

Community Leadership  
LODDON MURRAY INC.

2016



Loddon  
Murray

Community  
Leadership  
Program



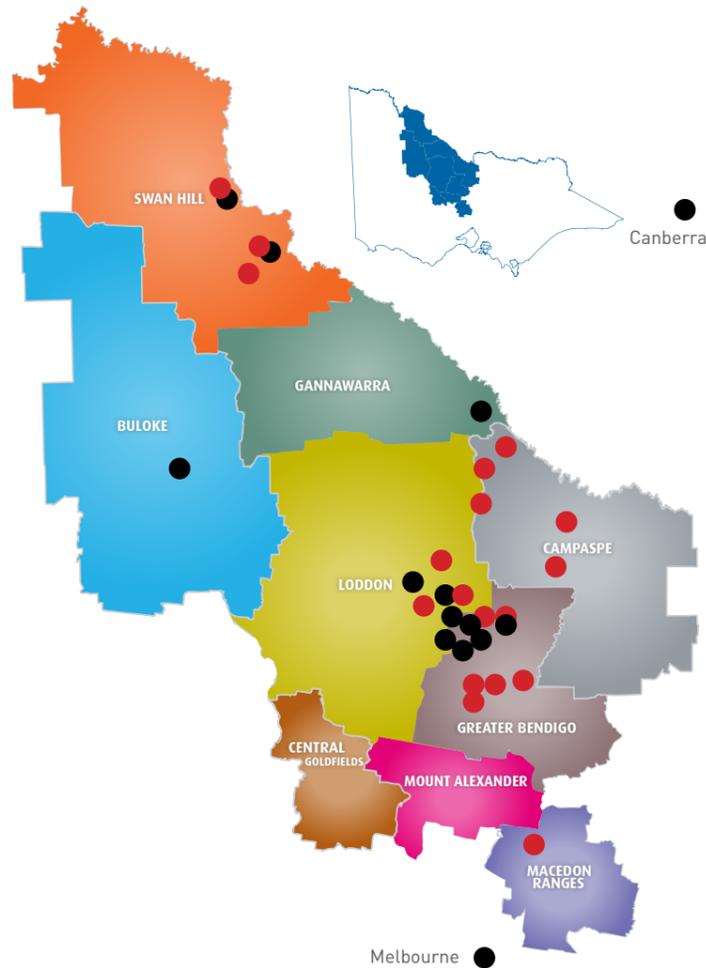
## 2016 Participants

### • Where are they from?

Barkers Creek	Heathcote
Bendigo	Inglewood
Boort	Kyneton
Castlemaine	Lancefield
Charlton	Longlea
Cohuna	Quambatook
Dingee	Swan Hill
Elmore	Swan Hill
Gunbower	Wedderburn
Harcourt	Woodend

### • Where did we go?

Bendigo	Heathcote
Bridgewater	Inglewood
Canberra	Kerang
Castlemaine	Maldon
Charlton	Melbourne
Cohuna	Newbridge
Echuca	Swan Hill



## Message from the Minister for Regional Development

The Andrews Government is strongly committed to developing future leaders in rural and regional Victoria.

Communities in regional Victoria face unique social and economic challenges. Maximising and creating opportunities to address these challenges is something that will take leadership and dedication.

The Andrews Government is strongly committed to developing future leaders in rural and regional Victoria and has provided \$8 million over four years for the Regional Community Leadership Program to address these challenges and opportunities.

The development of regional community and business leaders is vital to the success of regional Victoria. Through its leadership programs, short courses and networking opportunities, Community Leadership Loddon Murray fosters the development of a vibrant network of community and business leaders in the Loddon Murray region of Victoria.

The Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program benefits individual participants by providing them with skills, knowledge and self-confidence to actively engage in local and wider communities. The Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program also benefits local communities more broadly by improving their capacity to recognise, prioritise and drive regional change.

Congratulations Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program graduates of 2016 who now join an alumnus of over 400.

Well done to you all for advancing the capacity building of your leadership network through the delivery of a range of short courses and leadership skills workshops over and above the annual program.

**Hon Jaala Pulford MP**  
Minister for Regional Development



*Communities in regional Victoria face unique social and economic challenges. Maximising and creating opportunities to address these challenges is something that will take leadership and dedication.*

### Our Vision...

*Vibrant and sustainable rural and regional communities.*

A community is where people live, work, play and study. People in these communities have a strong sense of belonging. We celebrate our diversity by welcoming and supporting each other.

We feel excited and empowered to contribute to a prosperous region. Our communities are agile and respond to our own changing needs by creating opportunities and offering solutions. We are the key to our own success.

### Our Mission...

*To empower and inspire leadership.*

At Community Leadership Loddon Murray we provide communities with the confidence and knowledge to be strong and lead themselves. Communities know themselves best. Therefore when they identify and solve an issue themselves, the results are deeper, and more effective and sustainable.

We support people to learn rather than just give solutions to a problem. Community Leadership Loddon Murray enhances leadership in individuals and groups by building relationships, developing skills, raising awareness and demonstrating great leadership. We also consider as part of our community the many different groups that we partner with to achieve our Vision, including Government, leadership networks, philanthropic organisations, corporate sponsors, media, and community organisations.

### Our Values...

#### Integrity

We operate in an open, transparent and sustainable manner at all times, and aim to conduct our relationships with honesty, trust and compassion. We value diversity within our organisation, our program areas, and our communities.

#### Innovation

Our actions foster creative ideas and identify opportunities to grow our communities. We are committed to lifelong learning, personal growth, and self-awareness.

#### Inspiration

We engage, encourage, and empower individuals and communities.

*'The program is an energising experience. It gives you the skills to make a positive impact in your community (however big or small that is!).'* Steve Carroll, Teacher, Harcourt.

## Message from the Chair of Community Leadership Loddon Murray

In my second term as Chair of Community Leadership Loddon Murray (CLLM), I am delighted to congratulate all the 2016 graduates of the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP).

Welcome to the ranks of this ever increasing and impressive alumni of community leaders! Your contribution across our region is what creates vibrant, sustainable rural and regional communities and throughout the year we have witnessed your integrity, innovation, and inspiring ways.

You are the leaders that will wait for no cavalry! Forging new friendships, exploring new frontiers, and tackling challenges with vigour.

It is only the beginning of your next exciting chapter. Each and every

LMCLP graduate is capable of so much and I wish you well in your continuing leadership journey.

I would like to thank the Executive team for their hard work and leadership provided throughout the year. Without Julie, Lucy, Mel, Fiona and Maree, CLLM and LMCLP would not be the same.

Our partners, sponsors, and supporters are instrumental in making the LMCLP program a success each year. Their support is incredibly valued by each participant and staff member of our organisation. We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to developing future relationships that build on the development of outstanding community leaders in the Loddon Murray region and beyond.

I cannot thank my fellow CLLM board members enough for their dedication, leadership and commitment to their important roles in governing our organisation: Anita Dickons, Linda Beilharz, Haley Cail, Scott McLarty, Luke Spielvogel, Jay Smith, Khayshie Tilak Ramesh, Rob Stephenson, Bernadette Cousins and Rosanne Kava who have made this year an extremely enjoyable experience.



**Yvonne Wrigglesworth**



## Executive Officer

As our 19th Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP) draws to a close, it is a pleasure and a privilege to write this report for the 2016 LMCLP yearbook.

Each year I am impressed by the calibre of participants that sign up to be a part of the wonderful life experience that is LMCLP, and this year is no exception. The 2016 participants exemplify everything we want for our region – passionate, committed, creative community leaders with the skills, knowledge, confidence, and networks to make a meaningful difference both within their communities and industries they are passionate about.

I am so delighted that they are now part of our influential regional leadership network of more than 400 individuals that are helping to make our rural and regional communities vibrant and sustainable.

In addition to an exhilarating program year, CLLM continues to take on other leadership projects and roles to create capacity across our region.

One of our focus areas this year has been to support our graduates who had chosen to nominate for local government elections. We had 14 graduates standing across 8 municipalities and congratulate them on putting up their hands for these important leadership roles.

We have undertaken a pilot Youth Leadership Program across the Buloke, Swan Hill, Gannawarra, and Campaspe Shires with 11 amazing young men and women who have enthusiastically embraced every opportunity we have given them.

Our new Community Enterprise Stream has worked with Radius Disability Services and Haven: Home, Safe to develop a feasibility study, and more recently with the Loddon Mallee ACFE Regional Council and the Department of Education on a Governance Project for Learn Local organisations across our region.

We have also taken over the auspice of the Central Victorian Rural Women's Network (formerly the Loddon Bendigo Rural Women's

Network) and are looking forward to developing a program of events and activities to support rural women across the Macedon Ranges, Mount Alexander, Central Goldfields, Loddon and Campaspe Shires and the City of Greater Bendigo.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the class of 2016 on completing LMCLP. Being a part of this incredible network is something you have to look forward to as you continue your leadership journey. We wish you well and look forward to hearing stories of your community projects as they come to fruition, and other leadership activities you will become involved in.



**Julie Slater**



## Program Manager



Community Leadership Loddon Murray Board Members and Staff at Regional Leadership Summit, Bendigo.

Impact. Our sponsors want to see it, individuals considering applying for the program want to believe that we will deliver it, and our towns, communities and regions need it.

Well, if this year's crop of LMCLP graduates is anything to go by, we and they are definitely delivering impact back into their workplaces, communities and towns.

Have a look at the community projects listed as part of the participant profiles in this yearbook to see how our participants are giving back.

This is only scratching the surface of the many projects, groups and initiatives this group are involved in, and we know that they will continue to grow their contributions and effectiveness using the power of the CLLM lessons and network in the years to come.

As my second year in this role comes to an end, I am as passionate as ever about the astounding 'human resource' we have in our region. As governments and organisations tighten their belts and we become ever more informed citizens, the role of people who deeply understand and respect community and know how to harness and engage their own and the energies of others are hugely valuable.

Their impact is sometimes difficult to measure although increasingly indisputable. For example, the fundamental role of leadership and human capital was one of three key points to come out of a 2014 study by the Regional Australia Institute into prosperous regional futures.\*

What a year we have had! I am humbled by the calibre of the 2016 participants who have made my job inspiring and pleasurable. They have been keeping me on my toes with their many initiatives for connection, networking, further links, resources and information, and follow up.

*Leadership is not the private reserve of a few charismatic men and women. It is a process ordinary people use when they are bringing forth the best from themselves and others.*

James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner, *The Leadership Challenge*

The collegiality, commitment, respect, networking and shared journeying as a group has also been at a very high level.

