**Shirebiz Bulletin 16th February 2021**

**Premier Gladys Berejiklian’s luncheon talk to Shirebiz supporters**

 About 195 Shire residents attended Shirebiz’s arranged lunch in Doltone house on Friday 12th February. The Premier gave details of the Global NSW program and spoke about the NSW initiative on R&D. She also received questions in writing and from the floor on the following topics: Temporary siting of promised Sutherland Hospital’s MRI-not due until 2023 but needed now; Widening of bridge at eastern end of Heathcote Rd; Nuclear power in NSW; Government construction contracts non-compliance; Payroll tax removal/relief and the timetable for F6/M6 Kogarah to Waterfall & precise route through the Shire. Photos will be on the website shortly. The lunch was organised by [VMS Conferences](https://www.vmsconferences.com.au/) and sponsored by [ANSTO](https://www.ansto.gov.au/), [NGR Accounting](https://ngraccounting.com.au/), [SMR Nuclear Technology](http://www.smrnuclear.com.au/), [Britton Maritime](https://www.brittonmaritime.com.au/) and [Tynan Motor Group](https://www.tynan.com.au/). Hand sanitiser was provided by [True Blue Chemicals](http://www.truebluechemicals.com.au/) and [Marzophotography](https://www.marzophotography.com.au/) provided a free photo service.

# [**Why aren’t more Australians driving EVs?**](https://energymagazine.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e6d0adbac799cc2e86731639b&id=c173199e1c&e=6229383d7b)

International interest in electric vehicles (EVs) is constantly increasing, with over three million EVs on the roads internationally and uptake expected to increase year upon year. However, with EVs making up only 0.2 per cent of Australian vehicles, there are clearly some [roadblocks](https://www.shirebiz.net.au/nrsite/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Why-arent-more-Australians-driving-Electric-Vehicles.pdf) that are holding back the growth of EVs Down Under.

**Let us help you access Defence Grants**Following recent changes to federal government policy there are two particularly attractive grant opportunities available for Australian manufacturing SMEs, that offer a massive government subsidy to participants: **Expert Advisory** – assistance on marketing plans, sales plans, accessing new clients, improving operational efficiency and delivery performance, Agile, sales training, engaging with primes, AS9100, Cyber Security, Project Management, Digital Manufacturing, Industry 4.0. Government grant will provide 80 per cent of Advisory Costs. **Capital Equipment** – Government grant can provide 50 per cent of costs associated with purchasing new equipment to service the defence market. For [details](https://www.shirebiz.net.au/nrsite/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Let-us-help-you-access-Defence-Grants.pdf). **NSW targets translation in industrial drive**

A startup and SME-focused [procurement reform](https://www.shirebiz.net.au/nrsite/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/NSW-targets-translation-in-industrial-drive.pdf) and a plan to plug R&D linkages directly into precincts like TechCentral in Sydney are at the core of NSW government’s industrial policy zeal. There is an ambition to the NSW government plans for accelerating research and development outcomes in the state that only comes from the very top of political leadership

 **Gaining supremacy in quantum computers**The question often asked by people is: “[How do we gain supremacy](https://www.shirebiz.net.au/nrsite/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Gaining-supremacy-in-quantum-computers.pdf) in the building of quantum computers?”. We know that quantum computers use Qubits rather than Bits, but how many Qubits would currently make the most powerful and fastest quantum computer in the world?

**Young scientist wins**

A Menai man, Hamish McDougall, has been awarded an [ANSTO scholarship](https://www.shirebiz.net.au/nrsite/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Youngn-Scientist-wins.pdf) to continue his research into new environmentally friendly mining practices. The $10,000 scholarships are supported by the NSW Government and will allow researchers to work under the guidance of some of Australia’s leading scientists and researchers.

 **Realise Business: *Google my business* Feb 16th**Join our live virtual event to learn about **where Google is heading**, **what this means for your business and how to ensure you get found**by customers searching for local products and services. Futureproof your business by learning how to use *Google My Business* features to showcase what your business has to offer. [Register](https://www.shirebiz.net.au/nrsite/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Google-my-business.pdf) now to learn from Andrew Thorn in this one-time-only LIVE and FREE event!

**Michael Tynan Challenge: Walk to Work**This year a more inclusive event (trialled in 2020) aimed at virtually all of the community-WALK TO WORK. A one day event that could raise more funds & support this initiative.

The MTC held a 'Walk to Work' event in 2020 for businesses who wanted to participate in the Coastal Walk challenge but weren't able to make it on the day.

There were three teams who walked; We Play Together & Ray White Menai, Ray White Cronulla, and Ray White Sylvania. Collectively, the teams walked 20km to raise money for medical research, and finished at Ray White Sutherland where they enjoyed a lovely breakfast.  See video <https://youtu.be/m1VBFnJUGDc>

For further information and to participate contact: MTC on Phone:  02 9545 8888

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