

27 January 2009

welcome

Welcome members to another busy year. We're here to help you make the most of business in troubled financial times, with educational and networking events for businesses of all sizes.

We're trialling a new format for our member news and in this edition you'll find offers and information from other members and info on upcoming events. As the year progresses we'll be expanding on 'member news' with more information.

Our e-news service which goes to a wider audience will still exist but will not encompass offers from our members - these offers are from members to members, and form part of the benefits of your membership. This PDF copy of 'member news' is for our members - but do feel free to show it to prospective members as a marketing tool.

what's on in february

Our first **Business After Hours** for 2009 will be held next Monday 2 Feb in conjunction with North Ryde Macquarie Park Chamber of Commerce. Your host is Andrew Daff, General Manager of the award-winning Lane Cove River Tourist Park.



Join us for a BBQ from 5.30-7.00pm. RSVP by this Thursday by email, phone 9807 4999, fax 9807 4988. Members of RBF & NRMPC free, non-members \$40. Invitation and booking form downloadable here.

On Wednesday 18 Feb we have an important **breakfast workshop** run by Andrew Bland to get you ready for the new "Forward with Fairness" legislation. Things will start to change for employers in the middle of this year so let Andrew help you get a head start. RSVP by email, phone 9807 4999, fax 9807 4988. Members \$35, non-members \$45. Invitation and booking form downloadable here.

We regret that due to circumstances beyond our control our luncheon with NSW Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione on 10 February has had to be postponed. We will let you know the new date as soon as possible and apologise for any inconvenience caused.

new members

Peter Sullivan of **LCD&Co Financial Solutions**. Peter has taken over the accountancy side of this business and is your contact for company accountancy, tax returns, etc. Contact Peter and the LCD&Co team on 9874 1653.

David Boundy of **Boundy Legal**, business and property lawyers, who can help your with your conveyancing needs. Boundy Legal is based at West Ryde, and you can contact the team on 9043 1346.

New members are supplied with the latest member list so they can start contacting other members and introducing themselves. RBF members are advised that they are able to ask for a list of current members at any time.

non-member charges for business after hours

You would have noticed that we have started to charge non-members for attending Business After Hours. Other large Chambers of Commerce and networking associations charge for similar events, as many of you will be aware if you're a strong networker. Business After Hours has always been a free of charge benefit for our members, so they can network and catch up. Of course guests are welcomed - we hope that guests will like what they see and become a member too - but if guests attend regularly without becoming a member, they are also getting the networking benefits our members get without the commitment of membership. We don't think this is fair to our members.

So...here's what's happening with Business After Hours in 2009:

Non-members/guests will now be eligible to attend one Business After Hours free of charge. We think they'll meet enough people to gauge an impression of our organisation and the depth and breadth of membership.

After that, we will ask them to pay \$40 inc GST for each Business After Hours they attend. If they plan to attend even five of our ten Business After Hours events each year, they'll probably discover it's financially worthwhile becoming a member - then they can get discounts to other events and have full access to our membership list as well as other benefits.

People who join us withing three months of attending their first BAH in 2009 will get a refund \$40 off their initial membership fee.

news & specials from members

Financial planning from Lyn

Lyn Clark-Duff has sold the accountancy side of her business to Peter Sullivan (see above). Lyn is now concentrating on financial planning services, specialising in retirement and superannuation planning in addition to investment strategies for people of all ages. Her business is called **LCD&Co Financial Planning**, and you can contact Lyn on 9874 1653 for all your investment advice and super strategies.

Leaving a big corporate?

Laurence Harrould of Aviel has a new program aimed at people leaving the corporate world and considering running their own business. His Transition to Small Business program has two major components: one aimed at managers about to retrench staff, and one for people facing retrenchment or simply looking for a new direction. Visit http://aviel.com.au/transition-small-business_intro.html for more information.

