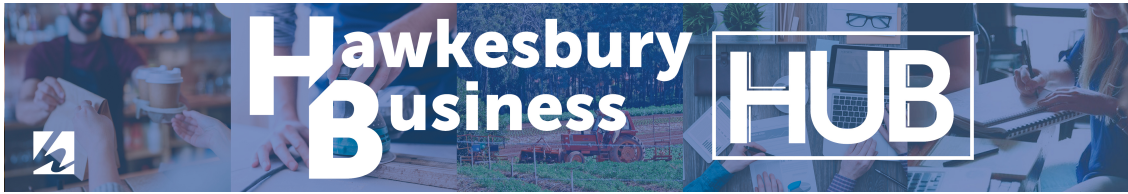


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## Welcome to this month's newsletter

This edition includes:

- [Jumpstart Free Small Business Webinars](#)
- [Hawkesbury Paddle Wheeler back on deck](#)
- [Register as a COVID-Safe business](#)
- [WSBC Small Business Mentoring Program](#)
- [Business Bushfire Impact Survey](#)
- [Learning Events - Entrepreneurs' Program](#)
- [Help a Small Biz offer of support](#)
- [Reduce waste, increase recycling and save money.](#)

We are always keen to build our knowledge and understanding of what Hawkesbury businesses need. Please share this newsletter with other local businesses, become a member of the Hawkesbury Business Hub (it's free!) and please tell me what you think by contacting me on 4560 4437 or 0418 296 579 or email [Amanda.Kearney@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Amanda.Kearney@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

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### [From Mayor Calvert's desk](#)

We've had many local businesses throughout the Hawkesbury join the Business Bounce Back mentoring program, which is specifically designed to help registered businesses across all aspects of their business. The one-on-one mentoring is helping businesses that have been affected by recent events of bushfires, floods and COVID-19.



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Hawkesbury business community. The fact that there are now [business webinar recordings available](#) that businesses can access over the next 12 months is a wonderful opportunity too. We're doing everything we can to help our local businesses on their journey to recovery.



## [Jumpstart your Business Recovery & Growth](#) [Free Small Business Webinars](#)

Hawkesbury City Council is hosting five free webinars to support local businesses. From getting COVID safe to getting your sales online, these quick and helpful sessions provide a range of topics designed to help you upskill fast.

Choose one or do all five, what we guarantee is that each session will provide you with essential information, tools and tricks to help your business sustainability and growth.

The program runs Tuesday mornings 10 to 11 am from 1st September for 5 weeks. So grab a cuppa and take an hour off to work on your business, not in it.

1. [Inspirational marketing in the time of COVID](#)
2. [Redefining your customer - pivoting your product](#)
3. [How to stand out in the crowd and build your customer base online](#)
4. [Getting prepped for a more flexible business future](#)
5. [How to set up an online shop and get you selling fast](#)

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## [Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler back on the water after Business Bounce Back Program](#)

The Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler will be back on the Hawkesbury River for Father's Day, 6 September, offering COVID-Safe cruising. Captain Ian Burns is also celebrating the Paddlewheeler's return with an official launch on 4 October and he says he has appreciated Council's Business Bounce Back Program which helped him get back on track.

"Thanks to the help from the Business Bounce Back Program, the Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler is back in operation, and we've started taking bookings again.

"The mentors in the program have been absolutely responsive and now I'm putting into action everything I've learned in the one on one sessions and the webinars. I've adopted a whole new business mindset and now we can navigate through new challenges just as well we can navigate the Hawkesbury River."

The Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler is operating under COVID-Safe guidelines and Captain Burns is committed to doing the utmost to ensure that his crew and all passengers are protected on every cruise. To find out more about the Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler visit [www.paddlewheeler.com.au](http://www.paddlewheeler.com.au)

The Business Bounce Back program is part of Council's broader business recovery program that is offered to Hawkesbury businesses. The free program offers one on one mentoring and provides the business tools for resilience in the future.

To find out more about the program, please email City Design and Economic

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Congratulations to [Blueberry Hills on Comleroy](#), another Business Bounce Back Program participant, that has been recognised as a traveller's choice winner by Tripadvisor.

This places Blueberry Hills on Comleroy in the top 10% of hotels worldwide!



## Register as a COVID-Safe business

The NSW Government has introduced a simple three-step process to ensure your business is safe for you, your employees, and your customers.

Step 1: Complete a COVID-19 Safety Plan

Step 2: Register as a COVID-19 Safe business.

