

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Business Planning Workshop was a winner with community groups

Representatives from community organisations who attended the one-day Business Planning Workshop in Parkes last Friday November 9th will be now taking these valuable skills back into their communities.

The workshop covered the essential areas of planning and management for regional not-for-profit and cultural organisations.

It was also a great networking day with the 15 participants from Parkes, Forbes, Bathurst, Orange, Yeoval and Cowra making some great new connections. Groups represented included historical societies, musical groups, a dance school, government agencies and councils, a health support group, a neighbourhood centre and festival organisers.

Participants commented that the course really de-mystified the process of business planning and was very accessible and relevant to volunteers and those working in community organisations. "I'm really going to use these templates. This is godsend. It's so useful" said Bev Rowe of the Elvis Gospel Committee.

This Carry Out Business Planning workshop was part of the Creative Volunteering No Limits series, a national initiative of Regional Arts Australia to support arts and cultural development in regional areas with accredited training for organisations and volunteers. These low cost courses are delivered by a registered training organisation, Community Cultural Development NSW and facilitated in this region by qualified tutor and community cultural worker Meg Simpson.

Further Creative Volunteering workshops on other topics are planned for the region for 2008 and Arts OutWest is keen to hear from groups or councils keen to host a workshop. Other workshops available include Networking Within Communities, Undertake Marketing, Work with Collections, Develop Funds and Resources, Plan & Program Events, Good Governance, and The People Factor

For more information call Arts OutWest: 02 6338 4657.

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*Picture: Nixon Eduard from Pillot Dance School, Bev Rowe from the Elvis Gospel Committee and Pam Symons from Parkes Neighbourhood Centre discuss plans for their organisations at the workshop.*