This of course is not possible without considerable support of their families, employers, and of our wider team, mentors, program contributors, the CLLM Board, and of course our sponsors – our thanks to all.

Let's Go! - that's the theme that LMCLP 2016 have chosen as their graduating theme. Watch this space!



**Lucy Mayes**  
Program Manager



(\* 'Prosperous Futures: Understanding the Potential of Australia's Regional Cities', Regional Australia Institute, Sept 2014)



## 2016, Where did we go; who did we meet, what did we see, learn and do?

PROGRAM DAY THEME	DATE	LOCATION
LAUNCH EVENING	5 February	Newbridge
OPENING RETREAT WEEKEND	13 & 14 February	Maldon
INNOVATIVE COMMUNITIES	4 March	Charlton
LEADERSHIP SKILLS I	18 March	Bridgewater
VISION OF THE REGION/ ARTS & CULTURE	15 & 16 April	Bendigo
REGIONAL ECONOMIES & TOURISM	2 May	Heathcote
HEALTH & WELLBEING	20 May	Castlemaine
MELBOURNE STUDY TOUR*	19 – 21 June	Melbourne
MID-YEAR RETREAT	16 & 17 July	Swan Hill
EDUCATION & YOUTH	1 August	Kerang
CANBERRA STUDY TOUR	28 Aug – 1 Sept	Canberra
LEADERSHIP SKILLS II	14 September	Inglewood
AGRICULTURE, WATER, ENVIRONMENT	7 & 8 October	Cohuna
FINAL WEEKEND RETREAT	22 & 23 October	Echuca
GRADUATION EVENING	11 November	Bendigo

### Newbridge: 2016 Program Launch

**Date:** Friday February 5th  
**Speaker:** Margot Spalding Co-owner & Co-founder of Jimmy Possum Furniture, Bendigo

### Maldon: Opening Retreat Weekend

**Dates:** Saturday February 13th & Sunday February 14th  
**Sponsors:** Mount Alexander Shire, Bob & Heather McNaught

- Workshops & Speakers:**
- Team Building, Inner Leadership & Self-Reflection - Tim Adam, Seat of Your Pants Consulting
  - Juggling Leadership – Cr Christine Henderson, Mount Alexander Shire Mayor, and Team Henderson
  - Understanding Ourselves and Others - Bob, Carly, and Heather McNaught

### Charlton: Innovative Communities

**Date:** Friday March 4th  
**Sponsors:** Buloke Shire Council, Cr Ellen White

- Workshops & Speakers:**
- The Rex Theatre: A Community Cinema Story - Cr David Pollard (LMCLP 2013)
  - Town Tour & Stories - Mark Remnant & Carolyn Olive
  - Transitioning Towns Toolbox - Mark Remnant, Buloke Shire Council Community Development Officer
  - Project Management & Planning Workshop - Cr Ellen White (LMCLP 2000), Treglison Consulting

### Bridgewater: Vision of the Region

**Date:** Friday March 18th  
**Sponsor:** Loddon Shire

- Workshops & Speakers**
- Bridgewater Solar Plant tour - Chris Weir, Bendigo Sustainability Group

- Panel: 'Our Natural Resources and Environment: Managing, Harnessing and Responding' - Tim Shanahan, North Central Catchment Management Authority; Chris Weir, Bendigo Sustainability Group; Stuart Hughes, Parks Victoria; Jennifer Alexander, Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning
- Regional Innovation - David Jemmett, Chief Operating Officer, Southern Stockfeeds
- My Leadership Journey - Cr Cheryl McKinnon (LMCLP 2011)
- Abseiling at Melville Caves - The Climbing Company



### Bendigo: Vision of the Region, Arts, Culture & Leadership Skills

**Dates:** Friday April 15th & Saturday April 16th

**Sponsors:** City of Greater Bendigo, Abhishek Awasthi, ABC Radio, Coliban Water, Loddon Murray Mallee Primary Care Partnerships, Bank Australia, Regional Development Victoria, Radius Disability Services, Peter Dhu

- Workshops & Speakers:**
- Cross-cultural Awareness - Abhishek Awasthi (LMCLP 2011) & Luke Edgerton (LMCLP 2015)
  - Islam and Bendigo - Kate McInnes (LMCLP 2016), Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services & members of the local Muslim community
  - Noemi Cummings (LMCLP 2012) - Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services
  - Utilising the Media - Sian Gard & Fiona Parker, ABC Radio
  - The Ulumbarra Theatre: Regional Arts tour & story - David Lloyd, Manager, The Capital Theatre
  - Vibrant Communities: Art and Culture - Karen Quinlan, Director, Bendigo Art Gallery
  - Vision of the Region Dinner: Stan Liacos, Regional Director, Regional Development Victoria; Peter Tuohy, President Victorian Farmers Federation; Leah Sertori, Executive Officer, Bendigo Business Council; Robyn Lindsay, Executive Director Acute Health, Bendigo Health
  - Working with Written Media - Julie Slater (LMCLP 2003), JLS Consulting
  - Winning Public Speaking Skills - Peter Dhu, Public Speaking Dynamics
  - Cr James Williams
  - Vision of the Region flights - Craig Bates & Angus Baxter, MyJet Aviation Pty Ltd

### Heathcote: Regional Economies & Tourism

**Date:** Monday May 2nd  
**Sponsor:** Mandalay Resources, City of Greater Bendigo

- Workshops & Speakers:**
- Heathcote: Most Welcoming Town - Stephen Trompp, Vice President, Heathcote Tourism
  - Panel: 'Regional Economies and Tourism: Challenges and Opportunities' - Trevor Budge, Strategy Manager, City of Greater Bendigo; Stephen Trompp, Heathcote Tourism; Yvonne Wrigglesworth (LMCLP 2013), Chair CLLM, Axedale: Our Town, Our Future
  - Heathcote Estate Winery Tour
  - Vicki Ford, Heathcote Community House
  - Mandalay Resources Tours: Underground Mine, Mill Tour, Evaporation Ponds
  - Panel: 'Local to National Economic Development - The Role of Big Business': Andre Booyzen, General Manager; Adam Place, Manager of Sustainability; Melanie McCarthy, Mine Manager, all from Mandalay Resources Corporation (Costerfield Operations)

### Castlemaine: Health & Wellbeing

**Date:** Friday May 20th  
**Sponsors:** Castlemaine Fire Brigade, Murray Primary Health Network

- Workshops & Speakers:**
- Panel: 'Ageing Well in Community' - Cr Bronwen Machin (LMCLP 2006); Philippa Calwell, Healthy Communities Project Officer, Mount Alexander Shire; Carol McDonough
  - The HALT story (Hope, Assistance Local Tradies) - Jeremy Forbes, HALT Co-Founder & Spokesperson; Vic Bolger, psychologist and HALT adviser.
  - The Mill, tour - Phil McConachy, Owner
  - Sport and Community: Castlemaine Football & Netball Club (CFNC) - Ian Bracken, President CFNC; Alana Wearne, Head Teacher Castlemaine Secondary College, Full Forward, Bendigo Thunder & coach of CSC Girls Football Team
  - Living well in community with a disability: Shared conversation with some dance - Ned Middleton, Dancer, Mount Alexander Shire Performing Artist of the Year 2015; Jo Middleton, parent of a young adult with a disability; Chris O'Connor, CEO Windarrang; Donna Petrusma (LMCLP 2007), volunteer, Office of the Public Advocate





- Resilience and Response - staying safe: The Castlemaine Fire Brigade – Beth Taylor (LMCLP 1999), Brigade Sustainability Coordinator
- Panel: 'Health and Wellbeing in Rural Communities' - Cath Butler, Program Manager Mental Wellbeing, Castlemaine District Community Health; Kathryn Coff, Castlemaine District Community Health, Nalderun Upper Loddon Indigenous community member; Dr Richard Mayes, local GP; Alan Parsons, indigenous & disability spokesperson

### Macedon/Melbourne: Justice & Social Justice, Political Literacy

**Dates:** Sunday June 19th to Tuesday June 21st

**Sponsors:** Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Latrobe University, Hugh DT Williamson Foundation, Hon. Peter Walsh MP

#### Workshops & Speakers:

- Manna Gum Family & Children's Centre Tour - Stephen Mahon (LMCLP 2003)
- Panel: 'The Future of Local Government: Democratic Renewal – how to be part of & contribute to robust, real, collaborative change'- Cr Sebastian Klein, Hepburn Shire Council, President of Victorian Local Governance Association; Rob Bakes, Convener and Coordinator, Forum for Democratic Renewal; Cr Jennifer Anderson, Macedon Ranges Shire Council
- How to work with your local member – Mary-Anne Thomas MP, Member for Macedon, Victorian Legislative Assembly, ALP
- The Hanging Rock Action Group Story – Luke Spielvogel (LMCLP 2015)
- Bus DVD – Homelessness & Poverty, with Ken Marchingo, Haven Home Safe

- Networking Dinner with Northern Mallee Leaders
- Panel: 'Social Justice and Human Rights: Issues and Opportunities' - Professor Patrick Keyzer, Head of School Chair of Law and Public Policy La Trobe University Law School; Professor Mark Rose, Executive Director Indigenous Strategy and Education, La Trobe University; Randa Rafiq, Clinical and Human Rights Advocacy Coordinator, LaTrobe University Law School, Secretariat, Australian Lawyers for Human Rights; Kobra Moradi, Student, La Trobe University Law School
- Understanding Poverty – Penny Harrison, Executive Director Vic, Australian Red Cross
- Daniel Witthaus, NICHE (National Institute for Challenging Homophobia Education)
- Young, beautiful & talented is not enough - Brett de Hoedt, Hootville Communications
- The Abbotsford Convent Story - Maggie McGuire, CEO Abbotsford Convent Foundation
- The Lentil as Anything Story and dinner
- You Be the Judge - Chris Gill, Education and Online Engagement Coordinator Sentencing Advisory Council
- Melbourne City Mission Front Yard Youth Services - Belinda Biffin, School Engagement Program
- Asylum Seeker Resource Centre – Alex Napolitano
- Hon. Peter Crisp, MP, Member for Mallee, The Nationals
- Hon. Peter Walsh MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Leader of the Nationals, Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Shadow Minister for Water
- Hon. Jacinta Allan MP Minister for Public Transport, Minister for Employment, Member for Bendigo East, ALP

