

Commerce Ballarat News Bulletin
5 – 11 March

Quote of the week:

Welcome New Members:

PJ & CJ Handford Pty Ltd Carmel Handford

[SS Electrics](#) Gayle Border

505 Club

WHK

21 Armstrong St Nth, Ballarat
Thursday 7 April, 5.30pm – 7.30pm
Members Free
Non Members \$16.50

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

Commerce Ballarat Race Day

Ballarat Turf Club

Thursday 14 April
\$55pp or \$550 for a table of ten

All those who have attended our race days know this is the fun way to do business.

B.L.E.N.D

WHK

21 Armstrong St Nth, Ballarat
Wednesday 25 May, 5.30pm – 7.30pm
Members Free
Non Members \$16.50

Guest speaker: Damien Lubeek, Interpath Pty Ltd, winner of the Business of the Year Award at the 2010 CGU Commerce Ballarat Business Excellence Awards.

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

Drinks and savouries provided.

Members News

Member to Member Link 11 March

Take a look at what's on offer this week!

All CB members are invited to participate in this initiative. Do you have stock you would like to move quickly, would you like more people to visit on a particular day or time?

Commerce Ballarat Race Day Early Bird Prize Winner

Congratulations to **Simplex Insurance Solutions** on winning the Early Bird Prize for the Race Day on 14 April. You will get a race named after your business, a great free promotion opportunity!

Commerce Ballarat has a new Facebook page

We would like to encourage anyone with a Facebook account to login and "like" our new Fan Page. The more "likes" we get the easier it will be for us to spread our word! Visit our page to find out what is happening, what events we have on and to get in touch with other CB members and their businesses.

B.L.E.N.D Subcommittee Expression of Interest Open

Expression of Interest is now open for CB members interested in becoming a member of the four person subcommittee. BLEND is an opportunity for like minded young business people share ideas. More information to come; if you are interested please email sofie@commerceballarat.com.au

Leading Teams "Grow Your Business" Program 2011

The internationally recognised Leading Teams program is again being made available to Commerce Ballarat members as a result of funding by Regional Development Victoria.

Leading Teams currently work with Powercor, Quiksilver, Bendigo & Adelaide Bank, Tennis Australia plus the Sydney Swans, Essendon and Carlton AFL teams, just to name a few. This is a chance for local businesses to participate in the same program and share in the experiences Leading Teams has gathered from their work with successful sporting and business teams.

The program consists of 4 x ½ day group sessions, practical applications in your own business and one-on-one mentoring sessions over a 3 month period. As a result of the funding subsidy the cost to participants is only \$450 plus GST. For more information about the program click [here](#). There is limited spaces on this program, if you are interested in participating email Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au

Last Opportunity B2b Sponsorship

Campaign will be run at the start of April leading into the school holiday and Easter period. The focus for this campaign will be business to business spending. For more information contact Jodie@commerceballarat.com.au

City of Ballarat New Resident Welcome Booklet

City of Ballarat is again advertising for businesses to register to be part of the New Resident Welcome Booklet. This year, businesses can register online to speed up the process and the details are in the attached document. The details will be appearing in *The Courier* this Saturday but could you please distribute a copy to your members to ensure they don't miss their opportunity to get involved. Click [here](#) for more information

B31 Ballarat Business Month



Applications to host are now open, if your business or organisation is interested in participating please complete this [application form](#).

Easter Sunday Trading Legislation Update

The changes to the shop trading legislation are on track to be implemented in time for this coming Easter Sunday, 24 April.

The *Shop Trading Reform Amendment (Easter Sunday) Bill 2011* is due to be debated in the Legislative Council (Upper House) when Parliament sits again on 22-24 March.

Information on the progress of the Bill is available online at:

<http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/static/www.legislation.vic.gov.au-bills.html>

Golden Plate Awards 2011

The Golden Plate Awards is a meticulous, fair and prestigious restaurant competition with a six year track record in promoting excellence in hospitality in the Geelong-Otway Region. From 2011 the awards will be run separately in the Ballarat Region.

To discover how the golden plate awards can help your business achieve new heights, meet some of the organisers and venues that have been involved in the program by attending the official launch of the 2011 awards at the Mining Exchange in Ballarat on Monday March 21 between 3.30 and 5pm. RSVP essential by March 16 to 5222 7779 or events@maximpr.com.au. For more information visit www.goldenplateawards.com.au

300+ Rotarians to visit Ballarat

District Governor, Jessie Harman (a member of the Rotary Club of Wendouree Breakfast) will host this conference in Ballarat on 18, 19 and 20 March. The conference will be held at the University of Ballarat and the conference dinner at the Mercure Hotel and Convention Centre. It is expected that over 300 members and partners from the 59 clubs across district 9780 will attend.

The conference will have a host of high profile guest speakers including Miriam Silva, General Manager of Commercial Operations with Elders', the Hon. Kay Patterson, Vice-President of Interplast Australia and New Zealand and Susan Barton, Lighthouse Foundation.

For more information on the conference visit www.rotary9780conference.com.au/

Kokoda Trek Fundraiser – Sponsorship needed

A group of 20 people will be walking the Kokoda Trek in October with the aim to raise awareness to the broader community of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and the support that is available to everyone out there.

They are seeking financial support from the business community to either become individual sponsor one of the participants to get to Kokoda, or to become a corporate sponsor for the team. Click [here](#) for more information about individual sponsorship or read more about becoming a corporate sponsor [here](#). Money raised will also go towards Autism Victoria's [1000 Book Campaign](#). For more information on their 'Autism Awareness' campaign visit www.autismvictoria.org.au/fundraising/walking_kokoda.php

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Housing Finance, Australia, Jan 2011

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/5609.0?OpenDocument>

Labour Force, Australia, Feb 2011

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6202.0?OpenDocument>

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Independent Contractors in the Construction Industry Should be Respected, 9 March 2011

<http://www.acci.asn.au/Research-and-Publications/Media-Centre/Media-Releases-and-Transcripts/Workplace/Independent-Contractors-In-The-Construction-Indust>

Higher Energy Prices Will Harm Jobs & Productivity, 9 March 2011

<http://www.acci.asn.au/Research-and-Publications/Media-Centre/Media-Releases-and-Transcripts/Economics-Industry/Higher-Energy-Prices-Will-Harm-Jobs---Productivity>

Workplace Progress for Women in the Workforce Stymied by Red Tape Burden, 9 March 2011

<http://www.acci.asn.au/Research-and-Publications/Media-Centre/Media-Releases-and-Transcripts/Workplace/Progress-For-Women-In-The-Workforce-Stymied-By-Red>

Regional Industry Link

If you're not on it, how are you going to know about it?

Register on www.regionalindustrylink.com.au come to the free Information Sessions, details at the top of this bulletin.

Click [here](#) for current opportunities

Media

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

Tuesday 8 March

More than \$150,000 may have been raised for the **Ballarat Cancer Research Centre** during the Ballarat Come to Life Cycle Classic last month, but the events team is refusing to rest on their achievements. In fact, next year's event is planned to be even bigger and a \$200,000 effort is on the cards.

Wednesday 9 March

What are the ingredients for a successful Shrove Tuesday pancake day? For **UnitingCare Ballarat** it was flour, sugar, eggs, milk and **WIN** News meteorologist Jane Bunn. The ninth annual UnitingCare Pancake Day was held yesterday, with Ms Bunn the honorary Pancake Day patron.

Friday 11 March

Researchers from the **University of Ballarat** are investigating methods to pump water more efficiently through mathematical modelling. Staff from the Graduate School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences is devising optimum water flows through the use of algorithms and computer simulation.