers, the NSW Rural Assistance Authority, accountants, solicitors, and counselling services.

Kim is passionate about natural farming systems and environmental issues and is involved with community groups in her area with a similar focus. She and her husband Angus own a property which they are restoring using biodynamic and organic farming principles.



Rebel Black, Lightning Ridge Far West Area representative

Rebel has lived and worked in rural NSW for most of her life and has a strong passion and commitment in working to empower people within rural communities.

With her partner Michael, Rebel owns and operates Dig In, an outback dining and entertainment experience in Lightning Ridge which also encompasses a cinema.

Rebel has extensive networks across the Far West where she has previously worked as a Regional Arts Development Officer, Tourism Officer and in her current position as a Community Facilitator under the Murdi Paaki Partnership Program. She is currently a board member of Yawarra Meamei Women's Group, a social service group that auspices the Lightning Ridge Safe House and Neighbourhood Centre and is a Legatee in Lightning Ridge, through which she provides advocacy and support to widows and families of veterans. She is also the President of the Lightning Ridge Tourist Association and sits of the Board of Management for the Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre.

In her paid role as Lightning Ridge/Goodooga Community Facilitator, Rebel carries out business across the entire scope of community and service providers (government and non-government) through the Interagency (and its subgroups) as well as local, state and federal government through the Coalition of Australian Government (COAG) trial.

www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/camps

Looking to get away for a short break, have fun and experience a holiday out of the ordinary. NSW Sport & Recreation offers affordable and fun holiday ideas for kids and their families or larger groups.



www.agcareers.com

AgCareers.com is a new site connecting Australian and New Zealand job seekers with agribusiness employers from around the world in a variety of areas from on-farm production, extension services, sales, marketing, finance, risk management, and human resources.



www.ybblue.com.au

Ybblue is about getting the message out there that it's okay to talk about depression and to encourage young people, their family and friends to get help when it's needed. The site includes fact sheets, e-cards, resources and much more.



www.raisingchildren.net.au/disabilities

Raising Children has just launched a new section on children with disabilities. It explores topics such as talking about your child's disability and dealing with the reactions of others, and includes information about family life, play, health & fitness, services and support and more.

Choosing an Internet Service Provider

Information from the Australian Communication & Media Authority Consumer Tool Kit (www.acma.gov.au)

Choosing an Internet Service Provider (ISP) can sometimes be an overwhelming decision. There are over 800 ISPs operating in Australia. Most offer a number of internet access arrangements. Before you make a decision about an ISP, it is worth spending some time to think about the arrangements that best suit you.*

*An ISP supplies, or arranges to supply, a service that enables end-users to access the internet.

Choosing an ISP and internet service

The main things to consider before choosing an ISP are:

- What will you use the internet for?
- How much are you willing to pay to use the internet?
- How long will you spend online per month?
- Do you want high data rate access to the internet?
- Do you mind if your telephone line is engaged when you are on the internet?
- Do you want to pay for your internet access upfront or be invoiced for usage?
- Do you want to be able to access your internet account locally, nationally or internationally?
- What level of technical or customer support do you require? and
- What services other than internet access do you require from your ISP?

To help you decide on an appropriate ISP, the Australian Communications & Media Authority (ACMA) has

developed the *Consumer Information Guidelines for ISPs*. The guide aims to make your choice easier by asking ISPs to provide information in an easily comparable form. More information on the guidelines and ISPs who provide this information is available from the ACMA website.

Internet connection from country areas

If you live in a rural area it's important to consider the call connection costs. Find out if you can connect to your ISP for the cost of a local call. Also, ask your ISP if they have a POP (server) in your local area and confirm that connection will not be charged at long distance rates.

Internet charges

There are many different pricing options available. As a guide check:

- Any usage limits that apply to individual sessions, such as data transfer, download, upload or time limits;
- The period of any contract you may sign;
- Any minimum charges you may agree to pay over the period of a contract; and
- Any charges that apply if you terminate a contract before it expires.

More information on internet costs is available from the ACMA fact sheet *A guide to internet costs*.

Dial-up or Broadband

Internet services are provided by either dial-up connection or broadband. Broadband services can be delivered via: cable

broadband; asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL); or satellite broadband.

ADSL broadband uses a special modem that transforms your standard telephone line into a high data rate line. If you install ADSL you can make and receive phone calls, browse the internet and download your email all without the need to install another telephone line. For technical reasons (including the distance of your home to the nearest telephone exchange), ADSL is not available to everyone.

