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December 2016

Chamber Members up in Lights

Three of our Chamber members recently received national recognition, winning multiple awards and gaining significant attention from national sources.

Launceston Airport



Launceston Airport has been recognised as one of Australia's most innovative airports, in addition to winning the *Major Australian Airport of the Year* award at the Australian Airports Association (AAA) National

Airport Industry Awards in November. This is the second consecutive year in which Launceston Airport has won this title. In addition to this award, the *Airport Innovation & Excellence (Commercial)* award was also won by Launceston Airport at the awards dinner. In accepting this award, Paul Hodgen, General Manager of Launceston Airport remarked

'This is the culmination of what has been a tremendous year for Launceston Airport. It has seen us deliver a significant improvement to the ambience, 'sense of place' and visitor experience at our airport, which is the tourism gateway to Tasmania's north.' The Chamber is thrilled for Paul, Michael Cullen (Commercial & Business Development Manager at Launceston Airport) and the team who made this all happen. Congratulations!

Australian Honey Products

Directors (skills-based)

- [Business Action Learning Tasmania 2017 Program Registrations now open!](#)
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award comes after a long line of recognition in Excellence. In 2015, AHP's leatherwood honey was judged the World's Best Honey at the World Beekeeping Awards in Seoul. Its honey meads and ales also received medals. AHP's biggest export markets include China, Hong Kong, Canada, Oman, Korea, Japan and Taiwan. Judges praised Australian Honey Products for its inspiring development of international markets for a unique product that is utilising its environmental credential and personal approach very effectively. Congratulations to Lindsay and Yeonsoon Bourke for their hard work and recognition! We are very proud to call Australian Honey Products members of the Chamber.

S. Group



S. Group gained a place on the Australian Financial Review's *Fast 100*. The annual list recognises business across the country and is determined by the annual growth of each company over a four-year period. S. Group earned its spot on the list with a growth of 61.3 per cent. This

acknowledgement comes after a great year in 2015 for S. Group as well, being named as one of the AFR's *Fast Starters* last year, as well as winning the *Business of the Year* and the *Excellence in Marketing* awards at the Chamber's Business Excellence Awards in 2015. Congratulations to Sam Haberle, S. Group's Founder & Director, Phil Beeston, Operations Manager and the amazing team at S. Group. We're looking forward to continuing to support organisations like S. Group and seeing more fantastic things come in 2017 and beyond!

Beacon Update

2016 has seen many new businesses engage in activities organised by the Beacon Foundation in helping our young people get job ready and see the importance in further education, training and employment. The 8 Beacon schools in Northern Tas have worked closely with the local business community on a range of activities over the year culminating in several Work Readiness programs, online mentoring sessions and Charter Signings to finish off the year. Two grade 10 students from Prospect High were successful in receiving an apprenticeship with Vos Construction and Haywards having participated in a site tour of the two businesses, work experience and

work readiness activities during the year. Thank you to the Chamber for its ongoing support and to all the business representatives who have volunteered time to work alongside our educators in supporting our young students to transition successfully onto a positive pathway. I wish you all the very best for the festive season and look forward to working with you all in 2017. Merry Christmas, Lynda.

Launceston Airport Update

Having consulted widely with a number of local disability advocacy groups and representatives Launceston Airport has published its new **Disability Access Facilitation Plan**, significantly updating the content from the inaugural plan first launched six years ago. The new plan incorporates a number of recent access improvements made by the airport, but also accommodates recommendations from the Department of Infrastructure and *Regional Development Disability Access Plan Review (2015)* and best practice guidance from the Australian Airports Association. The Disability Access Facilitation Plan incorporates a new feature which allows visually impaired guests to listen to the content via an audio playback facility. The airport has also partnered with a local Launceston family in the design of an "Airport Awareness" booklet aimed at providing travel support for parents and carers of children on the autism spectrum.

Briefing on the new Building Act

Dale Webster, the General Manager for the State's Consumer, Building and Occupational Services will brief Launceston Chamber of Commerce members on the State Government's new *Building Act* and processes that commence from 1 January. The intent will be that more work can process without referral to Councils for Building Permits (for e.g. shop fit outs and the like). Dale will also explain the implications of the legislation that has already come into effect from March 2016 that is meant to increase certainty for developers – especially around Inner City Living in heritage buildings – the Chamber's case study from 2014. Come along with your questions.

