



MEDIA RELEASE

25 March 2019

2019 Yorke and Mid North Regional Forum

120 people attended a Yorke and Mid North Regional Forum at the Copper Coast Sports and Leisure Centre in Kadina on Friday 22nd March.

Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North (RDAYMN), Legatus Group and Northern & Yorke Natural Resources (NRM) worked collaboratively to produce the *“Initiators and Innovators”* Regional Forum, which delivered diverse insights into regional activities and offered networking opportunities.

The Forum was led by Master of Ceremonies Dr. Annette Marner, and was officially opened by Jim Whalley, SA’s inaugural Chief Entrepreneur, a graduate of the Royal Air Force Empire Test Pilots course and, amongst other qualifications, holder of a Master of Business Administration, a science degree and a graduate of the Harvard Business School OPM Executive Education Program. The Office of the Chief Entrepreneur works collaboratively with businesses, researchers and investors to facilitate connections, provide advice and position South Australia as a destination for entrepreneurship and innovation.

Keynote speaker Scott Boocock, inventor of Hogs Pegs and author of 'Turn Your Ideas into Action'-inspired the audience by telling his life stories and creative journey to become one of Australia’s innovative inventors.

The keynote presentations were then followed by concurrent sessions on Technology and Community, with the after-lunch sessions focused on Innovation and Environment. Speakers for each of the sessions were:

Technology

Dan Thorsland – Mighty Kingdom
Stu Nankivell – Blue Goanna Digital
Jill Bottrall – NBN.co
Moira Coffey – Uni Hub Spencer Gulf

Community

Matthew Gordon – OurSay
Nick Crowther – Freerange Future
Lyndsey Jackson – Electronic Frontiers Australia



Local Government Partners

Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council | Barunga West Council
District Council of Mount Remarkable | Northern Areas Council
District Council of Peterborough | Wakefield Regional Council
Yorke Peninsula Council | Regional Council of Goyder
Copper Coast Council | Port Pirie Regional Council
District Council of Orroroo / Carrieton



Innovation

*Dr. Sarah Noack – Hart Field Site
Laki Kondylas – Flinders University
Michelle Verco – Mace Engineering*

Environment

*Craig Nixon- Department for Environment and Water
Max Barr and Grace Hodder – Department for Environment and Water
Daniel Hammat – Baderloo*

Quotes attributable from the Mid North Strategic Alliance:

Bill Vandeeper – Chair RDAYMN: *“Future vision and growth are just some of RDAYMN’s key focus areas to nurture and develop across the Yorke and Mid North. RDAYMN CEO Kelly Anne Saffin and I thoroughly enjoyed facilitating the technology and innovation sessions at the 2019 Yorke and Mid North Regional Forum. The presenters were enthusiastically engaging and offered valuable insights to support our regional businesses and communities into the future.”*

Mayor Peter Matthey - Chair of the Legatus Group: *“The alliance between the Legatus Group, Regional Development Australia and the NRM Board provided a holistic approach to not only project delivery for our communities but an opportunity to work collectively in discussing issues that impact on our ability to grow. The Legatus Group are the regional local government ambassadors and advocates and the ability to take time to listen and learn is paramount to our ability to have clarity on future directions”*

Eric Sommerville – Chair Northern & Yorke Natural Resources Management: *“The Yorke and Mid North Regional Forum offered a great opportunity for the community and industry to hear from first class speakers exploring how we can embrace Innovation and optimism, be resourceful, solve problems and plan for a prosperous future”.*

END

Enquiries:

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