

BUSINESS UPDATE

May 2022

April Chamber Breakfast

There was great turn out for our April Chamber Breakfast themed around Community Organisations and with special guests Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce and Sam Farraway MLC attending.

Our community organisation presentations included Danny Either from the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service. Una Garland from Upper Hunter Homeless Support, and Steve Reichel who spoke about Muswellbrook Rotary.

These are just three of the many organisations in the area that play a critical role in supporting the community of Muswellbrook and the region. The Chamber is proud to have many of them as members.

Those attending were also given an update and shown a video on the proposed Upper Hunter Regional Museum project.

The Museum, to be located in Muswellbrook, will be named ADAPT. ADAPT has been chosen to highlight adaptation as a storyline theme throughout the museum showcasing how the region has, and will continue to adapt, into the future.

Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce addressed the meeting, and highlighted the importance of the region to the nation's economy and made an announcement that the Federal Government would now fund the Muswellbrook Bypass to assist in fast tracking the project.



**Our next Breakfast will be Tuesday 3rd May
Muswellbrook RSL Club
Theme: 'Meet the Candidates'**

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Dear members and colleagues,

I hope the Easter Holiday period was an opportunity for you to relax and re-charge. I am sure that, like me, you are finding many challenges in your business and sometimes it is good to step back, relax and reflect, away from the day-to-day hustle & bustle.

At the Chamber we are continuing to provide support especially for small businesses and this Newsletter has information on some of our programs and events. I hope you will take particular note of the following –



- * The April Breakfast featured local not-for-profit organisations who provide valuable services to our community. There was also an important announcement by Deputy Prime Minister, Barnaby Joyce, on funding for the Muswellbrook By-pass. All businesses should now plan for the reality of a By-pass opening in the next three or four years.
- * Our Small business workshops held in March were highly successful and those who attended spoke highly of the content. Those who were unable to attend can now view videos of the presentations through the links provided on page 8.
- * The Chamber Business Awards are open for entries from 18th April to 15th May. Our Awards Presentation Dinner will be held on 24th June and the new categories will allow local winners to progress to the Hunter Business Awards and the NSW State Chamber Awards. This is a great opportunity to promote your business locally and regionally.
- * Our Inspirations Conference has been postponed as many of you wanted to attend but were struggling with staff shortages and couldn't take time out of your businesses. We hope to run this event later in the year.
- * With Federal Election on 21st May, we are giving you an opportunity to 'Meet the Candidates' for the seat of Hunter. We have five candidates who have accepted the invitation to our May Breakfast on Tuesday 3rd at the Muswellbrook RSL. All businesses are welcome and bookings are essential. See page 14.
- * Locals supporting Locals, We Live Here Cards and The Great Cattle Dog Muster also feature in the Newsletter. Please take note of these programs and give us your feedback on them as well as any other suggestions you think the Chamber can take up to assist local businesses.

As we enter the last quarter of this financial year, there is a, more than normal, need to be aware of the local and global influences on our businesses. With Covid related labour issues, the Ukraine crisis, growing concern over China's economic and strategic influences, supply chain issues and growing inflation we must stay alert but not alarmed. Most of these issues are beyond our control and should take second place in our thinking to things that are within our control. Excellent Customer Service and good business governance are well proven tools to overcome challenges to any business.

Our local economy remains strong. Our capacity to support each other through trade and networking ideas has not changed and never will.

Yours sincerely,
Mike Kelly
President

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'To represent, promote and encourage business enterprise in Muswellbrook and its districts'.

YOUR MCCI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Chamber would like to give a special thanks to the

LOCALBUYING FOUNDATION

AN INITIATIVE OF THE LOCAL BUYING PROGRAM

and



muswellbrook shire council

..... for their support of the recent Business Workshops as part of Small Business Month.



To stay up to date on what's happening in the MCCI, our Making Muswellbrook program and the Great Cattle Dog Muster event, be sure to like the following Facebook pages.

[Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc.](#)

[Making Muswellbrook](#)

[The Great Cattle Dog Muster](#)

The Member Services Manager role is proudly supported in partnership with BHP's Local Buying Foundation.

LOCALBUYING FOUNDATION

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2022 Muswellbrook Business Awards Entries / Nominations Now Open!



Gala Presentation Dinner - Friday 24th June - Muswellbrook RSL Club

2022 Award Categories

Excellence in Micro Business*
Excellence on Small Business*
Excellence in Business*
Outstanding New Member
Excellence in Manufacturing**
Making Muswellbrook Award

Excellence in Tourism
Outstanding Community Enterprise*
Young Business Leader of the Year*
Business Leader of the Year*
Best Presented Business
Business of the Year

This year, a number of categories are aligned with the *Hunter Business Awards, and one is aligned with the **Hunter Manufacturing Awards. Winners of the Muswellbrook Business Awards will automatically become finalist in the Hunter Business, and Hunter Manufacturing Awards.