Time: 11 – 12.30pm

Date: 31 January 2017

Where: Launceston Chamber of Commerce Board Room, Level 1, 29 Paterson Street Launceston.

New MBA information session



In November the Chamber hosted a visit from the Tasmanian School of Business and Economics at UTas, who held an information session on their new MBA. The MBA is designed to meet the needs of SMEs and regional economies, and the managers who work in and with them; and, because everyone is time-poor, runs part-time over two years in a blended study model. This means that most of the teaching is largely interactive online, but each unit includes an intensive weekend workshop, led by industry experts, which means you can discuss, debate and network with your peers – one of the most valuable aspects of doing an MBA.

This was echoed by Jan Davis at the presentation. “Fifteen years later I still keep in contact with the people I did my MBA with. We learn and share with each other – it’s not just about the technical knowledge. It’s about having a group of people who understand you and your experiences, with a shared knowledge base, that can be supportive when you need to bounce ideas around that you mightn’t be able to do in your workplace.”

Jan also endorsed the value of an MBA in an uncertain world. “Something like 60% of the jobs in 10 years haven’t been invented yet. Up-skilling means you remain competitive in the workplace and better able to face the changing and uncertain world of work. I personally support this program, and the Chamber is really excited about the opportunity it offers you.”

If you missed the recent information session and wish to find out more about this course, which commences February 2017, please contact MBA Director Dr Tommy Wong to arrange a consultation MBADirector.TSBE@utas.edu.au or visit www.utas.edu.au/mba

Changes to the Chamber's Office Bearers

In November, several changes to the Chamber's Board were made. Tim Holder, who has been a board member since 2015 was elected as President of the Chamber. We are looking forward to seeing the Chamber continue to grow and prosper under Tim's enthusiastic

oversight. Our thanks also to Donna Bain for her dedicated and exemplary service as President for the previous year.

In addition, John Kirwan and Bede Clifton were elected as Vice-Presidents of the Chamber, with Janine Healey elected as Treasurer. We are very excited to see the Chamber flourish under the direction of these new appointments.

When the Chamber board elected new office bearers, Richard Ireland, one of our Vice Presidents, decided not to stand for re-election.

Now semi-retired, Richard has been involved in various local organisations, namely the Design Centre, founding member of NTRDB (now NTD), and the Launceston Business Incubator. He recently retired from the Board of NRM North after eight years as chairman. Richard was elected as councillor to West Tamar Council in November 2014 and is also a director of the National Eventing Committee of Equestrian Australia. In addition, as chair of the Infrastructure committee he brought a number of initiatives to fruition including, more recently, the Inner City Case Study, the Convention Centre report, the Maritime shiplift project, the Maritime services hub and interestingly pushed Robert Dobrynski hard about measures the Europeans have implemented in parking initiatives which noticeably the Council has finally implemented, although I doubt Robert would acknowledge that. He is also the liaison for the WTC with TasWater. We are very grateful to Richard for his impeccable service during his time in office.

AusIndustry Tasmania news - Food & Agribusiness Opportunities

Enterprise Solution Centre Program (ESCP) is open and ready to fund projects!

Enterprise Solution Centre Program (ESCP) is open and ready to fund projects! ESCP is open for applications for projects with up to \$50,000 of co-contribution by companies with turnover of <\$10 million pa.

This program connects companies to expertise, technical and/or research advice to provide a solution to a technical challenge which businesses are unable to solve themselves in order to take advantage of a market opportunity. Click [here](#) for more info.

Showcase your products at Gulfood, Dubai, the largest annual food show in the world

Showcase your products at Gulfood, Dubai, the largest annual food show in the world, 26th February to 2nd March 2017
Collaborating with Austrade, Horticulture Innovation Australia Ltd, State Government Agencies, EFIC and Australia Arab Chamber of Commerce & Industry, FIAL will proudly showcase Australian food & beverages at Gulfood, Dubai. With show packages available from \$350 to \$1,900, companies have an excellent opportunity to engage interested buyers that suits their budget. Click [here](#) for more info.

