



(21/03/2016)

Drought support workshops for Campbells Bridge and Banyena communities

Landholders in the Northern Grampians Shire Council (NGSC) region will have access to three free workshops in March and April. NGSC has partnered with local landcare network Project Platypus to offer a series of events for farming families, placing a spotlight on drought and farm management in uncertain times.

Two breakfast workshops focus on personal health and well-being with a range of service providers available to ensure participants are aware of the current drought support available. The workshops, titled 'Drought support, farm finance and your health' will take place at Campbells Bridge on Wednesday 30th March at 10.00am, and Wednesday 6th of April at the Banyena Hall with a 7.30am for breakfast. Pat Cavanagh from Grampians Community Health will kick-off presentations by discussing ways to maintain our own health and wellbeing, as well as looking out for our mates. Rural Financial Counselling will also be on hand, along with Agriculture Victoria Staff with discuss the State Governments Drought Support package measures for farmers. The Campbells Bridge event will also include a demonstration of the award winning Bretton Auto-Feeder.

A third breakfast workshop will focus solely on sheep nutrition at Marnoo on Thursday the 14th of April, with highly regarded consultant San Jolly presenting. Productive Nutrition principal consultant San Jolly is considered a leader in the field of ruminant livestock nutrition and has produced a number of publications as well as consulted with sheep farmers across the country. San will provide information on stock containment areas, managing ground cover and optimising winter pasture growth, de-stocking versus biosecurity and annual versus perennial pastures – what's the best balance?

Project Platypus Events Coordinator Bronwyn Bant said the workshops would be informal and provide a chance for people to seek a wide range of information about the support available when they are faced with uncertain seasonal conditions.

"The region we live in is full of climatic challenges and we sometimes need to stop and gather our thoughts so we can plan how best to deal with these challenges. Attending these workshops provides an opportunity to stop, reflect and plan for the season ahead" said Ms Bant

Registrations for catering purposes are needed by Friday 24th March to attend the Navigating Dry Times workshops, and Tuesday 12th April to attend the Sheep Nutrition breakfast.

To register to attend a workshop call Project Platypus on 5358 4410 or email bronwyn@platypus.org.au

End of release

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