Entries / Nominations open to MCCI members only.

Entries / Nominations across multiple categories are welcomed

Important Dates:

Entries / Nominations Open - Monday 18 April

Entries Close - Friday 13 May

Judging - Week Commencing Monday 23 May

Finalist Announced - Monday 6th June

Awards Dinner - Friday 24 June

Entries / Nominations can be made via the Awards Online Portal.

[ENTER AWARDS HERE](#)

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***Excellence in Micro Business - Less than 5 Employees**

The Excellence in Micro Business Award recognises a business that has effectively driven growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies implemented to achieve business success and/or resilience.

***Excellence in Small Business - 5 to 20 Employees**

The Excellence in Small Business Award recognises a business that has effectively driven growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies implemented to achieve business success and/or resilience.

***Excellence in Large Business - 21 or more Employees**

The Excellence in Large Business Award recognises a business that has effectively driven growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies implemented to achieve business success and/or resilience.

Outstanding New Member

Entrants are required to demonstrate their achievements since becoming a MCCI member across the key area of business excellence. This category is open to businesses who have become a new MCCI member since our last Business Awards, 16th April 2021.

****Excellence in Manufacturing**

This category recognises outstanding overall performance for a firm in the manufacturing sector. They will have a clear, focused strategy and an offer to the market that is recognised for its consistent high quality and sensitivity to customer needs. They will have strong systems across the board, from production to safety, the environment and marketing. Their people will be motivated, skilled and highly productive and will be recognised and rewarded for their efforts. The winner will be an active participant in both the manufacturing sector and the broader community.

Making Muswellbrook Award

Entrants are required to demonstrate their achievements over the past 12 months in Promoting Positive, Highlighting Progress, or Creating a Sense of Community. This category is open to businesses or organisations who have been trading for a period of over 12 months.

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Excellence in Tourism

The Excellence in Tourism Award recognises a business that has effectively driven growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies implemented to achieve business success and/or resilience.

***Outstanding Community Organisation**

The Outstanding Community Organisation Award recognises an organisation that works to improve the social, cultural or environmental wellbeing of the community.

***Outstanding Young Business Leader - Aged 35 or under.**

The Outstanding Young Business Leader Award recognises an inspirational business leader aged 35 or under who has demonstrated a commitment to their workplace, industry and the community through leadership.

***Outstanding Business Leader - Aged 36 or over**

The Outstanding Business Leader Award recognises an inspirational business leader aged 36 years or over who has demonstrated a commitment to their workplace, industry and the community through leadership, whilst providing mentorship to others.

Best Presented Business - Judges Choice

Selected from Business Awards Finalists.

Business of the Year - Judges Choice

Selected from Business Awards Finalists.

The Muswellbrook Business Awards are made possible with the generous support of the events sponsors



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— 2022 UPPER HUNTER —
INSPIRATIONS
CONFERENCE



Inner Strength—No Limits

Covid-19 continues to play havoc at the moment. Local cases and isolation is affecting attendees, presenters, and production staff. Unfortunately, this uncertainty has forced us to postpone the event until later in the year, with a date to be decided.

With so much work already invested in the event , the decision to postpone, although necessary, is a frustrating and disappointing one.

Those already holding tickets can ask for a refund , or simply hold onto them until the new date is announced.

Meet the Candidates

With the Federal Election scheduled for Saturday 21 May, our May Chamber Breakfast will be an opportunity to hear from candidates for the seat of Hunter.

All the candidates have been invited to attend, and at the time of writing the following have confirmed their attendance: Dale McNamara (One Nation). Janet Murray (Greens). Geoff Passfield (United Australia). Daniel Repacholi (Labor). James Thomson (Nationals)

Each will firstly be given an allotted time to introduce themselves and outline their key policies. Names will be drawn to determine the order in which will speak.

This will then be followed by questions form the floor.

This newsletter is proudly supported by..



Preferred security provider to many MCCI Members

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Small Business Month

Business Workshop Videos

On Wednesday 16th March, the Chamber staged a series of Business Workshops as part of Small Business Month.



Video recordings taken on that day of the workshop sessions are now available to watch.

From Burnout to Balance

Gain clarity of mind with tips & tools to re-ignite your pulse for work ..& life.

Presented by Tabatha Kattau—Sincerus Mindset Coaching

[Watch Video Here](#)

Customer Satisfaction and Relationships

Discover the secret to attracting new customers and retaining existing ones.

Presented by Wayne Toms - Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce and Industry

[Watch Video Here](#)

Value Proposition Canvas

Find new ways to create value for your Customers & Market.

Presented by Claire Quigley - Launchpad9

[Watch Video Here](#)

The Be Human Approach to HR

Helping business owners create Happy Humans.

