

Message from Chamber

Welcome to the 9th edition of the North East Tasmania Chamber of Commerce newsletter. Although Autumn has been warm and dry, recent rains have provided much-needed relief to both farmers and hobby gardeners.

Last year, our Chamber was given a Liberal Commitment Grant, aided by Chris Gatenby, which enabled us to offer workshops and events for our members and the business community. We have successfully conducted two workshops so far that were engaging and well-attended. Participants acquired essential tools and knowledge for constructing more effective teams within the workplace, complemented by practical training and the support and confidence necessary to mentor and coach colleagues with efficiency. Our recent Chamber Out & About event took place at the stunning Bridestowe Lavender

Estate in May, where Kim Weston delivered a presentation on marketing strategies, customer relations and tourism to the guests. Following the presentation, all enjoyed a delightful lavender theme supper prepared by Karen and her team.

The Chamber, in collaboration with TCCI, will be conducting additional workshops throughout the year. Details are provided in the newsletter on page 4. These workshops and events are free to Chamber members as part of their membership. Non-members are most welcome to participate as special guests but are advised to contact chairman@netcc.org.au or phone 0409 532 223 to express their interest.

We are pleased to announce that our next Chamber Out & About event is scheduled for Monday, 4th August at 5:30 pm, at Lot 40, 55 Main Street Derby. Taylor Clyne will be



• Glen Cheffers from Transtegic with participants from the Mentoring and Coaching Workshop held at Dorset Council Chambers in Scottsdale on June 26, 2025.

our Special Guest Speaker, discussing her recent visit to New York and the Blue Derby Foundation. This event provides an excellent opportunity to network with local businesses and organisations, and to establish valuable business connections in the region. Please keep



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www.netcc.org.au

watch for further details of this event on our facebook page and website closer to date.

We have a full calendar of workshops and events planned for the upcoming year. The Chamber will continue to advocate for, support, and assist businesses within our region.

We appreciate your support of local businesses, which contribute to the creation of jobs within our community and region. Thank you for choosing to shop locally.

Maria Branch
President

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Labor Tasmanian

Dorset Council – getting ‘Future Ready’

Just a quick glance of the June council meeting agenda will indicate how this council has worked throughout February to June on the big items that will drive this community forward – the Annual Plan, Priority Projects and the Strategic Plan. We have also managed to keep our fees and charges at a reasonable level with a



general rate increase of only 4.9%, compared to many other Tasmanian Councils of a similar capacity and size.

We have especially appreciated and valued the NE Chamber of Commerce and wider community input on a renewed Strategic Plan, which now includes “the recognition of heritage and history”.

Imperative 7.2 of the Strategic Plan has now been updated and expanded as a holistic planning project – “FUTURE READY”. Council will consult and engage with the community to determine a vision for each town and its surrounds, with the key focus on “live, work and play” elements in the identified growth areas.

The overarching project will focus on community liveability, driving economic growth and revitalising the North East region and will be delivered through development and implementation of a series of key interconnected plans.

Key focus areas may include housing and accommodation needs,

natural environment recognition and protection, recognition of heritage and history, economic growth needs, and finally master planning including recreational, open space, settlement growth and infrastructure planning.

The potential of FUTURE READY is very exciting.

Edwina Powell
Deputy Mayor Dorset Council



Become a NETCC member!

Become a NETCC member to enhance your business and connect with industry peers.

Members receive various benefits, free workshops and events to support their business, expand their professional network, and contribute to the local business community.

Joining is easy. Visit our website for details and to complete the online form.

[www.netcc.org.au/
become-a-member](http://www.netcc.org.au/become-a-member)

Farm Business Resilience Program – be future ready

Tasmanian farming businesses looking to strengthen their resilience and safeguard productivity and profitability are encouraged to register for the Farm Business Resilience Program.

This program offers highly subsidised training and personalised coaching to help farmers identify, manage, and navigate risks, while responding swiftly to challenges and opportunities.

Participants will gain access to a suite of tailored, practical tools, one-on-one coaching and valuable peer support.

If you operate a non-corporate farm business in Tasmania and are registered for GST, you are eligible to participate.

The program is available until September 2025, with flexible support

designed to fit around your schedule.

To learn more and register, visit the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania website:

[https://nre.tas.gov.au/agriculture/
farm-business-resilience-program-
\(tasmania\)](https://nre.tas.gov.au/agriculture/farm-business-resilience-program-(tasmania))



Small Business Support to Stay Running & Up To Date

Running a small business in regional Tasmania comes with its fair share of challenges—but navigating the digital world shouldn't be one of them. That's the driving force behind Digital Solutions Tasmania, a program designed to help small business owners build confidence with digital tools and make technology work for them.

Delivered by The van Diemen Project and backed by the Australian Government, the program offers practical, affordable support to help businesses across Tasmania's North East—from Scottsdale to Bridport and beyond—embrace digital opportunities.

"We love supporting businesses across Tasmania's North East to help them overcome challenges, look at new ways to use technology, and just answer the questions that every business owner has," says Adam Mostogl, CEO of The van Diemen Project. "This program is about giving people the confidence to take that next step—whether it's building a website, improving their social media, or understanding how AI can help their business."

