

WHK *up to Speed*



Continuing our community association in the Mallee region, WHK provided some BBQ expertise at the recent Speed Lions Field Days.

Not quite "Gondolas on the Murray" but WHK had a number of staff put away the pencils and calculators and don some aprons to assist the various clubs that provide all the food for the day.

With a record crowd attendance the chefs were kept busy all day cooking steaks and sausages. With Chris (Sharmo) Sharman in charge of the money, we're sure that the local community groups that rely on the event for ongoing financial support will not be disappointed with their effort.

WHK recognises the need to be involved in our local community and we are more than willing to give up our time for the day to help out. The sight of seeing six brightly coloured WHK aprons must have had some impact on the rain gods and the guys are taking some credit for the rain.

A special thanks to Phil Downs and committee for allowing us to participate in this event.

Pictured above are Stephen Adams, Dale Poyner and Brennan Poulton hard at work over the hotplate.

A great place to work

At WHK we aim to provide you - our clients - with Total Financial Solutions.

In order to provide a timely, efficient, confidential and personal service, we need to have highly trained, happy and motivated staff.

Across the Murray Darling, we now have approximately 130 staff. We spend a lot of time, effort and resources in ensuring everyone enjoys coming to work, thrives on learning, and providing a great service to you.

This has become even more imperative given the economic and environmental challenges we are all currently faced with.

For the third year in a row, our staff have again voted us **number one** in the WHK Group as being a 'great place to work'. This detailed confidential survey is conducted amongst all the WHK Group's 3,500 staff across 20 firms throughout Australia & New Zealand.

We are extremely proud of our people and our standing within the Group as being a **'great place to work'**.

Changes to the calculation of superannuation guarantee.

Changes to the Superannuation Guarantee Laws from 1 July 2008 required employers to use 'ordinary times earnings' (OTE) to calculate superannuation guarantee contributions.

This is a significant change for those industries where the remuneration of their employees has a large component of commission salary.

The definition of OTE has been expanded from earnings from ordinary hours to include over award payments, allowances and commissions. It excludes overtime payments.

For most employers, the changes will have little impact. However, some industries use awards that exclude commissions from OTE. This is common practice in the real estate and motor vehicle industries. From 1 July 2008, all commissions will attract the 9% superannuation guarantee charge.

Please speak to your WHK Advisor to ensure you are meeting your superannuation guarantee obligations.



Client Achievements

The 2008 Business Excellence Awards were recently held with a Gala presentation night at the Mildura Settlers' Club. Congratulations to Andy & Mandy Williams of Seasons, and The New Spanish Bar & Grill for winning the Medium to Large Business of the Year Award along with the Hospitality category as well.

Congratulations also to Marian Leuhmann and the team from Sunraysia Residential Services Inc. for winning the Not for Profit award.


Also to be commended are Peter & Maureen Belej who recently won the Best Shiraz Trophy at the recent 2008 Winewise Small Vignerons Awards for their Vincognita 2006 McLaren Vale Shiraz. Peter and Maureen have also recently received awards for their Vincognita 2006 Nangkita Shiraz and Madeleine's Vignier.

Staff Achievements

Many of our staff are involved in continuing professional development, studying a variety of courses and all with exceptional results.

Congratulations to Esta Naude, Samantha Murnane and Jessica Fotheringham who have all successfully completed exams in relation to their further studies.

Samantha Murnane has now completed all requirements for the Certified Financial Planner course.

This newsletter is printed on environmentally-friendly, eco stock. 



Total Financial Solutions

Web: www.whkthomsons.com.au Phone: 1300 WHK TFS

DISCLAIMER: Please refer to Page 3 of the Straight Talk newsletter. A WHK Group firm. WHK Financial Planning is a registered trading name of Investor Financial Planning. Holder of Australian Financial Services Licence - No: 238244. ABN 51 060 092 631.

