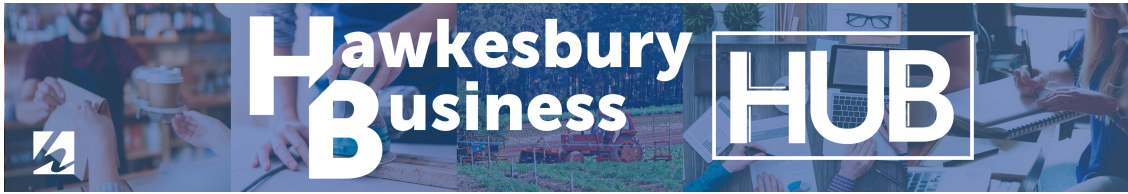


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Welcome to this month's newsletter

As we all start to emerge from the restrictions of COVID-19, whilst still recovering from the impact of fire, flood and the ongoing drought just six months ago, the Hawkesbury business community continues to demonstrate its resilience and community spirit. To support these extraordinary efforts, I want to share with you the many tiers of government and organisations that are available to support businesses and the people who run them.

This month's edition includes:

- [From Mayor Calvert's desk](#)
- [\\$3,000 small business grant](#)
- [Smart Farms Small Grants](#)
- [Critical Disaster relief for primary producers](#)
- [Key webinars for tourism operators](#)
- [Mateship manual](#) and [free mental health program](#)
- [My Business Health diagnostic tool](#)
- [Government COVID-19 support information](#)
- [Support from Western Sydney Business Centre](#)

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

[From Mayor Calvert's desk](#)

I am pleased to provide you with an update on the various programs

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In response to the bushfires, we were grateful to receive \$250,000 from the State Government's [Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund](#).



These funds were to be used for events or initiatives that support local business and industry recovery, as well as community resilience and wellbeing.

The following initiatives have been rolled out using these funds:

- *Small Business Mentoring Program* launched with Western Sydney Advisory to assist up to 100 local small business owners
- *Business Women Mentoring Program* launched with Western Sydney Women
- The Pilot *Business Bounce Back Mentoring Program for Tourism Operators* launched with Sparrowly Group
- *Place-Based Mainstreet Recovery Program* for Windsor Mall and South Windsor.
- *Getting Women Back to Business Support Program* launched with How to Job Search and Western Sydney Business Centre.

In related small business and tourism news, Hawkesbury City Council has launched the **Saved by the Bell** campaign to save historic Windsor Bridge. There could be many potential benefits to local businesses by keeping this bridge as a tourism destination.

Historic Windsor Bridge could serve as an excellent pedestrian bridge called the Hawkesbury Historic Walkway, we could hold markets on it and it would be a great link to Macquarie Park. The bridge also connects the two sides of the town. Local businesses want to utilise it. Tourist operators want to use it and the people of Windsor want to keep it.

There is a petition currently online to save Windsor Bridge that already has 6,898 signatures. To join the petition and save historic Windsor Bridge visit www.change.org/windsorbridge Come along to Thompson Square on Sunday, 19 July to sign the petition and ring the Bell to save historic Windsor Bridge!

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COVID-19 recovery grant to help small business re-launch

A new grant of up to **\$3,000** will help NSW small businesses in industries highly impacted by COVID-19 to safely re-launch their operations.

The new **Small Business Recovery Grant** is now open!

You can use it to cover:

- marketing and advertising expenses

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If you're a small business owner in an industry that's been highly impacted by COVID-19 you may be eligible for this grant. **Applications close 16 August 2020.**

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.



[Smart Farms Small Grants Update](#)

Regional Development Australia - Sydney is pleased to announce that a project Steering Committee comprising representatives from the Local Land Services of Greater Sydney, Hawkesbury City Council, Liverpool City Council and Wollondilly Shire Council was endorsed in June 2020.

Preliminary planning for the project entitled '*How to run a resilient and profitable agricultural enterprise in Sydney's peri-urban fringe in a rapidly changing environment and marketplace*' has already commenced.

Workshops involving local agricultural businesses are scheduled to commence in 2021. However, key stakeholders are due to meet this September and October to discuss the draft program and proof of concept. We invite interested land managers and agribusiness owners on Sydney's peri-urban fringe to form part of this consultation phase.

If you are interested in learning more, particularly about getting involved with the establishment of a local **Community of Practice** please get in touch. We are very interested to tap into your expertise, hear about your areas of

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For more information, please
contact amanda.kearney@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Critical disaster relief for primary producers

The Australian Government has announced three new measures targeting **apple growers, wine grape producers and the forestry sector**. The latest measures will provide a much-needed boost for hard-hit primary producers in rural areas.

This new funding adds to the Government's commitment of **\$448.5 million** for projects identified by communities as **part of their local economic recovery plans**, and the \$15 million investment to help forestry industries to transport and store the high volume of bushfire affected trees.

Find out more about [rebuilding relief for primary producers on our website](#).



SPARROWLY | BUSINESS GROUP | Bounce Back

Tourism operator webinars - sign up today!

As part of their mentorship program with Hawkesbury City Council, The Sparrowly Group is delivering a series of webinars to support all local tourism operators.

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Warehouse (ATDW) listing. You can [download the recording](#) of the webinar as well as all of the [resources](#) mentioned during the webinar [here](#).

