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We are conducting sessions every Tuesday in May at various city and country locations to explain this new legislation to our members. Allison and Leon will be able to answer all of your questions and start your own agreement or AWA documentation if that is the path you seek. We have already written several site specific agreements, sought opinion from outside legal practitioners and met with the Office of the Employment Advocate to ensure that we meet every requirement.

The new Liquor Code of Conduct requires that ALL your liquor staff eventually undertake Responsible Service of Alcohol and therefore we are also conducting this training every Tuesday in May at these sessions. Ring the office for an info page.

On a national front, we have been invited to be part of the reformation of NARGA and this is currently in the preliminary stages. Mr Rod Allen and I met with the NARGA members in Sydney last month to ascertain whether past differences could be settled allowing an MGA presence. With IGA and FoodWorks developing a national presence so successfully, the need is here for a national body like NARGA.

Ms Debbie Smith from Queensland is joining the Master Grocers Board in keeping with the growth and development that this Association pursues. In the next issue we will be introducing Debbie to all members and we look forward to her input and expertise.

## DrinkWise Australia

DrinkWise was formally formed in October 2005, after Action on Alcohol was formed in Oct 03 subsequent to the Alcohol summit in NSW.

The DrinkWise Board, Chaired by Professor John Dwyer is in the final stages of appointing a CEO. DrinkWise head office is in Melbourne. The first area that DrinkWise will focus on will be the culture of youth alcohol consumption.

The funding has already started and there is one million dollars in the bank, with \$1million already spent. \$10-\$11million will flow in the first three years.

There has been a generally positive response to DrinkWise from the Government and health areas. Once there is a business plan in place and CEO appointed there will be a public launch.

There was originally a 2 year funding arrangement for \$2million in the first year and an additional \$3million in the second year to secure the development. This came from Diageo, Lion Nathan, Fosters and the wine industry. It is based on a per case levy.

From 1st January stage one of the broad based funding started. Roughly, this is 1.5c-2c per carton of beer and RTD moving up to 3c next year. Wine goes in at 3.5c then 7c then 11 cents. Spirits end up at 21c per case after 2 years. This has been setup on a five year contract with two year notice to opt out - suppliers involved have varying arrangements with the DrinkWise body, however all are proactive and supportive. DrinkWise has now gained comparative Government funding as indicated by Parliamentary Health secretary Chris Pyne this week who announced a \$5million dollar funding arrangement.

Jennifer Flanagan CEO MGA



MGA CEO Jennifer Flanagan Fosters Australia's John Murphy and David Clancey at a recent Fosters Australia retailer forum.

WorkChoices Legislation plus Responsible Service Of Alcohol Workshops - May 2006  
Master Grocers Australia is conducting a series of one day seminars on WorkChoices and Responsible Service of Alcohol in Victoria in May. Please view the information and booking form on our web page [www.mgav.com.au](http://www.mgav.com.au) or contact Allison on (03) 9824 4111.