Bonus from Curzon Hall

Book your next corporate event by 15 February to take advantage of a David Jones gift voucher or your choice of a continental breakfast, seated lunch or post conference party. Conditions apply. Contact Sue Mills on 9887 1877.

Hills M2/Transurban new address

Transurban is now located at Level 5, 50 Pitt St, Sydney. Phone and fax numbers remain the same. Your contact is Debra Minto, Community Relations Adviser, on 9254 4940.

Latin Extravaganza

Supporting
THE SHACK
Epping Youth
Development Group

The Event Features:

- 3 Course Dinner with pre-dinner drinks and canapes
- Live Band - "Latin Soul"
- MC Legendary Olympic Swimming Coach Dick Calne
- Entertainment & Special Guests
- Auction and Raffle

Location:
The Epping Club
Grand Ballroom

Date:
Saturday, 28 February

Time:
7:00pm

Ticket Price:
\$70 per person

The Epping Club
Sydney's 5 Star Club
45 Rawson Street, Epping
www.eppingclub.com

FOR BOOKINGS PHONE
9876 4357
(select 9 for Customer Service)

The Shack is looking for donations of items that can be raffled or auctioned on its Latin Extravaganza night (above). The Shack is a non-government agency and it is the local community that has kept it running since 1992.

All sponsors' names will be display on each table on the night.

To donate please contact Jackie Pettit on 98763543.

Other events in the area:

Sydney Women's Network, whose events some of our members attended last year, has released its 2009 calendar of events. Events and booking information can be found on the SWN website: www.sydneywomensnetwork.com.au

Stamford networking for charity: the Stamford Grand North Ryde in conjunc-

tion with local company PA on the Way is holding a series of networking nights throughout 2009. These events will support 4 charities and rotate them throughout the year. We understand the first event will be held in February (date TBA) and will be raising money for the Post Natal Depression unit at St John of God Hospital in Burwood. For enquiries contact sarah@paontheway.com.au

Unfair Dismissal Laws are about to change - are you ready?

Businesses will no longer be able to dismiss employees without fair warning.

Employers will be required to prove that they provided employees a reasonable opportunity to improve their performance.

To protect your business you need to put a clear dismissal process in place NOW.

RBF member BlandsLaw has developed three options to help protect your business:

- **Standard Dismissal Policy \$550.** This will provide a written standard dismissal process that can be inserted into an existing employment policy. This option would be suitable for smaller companies or those requiring a simple unfair dismissal solution.
- **Customised Advice and Training \$1100.** This option will include customised advice on developing a suitable dismissal policy followed by training of line managers and supervisors on how best to execute the policy. The training will include an overview of the “do’s and don’ts” of managing the dismissal process on an ongoing basis. This option would be suitable for larger organisations that have more than three line managers or supervisors managing employees.
- **Customised Advice, Training, Employment Policy Review with Recommendations \$2,750.** If you are a business with three or more supervisors managing employees and have not reviewed your employment policy in the last two years, this is the option for you. As well as providing a customised dismissal process and training for

implementation, we will review your whole Employment Policy and make recommendations that can turn your Employment Policy into a productive communication tool.

For more information call Andrew Bland or Vivienne Storey on 9805 5600.

Help for small businesses during recession from MTBI

Macquarie Technology Business Incubator, MTBI, Northern Sydney’s only business incubator, today announced the availability of a further 200sqm of space to the existing 1000sqm facilities.

Business incubators are business assistance environments that provide organisations with an inexpensive start-up environment and a range of administrative, consulting, mentoring and networking services to help create the right setting for innovations and entrepreneurs to succeed.

There’s a trend to start-up small businesses during a recession which in turn creates a demand for small business support. This is where MTBI can help. With the newly released space, there’s room for another 6 businesses to incubate and use the next few years to grow strong and independent and to then graduate when the economy recovers.

About MTBI:

MTBI is the only business incubator catering for the Northern Sydney regions; working with entrepreneurs from the private and public sectors to commercialise technology. Aligned with Access MQ – the commercial arm of Macquarie University, it has a lot to offer an up-and-coming technology company.

