

CoHoots on the market

Five years after establishing innovative co-working space CoHoots in Castlemaine, Tim Ford and Rhonda Chapman have put the unique business on the market.

But this enterprising couple are quick to say they'll be staying in Castlemaine.

"Yes we'll definitely be staying around," says Tim.

"There's three parts to what we do - Tim's consultancy, my consultancy and the physical space and it's the physical part that we're selling," says Rhonda.

"Yes there's a long-term lease so whoever takes over will be getting secure ten-year tenure."

Tim and Rhonda say that when they established it in 2014, CoHoots was the first open co-working space in regional Victoria.

They were ahead of the game as there are now numerous such spaces across the state with co-working growing rapidly in recent times.

But while they're selling the prominent local business with an open day on site this Sunday, Tim and Rhonda have their hands more than full with their continu-



Castlemaine's Rhonda Chapman and Tim Ford are selling their innovative co-working space, CoHoots, with an open day this Sunday.

ing consultancy work.

"Rhonda's consultancy work has been increasing rapidly so we want to focus on that," says Tim who summarises what he does with the term enterprise coach.

"I do a lot of support for enterprise, community and entrepreneurs and I've also been trying to

write a book for about two years," Tim says.

He describes Castlemaine as a particularly enterprising community.

Rhonda's ongoing consultancy work includes working in creative partnerships that may involve anyone from groups of

young people, government and multinationals working together to achieve common goals.

"A lot of her work is of a humanitarian nature," Tim says.

"She is doing some really interesting things."

The two say they've loved supporting their enterprising local

community and have seen many positive initiatives and collaborations flourish.

But having firmly established CoHoots, it's now time to handover "this growing baby" to someone else to focus on their other demanding pursuits, Rhonda and Tim say.

Gold surveys to begin soon

Kalamazoo Resources Limited (KZR) is set to begin conducting low impact, reconnaissance, ground geophysical surveys over select small-scale gold prospects in the Castlemaine region.

Kalamazoo Resources exploration manager Luke Mortimer said this is keeping with KZR's philosophy of conducting exploration in a "smarter", low impact, reconnaissance-style methodology that minimises any disturbance to the environment and concerned stakeholders.

"These small-scale, low impact ground geophysical surveys act as an early-stage test or 'screen' of these areas for potential economic gold mineralisation. They essentially involve

a high technology methodology that reduces the amount of ground disturbance and exploration drilling required to effectively explore a prospective area," Mr Mortimer said.

"Of note these ground geophysical surveys will be conducted on foot with no need for the removal of any vegetation or for any physically clearing."

In particular, KZR is planning to con-

duct small-scale, reconnaissance ground Induced Polarisation ("IP") and magnetic surveys over several gold exploration prospects within its Wattle Gully exploration licence EL6679, which covers an area from Specimen Gully in the north through Chewton and down to Fryerstown, commencing in early-mid July 2019 for a duration of approximately six to eight weeks. These exploration prospects are not undertaken on any private land and are either located within HVP's Moonlight Flat Pine Plantation or parts of the Castlemaine Diggings National Park and range in size from 0.2 to 2 km².

IP surveys are ground surveys which involve wire cables being laid out in an E-W and N-S direction over the surface of selected areas. An electrical current sent through these IP cables then provides an electrical sounding or image of the subsurface geology down to a few hundred metres depth.

"These surveys essentially try to map the sub-surface geology and may in some instances directly detect gold mineralisation," Mr Mortimer said.

The proposed ground magnetic surveys simply involve a person walking East/West lines across each prospect whilst carrying a backpack containing a magnetometer. The magnetometer passively records the earth's magnetic field along each line (i.e. the instrument does not emit any signals). These surveys also aim to map the subsurface geology. "Ground magnetic surveys such as these are considered quick, quiet and unobtrusive with no discernible impact," he said.

In total these geophysical surveys will involve approximately 40 line kms of IP survey lines and 360 line kms of ground magnetic lines spread across several prospects.

"The ultimate aim of these surveys is to identify and map potentially gold mineralised reefs for further evaluation. Of note there have been no ground geophysical surveys conducted within the Castlemaine goldfields since the 1960s and the early-stage application of modern ground geophysical survey techniques to high potential gold prospects is a key feature of Kalamazoo's low impact exploration strategy."

Poetry entries rolling in

Entries for the 2019 Castlemaine Poetry Prize have been steadily flowing in.

In the Senior (over 16) section two awards will be presented for 'Best Poem' and the 'Judge's Choice Award'.

There are three categories (and prizes) for juniors - Grade 2 and Under, Grade 6 and Under and Year 10 and Under.

The poem must not have been published or have won another prize, a strict maximum of 40 lines applies and all entries should be double spaced. Poets can choose any theme. Only three entries are allowed. Contact details must be enclosed but preferably not on the same page as the poem.

Entries can be submitted via email to ldennis@midnews.com.au, mailed to 2019 Castlemaine Poetry Prize, 29 Templeton Street, Castlemaine, VIC 3450 or dropped into our office at the same address.

The date for junior entries has been extended. Both Senior and Junior entries must now be in by Friday August 9 at 5pm. For more information call Lisa on 5472 1788.



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