

Media Release



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MEDIA RELEASE

ALL ABOARD THE LMD CMA'S "PRISCILLA" COACH TO THE COONAMBLE WOMEN'S GATHERING THIS OCTOBER!

The Women's Gatherings are held each year at different locations within NSW and supported by the NSW Department of Primary Industries' Rural Women's Network.

This year the Lower Murray Darling CMA has been able to secure funding to support a bus load of ladies to travel to Coonamble and participate in a great weekend, 17-20 October 2008. The bus will also stop at selected pickup locations along the way from Wentworth, through Hay, West Wyalong, Parkes and stopping at the final destination, Coonamble.

Gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to learn skills through workshops, listen to inspiring speakers, access information on services, network with other women and have a break from thinking about the effects of drought.

To quote the Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald, "Gatherings are a great annual opportunity for women from across the state to build support networks, learn skills, celebrate achievements and showcase the host region".

What have previous ladies said about the Gathering at Hay.

"Initially I was unsure if the gathering would be for me as I'm not usually into "all female" things. However, I found it to be very positive, entertaining and worthwhile."

"I learnt some practical, creative and "inner" lessons. Travelled with some old and new friends. Ate too much, laughed a lot and heard some inspirational stories."

"Exceeded expectation – well organised; great hospitality; varied and entertaining workshops; top fashion parade and entertainment – wonderful friendships. Thanks to all. Looking forward to the next. If it wasn't for "Women About Hay" and LMD CMA I probably would not have been there. Thank goodness I made it. The weekend was crammed with fun, friendships, frolics and fine food. What more could you want. Well, we had it all plus more rain! Roll on the next gathering."

Time is rushing towards this year's Gathering, so don't be left behind as you will have to wait another year to enjoy the atmosphere and camaraderie of a Gathering.

What could be better than knowing that your transport, 3 nights in motel accommodation (4 days away) and some meals have been subsidised by LMD CMA.

The Gathering workshops, formal dinner and meals while you are at the Coonamble Gathering site are all inclusive in the registration fee of \$165.00 per person. Works out to be about \$40 per day – a great investment in time and networking away from the daily chores.

Non-LMD catchment ladies are also encouraged to take advantage of the free transport to and from Coonamble. Accommodation at Coonamble has also been reserved for our “*Priscilla*” coach, too.

For more information contact Susan Walla on 03 5021 9460 or visit the website at www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au for Catchment travel details.

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