

**Commerce Ballarat News Bulletin
25 June – 1 July**

Quote of the Week:

"The taxpayer: that's someone who works for the federal government, but doesn't have to take a civil service examination." Ronald Reagan

B.L.E.N.D

GMHBA & Quest

7-11 Dawson St Nth, Ballarat
Wednesday 28 July, 5.30pm – 7.30pm
Members Free
Non Members \$16.50

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

505 Club

WIN Television

Walker Street
11 August, 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

New TenderWrite Series

August, October, November
More details soon

Ballarat BIGGEST Ever Bloke's BBQ

Mercure Ballarat Hotel & Convention Centre
16 September

Ballarat's BIGGEST Ever Bloke's BBQ will provide an entertaining approach to men's health. With all funds raised from the event going to the local national Prostate Cancer Foundation this is a great opportunity for your business.

We are looking for support from a number of local businesses, if you would like to support the event financially or through in-kind support please contact Jodie Gillett on Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au More information

Commerce Ballarat Ambrose Golf Day

Midlands Golf Course

Friday 11 November
\$300 (includes Golf, BBQ and drinks on course)
N.B Teams can only be hosted by Commerce members
Novelty holes and raffle to benefit
Limited numbers

Members News

Commerce Ballarat Business Achievement Award – Members Nominate

In 2011 Commerce Ballarat are introducing a new annual award that will be nominated by our members and voted on by the Board. This award will be to recognise either an individual or a business who has contributed over many years to business and the whole of the Ballarat community.

Nominations will be open until 5pm on the 8th July, we require our members to email the Executive Officer Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au stating in 50 words or less why they believe their nominee should be considered. The award will be presented at the CGU Commerce Ballarat Business Excellence Awards Gala Dinner. Criteria

New Address

Coughlan Civil Pty Ltd have moved to 6 Webster Street, phone 5331 2688 fax 53316833

Is it time to be tie-free?

This article about executive attire was found at [The Age](#). What is your company's policy?

David Koch does it in the morning, Mark Zuckerberg's been doing it for years and Barack Obama does it on the hustings.

Going tie-less, once considered daring, is now de rigueur for many CEOs, politicians, and across our TV screens where often commentators and presenters appear with their necks exposed.

The look that's slowly evolved as the IT industry has loosened up the workplace, is a way of getting personal but without dropping the patina of authority.

What not to wear: top tie rules

Where the tie once symbolised the separation between work and home, its absence suggests a bloke at ease with himself, like he's lounging around at work.

It makes men on TV appear much more like us, as if we're all on the same level, bringing the relationship between the presenter and the audience a bit closer, says Dr Helen Caple, a lecturer in media, communications and journalism at the University of NSW.

Caple sees the informality as suggesting a more familiar, but not a more casual, relationship with the audience.

"You can still look smart and formal without wearing a tie. I wouldn't associate the tie with being a symbol of authority and control," she says. "Its absence doesn't detract from that authority, but I would balk at them wearing a T-shirt."

Professor Theo van Leeuwen, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at Sydney's University of Technology, says the absence of the tie is actually a new uniform, not a breakaway from the old one, and its purpose is to draw us in.

"It is a strategy to lure you in, to make us more comfortable about (the presenters') role and make them feel one of us. Anybody who has power has to try and legitimate it in some way."

Van Leeuwen says TV news is increasingly being personalised with its official voice downplayed, but the relationship with the audience hasn't changed.

"The newsreader is still the newsreader and brings with them the authority of the news," say van Leeuwen, who, like the university's senior management, lawyers and investment bankers, still wears a tie to work.

Sporting an open neck is a show of power, van Leeuwen says, and CEOs dispense with ties because they can.

"If you're more powerful you might have a choice. But it creates a lot of confusion because if you have a lower role you might have to wear the uniform."

At the request of more than 60 clients, workers at Adelaide sales and marketing consultancy Patrick Baker and Associates now meet with clients without wearing ties, and with their jackets slung over a chair.

"The exchange of ideal flows much more; everyone opens up much more," says marketing director Steve Davis.

"The tie does create a formal atmosphere like a priest wearing robes to separate them from the flock, and that's not conducive to a client opening up," he says. "But we're still in crisp business shirts and cufflinks - we still wear pants."

