



ShireBiz Bulletin

The Shire Economic Development Alliance Newsletter

2nd May 2023

About ShireBiz

ShireBiz is a not for profit organisation dedicated to the Economic Development of Southern Sydney to enable sustainable business development which provides employment opportunities for the local community.

Our strategic pillars are:

- Advocacy for business investment, traction and job diversity eg projects such as supporting *the development of the ANSTO Innovation precinct*
- Advocacy for infrastructure investment, policy change and streamlining regulatory environments in the Sutherland Shire
- Engaging the community through regular *newsletter*, and *events*

Shirebiz would like to thank our supporters for your support over the last year

Shirebiz supporters are invited to continue to support Shirebiz by becoming members. [Join at](#) If you want to regularly receive this Bulletin Contact the Secretary at info@shirebiz.org.au. We would also appreciate feedback on the content.

Shirebiz's Education Pathways Forum Tues 23rd May 9-11 am

Following feedback from members on advocacy priorities for 2023 Shirebiz is holding this Forum for Shire Educators and business people to identify/clarify the various pathways to work from Year 11 to employment. We are also interested in the most appropriate ways of training mature workers in new technologies and businesses. This Forum will be by invitation only to ensure a meaningful discussion of ideas.

ANSTO celebrates 70 years

This month, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation ([ANSTO](#)) is [celebrating its 70th year](#), and the 65th anniversary of the opening of the HIFAR nuclear reactor at Lucas Heights in NSW. The Australian Atomic Energy Commission (AAEC), the predecessor of ANSTO, was formally established by the Atomic Energy Act, which came into effect on 15 April 1953, and since then AAEC/ANSTO has developed to position Australia as one of the world's most complex and sophisticated nuclear nations

Labour shortages can make net zero transition challenging: Weld Australia

Weld Australia has released the results of its [2023 Member Survey](#), which reveals the Federal Government must step in and provide real support to industry to make the renewable energy revolution a reality. The results demonstrate that Australia's welding and fabrication industry is facing a whole raft of challenges that will make the delivery of the Federal Government's plans for a renewable energy revolution almost impossible—from severe labour shortages that are.

CEDA: Webinar Rewiring the Nation 15th May 12-2 pm

[Featuring](#): The Hon Chris Bowen, Daniel Westerman CEO AEMO, Ian Learmouth CEO Clean Energy Finance Corporation, Varya Davidson Partner and Energy Transition Leader PWC Australia and Elizabeth McNamara Group Exec Sustainability APA Group. Having renewed Australia's global commitments to decarbonising the economy, the Federal Government's Rewiring the Nation (RTN) is designed to enable new electricity transmission links between states and regions, lift renewable energy generation, create jobs in new energy industries and deliver cleaner, cheaper and more secure energy.

Strip Ministers of Veto Power over ARC Grants - Review

The escalating abuse of the process for allocating grants for scientific research in recent years has had its denouement with the release of an [independent review](#) by eminent scientists which found that the Australian Research Council, and not the minister, should decide who receives federal science grants

If you buy it, why can't you fix it? Here's why we still don't have the 'right to repair'

When you buy a product, [you expect to be able to repair it](#). The problem is, many modern products are designed so that you can't fix them. Vital parts are inaccessible. Or you have to go through the manufacturer, which may well just give you a new one. The end result: millions of expensive products, from cars to phones to appliances, end up in the rubbish tip. At the most extreme, manufacturers actively prevent you from repairing their products at the local mechanics.

Using technology to battle labour shortages

Even though the "Great Resignation" began over a year ago, employers around the world are still struggling to hire and retain strong talent as standards for employees have risen for aspects of work such as salary, hybrid work options, technology to do their job, and more. Many businesses, especially in the manufacturing industry, realise that a modern workforce [requires modern technology](#). Once hired, it is imperative to have visibility into data to understand what is working and what is not working for your employees. In addition to the increased visibility for management, technology also satisfies ex

UNSW develops technology to mimic the function of human skin

Scientists at UNSW Sydney have combined artificial synapses with advanced sensors to [mimic the properties of human skin](#), in new research published in *Advanced Functional Materials*. Inspired by the human skin, researchers from the School of Material Sciences & Engineering have developed an electronic device that is able to detect mechanical stimuli for information processing, including gesture and handwriting recognition, with ultra-low power consumption

CSIRO: SnapShot April 2023

[Items include](#): Our new *AquaWatch Australia Mission* will create a network of satellites and sensors to monitor water quality in near real-time; *Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI) Network* - Our National AI Centre has launched the Responsible AI Network. The program will help Australian businesses use and create ethical and safe AI and [Innovate to grow](#) - Sign up for our free program for small to medium businesses to investigate cyber security and digital technology research and development opportunities.

New app launched to help improve sleep of shift workers

Monash University researchers have reportedly developed a world-first [personalised app](#) to improve the sleep of shift workers. In a bid to address the vital role shift workers played during the pandemic, Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health researchers have developed SleepSync, an app that personalises sleep-wake cycles

for shift workers to improve their sleep and overall mood.

Canberra to offer states 5 year skills agreement, \$4.8 billion extra
Skills and Training Minister Brendan O'Connor has revealed the Commonwealth will offer the states and territories a [new 5-year skills agreement](#) that will come with an additional \$4.8 billion in funding. Speaking ahead of Cabinet meeting tomorrow O'Connor told the Australasian VET Research Association Conference that he would announce the proposed agreement later today, boosting the overall Commonwealth investment to \$12.8 billion

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Regards,

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