### Swan Hill: Mid-Year Retreat

**Dates:** Saturday July 16th & Sunday July 17th

**Sponsor:** Swan Hill Rural City Council

#### Workshops & Speakers:

- Adaptive Leadership & workshopping community projects – Lucy Mayes (LMCLP 2007)
- Purpose, Values & Visioning - Tim Adam, Seat of Your Pants Consulting & Lucy Mayes (LMCLP 2007)
- The Leadership Maturity Framework - Zoe Routh, Inner Compass Leadership
- Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement - Peter Jenkins, General Manager Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement
- Heartbeat of the Murray, Sound and Light Show - Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement
- Mid-Year Evaluation - Julie Slater (LMCLP 2003)
- The Neuroscience of Leadership - Ann Lansberry, Managing Director, Modus Insight, Executive Officer, Community Foundation for Central Victoria
- Emotional Intelligence and Conflict Resolution - Bob & Heather McNaught

### Kerang: Youth & Education

**Date:** Monday August 1st

**Sponsors:** Gannawarra Shire, Rotary Club of Kerang

#### Workshops & Speakers:

- Welcome to Country Smoking Ceremony – Hack Webster
- Welcome to Gannawarra Shire - Mayor, Cr Lorraine Learmonth
- The Role & Power of Education in Rural Communities - Daniel Nemtsas, Principal Cohuna Consolidated Primary School
- Issues & Opportunities for young people in rural communities - Jess Orr, Rural Development Co-ordinator, Youth Affairs Council of Victoria

- Getting Young People 'Engaged' - Maddi Worth
- Panel: 'Giving Young People a Voice - Gannawarra Shire - Youth Parliament & other initiatives' - Cr Oscar Aertssen, Gannawarra Shire Council (LMCLP 2005); Stacey Barbagallo, Gannawarra Shire Youth Councillor, Secretary & current participant in the Loddon Murray Youth Leadership Program; Elizabeth Kopec, Gannawarra Shire Youth Councillor; Mikayla Penrose, Gannawarra Shire Youth Councillor; Penelope Scanlan, Youth Development Officer, Gannawarra Shire Council

### Canberra: National Leadership

**Dates:** Sunday August 28th to Thursday September 1st

#### Workshops & Speakers:

- Voices for Indi Story - Kim Scanlon, Executive Officer Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program; Susan Benedeyka, Regional Development Company
- Panel: 'State of the Environment and Leadership Responses' - Professor Barbara Norman, Chair ACT Climate Council; Becky Smith, State of the Environment Manager, Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment; Kate Erberle and Catherine Caldwell, ACT Department of Environment and Energy, Climate Change Department
- Briefing: Murray Darling Basin Authority - The Hon. Neil Andrew, Chairman; Mr Colin Mues, Chief Economist, MDBA.
- Australian War Memorial – Guided tour & Last Post Ceremony
- Leadership and Australia at War – Dr Brendan Nelson

*'There are only two times in life, now and too late.'* Anh Do



*'A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go - but ought to be.'* Rosalynn Carter



- Workshop: 'How laws are made in Australia: A practical approach' - Old Parliament House
- Panel: Lobbying & Advocacy - Susan Helyar, Director ACT Council of Social Services; Anne Trimmer, Secretary General of the Australian Medical Association; Jacqueline Knowles, Manager, Natural Resources Policy, National Farmers' Federation
- The National Arboretum Story and tour - Adam Burgess, Horticultural Manager
- Regional Australia Institute - Jack Archer, CEO
- Briefing at American Embassy - Pamela Allen, Ambassador's speech writer; Michael Roberts, Deputy Economic Counsellor; Trevlyn Gilmour, Community Engagement.
- Panel: National Press Club 'Media' - Rob Harris, National Politics Reporter, Herald Sun; Simon Grose, Canberra IQ; Lyndal Curtis, Sky News Bureau Chief, Australian News Channel; Colin Bettles, Fairfax Media Agriculture & Politics Reporter
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies - John Paul Janke
- Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent
- Tour of Parliament House and Question Time in House of Representatives
- Afternoon Tea at Government House with Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove
- Briefings: Senator Richard Di Natale, Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator for Victoria; Cathy McGowan MP, Independent Federal Member for Indi

- Panel: The Nationals - Andrew Broad MP; Damian Drum MP; Keith Pitt MP; David Gillespie MP; Darren Chester MP; Michael McCormack MP; Ruby Cameron, Young Nationals President
- Briefing: Lisa Chesters MP
- Dinner at Parliament House with Lisa Chesters MP and Andrew Broad MP
- Panel: Members of Ethnic Council of Shepparton & District, and Community - Sam Atukorala, Project Coordinator, Culturally Connected Communities, Taking the Next Step - Peak Multicultural Organisations Grants Program & Refugee Action Program, Ethnic Council of Shepparton (ECS); Thon Thon - Community Development Officer & Caseworker, (ECS); Azem Elmaz - Owner, Lutfiye's Café and community leader

### Inglewood: Leadership Skills 2

**Date:** Wednesday September 14th

**Sponsor:** Loddon Shire

#### Workshops & Speakers:

- Workshop: Grant Seeking - Mandy Grinblat, Programs Manager (Vic, SA, Tas) Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)
- Workshop: Strategic Planning - Julie Slater (LMCLP 2003), Executive Officer, CLLM.
- My leadership journey - Mr Phil Pinyon, CEO Loddon Shire; Cr Colleen Condliffe (LMCLP 1998)
- Town Tour - 'Community & Economic Development in Inglewood' - Mr Murray Baud, Board Member Inglewood & District Community Bank, Bendigo Bank, Lion's Club Member, Inglewood Eucy Museum Member, Town Hall Development Group

- Workshop: Community Governance - Yvonne Wrigglesworth (LMCLP 2013), Manager Corporate Risk & Strategy, Bendigo Health, Chair CLLM; Julie Slater (LMCLP 2003)

### Cohuna: Agriculture & Natural Resource Management

**Dates:** Friday October 7th & Saturday October 8th

**Sponsor:** North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA), Kerry Anderson (LMCLP 2009), Gannawarra Shire, Gardiner Foundation.

#### Workshops & Speakers:

- Town tour - Jason Hensley (LMCLP 2016)
- Welcome to Country & cultural walk and talk - Aunty Esther Kirby, Wiradjuri & Yorta Yorta Woman, Aboriginal Artist, Elder, Community worker
- Wetlander Lunch Cruise: Land Management in the Region and Cultural Flows and Barappa Indigenous Project guest speakers - Adrian Martins NCCMA; Will Honybun NCCMA; Robyn McKay NCCMA; Aunty Esther Kirby; Di Bowles (LMCLP 2012)

- 'When the going gets tough: Advocacy in the Dairy Industry' - Di Bowles (LMCLP 2012) Dairy Farmer, NCCMA Board Member,
- Panel: The Business of Agribusiness - Katrina Meyers, Barham Avocados; Shane and Sarah Mostyn, Windella farm; Jo Bear, Sheep Farmer
- Leadership & Entrepreneurship in Agriculture - Martin Szakal (LMCLP 2003), Senior Research Analyst & Strategist, Community Public Relations & Marketing Australia
- Q&A: Brett Hosking - Vice President, Victorian Farmer's Federation
- Operation Next Gen & Entrepreneurship: It's Everybody's Business - Kerry Anderson (LMCLP 2009)
- My leadership journey - Marg Allan, Regional Director Loddon Mallee Region, DELWP
- Dairy Industry, Regional Issues and Leadership - Max Fehring

### Echuca: Closing Retreat

**Dates:** Saturday October 22nd & Sunday October 23rd

**Sponsor:** Shire of Campaspe, Hugh Williamson Foundation

#### Workshops & Speakers:

- Community Project Reports to CLLM panel - Rob Stephenson, LaTrobe University, CLLM Board Member; Melinda Mann (LMCLP 2010), Graduates Manager, CLLM; Julie Slater (LMCLP 2003), Executive Officer, CLLM.
- Mindful leadership - Maggie O'Shea, Mindful Counselling and Open Ground Mindfulness Training
- Creative Reflection - Lucy Mayes & Tim Adam
- Another side of leadership - Phil Melgaard

### Bendigo: Graduation

**Date:** Friday November 11th

**Sponsor:** City of Greater of Bendigo

**Speaker:** Keith Sutherland, Director Sutherland Property Bendigo, community fundraiser, organiser and media commentator.



*'Those who start with "why" have the ability to inspire those around them or find others who inspire them.'*  
Simon Sinek

# Participant Profiles



## Tracey Bowen

**Home community:** Kyneton, Macedon Ranges Shire; works Heathcote – City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Community Adviser, Mandalay Resources

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Kyneton Junior Football Club, various events for Costerfield Community, Member of the Community Reference Group for Costerfield.

**Gold Sponsor:** Mandalay Resources

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To give me the tools to help out my local community

**Quote of the year:** "Leaders lead people to where they want to go, great leaders lead people to a place they don't necessarily want to go, but is the best place for them to go!" Rosalynn Carter

**Key take away:** A great leader inspires others to realise their own ability to achieve greatness, and does not stand in their way to achieve this.

**Community project:** Heating Costerfield Hall

**Where to from here?:** In the next few years I will definitely stand for Council.

*'I have come away with a deeper sense of wanting to contribute in a meaningful way to my community. It is one of the best things I've done.'* Jason Hensley, Mawsons, Cohuna



## Fiona Bradshaw

**Home community:** Heathcote, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Domestic Engineer

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Heathcote Basketball Club Inc, Holy Rosary School Heathcote, Advance Heathcote Inc.

**Gold Sponsor:** Mandalay Resources

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** Reinforce existing skills and develop stronger regional understanding, whilst adding to my skill set.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Voices for Indi - Reinforced how important it is to work together to create opportunity for our communities. We cannot rely on government to take care of us, sometimes we just need to step up to the plate and encourage others to come along with us. To quote another incredible woman "Wait for no cavalry," Yvonne Wrigglesworth.

**Quote of the year:** "Resilient communities are collaborative ones"

**Key take away:** Give yourself permission to be in the silence.

**Community project:** Often in communities we have a number of groups working on similar projects to benefit the community which can often go by the wayside with lack of support. I am creating a space where this information can be shared in both a push and pull approach from community groups across Heathcote. To start the conversations, I have joined the Lions Club Christmas Carols organisation committee gaining their support and have approached a number of community groups in town to participate by way of organising a game to play at the carols or performing. I have taken this approach as a gesture of collaboration and celebration in an effort to get groups speaking with each other and understanding the role they play in the community. From here I will be working with community groups to create a project register that will be stored (at this point) on the Advance Heathcote webpage.

**Where to from here?:** Moving forward I will be stepping aside from some groups and focusing my attention on one, maybe two initiatives. This will see me be more effective, provide stronger outcomes and maintain some semblance of sanity. Balance is key...



