



The Executive Officer
Rural and Regional Committee
Parliament House
MELBOURNE Vic 3002

20th April 2007

Dear Sir,

Following the press clip in our local newspaper regarding –
INQUIRY INTO RURAL AND REGIONAL TOURISM
I wish to respond with the following topics.

1. World Gold Panning Championships for Central Victorian Goldfields –2011.

We have a rare opportunity to bring this prestigious world event back to the Dunolly and Maryborough areas. My husband and I are the 2 Australian delegates on the World Gold Panning Organisation which consists of 20 member nations. We have attending 6 World Goldpanning Championships since 1997 and will be attending our 7th in Dawson City – Yukon – Canada, this year in August.

We hope to get the necessary support and sponsorship to put forward Australia's bid in August, and if successful, to stage the World Goldpanning Championships in August/September in 2011.

This means, there will be 4 years of planning to stage this world event for regional Victoria and enhance our rural tourism.

These overseas panners will be in our area for 2 weeks. One week of sightseeing and 1 week of competition. Goldpanning is a traditionally Australian recreational outdoor sport.

2. "WELCOME STRANGER DISCOVERY WALK" at Moliagul.

This is where the "Welcome Stranger" gold nugget was discovered in February 1869 weighing approx. 72 kgs. and is still the biggest nugget ever discovered in the world.

This site is of "world heritage" importance and should be on the National World Heritage list. We also live in the original "Golden Triangle" of Dunolly – Moliagul and Tarnagulla, an area where more big nuggets have been found than anywhere else in the world.

Negotiations to attract the World Goldpanning bid for Australia in August are already in motion which include the Central Goldfields Shire Council, consulting firm Eastville Partners and Information Victoria, who have already provided some advertising material to take with us to Canada in August.

But we need to spread this golden opportunity further. More people need to become involved such as Victorian State Departments, Tourism Victoria, Beer companies, Stock firms and major Banks are required to give their financial support and advertising strength to these Championships, so everyone can participate and benefit financially with such as –

Mineral and Gold Museums

Gold Sales, Winery Tours, Forest adventures, Working mines, Accommodation, Gold History and Historic Tours, Goldpanners' dinners (To Welcome overseas visitors) Australian animal Parks and Zoos. Something for the ladies like Craft Markets.

Gold Symposiums – Noted Speakers on Mining, Minerals, New Technologies or Developments, Souvenirs, Books and Special displays.

These are just some of the wonderful things our small towns and rural communities could all benefit from.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Doran', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mrs. Anne Doran.

Delegate for Australia on World Goldpanning Organisation
Secretary of Australian Gold Panning Association
Vice President of Victorian Gold Panning Ass. Inc.
Sec/Treas. Welcome Stranger Gold Panning Ass. Inc.

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