The resources available in science, management and technology commer-

cialisation, the location, and serviced office combine to help inventors and entrepreneurs build their businesses.

It offers entrepreneurs a unique opportunity to grow their business under the guidance of professionals with a track record in building successful companies. At their best, incubators help new firms create jobs and revive communities.

MTBI offers a low-cost office space, shared equipment, and the companionship of fellow entrepreneurs. At the moment MTBI houses about half a dozen tenants, who usually stay two to three years, then ‘graduate’ to commercial space.

Under the guidance of MTBI and the wealth of entrepreneurial experience



offered by its staff, many of the businesses that come to MTBI with their ideas have now established themselves as successful companies.

Further Information:

Krista Borg – Marketing Manager

- Phone: (02) 9805 3111

Alan Ellis – Director, Macquarie Technology Business Incubator

- Phone: (02) 9805 3100

Two free seminars from the Department of State & Regional Development:

- “How to Sell More when others Stop Selling” Wednesday 11 Feb, 8.30-10.30am at North Parramatta. For owners and managers of medium/large enterprises who have already achieved sustainable revenues and a sound customer base but want to take their business to the next level.
- “Getting Started In Exports” 18 Feb and 18 March, 8.00-11.00am at North Parramatta. For owners and managers of SMEs who have a sustainable revenue and business base and wish to get started in the export market.

Contact Mangala Srinivasin on 8843 1116 or email mangala.srinivasan@business.nsw.gov.au

You can download a flier on these workshops from our website.



ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE CHARITY GOLF DAY

**proudly hosted at
Oatlands Golf Club**

**Friday
27th March 2009
Registration 7 am + breakfast
Shotgun start 8 am
Lunch approx 1pm**

Proceeds to community projects of the
Rotary Club of Ryde.



**ROTARY CLUB CHARITY
OF RYDE GOLF DAY 2009**

REGISTRATION / ENTRY FORM

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MAJOR SPONSOR | \$5000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CORPORATE SPONSOR | \$2500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | HOLE SPONSOR | \$660.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | INDIVIDUAL PLAYER | \$125.00 each |

Sponsor's Name

Contact details - Telephone

E-mail:

OATLANDS Membership number if applicable

PLAYERS NAME	M/F	CONTACT NUMBER	HANDICAP
1			
2			
3			
4			

Number for lunch

Names of extras for lunch

PARTNERS AND FRIENDS WELCOME FOR LUNCH, COST \$35.00

All cheques made payable to:
THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE INC. and posted to
THE ROTARY CLUB OF RYDE
P.O. BOX 90, RYDE 1680

**PAYMENT REQUIRED WITH REGISTRATION BY 3rd MARCH 2009
LIMITED NUMBER OF GOLF CARTS AVAILABLE @ \$40.00
ENQUIRIES - MICK NELSON - 0428 645 128**

Your co-operation not only greatly assists with our fund-raising, but your team will also receive a complimentary ticket in our early-bird raffle.

Do you have any member offers, member events or media releases you would like to promote in Member News? We also welcome pertinent business articles from members, maximum 750 words. These may be edited if necessary.

Send your information to Sabrina, email info@rydebusiness.com.au

Member News will be produced on a regular basis up to twice a month.

Chamber meetings/socials:

- 2 Feb. RBF/NRMPPC Business After Hours at Lane Cove River Tourist Park - contact Sabrina on 9807 4999
- 9 Feb. Eastwood Chamber at Eastwood Police - contact Lydia Scuglia on 9858 1588
- 17 Feb. Gladesville Chamber - contact Reg Cain on 9879 6020
- 18 Feb. Ryde Chamber at Ryde City Bowling Club - contact Sabrina on 9807 4999
- 25 Feb. West Ryde Chamber at West Ryde Hotel - contact Mick Nelson on 9874 2876

Please consider the environment before printing this newsletter.