## Tamara Boyd

**Home community:** Boort, Loddon Shire

**Employment:** Boort District Health, Corporate Services Manager. JJ Boyd Farming

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Boort Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Boort Swimming Club, Boort Hockey Club, Boort A & P Society.

**Employer Sponsor:** Boort District Health

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To gain further leadership skills in both my professional and personal life. Also, to enhance my confidence in Committee roles and to broaden my knowledge of the wonderful resources our communities already have, and to meet the people who have so much passion for their own backyards!

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Andre Booyzen, General Manager Costerfield Operations; his inclusiveness of all employees was incredibly uplifting, everyone has an important part in making a business/organisation successful.

Mel McCarthy, Mine Manager Costerfield Operations stated that "a person who feels appreciated will always do more than what is expected," this reiterated Andre's leadership qualities.

**Quote of the year:** So many quotes from Peter Dhu as his passion and commitment in teaching others is inspiring: "Public speaking is "just having a conversation" with people. "Change your nervousness into excitement". "People listen and learn from people they know, like and trust". "People will leave and remember how they felt, not what was said".

**Key take away:** You must always be honest and listen to others as everyone is important and can make a difference. Encourage, respect and support others as no one person is more important than another. "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Community project:** Connecting Art - A project that connects Boort District Health residents with the students at Boort District School via a visiting arts program to the health service.

**Where to from here?:** Sharing my experience from LMCLP with others and encouraging their involvement in coming years.



## Karen Carpenter

**Home community:** Gunbower, Campaspe Shire

**Employment:** Trainer, Murray Human Services

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Moama community gardens and committee member of Echuca Neighbourhood House

**Employer Sponsor:** Murray Human Services

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To gain inner strength to become a more involved Community member, make new networks and gain the knowledge and tools to follow my dream.

**Most inspirational speaker/ moment from 2016:** Professor Patrick Keyzer, Head of School Chair of Law and Public Policy – La Trobe University Law School. I found Patrick's journey to La Trobe fascinating, the volunteer work that he is involved in on weekends and his dedication to human rights, inspiring as well as the panel and the people that he works with.

**Quote of the year:** "A leader takes people where they want to go – A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go but ought to be," Rosalynn Carter

**Key take away:** Each speaker had an inspirational piece of learning to share.

**Community project:** To create an Environmental Educational Park where people with disabilities, early school leavers and hard to reach learners can get the opportunity to be involved in an ongoing community adventure while having 'hands on' learning experiences and training.

**Where to from here?:** To continue heading towards my dream/project with better knowledge and understanding of the community and processes.



## Steve Carroll

**Home community:** Harcourt, Mount Alexander Shire

**Employment:** School teacher - Castlemaine Secondary College

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Castlemaine Circus Board Member, Mt. Alexander School's Chess Program.

**Gold Sponsor:** Coliban Water

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To learn skills to make me a more effective community member. Also, I wanted to challenge myself and take myself outside my 'familiarity zone'.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Peter Dhu - to see somebody who was an elective mute due to a debilitating stutter, and then forge a career as a public speaker was inspiring. His story is one about the benefits of persistence and having a goal to aim for.

**Quote of the year:** 'A brain fart won't get you anywhere.' Maggie Maguire CEO Abbotsford Convent

**Key take away:** Amazing things happen by normal, down to earth people who work hard. Also, clarifying your 'Why' when you embark on a project, helps with personal motivation, and helps to galvanize support from other people.

**Community project:** Develop education programs with Castlemaine Circus which is an element of their Strategic Plan.

**Where to from here?:** Onwards and upwards.

*'My mind, thoughts and norms have been completely changed by all the experiences, stories and speakers we've had. The program has truly changed my perception on my life, the lives of others, and particularly those that I've been personally critical of.'* Chris Jeffery, CFA, Swan Hill



## Lisa Cox

**Home community:** Strathfieldsaye, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Environmental Specialist at Coliban Water

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Bendigo Sustainability Group

**Gold Sponsor:** Coliban Water

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To understand our region better, to develop skills to enable me to be an active and effective member of my community, and to get outside my comfort zone.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Cathy McGowan, Independent Member for Indi. Cathy was elected through a grassroots campaign by her community to be a truly independent representative. She is an example of the political change that is possible when people are motivated.

**Quote of the year:** "The fears we don't face become our limits": Robin Sharma

**Key take away:** "The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion": Paulo Coelho. Leadership to make positive change in your community takes action and personal courage.

**Community project:** Bendigo Sustainability Group Communications Strategy.

**Where to from here?:** I intend to build on the skills, networks and knowledge I have gained this year, to increase my involvement in community work in the future.

# Participant Profiles



## Sharlene Crage

**Home community:** Dingee, Loddon Shire

**Employment:** Dairy Relief Milker

**Community involvement/volunteering:**

Dairy Discussion Group Facilitator, CWA, Historical Society, Progress Association, Community Music Teaching, Music Teaching at the Kindy

**Gold Sponsor:** Gardiner Foundation

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To contribute to my community

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Kerry Anderson because I agree that a great way to help your community is to be a good business person.

**Quote of the year:** "Being a good business person is one of the best things you can do for your community." Kerry Anderson

**Key take away:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent..

**Community project:** Milked Dry – crowdfunding for dairy farmers in crisis

**Where to from here?:** Develop Dairy Goat Farming using unused cow dairies and the empty farmhouses for farm stays.

*'I have learned new ways to communicate with community groups and I am putting my hand up for things I wouldn't have done otherwise.'* Rebecca Sexton, Agricultural Business Development, Bendigo.



## Meg Doller

**Home community:** Elmore, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Casual Relief Teacher/Artist

**Community involvement/volunteering:**

Elmore Progress Association President, Splinter Contemporary Artists President, Exploring the Campaspe Project Manager, Elmore and District Preschool Parent Advisory Committee, Elmore Primary School Council Vice President and Parents & Friends committee member, 'Elmore' website Administrator, and active volunteer for Elmore Swimming Pool, Elmore Field Days, and Elmore Summer Send Off Ball.

**Gold Sponsor:** City of Greater Bendigo - Samantha Bell Memorial Scholarship

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To strengthen my skills, knowledge and ability to make a positive impact in my community through innovation, leadership, creativity, and volunteering.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Hearing inspiring personal stories from speakers like Maggie Maguire (Abbotsford Convent) and Phil McConachy (The Mill – Castlemaine) who are risk takers, which I am not!

**Quote of the year:** "Community is the accumulation of small kindnesses," Daniel Whitthaus

**Key take away:** 'If it's not fun anymore, flick it!' Yvonne Wrigglesworth

**Community project:** I have created and am Project Managing 'Exploring the Campaspe' – a series of four creative workshops on the banks of the Campaspe River in Elmore with writers and photographers supported by the City of Greater Bendigo and the Elmore Progress Association.

**Where to from here?:** I am keen to find a positive way forward that allows for a real and achievable balance of volunteering, paid work, friends, family and a little bit more time for my art practice.



## Tessa Harris

**Home community:** Moulamein NSW / Swan Hill VIC, Swan Hill Rural City Council

**Employment:** Diary Manager and Community Engagement Officer for Damian Drum MP

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Moulamein Races, Moulamein Bowling Club Social Committee

**Gold Sponsor:** Swan Hill Rural City Council

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** I wanted to gain skills and build confidence so that I could increase the value of my contribution within the community. I wanted to gain confidence in public speaking and networking and I also wanted to learn more about the surrounding communities.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** There have been far too many to count! But what I have found has inspired me the most is actually the other participants. I have loved being surrounded by selfless, motivated, community-minded people who are so supportive and willing to share their knowledge and experience for the benefit of others.

**Quote of the year:** 'Don't tell me the sky is the limit when there are footprints on the moon'. Paul Brandt

**Key take away:** People with passion for what they are doing are very powerful.

**Community project:** Working with 'Chances For Children' to deliver a program into high schools to raise aspirations of students in the Southern Mallee. It's difficult, not to mention expensive, leaving a small country town to attend university in a city. I want to help these students achieve their dreams by making sure they know what support is out there for them to make the transition easier.

**Where to from here?:** In my new role working for the Member for Murray, I am excited to be able to put to good use the skills I have learned and developed throughout the program. I am so grateful for the experience and the confidence that the program has provided me as well as for the fantastic people who have shared in the journey as well.



## Jason Hensley

**Home community:** Cohuna, Gannawarra Shire

**Employment:** General Manager – IT / Logistics at Mawsons

**Community involvement/volunteering:** School Council, Church, Breakfasts @ School, junior tennis, and hockey

**Employer Sponsor:** Mawsons

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** I wanted to stretch myself

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Nigel Collin spoke about 'Game of Inches' at VRCLP Conference. Not waiting for the 'Eureka idea' but making small consistent changes. This resonated and encouraged me in things I am working on.

**Quote of the year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** Life is a juggling act. Better to be giving it a go.

**Community project:** An evening of fun and cabaret-style theatre for the dairy community. I also want to set up a Social Enterprise café franchise or run a Social Enterprise school program.

**Where to from here?:** Considering Australian Institute Company of Directors course and transferring knowledge to skills in my local patch.

*'The amazing personal stories that we have been exposed to have been the most inspiring part of the program for me.'* Emma Shannon, Health Promotion, Castlemaine.



## Tim Hoogwerf

**Home community:** Quarry Hill, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Country Fire Authority volunteer, Bike Bendigo Committee member, Wolstencroft Area Action Group Committee member

**Sponsor:** Self

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To improve my leadership skills, gain a better understanding of my local and regional community, build my professional network, and learn and grow as an individual.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** I have been inspired by so many guest speakers during the program as well as gaining inspiration from my fellow participants. The standout moments have been hearing about overcoming personal adversity and witnessing my fellow participants challenge themselves. Highlights included the story about community driven leadership of the Voices for Indi, the honesty and humility of Jeremy Forbes on dealing with depression and enthusiasm creating HALT, a session with Peter Dhu on public speaking, all the sessions on social justice and human rights in Melbourne which were confronting and thought provoking, purpose and values with Tim Adam, and better understanding myself and others with Bob and Heather McNaught. The best part of the program was spending it with such an interesting, fun, passionate and talented group of people. Thanks for the journey!

**Quote of the year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** Understand yourself and be authentic, care for people and what they are doing, listen and ask questions rather than telling people what to do, be present, take time to reflect, challenge yourself and take opportunities to learn, develop and grow.

**Community project:** Improving amenities at Wolstencroft Park by participating in leading the further development and implementation of the Wolstencroft Street Park Land Master Plan.

**Where to from here?:** Continue to be involved in community groups and projects for which I have an interest and which inspire me, where I can make best use of my knowledge and skills and make positive and effective changes.