Contact: Tasmanian State Office (Hobart) on (03) 6230 9900 or Leah Dent, Regional Manager (Launceston) on (03) 6700 5883

Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC)

The vision for AMGC is to develop an internationally competitive, dynamic and thriving Australian advanced manufacturing sector that is critical to the long-term health of the economy and the nation. AMGC will deliver activities to support small and medium manufacturers build world-class capabilities.

For more information contact the enquiries team:
enquiries@amgc.org.au

The AMGC has a directory of upcoming events and projects on its [website](#).

Advanced Manufacturing Innovation and Growth Voucher System Program

Eligible businesses are encouraged to apply for the state government's Advanced Manufacturing Innovation and Growth Voucher System Program (AMIG). The AMIG is designed to help manufacturing businesses develop skills in their workforce, adopt cutting edge technologies and become stronger enterprises. Eligible manufacturing enterprises will receive a financial rebate to offset the costs of improving their business.

For more information on eligibility or to apply go to TAS Gov Voucher System

Assistance is available to eligible Tasmanian small and medium sized advanced manufacturing enterprises with a sales turnover in excess of \$300 000 up to \$20 million, for approved marketing related activities in advanced manufacturing interstate and international markets. Further information is available [here](#).

Expression of Interest to have your business on the new Tasmanian Manufacturing capability profiles web portal

The Tasmanian Government and the Tasmanian Minerals and Energy Council (TMEC) are working collaboratively to develop a web portal to showcase the Tasmanian manufacturing sector's capability and capacity. This portal will be a key tool in raising the profile of the Tasmanian industry in national and international manufacturing markets, as well as providing a resource to better connect Tasmanian businesses and assist collaboration and more effective pooling of knowledge and resources. Click [here](#) for further info.

East Asia Trade Mission & Export Toolkit information

East Asia Trade Mission

The dates and itinerary for the Trade Mission have been confirmed. The official dates are 24 February to 3 March 2017. The Deputy Premier, Jeremy Rockliff will be leading the Mission. Countries as advised are: China, Shanghai (Tourism focus) & Nimbo; Japan, Tokyo and South Korea, Seoul.

In regards to businesses who have yet to lodge an EOI they can still do so but need to ASAP. Late EOIs will be considered but it needs to be noted that the itinerary is now locked in and activities are currently been finalised including business matching. Businesses can choose to attend the whole mission or part of.

If you are aware of any businesses considering the Mission please refer them to Warwick Clark: Warwick.Clark@stategrowth.tas.gov.au for further information.

Export Toolkit

An additional resource for the toolkit has just been released by FIC and the Export Council of Australia's, it's the new *Export Essential App*.

"FIC and the Export Council of Australia have released an app designed specifically with new and less experienced small and medium exporters in mind. The first of its kind, Export Essentials, fills the export information gap for Australian SMEs, providing key details often overlooked by businesses when planning to export. From checklists and calculators, to understanding how to manage currency risk and export finance solutions, *Export Essentials* will help Australian SMEs understand how to take advantage of opportunities and develop export strategies."

More info can be found [here](#).

Tasmanian Young Achiever Awards - nominations closing soon!

The Tasmanian Young Achiever Awards will be closing soon.

The purpose of the Tasmanian Young Achiever Awards is to acknowledge, encourage and most importantly promote the positive achievements of all young people up to and including 29 years of age as of **31st December 2016**.

Nominations can be completed online to access the online nomination form please [click here](#).

Most people would love to nominate someone they know but like a lot of us we are time poor. The Young Achiever Awards team are more than willing to help!

If you are able to provide some basic information they can do the rest for you.

They can then get in contact with the nominee, let them know you have nominated them and have them complete the questions. Click [here](#) for their contact info.

Winners will receive a \$1,000 courtesy of Axsys. To find out more, please click [here](#).

NOMINATE NOW!
www.awardsaustralia.com

Seeking nominations for young Tasmanians up to and including 29 years of age for the Tasmanian Young Achiever Awards.

