

**Commerce Ballarat News Bulletin  
18 – 24 December**



The Staff of Commerce Ballarat thank our Ballarat businesses for their continued support and involvement in 2010. We wish you and your families a safe and happy Christmas.

**505 Club**

**GHMBA & Designer Commercial Furniture**

404 Dowling St, Wendouree  
Thursday 10 February  
5.30pm – 7.30pm  
Members Free  
Non-members \$16.50

An evening of networking and fostering relationships to grow your business.  
Drinks and savouries provided.

**"Mind the Gap: Why EVERY generation just doesn't get it"**

**Alexandria on Lydiard**

30 Lydiard St Nth, Ballarat  
Wednesday 9 March  
12.00noon  
Cost TBC

Panel discussion about the generation gap, age differences and how to overcome these issues in the workplace. Representing Gen Y: Jessica Saad, University of Wollongong, and Melissa Abu-Gazaleh, Best Catch Foundation. Representing Gen X: Glen Walker, Maxitrans, and Jeff Pulford, City of Ballarat.

**B.L.E.N.D**

**Beaumont Tiles**

106 Creswick Road, Ballarat  
Wednesday 9 March  
5.30pm – 7.30pm  
Members Free  
Non-members \$16.50

**Guest speakers:** Melissa Abu-Gazaleh, Best Catch Foundation, and Jessica Saad, University of Wollongong.

Are you 39 and under and looking for an opportunity to share ideas and impressions of today's business world? Drinks and savouries provided.

## **Commerce Ballarat Race Day**

### **Ballarat Turf Club**

Thursday 14 April  
Details TBC

## **Members News**

### **Commerce Ballarat Office Closure**

The team at Commerce Ballarat wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our office will be closed from 12.00noon on Wednesday 22 December and re-open on Monday 10 January. The next bulletin will be sent out on Friday 14 January.

### **The Wonder of the Web**

In 2010 some of our members participated in a very successful Social Media program, there are so many fantastic tools on line to help you and your business communicate. We are pleased to see that the message has spread and many others are using the new technology to communicate important announcements.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkHNNPM7pJA>

### **Member to Member Link**

Present your membership card at any participating business. New offers already lined up for January.

### **2011 Business Awards Sponsorship is now open**

Sponsorship is now open for the 2011 CGU Commerce Ballarat Business Awards. There are only very limited opportunities, if you are interested don't delay contact [Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au](mailto:Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au) or 5333 3233 to discuss.

### **Ballarat & District Trotting Club Primetime Sports Breakfast**

Date: 25 January  
Time: 7am to 9am  
Venue: Bray Raceway, Ballarat  
Cost: \$20  
Click [here](#) for more information

### **The rePOOvalist is now online**

The rePOOvalist has a new website, available via [www.repoovalist.com.au](http://www.repoovalist.com.au) where you can find some wonderful environmentally friendly and interesting items in addition to information about his poop scooping services.

### **Ballarat & District PETStock Ballarat Pacing Cup**

Date: 29 January 2011  
Venue: Bray Raceway, Ballarat  
Cost: Adults \$12, Concession \$8, Children U/18 FREE  
Dinner packages available  
Click [here](#) for more information

### **BLEND prize - 15 trees planted**

Earlier in the year at a BLEND event hosted by yum productions, Belinda Eden won a prize consisting of 15 trees planted on her behalf, thereby carbon offsetting her car for one year. The trees have been planted and a photo/comment have been updated at [www.15trees.com.au/blog](http://www.15trees.com.au/blog)

## Some Christmas Reading

If you're looking for some business related reading over the holiday break, here are a couple of suggestions.

David Alexander wrote an article published by the Centre of Independent Studies entitled: [How Australia's low-tax egalitarianism confounds the world](#).

[This report](#) from the Grattan Institute proposing that markets are more efficient than Governments in driving innovation to meet Australia's emissions and climate targets.

Finally the Melbourne-based Institute of Public Affairs have produced [Victoria looking ahead: Policy priorities for the Victorian Government](#), written in response to the election of the new Baillieu Government.