## Chris Jeffery

**Home community:** Swan Hill, Swan Hill Rural City Council

**Employment:** Country Fire Authority (CFA)

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Swan Hill Badminton President, Swan Hill Sunrise Rotary

**Employer Sponsor:** CFA Northwest Region

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To develop my understanding of our communities, their issues, drive, passion and projects, as well as building my personal skills in working with people. Ultimate goal of enabling myself to be well developed to run for Swan Hill Rural City Council in 2016 elections.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Peter Dhu – his powerful presentation from personal experience into our fears of public speaking. The power of the pause, and permission to use it – has truly enabled me to be a better general/public speaker. It's in the unconscious mind now, all second nature.

**Quote of the year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** Community really is the heart of our country. Through hard work, collaboration and willingness to take risks, thinking outside the box and being accountable, we can continue to make a difference.

**Community project:** To form a group in Swan Hill for 18 to 40 year olds with the purpose of developing individuals. Exploring and learning about issues from shares, mortgages, employment, running a business, public speakers to changing a car tyre. The group will also be a social group – building connections into the community for new and current citizens.

**Where to from here?:** I've just been elected to the Swan Hill Rural City Council so that will keep me busy. Also I should probably finish restumping my house.

# Participant Profiles



## Cheryl Kemp

**Home community:** Charlton, Buloke Shire Council

**Employment:** Retired

**Community involvement/volunteering:** CWA, CWA Junior coordinator, Charlton Forum Vice President, Buloke Women's Network Charlton representative, 2nd Tuesday Book Club Convenor, Opportunity Shop Volunteer, Buloke Library Review Participant, involved with the Uniting Church, a Craft Group, and the Kooyoora Women's Group (Loddon-Inglewood).

**Gold Sponsor:** Buloke Shire Council

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** I wanted to mix with like-minded people.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Bob and Heather McNaught's personality profile as it allowed me to be myself and not to feel I have to conform to other people's expectations. Highlight was getting a photo with Pat Dodson.

**Quote of the year:** "Everyone thinks of changing the world but no one thinks of changing himself," Leo Tolstoy;

**Key take away:** Leadership is about self-reflection, integrity, honesty and transparency.

**Community Project:** 2nd Tuesday Book Club, Charlton. To connect people with books and with each other in a non-threatening environment after we lost the mobile library service.

**Where to from here?:** .....Keep on keeping on.

*'I was really looking forward to the Melbourne trip, but it surpassed my expectations. It was very well co-ordinated, the presenters were so passionate and knowledgeable in their respective fields. It was a packed 3 days and I valued and loved every minute of it.'*

Jenny Lonergan, volunteer, Kyneton.



## Paul Kooperman

**Home community:** Lancefield, Macedon Ranges Shire Council

**Employment:** City of Whittlesea Community Engagement

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Founder of The Field Trip, a community-based social enterprise

**Sponsor:** Macedon Ranges Shire Council

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** Meeting other community leaders and learning about the region

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Peter Dhu (google him, extraordinary)

**Quote of the year:** "Should I bring oats?"

**Key take away:** Ric Raftis

**Community project:** The Field Trip - [www.thefieldtrip.co](http://www.thefieldtrip.co) - helping young people find their purpose, passion, and place.

**Where to from here?:** Building community on state, national and global level



## Peter Lilly

**Home Community:** Bendigo, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Flight Simulator Instructor/Examiner, Retired Pilot

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Whitleion, Youth Referral & Independent Persons Program (YRIPP)

**Sponsor:** Self

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** Wanting to make a difference in my community by furthering the opportunities for youth in regional and rural communities to have career options, mentoring and referral services that they have previously not considered due to isolation or lack of information.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Rachelle Towart, a person who came from humble beginnings, and made a difference. As former CEO of the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre, now with her own business Pipeline Talent, Rachelle inspires people, motivates them, and encourages others to follow.

**Quote of the Year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** Just do your best in your own space

**Community project:** Youth into Aviation, a schools based program that provides aviation activities and career path guidance for regional and rural young people.

**Where to from here?:** Community work that makes a difference, and gives more advantage to those with less



## Jenny Lonergan

**Home community:** Woodend, Macedon Ranges Shire

**Employment:** Executive Officer, ITAV (It Takes a Village Compassionate Communities Inc.)

**Community involvement/volunteering:** ITAV, Macedon Ranges Reconciliation Group, MRR (Macedon Ranges Rainbow) Openhouse, MRSPAG (Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group)

**Gold Sponsor:** Hugh D.T Williamson Foundation

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** Meeting like-minded people, furthering my leadership and research skills and creating stronger networks.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Out of a myriad of choices, I think I'd have to say the Social Justice and Human Rights: Issues and Opportunities' panel in Melbourne. There is nothing more that you need to remind yourself why you work in community, to remind yourself why you want to make a small positive impact in the world, than meeting people and hearing stories like the ones they told. The horror and wrongfulness of war, genocide and the removal of and/or exodus from culture and country, is reason enough for me to keep doing what I am doing.

**Quote of the year:** There was a constant flow of amazing quotes all year but the one that says it all for me, is "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take - away:** I am much more confident as a change driver in my organisation and community, and the world of opportunity is vaster than I could have imagined.

**Community project:** MRR (Macedon Ranges Rainbow) Openhouse.

My project is to collaborate with all community organisations and gender diverse groups within the Macedon Ranges to provide a safe space for anyone within the Queer community, whatever the stage of transition or status in which they identify; for social and in time, counselling support.

**Where to from here?:** I am committed to growing ITAV's programs to build capacity and strength in our local region and therefore a resilient community. The model we create will be able to be used by other communities.



## Stewart Luckman

**Home community:** Inglewood, Loddon Shire

**Employment:** Inglewood and Districts Community Bank - Bendigo Bank.

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Lions Club, Royal Children's Hospital, Inglewood Primary School Committee, Inglewood and Bridgewater Men's Shed, Inglewood and Bridgewater RSL, Central Umpire for Loddon Valley Football League, Bridgewater Op Shop

**Sponsor:** Inglewood and Districts Community Enterprise

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** I was motivated and inspired to be a part of the program because it came so highly recommended by so many past participants and it offered so many more skills and networks to become a more effective leader in my community than I could gain on my own or in my workplace. To gain a better understanding of the region I live in, and further knowledge of community needs for groups/clubs/organisations in the surrounding area and region where I live.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Kobra Moradi, Law and International Relations student at La Trobe University and volunteer refugee advocate. To be born and raised in the middle of conflict (Afghanistan) and to turn her life around and become a law student and be such a positive and passionate advocate for refugees is inspiring. It must raise all our hope for a better tomorrow. Kobra had been witness to many terrible acts of crime and human rights atrocities at such a young age. To be able to tell her story of a horrid past was challenging for me to understand. Huge inner strength to do what she does.

**Quote of the year:** "Be friends with everybody, keep them guessing," Rachelle Towart "The work can be demanding, but one cannot put a price on the value of being a trusted and respected part of a rural community," Dr Max Higgs.

**Key take away:** I can have a bigger effect in my community than I could ever imagine, just continue to be involved in the community and be an advocate for our regional issues.

If we come across an issue that needs addressing, it is important to not just bring a problem to the table but to bring a solution. Regions that can lead their own development will do better. I have gained so many wonderful friendship during the LMCLP journey. I had no idea there were so many wonderful, passionate and positive leaders doing so many wonderful things on so many diverse topics in my region. Lucy Mayes and the LMCLP team are an awesome bunch of people who I owe a huge thank you to, they have changed my stubborn ways....

**Community project:** Working with Inglewood Primary School students and Inglewood and Bridgewater Men's Shed to repurpose packing pallets from local businesses destined for land fill into meaningful furniture that can be sold at a profit to generate a small income stream for the school. To create a great relationship and level of respect for both the students of Inglewood Primary School and Inglewood and Bridgewater Men's Shed members. Demonstrating to the students the importance of repurposing, landfill, costings, budgets, working with tools, income streams, basic profit and loss ledgers, care of equipment and networking.

**Where to from here?:** To invest my time and effort where it's needed most in my community. Keep a keen interest in local and regional issues that currently and will continue to effect members of my community and assist when needed. Use the skills and networks that I have gained via the LMCLP.



## Kate McInnes

**Home community:** Castlemaine, Mount Alexander Shire

**Employment:** Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Castlemaine Toy Library, Rural Australians for Refugees

**Employer Sponsor:** Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To learn more about our region and learn how to do what I do better

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Daniel Witthaus from NICHE talking about his work challenging homophobia in rural and regional Australia. His story, passion, expertise and work were inspiring. I loved his energy and bravery, also that so many people responded positively to his work - on a 266-day tour of regional and rural Australia 233 people offered him free accommodation.

**Quote of the year:** "When you have more than you need, build a longer table not a higher fence." "Do what you do well. You have to have passion and purpose." "When you disagree with someone try and make a bridge of compassion."

**Key take away:** quotes above - sorry for so many!

**Community project:** "Friday Food Safari" - a social enterprise working with multicultural communities to cook and deliver a delicious meal from a different part of the world each week. Meals will be delivered each Friday to offices in Central Bendigo.

**Where to from here?:** Continue working on social justice issues both locally and internationally. Continue to contribute time, purpose, and passion to community.

# Participant Profiles



## Alana Newbold

**Home community:** Dingee, Loddon Shire

**Employment:** Available

**Community involvement/volunteering:** CWA, Men's Shed

**Gold Sponsor:** Loddon Shire

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** Sharlene Crage (neighbour)

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Kerry Anderson, Entrepreneurship is Everyone's business, working together to strengthen rural business and communities.

**Quote of the year:** "Do what you can, where you are, with what you have," Teddy Roosevelt via Kerry Anderson

**Key take away:** Collaboration

**Community project:** Dingee Men's Shed

**Where to from here?:** See an opportunity and take on the challenge.



## James O'Bryen

**Home community:** Longlea, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** IT Analyst at Bendigo Bank

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Chair of the Longlea Recreation Reserve, Secretary of the Strathfieldsaye and District Community Enterprise, Secretary of the Axe Creek Cricket Club, Board member of Victory Christian College

**Sponsor:** Self

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** I wanted to experience and appreciate issues in the region, meet similar minded people and, join a network of awesome people.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Hearing Kobra Moradi speak on the experience of refugees. It was so moving to experience the humanising of the refugee debate.

**Quote of the year:** "The fears we don't face become our limits," Robin Sharma

**Key take away:** Hard to come up with just one; I think the fact that the program is so well respected by all levels of government that they spent time with us, answered our questions and appreciated our input.

