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Chairpersons Report

Hello everyone,

It's a great time to be in the Wimmera. The highly successful and enduring Wimmera Machinery Field Days are on again. What an important contributor to the local economy and a crucial link for all those involved in the rural sector. The information and technology that is shared ensures all keep up to date with best practices and remain efficient and profitable. This is also a great event to renew old acquaintances and review the past year. All the best to everyone for great week.

As you would be well aware on 23 February 2017, the Fair Work Commission handed down a decision to vary certain penalty rates in some hospitality and retail modern awards. The decision affects penalty rates for working on public holidays and weekends for both permanent and casual employees in these sectors. It also affects the times that penalty rates apply for working late nights or early mornings in the restaurant and fast food awards. These changes do not apply yet. The starting date for these changes will depend on the award that applies and what the change is. The affected awards are:

- ⇒ General Retail Industry Award 2010 [MA000004] (the Retail Award)
- ⇒ Fast Food Industry Award 2010 [MA000003] (the Fast Food Award)
- ⇒ Restaurant Industry Award 2010 [MA000119] (the Restaurant Award)
- ⇒ Pharmacy Industry Award 2010 [MA000012] (the Pharmacy Award)
- ⇒ Hospitality Industry (General) Award 2010 [MA000009] (the Hospitality Award).

More information about the decision, including who it affects and how and when it applies, will be available soon. We encourage you to return to the website www.fairwork.gov.au in the coming days for further information.

It was great to have the Western Bulldogs in the area in February. It is a privilege to have the reigning AFL premiers pay a visit and they gave a thrill to the young and not so young. I was able to meet a couple of the players and I was impressed with their professionalism but more importantly their willingness to interact with the community via schools, local football clubs, aged care facilities, disability services etc. I'm sure even the non Bulldogs supporters wish them well in 2017.

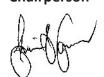
As part of my role in the employment sector I am keen to make sure employers are aware of the services and financial assistance that can be accessed when recruiting new staff. Attractive financial incentives are often linked to skilled applicants and this can be beneficial to the growth and success of your business. I encourage employers to contact their local employment service provider of choice or go to www.employment.gov.au for more details.

As we move into autumn enjoy the fine weather and I look forward to seeing you all have a successful 2017

Cheers, Brian



Brian O'Connor Chairperson





With Tim English





With Dale Morris (Just a tad difference in height!)



Business From the Office

The hot topic this month was the announcement of changes to the Sunday and Public Holiday Penalty Rates. For your interest the Business Horsham Executive Committee released a statement which was published as a 'Letter to the Editor' in the Wimmera Mail Times on 1st March. ABC Radio also received the below statement and I was interviewed on behalf of the executive committee in relation to the statement.

In case you did not have the opportunity to read it I have included the statement below. While it is fair to say we are an advocacy group for business we also need to be mindful of the massive gap between the 'haves' and 'have not's' in our society and the committee agree there are many other areas that need to be looked at as stated below.

As well, in this edition of our newsletter, we have introduced a new section 'Sharing good news stories' on page 8. So when you get great feedback we want to know about it. These testimonials will also be shared on our Facebook page from time to time.

27th February, 2017.

The recent announcement made by Fair Work in reference to Penalty Rates is far better coming from the Fair Work Tribunal than from a political party in power which would be viewed as being biased.

Generally speaking this announcement by Fair Work may work against the casual worker in hospitality, retail and pharmacies who work on Sundays and Public Holidays. This may increase the likelihood of more work being made available for permanents.

A retailer quoted "I'm sure casual employees will now miss out on Sunday hours because it's cheaper to roster on full time or part time workers, there needs to be the same cut for all employees."

Another retailer quoted "We will strongly consider opening 7 days a week".

Society need to embrace change in remuneration, taxation levels and structures. With the current lifestyle where many now eat out on a regular basis along with the demands of the tourist trade, whereby every regional centre is clambering for the tourist dollar, there is an expectation that both hospitality and retail should be open 7 days a week. This is more likely to occur if the cost of employment is reduced marginally.

