



MEDIA RELEASE – 22 DECEMBER 2009

## SUCCESSFUL DROUGHT INFORMATION DAY AT COWELL

A success Drought Information Day was held at Cowell on Tuesday 15 December 2009 with farmers, small businesses and families from the area accessing services from RFCSSA (Rural Financial Counselling Service SA Inc), Centrelink, Country Health SA, Salvation Army, Centacare, Drought Task Force, and Eastern Eyre Health and Aged Care Services.

Up to 60 people visited the informal information day held at the Ebb 'n Flow café.

Chris Fitzgerald from RFCSSA reported contact with individual farming/small businesses enquiring about Interest Rate Subsidy applications and other available drought initiatives.

The deadline for Interest Rate Subsidy applications on the Eyre Peninsula is 31March 2010.

Centrelink staff assisted with enquiries for Exceptional Circumstance relief payments, pensions and Professional Advice and Planning Grants.

Country Health SA Rural Community Counsellors were available to discuss with visitors the effects of the drought from a personal perspective.

Staff from the Whyalla Salvation Army and Centacare Port Lincoln met with families and distributed Christmas vouchers to assist with the upcoming Christmas expenses.

RFCSSA encourages all farmers and farm dependant small businesses to contact their local rural financial counsellor for information on the full range of drought assistance measures.



Left to Right, Back: Chris Fitzgerald, Robert Holtham, Brenton Parsons, Michael Hancock,  
Front: Jill Borlase, Tracey Van Loon

ENDS

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