

Welcome to this month's newsletter

1. Mayoral Column

2. In the Hawkesbury

- 2.1. Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury
- 2.2. Free Business Health Checks
- 2.3. Hawkesbury City Council Community Access and Inclusion Award
- 2.3. Spendmapp

3. Business News & Updates

- 3.1. Government grants and support for small business
- 3.2. NSW EPA: Love Food Hate Waste
- 3.3. NSW Plastics Technology – Recycling Modernisation Fund
- 3.4. Changes to Agritourism businesses

4. Upcoming Workshops

- 4.1. How to start a business - Western Sydney
- 4.2. The magic of email marketing - first steps
- 4.3. How to achieve greater customer satisfaction
- 4.4. Cashflow for business

Please share this newsletter with other local businesses, become a member of the Hawkesbury Business Hub (it's free!) and please tell us what you think by contacting business@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

Mayoral Column



Welcome to the June edition of the business newsletter.

On behalf of Hawkesbury City Council, I would like to thank our residents, visitors, and the Hawkesbury business community for attending and supporting Hawkesbury Fest earlier in August. It was great to see so many people out celebrating events and supporting local business, and we encourage you to join us again for our upcoming Savour the Flavour event which will be held in Richmond on Saturday 14 October 2023.

In conjunction with Business Connect and Service NSW, Council is also conducting free business health checks later this month as another initiative to support our business community, so please feel free to register via the details in this newsletter as spots are limited.

If Council can provide you with any further support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Mayor Sarah McMahon

In the Hawkesbury



Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury set to sizzle in October!

The Hawkesbury's newest taste sensation event is back - Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury – Council's huge food and beverage event is set for Saturday, 14 October 2023 from 4pm to 9pm at Richmond Park, Richmond. Free entry!

Everyone is invited to this special event that will celebrate the Hawkesbury on a spring afternoon through to twilight and into a magical evening, with the event extended to 9pm this year to allow plenty of time to relax and enjoy the wonderful local food, produce and Hawkesbury setting.

A delicious line up of stalls will have food, produce and beverages to sample and buy – including fresh produce, apple pies, fresh and barbecued meats, pizza, bush tucker, honey, desserts, organic food, jams, juices, alcoholic beverages and more.

Local restaurateurs and producers will hold on-stage live cooking demonstrations. There will also be live entertainment to enjoy – including facepainting, outdoor lawn games and rides.

The Hawkesbury Regional Gallery will hold their popular Leonardo da Vinci workshops and the Secret Garden will host fun and interactive kids' workshops. The event is free entry however tickets to the workshops will be available to purchase in mid-September. Keep an eye out on Council's website for more information on these workshops.

Where: Richmond Park, Richmond
When: Saturday, 14 October 2023 from 4pm to 9pm
Details: www.savourtheflavour.com.au



Free Business Health Checks

The Business Health Check, delivered in partnership with Hawkesbury City Council, Western Sydney Business Centre and NSW Business Connect, is designed to help you identify opportunities and potential challenges to help your business thrive.

Free Business Health Check's will be offered at Hawkesbury City Library on **Thursday 17 August and Thursday 14 September between 9:30am and 2:30pm.**

Working one-on-one with a Business Connect advisor, you will complete a 60-minute Business Health Check to provide useful insights to support you prioritise the next steps for your business.

Click [HERE](#) to book your free 60-minute session with a Business Connect advisor. Once you have reserved your spot reception@wsbusiness.com.au will contact you to confirm your time slot.



Hawkesbury City Council Community Access and Inclusion Award

Hawkesbury City Council is strongly committed to the provision of equal access and the development of a community which is inclusive of all its residents, workers and visitors.

The Community Access and Inclusion Award seeks to recognise the efforts of those organisations and businesses in the Hawkesbury Local Government Area that have made their business and services accessible and inclusive of the whole community.