TASMANIAN YOUNG ACHIEVER AWARDS

Award Categories

	The Coffee Club Arts and Fashion Award		St.LukesHealth Healthier Communities Award
	Heather & Christopher Chong Community Service & Volunteering Award		Motors Tasmania Sports Award
	TADPAC Print Service to the Disability Sector Award		University of Tasmania, Faculty of Education Teaching Excellence Award
			Colony 47 Young Indigenous Achievement Award

WIN A SHARE IN \$10,000








Nominations close: 8 December 2016 | Enquiries email: tas@awardsaustralia.com Ph: 6234 9677

 Tasmanian Young Achiever Awards
  @TAS_YAAwards #TASYAA

Regional Development Australia - Funding Programmes Announced

Building Better Regions Fund

The Australian Government has released the program guidelines for the new Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF).

Grants are available through two funding streams; Infrastructure Projects and Community Investments.

The Infrastructure Projects Stream will support projects which involve the construction of new infrastructure, or the upgrade or extension of existing infrastructure that provide economic and social benefits to regional and remote areas.

The Community Investments Stream will fund community building activities including, but not limited to, new or expanded local events, strategic regional plans, and leadership and capability building activities. These projects will deliver economic and social benefits to regional and remote communities.

An information session will be run by the Australian Government in Launceston on the **25th January 2017**.

Program Guidelines, the application form, contact details for enquiries, information session details and other programme information, is available [here](#).

Community Infrastructure Fund

The Tasmanian Government has also announced a new fund to support community infrastructure initiatives throughout Tasmania. It is open to not-for-profit organisations, local councils (including council-owned businesses) and private sector businesses to assist with capital costs associated with the construction of new or the upgrading of existing infrastructure that will benefit the community.

There are two divisions of grants:

- Minor grants for \$10 000 to \$ 50 000 (no matching funding required)
- Major grants exceeding \$ 50 000 (contribution required).

The guidelines are available [here](#).

Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Board - Expressions of Interest, 5 x Board Directors (skills-based)

The Northern Tasmania Development Corporation (NTDC) is the new regional economic development agency for the North and North East of Tasmania to be formed from 1 January 2017.

NTDC has been established by seven Shareholder Councils who have together signalled their strong desire to work with and through NTDC to facilitate a significant improvement in prosperity throughout the region. The Shareholders are seeking significant business and community involvement in and with NTDC.

NTDC also enjoys the official support of the State Government and Launceston Chamber of Commerce as the official economic development agency in the region. NTDC will be pursuing a strategic and proactive role in identifying regional priorities and undertaking strong advocacy to and collaboration with all levels of government, business, and the community with the objective of significantly improving the prosperity of our region.

Board Director positions are for a three year appointment and will attract a nominal sitting fee.

To obtain the Information Pack please email admin@northermtasmania.org.au or contact Maree Tetlow for a confidential conversation on (03) 6380 6803. Applications close 5pm Friday 9 December 2016.

Business Action Learning Tasmania 2017 Program Registrations now open!

BALT's mission is to support self-reliant industry development, with diverse companies cooperating to improve their profitability, develop their people and grow the Tasmanian economy. This mission is built on three pillars; collaborative action learning, achieving important business outcomes, and the awarding of nationally recognised qualifications. The group seeks to achieve this through running programs to implement real business improvement projects with groups of local companies.

A BALT action learning program typically involves a minimum of three companies undertaking one project each. Each company nominates a project and three people to participate in the program. Two of the nominated people participate in their 'home' company project and a project at one of the other companies. The third person only

participates in their 'home' project. This allows for a team of five for each project.

In 2017 a new program regarding ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems is being launched.

For more information on BALT, see their [website](#).

You can register your interest in participating in a BALT program [here](#).

Education Architecture Consultations

With a significant shift from traditional to new and emerging industries, along with an ageing population, Tasmania will soon see demand for new services delivered in new ways and this will impact on the skills required by new and existing workers. As part of meeting these demands TasTAFE recognises the need to provide the skills and knowledge required to create rewarding and sustainable futures for all Tasmanians.

To assist TasTAFE in developing an 'Education Blueprint' to guide their priorities over the next 10 years, they will be holding a series of community consultations where they hope to connect with as many people, groups and organisations as possible.

Why not have your say in helping to shape how TasTAFE delivers training into the future? Click [here](#) for more info.

