

Psychologist visit to help break the cycle

■ Kate Hodges

Minding your own business may be more important than you think.

Local businesswomen will be taken on a tour of their conscious minds next month when renowned psychologist Christine McKee speaks at the Pilbara Women's network luncheon.

More than half the tickets to the November 26 luncheon have already been sold.

Ms McKee said her speech *You Are Not Your Brain* will demonstrate the importance of understanding why people think and act the way they do in a business context.

"A lot of research suggests between 96 and 98 per cent of the time we are in our patterns as adults ...

we get an imprint in our early life about how we are and who we are, and we just get really clever at adapting that," she said.

"It's almost like we just hit the play button over and over again.

"In business, some of the cycles might be a mentality where 'I can do it all my own' if we've grown up in an environment where we've been quite independent.

"We therefore might not reach out to our networks to further our business, repeating this pattern when we are older."

The luncheon will be followed by two workshops that Ms McKee will also facilitate.

The workshops will be held at Welcome Lotteries House and are open to both men and women.

The first, titled *Conscious Com-*

munication for Business and Relationship Success, will teach participants to master the skill of conscious communication, and will be held from 5pm on Tuesday, November 26.

The second, *Creating Balance in Busy Times*, will encourage participants to take control of the brain to improve success in both business and personal lives.

The second workshop will be held at 7.30am on Wednesday, November 27.

Tickets for the workshops are \$30 each for Karratha and Districts Chamber of Commerce and Industry members, and \$35 for non-members.

Tickets are now on sale and registration forms are available from www.sbcwp.com.au.



Renowned psychologist Christine McKee will present at the Pilbara Women's network luncheon on November 26. Picture: Kerrin Smith

Leadership guru to run Pilbara board member masterclass

■ Kate Hodges

Pilbara professionals will learn a few lessons this month on the ins and outs of being an effective board member.

Leadership guru Steve Bowman will be conducting a one-day intensive masterclass on strategy risk and governance at the Karratha Leisureplex on November 19.

Mr Bowman will hold another session in South Hedland on November 21.

The masterclass will include four sessions covering strategic planning management, board structure, risk management, and board member selection and co-ordination.

The need for such training in the region was identified after a study commissioned by the Regional Development Association, in partnership with the Pilbara Development Commission.

RDA project co-ordinator Kathy McDermott said the Map and Gap

Analysis of Pilbara Non-Government Organisations report revealed governance was an area in need of improvement.

"Given the remoteness of the Pilbara, the pool for people who are interested in serving on a board is small and there is the potential for conflicts of interest and crossovers," she said.

"It is hoped that through attending these workshops board members will gain confidence and a good understanding that will in

turn enrich the NGO sector across the Pilbara."

Mrs McDermott also said Mr Bowman is an internationally renowned advisor on corporate and non-profit leadership.

"We anticipate that the knowledge and expertise that he can bring to the Pilbara will build capacity within the sector; and provide tools and strategies to ensure board members understand their strategic role to support service delivery across the Pilbara."

Mr Bowman will also host an information breakfast prior to the masterclass, covering topics such as reading profit and loss statements and balance sheets, three-month rolling cash flows, key ratios, the role of finance subcommittees and treasurers, and information on fraud prevention.

Those interested in can register online at www.pango.org.au, or RSVP to manager@pango.net.au by November 12.