**Community project:** Longlea Reserve Irrigation Project.

**Where to from here?:** Stay in touch with the group, do more projects collaboratively, remember the Disney model of: 'Dream - Critique - Build - Dream again'



## Katherine Petrusma

**Home community:** Harcourt, Mount Alexander Shire

**Employment:** Dairy Farming and Student

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Country Fire Authority and Blue Light Disco

**Gold Sponsor:** Gardiner Foundation

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To learn from other community leaders and to develop my own experience and vision.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** The Canberra trip and War Memorial was an inspirational experience for me as it brought reality to what I knew from television and school.

**Quote of the year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** Information and support can come from a variety of places, take time and find them all!

**Community project:** Student farm tour (farmer for a day) for children from the city to experience farm life and learn to understand and appreciate where their food comes from.

**Where to from here?:** Apply myself to helping youth in the agricultural industry.



## Kristy Pilgrim

**Home community:** Quambatook, Gannawarra Shire

**Employment:** Mallee Family Care

**Community involvement/volunteering:** CFA - Training Officer and 2nd Lieutenant, Quambatook Neighbourhood House - Chairperson, Quambatook Northern Districts Community Health Centre - Committee Member, Quambatook Cemetery Trust - Trust Member

**Sponsor:** CFA- Country Fire Authority District 20, Kerang

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To develop my self-confidence, connect with others, and broaden my knowledge on issues surrounding rural and regional communities.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Jeremy Forbes from Hope Assistance Local Tradies (HALT). Jeremy's honest and heartfelt account of the challenges he has faced in his own battle with mental illness, to overcome adversity and go on to advocate for tradies to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness.

**Quote of the year:** "The pain of regret is far greater than the pain of hard work," Jeremy Forbes HALT, "Bravery is when you're as shit scared as everyone else, but you continue one foot in front of the other," Daniel Whitthaus. "When you have more than you need, build a bigger table, not a higher fence."

**Key take away:** "Don't find a fault, find a remedy," Henry Ford

**Community project:** Mental Health First Aid Awareness in Emergency Services.

**Where to from here?:** Continue in my various community roles and build on the knowledge, skills and confidence I've gained through participation in the program.



## Ric Raftis

**Home community:** Wedderburn (aka Centre of the Universe), Loddon Shire

**Employment:** Self-employed web developer

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Black Dog Ride - Victorian State Co-ordinator and Board Director, Murray Primary Health Network - Community Consultative Committee Member, Loddon Healthy Minds Committee - Founding member and still a member, Wedderburn Photography Group - Founding Member, Wedderburn Facebook Page - Founder and Administrator, Wedderburn Mens' Shed - Member

**Gold Sponsor:** Loddon Mallee Murray Primary Health Network, Partners in Recovery

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** Improve leadership skills and meet more passionate people

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** The story of the Voices of Indi. Democracy can be reclaimed. We can escape the power of the political parties.

**Quote of the year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** When a few good people get together with enough passion and commitment, you have the power to change the world.

**Community project:** Loddon Voices - a website to provide a forum for opinions for the people of Loddon. [www.loddonvoices.org.au](http://www.loddonvoices.org.au)

**Where to from here?:** Standing for Council with elections on 22 October 2016, continued participation in my community, improve my networks and assist others where I can with my skills.



## Rebecca Sexton

**Home community:** Epsom, City of Greater Bendigo (from Dingee, Loddon Shire)

**Employment:** ORM Pty Ltd, Agricultural consulting and communications

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Junior Netball coach and youth leader at 7Ups, youth group Dingee

**Sponsor:** Half employer half self

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To become a better leader in my community

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Jeremy Forbes and his team at HALT. It is such a great initiative and great to hear how it's continuing to grow worldwide. Also Dr Brendan Nelson at the War Memorial - he spoke from the heart which showed how passionate he is about the War Memorial.

**Key take away:** Politicians are just normal people, just like us.

**Community project:** Updating sporting facilities for my netball club in Dingee

**Where to from here?:** To become more involved in my community particularly with youth and sports.

*'I now have greater knowledge of local issues; improved self-confidence (especially with regards to public speaking); an increased sense of purpose, and a deeper understanding of communities and the way in which individuals interact.'* Kristy Pilgrim, Quambatook.

*'I am now engaging with, and being able to draw on, a comprehensive network of local leaders and brokers of change.'* Tim Hoogwerf, DELWP, Bendigo.

# Participant Profiles



## Emma Shannon

**Home community:** Castlemaine, Mount Alexander Shire

**Employment:** Integrated Health Promotion and Planning Manager, Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Castlemaine North PS School Council, Castlemaine Community House - Committee of Management, Mount Alexander - A Healthy Shire: Community Advisory Committee.

**Employer Sponsor:** Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To build confidence, relationships, and networking skills.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** Everyone who openly and honestly shared their personal stories. There are so many inspiring people in our region.

**Quote of the year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** Change begins locally. Local community leaders are often the most effective and trusted change makers.

**Community project:** Random Acts of Kindness Project in Mount Alexander Shire from Mental Health Week (9 Oct) to World Kindness Day (Nov 13th). Kindness cards and flyers were produced and distributed to a wide range of locations, and a facebook page and library installation were set up for sharing stories and acts of kindness.

**Where to from here?:** Continue to work towards making our rural and regional communities healthier and more inclusive for all people.



## Cathy Spencer

**Home community:** Bendigo, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Carer Consultant Bendigo Health Psychiatric Services

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Primarily within current role at the moment: Member of Strategic Alliance committee with Primary Health Network - to assist with implementation of 10-year mental health plan, partnering with various community organisations to develop community awareness of, and develop programs to assist families and carers who are caring for someone with mental illness.

**Gold Sponsor:** Loddon Mallee Murray Primary Health Network, Partners In Recovery

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** To develop my self-confidence in leading, and gain a greater understanding of the needs of communities within the region. To develop a greater insight into all levels of leadership, build networks, and identify community projects and organisations I would like to contribute to.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:** There wasn't a single speaker or moment for me but rather a number of leaders at all levels who inspired me due to their passion, determination, and genuine belief in what they wanted to achieve and contribute within their community. Their focus on the outcome and ability to conquer various challenges and barriers was incredible. I found these presentations to be inspiring, emotional, and gave me hope.

**Quote of the year:** There were a few: "Volunteer when you have a privileged life" Patrick Keyzer; "Bravery is when you're as shit scared as everyone else but continue one foot in front of the other" Daniel Whitthaus; "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent.

**Key take away:** The value of storytelling to create hope, inspire, and engage communities to create change.

**Community project:** I commenced exploring ways to co-design with a focus group of 18-24 year-old mental health carers a support network. This project needs further exploration and may become a work project with LaTrobe University. I am also interested in engaging my local neighbourhood by arranging a meeting to assess local community needs for the reserve in Quarry Hill which needs more infrastructure to bring the community together. I am also keen to focus on a fund raiser for Melbourne City Mission at my children's local secondary school in 2017.

**Where to from here?:** I have been in contact with local Rural Australians for Refugees and plan to attend a meeting in November. I am also researching local service clubs and meeting with members of some to decide which one I would like to join. At this stage of my journey I would like to be involved with organisations at a very practical level and assisting with projects focusing on minority groups and those less advantaged in our community. I plan to maintain contact with the 2016 participants and see what other opportunities, besides friendship, that arise.



## Baydon Widdicombe

**Home community:** Bendigo, City of Greater Bendigo

**Employment:** Deputy CEO/Human Resources Manager at Bendigo and District Aboriginal Co-operative (BDAC)

**Community involvement/volunteering:** Director at Advocacy and Rights Centre (ARC) Justice

**Gold Sponsor:** Bank Australia Indigenous Scholarship

**Motivation for doing the LMCLP:** I wanted to challenge myself in some areas that I needed to improve such as building my confidence as a leader and enhancing my public speaking skills. I also wanted a greater understanding of local, state, and federal politics.

**Most inspirational speaker/moment from 2016:**

The most inspirational speaker was Brett De Hoedt from Hootville Communications. Brett spoke about the importance of self-promotion and that you are not born with or without leadership skills. He also explained the importance of leading by example, being yourself, and considering the impact you leave on others.

**Quote of the year:** "It's not about the position you hold, it's about how you hold the position." Rachelle Towart, Pipeline Talent. Rachelle's quote reminded me that your own attitudes and motivation play a big role in ensuring that you fulfil the requirements of the position you work in.

**Key take away:** My journey with LMCLP reminded me that patience and persistence are the keys to achieving your goals and to build a strong network around you of different support people

**Community project:** I planned and assisted a Youth Camp for Aboriginal youth in Barmah, NSW. The purpose of the camp was to build cultural knowledge as well as the youth connecting and learning life skills. This was the first camp of its kind in this area and I am already planning the next one.

**Where to from here?:** LMCLP has been an amazing adventure and I will continue to advocate for social justice, homelessness, and health issues for the Aboriginal community. I believe the leadership program has also presented a number of community project opportunities to work with other networks for the future.

## Regional Leaders Network

We are proud of all the work our graduates do as community volunteers and their individual achievements. Here is a snapshot of just a few to showcase our far-reaching impact.



Melissa Neal (2015)  
2016 Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture award presented by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria



Sue Lea (2003) Lions  
Citizen of the Year Award



Sarah Sammon (2006)  
finalist in the Weekly Times Farmer of the Year Awards (photo from Simply Roses website)

Ric Raftis (2016) was appointed a Member of the Murray PHN Community Advisory Committee

Abhishek Awasthi (2011) was appointed as a 2016 AFL Multicultural Ambassador for Victoria

Hodi Beauliv (2001) was appointed to the Board of the Mallee Track Health Service

Maree Hughes (2013) appointed to the East Wimmera Health Service

Our strength and impact is evidenced by all our LMCLP graduates who put up their hand to represent their community in the 2016 local Government elections. Congratulations to the following graduates:

- Buloke Shire**  
Murray McLean (2011)  
David Pollard (2013)  
Ellen White (2001)
- City of Greater Bendigo**  
Brenton Johnson (2014)  
Yvonne Wrigglesworth (2013)
- Gannawarra Shire**  
Oscar Aertssen (2005)
- Loddon Shire**  
Colleen Condliffe (1998)  
Cheryl McKinnon (2011)  
Ric Raftis (2016)
- Macedon Ranges Shire**  
Janet Pearce (2013)  
Luke Spielvogel (2015)
- Mt Alexander Shire**  
Bronwen Machin (2006)  
Jay Smith (2012)
- Swan Hill Rural City Council**  
Chris Jeffery (2016)

This project will showcase the River environments through a range of activities designed to allow children and families to connect with nature. The family fun day is aimed at increasing awareness of the Campaspe River life, surrounding environment and the importance of caring for our country.



