



AgriWest At Rupertswood



AgriWest's final Business Networking function was held at the historic Rupertswood Mansion in Sunbury on 2 December 2005.

The luncheon, generously supported by Western Water, was the last in a series of three very successful events held throughout the year.

Arctic and Antarctic adventurer Peter Bland delivered an inspiring presentation. The local farmer from Gisborne is the first Australian to have ventured to the North and South Magnetic Poles. Remarkably he completed his expedition to the North Pole hauling a sled 700km across the frozen Arctic Sea only twelve months after undergoing his second bout of major heart surgery.

Many of the guests who were privileged to listen to his remarkable story took advantage of purchasing a signed copy of Peter's biography "A Step Too Far". A percentage of the proceeds from the sale of the book go to the National Heart Foundation, thereby adding to the already \$14million Peter has raised for Australian charities.

AgriWest Chair, Ms. Kaye Kilgour was delighted with the outcome of the networking luncheon following on from the previous success of luncheons conducted earlier in the year with Dr. Judith Slocombe and Professor David Ch'ng as keynote speakers. "AgriWest's business networking events provide an excellent forum for regional agribusiness and business people to learn from and be inspired by exceptional guest speakers in an informal setting conducive to promoting business to business opportunities" said Ms. Kilgour.

Western Water's Business Manager for Recycled Water, Mr. Les McLean outlined a number of significant recycled water projects undertaken in the region. Ms. Kilgour complimented Western Water on their recycled water initiatives and continued support of AgriWest and congratulated them on winning this year's prestigious Premier's Business Sustainability Award.

Ms. Kilgour also noted that AgriWest has undertaken a number of key initiatives in the region during 2005 and with the forum in the final stages of completing a new Business and Marketing Plan exciting times are ahead for continued business and regional development.



Gisborne farmer, Peter Bland

Message from Kaye Kilgour:

"On behalf of the Board of AgriWest I wish everyone a happy and safe festive season and a prosperous new year."
Kind Regards,

Kaye