Now with these reduced penalty rates making this a little more affordable for businesses more people may be employed to fill this gap.

Having agreed in principle that Sunday wage rates should be lowered to be in line with Saturday rates.

We should have empathy for those worse off than ourselves. Society needs to ensure an appropriate 'safety net' exists for those lower paid workers.

Sunday was traditionally the day of rest but today it seems to be just another day. Most of us work five of the seven day week and which five that happens to be seems to be coming less and less relevant.

It's disappointing that our young workers/leaders in the community are working on the weekend and they won't get rewarded for effort as much as they used to.

There is an increasing gap between the 'haves' and the 'have nots'; between those who pay taxes and those who do not.

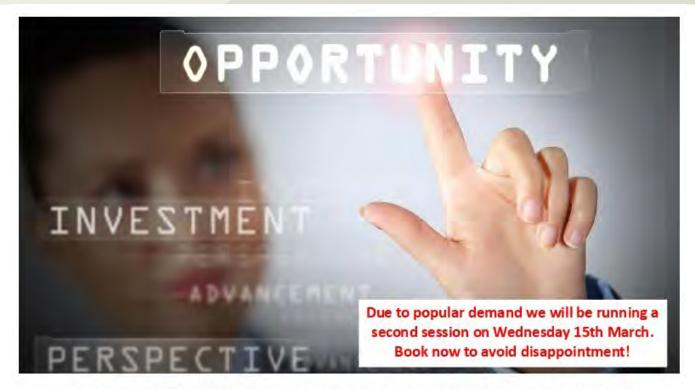
As a society we still have some way to go! We should also focus on other areas in need of change such as multinational corporations that shift Australian profits to lower tax regimes such as Ireland and Singapore.

This is a complex issue and may take business a little time to absorb it. The devil is in the detail, it is not across the board slashing as some media have indicated, in fact some rates have not been changed however there have been some reductions and that will definitely have an impact on employment decisions at the individual business level. For example already two of our local cafes have stated that they won't be reducing the rate due to the value they place on their employees.

Each weekend trader will need to take time to see how it does impact on their labour costs.



Upcoming *Workshops:*



How will the latest superannuation changes affect your retirement?

For those that missed the first presentation we are running it again!

Recent legislative changes to superannuation will change many current retirement strategies, you are invited to find out what the affects will be and what opportunities still exist to get money into the tax effective superannuation environment.

Watts Price Accountants will be providing a **free** information session on Wednesday 15 March from 6.00pm to 7.30pm. The main topic will be explaining the recent superannuation legislative changes.

This session is a must attend event for anyone either with a selfmanaged super fund (SMSF) or thinking about their retirement strategies/options in general.

Topics to be covered in this session:

- · Recent Superannuation Changes (ind. case studies)
- · How much do I need to retire on?
- · Market update from Paul Block (Financial Planner)
- · Estate Planning Tips & Traps
- · Corporate or Individual Trustee which is better?
- · And other essential superannuation information

Seating will be limited so secure your seat today by contacting our office on 5382 3001 or email us at mail@wattsprice.com.au.

The details:

Topic: Superannuation Changes

Date: Wednesday 15 March 2017 from 6.00pm

Location: Watts Price Accountants office

Cost: FREE

RSVP: By Tuesday 14 March 2017

Note: Light refreshments will be provided





Horsham Office 44 Wilson Street Horsham Victoria 3400 Postal Address PO Box 118 Horsham Victoria 3402 ABN 40 876 591 185

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P 03 5382 3001 F 03 5381 1357 E mai@wattsprice.com.au W www.wattsprice.com.au

Upcoming Workshops:



SALES Workshop

'Helping People Buy - The consultative sales process'.