One-way satellite broadband services work with your existing dial-up connection and enable you to download data at fast broadband speeds. This is typically a one-way service that works by downloading data from a satellite and uploading data through your dial-up connection using your normal telephone line to an ISP.

Two-way satellite services offer fast upload (64 kbit/s) and up to (400 kbit/s) download data rates. A two-way satellite internet service can provide service to customers where other access technologies are not available.

For more information on these services see the ACMA fact sheet *A guide to internet technology*.

RESOURCES

BroadbandNow is a new consumer helpline providing information to consumers on broadband access and options. For more information, call 1800 883 488, Monday to Friday, 8 am to 9 pm or go to: www.broadbandnow.gov.au

Condobolin Garden Festival

Waterwise Gardening in Western NSW
5 & 6 April 2008

After battling nearly seven years of drought, Condobolin is set to showcase some of its best gardens as part of the Condobolin Garden Festival and Australia's Open Garden Scheme. The festival promises to be a great event with: garden displays and workshops, entertainment, refreshments, markets and stalls, special interests such as quilting, pottery, crochet and artworks; and much more.

As part of the weekend visitors will enjoy talks from: **Michael Bligh**, one of Australia's leading landscape designers speaking about garden design; **Col Lewis** talking on waterwise gardening; **Maxine Staniforth** on caring for your roses; **Jock Coupland** on soil chemistry; and **Maree Ravell** of Maree's Wholesale Nursery on native trees, shrubs and grafting techniques. On Saturday evening you will be entertained by a popular jazz band at one of the open gardens, *The Gums*. There will also be wine tasting and nibbles available, so bring a chair and enjoy the night!

For more information go to: www.condobolingardenfestival.com
or contact Marg Weale on Ph: 02 6895 3884 or
Email: margw@westserv.net.au

NSW rainwater tank rebate

Did you know that up to 40 per cent of a household's water use can be replaced with rainwater? With water restrictions and drought becoming more prevalent, we can all do our bit to help reduce our water consumption by installing a rainwater tank, reducing our household's water use by up to 40 per cent.

The Rainwater Tank Rebate is available for the installation of any new rainwater storage system in residential properties in NSW. To be eligible, the tank(s) must have a minimum 2000-litre capacity and be purchased in full, and installed, between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2009. Households not connected to the mains supply are eligible for a rebate for the purchase of the tank only.

For more information or to apply for a rebate go to: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates/index.htm or call the Department of Environment & Climate Change on Ph: 1300 361 967.

Bush Alert to target illegal hunters

Bush Alert is a new community-based reporting system aimed at reducing illegal hunting on declared public land areas and adjoining private properties. Developed in conjunction with the NSW Police Force and Forests NSW, the program encourages country people to provide specific intelligence to police of offences such as spotlighting on public land and trespassing. The program will initially target illegal hunting at Mullions Range and Canobolas State forests near Orange in the Central West and surrounding properties. It may eventually be rolled out statewide. The program includes warning signs for farm gates and forest entry points, reporting cards for forest users such as licensed conservation hunters, and stickers with relevant details for contacting police, Crime Stoppers and Game Council NSW.

For more information go to: www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au
To report illegal hunting call the Police or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or Game Council NSW on 02 6360 5111.

Picking a holiday that works for you

After years of hard work, have you thought about a holiday around Australia? Following the harvest trail could make your holiday more affordable while helping you to keep fit, meet new people and enjoy new experiences.

From grape harvesting in Berri, to mango picking in Darwin, each year thousands of people find work helping to bring in the fruit and vegetable harvests. The Harvest Trail gives them the opportunity to combine seasonal harvest work with travelling around Australia at their own pace while earning money. The Trail offers a way for young, middle aged and older Australians to finance travel around their country. By working and following the Harvest Trail jobseekers from Australia and overseas find a great way to maintain a fit and healthy lifestyle, are able to meet people from around Australia and the world and can travel and see Australia at their own pace while working and earning money.

There is of course not just one harvest trail, but many. Harvest workers can choose to circle the continent or follow the sun. They can go south from the wet tropics of far north Queensland to Tasmania's Huon Valley or east from Western Australia's Margaret River to the Riverina. In some locations it is possible for workers to follow seasonal activities through much of the year on a trail within kilometres of their doorstep.

