

Well I think we can safely announce Winter has arrived!

It's the perfect weather to grab a hot chocolate or even a warm toddy and have a read of your latest Chamber newsletter by a warm heater. Loads of info to share, get comfortable!

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

CHAMBER CONNECT

Our monthly networking meet-up is on
Thursday June 13th, from 5.30PM

at the Gunnedah Hotel opposite the Post Office.

This month we are excited to welcome Manager of Economic Development at Gunnedah Shire Council, Charlotte Hoddle as our pitch guest. Charlotte and others from Council will give us some highlights from the very informative conference they recently attended - the Small Business Friendly Councils Program and Conference. We hear there is loads to share, so pop on in, meet Charlotte and be inspired by some new ideas.

Last month we enjoyed a short presentation from Katrina and Emily of the ANZ bank. It was very informative; they sure know their products! It was also obvious that the ANZ staff are keen to help with a customer-focussed approach to clients and potential new clients.

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.

Gunnedah Shire Business Partner Program.

The next round of the Business Partner Program is now open, with applications closing on **30 June 2019**

- Have you been thinking about expanding your business and need a financial contribution to make it happen?
- Do you have an idea for a new business initiative or event that will benefit the Gunnedah Shire through increased employment?

From smaller scale items such as a website upgrades to a game changing project that will bring growth to our Shire, we want your ideas and are open to applications from all businesses!

The next round of the Business Partner Program is now open, with applications closing on 30 June 2019. For further details regarding the Business Partner Program contact Council's Economic Development team on 02 6740 2100 or [visit their 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](#)

I bought some shoes from a drug dealer.

I don't know what he laced them with, but I was tripping all day!

SMALL BUSINESS AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS SURVEY

Sometimes you need more than an umbrella...

Has your business been impacted by extreme weather events such as drought, storms, bushfires or heatwaves?

To support small business to better plan, respond and adapt, the NSW Government has developed this short survey to understand how small business are currently impacted by extreme weather events.

Please share your experiences. The survey will take approximately 7 mins to complete.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSW_SmallBusiness_InformationNeeds

The survey will be open until mid June.

AWARDS SEASON

There are quite a few award programs on offer this time of year. It is worth considering nominating your business, you or your staff for these awards as it is a great way to build a positive profile and networks that can have ongoing benefits beyond the award.

It's a worthy part of your communication and marketing strategy.

While you are sipping that hot chocolate think about whether you fit one of these....

Australian Farmer of the Year Awards. Applications close 30 June 2019

The Australian Farmer of the Year Awards are designed to celebrate and applaud the outstanding achievements of those individuals and families making a significant contribution to Australian agriculture, and tell their story about farming and life in rural Australia.

All category winners will get the opportunity to part in a one-day leadership program held in Canberra the day before the announcement ceremony. Supported by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, this workshop will assist award recipients to clarify and guide their leadership journey.

Key Criteria:

- Nominations are open to individuals and families involved in farming enterprises or rural communities.
- Entrants can nominate themselves or be nominated by a third party.
- Award recipients must be available from 14 October – 16 October 2019.

To check out the categories, more information and submit a nomination, visit <https://www.farmeroftheyear.com.au/static/register-now>.

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

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.

Today, my son asked "Can I have a book mark?" and I burst into tears.

11 years old and he still doesn't know my name is Brian

Tocal's Agskilled Programs

Bec Fing, House Paddock Training and Consulting is heading up a few programs that are available in our area. As with corporate governance, these courses are funded for those involved in the cotton and grains industry. Locations and details for each course:

GROW – a leadership program for Women in business management/ownership in the cotton and grains industry. Covering personal effectiveness (time management, organisation, communication, networking and conflict management), Work Health and Safety and Human resource management. **Upcoming locations are Wee Waa, Quirindi and Condobolin.**

THRIVE – a personal effectiveness program for men and women in the cotton and grains industry covering time management, organisation, communication, conflict management, networking and negotiation. Upcoming locations are **Moree and Dubbo** although we are taking EOIs for **Narrabri, Griffith and Wagga** which will be scheduled depending on interest.

You can express interest by touching base via housepaddock@bigpond.com

Fair Trading Seminars – these sound really fabulous!

NSW Fair Trading invites are conducting attend a free webinars on ‘**Running an Association**’ and ‘**Role of the Committee**’.

Running an Association:

The Webinar will be conducted by NSW Fair Trading and provides an overview of the following issues:

- Statutory obligations
- Things to consider about your constitution
- Responsibilities of the Management Committee & the Public Officer
- Financial reporting
- Meetings

Wednesday 19 June from 10.30 am – 11.30 am Registration link: [Running and association 19 June 21019](#)

Role of the Committee:

The Webinar will be conducted by NSW Fair Trading and provides an overview of the following issues:

- The structure of the Management Committee
- Role of committee members
- Compliance responsibilities
- Statutory obligations
- Role of the Public Officer
- The Constitution
- Financial Reporting
- Meetings

Webinar dates and times:

Thursday 4 July from 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm Registration link: [Role of the Committee 4 July 2019](#)

or

Thursday 18 July from 10.30 am – 11.30 am Registration link: [Role of the Committee 18 July 2019](#)

If you require further information about the webinar, please email Fair Trading Seminars at: FairTradingSeminars@finance.nsw.gov.au

For more information about Fair Trading to our website at: www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au