

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday March 11



## Craft groups from the region to gather in Condobolin

**Isolation, limited resources and aging memberships are some of the issues facing small arts and crafts groups in regional NSW.**

A special networking day for all those involved in arts and crafts groups and activities in the wider Lachlan Valley area will be held in **Condobolin on Saturday March 20.**

The event is organised by Arts OutWest and is called **Crafting The Lachlan**. It will bring together people from Parkes, Forbes, Condobolin, West Wyalong, Grenfell, Lake Cargelligo, Peak Hill, Trundle, Bogan Gate, Tullamore, Tottenham and surrounding areas.

“A huge number of people in rural communities participate in arts and crafts as members of weekly classes or groups. Others show their work in locally ran competitions and exhibitions,” explained Arts OutWest executive officer Tracey Callinan.

“The aim of the networking day is to find ways to share information, better communicate between these groups, work together to set exhibition dates, share contacts, skills and ideas, offer support and look at ways to keep the art forms alive in the bush,” says Ms Callinan.

“We’ll discuss how to get new volunteers, how to keep your existing volunteers and how to attract new members. We’ll also look at issues such as insurance and funding and groups will share their tips on running successful events and competitions,” said Ms Callinan.

Anyone involved or interested in arts and crafts in the region is invited to come along.

“Whether you’re part of a committee or attend a weekly class, or would like to start something in your area. Whether your thing is porcelain painting, sewing, knitting, landscapes, floral art, calligraphy, pottery, waste to art, patchwork or more - this meeting needs you,” said Ms Callinan.

People are also encouraged to bring along flyers about their groups or events to distribute to the network.

Crafting the Lachlan will be held at **Condobolin Community Centre, Cnr Dennison St & Bathurst Sts, Condobolin from 10.30am-1pm on Saturday March 20.**

This is a FREE event and lunch will be supplied by Lachlan Arts Council.

Please RSVP to Heather Blackley at Western Plains Regional Development on 6895 3301.