

# Dorset Business District Newsletter

Proudly brought to you by the **North East Tasmania** Chamber of Commerce Inc

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## Message from Chamber

Welcome to the fourth edition of our Chamber of Commerce Newsletter. The Committee hopes that the holiday/summer season has been profitable, positive, and rewarding for all.

We are already well into the year, and Chamber have been busy, offering our mini series workshops to the business community since February.

Scott Timmins, People Solution Specialist, our facilitator, has listened to the feedback from members and has restructured the all-day workshops into 3-hour sessions which allow less time away from the workplace whilst providing staff with the opportunity for professional development, engagement in the workplace, leadership and finding your purpose. These programs that the Chamber is offering provides valuable skills and resources to help employees grow and understand their value and be engaged.

Our website is currently in the design stage, and as the year progresses, Natasha Buttler, Marketing Strategist, will be launching our website as well as offering a hands-on marketing workshop on "Small Business Social Media". Natasha will be looking beyond Social Media platforms with some easy and practical tips for businesses to improve online presence to reach more customers. Natasha's workshops are

down-to-earth and engaging, stripping back marketing concepts into common language. Natasha will be visiting our area in May and details of this amazing opportunity will be advertised later.

The recent announcement of Begent leaving our town after many years of service has shocked the business district and community. Andrew Wardlaw, Commissioner of Dorset Council and Chamber will be working together to engage with the owners of the premises to find out what their plans are for the building after the closure. The Council is dedicated in stimulating our economy development and they have a business policy in place to support and provide incentives for entrepreneurs and investors to be interested to establish and expand in our region. This initiative is welcoming as our business district needs encouragement to grow, be sustainable, and succeed. Chamber is committed and endeavours to assist and support all businesses in our region.

As we approach the Autumn season, may the weather remain kind for our visitors and community and hope the last quarter of the financial year is safe; prosperous and fulfilling.

Thank you for supporting your local businesses and community.

**Maria Branch**  
President

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## NETCC Membership

Did you know that NETCC members receive two free calls to TCCI for advice and discounted rates on TCCI training sessions?

Contact us at the North East Chamber for more information:  
[chairman@netcc.org.au](mailto:chairman@netcc.org.au)

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## BRIDGET ARCHER

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## Supporting our North East Business Community

📍 100 St John Street, Launceston TAS 7250 📞 6334 7033 ✉ [bridget.archer.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:bridget.archer.mp@aph.gov.au) 🌐 [bridgetarcher.com.au](http://bridgetarcher.com.au) 📘 [BridgetArcherMP](https://www.facebook.com/BridgetArcherMP)

Authorised by Bridget Archer MP, Liberal Party of Australia, 100 St John Street, Launceston TAS 7250.

# New Business and Investment Assistance Policy

The recent closure announcement by Begent's, marking the end of its Scottsdale retail presence, has underscored the importance of proactive measures to attract new businesses to Dorset. In response, Dorset Council is committed to facilitating opportunities for economic growth and revitalisation within the region.



To address the vacancy left by Begent's and to support any new ventures seeking to establish themselves in Dorset, we will collaborate with the North East Tasmania Chamber of Commerce and engage with the owners of the premises to understand their plans for the building.

In line with our dedication to stimulating economic development, we have the "New Business and Investment Assistance Policy". This policy aims to provide support and incentives for entrepreneurs and investors interested in establishing or expanding their ventures in Dorset.

Under this policy, eligible businesses can access various assistance measures, including:

- Discounts on planning regulatory fees.
- Rate remissions for small new businesses.
- General advice and support in navigating Council processes necessary for establishing a new business

For the purposes of this policy, a small business is defined as one employing fewer than 20 employees.

Our objective is to cultivate an environment conducive to business success, thereby fostering economic growth and prosperity for our community. The New Business and Investment Assistance Policy underscores our commitment to supporting entrepreneurship and nurturing a dynamic business ecosystem in Dorset.

The policy document, available on the Dorset Council website, outlines detailed information on eligibility criteria, application procedures, and the range of assistance measures available to businesses. Interested entrepreneurs and investors are encouraged to review the policy and contact the council for further information and guidance.

Together, let's build a vibrant and resilient business community in Dorset.

**Andrew Wardlaw**  
**Commissioner - Dorset Council**

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## Time is running out for change from 3G to 4G

Chamber invited Michael Patterson, General Manager, and the Telstra team to our March meeting to discuss the shutdown of 3G and upgrades in our region. What was discovered, this shutdown will affect devices from sensors to EFTPOS and M2M Sim devices that work only by using 3G. If your business uses 3G, you need to check your devices and be prepared before 30th of June as these devices will not work after this date.