For more information about the Harvest Trail call 1800 062 332 or go to: www.harvesttrail.gov.au



DEVELOPING REGIONAL RESOURCES PROGRAM

An initiative of NSW Department of State & Regional Development, this program aims to provide funding to help regional organisations, industry associations or alliances of regional firms, investigate and pursue new economic/business development opportunities and to strengthen regional economies through initiatives that add value to local resources or diversify from the traditional economic base. Funding partners are sought from other government agencies and, increasingly, from the private sector. Funding is available for Regional development agencies including Regional Development Boards, Development Corporations, local councils, Business Enterprise Centres, industry associations and alliances of regional firms.

For more information Ph: 02 9338 6694 or go to: www.business.nsw.gov.au/business/programs/regional+programs.htm#9

Working on the land

Working on the Land is a new service provided by the Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) to assist workers and businesses in regional NSW. The service provides advice, assistance and practical resources including a:

- **131 628** hotline providing employees and businesses with information on current award entitlements and direct help in relation to rural industries;
- series of seminars around NSW to provide information on rural employment including employment needs, wages and entitlements; and
- checklist for employers and workers considering an Australian Workplace Agreement, highlighting issues to be considered before signing.

Through the Working on the Land telephone advisory service a rural employer or employee can talk to an OIR Advisory Officer or they can leave a request for a call-back response at a specific time to suit them. Business owners can also request a visit by an OIR Inspector who will work with them to check that the correct workplace practices are being carried out and respond to any questions the employer or their workers may have.

For more information call 131 628 or go to the Office of Industrial Relations website at: www.industrialrelations.nsw.gov.au and click on the 'Working on the Land' link at the bottom left of your screen.

CONSUMER CREDIT LEGAL CENTRE (NSW) INC.

The Consumer Credit Legal Centre (NSW) Inc. is a community legal centre specialising in financial services, particularly matters and policy issues related to consumer credit, banking and debt recovery. The service provides legal advice and assistance and produces a range of fact sheets on consumer debt issues. They have a dedicated team of financial counsellors who can advise you on your options if you are behind with your payments and can also help you negotiate with your creditors and/or refer you to other relevant services.

For more information contact the Credit & Debt Hotline on 1800 808 488, Monday to Friday from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm or go to: www.cclcnsw.org.au to download the fact sheets and find more information.

Family Separation: a guide for teens



Around eleven thousand teenagers are affected by family separation in Australia every year and it's important they understand that they are not alone.

This great new resource, produced by the Child Support Agency (CSA), was developed in consultation with more than 20 stakeholders including Kids Help Line, beyondblue: the national depression initiative and Relationships Australia, and was extensively researched with real families who have experienced separation.

The booklet and website are important resources for teens who may not want to ask for help because they either don't feel comfortable talking about their parents' separation or don't know who to talk to. It looks at coping strategies, who to talk to and where to go for support.

Other free booklets available in the series include:

- **Me & My Kids:** Practical ideas for separated parents on developing and maintaining relationships with your kids after separation – particularly for parents who spend much of their time away from their children; and

- **Me & My Money:** Addresses the challenges that arise around money issues following separation and includes hints and tips on stretching your dollar further.

For your free copy of Family Separation: a guide for teens and other CSA Resources, call 1800 040 972 or go to www.youth.csa.gov.au



The Do Not Call Register came into effect on 30 May 2007. It helps to reduce the number of unwanted telemarketing calls received on home phone or mobile numbers as, once registered, telemarketers are required by law to stop calling you. Some public interest organisations, such as charities, political parties and educational institutions are exempt from these laws and are allowed to make calls to numbers listed on the register. These exemptions ensure that these organisations can continue to provide services to the community.

To register, call 1300 792 958 or go to: www.donotcall.gov.au

DROUGHT LAW FORUM

Australia is going through its worst drought on record. As a result, rural communities are experiencing severe financial and emotional hardships. These have direct legal consequences and for many, legal assistance is out of reach. As such, Rural Law Online has developed the Drought Law Forum – an online forum which offers free legal information. The service is provided by 27 volunteer lawyers from around Australia who will respond to any legal questions posted online.

To access the Forum go to: www.rurallaw.org.au

Girl Stuff

Your full-on guide to the teenage years

By Kaz Cooke

Few girls confide completely in their parents, teachers or health professionals. Many don't ask questions because they are embarrassed, or wrongly believe they 'know it all'.

Girl Stuff has everything a girl needs to know and was written to inform and guide them through all the challenges of teen life, from before their first period to life as a young woman.

