



## Welcome to this month's newsletter

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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 your Mayor

Welcome to this month's newsletter and our annual celebration of Small Business month.

Small business is the backbone of the Australian economy, and represents the vast majority of business types in the Hawkesbury. We know how difficult the last two years have been for small business so I'm particularly pleased that we have the opportunity to recognise and elevate the contribution and success of our vital small business sector.

A variety of events and seminars to support and educate small businesses are planned for March as outlined in this newsletter. Some of these are online, but a number are face-to-face, taking advantage of the eased Covid-19 restrictions. With no density limits and most other restrictions relaxed, I am looking forward to March being a great month to celebrate and support Hawkesbury businesses.



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## COVID-19 Update

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## COVID Restrictions Ease

Restrictions in New South Wales have eased, with density limits and QR codes for most businesses no longer a requirement.

Changes include:

- No density limits (previously one person per 2sqm for hospitality venues)
- QR check-ins scrapped apart from nightclubs and music festivals of more than 1,000 people
- Singing and dancing permitted
- The recommendation to work from home will change and be returned to the employer's discretion
- Masks will only be mandatory on public transport, planes and indoors at airports, hospitals, aged and disability care facilities, corrections facilities and indoor music festivals with more than 1,000 people

You can stay up to date on current rules and restrictions [here](#).

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## Financial Assistance & Funding

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## Applications open for new Small Business Support Package

Applications have opened for the NSW Government's Small Business Support Program, which provides financial assistance for small businesses hit hard by the disruption caused by the recent wave of Omicron cases.

Available to eligible small businesses, the package provides support covering up to 20 per cent of weekly payroll, to a maximum payment of \$5,000 a week. It is open to businesses with annual turnover of between \$75,000 and \$50 million who have suffered a decline in turnover of at least 40 per cent.

Applications close on 31 March 2022.

[\[Apply online\]](#)

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Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury

**Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury**  
**Saturday, 26 March 2022, 4pm-8pm**  
**Richmond Park, Richmond**

Something tasty is coming...

Mark Saturday, 26 March 2022 in your diary and make sure you don't miss the first ever Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury – a fresh food extravaganza right in the heart of Richmond!

The new food and beverage event will be held in Richmond Park from 4pm to 8pm, and will celebrate the Hawkesbury's past and present as the original 'food bowl' of Sydney. Visitors will have the chance to sample and purchase delicious food, produce and beverages from local farmers and businesses, including fruit and vegetables, ciders, wines, beers and honey, as well as artesian goods such as breads, preserves and cheeses. There will also be cooking demonstrations and live entertainment to enjoy.

For visitors looking to spend the day or the weekend in the Hawkesbury, the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre has also put together a selection of guides to help you discover the best of our beautiful region. Suitable for daytrippers, couples and families, the itineraries are available on the Discover the Hawkesbury website [www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au](http://www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au)

### How you can be involved

We will be drawing in visitors from all over NSW, as well as our local crowds, so this will be a huge opportunity to boost our local economy, as well as give local businesses a great platform to have their brand seen on a statewide level.

There are a number of sponsorship opportunities available for local businesses that will provide them with a great presence at the event as well as promote their brand on Savour the Flavour's marketing material. To receive more information, or to take up a sponsorship opportunity, email our Events team at [events@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:events@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

Savour the Flavour Hawkesbury is being assisted by a \$30,000 Regional Tourism Bushfire grant and a \$6,500 grant from the NSW Government's Destination Sydney Surrounds North. Hawkesbury Harvest is also a partner of the event.

Hawkesbury Harvest and Hawkesbury Good Food Markets are also partners of the event.

Visit [www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au](http://www.discoverthehawkesbury.com.au) and Hawkesbury Events Facebook [www.facebook.com/hawkesburyevents](https://www.facebook.com/hawkesburyevents) for event updates.



## NSW Women's Week 2022



NSW Women's Week is a chance for women and girls across the state to come together to support one another, share information and celebrate women's achievements. It will run from 7 to 13 March, coinciding with International Women's Day on 8 March and the NSW Women of the Year Awards on 9 March.

A number of events and activities will run during NSW Women's Week, to celebrate the diverse contributions of women from all walks of life.

### **NSW Women of the Year Awards**

The NSW Women of the Year Awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding contribution made by women across NSW. The winners for each of the seven categories will be announced at an awards ceremony on 9 March. Tickets to the ceremony are available for [purchase online](#). If you would prefer to attend virtually, you can [register online](#) for free to watch the ceremony via live stream.

### **NSW Women's Health Expo**

Bringing together leaders and health practitioners from across the state, the inaugural [NSW Women's Health Expo](#) provides the opportunity to hear from industry experts as they discuss current issues and priorities in women's health. The event will be held on 7 March 2022 at The Calyx, and is free and open to all members of the public. Register for a speaker session or workshop by visiting [NSW Women's Health Expo tickets](#).

### **Other Events and Workshops**

From interactive workshops to luncheons to gala dinners, there is something for everything this NSW Women's Week. Explore online [here](#).

