

Australia's National Beef Exposition
7 May to 12 May 2012



**James Lawrence Pavilion
Bos Taurus Room**

**Tuesday 8 May 2012
2.00pm – 5.00pm**

Topic: 'Women of Influence Gathering'

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One of the most popular seminars at Beef Australia in the past, Westpac again brings you stories from amazing women. Seminar MC, Rachael McKenzie, Manager, Westpac Women's Markets will introduce three women with very different yet empowering stories. . . . Michelle Deshong, Joy McClymont and Barbara Grey. The seminar includes afternoon tea which will give you the opportunity to network with these and other inspiring women.

About the amazing women:



Seminar MC - Rachael McKenzie
Manager, Women's Markets, Westpac Banking Corporation

As the only Australian bank with a unit exclusively dedicated to supporting women the Westpac Women's Markets team works alongside women to help them build sustainable and profitable futures. The aim of the team is to provide women with education, information and networking opportunities through a national program run across both metro and regional Australia.

Westpac Women's Markets has created rubyconnection.com.au which is an interactive online community designed to inspire, promote and connect Australian women no matter what you do, where you are and who you bank with. We provide an opportunity for all Australian women to learn from each other.

Rachael joined Westpac in 2009 following a long career in financial markets in Sydney and London. She has Masters Degree in Human Resource Management and a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Marketing and is co-owner of a small business.



Speaker 1 - Michelle Deshong

Michelle Deshong is a Council member of the National Rural Women's Coalition and Network and is a fellow of the Australian Rural Leadership Program. Michelle has also had a long affiliation with the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre as the Deputy Chair and course coordinator and has extensive experience in developing and delivering Leadership curriculum. Based in Townsville she is currently undertaking PhD studies in International Indigenous Political Leadership and is also working with the Red Cross in community engagement and leadership development.

Michelle grew up in the Townsville region and completed a BA Hons in Political Science and Indigenous Studies at James Cook University where her work was acknowledged with her being awarded the University Academic Medal and the Dean's Award in 2008. She is a Fellow, Australian Rural Leadership Foundation and an Accredited Cross Cultural Awareness Trainer – Cross Cultural Communications.

She has recently returned from New York where she was an Australian representative for NGOs representing Rural Women and Indigenous Women at the CEDAW negotiations. Michelle worked closely with the delegation and committee to lobby for key Australian women's issues and also presented the statement at the CEDAW hearing. Michelle was extremely pleased to see a number of key issues around political representation included in the Concluding comments

Michelle has worked largely in the areas of the facilitation and delivery of training, development and strategic planning. She has also held senior management roles in the public service including Business Manager – Indigenous Services Branch for Centrelink in Canberra and Townsville and the Department of the Prime Minister in Cabinet as a Senior Advisor.

She has a varied background and interests: In 2003 she co-chaired the Canberra Bushfire Recovery Appeal, was awarded ACT Aboriginal Person of the Year in 2001 and was Chairperson of the ACT Youth Coalition from 1997 to 2002. She was also selected in the Australian Indigenous Rugby League Team and has been recognised with many sporting awards.

Speaker 2 - Joy McClymont Off The Track Training



exactly that.

Joy believes that creating a lifelong relationship with exercise, no matter who you are or where you live is achievable. In fact it's been the driving force behind the creation of her Personal Training business for people needing to 'Go Somewhere in the Middle of Nowhere'. She believes that people in isolated and remote locations should and can have the opportunity to connect as a training group, learn about exercise, achieve their fitness goals and maintain motivation. And Off the Track Training does

Joy lives her passion; she lives in rural Queensland and has personally experienced the isolation of being a young mum wanting to exercise, she has worked with land owners needing to take control of their health and coached ordinary people to achieve what seemed like extraordinary fitness goals whether it's getting in shape or competing in a triathlon.

Growing up, living, working and raising a family in the bush has been the stimulus for Joy to think outside the garden gate, when it comes to keeping motivated to be fit and healthy. Going without gyms, running groups, aerobics classes or fancy exercise equipment is a reality for people living in isolated areas.

Joy has worn many career hats in her life including Teacher, Principal and Personal Trainer as well as achieved a number of personal goals, most significantly completing the Hawaiian Ironman Triathlon in 2002. Joy has 3 children under 4 years and lives and works with her husband on a property 100km west of Longreach.

“Joy has created a business that allows you to see the potential in your surroundings, simulate any exercise without standard gym equipment and keep motivated and enthused by using a range of audio and video as well as teleseminars to keep connected and eliminate some of the barriers that come with living in remote locations.” Shelley Hawkins, Herbetvale Station Camooweal QLD



Speaker 3 - Barbara Grey

An energetic and dedicated individual, Barbara has extensive knowledge of and experience in agriculture. With partner Ralph, Barbara operates a successful irrigation enterprise – over the years they have consistently increased their cotton production, placing them in the top 5% of their local growers' benchmarking group, and topping the group for yield in many production years.

Having operated in both hands-on and management capacities, Barbara now has the commitment and capacity to also undertake further off-farm industry responsibilities. Barbara believes her strengths include relationship building, being a team player, an ability to think 'big-picture', a sense of humour, innovative and resilient.

Barbara's accomplishments include:

- Recipient of the 2011 *RIRDC Rural Woman of the Year Award*, Queensland, and National Runner-up. Awarded for pilot project “The Mechanics of Government and How to Influence Change”, a demonstrated personal commitment to primary industries, and to the leadership and representative capacity of rural and regional women.
- Graduate of the ‘*Australian Rural Leadership Foundation*’ Cotton Scholarship, (2008-09), a selective and intensive experiential, 18 month leadership program. ARLF participation has been instrumental in the development of leadership confidence, knowledge and skills, and affords access to an extensive network of ARLF fellows.
- Winner of the *Cotton Australia ‘Innovative Grower of the Year Award’* 2007, for commitment to human resource management in agriculture. Through a dedicated

focus on the attraction and retention of capable employees, the Greys were able to demonstrate significant farm productivity increases.

- Selected for Courier Mail's Annual Rollcall *Queensland's Top 50 High Achievers* – November 2011
- Selected as Westpac *Ruby of the Month* – August 2009