

ShireBiz Bulletin

The Shire Economic Development Alliance Newsletter

14th November 2023

**If you would like to receive this bulletin on a regular basis
contact the Secretary on info@shirebiz.org.au**

Premier Chris Minns to address the Shire 24 Nov 12-3pm Doltone House

The Sutherland Shire Business Chamber in conjunction with Shirebiz is delighted to bring the NSW Premier, The Hon. Chris Minns, MP to the Shire. Hear the [Premier's plans](#) for NSW firsthand and how they will support and impact the Shire. Plus, we have an incredible panel of local business sector leaders lined up who will share their thoughts on what is needed for the Shire to thrive - spanning innovation, health, housing, the 24hour economy, and so much more. To attend [REGISTER](#)

\$3.6 million backs defence industry capabilities

Ten Australian manufacturers will share more than \$3.6 million to develop cutting-edge defence capabilities and boost exports in the latest round of [Defence grants](#). The payments include more than \$800,000 to a New South Wales company producing hard armour for military personnel, \$585,000 to a South Australian manufacturer to develop a large-scale environmental test chamber and more than \$290,000 to a Victorian business to manufacture air brake fittings for Defence vehicles

The future of main streets: Aussies share their essential retailers

A lot of dedication and effort goes into making main streets attractive. Local governments, planners, place makers, economic development managers, trade associations and retailers work hard to design, improve and [revitalise main streets](#).

The goal is to make them attractive places to increase shopper numbers, provide pleasant places for communities, and boost local economies.

Realise Business: Small Business Month for 2023

Remember, our support doesn't end with October. Realise Business is your year-round partner, offering: [More Business Success Webinars](#): Just as your business doesn't stop for anything, we are continuing in our offering of webinars for your business success. Complimentary, Personalised Support: Courtesy of our dedicated Realise Business Advisors, ready to assist you in any stage of your business journey. Independent, Tailored Advice: From our Business Connect advisors, equipped with real-world business expertise.

Fire-retardant paint first to protect homes from extreme fire conditions

A partnership between UNSW Sydney and Flame Security International has produced BAL-40 accredited [FSA FIRECOAT paint](#) that could help prevent the spread of bushfires. FSA FIRECOAT, which is the first in Australia to pass the stringent BAL-40 test. A new fire-retardant paint, formulated by engineers at UNSW Sydney, has become the first to pass a stringent Australian standard test that simulates a bushfire attack.

Scaling up SunDrive's advanced solar PV manufacturing

The [Australian Renewable Energy Agency \(ARENA\)](#) has today announced \$11 million in funding to Australian solar technology company SunDrive Solar to expand its [novel solar cell](#) metallisation technology from prototype scale (1.5 MW/yr) to commercial capacity (>100 MW/yr). SunDrive has developed a cell metallisation technology that uses copper, a metal that is approximately 100x cheaper and 1000x more abundant than commonly used silver. , Silver accounts for approximately half the cost of converting a bare silicon wafer into a finished solar cell.

University of Sydney launches new robotics hub

The University of Sydney has launched the [Australian Robotic Inspection and Asset Management Hub \(ARIAM\)](#) which researchers say will transform the way important assets are handled. ARIAM's work will reduce the need for people to enter dangerous or hazardous locations to maintain assets such as tunnels and underwater infrastructure. It will also help manage the looming 'infrastructure cliff', which will see many post-World War II infrastructure assets approach their end of life

Supply Chain Collaboration Report

[Supply chain collaboration](#) can be time-consuming, difficult, and seem impossible to start at times. But it remains one of the important strategic topics for suppliers and retailers in 2023 and beyond. RELEX conducted a survey-based research to

understand how and why 283 suppliers collaborate with their retail customers. Use our analysis to improve collaborative processes with the latest supply chain insights, and recommended best practices

AUKUS Workforce Alliance announced

A consortium of UNSW Sydney, the University of Adelaide and Curtin University, as well as defence contractors Babcock Australasia and Huntington Ingalls Industries – collectively known as the [AUKUS Workforce Alliance \(AWA\)](#) – has been announced, coinciding with the first day of the 2023 Indo Pacific International Maritime Expo.

New collaboration aims to revolutionise Australia's tyre waste problem

With only 15% of our 500,000 tonnes of end-of-life tyres being repurposed in Australia, it is time we focused on our own rubber revolution. [Tyre Stewardship Australia \(TSA\)](#) in collaboration with Clark Rubber are calling out to Australian manufacturers, innovators, entrepreneurs, polymer experts and other relevant businesses to demonstrate how rubber from end-of-life tyres can be used as an ingredient to new products.

Senior Card November 2023

I am pleased to announce this year's free NSW Seniors Christmas concerts will be held in Orange, Tamworth and Wagga Wagga. The concerts are the Government's way to thank you for your valued and ongoing contributions to society. [Visit the website](#) to find out more information and book your tickets. If you're aged 50 and over, I encourage you to book an appointment for a free breast screen. It takes only 20 minutes and can be done at your nearest screening centre. Please remember to stay at home if you have COVID symptoms. As of 1 October 2023, changes were made to rapid antigen testing in NSW. Find out what to do if your RAT is positive or negative.

Council reminds residents about e-waste after two truck fires

Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC) is reminding residents of the dangers of placing any type of e-waste and batteries in [domestic wheelie bins](#) after two recent

fires ignited in waste collection trucks due to incorrect disposal. [TRC](#) Water and Waste Portfolio Lead Cr Nancy Sommerfield said two recent waste collection truck fires were caused by laptop computers which were incorrectly disposed of by residents in domestic wheelie bins

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.



Regards,

Richard Walker, Secretary, Shirebiz
Mobile: 0419617510
Email: info@shirebiz.org.au