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## **NSW Small Business Month**

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March is NSW Small Business Month, a time where we all can support and celebrate hardworking small businesses and the people who run them. With a dedicated program of activities, the theme for 2022 is 'Rebuild – Recharge – Renew.'



### **Business Accelerator & Mentoring Program**

Hawkesbury City Council invites all businesses working in the visitor economy to attend a free practical learning and networking event.

Presented by business and tourism experts Sparrowly Group, the first workshop '**Working the tourism ecosystem for your business**' will be held **10am Monday 21 March 2022** at the Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon. This workshop will:

- guide you through the tourism sector and how to work it for your business
- help you get set for the year ahead and leave with the tools to put a useable plan in place
- give you the opportunity to meet other business owners from across the Hawkesbury.

Workshops are open to all businesses who work in the visitor economy and are welcome at any stage of their business journey.

[\[Register\]](#)



### **ATO Small Business Webinars**

The Australia Taxation Office is offering several free webinars for small businesses on a range of topics.

1 March, 2pm	<a href="#">Starting a small business</a>
2 March, 4pm	<a href="#">Introduction to business records</a>
3 March, 3:30pm	<a href="#">Budgeting for your commitments</a>
4 March, 11am	<a href="#">Cash flow for small business success</a>
7 March, 2pm	<a href="#">Strategies for improving your cash flow</a>
8 March, 10am	<a href="#">Claiming small business tax deductions</a>
9 March, 10am	<a href="#">Running a home-based business</a>
10 March, 3pm	<a href="#">Connecting online with the ATO: Businesses</a>
11 March, 10am	<a href="#">Connecting online with the ATO: Sole traders</a>
14 March, 12pm	<a href="#">Considering your small business viability</a>
15 March, 2pm	<a href="#">Digital options for your small business</a>
16 March, 2pm	<a href="#">Employer: Expense payment fringe benefits</a>
17 March, 10am	<a href="#">Employer: Hiring workers</a>
18 March, 11am	<a href="#">Employer: Introduction to car fringe benefits</a>
21 March, 3pm	<a href="#">Goods and services tax (GST) introduction</a>
22 March, 4pm	<a href="#">Employer: Paying workers</a>
23 March, 3pm	<a href="#">Employers: Single Touch Payroll</a>
24 March, 2pm	<a href="#">Ride-sourcing and tax (Sole Traders)</a>
25 March, 2:30pm	<a href="#">Ride-sourcing: Income, expenses and GST</a>
28 March, 2pm	<a href="#">Using your business money and assets</a>
29 March, 10:30am	<a href="#">Closing your small business</a>
29 March, 2pm	<a href="#">Building and construction services – TPAR</a>
31 March, 11am	<a href="#">Road freight services: TPAR</a>



### **Business Connect Webinars & Events**

Find and book a Business Connect webinar or event from an expert. Develop your business skills, learn something new, or get your new business idea off the ground.

[\[Find a Business Connect Event\]](#)

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## **Careers & Employment**

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### **Aviation Job Skills Workshop for Women**

Join us for a free workshop and learn about aviation career opportunities and training pathways, interview skills and job application tips. Chat with women working in the aviation industry, receive coaching on interview skills and CV writing, and learn about how to apply for airport & aviation jobs.

Thursday 7 April 2022, 12pm  
HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY - Tebbutt Room

[\[Register now\]](#)



## JOB BOARD



### Hawkesbury Local Jobs Board

If you have a local job available for a local person, please advertise to the local business community via our Local Jobs board!

Advertising is FREE and applications can be found via the link below.

[Jobs board form](#)

If you require any assistance in creating your job advertisement, please feel welcome to contact Cemre Aydemir on 02 4560 5272 or send an email to [business@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:business@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)



### Stay NSW Vouchers

The roll out of the Stay NSW Vouchers scheme, which aims to help accommodation providers and stimulate tourism growth in New South Wales, began on Monday 21 February 2022.

NSW residents aged 18 and over will be able to apply for 1 x \$50 Stay NSW Voucher, which can be used for accommodation with participating accommodation providers.

#### **Register your business**

All eligible accommodation businesses can apply to take part in the expanded voucher scheme. Once approved, you'll be able to accept and redeem Stay NSW Vouchers using the [Service NSW for Business app](#).

[\[Check your eligibility and register your participation\]](#)





## NSW Going Global Export Program

The Going Global Export Program - run by Investment NSW - helps eligible NSW businesses in specific industries reach customers in new international markets. The intensive program runs for 2 to 6 months, free of charge, and is divided into 'streams.'

### **E-commerce to Singapore**

Eligible businesses can apply for free support to export premium packaged and processed food and beverage, as well as health, wellness and fast-moving consumer goods to Singapore.

The program, which will run from March to September 2022, includes introductory workshops on intellectual property protection and export essentials, cultural training, market intelligence, and an introduction to a Singapore end-to-end e-commerce service provider. Applications close on 6 March 2022.

[\[Find out more about the program and apply\]](#)

Applications will open soon for the Food and Beverage, Nutraceuticals and Skincare to India program stream.