For just \$59, participants receive up to four hours of one-on-one mentoring with experienced Tasmanian advisors, access to workshops and webinars on topics like digital marketing, cybersecurity, eCommerce, and automation, and an online learning portal full of

Digital Solutions Tasmania Backing Tasmanian Small Businesses

Drive success in your small business with access to government subsidised support for Tasmanian businesses from experts all across Tasmania across digital technologies, software, marketing and more!

No matter what you want to learn - or if you just need someone to give you a hand - we have skilled mentors across Tasmania to help you out.

For only \$59, you can access

- Up to four hours of one-on-one support
- Online workshops and webinars
- Online learning portal

Scan the QR Code, or sign up at digitalsolutionstas.com.au



practical resources and tools.

The support is tailored to each business, whether you're just starting out or looking to grow. It's hands-on, jargon-free, and focused on real outcomes.

If you're a small business owner looking to improve your digital skills, streamline your operations, or simply get more confident using technology, now's the time to get involved.

Register today at:
digitalsolutionstas.com.au
and take the first step toward a stronger, smarter digital future.

Adam Mostogl
CEO & Chief Entrepreneur
The van Diemen Project



Preparing for Tax Time: Resources for Small Business

As the end of the financial year approaches, small businesses are encouraged to take the time to review their financial position and ensure they are prepared for tax time. The Australian Taxation Office offers a variety of resources, tools and services designed to support small business operators in meeting their tax obligations accurately and efficiently.

For more information and tools to help you get tax time right, visit the ATO's [Support for small business page](#). Businesses looking to improve their knowledge of tax, superannuation and business management are invited to register for the free online masterclasses hosted by the ATO. The topics in the upcoming sessions cover:

- **Cash flow for small business success**
– Monday, July 21
- **Goods and services tax (GST)**
– Monday, August 18
- **Hiring and paying workers**
– Monday, September 22

For more information and to register, visit the [ATO website](#). For businesses unable to attend these masterclasses, the ATO offers an online learning platform: [Essentials to strengthen your small business](#). This free, online platform includes over 30 short courses on record keeping, cash flow, deductions, GST, superannuation, and more. You can complete the courses at your convenience, save your progress and resume later.

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Liberal Member for Bass

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Authorised by M. Ferguson, Level 1, 53 St John St, Launceston

Chamber is offering the following workshops:

Elevate – July 23

Purpose: elevate your team's supervision skills to boost retention, improve engagement, and develop young workers into valuable team members.

Facilitated by: **TROUBLE SMITHS**

From Obligation to Action – August 20

Purpose: to provide a practical understanding of key employment laws, and help participants turn those obligations into clear, usable workplace policies.

Facilitated by: TCCI

Finding the Balance – September 17

Purpose: to help employers understand their obligations and opportunities when it comes to flexible work arrangements and the new "Right to Disconnect" provisions under workplace law. (TCCI)

Strategic Focus Planning – October 15

Purpose: to guide businesses and organisations through a structured planning session that produces a clear one-page Strategic Focus Plan with priority projects and business-as-usual activities. (TCCI)

Venue: Scottsdale Library Room 1, **Time:** 10.00am to 12.30pm

• To register for Elevate go to: www.events.humanitix.com/managing-and-motivating-young-workers-workshop-scotsdale

• To register for the TCCI workshops please go to: www.events.humanitix.com/building-better-teams-scotsdale

*Non-members are welcome but need to register their interest via email: chairman@netcc.org.au



Employer of Choice Assist

Free HR & Workforce Support for Small Businesses in Northeast Tasmania

Introducing the Employer of Choice Assist Program

Are you a small business owner in the Northeast navigating staffing challenges, compliance headaches, or workplace culture concerns?

The Employer of Choice Assist Program is here to help — and it won't cost you a cent.

Delivered by the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TCCI), this fully funded program is designed especially for Tasmanian businesses with fewer than 20 full-time equivalent employees.

We offer practical, down-to-earth support to help you:

- ✓ Attract and hold on to great staff
- ✓ Boost workplace culture and mental wellbeing
- ✓ Understand your Fair Work and HR obligations
- ✓ Develop or improve policies and procedures

Support is flexible and tailored to you — whether it's over the phone, online, or face-to-face in your region. You'll also get access to tools, templates, and expert coaching.

Simple. Practical. Free.

We're already working with small businesses across the Northeast — join them and take the pressure off your people challenges.

👉 Learn more and get started at tcci.com.au/eoca or scan the QR code below.



Willow Lodge - an unlikely journey with a happy ending

As the past head of one of the top G8 schools of accounting in Australia how did I finish up in Scottsdale with Willow Lodge being my special place? I seem to have always chosen unusual paths to follow. Starting out wanting to be a commercial artist, accounting seemed a most unlikely choice at university.

Conscription and Vietnam was an alternative choice. I came from a business's family so accounting was an easy path and having been called up, university provided a safe place – provided you didn't fail a single course, and that I didn't. I finished my degree with an offer to undertake an honours year. Whitlam was voted in and conscription ended that day. I was keen to get on with life and landed a job with Deloitte, now the largest accounting firm in the world. A few years later I was chosen to be part of a special program with Deloitte in the US. I came back a few years later on a partner track and the youngest

audit manager in Australia.

