



George Town Chamber of Commerce Inc

PO Box 50, George Town, TAS 7253

enquiries@georgetownchamber.com.au

www.georgetownchamber.com.au

Points of Interest

- Presidents comment
- Events
- Executive Meeting
- .New Member....

GTCC Committee 2014

President

Alan Golley
Peppers York Cove
6382 9900
president@georgetownchamber.com.au

Vice President

Mark Ford
Heritage Isle
6382 2422
mford@heritageisle.com.au

Secretary/Liaison Officer Terri Cameron

Top of Tamar Celebrations
6382 2052 / 0487 284 589
topoftamar@bigpond.com

Treasurer

Alan Golley/Terri Cameron
Details as above

Executive Members

Ricky Sherriff

Bell Bay Aluminium

Sue Sherriff

G.T. NewsXpress

Ricky Youd

Als Painting

Andrew Michieletto

Harcourts East Tamar

Mike Moss

Amcal Pharmacy

Brenda Gunst

Homoeopath and Hypnotherapist

2014 Issue 3

Newsletter Date: April 2014

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CHAMBER?

Presidents Comments:

Now that Easter is out of the way, I'm sure a number of businesses will be starting to see things slowing down while everyone begins their Winter hibernation. Cheap flights through Jetstar and a growing tourism market should hopefully see some tourist still around but now it's time for everyone to take some well-deserved time off and reduce those number of annual leave days that have been accrued over the busy season.

Memberships to the George Town Chamber of Commerce is now due. Over the coming weeks we will be issuing all local businesses with our newly developed prospectus and membership application form. This prospectus should give everyone a clear understanding about what it is exactly that the George Town Chamber of Commerce does, what benefits you get for being a member and why its important for all businesses to become a member of the George Town Chamber of Commerce. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

As part of your membership to the George Town Chamber of Commerce, you also receive a Blue Level membership to the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for FREE. This membership is valued at over \$350 and benefits of this membership are listed in the prospectus. The TCCI is currently going through some great developments and changes and there are going to be a huge number or additional benefits that we will be able to announce to our members shortly.

It's only 1 months to go now until the switch off of the copper phone network in George Town. We have finally secured a reliable contact through NBN Co. to discuss any issues with regards to the installation of NBN lines and again, I urge all business that experience any issues with regards to their installation to drop the Chamber a line so we can follow up with either your service provider or NBN Co. This information is also helpful when we are contacted by the media. It's great to have some real examples to use to ensure the word is spread about the shambles that has been the NBN rollout. On that note **I have been given an assurance by NBN Co., Telstra & the Federal Government that ANY BUSINESS (or resident) who has placed an order for an NBN service prior to the 23rd May, WILL NOT have their copper phone service disconnected until their NBN service is fully installed and working.** Even if you have not had your NBN service installed by the shut off date, as long as you have placed an order you will not be disconnected. The main reasoning behind this is due to the fact that there is up to 4 months waiting period for NBN services to be installed. So with the shut off date now looming, remember, the Chamber is here to assist if you have any issues with your installation. If you find your old phone lines get shut off before your NBN service is installed, please let us know.

Pulp Mill Update: By now I'm sure everyone is aware about what is happening with the Tamar Valley Pulp Mill. Late last year receivers for Gunns Ltd, KordaMentha, sought expressions of interest for the purchase of Gunns assets, including the permits to build a pulp mill on the partially developed site at Long Reach, 90,000ha of plantation, two wood chipping mills and a number of other assets. Following the expressions of interest there were a number of parties keen to submit bids.



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Presidents Comments continued:

Submissions of bids for the assets closed on the 31st March 2014 with KordaMentha confirming that 6 bids had been received and that it would then take another couple of months for the bids to be reviewed and negotiations to take place with the leading bidders. At this stage KordaMentha will not release any information about who the bidders are, and they will also not enter into a discussion as to whether the interested parties are keen to build the pulp mill or are just interested in the plantation and wood chipping assets. We now await this final process by KordaMentha and the release of further information is imminent, but we just don't know for sure when it will be released.

Prior to Christmas, an independent group of business that had been engaging in discussions with the Labour Party around ways to stimulate growth at Bell Bay and attract international investment into the area, conducted a survey of local businesses to gauge support for the Pulp Mill project. 95% of businesses surveyed supported the project development.

The George Town Chamber of Commerce as representative of businesses in the region adopts the same stance on the project, seeing the project to be of economic significance to the future growth of the region. Moving forward, the GTCCI's executive committee has nominated Andrew Michieletto to be spokesperson for the pulp mill project and will be the point of contact for any media around the issue.

Please feel free to send to us any details of your support for or specific benefits your business is likely to see from the project so that we can better represent the George Town business community in the media.

Kind Regards

Alan Golley

Events in Chamber calendar for 2014:

May: Business Breakfast—"Meet the new Minister for Small Business"

Still trying to organise this function—details will be circulated once date is secured.

June/July: G.T.C.C Business Excellence Awards 2014:

Details will be circulated once sponsors are secured: .sponsors are currently being approached.

August 15th 2014:

G.T. Business Excellence Awards Presentation Cocktail Party: PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR CALENDAR—last year's event was pretty good but we are hoping for an even bigger turn out this year!

December: Christmas Promotion 2014

Details will be available later in the year.



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Points of interest from G.T.C.C Executive Meeting—14/4/14:

Those present discussed the following:

- **Recovery of out-standing WWW advertising payments.**

It was with regret that a decision was taken to use the services of the Tasmanian Collection Services to recover over \$2000 worth of payments for WWW advertising.

- **Local business vandalism and shoplifting:**

These matters will be discussed with local police and brought up for discussion at the next Community Safety Meeting by A Golley.

- **Targa:**

Event appears to have lower profile this year. Chamber President has been unable to have meaningful discussions with any groups involved in promoting/managing this event. R Sherriff is continuing to pursue contacts to consider how to raise profile of CBD during lock down of street whilst race is occurring.

"Targa Day Madness"??? Maybe we can make this happen next year!

Membership:

We were fortunate to have some new businesses join the G.T.C.C last year, but we did lose more than we gained.

The Chamber will not survive without constantly regenerating itself and could potentially become stagnant without new people introducing new ideas/energy. Utilizing the new Chamber prospectus, which was developed in the main by Alan, we will be having a Member-ship drive this year.

If you know of any businesses that are not current Members of the G.T.C.C but would potentially like to be—then please either let me know, or, ask them to make contact so I can discuss details with them.

We do, how-ever, have a NEW MEMBER!

Samuel Vowles owns the business known as

Bass Bargain Butchers and trades from 7 Bathurst Street, (opposite Woolworths).

It is great to have you "on board" Sam; have added you to the mailing list and please feel free to use any of the contacts detailed at the side of this page if you wish to discuss/raise any issues relating to business operations in George Town.