Participants will gain an understanding of:

- Buying motivations
- Sales processes
- Consultative sales processes increasing customers to purchase their products/services

Only 3 spot Building skills around questioning techniques

- Creating customer confidence
- Addressing customer needs
 - Features and benefits

Bookings Essential

RSVP by close of business, Friday 17th March

Date: Thursday 23rd & 30th March 2017

Time: 9:30am - 1pm, morning tea supplied

Location: Wimmera Business Centre

62 Darlot St, Horsham

Contact: (03) 5381 0300

Fully Funded by the Wimmera Business Centre and Horsham Rural City Council.

Wimmera Business Centre

Upcoming Workshops:



EDISC Behavioral Profiling

Have you ever wondered what drives you? Are you curious about why you do what you do (and more importantly why you don't do what you know you should do)

EDISC is the most accurate behavioral profiling tool on the market today.

EDISC provides you with a 20+ page report detailing your strengths, stretches, communication style, what drives your decisions and what's more than that you receive a 2-hour coaching session uncovering how you can use this information to bring out the best in you and the people around you.

TAKING APPOINTMENTS NOW

Testimonial

My work with Sharron Keating at Epicure Coaching aimed to work through the ever changing environment and challenges of running a hairdressing salon to take our business to the next level.

I was thrilled with Sharron's ability to direct our coaching sessions towards the needs of the business and maintain focus on delivery outcomes on each specific area requiring development.

What I appreciated the most about working with Sharron was her amazing ability to draw out within myself, issues or concerns I had with the business and mutually implement new innovative strategies at times of overwhelming challenges.

During my time spent working with Sharron I have made many positive mindset and physical changes in the way I operate my business and seen great benefits for the Mink Hair team.

Robynne Bryan - Mink Hair

Upcoming Events Lunch & Learn Webinar

Thursday 16th March 1 pm Disruptive Leadership

Are you fed up with constantly telling your team what to do? Are they always coming to you with problems and questions?

Disruptive Leadership unveils the gap between a team that "gets by" and a team that truly thrives.

Contact

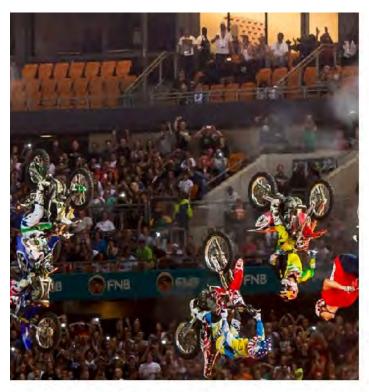
Sharron Keating

0408 144 758

sharron@epicurecoaching.com.au www.epicurecoaching.com.au



Events: Is your business ready for 6000 visitors?



MORE THAN

6,000

PEOPLE ARE
EXPECTED IN
HORSHAM ON
EASTER SUNDAY

WILL YOUR BUSINESS BE OPEN?

If so, please advise the Horsham and Grampians Visitor Information Centre by email at tourism@hrcc.vic.gov.au

NITRO CIRCUS LIVE

IS YOUR BUSINESS READY?



Nitro Circus Live is a spectacular visual event, coming to Horsham on Easter Sunday, 16 April 2017.

INFORMATION SESSION

Council is holding an information session to help businesses prepare for this event.

DATE:

Tuesday 21 March 2017

TIME:

3pm

VENUE:

Wimmera Business Centre Darlot St. Horsham

RSVP:

By Friday 17 March 2017 to Chris McClure via the details below.

For more information, contact: Chris McClure Coordinator Tourism and Events

PH: 0428 357 220 E: chris.mcclure@hrcc.vic.gov.au

with your email address via the details above.

If you are unable to attend this information session but would like to be informed, please provide us

Events: Your Invited



Business Horsham Events:





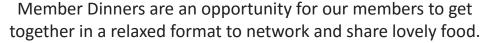
MAY

Speed Networking has been one of our most successful events in the past, so this year we have decided it's time to bring it back.

Further details will be advised when it's all finalized but we are flagging this one for an event in May.

The subject topic to share will be; one positive idea or practice used in your business or organisation to deal with staff that is working for you.





Although the main intention of these dinners is for networking purposes we also may provide a speaker on a particular or relevant topic for about 15 minutes.

Alternatively we may host a short presentation from a successful business to share their journey in business.