Tasmanian Women in Resources Awards 2017

Tasmanian Minerals and Energy Council (TMEC) in conjunction with the AusIMM Women in Mining Network Tasmania (WIMnet) launched the 2017 Tasmanian Women in Resources Awards at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery on Thursday the 10th November.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Tasmanian Minerals and Energy Council, Wayne Bould said the awards recognize the excellent work being done by women in the resources industry. "The awards promote the great careers for women in the resources sector, with the industry striving to increase female participation with the goal of at least 20 per cent women in non-traditional roles by 2020."

These awards recognise the important role women play in the resources sector through five key categories:

- Exceptional woman in Tasmanian resources
- Gender Diversity Champion in Tasmanian resources
- Excellence in Diversity Programs and Performance
- Outstanding Tasmanian tradeswomen, operator or technician
- Exceptional young woman in Tasmanian resources

Each category winner in the Tasmanian Women in Resources Awards 2017 will automatically be put forward as the Tasmanian Finalist in the

National Women in Resources Awards. For more information, [see the flyer](#).

Bell Bay Aluminium have produced a video on the topic of women in resources, which you can watch [here](#).

Champions of Tourism 2016

Tourism Northern Tasmania invite you to nominate our "Champions of Tourism".

Join them at a secret location to celebrate our Champions of Tourism and Northern Tasmania's very successful 2016!

Date: Tuesday 13th December 2016

Time: 6.00-9.00pm

Venue: Secret Location - Meet at Smiths Lane, Launceston (opposite St Johns)

Remember - *Dress to impress!*

Tickets are selling fast, don't be disappointed - get yours from [Launceston Tickets](#).

Incoming delegation from China & Japan

The Department of State Growth will be hosting an incoming delegation from China (Chengdu) and Japan. If you currently export to China or Japan, or are interested in doing so, please let Michelle Riley, Senior Project Manager at the Department, know as soon as possible. Phone 6777 2802 or email michelle.riley@stategrowth.tas.gov.au.

NBN grants for success stories

Small to medium businesses who are connected to the National Broadband Network (NBN) are able to apply for a share in \$150,000 to tell their innovation success stories. Businesses with up to 50 employees can apply for one of the grants by telling the story of how they are innovatively using NBN for their business activities.

Applications opened today at 12pm and close on February 17.

See the [website](#) for more info.

No More Harm Conference 2017

Bullying, Harassment and Discriminating Behaviour Solutions will be the focus of the No More Harm National Conference, Brisbane from 26 - 27 June 2017.

If you or your organisation have a new initiative, program or policy, the Program Committee want to hear from you. Expressions of interest to present a 30 minute session are currently being accepted.

For further information or to submit an abstract please visit the [conference website](#). Submissions close 13 March 2017.

Movers and Shakers

Northern Tasmania Development is delighted to advise that **John Pitt** has accepted the role as **Chair** of the new NTDC. John brings a wealth of experience from his previous Managing Director role with pitt&sherry dating from 1989 through to his retirement last year. As Managing Director he was responsible for the company's operations with his role centred on growing the business, leadership, strategic planning and the development of a competitive, sustainable company culture. In addition to this, John was this year's Gold Medal winner awarded by the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and also last year's Hall of Fame winner awarded by the Launceston Chamber of Commerce.

Greg Leong's (General Manager, Theatre North) current contract finishes at the end of the year. The Committee asked if he wished to extend his position. He responded with a proposal for restructuring the administration of the organisation. Three new positions will be created in 2017. At the age of 70, Greg will cut back his hours to become **Artistic Director** (a new role) and hand over the running of day to day operations to **Deputy GM Mandy Shepherd** who will become **General Manager** from 1 January 2017. The two other new positions will be a full time **Administration and Finance Manager** and a part time **Marketing Officer**. Current Administration Officer **Linda Gleeson** will take up the position of **Administration and Finance Manager**

Following the recent resignation of APAC Chief Financial Officer and **Launceston Airport** board member Nadine Lennie, **David Hall** has joined the company in the interim capacity as **CFO of Launceston Airport**, whilst a selection process is undertaken for a permanent appointment.