Some information off the Telstra website is below to give you a better understanding of what is happening. Please contact your service provider, if in doubt about your device, or you have any questions.

What will coverage be like after the 3G shutdown?

We are continuing planning and upgrades of our mobile network and new 4G coverage will be similar in size and reach as pre-existing 3G coverage.

As we complete these upgrades, you may notice some changes to the signal bars on your phone. But remember: fewer bars doesn't mean less service.

Additionally, we are working to repurpose the spectrum that is used for our 3G services and reallocate it to 5G to meet future data needs.

What do you have to do for the 3G shutdown?

For many customers there won't be anything to worry about. Most modern phones have both 3G and 4G capability. This means your phone will continue to work on our 4G band as before.

However, if you are still using a 3G only device, (or 4G device without VoLTE capability) you may wish to consider an upgrade to a 4G VoLTE device or a 5G capable device.

Changing phones doesn't need to break the bank. Switching from 3G to 4G provides a noticeable improvement in your download speeds and call

quality/reliability, also. Explore our full list of compatible phones.

What if I'm an enterprise, government agency or agribusiness customer?

For our agribusiness and enterprise customers, being prepared for the 3G closure may be different. There are a myriad of devices from sensors, to EFTPOS and M2M devices that work only on 3G.

You can find more information on our 3G shutdown, which goes into further detail about the closure. We're also working to demystify regional coverage questions, how our mobile network functions, and what those bars on your phone mean and why they change when you move around on Telstra Exchange. Please head to [www.telstra.com.au](http://www.telstra.com.au) for more information.

Extracted from Telstra Website  
March 22, 2024.





## METAL FABRICATION

- Machining and CNC Plasma Cutting
- Industrial Sandblasting and Spray Painting
- Enzed Hydraulic Hose Doctor
- Welding Consumables
- Bearings and High Tensile Nuts and Bolts

2-8 Station Road, Branhholm  
p: 03 6354 6103 | m: 0419 583 019  
e: branchfab@outlook.com  
[branhholmfabrications.com.au](http://branhholmfabrications.com.au)



## Creative Printing & Design Services



- product labels
- logos
- brochures
- business cards
- postcards
- website design

Contact Susie on 0417 329 975  
[oodals.com.au](http://oodals.com.au)

*Local business,  
local jobs*

## Support Program for Hospitality Businesses



THA's Great Customer Experience (GCE) Program provides opportunities, guidance and tools to help boost customer experience levels across all areas of your business.

Our big point of difference is that the FREE GCE program is delivered in venue, at a time convenient to you and your venue.

GCE has been developed specifically for Tasmanian hospitality and tourism businesses. It is delivered right around Tasmania by people with industry experience, who are passionate about supporting the sector. The program can be tailored to suit each specific business needs, and includes:

- Collaboration with business owner or leaders to understand needs and develop solutions
- Interactive sessions supporting staff to grow their knowledge
- Business health check
- Venue Awareness
- Skills Session

Book your Business Health Check today!

Program Facilitator  
Dave Noonan  
0437 099 315  
[dave@tha.asn.au](mailto:dave@tha.asn.au)



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**Thank you for your support.**

Authorised by Janie Finlay Australian Labor Party (Tasmanian Branch),  
253 Wellington Street Launceston 7250 [janie.finlay@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:janie.finlay@parliament.tas.gov.au) ph 63 24 20 60

# Visit Northern Tasmania: Winter Program

This applies to all businesses:

**Digital ready:** There are some great articles/information/ideas on the digital ready website and there is a free digital fundamentals course which is quite helpful, plus the free 4 hours of Digital coaching: <https://digitalready.tas.gov.au/>

**These workshops are later in the year from Brand Tasmania:**

**May 8** - Elevate Your Brand Story on Your Website, Launceston.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/elevate-your-brand-story-on-your-website-launceston-tickets-844306552627?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

**June 6** - Instagram 101 for Business, Launceston.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/instagram-101-for-business-launceston-tickets-844350393757?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

=ebdsoporgprofile

**July 3** - Content creation for Instagram, Launceston.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/content-creation-for-instagram-launceston-tickets-844351667567?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

This is for Tourism/Hospitality businesses only:

**Off Season** - As we move into the winter "Off Season" Tourism Tasmania will be launching an Off Season marketing campaign (April) to bring visitors into Tassie in our quiet time. Here is the information on the Off Season and how you can be a part of it:

<https://www.tourismtasmania.com.au/marketing/campaigns/the-off-season-2024/>

I can be contacted for ideas if anyone

needs help with this - submissions close March 31.

