



**HONOURED: Symphony Hill Wines owners Ewen and Elissa Macpherson performing quality assurance on their 2008 Reserve Shiraz, ensuring their pinkies are extended in the royal manner.** PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

# Visitors pour into region this Easter

THE Granite Belt is proving to be the place to visit this Easter break with Girraween's camping grounds booked out and the Stanthorpe Visitor Information Centre expecting about 1000 people to walk through its doors this long weekend.

Visitor Information Centre supervisor Jane Miller said over the three-day Easter period last year 976 people stopped in to see what the region had to offer.

The year before there were 938 visitors.

Ms Miller said outdoor activities were growing in popularity.

"Girraween is very popular. People are really looking to get out and explore the great outdoors during Easter," she said.

"The bike trail is also popular. It is great to see people wanting to take part in outdoor activities."

These sentiments are also shared by Girraween National Park ranger Karl Braund.

"We are fully booked from Good Friday through



People are really looking to get out and explore the great outdoors during Easter

to Easter Monday," Mr Braund said.

"It is great that people are heading to national parks for the break."

While outdoor activities are proving popular Ms Miller said the wineries were always a great tourist attraction.

"I think places like the dairy and Sutton's will have a lot of visitors this weekend," she said.

Ms Miller said the visitor information centre was ready for a few busy days and had put on extra staff and volunteers to ensure guests could find all the information they need.

The majority of the Easter tourists will travel from Brisbane and the Sunshine and Gold Coasts.

## Right royal honour for Granite Belt winery

A GRANITE Belt wine will be sipped by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge when they visit Brisbane this weekend.

Symphony Hill Wines' 2008 Reserve Shiraz will be served to Prince William and Kate Middleton on Saturday at a function at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

This wine is the most successful Queensland wine to be produced, having been awarded top gold at the Royal

Melbourne Wine Show with nominations for two trophies including Best Single Vineyard Wine and Best Rhone Style Shiraz.

Owner Ewen Macpherson remarked "It is a great thrill to have this six-year-old wine being served to royalty".

"We are proud Queenslanders and see this as a great opportunity to showcase world-class wines grown and made right here in Queensland," Mr Macpherson said.

"We are a boutique winery producing wines grown on the Granite Belt at 1000m altitude. The combination of iconic Queensland sunshine with cool climate from having the highest vineyard in Australia has produced wines with unique style and flavours."


Symphony Hill Wines have a five-star rating by James Halliday with only 11 vintages under its belt.

Their Reserve Shiraz is their flagship with each

vintage since 2003 being awarded gold medals at Royal Sydney and Melbourne Wine Shows.

"Each year, more and more people from South East Queensland are discovering they have their very own ultra premium wine district just around the corner," Mr Macpherson said.

**What do you think about a Granite Belt wine being served to the royal couple? Email editor@borderpost.com.au**




## invite

You are invited to an information session on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

There is currently a lot of change happening in the Disability sector across Australia. The introduction of the NDIS at a National level is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform the disability system so that it provides real, timely support and paves the way for genuine participation in everyday life.

We will have a guest speaker, Catherine Goodall (Regional Sector Development Officer from National Disability Services Queensland) to share the latest information about the NDIS and share learnings from across the different launch NDIS trial sites as well as an opportunity for you to ask questions.

National Disability Services is the Australian peak body for non-government disability organisations – we are separate from the National Disability Insurance Agency. We have been part of the Every Australian Counts campaign - a coalition of organisations representing people with a disability, families and carers and specialist disability service providers.



<b>When:</b>	<b>Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2014</b> <b>9.30 -11.30am</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Seminar room, Granite Belt Support Services 44 Short Street, Stanthorpe
<b>Who:</b>	People with disability, families and carers, people/staff working within disability organisations
<b>RSVP:</b>	<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April, (ph) 46813020</b>

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