The Hugh Williamson Foundation



## Graduate Program

Congratulations to the graduates of the 2016 Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program. Welcome to our extensive regional network, which now has a total of 418 graduates over the 19 years of the program.

The graduate program is designed to foster a regional leadership network, facilitate continued personal and professional development opportunities for graduates as well as providing support to community groups and not for profit organisations.

In addition to their own busy community and industry activities, graduates were involved in a number of events, workshops and networking activities during the year.

Regular communication through E-News, Facebook, Twitter and blogs share some of the positive stories about our graduates.

*The graduate program is designed to foster a regional leadership network, facilitate continued personal and professional development opportunities for graduates as well as providing support to community groups and not for profit organisations*



**Melinda Mann**  
Graduate Program Manager

### LMCLP LAUNCH DINNER:

Newbridge, 5 February  
MC's: Tanya Smith (2015) and Mick Dunne (2015)

Guest Speaker: Margot Spalding, Jimmy Possum

### VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - GO WOMEN'S WORKSHOPS:

Wycheproof, Kerang and Wedderburn, 24-5 February

### MENTORING WEBINAR:

25 February  
Facilitator: Lucy Mayes (2007)

### VICHEALTH REGIONAL CONVERSATION:

Bendigo, 17 March

11 LMCLP graduates participated in a regional conversation around health and well-being.

MC: Yvonne Wrigglesworth (2013)

### COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP:

Bendigo, 18 April  
Facilitator: Peter Dhu

### VISION OF REGION DINNER:

Bendigo, 15 April  
MC: Melissa Neal (2015)  
Panelists: Stan Liacos (Regional Development Australia), Robyn Lindsay (Bendigo Health) Leah Sertori (Bendigo Business Council), Peter Touhey (Victorian Farmers Federation President)

Sponsor: Loddon Mallee - Regional Development Australia

### LMCLP 2015 RECONNECTING DAY:

Bendigo, 27 May  
Guest Speaker: Jenny Dawson, V-Line Chair

### SUPPORTING LMCLP LOCAL GOVERNMENT CANDIDATES:

Wedderburn, May  
Guest Speakers: Cheryl McKinnon (2011), Ellen White (2001), Colleen Condliffe (1998)

### WINNING REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND COMMUNITY AWARDS WEBINAR:

Tuesday 28 June  
Facilitator: Kerry Anderson (2006)

### LMCLP 2014 LUNCH:

Wycheproof, 19 June

### VRCLP LEADERS SUMMIT:

Bendigo, 15-17 August  
Panel Speaker: Yvonne Wrigglesworth (2013)

### SMALL BUSINESS FESTIVAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONVERSATION:

Bendigo, 31 August  
10 LMCLP graduates participated in the regional conversation  
Guest Speaker: Kerry Anderson (2006)  
MC: Paul Henderson (2009)

### LMCLP 2010 DINNER:

Huntly, 23 September

### GOVERNANCE MASTERCLASS:

Elmore, 13 October  
Panelists: Julie Miller Markoff, Nigel McGuckian, Yvonne Wrigglesworth (2013)

### LMCLP GRADUATION DINNER:

Bendigo, 11 November  
Guest Speaker: Keith Sutherland  
Sponsor: City of Greater Bendigo

### GRADUATES DAY- COMMUNITIES TAKING ACTION:

Inglewood, 20 November  
Guest Speaker: David Sharrock, Sharrock and Pitman

*'Regions that can lead their own development do better.'* Jack Archer



Panelists and CLLM representatives at Vision of the Region dinner

LMCLP graduates at Vic Health Conversation, Bendigo



LMCLP 2015 graduates participating in reconnecting day held in Bendigo

LMCLP 2014 graduates catching up at Bakery on Broadway, Wycheproof

## CLLM Community Projects

What an inspiring and memorable year. Since joining Community Leadership Loddon Murray in February, I have had the privilege to travel throughout the region, meet ordinary people doing extraordinary things and gain an insight to the place-based approaches and collective impact of communities across Central Victoria.

There have been so many highlights, though I would like to share some memorable quotes: "Some people capture history, others are captured by history" Professor Mark Rose, Executive Director Indigenous Strategy and Education, LaTrobe University; "Wait for no cavalry!" Yvonne Wrigglesworth, CLLM Chair; "Know your champions" Rowena Allen, Sexuality Commissioner and finally, something for you to ponder, "Are leaders born or made"?

As regional issues and opportunities are brought to Community Leadership Loddon Murray's attention we are pleased to be able to respond with graduate assistance through our Community Projects and social enterprise; Enterprising Leadership.



Enterprising Leadership utilises our highly qualified staff, graduate network, and affiliated service providers to deliver specialised innovative and effective projects and programs that engage a variety of target audiences. Enterprising Leadership services include: Community Development Projects, Strategic Planning, Workshop Facilitation and Training, Customised Leadership Programs, Study Tours and Forums, and Governance Support & Health Checks for Community Organisations.

More information is available on our website

**Fiona Jemmett**  
Projects Manager



### Radius and Haven: Home, Safe Feasibility Study

#### FUNDING PARTNERS:



#### BENDIGO: April 2016

CLLM new community enterprise, Enterprising Leadership was appointed to identify partnership opportunities for Radius Disability Services and Haven: Home, Safe to combine forces to combat the local and national wide-ranging problem of long-term and disadvantaged job seekers.

This project was completed in April.

### Learn Local Organisations Governance Project

#### FUNDING PARTNERS:



#### KERANG, MILDURA, BENDIGO: July-November 2016

In July 2016, Enterprising Leadership commenced a Committee of Management Governance project with Learn Local Organisations across the Loddon Mallee for the Department of Education and Training. This project involved working with each of the Learn Local Organisations across central Victoria to build capability, increase awareness of the role of good governance, and to support their access to governance resources.



### Central Victoria Rural Women's Network

#### FUNDING PARTNERS:



#### CENTRAL VICTORIA: September 2016

The Central Victoria Rural Women's Network, auspiced by Community Leadership Loddon Murray, is for rural and regional women from the municipalities of Greater Bendigo, Loddon, Macedon Ranges, Central Goldfields, Campaspe and Mount Alexander. This network expands on the former Loddon Bendigo Rural Women's Network and is run by women, for rural and regional women.

An Advisory Committee has recently been established with representation from across central Victoria. Membership includes: Anita Dickons (Spring Gully), Jenny Turner (Echuca), Ngaire Anderson (Quarry Hill), Jenny Pendlebury (Bendigo), Kaye Addlem (Serpentine), Lisa Mahon (Dunolly), Isabelle Gay (Neilborough), Colleen Condliffe (Inglewood), Jenny Hosking (Bridgewater), Sharon Morrison (Strathfieldsaye), Janet Pearce (Woodend) and Katie Finlay (Castlemaine).

Anyone interested in the network within the region can subscribe to become a general member.



### Governance Masterclass

#### ELMORE: Thursday 13th October 2016

In response to community need, CLLM designed and conducted a governance workshop aimed at people looking to build their knowledge, skills and confidence to take up and be more effective in their board/committee roles. The workshop covered roles and responsibilities, compliance, risk, financial management, accountability and measurement.

Participants identified the panel session as a highlight, which included Nigel McGuckian (Loddon Mallee Regional Partnership Chair), Julie Miller Markoff (North Central Catchment Management Authority Board) and Yvonne Wrigglesworth (Director of Strategy, Planning and Governance, Bendigo Health). These three highly regarded professionals shared their experiences and provided insights into effective governance.



## Loddon Murray Youth Leadership Program

The pilot Loddon Murray Youth Leadership Program was developed for young people, aged 15 to 17 years, from Buloke, Campaspe, Gannawarra and Swan Hill Shires.

Applications to attend this program were sought in November 2015, with the successful candidates announced in February. They were: Clarisa Wiggins (Kenley), Riley Shannon (Echuca), Chelsea Hard (Echuca), Nathaniel Matthew Holmes-Brown (Charlton), Alex Hudson (Powlett Plains), Mary-Anne Pollard (Wycheproof), Stacey Barbagallo (Mead), Sharmaine Sabado (Swan Hill), Joseph Fawcett (Nullawil), Annette Waters (Rochester), and Jess Phillips (Donald).

Throughout the year from March to November, these inspiring young people visited localities across the region, providing them with an insight to regional Victoria, the community and leadership.

*"I never thought of agriculture as being anything more than being a farmer"*,  
Stacey Barbagallo

*"To be a leader you don't always have to do things by yourself and be the one standing in the front"*. Chelsea Hard

*"If you want to be a good leader you have to push people out into the danger zone, where all the good ideas happen."*  
Mary-Anne Pollard

Similar to LMCLP, participants attended themed program days, weekends, retreats and webinars. Some of the main themes were: leadership, innovative communities, vision of the region, arts and culture, health and wellbeing, regional economies and tourism, education, technology, agriculture, water and the environment. A dedicated study tour on Political Literacy and Social Justice was held in Melbourne providing participants with a unique learning experience.

It was a privilege to coordinate this program, meet and learn from these inspiring young community leaders, watch them form networks and friendships, develop their community projects and succeed in their endeavours.

Together with CLLM staff and Board, I would like to wish them well as they embark on their numerous pursuits and look forward to their graduate updates.

*Throughout the year from March to November, these inspiring young people visited localities across the region, providing them with an insight into regional Victoria, the community and leadership.*



LMYLP accepting a donation from Swan Hill Rotary Club President Yvonne Jennings



The story of Tchum Lake.



