

**Commerce Ballarat News Bulletin
20 – 26 November**

Quote of the week:

"If you're playing against the Australians, you don't walk."
Ian Botham explains how to play the Aussies!

505 Club

Tracy the Placement People

22 Camp Street, Ballarat

Thursday 9 December

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

Members TBC

Non-members 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

New Member to Member Initiative

All members will now have the option to participate in our Friday member to member offer, this is not a discount page but an opportunity to value add. All

Weekly Bulletin subscribers will receive in the mail prior to the 3rd December a membership card that they will need to show to be able to receive the offer. Our aims are to encourage member to member usage, add additional value to CB membership and promote buying locally. We may have to limit the number of offers per week if this initiative is successful, to participate send through your business logo in jpeg format and your offer in less than 25 words to Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au by 12 Noon on any Thursday. The page will commence on the 3rd December.

City of Ballarat 'Come to Life - It's Christmas!' event

The launch of the festive season in Ballarat will take place on Friday 3 December from 5.30-8.30pm in Sturt Street. 'Come to Life - It's Christmas' will see Sturt Street transformed into a Christmas Wonderland with loads of activities and goodies on offer. Carols will reverberate along Sturt Street and there will be a special visit from Santa! Please note that the westbound side of Sturt Street will be closed between Lydiard and Doveton Streets to allow for a range of Christmas activities and entertainment.

NAB Business View Connect

The Business View Connect, NAB's online publication, is designed for business customers and looks at issues relevant to you as a business owner. This monthly read features fresh insights into current economic issues and provides you with useful tips to help you manage your business. It's free to subscribe and receive the publication on an ongoing basis. If you are already aware of Business View Connect and haven't already subscribed, you can still subscribe by visiting www.nab.com.au/by where you can also view this month's edition.

Sponsorships needed for charity event

Jamie Phillips from **Small Dog Design** is participating in a local event in Ballarat called Pushups For Charity this Saturday November 27th to raise money for Make-A-Wish Australia to help children facing life-threatening medical conditions. Jamie would appreciate it if you or your business would agree to sponsor him by donating fifty cents, seventy five cents, or one dollar for each pushup he does in 90 seconds during the event. Your donation is tax deductible. It is not a big amount, but every dollar makes a difference to the children. Please contact Jamie on fila@smalldog.com.au to let him know if you are willing to sponsor and if so for what amount.

City of Ballarat Youth Council - Applications now open!

If you know anyone between the age of 12 and 25 who would be interested in representing the views of the Ballarat youth community, applications are now open for City of Ballarat. The Youth Council discuss local youth issues and provide information to the City of Ballarat by representing and consulting young people, creating new opportunities whilst also assisting to organise events and projects. Applications close 5pm Friday 10 December. Application form and more information can be found [here](#)

New public holiday arrangements over Christmas and New Year

Employers need to be aware of the new arrangements for the Christmas Holiday season this year. Amendments were made by the Victorian Government to the Public Holidays Act 1993 in 2008. The main consequence for employers of these amendments is new arrangements where Christmas Day or Boxing Day fall on a Saturday or Sunday.

The Public Holidays Act states that the Christmas Day public holiday will be on 25 December, or "the Monday after Christmas Day when Christmas Day is a

Saturday or the Tuesday after Christmas Day when Christmas Day is a Sunday". On the other hand, however, the Boxing Day public holiday will be on 26 December, and "the Monday after 26 December (Boxing Day) when Boxing Day is a Saturday or the Tuesday after Boxing Day when Boxing Day is a Sunday". VECCI has recently closely investigated the effect of the amendments to the Act with regards to December 2009. In December 2009, as Boxing Day falls on a Saturday (26 December), both December 26 and 28 are public holidays. Accordingly, penalty rates will be payable on 28 December, and on 26 December.

VECCI argued vigorously against the Amendment, given the impact that of these amendments upon a range of industries, particularly the health, tourism, hospitality sectors that will remain open throughout the public holidays and therefore face increased operating costs. If you require any further information about how this may impact on your workplace, please contact the VECCI Industrial Relations-Workplace Relations Information Line on ph: 1800 672 731 or ph: 03 8662 5222. Further information about the gazetted public holidays in Victoria can be found at www.vecci.org.au

Source: VECCI www.vecci.org.au

Be less busy and more productive

If you always seem to be too busy to get everything done, or too busy to spend time pampering yourself or your family, you're probably over-scheduling yourself. With the advent of email and all the wonderful new technologies we have, life seems to have become harder (or at least busier) in many ways. We all believe we can be super-people and do it all. So how can we overcome the burdens of over-scheduling?

- Don't be a perfectionist! Face it - your kids won't die if they have a toasted sandwich for dinner once in a while. Will anyone really notice that you didn't iron the sheets? I'm not saying you should drop your standards on the important stuff, but select what's important and what's not. Sometimes "near enough" is good enough.
- Limit what you plan to do. How often have you had a day off to catch up on chores, failed to make it even halfway down your list and felt like you've wasted a day? If this has happened to you, it's because you've overscheduled your day. Be more realistic about how long things will take. Maybe only plan one activity a day and then when you've done it, sit back and enjoy your achievement.
- Be realistic about time. How often do we think we can just whip up three reports, interview four people and clear out our email in one day? Be realistic and plan for interruptions. If, for example, you know that on average you lose an hour a day on the phone with clients, plan for this time when you schedule your day. One good technique is to schedule time out for a special project. Block that time off in your diary and be disciplined - no interruptions or emails during that time, just work on the project
- Say no. For some of us, this is really hard. But again, you need to choose the right things to say no to. Maybe the telemarketer who just wants "a couple of minutes of your time" can get the flick. However, a great charity may be worth your time. But don't say yes to them all. Select one and commit to just that one if realistically that's all you have time for. Saying no can be a very empowering skill, so learn it.

Click [here](#) to read the full article from **My Business**

Australian Bureau of Statistics

[6227.0 Over half the Australian population has a qualification \(Media Release\), May 2010](#)

[6227.0 Education and Work, Australia, May 2010](#)

[8755.0 Construction Work Done, Australia, Preliminary, Sep 2010](#)

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

[MR151: Draw a Line Under Workchoices: ACCI - 25/11/10](#)

[MR150: Public Holiday Confusion needs to be Clarified - 24/11/10](#)

[International Education Taskforce Welcomes Government Commitment to Cooperation - 23/11/10](#)

Regional Industry Link

If you're not on it, how are you going to know about it? Register on www.regionalindustrylink.com.au

Click [here](#) for current opportunities

Media

Publication: *The Courier* www.thecourier.com.au

Saturday 20 November

Indigenous students at St Patrick's College will soon be able to gain some valuable life experience. An agreement between the college and **Tracy Pty Ltd** means Aboriginal students will be able to access vocational training and work experience.

Monday 22 November

Ideal weather greeted racegoers at the Ballarat Cup yesterday with more than 13,000 people pouring through the gates. Organisers estimated punters invested more than \$3 million on the race meet.