



# George Town Chamber of Commerce Inc

PO Box 50, George Town, TAS 7253

[enquiries@georgetownchamber.com.au](mailto:enquiries@georgetownchamber.com.au)

[www.georgetownchamber.com.au](http://www.georgetownchamber.com.au)

## Special Points of Interest

- New President
- President's report
- GT Business Awards
- What When Where
- BB Aluminium 2013 Sustainable Development Report

## GTCC Committee 2013

### President

Alan Golley  
Peppers York Cove  
829900

### Vice President

#### Mark Ford

Heritage Isle  
6382 2422  
[mford@heritageisle.com.au](mailto:mford@heritageisle.com.au)

### Secretary/Liaison Officer

#### Terri Cameron

6382 2052 / 0487 284 589  
[topoftamar@bigpond.com](mailto:topoftamar@bigpond.com)

### Treasurer

Sue Sheriff  
GT News and Lotto  
[sales@gtnewsandlotto.com](mailto:sales@gtnewsandlotto.com)

2013 Issue 4

Newsletter Date: June—13

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CHAMBER?



### President's Report

With a number of issues due to hit the hip pocket of all businesses (especially small business) from 1<sup>st</sup> July, such increases in penalty rates, the increase of super contribution by 0.25% and now the latest announcement with Fair Work Australia increasing the minimum wage by 2.6% or \$15.80 per week, now is a better time than ever to introduce the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry campaign that was launched last month called "Small Business, Too Big to Ignore". This

campaign is designed to bring small businesses from around Australia together to put pressure on the federal government and the federal opposition to do something about the difficulty and every increasing costs of doing business in this country in the lead up to the federal election in September. For more information visit [www.toobigtoignore.org.au](http://www.toobigtoignore.org.au) and register on the page to show your support for this campaign. There is also the opportunity for businesses to tell their story. These stories may be used as part of the lobbying efforts taking place. This campaign is pivotal for our region as we are reliant on small businesses and we can't afford for more of these businesses to close down.

It's been a busy month with taking over the presidency of the George Town Chamber of Commerce. Being budget month, there was plenty to do sorting through all the political spin to try and determine what will and what will not be beneficial for businesses in our region. I hope my state budget snapshot was helpful for everyone and I will endeavour to keep the information flowing to ensure you are kept in the loop. Along with the budgets came plenty of opportunities this month for networking. I attended a number of federal and state budget briefings in Launceston and was able meet and talk to a number of politicians at both levels of government, from various political parties and discuss issues that businesses in regional Tasmania are currently facing and will look at facing from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013.

In the last month, we have been working with Northern Tasmania Development who represent the 8 Northern Tasmania municipalities on ramping up the media campaign surrounding the reintroduction of container freight services to Bell Bay. A press conference was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013 with myself and the Mayors of Dorset, Break O'Dea, George Town and Launceston. More activity is due to follow in the coming month regarding this and the lobbying will continue until Northern Tasmania's freight crisis had ended



Discussing the Bass Strait freight crisis at York Cove, George Town, yesterday are George Town Chamber of Commerce president Alan Golley, Launceston Mayor Albert van Zetten, George Town Mayor Roger Broomhall, West Tamar Mayor Barry Easther and Dorset Mayor Barry Jarvis. Picture: SCOTT GELSTON



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### Executive Members

**Ricky Sherriff**  
*Bell Bay Aluminium*

**Ricky Youd**  
*Als Painting*

**Andrew Michieletto**  
*Harcourts East Tamar-Town*

**Allan Crockett**  
*Semi-retired business man*

**David Vernon**  
*Assistant Principal Port Dalrymple School*

**Jarrod Bannon**  
*Student*

**Mike Moss**  
*Amcal Pharmacy*

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### George Town Business Awards....

Will be run during end of June/July 2013. There will be 5 categories;

- Customer Service Award
- Tourism Award
- Best Business in Main Shopping Area
- Innovation Award
- Small Business Award

Specific details will be available once the sponsorships are finalised.

### What, When, Where....

Work will commence on updating the **What When and Where** book towards the end of June. Those of you that have email addresses will be contacted electronically but I will also, personally call in to see you all through July and August. I need to have the booklet ready for proof reading by the middle of September. Please feel free to contact Terri—0487 284 589—if you would like further details.

### Bell Bay Aluminium 2012 Sustainable Development Report

Bell Bay Aluminium has published its 2012 Sustainable Development Report. It can be viewed on the Bell Bay Aluminium website at [www.bellbayaluminium.com.au](http://www.bellbayaluminium.com.au)

This report is published annually and is only available on line. The report provides a summary of the smelter's health, safety, environment, business and community performance for 2012. It also details a selection of projects and initiatives undertaken at the smelter in the 2012.

For those who missed the President's budget snapshot here is a brief review of what is in the state budget for George Town:

- Funding is still available for the controversial George Town Hub, with \$3.3m being allocated for the George Town Child and Family Center as well as \$3.6m being allocated for the George Town Learning and Information Network Centre, totaling \$6.9m for the entire George Town Hub project.
- \$9.1m has been allocated to the upgrade of the Bell Bay rail yard and bell bay intermodal terminal which will benefit bulk freight in and out of Bell Bay. And \$1m has been allocated to upgrade Bell Bay Main Road.
- Statewide, \$4m worth of funding will be given to Neighborhood houses, \$31.9m for increasing the police force and \$83m will be invested for the Gonski reforms, showing the state government believes that properly educating Tasmania's next generation of leaders is of pivotal importance to Tasmania's future.

If any-one has any news/information that you would like to see communicated in this newsletter, please send details through to Terri—milestones, photos and good news stories especially welcome.