Demystifying Marketing, a practical 20-minute webinar on all of the marketing basics you need to know, will be held on 16 July 2020 at 11:30am.

Register [here](#).



Mental health at work

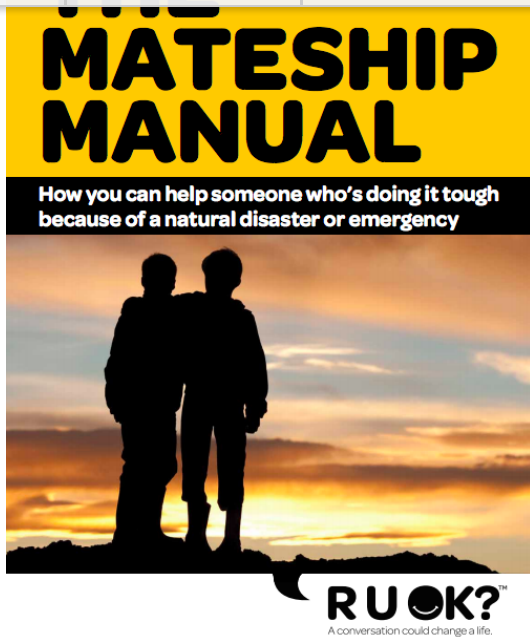
Free mental health programs for your workplace

Training and advice is available for workers, managers and business owners of private sector businesses with less than 200 employees. Develop the mental health capability of your workplace with these resources:

- **a three-hour online workshop delivered by a clinical psychologist** to assist you in identifying the signs of mental ill-health among your staff
- a one-hour online training session to help you **develop techniques that improve wellbeing**, and better support your team
- **work health and safety advice specific to your business** provided by an organisational psychologist. Learn how to better manage teams remotely and strategies to ensure wellness **while staff return to work**

Find out more information [here](#).

The Mateship Manual

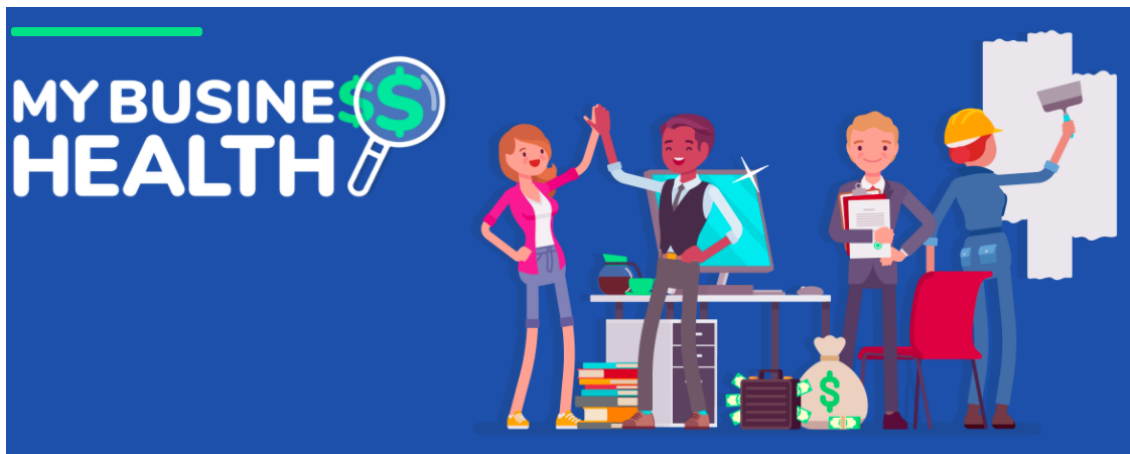
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RUOK? has developed 'The

Mateship Manual' for people who are helping someone who's doing it tough because of natural disasters or emergencies.

The manual provides guidance and tips to help you support a family member, friend, neighbour or workmate affected now and into the future. Learn how to identify someone who is struggling and how to ask them "are you ok?"

You can access a free digital copy on the [RUOK website](#).



The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman has put together a series of diagnostic tools under its My Business Health program to help businesses assess:

- COVID 19 - Has your business been affected by COVID-19?
- Cashflow - Get on top of your finances to reduce your stress.
- People Power - Empower your relationships with others and yourself.
- Business Toolbox - Get the tools to run a healthy business with a healthy mind.
- Recharge & Reach Out - Recharge now and plan for a healthier way forward.

The full set of tools is available [HERE](#).

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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!


 Follow this link to our [Business Hub Directory Map](#)

 See what our Business Hub has to offer [here](#)

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

[Red Cross Bushfire Recovery Grants](#)

Was your business affected by the recent bushfires? Do you need help navigating the available grants? [Step by Step - Disaster Recovery Support Service](#) is here to assist our community.

 Call them on 0417 298 832 for further information.

Detailed information about the grants and eligibility can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

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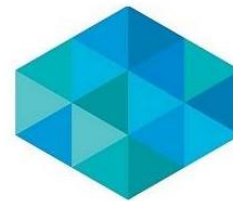
[Easing of COVID-19 restrictions: information for small businesses – UPDATED](#)

Cinemas, theatres and concert halls are some of the businesses that can reopen (subject to the one person per 4 square metre rule) from 1 July.

Businesses must follow the [COVID Safe](#) guidelines and adhere to their business specific [COVID Safety Plan](#) consistent with NSW Health orders.

[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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