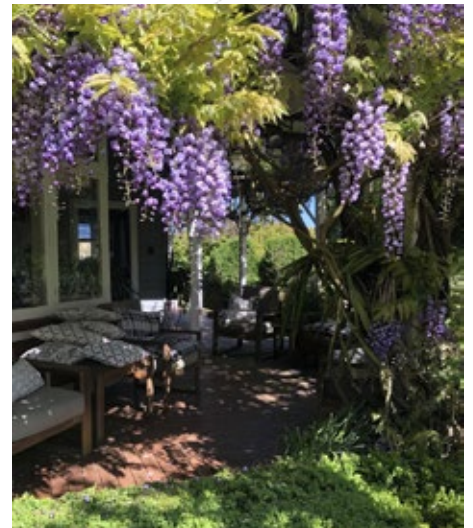
Again, the unusual took over and I chose to go back to university and lay around and pretend I was a 20-year-old student again. I took on a job as a tutor and started a higher degree.

I loved the positive vibe that came from teaching and received a prestigious teaching award and at one point nominated as the teacher of the year for the entire university. Life was good and the professor who hired me said if I did a bit more work I could easily be promoted.

I knew this meant research. Again, I chose the unusual path. I realised that I was a no numbers accountant. My research was embedded in psychology and decision making. Competency within a profession was all important and the last thing I did was to rewrite the competency standard for the Australian auditing profession.

The unusual... retirement. Few academics retire if at all and at 62 this was unheard of in academia. My plans paid off and I was given a continuing title as professor. I spent the next five years actively engaging with ex-staff and students. A program I loved was training and travelling to Montreal with a small group of exceptional students to compete in a world-wide management consulting competition.

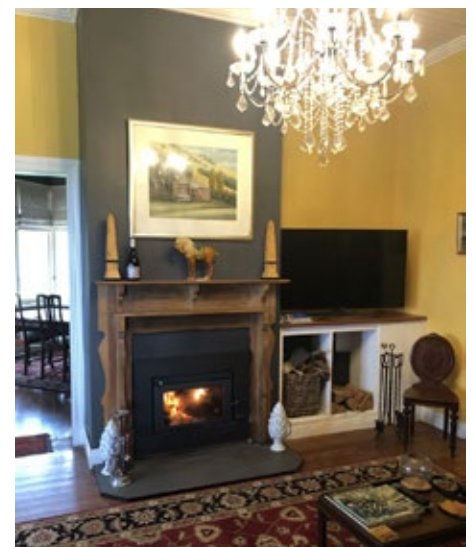
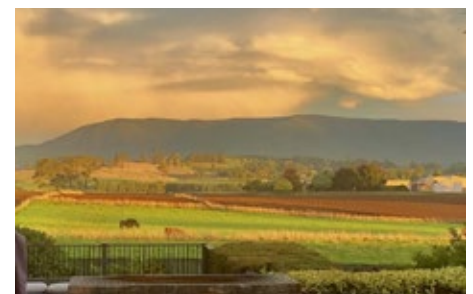
The unusual again... this time COVID. Travel stopped and life slowed down for me to an unbearable pace. One



day a close friend suggested I should do something meaningful with my life and buy Willow Lodge.

I managed to get into the state to look the place over and fell in love with the wonderful old house and garden which I run today as a traditional BnB. In 2023 I was named Country Lodge of the Year for Tasmania. What I didn't realise at the time was what a wonderful place Scottsdale was and how the people I met made this my home. Thank you Scottsdale!

Peter Roebuck, Owner/Proprietor
Willow Lodge
119 King Street, Scottsdale
www.willowlodge.boutique



Useful Contacts

All Emergency Services

Fire 000

Police 000

Ambulance 000

NESM Hospital 6778 8522

Ochre Medical 6352 2522

Tas Police (Non-urgent)
131 444

Parks & Wildlife Scottsdale
Field Centre 6352 6421

Service Tas 1300 135 513

TasNetworks
Power Outage 132 004

TCCI 1300 559 112

North-Eastern
Advertiser 6352 2642

To find a Justice of the
Peace in your area, go to:
<https://www.justice.tas.gov.au/commissioners-for-declarations-and-justices-of-the-peace/justice-of-the-peace/find>



Cancer Support and Massage in Scottsdale

Supportive Care is coming to Scottsdale. We are offering:

- 30 minute head, neck or shoulder oncology massage
- Information session and morning tea at 10-10.30am
- One on one support available with Cancer Council Tasmania staff between 10.30-2.30pm

When: Tuesday 22 July, 10.30am - 2.30pm

Where: Scottsdale, 21 King st.

This workshop is free for anyone impacted by cancer including the person diagnosed, carers and loved one.

Registrations are preferred as places are limited.
Please contact Cancer Council Tasmania at
supportservicesnorth@cancertas.org.au or 1300 65 65 85



Dorset Community House

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admin@dorsethouse.org.au
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