

**Commerce Ballarat News Bulletin**  
**27 November – 3 December**

**Welcome New Members:**

[The Design Bakery](#) James Baker

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**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**

**Member to Member Offers 3 Dec**

Membership cards have been mailed to all Weekly Bulletin recipients, to be eligible for these offers you must present your membership card at the place of business.

### **Ballarat's Most Festive Businesses**

We would like to thank all our entrants in the Commerce Ballarat Christmas Competition. The winners will be announced publically tonight at the City of Ballarat Come to Life its Christmas party in Sturt Street.

### **Judges Choice Winner – Studio G.A.S**

Studio G.A.S came very close to winning last year but the judges felt that there were just a few elements missing. Congratulations Josie for taking on board the suggestions from last year and coming out a winner in 2010.

### **Popular Choice – Woolshed Clothing**

Woolshed Clothing has come very close the past three years so we are thrilled to see Pam come out on top this year. Pam's customers had fantastic comments to make about her store and the service they receive.

### **505 Club Vacancy**

Due to a cancellation the October 2011 is available, if you are interested in hosting contact [Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au](mailto:Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au)

### **WHK's New Office – 21 Armstrong St North**

**WHK** (Evans & Metcalfe and HMG) have now opened under the one roof! The old 21 Arms has been beautifully refurbished to suit their expanding business operations. As part of the the celebrations, WHK are offering you the opportunity to win an Apple Ipad. Anyone can enter – simply visit their new office and submit your business card or entry form.

WHK's new details are: Armstrong St North, Ballarat 3350.

T: 03 5304 5700

E: [ballarat@whk.com.au](mailto:ballarat@whk.com.au)

### **BCRC & Support4Cancer Christmas Service for Cancer**

Date: Thursday 16 December

Time: 7.30pm until 9pm

Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral, Dawson St Sth, Ballarat

A special, non-denominational service to remember those affected by all types of Cancer. Full details available at [www.bcrc.org.au](http://www.bcrc.org.au) or [www.support4cancer.org.au](http://www.support4cancer.org.au)

### **Kingprint 1<sup>st</sup> in regional Australia for new digital technology**

Commerce Ballarat congratulates **Kingprint** on the announcement the first installation of Fuji Xerox's Colour 1000 Press technology into regional Australia. Kingprint Managing Director said "this technology was a natural progression for our business. The quality and productivity the machine gives allows us to offer our trade, designer and retail marketplace a whole new range of stock weights and finishes, plus print enhancements like short run varnishing." Kingprint plans to officially launch this technology along with its new Online Portal to its trade and design client base in February 2011.

Click to read the [Media Release](#)

### **RSM Bird Cameron Accountants SME Pathways Newsletter**

The SME Pathways Newsletter is free monthly online publication focused on topical issues relevant to you as a small businesses owner. This newsletter offers up to date business management and wealth creation tips and articles. It is free to subscribe and receive on a monthly basis (please email

[ewen.fletcher@rsmi.com.au](mailto:ewen.fletcher@rsmi.com.au)). Click for the [November SME Pathways Newsletter](#)

### **Small Dog Design has moved!**

Small Dog Design has moved office from Macarthur St. Their new location is on the corner of Albert and Dana Streets, opposite the police station (a part of the BD Tech building). Their new address is 101-107 Albert St, Ballarat.

### **City of Ballarat Activity Centre Strategy**

The City of Ballarat has commissioned consultants Hill PDA to undertake a study of the City of Ballarat retail and commercial centres. Retail and commercial businesses may be invited to complete a brief survey to inform Council of areas needing further Council support, investment and infrastructure. This survey includes all activity centres in the municipality and will advance the work already completed in the Ballarat CBD Strategy. Consumer research will also be undertaken to inform the strategy with telephone and in centre shopper surveys. Your support for this research is would be greatly appreciated.

### **Employer Volunteers Required**

Monash University requires some our members to generously donate about 30 minutes of their time to assist with a research project on employment relations in small firms. If would be interested in seeing more information email [Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au](mailto:Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au)

### **Main Road Market**

Date: Sunday 12 December  
Time: 2pm – 6pm  
Venue: Main Road

Ballarat will be hosting a one off market just in time for Christmas to showcase some of Ballarat's best up and coming designers and finest produce. Do you want to be involved? Email [mainroadmarket@gmail.com](mailto:mainroadmarket@gmail.com) or visit their blog at [www.mainroadmarket.blogspot.com.au](http://www.mainroadmarket.blogspot.com.au)

### **Paid Parental Leave scheme – what you need to know**

The Federal Government has introduced the Paid Parental Leave Scheme (PPL) for eligible employees; the scheme commences on 1 January 2011.

