



Pleased to assist the growth of South Canterbury by maintaining a safe, reliable and cost effective electricity distribution system.

We are proud to support the Chamber of Commerce in promoting business in South Canterbury

WHAT YOU GET FROM CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

- The **"ONE STOP SHOP"** – South Canterbury's leading Business Information Centre comprising the Chamber of Commerce and the Aoraki Development Trust.
- **FREE ENTERPRISE TRAINING** Courses, Seminars and Workshops, to meet the training needs of the community. (Eligibility criteria apply Enterprise Training).
- **LOBBYING WITH** Government and Local Government on issues of concern to local business.
- **SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT** of new business opportunities by preparing feasibility studies, business plans etc.
- **FREE** accounting, legal or employment advice via an 0800 number – intended for short question / answer type queries.
- **GROW** your business by networking at the very popular 'Business After 5' functions and other events.
- **REDUCE** business costs with a range of local business overhead savings schemes.
- **NEWSLETTER.** To keep you better informed, our monthly newsletter covers local and national business topics and Chamber activities.

Restructuring May Help Your Business

Restructuring is something that is not limited to big business.

South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce chief executive Wendy Smith says businesses as small as two or three people can be affected by restructuring when circumstances change and lead to the need for changes within the business.

"You might need to change the roles of your staff in some ways, or you might want to make changes to the hours. The reality is that when you are in business things don't stay the same and your business is a constantly evolving thing," she says.

For this reason the next training seminar being offered by the Chamber in partnership with Aoraki Development Trust is focused on restructuring for sustainability.

"This is probably a key issue for many businesses in this uncertain economic environment, so we have enlisted the help of two specialists to talk through topics that may come up for you."

Presenting the seminar are: Tony Shaw, partner of Timpany Walton and employment law specialist and Stephen McFarlane and Tracy Tierney, principals of One to One Group.

"We're extremely lucky to have



Tony Shaw Stephen McFarlane

presenters of such a high calibre with a wealth of knowledge and some very practical experience," says Mrs Smith.

Topics to be covered include:

- Concerns and implications for small and medium enterprises (SME's) in the current economic environment .
- Understanding the business life-cycle, and the need for change
- Is re-structuring the only answer?
- Redundancy or changing staffing structure, to handle the changing times?
- What should be included in your employment agreements
- How to avoid a personal grievance

Anyone wishing to book a place on a course can phone the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce on 684 6360.

Geraldine Focus

Business owners in Geraldine can now access free business advice, on their doorsteps.

The Chamber and Aoraki Development Trust are combining to offer the business advice once a month at the Geraldine

Resource Centre. Appointments are essential.

Wednesday, May 13, 1pm-3pm
Geraldine Resource Centre
Wilson Street

Training Calendar

Re-Structuring for Sustainability

Date: Tuesday May 12, 8.30am – 11.30am
Cost: \$50 plus gst for SC Chamber Members & \$100 plus gst standard price
Presenters: Stephen McFarlane and Tracy Tierney, Principals One to One Group, Tony Shaw, partner Timpany Walton.

Training for Health and Safety Representatives – Level 1

Date: Thursday & Friday May 21 and 22
Presenter: Helen Mason, Occupational Safety & Health Consultant, Canterbury Employers Chamber of Commerce

Retail sales (Part 1 of 3)

Date: Tuesday May 19
Presenter: Tom Downey, principle, The Finnegan Group, specialists in business support and management.

Disciplinary Process

Date: Thursday June 18
Presenter: Tony Shaw, partner Timpany Walton

Retail sales (Part 2 of 3)

Date: Tuesday, July 21
Presenter: Tom Downey, principle, The Finnegan Group.

Employment Law - for non-lawyers

Date: Tuesday, August 11
Presenter: Tony Shaw, partner Timpany Walton.

Retail sales (Part 3 of 3)

Date: Tuesday, September 22
Presenter: Tom Downey, principle, The Finnegan Group.

Essential Supervision Skills

Date: Thursday, September 17
Presenter: Victoria Barkway, Training & Development Consultant, Canterbury Employers Chamber of Commerce.

BA5

The next Business After 5 networking event will be hosted by Geon Group.
Wednesday, May 20.

New Members

Tania Smith-McIlroy
Reload
209 Stafford Street, Timaru

Don and Catherine Young
Lake Tekapo Scenic Resort
State Highway 8, Lake Tekapo

Jan Hide
Fashion Focus
Highfield Mall, Timaru

Stacey Scott
Scott and Associates
021 688 588

Free Business Advice



Chamber manager David Jack (centre) talks to Ken McKenzie and Stephen McFarlane, who are assisting with the Business Drop In Centre.

Free advice to people in business is now available at the Business Drop In Centre being run in partnership by the Aoraki Development Trust and the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce.

On Thursday, April 30, the Business Drop In Centre will be held for the second time.

It is a new initiative for the Chamber and the Aoraki Development Trust that chief executive Wendy Smith says is valuable, in meeting both organizations aim, of supporting and encouraging local business.

The Business Drop in Centre provides free specialist business advice and support to a maximum of 20 to 30 minutes per person.

The topics being covered for the first three months of the Drop In Centre are:

- **Employment** – Raymond McGlashan.
- **IT – web design** – Verb
- **Accounting** – One to One Financial Management
- **Law** – Sullivan

- **Marketing** – Aoraki Development Trust
 - **Banking** – Westpac
- "We've been extremely fortunate to get some excellent local business working with us on this venture and they're all very keen to help and see it as a valuable way to contribute to this community," says Mrs Smith.

"Sometimes people need a sounding board and they're not sure who to go to, because they're not even certain that the idea merits employing the help of a highly skilled specialist. That's where the Business Drop In Centre can help them," she says. She believes it will also appeal to those who have a query that may be easily answered in a five or 10 minute conversation, or those who are seeking a second opinion on an issue.

The Business Drop In Centre is being sponsored by Westpac and Port FM and it will run from the Aoraki Development Trust offices on the corner of Stafford and Strathallan streets.



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