Carolyn Ranson joins **B&E Personal Banking** as **Retail Manager for Northern Tasmania**, bringing over 27 years extensive retail banking experience to the role. Mrs Ranson will lead B&E's regional retail team to deliver superior customer service, ensuring the home and personal finance and everyday transactional needs of Tasmanian customers are met.

Hays Recruitment were recently named '*Large Recruitment Agency of the Year*' at the Seek Annual Recruitment Awards. These awards are judged by an independent panel of industry experts, recognising innovation, continued growth, diverse and inclusive culture and candidate engagement.

Harcourts Launceston is pleased to announce the appointment of **Jayne Harwood** to the role of **General Manager – Sales & Property Management**. Jayne has previously held the role of Sales Manager, but following the **retirement of Carmen Bailey**, Jayne will be stepping up to oversee both departments to continue the growth and development of the company.

On Wednesday 9th November representatives from **Heritage Isle** attended the **QBE Awards** evening in Sydney. Heritage Isle were nominated in 7 categories and are excited to announce wins in the following categories:

- Insurance Initiative of the Year 2016
- Financial Institution of the Year 2016
- Person Loan CCI Salesperson of the Year 2016 – **Mark Ford**
- CCI Branch of the Year 2016 – George Town

The Chamber congratulates Heritage Isle and all the staff on these fantastic results.

Crowe Horwath is pleased to announce the appointment of **Chris Elliott** to **Managing Partner** within our Launceston office. Crowe Horwath would also like to acknowledge the promotion of **Nic d'Emden** to **Associate Partner**.

Tasplan has appointed **Michelle Woodiwiss** as **Business Services Manager for Northern Tasmania**. Michelle has been a member of our northern team for three years and is looking forward to managing the expansion of Tasplan's member, employer and financial advice services from Launceston and Devonport offices.

Upcoming Events

New UTas Associate Degree Info Sessions

The University of Tasmania University College is holding a range of information sessions throughout December to provide more information about the new Associate Degrees on offer in 2017. There are two sessions in Launceston:

Tuesday 6th Dec, 4-6.30pm, Hotel Grand Chancellor

Thursday 15th Dec, 3.30-5.30pm, Launceston LINC

These events are **free** and all are welcome to attend. To find out more and register your attendance, click [here](#).

My Brilliant Career & the Wobble of Fiction: A journey along the boundary between autobiography & fiction

Maggie MacKellar, award-winning Tasmanian author will speak at the 2016 ASAL Patron's Lecture. This will be held on **Tuesday 13th December, 7-8pm** at the **Academy Gallery, Inveresk Campus**. Click [here](#) for more info.

Australian Institute of Company Directors End of Year Celebration

Will be held **Tuesday 13th December, 5.30-7.30pm** at the **Hotel Grand Chancellor**. Both members and non-members of AICD are welcome. Click [here](#) for more info.

Tasmania Report 2016, presented by Saul Eslake

Will be held in Launceston for lunch on **Wednesday 14th December, 12.45-2.30pm** at the **Mt Pleasant Room, Country Club Tasmania**. Click [here](#) for more info.

Launceston Carols by Candlelight

A three-hour concert, featuring sing-along carols and an all-local line up of talent, including Matt Garwood will be held on **Sunday 18th December** from 7pm (gates open at 5pm). Entry is **\$5 per adult & \$3 per child**. Funds raised support the Examiner's Empty Stocking Appeal. Strictly an alcohol & smoke free event. See www.launcestoncarols.com for more information.

2017 AFL fixtures for Launceston

Pre-season: **Hawthorn v Geelong** - Fri 17th Feb, 7.50pm
Round 6: **Hawthorn v St Kilda** - Sat 29th Apr, 1.45pm
Round 8: **Hawthorn v Brisbane** - Sat 13th May, 1.45pm
Round 16: **Hawthorn v GWS** - Sat 8th Jul, 1.45pm
Round 21: **Hawthorn v Nth Melb** - Sun 13th Aug, 3.20pm

Dates to remember for 2017...

10-12 February	Festivale
15 February	Launceston Cup
18 February	Penny Farthing Championships
7-9 April	Shimano Enduro Tasmania - World Series
7-9 April	V8 supercars
14-17 April	National Band Champs (Easter weekend)
24-29 April	Targa Tasmania
4-6 May	Agfest



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Business Excellence Awards



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