Details will be provided as they are finalized.





Monthly

Drinks after Dark is an ongoing opportunity for members and non members alike, including new comers to Horsham, to mix and meet in a relaxed environment at one of our member hotels in Horsham.

If you would like to invite someone along that you know in business please do so. Dates/locations below.

7th April - Royal / 5th May - White Hart / 2nd June - Commercial / 7th July - Bull & Mouth 4th Aug - Exchange / 1st Sept - Royal / 6th Oct - White Hart / 3rd Nov - Commercial

Business Horsham Major Event:

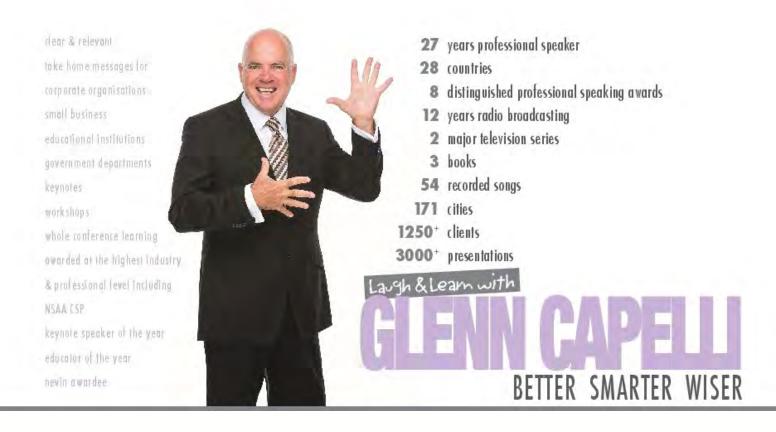
September

We are super excited to bring our next **Major Motivational Speaker** to Horsham. At this stage we are planning for a date in September.

Glenn was recommended to us by member Lisa Cosson (Planet Feel Good) who also recommended our speaker last June, Paul Taylor, who was a resounding success, so we have every faith that Glenn will be just as dynamic and going by his website too he has a lot to offer.

Glenn will do a business presentation, a community presentation and two student presentations as we aim to make the best of our opportunities of sharing those we invest in bringing to Horsham.

In the meantime, as planning is underway, check out Glenn's website



Topics under consideration

5 Alive - Working Smarter in a Crazy World

Leadership 123 - Building culture, Character and Group Genius

The Community Playground - Effective Conversations for Better Relationships

FLOW - Creating sustainable High Performance Workplaces

HOPS Higher Order Presentation Skills - Brilliant Design and development Ideas to make you a better communicator **Quad Squad** - Powerful, Proactive & Prominent Ideas from 4 frontline Thinkers

Members - Welcome





Your Local Representative Craig Jackson

Hello other Business Horsham Members.

I'm excited to be back in Horsham/Wimmera (always said it was the best place I lived and worked). I lived in Horsham in the 1980's, working as a Clerk of Courts and also coaching the great Murtoa F.C.

I have come back and opened up the Rent 4 Keeps Franchise (and also back involved as Chairman of Selectors at the Minyip / Murtoa F.C.).

Over the last 4 years I owned and operated the Rent 4 Keeps Franchise in Darwin and before that was in Ballarat for many years owning and operating the four Bakers Delight Franchises in Ballarat (opened the first one in 1994).

When the opportunity come up to purchase the Horsham R4K Franchise, I jumped at the chance and opened the business in February 2017. And thanks to Wendy, one of the first things I did when I arrived in Horsham was join up with Business Horsham predominantly for the networking opportunities.

A bit of a background about this great R4K Franchise and my business:-

R4K started in October 2011 and now boast 106 operating territories across Australia where we operate in every state and territory with R4K being the envy of the rental industry.

