

12 March 2011

Expert advice and inspiration delivered to Dubbo and Albury

A financial markets and commodities specialist, an emotional resilience expert, and a former Australian cricketer and ABC Radio cricket commentator will begin a tour of central New South Wales towns tomorrow, to inspire and offer practical advice to local residents.

The special agribusiness events have been organised by Suncorp Bank as part of its popular series of agribusiness roadshows, to provide expert information in rural and regional areas on financial markets, commodities, overcoming adversity and managing change.

The first of the events will be held in Dubbo on Tuesday 13 March followed by Albury on Thursday 15 March and will be attended by former Australian cricketer and ABC Radio commentator, Kerry "Skull" O'Keeffe, Organisational Development Consultant Dennis Hoiberg and Suncorp Bank's Financial Market & International Export Trade Analyst, Darryl Conroy.

Suncorp Bank Executive Manager Agribusiness Greg Leahy said he was looking forward to visiting the region and offering support to local communities.

"In 2012, Suncorp Bank celebrates 110 years of being part of the fabric of regional and rural Australian communities, is a Foundation Partner of the Australian Year of the Farmer and has just welcomed our one millionth customer.

"Agribusiness is as important to us today as it was in the days as the Queensland Agricultural Bank in 1902.

"It's vital for us to continue to make a special effort to ensure rural and regional Aussies receive the practical support and advice they need to run their businesses successfully, especially in light of recent adverse weather events in New South Wales," Mr Leahy said.

Suncorp Bank's Financial Market & Export Trade Analyst, Darryl Conroy, will share his knowledge and insights into recent financial market movements, interest rates, currencies and commodities.

Emotional resilience specialist Dennis Hoiberg, a regular speaker at Suncorp Bank agribusiness events who has supported farmers through drought, bushfires and flooding, will provide practical advice on personal and team resilience.

"Developing resilience is about practicing positive self-talk and understanding that every generation of farmers has its own challenges," Mr Hoiberg said.

"When you're facing difficult circumstances, as those living on the land often do, it's important to avoid trying to tough it out alone. There are plenty of people at both a clinical and social level who can help."

Kerry “Skull” O’Keeffe said he was looking forward to being involved in this series of Suncorp Bank agribusiness roadshows for the first time.

“Taking the opportunity to visit these rural and regional areas of New South Wales is a real privilege. I’m really looking forward to meeting these people in their home towns and telling my story about overcoming obstacles with determination,” said Mr O’Keeffe.

The Suncorp Bank agribusiness roadshows are due to be held in the following locations commencing at 6.30pm each day:

Date	Town	Location
Tuesday 13 March	Dubbo	Lazy River Estate 29R Old Dubbo Road Dubbo NSW 2830
Thursday 15 March	Albury	Albury Club 519 Kiewa Street Albury NSW 2640

ENDS

About Suncorp:

Suncorp is one of Australia and New Zealand’s largest diversified financial services providers, supplying banking, insurance and wealth management products to around 9 million customers through well-established and recognised brands such as AAMI, APIA, Shannons, Vero and Asteron, as well as Suncorp and GIO. Today Suncorp is Australia's fifth largest bank and second largest domestic general insurance group, with over 16,000 staff. Suncorp has representation in 450 offices, branches and agencies throughout Australia and New Zealand.

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