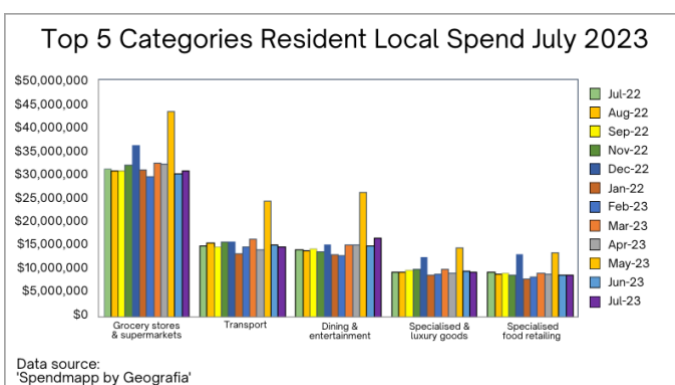
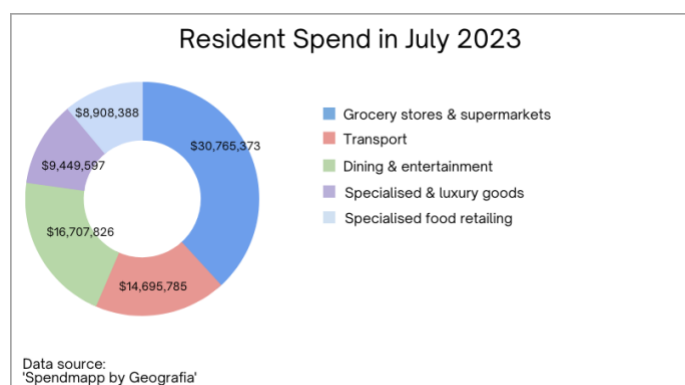
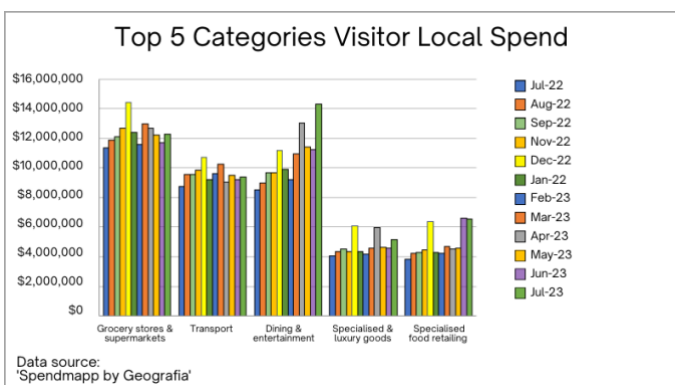
The Community Access and Inclusion Award will acknowledge initiatives from business that improve services so that the whole of community can participate fully in the social and cultural life of the community.

Entries close Wednesday 12 September 2023. For more information or to check your eligibility download the information pack and application [here](#).



[Spendmapp](#), developed by Geografia, is an economic modelling tool. It uses bank data to measure consumer spending of both locals and visitors in the geographic area over certain time periods. It can help to determine patterns of spending, by who and where, to get a better picture of the local economy.

Using the data can help inform, manage, and help also to respond to long term economic trends and shocks and also gain insights into the visitor economy, online expenditure and escape expenditure. Spendmapp is used by a number of local government areas.



July saw an increase in Dining and Entertainment which implies residents are back enjoying nights out.

Visitor Spending for the month of July saw an increase in most areas. Dining and Entertainment saw the biggest increase for the month, which is a positive for the Hawkesbury as more visitors are visiting the region.

Business News & Updates



Government grants and support for small business

Make sure you're taking advantage of the Federal and NSW State Government support available to small businesses, including grants, loans and rebates.

The Federal Government's [grant finder](#) tool currently lists 557 different grants and programs for businesses, or search for support via the NSW Government's [grant finder](#).

Visit the website of the [NSW Small Business Commissioner](#) for more information on some of the financial supports that many NSW businesses are eligible for right now.



NSW EPA: Love Food Hate Waste

Food businesses in NSW throw away around 30% of their food, with 74% of food waste occurring before the food is even sold or served. This is due to issues such as poor stock management, poor food handling, or incorrect serving sizes.

The [Your Business is Food](#) program can **help businesses reduce the amount of food thrown away**.

A simple food waste review will be conducted to work out where food is being wasted. Businesses will learn how much wastage is occurring during preparation, storage, or from customers' plates, and choose appropriate actions to reduce food waste.

It's free to sign up and over six weeks businesses will receive support from the NSW EPA, and access to the [Your Business is Food Toolkit \(680KB PDF\)](#).



NSW Plastics Technology – Recycling Modernisation Fund

NSW Government is supporting projects that will increase the recycling and recovery rates of hard-to-recycle plastics, targeting all polymer types, except for polystyrene, bioplastics or PCV packaging.

Grants are available for businesses and consortium of between \$1 million and \$20 million, with project proponents needing to contribute at least 50% of the eligible project financial costs.

Eligible proposals include:

- advanced recycling projects targeting hard-to-recycle plastics, such as mixed, multi-layer, flexible or contaminated plastics
- commercialisation or scaling-up of emerging and trial technology targeting circularity of hard-to-recycle plastics
- infrastructure upgrades and technology to extract and process plastics contained within products, such as e-waste, into higher-value products
- proposals to equip existing or new material recovery facilities or plastic recovery facilities with sorting, separation, and de-contamination technology such as optical or robotic machinery to increase the diversion of plastics from landfill
- proposals put forward by a consortium proposing end-to-end solutions and circularity in our plastics supply chain. For example, this may include supply chain collaboration between a collection and sorting facility of plastic waste, an advanced recycling facility, and manufacturers.

Applications close 12 September 2023.

<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/grants/infrastructure-fund/nsw-plastics-technology-recycling-modernisation-fund>



Changes to Agritourism businesses

Under NSW Government changes to its agritourism policy, pick-your-own farm operations can now have more than 100 visitors at a time without the need for planning approval.

For more information visit [Agritourism planning](#).

Upcoming Workshops



How to start a business - Western Sydney
Tuesday 5 September + 10am – 12pm (online)

[Register](#)



The magic of email marketing - first steps
Thursday 7 September + 10am – 11:30am (online)

[Register](#)



How to achieve greater customer satisfaction
Tuesday 12 September + 1pm – 2pm (online)

[Register](#)



Cashflow for business
Wednesday 27 September + 12pm – 1:30am (online)

[Register](#)