2016 Loddon Murray Youth Leadership Participants learning about Personality Profiles with Bob, Carly and Heather McNaught



Melbourne Study Tour: Political Literacy and Social Justice with Professor Mark Rose, Randa Rafiq and Emily Treeby

## Graduate Program

### 1998

Steve Baker  
Susan Bennett  
Pennie Blum Gill  
Colleen Condliffe  
John Daniel  
Andrea Davies  
Brendon Goddard  
Jamie Hall  
Jo Haw  
Bill Heslop  
Yvonne Jennings  
Jenny Kelly  
Lorri Lambert  
Kate Lottkowitz  
Paul Madden  
Reid Mather  
Wendy McAllister  
Kerryn McClelland  
Margaret Nelson  
Joanne Postlethwaite  
Ian Potter  
Deidre Schlitz  
Thelma Shearer

### 1999

Hank Brugar  
Di Bunnett  
Anne Canfeld  
Helen Chambers  
Jan Consedine  
Mark Dawson  
Karen Douglas  
Kym Dunbar  
Deanne Free  
Paul Gill  
Margot Henty  
Shirley Hope  
Steve Hounsell  
Barry Jennings  
Anne Kelly  
Peter Kulich  
Judi Miles  
Marilyne Nicholls  
Sue Pretty  
Lyn Seton-Stewart  
Kevin Sinclair  
Tom Smith  
Jean Sutherland  
Beth Taylor  
Bing Thomas  
Louise Thomas  
Rohan Ward  
Claire Waters

### 2000

Judy Blackburn  
Greg Boyd  
Peter Byrne-Vereker  
Doug Fehring  
Kerry Gammon  
Wendy Hersey  
Gaby Hogg  
Brian Kelly  
Judy McQueen  
Peter Mitchell  
Andrew Pearson  
Toni Parsons  
Sally Rice  
Glenn Stanmore  
Wayne Stephen  
Cecily Thomas  
Suellen Tomamichel  
Andrew Ward  
Shayne Ward  
Peter Watson

### 2001

Hodi Beauliv  
Richard Chirnside  
Kelly Dal Broi  
Michael Davidson  
John Ficken  
Ian Gillingham  
Roger Grif this  
Mark Gronow  
Cathie Haw  
Richard Hicks  
Andrea Hollier  
Brett Lynn  
Katherine MacDonald  
Phillip Maher  
Kim Natale  
Bev Nethercote  
Marjory Nicholls  
Margaret Piccoli  
Chrissy Reeves  
Alistair Ward  
Ellen White

### 2002

John Barber  
Paul Cale  
Ted Carmody  
Karinda Cattlin  
Donna Collier  
Peter Daley  
Zoe Davies  
Mary Evans  
Alison Farrar  
Jamie Kendrick  
Roger Laubsch  
Kurt Major  
Scott Matthews  
Kerrie McDonald  
Kirsty Morieson  
Kelly Mulligan  
Belinda Pritchard  
Sandra Steward  
Owen Wilson  
2003  
Pamela Barber  
Deirdre Broad  
Donna Campbell  
Paige Campbell  
Heather Chamberlain  
David Connor  
Gary Curtis  
Tanya Daley  
Lisa Gervasoni  
Russell Gillingham  
Cathie Hooke  
Sue Lea  
Stephen Mahon  
Elaine Medlin  
Glenn Pomeroy  
Jackie Ritchie  
Julie Slater  
Neville Stewart  
Martin Szakal

### 2004

Laura Chant  
Barbara Crljen  
Andrea Delaney  
Amy Derksen  
Gayleen Dunstan  
Steve Ford  
Rohan Gale  
Catherine Goldwater  
Jan Graham  
Ian Gumley

Meggs Hannes- Paterson  
Rachel Hardinge  
Selvi Kannan  
Paul Kendall  
Michael Lamprell  
Sandii Lewis  
Heather McNaught  
Rhonda McNeil  
Andrea Milikins  
Malcolm Perris  
Chris Pollock  
Lindsay Rogers  
Cherie Stacey  
Kelly Stringer  
Jeannie Wagner

### 2005

Oscar Aertssen  
Iain Aitken  
Judy Blundell  
Heather Cohalan  
Joanne Duffy  
Mary-Anne Duke  
Kellie Grattidge  
Ruth Green  
Peter Kennedy  
Anne Morgan  
John Nightingale  
Marie Pirkebner  
Jacqui Randazzo  
Melanie Roberts  
Tara Smith  
Jeremy Swift  
Kate Toll  
Sandra Tomamichel  
John White  
Kurt Williamson

### 2006

Peter Bassett  
Susi Baumgartner  
Marigold Blackwood  
Steve Curry  
Kristen Dennis  
Tracey Farrell  
Tyson Fehring  
James Goldsmith  
Garry Holmes  
Marlene Jeffrey  
Anthony Judd  
Doug Loblely  
Bronwen Machin  
Sue Mahon  
Pam McCavour  
Rita Revell  
Annmarie Rosengren  
Sarah Sammon  
Mary Sdraulig  
Robyn Vanrenen

### 2007

Jock Allan  
Rhiannon Anderson  
Anna Arkoudis  
Duane Attree  
Bernadette Campbell  
Chris Carey  
Trevor Collins  
Linda Dillon  
Jillian Gibson  
Leanne Grogan  
Jane Gustus-Callanan  
Maurice Hawkins James  
Maxwell  
Lucy Mayes  
Hilary McIntosh

Brad McQueen  
Donna Petrusma  
Kirsty Quick  
Gillian Ryan  
Mary-Ann Scull  
Anthony Sheean

### 2008

Dominic Baxter  
Ruth Bumpstead  
Christopher Cahill  
Ron Cawthan  
Alan Chamings  
Kellie Doering  
Maree Farley  
Isabelle Gay  
Kerri Hamilton  
Matthew Hawken  
Nicole Hayes  
Sarah Mayne  
Michelle McLachlan  
Simone Murdoch  
Kevin Orr  
Vanessa Pett  
Brendan Pickles  
Linda Quinton  
James Reade  
Melisa Sincock  
Sheri Streilein  
Mark Synot  
Michael Toman  
Briana Trimble  
AnnE Wiseman

### 2009

Rod Allen  
Kerry Anderson  
Leeza Axton  
Stephanie Borden  
Brent Bruns  
Warrick Clarke  
Renee Davison  
Lee Duf n  
Anthony Dunster-Jones  
Sharlene Gerke  
Paul Henderson  
Glynn Jarrett  
Aleta Kilner  
Karl Meulendijks  
Suzanne Osman  
Jillian Pink  
Kurt Poltrock  
Julie Ruddle  
Trudi Selleck  
Kristin Steers  
Susan Stewart  
Michele Totterdell  
Scott Whitecross

### 2010

David Barker  
Louise Bewley  
Suzanne Blume  
Tricia Brennan  
Jacqueline Brodie- Hans  
Kristen Dyer  
Michael Fitzgibbon  
Sharon Fullax  
Sue Grimes  
Kim Hanton  
Brent Heitbaum  
Jacinta Hicks  
Sam Luxemburg  
Melinda Mann  
Scott McLarty

Sue McLean  
Rachel Paterson  
Lacey Quinn  
Alice Saville  
David Vivian

### 2011

Ahbishek Awasthi  
Helen Bramley- Jackson  
Alison Couston  
Randal Dell-Spector  
Rose Harris  
Anthea Jones  
Wendy McCormick  
Alan McFarlane  
Cheryl McKinnon  
Murray McLean  
Vanessa McLeod  
Deborah Micallef  
Megan Purcell  
Christine Rourke  
Marita Saville  
Tania Sherwood  
David Silvagni  
Katrina Thorne  
Daan Van Dorenmalen  
Tracey Wolsley

### 2012

Roslyn Afleck  
Steph Ash  
Max Bickford  
Marg Boers  
Kate Booth  
Di Bowles  
Tracey Clifford  
Cecilia Connellan  
Noemi Cummings  
Pearl Fernandes  
Sue Gerdsen  
Lisa Gormley  
Ash Harris  
Sam Hawkins  
Judith Henschke-Reid  
Megan Kreutzer Leonie  
Lomax  
Jill Loorham  
Tracy McLoughlan  
Elaine Murphy  
Peter Noble  
Donna Salathiel  
Paulette Vargas  
Jan Webster

### 2013

Ardavan Abedian  
Sue Allengame  
Kyra Bethell  
John Boyd  
Peter Church  
Anna de Vrieze  
Karin Flynn  
Desiree Gardiner  
Jan Harper  
Bernadette Holland-  
Cozens June Hopley  
Maree Hughes  
Kerry Meiers  
Melanie Newell  
Janet Pearce  
David Pollard  
Sharon Scott  
Craig Segat  
Jay Smith  
Wendy Turley  
Andrew Whatley  
Douglas Wood  
Yvonne Wrigglesworth

### 2014

Chloe Armstrong  
Emma Bridger  
Glenys Broad  
Kristi Colter  
Boston Curry  
Trina Dalton-Oogjes  
Anita Dickons  
Shane Grenfell  
Amanda Gretgrix  
Kanishka Guluwita  
Elaine Hamilton  
Angela Hird  
Mary Hogarth  
Travis Inmon  
Brenton Johnson  
Shandel Keele  
Caitlin Matthews  
Stuart McGibbon  
Julie McLaren  
Paolo Righetti  
Kim Skyring  
Prue Southey  
Merrilyn Thompson  
Leanne Willis

### 2015

Danielle Couch  
Shelley Cowen  
Stephen Dickons  
Kerri Douglas  
Mick Dunne  
Luke Edgerton  
David Heath  
Anette Kortenhous  
Daniel Kreutzer  
Melissa Neal  
Mandy Olszewski  
Tim Robinson  
Jill Scanlon  
Colleen Scriven  
Jason Smith  
Tanya Smith  
Luke Spielvogel  
Andrew Telfer  
Leonie Wright

### 2016

Tracey Bowen  
Tamara Boyd  
Fiona Bradshaw  
Steve Carroll  
Karen Carpenter  
Lisa Cox  
Sharlene Crage  
Meg Doller  
Tessa Harris  
Jason Hensley  
Timothy Hoogwerf  
Chris Jeffery  
Cheryl Kemp  
Paul Kooperman  
Peter Lilly  
Jenny Lonergan  
Stewart Luckman  
Kate McClnes  
Alana Newbold  
James O'Bryen  
Katherine Petrusma  
Kristy Pilgrim  
Ric Raftis  
Rebecca Sexton  
Emma Shannon  
Cathy Spencer  
Baydon Widdicombe

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Our sincere thanks to all our sponsors, without whom the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program would not be able to develop skilled, informed, inspired and impactful leaders for vibrant and sustainable rural and regional communities.

### Major Sponsor



Proudly supported by Regional Development Victoria



### Gold Sponsors



### In kind Sponsors

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Appreciation is also expressed to the regional media and community newsletters for their continuing support to LMCLP and CLLM.

**Front and back cover stone artwork by Kerri Douglas - Dja Dja Wurrung and Bangerang descendant (LMCLP Bank Australia Scholar 2015).**

*"I created these Symbolic Stones of Goodwill and presented them to the LMCLP 2016 participants as part of a Welcome to Country ceremony at their Opening Retreat. The stones represent my wish that they enjoy their time throughout the program, experience much personal growth and to give them strength. I am honoured that the stones have meant so much to the 2016 participants."*



# Community, Reconciliation, Inclusion, Diversity

Symbolic Goodwill Stones painted  
and presented to LMCLP 2016  
participants by Kerri Douglas -  
Dja Dja Wurrung and Bangerang  
descendant (LMCLP Bank Australia  
Scholar 2015)



## Contacts

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