**Tourism Tasmania Off Season Industry Update event (North)** -

Tuesday March 26 at Adam's Distillery, Perth.

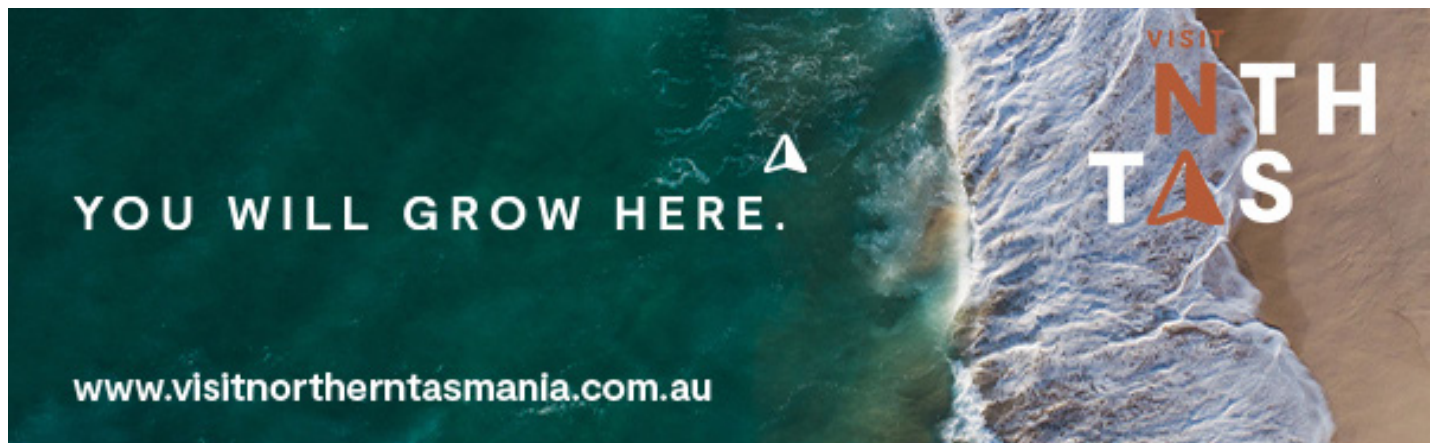
<https://eventcalendar.business.tas.gov.au/event/24810663-a/tourism-tasmania-off-season-industry-update-north>

**Visit Northern Tasmania Industry Hub** - this contains information on industry grants, support and opportunities <https://northerntasmania.com.au/corporate/industry-hub>

Information provided by:

**Renée Hardwicke**  
**Industry Development Manager**  
**Visit Northern Tasmania**

[www.visit.northerntasmania.com.au/](http://www.visit.northerntasmania.com.au/)



Photography credit: Stu Gibson

## Australian Tourism Data Warehouse - Digital Presence to promote your business.

The Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) is Australia's online marketplace for tourism information. The ever-evolving ATDW-Online platform is a content tool for tourism operators and businesses to use to improve their digital presence.

Any business that registers on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse will have their business automatically generate through to the website:

[www.visitnortherntasmania.com.au](http://www.visitnortherntasmania.com.au) which features the North East.

The Discover Tasmania App is fast

becoming popular and most tourists visiting Tasmania or even local Tasmanian use this app, and if your business is registered with Australian Tourism Data Warehouse, it will pop up in the area that has been searched.

Go to:

[www.discovertasmania.com.au](http://www.discovertasmania.com.au) and see 5 sections, North, South, East, West & Statewide Tasmania. All businesses featured are members of the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse. To join, it is free, and businesses are recognised by Tourism Tasmania.

For more information go to :

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

or call 1300 137 225 for assistance.

Tasmanian Hospitality Association Great Customer Experience Program -

Book your Business Health Check today and get your business ready for the next summer season.

Program Facilitator Dave Noonan is available to discuss the opportunities to help boost customer experience levels across all areas of your business. Don't leave it too late, give Dave a call on:

0437 099 315 or email [dave@tha.asn.au](mailto:dave@tha.asn.au).



# Project Y: An exciting new initiative for Dorset

The team at Dorset Employment Connect have been working hard behind the scenes on an exciting new initiative, Project Y. Project Y is a program that DEC have developed for the under 25 demographic in the Dorset community. The aim of Project Y is to provide guidance and support as young people transition from education into employment.

The program has materialized after DEC noticed a trend in feedback from the community with concerns around a lack of local support options available to young people at the beginning of their employment journeys.

