



## WHK Insurance Services

Proudly Sunraysia's largest and most experienced LOCAL Insurance Team.

WHK Insurance Services now incorporates WHK Kennedy & Pollock and WHK Deakin Insurance and is located at 138 Lime Avenue, Mildura.

The WHK Group warmly welcomes our newest team members: Laurie Muir and Tracy Donaldson who, together with their

team, bring with them a wealth of insurance knowledge, access to a broader range of underwriters and the benefits of premium funding: a flexible payment solution for insurance premiums.

For more information about WHK Insurance Services or for a competitive review of your premiums, please contact one of our friendly Insurance representatives on (03)5024 9500.

## Gifts & FBT

It's the festive season again and for many that means Christmas functions and gifts. One tax issue that always arises at this time of year is Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT). The rules can be quite confusing, but following are some tips to consider when planning this year's function or giving gifts. Generally, gifts to employees are tax deductible and exempt from FBT as a "minor benefit" provided the value is less than \$300. If you are providing a Christmas function and a gift, keep them separate otherwise the combined cost will go towards the \$300 limit.

- Finger food and drinks (without alcohol) provided to employees, on a working day on business premises, is exempt from FBT and is tax deductible.
- Gifts to clients, customers or contractors are generally tax deductible provided there is a business reason for giving the gift and is not entertainment in nature.
- If the cost of a Christmas function is less than \$300 per employee, then it is exempt from FBT as a minor benefit.
- If clients, customers or contractors attend a Christmas function, their portion of the cost is non-deductible.
- Where a taxi fare is provided in connection with the Christmas party the cost of the taxi fare must be counted in the \$300.



## Regional Events

WHK were major sponsors of the recent Tour of the Murray which passed through many local towns including Ouyen, where it forms a major part of the Vanilla Slice Day for which we are also involved as sponsors. The Tour continued at Robinvale, Euston and Manangatang with the finale being a criterium along the Murray River at Mildura.

WHK have also been sponsors and participants of many rural agricultural shows including the Hopetoun and Wentworth shows. These events are a great display of the many and varied produce that our region is capable of producing.

## Christmas Closing

As is our custom we will not be sending Christmas cards again this year, preferring instead to have our very own **WHK Wishing Tree** with contributions going to local charities. Our offices at Mildura, Broken Hill, Loxton, Berri and Birchip will be closing December 24th and reopening on January 5, 2009.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our valued clients and customers a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

We hope 2009 delivers all that you wish.

# Taking Sunraysia Produce to the World



WHK Principal Grant Ferry has recently attended the SIAL Food Fair in Paris, France to showcase the regions dried fruit produce. The show is attended by all of the world's major food companies and was a great opportunity to develop some new markets for our local fruits.

Whilst in Paris, Grant happened to bump into another Aussie who some of you will probably recognise. Iain, Lisa and the boys stopped off to see the Trade Show as part of their world travels whilst Iain is on long service leave. Thommo looks pretty good considering his beloved Cats had just lost the AFL grand final.



## New Innovation for the Arts

Congratulations to Kevin & Julie Chambers on the opening of the Art Vault Mildura a unique concept in Australian Art. The Vault was officially opened by Julian Burnside QC at a gala evening attended by over 400 people on November 1st. It provides a venue for working in a studio space, accessing print making facilities, professional development opportunities and showcasing work all in the one venue.

The Art Vault will not only be a focus for our local community but also to visitors afar. Congratulations once again Julie & Kevin on this amazing innovation and contribution to your community.

## Client Achievements

Congratulations to [David and Cassandra Circosta](#) of Banjo's Bakehouse Mildura who recently took out two awards on the night of the Banjo's Bakehouse National Conference in Hobart. The first award for best COGS (cost of goods sold) and the main award being Franchisee of the Year 2008 - Mainland.

Congratulations to [Pauline Liston](#) who has won the prestigious Victorian Wakeful Cup Lady of Racing Award. The award recognises the outstanding feats of women in the Victorian racing industry. Pauline and her husband Peter own and operate the successful Three Bridges Thoroughbreds stud in the Maldon region of Victoria.

Congratulations also to [Margaret Thomson](#) on her re-election as Mayor at the recent Wentworth Council Elections and to [Brian Wakefield](#) and [Don McKinnon](#) on their re-election as councillors.

## Staff Achievements

The Firm congratulates Principal, [Greg Gooch](#) on his advancement to Fellowship with the CA Society. This advancement recognises Greg's contribution to the profession within our local community and for his many years in public practice.

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**Total Financial Solutions**

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