

Happy New Financial Year to all!

We hope you finished off 2018/19 smoothly and wishing you all a prosperous 2019/2020...with rain - drought breaking rain.

A small reminder that memberships are now due for the new financial year. Keep your eye out for news of the AGM and start to consider whether you would like a more active role by nominating for a committee or leadership role.

For further updates and extra news in between our newsletters like our [Facebook page](#)

CHAMBER CONNECT

Our monthly networking meet-up is on
Thursday July 11th, from 5.30PM

at the Gunnedah Hotel opposite the Post Office.

This month we are excited to welcome Treena Daniells, from Ery Melrose who is keen to share her fabulous knowledge on Single Touch Payroll. With a wide range of clients, Treena has found some tips and tricks and has learnt a few lessons which she wants to share - *to make your life easier.*

What better way to chat about payroll - over a few drinks with fellow business people?

Last month we enjoyed a presentation from the Manager of Economic Development at Gunnedah Shire Council, Charlotte Huddle as our pitch guest. Charlotte and others from Council shared their highlights from the very informative Small Business Friendly Councils Program and Conference. It definitely created some great discussions from those who attended. Thank you Charlotte, Emily, and Councillors John Campbell and David Moses for attending and sharing.

The Chamber hosts these events to provide an opportunity for local businesses to meet, share and provide support to each other. You never know who you might meet there and we know that there has been some ongoing business created from previous events.

If you would like to pitch you and/or your business drop us a note.

We are keen to even have our Connect meet-ups at your business if you would like to host one of regular monthly events.

You will receive at least one drink 'on the house' and nibbles will be provided.

Come along, we would love to see you there.

NSW Business Connect - did you know?

Regional Skills Relocation Grants

If you're established, setting up in, or relocating your business to regional NSW, you can apply for up to \$10,000 to assist with moving costs for skilled workers relocating from metropolitan areas.

Eligible businesses must be operating in an approved industry such as agriculture, forestry, manufacturing, mining or tourism and seeking workers in occupations listed on the [NSW Skilled Occupation Lists](#).

Specialist Finance advice for small businesses

Lack of affordable finance options and reliable cash flow are two common reasons why small businesses fail and are a significant barrier to growth for Australian businesses.

As part of the Business Connect program, **specialist access to finance advisors**, complement local services. Advisors can assist small businesses to:

- navigate the business lending market
- understand pricing and product terminology
- demystify credit policies
- get 'application ready'

Get in touch with [Finance advisor](#) today!

Tools and resources

[NSW and Local Government Area Business Profiles](#) - a snapshot of key small business statistics for NSW and each Local Government Area (LGA).

[Business basics frequently asked questions](#) - useful business information to help your business succeed.

[Home based business toolkit](#) - helpful guidance if you are starting or running a home-based business.

[NSW DroughtHub](#) - a one-stop online destination for information on a vast range of services and support available to primary producers, their families and communities.

[Easy to do Business \(ETDB\)](#) - a Business Concierge will help navigate through the government licences and permits you need to open your business faster.

[Mental health resources](#) - maintain a healthy mind while running your business.

These little tid-bits are taken from the Business Connect Newsletter. To subscribe yourself - head over to [Business Connect website](#)

Access at a Glance Initiative - valuing all community members

The Gunnedah Access Working Group, under Gunnedah Shire Council has partnered with NSW Ability Links to invite businesses in the CBD to participate in the Access at a Glance initiative. This initiative provides shop fronts with accessibility stickers and signage to display in their windows so that community members can quickly tell if the space is accessible at a glance. This a fabulous and worthy initiative to help enable vulnerable people feel more part of the community.

With the support of the your Chamber, Ability Linkers and members of the Access Working Group will be taking to the streets to chat with business owners and managers to see if they would like to be involved. If the business or organisation meets the guidelines, a free sticker will be distributed to place in the shop window.

Ability Links NSW supports vulnerable people and people with a disability, their families and carers to live the life they want as valued members of their community. It does this through linking people to their community and community capacity building projects such as the Access at a Glance initiative.

More information and contact details via the [Gunnedah Shire Website](#)

2019 Business Awards

Just a quick reminder to local businesses that we will not be hosting a Gunnedah and District business award this year. We have made the decision to hold these bi-annually.

You can still enter the Regional Awards.

Chamber members are keen and willing to help you with this. Drop us note at: chamber@gunnedah.org.au.

[Key dates and details here](#) – entries open July 1st.

Two elderly ladies, Mabel and Evie, meet at a café for a nice cup of coffee and a cake.

After a while, Mabel peers closely at Evie and says, "Evie, it looks like you have a suppository in your ear!"

"What?"

"It looks like you have a suppository in your ear, Evie!" says Mabel a bit louder.

"Oh," checks Evie, "you're right! Drat, well, at least I know where my hearing aid is now."

NSW GOVERNMENT EXPORT CAPABILITY BUILDING PROGRAM

The next Export Workshop in the NSW Government's Export Capability Building Program will take place in Tamworth on July 24 9am to 2pm.

This workshop aims to help exporters increase their knowledge of export practice and regulations to maximise opportunities and profitability.

The last hour has been allocated to a networking lunch so if attendees need to leave a bit earlier than 2PM that will be fine.

The workshop will be delivered by the Export Council of Australia (ECA) and will be a very practical and interactive session to provide an insight into good export business practice while giving businesses a greater understanding of the regulations, market access, logistics, duty and IP issues that exporters face to help them identify the most suitable markets for their products and price their goods accordingly to ensure a profitable long term business.

[Register via eventbrite](#), places are limited

For further information contact Rob Harrison, NSW Department of Industry on 0401 710 600

VISUAL MERCHANDISING GUIDE

Following the Visual Merchandising workshop event in Gunnedah a few months ago, we now have available for your local small businesses this online resource: the **Visual Merchandising guide (tips for small businesses)**.

It is filled with practical tips for business owners to present their retail space in the best possible way to entice customers and maximise sales.

To download, click on our web page URL www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/vmguide.

NSW/ACT Regional Achievement & Community Awards

Designed to give thanks to our community champions under one of these categories;

- Department of Planning and Industry Individual Excellence in Crown Land Management Award
- Department of Planning and Industry Crown Land Manager Excellence Award
- Prime Super Agricultural Innovation Award
- Prime Super Employer Excellence in Aged Care Award
- Ricoh Australia Customer Service Award
- TransGrid Leadership Award
- Wholistic Financial Solutions Small Business Achievement Award
- Awards Australia Connecting Communities Award

Great prizes are up for grabs, seven category winners will be presented with \$2,000 and a trophy, the other category winner will receive Television exposure on PRIME7 and a trophy. Plus, every nomination will receive a certificate of achievement.

To submit a nomination, simply go online to www.awardsaustralia.com/nswactraca and select 'Nominate Now'. Alternatively, make the process that much easier by calling us on 1300 735 445 and passing on their details and we will take it from there.

Nominations close Wednesday 31st July 2019.

For assistance please feel free to call the Awards Office on 1300 735 445 or email nswactraca@awardsaustralia.com

Wife: "It's our wedding anniversary in a week, darling. How do you think we should celebrate?"

Husband: "With a minute of silence."