Some key R4K achievements to-date include:

- 1. R4K now operate in every Australian state and territory with the exception of the ACT.
- 2. R4K has 106 operating territories across Australia.
- 3. R4K had 2,800 active agreements in December 2012 compared to 37,000 in January, 2017.
- 4. Since inception R4K has written over 106,000 agreements.
- 5. We have assisted over 46,000 people by renting goods they may otherwise never have been able to get; we bring joy to these people's lives. We really are a community service.
- 6. R4K employs over 300 Australians and the number is growing.
- 8. Our R4K brand, image and service are respected, liked and appreciated across Australia.
- 9. Our R4K CRM remains the envy of the Sales force world's
- 10. We have a happy and supportive franchise network.
- 11. R4K's marketing strategy remains modern, effective and dynamic.

- 12. Compliance is something the entire R4K community continues to take very seriously.
- 13. Our R4K branded give away items reward customers and create strong brand recognition.
- 14. The R4K structure is successful with R4K (Aust) Pty Ltd, the Master Franchiser Company working exceptionally well with the State Master Franchisees and their teams in each state. The significant efforts of all these people nationally and their respective teams who keep true to the R4K operating and ethical values is the most significant reason for the growth of the R4K brand and the biggest reason for the consistency of the R4K principals and service across Australia.
- 15. Our franchisees continue to grow as business people as do their staff.
- 16. Our company field and office staff continues to develop and embrace the new and varied challenges of a growing business with personal determination and commitment.
- 17. R4K continues to punch well above its weight being respected by all competitors.
- 18. It seems that everyone enjoys being part of R4K and our customers really enjoy working with the R4K community as evidenced by the incredibly positive comments we see every day on the R4K Facebook page.

Rent4keeps is a great option for you to get the latest furniture, garden or farm products, household appliances, or technology products today.

Anything from furniture rentals, to household appliance rentals, is simple and easy to get today with rent4keeps.

If you're located in or nearby Horsham, give me a call to talk through your options. I will offer you helpful and insightful advice on the different rental products that are available and the simple process of getting them delivered to your door.

If you need to rent a new laptop, phone, fridge, TV, furniture or any other household appliance, please contact me on:

Mobile: <u>0478 933 327</u>

Members New Members - Welcome









"Ask Me Anything" — A new addition to the Western Victorian Telstra Business Centres.

Cameron and Amanda Evans are excited to be the new owners of the Western Victorian Telstra Business Centres plus a new start up business called AMA ICT, (Ask. Me Anything - Information Communication Technology). Cameron and Amanda are the previous co-owners of the Telstra Business Centres and also several Telstra Stores with Gary and Sharon Howden. Combined, they have over 20 years' experience in business and retail operations.

"We have enjoyed the last & years of business partnership with Gary and Sharon. Having them mentor us and build a strong understanding of telecommunications and business ownership has been a great experience." Cameron said.

Cameron and Amanda are particularly excited to also be starting their new business to operate in conjunction with the Western Victoria Telstra Business Centres. AMA ICT along with the Telstra Business Centres at Warrnambool and Horsham will service the entire Wimmera and South West Victoria. AMA ICT will provide a range of innovative Information and Communications Technology (ICT) solutions for businesses. Being at the forefront of technology and having the fantastic resources of Telstra at their disposal, AMA ICT and the Telstra Business Centre are the perfect partners for your business.

"We have a very good understanding of the challenges of integrating ICT solutions into the successful running of your business. AMA ICT offers day to day ICT Support, managed services, hardware and software sourcing, as well as project and professional services." Cameron said.

AMAICT understands that it can be frustrating at times dealing with your IT and telecommunication issues. Their vision is to be the region's leading provider of business telecommunication and ICT solutions across Western Victoria.

"As business owners, we know your desire to spend time on growing your business, therefore we have invested heavily in a strong ICT team to help you achieve exactly that.

"Understanding the latest technology available can be very daunting. But there are amazing products and services out there that can add serious value and efficiency to the complete range of businesses including sole traders, farmers and companies of any size. We work closely with all our customers to build the best solution specifically for them, working with the full range of providers and networks."

Call down and see the AMA ICT and Telstra Business Centre Horsham teams at 33a Roberts Avenue or call 1300 AMA ICT (26 24 28) to discuss how they can unlock your business potential.