In a world where how you wear your tie is highly nuanced - undo the top button and you may look a little undone, playful or rebellious, or even hard at work - van Leeuwen says it's no wonder it's being increasingly rejected by younger men.

David Jones spokeswoman Dianna Young says the focus in the last 12 to 18 months has shifted from the blue and grey-striped corporate tie to a fashion tie with more patterns and colour.

"People are wearing ties differently because there's not just a corporate focus, there's more a fashion focus, particularly with the younger customer and their interest in skinnier ties."

Leith Testoni, managing director of men's fashion label Zanerobe, agrees, explaining that men are dressing down the suit by taking off the tie, while dressing up their streetwear by putting it back on.

But for Testoni, there's no choice.

"If you want to look your best, a tie still looks fantastic."

FACTBOX

From Sunrise to the White House, men are ditching the tie. Here's who following the trend:

- US President Barack Obama
- US presidential contender Mitt Romney
- Seven Sunrise presenter David Koch
- Ten presenter George Negus
- ABC presenters Steve Cannane (The Drum) and Michael Rowland (ABC News Breakfast)
- Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg
- Apple CEO Steve Jobs
- Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer
- Boeing CEO Jim McNerney
- Coca-Cola CEO John Brock

Read more: <http://www.theage.com.au/executive-style/style/is-it-time-to-be-tiefree-20110617-1g7ap.html#ixzz1PxXy9nya>

Australian Bureau of Statistics

1350.0 Australian Economic Indicators, July 2011

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1350.0?OpenDocument>

6354.0 Job Vacancies, Australia, May 2011

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6354.0?OpenDocument>

8635.0 Tourist Accommodation, Australia, Mar 2011
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/8635.0?OpenDocument>

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 25 June

Ballarat based fertilizer company Munash has been supplying fertilizers to large properties years, but with the assistance of the Skills for Growth program, run by **BRACE**, the company has been able to alter its products for the smaller home gardener. **BRACE** manager of Skills for Growth Garry Holding said Georgiadis' passion for the product and for gardening in general was inspirational.

Tuesday 28 June

Disadvantaged and disabled jobseekers will now have access to a new \$2 million facility dedicated to helping find employment. The new **Finding Futures** headquarters, located in Doveton Street, was officially opened last night Catherine King. The new facility includes multiple training rooms, a range of interview rooms, corporate offices, open plan workplaces, lounges and the Futures Coffeehouse. Finding Futures chief executive officer Bryan McCormack said the project had taken eight years of hard work from a range of people. "With the retirement of the baby boomers underway, the biggest economic challenge facing this region is the sourcing of a skilled workforce he said.

Wednesday 29 June

Vicwest Community Telco employee Anthony Stephens is the winner of a national award for being this year's best sales professional for the company. The **Community Telco** group provides telecommunications solutions for many regional communities, including Ballarat. Mr Stephens was announced as the winner of the Altitude Award last weekend, which includes an all expenses-paid trip for two to Las Vegas. He said winning this award was not only remarkable for himself, but also for Ballarat.

Thursday 30 June

Businessmen and women flocked to the Ballarat South Community Learning Precinct for the launch of the B31 Ballarat Business Month yesterday. The Business Month, which is in its seventh year, isn't until August but yesterday's launch allowed 30 to 40 business-minded Ballarat citizens to engage with one another, and be informed of the plans for the month. "B31 Ballarat Business Month will cater for all business, large and small with over 35 events being held throughout the month." Australian Industry Group regional manager Kay Macaulay said.

Friday 1 July

St John of God Health Care's foresight when building its new Ballarat hospital has paid quick dividends. Two large areas were kept aside for future growth when the \$65 million Drummond Street North facility was built last year. Due to

unprecedented demand, one of those areas was officially opened yesterday as Unit 3 West. St John of God chief executive officer John Fogarty said the third floor ward was opened a couple of years earlier than initially thought. "The demand for beds has been exceeding our ability to supply them," Mr Fogarty said.

Who's in it today?

Shane Molloy, Kathy Teggerth and Mary Shone - **McCallum Disability Services**
Pam Ridd, Julie Nicholas and Lyn Wolff - **Finding Futures**