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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Have you ever wanted to be a fly on the wall of a business swarming with ideas?

Ever wished you could step inside the mind of a successful entrepreneur?

Well now you can!

A unique opportunity is available for a select group of young go-getters from across South Australia's Limestone Coast. Five positions are up for grabs in the innovative new mentoring program 'Winning Links', which will see participants spend a day in Victoria's South-West, following in the footsteps of a leading business professional. Registrations for the Hamilton-based "link-up" on May 21-22 are now available – but applicants will need to get in quick!

"This is a rare chance to gain valuable insights into running a successful business, developing and enhancing leadership skills, building business success, and forging new cross-border networks," says Elizabeth Hodges, Chairman of Women in Business & Regional Development.

"And unlike previous mentoring programs which spanned several months, the new 'Winning Links' program is perfect for time-poor participants, as they'll spend a day in a work-shadowing role, with the option of future online communication and an ongoing business relationship."

Whether you have a home-based business, burgeoning shopfront or are part of a larger organisation, 'Winning Links' will serve to inspire your future pathways.

Yes it can be difficult taking time out from work, but the long-term benefits are worth the juggling act!

The program, which is the latest Australian Government-funded initiative of the Women Working @ Winning project, will also provide participants with a valuable opportunity to showcase their own success stories at a local business network function in that area aligned to their visit.

"This will be a fantastic chance to forge alliances, broaden markets and meet new people in a relaxed and friendly environment," continues Elizabeth. "Participants are expected to gain improved leadership skills through increased self awareness, confidence and communication, and return home equipped with lots of practical ways to run a successful business."

Visits to Horsham (July) and Portland and Adelaide (November) are also in the pipeline, with plans for the Limestone Coast to reciprocate in March 2009, with 20 young entrepreneurs from those regions spending a day "work shadowing" with local business people. As part of this return visit, mentors and mentorees will be personally invited to participate in an exciting leadership forum *Dare to be Different*, followed by a Gala International Women's Day celebration dinner.

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For media contact:

Elizabeth Hodges

Chairman

Women in Business & Regional Development

Telephone: 87398282

Mobile: 0419595653

For more information or to register, please contact:

Kate Facy, Project Coordinator,

M I 0488 169 487 Email I thefacys@bigpond.com

For interview with a graduate of a previous mentoring program

Carlien Lavers

Limestone Coast Trout

Graduate

Building Business – Mentoring Program

Telephone 87331407

Mobile 0407791669

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