Inlock your business potention



Member Spotlight

Congratulations to these businesses







In February Case IH held their
Dealer Awards at Uluru.

We congratulate O'Connor's Horsham on the
two awards they received.

Well done to the whole Team.





Case IH Dealer of the Year (three or more branches) Case IH Parts and Service Dealer of the Year







Equip Physiotherapy & Pilates celebrated the opening of the new location at 18 McLachlan Street.

Shannyn is pictured above with her team (co-owner Ash Hawker was absent).

Congratulations Equip Physio on your business expansion and beautiful new location.



Member Spotlight

Sharing Good News Stories



Tamika Wilson and Callan Cameron celebrated with family and friends at Horsham Golf Club after their marriage ceremony.

"We had our wedding here Saturday and honestly it was the best decision we made to have it at the Golf Club. The staff were so helpful and caring. The food, thanks to the chefs, was amazing. Everyone loved it all. The price for what we had was fantastic. I'd suggest the Horsham Golf Club is the place to have a wedding. Thanks to all the staff and everyone for making our day and the planning so easy for us. We love you for it."

Callan Cameron



"Thank you to Rowena & Glenn Doyle at Sylvania Park, we cannot thank you enough for our wedding day 11/02/2017. The day was beautiful, you went over & above to make our wedding comfortable & relaxing, the food was exceptional and as host you created a very relaxing atmosphere for all. We loved your preparedness to facilitate all our request. You went above & beyond what we had hoped. Sincerely thank you."

Andrew & Karen Taylor.

It's very clear we have some amazing venues for weddings right here in Horsham. These testimonials demonstrate there is no need to go out of town for your wedding. Well done to both of these amazing establishments for their care and support to these couples.



"We are 100% happy with Richard's (Goudie) advice. He rings us for any little thing that happens and we cannot speak highly enough of him. We trust him wholeheartedly couldn't wish for a better adviser."

Lorraine

This testimonial I was sent to Clark Rubbers Head office and passed onto Graham at the Horsham store.



"I would like to put forward Graham & his staff at Horsham branch for a Customer Service Accolade. I have previously had bad experiences with all other branches of Clarke Rubber such as Mildura & a few branches in Adelaide. I cannot praise the staff enough especially Graham for his consistent communication & rapid response to all my queries either by email or telephone. He is a delight to deal with & if you have his work ethic & Customer Service as your model for all other Franchisees to adhere to then you would improve business to no end.

When the supplier (Driclad) forgot to deliver some parts for our pool & our builder had to stop working on the pool we contacted Graham on a Sunday to which he immediately emailed the supplier who subsequently apologized & we had them delivered by Tuesday. Even our builder was extremely impressed with the service & now will be recommending Horsham Clarke Rubber to his clients. Please pass on our gratitude for all the help & assistance from start to finish."

Kerry Dutton-Ashcroft & Ian Ashcroft

Well done to these businesses for their outstanding service. There is no better testimonial than one which is a recommendation to be a 'model' for an entire franchise.



Paul Lewis from Wimmera Outdoors had a family in the store who told him that Rockin Robins had the best burgers between Adelaide an Melbourne, they stated "believe me we have tried them all but these are easily the best. We always stop here for a burger."

Testament that one good experience by a visitor can lead to additional sales in Horsham given they also visited Wimmera Outdoors. Lets give all our visitors a reason to stop right here.



Member Spotlight



Longerenong College has seen a boost in enrolments, recording its largest intake of first and second year students in more than 15 years.

College Business Development officer Donna Winfield said "It's exciting and great for the community. The boost in enrolments reflected the strong reputation that the college has and a great interest in agriculture."





Wimmera Builders in the spotlight.

Member Craig Klemm owner of Buildpro Wimmera featured in a Dulux video.

Craig instigated the time lapse video and launched the acting careers of several Wimmera handymen.

The video promotes a relatively new product Exsulite which is a thermal cladding product available at Buildpro. The video helps people understand the process behind the rendering of a new build.