Featuring four themes: body, head, heart, and info to Go, *Girl Stuff* has been designed for girls to dive in, skip the bits they're not yet interested in, and devour the information most relevant to them – so a nine year old will get as much out of it as a nineteen year old.

With over 500 pages *Girl Stuff* has everything girls need to know about: friends, body changes, shopping, clothes and make-up, pimples, sizes, hair, earning money, guys, embarrassment, what to eat, moods, smoking, why diets suck, handling love and heartbreak, exercise, school stress, sex, beating bullies and mean girls, drugs, drinking, how to find new friends, cheering up, how to get on with your family, and confidence.

Each chapter includes useful information, hints, facts, inspiring lists, cartoons, and quotes from the thousands of real girls aged 12 to 18 who responded to a *Girl Stuff* website survey. At the end of each chapter there are details for over 350 websites, books and other information for anyone wanting to find out more on a specific subject.

Penguin Australia • ISBN 978 0 6700 2887 0 • RRP: \$39.95



The Country Web has several copies of *Girl Stuff* to give-away.

To be in the running, write to us and tell us in 25 words or less: As a teenager, what is most important to you and why? Entries must be received by 22 January 2008. Send your entry to: The Country Web, Locked Bag 21, Orange NSW 2800. See page 2 for competition terms & conditions.

FREE BOOK GIVE-AWAY

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK FOR STRONG BLACK WOMEN

The *Little Black Book for Strong Black Women* is a project of the NSW Strategy to Reduce Violence Against Women and the Aboriginal Family Health Strategy. It is designed to reduce sexual assault and domestic and family violence experienced by Aboriginal women and children by providing education, information and encouragement.

The diary includes:

- legal and educational information around sexual assault and domestic violence;
- appropriate agencies/ service contacts that relate to safety and support;
- empowering messages from women who have experienced and worked through sexual assault and domestic and family violence;
- visual representations of Aboriginal families, friends and community members;
- Aboriginal women's art and poetry;
- inspirational words; and
- calendar, address and note pages.

To order diaries, contact Chris Smith on Ph: 02 4336 2421.



Why not visit Coonamble for the 2008 NSW Women's Gathering to be held from 17-19 October 2008

Located on the Castlereagh Highway, 160 km north of Dubbo, Coonamble is well known as a horse town and has a proud agricultural heritage. The shire, which includes the towns of Coonamble and Gulargambone, and the village of Quambone, is one of the largest in NSW with almost 10,000 square kilometres and around 5000 residents. As home to the largest combined Rodeo & Campdraft in the Southern Hemisphere, Coonamble is also the birthplace of Sir Edward Hallstrom, pioneer of refrigeration.

For more information on the 2008 Gathering, including a full events calendar, go to: www.coonamble.org/wg or call the Tourism Development Manager on Ph: 02 6827 1936 or Email: tourism@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au

We'd love to hear from you, so why not send us a postcard or photo from where you live, and share your news and views! Post to: *The Country Web*, Locked Bag 21, Orange NSW 2800.

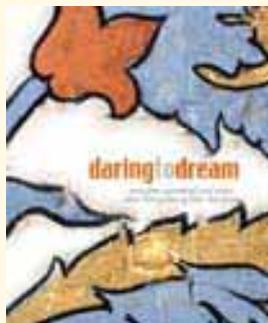
Visit the Rural Women's Network internet site at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn



DARING TO DREAM: STORIES FROM INSPIRATIONAL RURAL WOMEN

The *Daring to Dream* book includes 27 stories of leading women from a wide range of rural backgrounds and is a useful resource for anyone

wanting to feel more motivated to follow their passion and achieve their goals. Each story includes individual contact details to encourage informal mentoring. *DTD* costs \$11 incl. GST plus p&h. To order your copy, contact the NSW DPI Bookshop on Toll Free 1800 028 374. (Catalogue No. B302)



If you are a NSW resident and would like *The Country Web* sent free to your home please **PRINT** your details on the form below and return to: RWN, Locked Bag 21, Orange 2800. *The Country Web* is available on the RWN website. If you have internet access please help us lower our production costs by cancelling your hardcopy subscription.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

P/CODE: _____

PHONE: _____

I am from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background

I am from a culturally and linguistically diverse background

<20 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s+

The Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 obliges the Rural Women's Network to make you aware of the purposes for which we might use the contact details you have supplied us with. This information will be used by RWN for the purposes of disseminating information (including mailouts). Any information supplied by you to RWN will not be disclosed to any other person unless prior consent has been given.