Claims can be filed by employees with the Family Assistance Office for the payments in connection to the birth or adoption of a child on or after 1 January 2011.

From 1 July 2011, the current PPL scheme requires employers to administer the payments themselves. This aspect is the subject of a current Bill introduced to the Federal Parliament by the Coalition. The Bill proposes to remove the requirement for employers to act as the paymaster for the payment of parental leave entitlements.

The Bill has been supported by VECCI and is consistent with recommendations made through the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI), of which VECCI is a key member. The latest indications are that the Government has put back consideration of the Bill until February 2011. VECCI will provide further updates to members on the progress of this Bill. Employees are eligible for PPL if:

- The employee is an Australian resident
- The employee is the primary carer of a newborn or adopted child
- The employee meets the PPL work test before the birth or adoption occurs

- The employee received an income of \$150,000 or less in the previous financial year

Eligible employees will be entitled to the federal minimum wage for 18 weeks (presently an hourly rate of \$15.00) to a maximum of 38 hours per week.

**Source: VECCI** [www.vecci.org.au](http://www.vecci.org.au)

### **Australian Applied Management Colloquium Scholarship Pre-screening**

So strong was the recent announcement that a final round of regional scholarship funding had been sanctioned, the AAMC National Committee has put in place a simple service enabling organisations to pre-screen their eligibility for Scholarship Funding. Throughout November and December an advisory team will be conducting the pre-screening service via telephone. The pre-screening call takes approximately 10 minutes. To schedule a convenient time for the pre-screening call, contact the AAMC Scholarship Advisory Department between the hours of 8.30am - 5.00pm on 1300 886 629 or email [nwilliams@wtaa.com.au](mailto:nwilliams@wtaa.com.au) with your preferred time. For more information about the scholarship program visit [www.wtaa.com.au](http://www.wtaa.com.au)

### **Australian Bureau of Statistics**

5676.0 Business Indicators, Australia, Sep 2010

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/5676.0?OpenDocument>

8731.0 Building Approvals, Australia, Oct 2010

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/8731.0?OpenDocument>

8501.0 Retail Trade, Australia, Oct 2010

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/8501.0?OpenDocument>

5655.0 Managed Funds, Australia, Sep 2010

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/5655.0?OpenDocument>

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

[MR156: Recovery Needs Time to Consolidate - Defer Rate Increases](#) - 1/12/10

[MR155: ACCI Welcomes Proposed ALP Debate on Nuclear Energy](#) - 1/12/10

[MR154: Promoting Greater Banking Competition - ACCI Senate Submission](#) - 1/12/10

### **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 27 November**

More children around Ballarat will have a joyous Christmas this year thanks to **UnitingCare** and the Target Christmas Tree. Through the project, presents are given to children who may not otherwise receive gifts this festive season.

UnitingCare Ballarat Christmas co-ordinator Tamie Austrums said the welfare agency helped close to 750 families during the Christmas season.

### **Monday 29 November**

**People and Places:** Shane Molloy, **McCallum Disability Services**

### **Wednesday 1 December**

Free parking will be offered in the Ballarat central business district every Saturday this month to encourage residents to shop locally. **City of Ballarat** councillor for destination and connections, Samantha McIntosh, said council was urging residents to show their support for local businesses.

### **Thursday 2 December**

Starting today, The **Regent Cinemas** Gold Class Cafe is offering a special breakfast deal. By spending \$15 or more from the breakfast menu, customers will receive a complimentary single movie pass and a copy of *The Courier*.

### **Friday 3 December**

Powered boats can return to Lake Wendouree from today after ramp barriers were removed from around the city icon yesterday. Five years after boating activities were banned and four years after the lake was declared dry, boating activities are set to return. With the lake now at 87.9 per cent full, the Transport Safety Board has given the **City of Ballarat** permission to reopen the boat ramps.

Ballarat's business and community leaders came together last night to help steer the **City of Ballarat** in the right direction. The Ballarat Tomorrow Summit saw more than 50 leaders from across Ballarat come together to discuss how the city has functioned in the last two years and how it can improve. Representatives from businesses, schools, charities, churches, sporting and other organisations attended the summit at the Town Hall.

Representatives from **St John of God Hospital** and Vaiola Hospital in Tonga have signed a new three-year Twinning Agreement which will provide the Tongan hospital with support and equipment. The Twinning Program, which has run since 1992, has provided the Tongan hospital with an Image Intensifier and ambulance training, as well as nursing, catering and medical staff.

**Who's in it today?** Cr Mark Harris & Cr Samantha McIntosh, **City of Ballarat**, John Fogarty, **St John of God Hospital**, and Leonie Crosbie, **CE Bartlett Pty Ltd**