The program is open to all young people under 25 including those-

- Currently exploring employment options
- Recent school leavers

- Looking for a change from their current employment
- Considering further education and training
- Seeking information about career pathways and opportunities

Project Y aims to empower young people by assisting them with-

- Accessing relevant information
- Connecting them with local employers & service providers
- Exposure to a diverse range of workplaces
- Ongoing individual support and mentorship.

A critical element of the program is the ongoing support offered. As the participants move through the initial part of the program, our career coach will work with them, individually,



to ensure the continuity of support and likelihood of a meaningful employment or training outcome. This includes support with resume creation, job interview skills, training information and access and career pathway planning.

The first round of the program begins on April 9th and will continue to run on rotation for the remainder of the year. Businesses or employers who may be interested in participating can email us at [projecty@dorsetec.org.au](mailto:projecty@dorsetec.org.au) to register their interest.

## New Employer Requirements: What you don't know can hurt you!

TCCI are offering workshops to provide a practical explanation of the Fair Work Act changes and how they impact your business

It's only March and we have already had a huge year in industrial relations and it's fair to say the rate of change shows no sign of slowing down.

The changes we have seen as a result of the Changing Loopholes Legislation affects every single workplace and employer in the country and they have created a heightened era of compliance.

As employers you will need to exercise greater caution and devote

more attention than ever before to ensure compliance with these new changes and obligations.

This information session will cover the key changes, what they are and what they mean for employers and what you can do to prepare.

These workshops are supported through funding from the Department of Employment and Workplace relations with ticket fees being donated to various charities across Tasmania.

**For ticketing information go to:**  
<https://events.humanitix.com/>

fair-work-act-changes  
what-you-don-t-know-can-hurt-you

### Dates and locations:

#### Hobart

Tue Apr 9, 2024, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
TCCI, level 1/309 Liverpool St

#### St Helens

Tue May 14, 2024, 7:30 am - 9:00 am  
Panorama Hotel, 1 Quail St

#### Online

Tue Apr 16, 2024, 9:30 am - 11:00 am  
Wed May 15, 2024, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

A workshop banner with a light blue background and a pattern of small white dots. On the left is a dark blue circular graphic with a white plus sign. On the right is the TCCI logo, which consists of a blue circle with a white triangle pointing down and the letters 'TCCI' below it. The main text 'WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN HURT YOU!' is in large, bold, dark blue capital letters. Below it, in smaller dark blue text, is 'A practical explanation of Fair Work Act changes and how they impact your business'. At the bottom, there are five yellow rounded rectangular boxes, each containing text in dark blue: 'Right to disconnect', 'New definitions of employment', 'New wage compliance requirements', 'Delegates and Union powers', and 'New protections and bargaining changes'.

**WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN HURT YOU!**

A practical explanation of Fair Work Act changes and how they impact your business

Right to disconnect

New definitions of employment

New wage compliance requirements

Delegates and Union powers

New protections and bargaining changes

TCCI

## 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>

## Chamber Meetings

NETCC Meetings are held the first Monday of the month (except long weekends).

For more information contact the secretary on 6352 3436.



## Spotlight on NETCC members: Little Rivers Brewing Co.



We are a family-owned craft brewery based in Tasmania, dedicated to crafting Premium, authentic beverages. Our mission is to create approachable and enjoyable brews, tailored for the discerning beer enthusiast who values quality and uniqueness. Our commitment is to deliver products you can trust and savour.

At Little Rivers Brewing Co. we have a strong community focus that extends far beyond our craft brews. With a heartfelt commitment to our community, we employ locals, use local ingredients in our products (where possible), give back through various donations and sponsorships, engage in local clubs and forge partnerships and collaborations with many local small businesses.

We currently employ 16 people, all living in the Dorset municipality. By supporting local initiatives and organisations we develop strong relationships where both the brewery and community thrive together. Little Rivers Brewing Co stands as a beacon of goodwill, demonstrating that success is not just measured in pints poured but in lives touched and community uplifted.

Little Rivers Brewing Co. goes beyond simply crafting exceptional beers. We offer a venue space ideal for corporate events or private functions, a versatile space providing

the perfect backdrop for memorable gatherings. We understand the importance of personalisation and offer products that can be tailored to meet corporate gift needs. From custom labels to curated gift sets, Little Rivers Brewing Co. ensures that every aspect of our offering reflects the individuality and professionalism our customers seek.

With an ever growing range of craft beers, premixed spirit cans and bottled spirits, our range is crafted to offer something for everyone.

Our dedication to excellence in both product and service redefines what it means to be a brewery, transcending the boundaries of taste to encompass the full spectrum of hospitality, celebration and community.



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**Your feedback is welcome and appreciated!**



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