Step 3: Show that you're COVID-19 safe by downloading and displaying your COVID Safe posters to reassure your customers.

[Find a COVID-19 Safety Plan for your industry.](#)

If you need business support, visit the [NSW Government website](#) or call 13 77 88. For more information visit [NSW Government](#)



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## Small Business Mentoring Program

*"To support and empower tourism, retail and general small business operators to optimise their businesses."*

*Hawkesbury City Council are investing in this program as part of their ongoing commitment to grow the visitor economy and ensure the Hawkesbury is a compelling proposition as a business and leisure destination.*

This Mentoring Program is facilitated by Western Sydney Business Centre's small business, food-based and tourism Specialist advisor, Viktoria Darabi.

It will include a comprehensive business assessment followed by one-to-one mentoring sessions tailored for your business needs.

The Program's design is flexible with one-to-one in-person or Zoom meetings depending on needs and abilities of the business owner.

The support from the mentor includes access to all tools, canvases and worksheets to apply to your business.

This program is proudly funded by Hawkesbury City Council enabling the program to be offered to participants free of charge.

## APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

To Register or for more information,  
Please visit [www.wsbusiness.com.au/training](http://www.wsbusiness.com.au/training)

Places are limited with applications closing 9am AEST on 10th Sept 2020

Program concludes 30th September 2020

## Business Bushfire impact survey

BizRebuild is conducting a Business Bushfire Impact Survey into the impact of the bushfires on business in areas affected by the 2019/2020 bushfires. The research aims to understand how local businesses were impacted by the bushfires including:

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- Damage to business property and other assets
- Effects on the well-being of businesses owners and staff

Please pass this survey on to other owners or managers of businesses in areas impacted by the bushfires. The more businesses which respond to this survey the better the quality of the results of the study.

The results will help clarify the scale of the impact on businesses and enhance support programs.

Complete the survey here: <https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5756037/Bushfire-Impact-Survey>.



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## [Learning Events - Entrepreneurs' Program](#)

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Learning Events deliver targeted and tailored support to Australian businesses.

The events address:

- Learning challenged and gaps
- Help peer-to-peer networking
- Enable you to engage in skills development and learning to support our business

The events deliver this support through:

- Single and multi-day workshops
- Masterclasses
- Exemplar business site visits
- Panel discussions and group mentoring
- High-level introductory learning

We hold the events both online and in-person across the country in metro, regional and rural areas.

If you have any questions, please email out learning events team at [eplearningevents@industry.gov.au](mailto:eplearningevents@industry.gov.au)



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## [Help a Small Biz wants to Help You!](#)

Bushfire-affected small businesses in the Hawkesbury region have not been forgotten and can still receive assistance from free initiative Help a Small Biz to help them get back up trading again.

Help a Small Biz connects the needs of small businesses that were directly or indirectly impacted by the bushfires with professionals who want to donate their time and skills to help them.

Professionals are offering their services in marketing strategy, social media, graphic design, website development, grant writing and business coaching amongst other things.

This is at no cost to the small business.

Sign up to get help at [www.helpasmallbiz.com](http://www.helpasmallbiz.com) and you will be matched with someone to help your business get trading again.

Contact Mel at [helpasmallbiz@corporate2community.com](mailto:helpasmallbiz@corporate2community.com) for more information.





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## Save Money

Independent Bin Trim assessors are conducting free waste assessments to businesses in your area. Bin Trim is run by the NSW EPA as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More initiative.

[Bin Trim](#) assessors provide free waste assessments and ongoing support to help businesses recycle more and reduce waste sent to landfill. Businesses could also be eligible for generous grants to contribute toward the purchase of new recycling equipment. Find your local Bin Trim assessors [here](#).

For further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Bin Trim team at [bin.trim@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bin.trim@epa.nsw.gov.au).




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## Hawkesbury Business Hub is live - have you joined?

Our Hawkesbury Business Hub was recently launched to help support our local business community. We now have a new addition to the Hub which is a Business Directory. Hawkesbury City Council encourages you to drop a pin in the location of your local business and tell us all about your business, your history, what you offer, your business hours and any current special offers.

We will be regularly promoting the local businesses who register on our Directory Map through our Facebook page. It's free promotion for your business, so get on board today!

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 If you would like assistance with setting up your business in our directory, call our Customer Service Team on 4560 4444.

## [WSBC free online training](#)

Western Sydney Business Centre is offering a series of free webinars to help businesses acquire and refine essential skills. Click [here](#) to learn more.



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