## Australian Regional Women Leaders Convention 2011 Early Bird

Don't miss out on the Early Bird rate for the Australian Regional Women Leaders Convention 2011, which finishes next Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December. [Full details here](#)

The Australian Regional Women Leaders Convention 2011 – in Melbourne on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> April – will be the most highly attended leadership and networking event for regional and rural women in 2011.

## \$2.5 million for textile, clothing and footwear companies

Small businesses in the textile, clothing and footwear (TCF) sector have been urged to apply \$2.5 million on offer in a round of grants.

The grants, which can reach \$50,000 per business, are designed to “turn ... innovative ideas into reality,” according to Innovation Minister, Senator Kim Carr.

Grants will be awarded to support projects in areas of mentoring, marketing and branding, supply chains, e-commerce and export opportunity development. Australian designers may also apply for grants if they manufacture in Australia.

“I believe the enterprising businesses that will be awarded these grants have the opportunity to become the next generation of Australia’s world-beating manufacturers and designers,” Senator Carr said.

Applications for this round (Round 6) of the TCF Small Business Program are now open, and will close on 25 February 2011.

To apply, visit [www.ausindustry.gov.au](http://www.ausindustry.gov.au), call 13 28 46 or email [hotline@ausindustry.gov.au](mailto:hotline@ausindustry.gov.au)

**Source: My Business e-news** [www.mybusiness.com.au](http://www.mybusiness.com.au)

## Australian Bureau of Statistics

4114.0 Silver screen devotees: cinema still Australians' favourite cultural activity (Media Release), 2009-10

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/MediaReleasesByCatalogue/2982450DCACF53E3CA256DCC007A3516?OpenDocument>

4174.0 Australian Rules still our favourite spectator sport (Media Release), 2009-10

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/MediaReleasesByCatalogue/1626E874230F3B8ECA256DEF007B3AA6?OpenDocument>

4177.0 Walking still Australia's favourite physical activity (Media Release), 2009-10  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/MediaReleasesByCatalogue/7E9A3938BB83490CCA256DF5007C3738?OpenDocument>

### **Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

[MR169: New Global Banking Standards Add Weight to Banking Competition Reforms](#) - 17/12/10

[MR168: ACCI Welcomes Student Visa Review - Skilled Workforce Needed](#) - 16/12/10

[Transcript: ACCI Chief Executive Peter Anderson - Doorstop, Canberra - Senate Economic Committee - Competition in the Banking Industry](#) - 15/12/10

### **Regional Industry Link**

If you're not on it, how are you going to know about it?  
Register on [www.regionalindustrylink.com.au](http://www.regionalindustrylink.com.au)

Click [here](#) for current opportunities

### **Media**

**Publication:** *The Courier* [www.thecourier.com.au](http://www.thecourier.com.au)

#### **Saturday 18 December**

The search has begun for an innovative design that will stand the test of time. **Ballarat City Council** has initiated a national design competition for the Civic Hall site. A call has been sent out for architects and designers from around Australia to submit their best designs for the redevelopment.

Ballarat will become the mecca of football next year when the Aussie Rules Club Classic comes to town. The inaugural pre-season event was launched yesterday, with organisers trumpeting a "festival of football", to take place over three days between March 18 and 20, 2011. The competition, which has sponsorship backing from North Melbourne Football Club and will be assisted by the Ballarat Football League and the **City of Ballarat**, caters for seven divisions.

#### **Monday 20 December**

**People and Places:** Lindsay Eaton, **Royal South Street Society**

#### **Wednesday 22 December**

Water restrictions in Ballarat will no longer be enforced from January 1. With heavy winter and spring inflows in all water supply systems, **Central Highlands Water** has announced it will be ceasing water restrictions and reverting to Permanent Water Saving Rules.

The youth of Ballarat are now able to express their creativity in a modern and interactive way. Last week saw the launch of two new youth websites which provide young people with an outlet for creative writing, music production and showing what they are capable of. The websites, called Right Click Records and Loop, were developed by **Lead On Ballarat**.