Here's a link to a testimonial https://youtu.be/BI5or9Ib3QY



With the BENDIGO BANK Changing lives, strengthening communities. Don't forget the Volunteering recognition awards.

Nominations close on March 15 so if you know of someone who deserves this accolade please nominate them.

Nomination forms are available at www.centreforeparticipation.org.au

Member Bendigo Bank is the major sponsor - changing lives, strengthening communities.



Don't forget Annie will be on at the Horsham Town Hall from May 12-21. Check out the Town Hall website for bookings.

Also if you are interested in being a sponsor of this production or Horsham Arts Council contact Jan Morris on 0419 726 378



What's NEW



New Cheeky Fox menu out now!

Try one of their new choices of pancakes with their own salted caramel sauce, salted pistachios, pretzels and ice cream, they don't just look great, they are delicious.

Also selection of fresh squeezed fruit juice now back

The full menu is available at http://cheekyfox.com.au/menu/





Introducing: Amy Hodge, Functions Co-ordinator, Horsham Golf Club.

Amy joined the team eight months ago from a background in hospitality, including the position as Functions Assistant at McCracken Country Club in Victor Harbour, South Australia.

Amy is the go-to person for you to arrange your function at Horsham Golf Club. Amy can help you arrange that family celebration, the after work get together, corporate functions, conferences, community group meetings, weddings. IT equipment is available on site.



Horsham Golf Club can cater for groups of all sizes – from small groups to groups of up to 250. Amy will help you to select a package to suit your budget and a menu prepared by our experienced catering staff.

Amy can be contacted during business hours on 5382 1652 or 0428 821 652 Amy recently assisted two young couples to organise their special day at Horsham Golf Club.



Here's something NEW!

A NEW WAY OF THINKING

Out with the old and in with the New.

Shared by Scott Grambau from ACE Radio







NEW Showroom Opening Invitation - see page 6

Here's the **NEW Big Boy** at Horsham Concrete.





That means - More Concrete & More Efficiency!





Old Peppertree Nursery host the
Horsham Urban Landcare
produce swap market
and the next one is on
Sunday March 19 from 11.30 to 12.

Got **nbn**[™] questions Horsham? We have the answers.

The Telstra Store Horsham team is here to help with all things nbn.

nbn is in selected areas surrounding Horsham and we are here to help. Our **nbn** experts can answer your questions and take care of all the technical stuff. So pop in for a chat today.

Call your local nbn expert team on 53824654 today.

Telstra Store Horsham

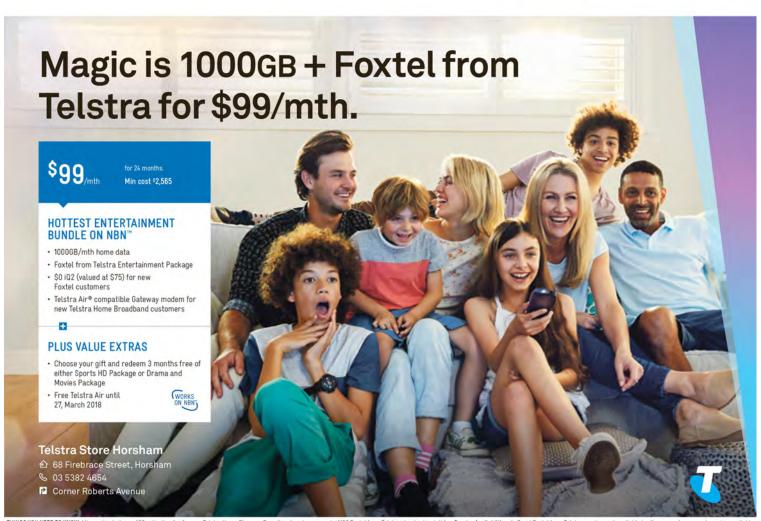
68 Firebrace Street, Horsham

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Corner Roberts Avenue



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Our In-Kind Partners



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Supporting our Facebook Page



Supporting our Members with Affordable Accommodation

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