Presented by Nicole Furness - Be Human HR

[Watch Video Here](#)

Note: The Marketing Mix—Mini Workshop session presented by Lavinia Hutchison from Livmedia is not available for viewing due to copyright requests.



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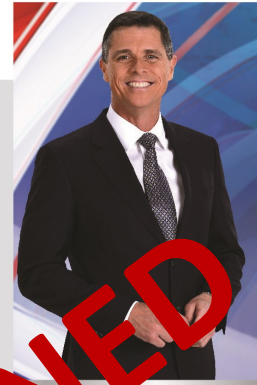
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POSTPONED
NEW DATE COMING SOON

MCCI Events



— 2022 UPPER HUNTER —
INSPIRATIONS
CONFERENCE



'INNER STRENGTH NO LIMITS'

ITS TIME FOR A LITTLE INSPIRATION

Inner strength has no limits when overcoming challenges and achieving goals

9am to 5pm Wednesday 11th May 2022
Muswellbrook RSL Auditorium



FEATURING

Gavin Morris, Julie Cross and Kurt Fearnley
Plus a host of local inspirational presenters.

\$70 per ticket (excl GST) Includes Morning Tea and Lunch



MUSWELLBROOK
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
& INDUSTRY



Registrations via: www.eventbrite.com.au (Inspirations Conference)

Volunteers Needed



Would you like to volunteer and support this community event!

Would you like to be part of this exciting event and be a member of the Muster team?

Muster Ambassadors

Helping with visitor enquiries on the day and being a welcoming face around the grounds.

Activity Supports

A supporting role with one the many activities on the day.

Behind the Scenes Supports

Supporting the admin and organisation of the event on the day.

Set Up & Pack Up Supports

Assisting with the set up and pack up of the event.

Email - info@muswellbrookchamber.com.au

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Locals Supporting Locals



Have you registered your business to participate in the 'We Live Here' card program?

The "We LIVE Here" local investment cards work like an EFTPOS gift card once loaded, and are only be able to be used with participating businesses, ensuring local expenditure and economic development for the region.

This program isn't just for retailers. Local businesses from health professionals, B2B, mechanics and more have all signed up to the program.

The cards can be loaded with funds from \$20 to \$1000, can only be loaded once (no top ups) but can be used multiple times or spent all at once. They expire after three years.

Purchasers can check card balances online or by phone, and registered cards can be replaced if lost.

Register your business online: <https://www.whyleavetown.com/register>

The more participating businesses we have, the greater choice individuals will have in how to use the funds.



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THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND &
MACH ENERGY MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION PRESENTS



CULTURAL SPECTACULAR

NEW DATE ANNOUNCED

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022 1PM TO 9PM
SINGLETON SHOWGROUND



HEADLINE ACT
MITCH TAMBO

SUPPORTED BY MIESHA AND
SEAN CHOOLBURRA

A FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY
CELEBRATION OF ABORIGINAL CULTURE

MUSIC • FOOD • FIREWORKS • KIDS ACTIVITIES
MARKET STALLS • PERFORMANCES • CULTURAL ART & CRAFTS

Strictly a NO Drugs, NO Alcohol and NO Smoking event

ALL WELCOME

Registration for this event is required for entry.
Please visit our website or scan QR code to register.



WWW.CULTURALSPECTACULAR.COM.AU

COMMUNITY FAMILY FUN DAY

Sat 10th Sept. 2022
10am - 4pm
FREE ENTRY



MUSWELLBROOK
SHOWGROUND
- Upper Hunter Valley -

Cattle Dog History Exhibit

Cattle Dog Demonstrations
& Presentations

Upper Hunter Showcase:
Food • Wine • Produce • Attractions

Market Stalls • Merchandise • Food Vans

Live Country Music:
Jason Owen • Hayley Jensen • The Collective

Children's Entertainment:
Jumping Castles • Clowns
Petting Zoo • Face Painting • Rides

CATTLE DOG EXHIBITOR
COMPETITION EVENTS ON DISPLAY

Obedience Trials • Trick Tests
Rally • Handlers • And More!



SPECIAL MEETS
& GREETINGS WITH
BLUEY & BINGO!

Bookings are essential



BRING YOUR OWN PET CATTLE DOG

Available on the day:

Good Citizen Classes • Basic Handling Classes
Herding Instinct Tests • Basic Grooming & Health Care



SCAN HERE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE, OR GO TO:
www.greatcattledogmuster.com.au



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MUSWELLBROOK
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
& INDUSTRY

Tuesday 3 May 2022 CHAMBER BREAKFAST

Venue: "Muswellbrook RSL Club"

7am - 9am

Theme: Meet the Candidates

MCCI invites members and guests to join us for our May Breakfast.

The theme for the breakfast is Meet the Candidates.

The Breakfast will be an opportunity to hear from each of the candidates for the seat of Hunter in the upcoming Federal Election.



COST:

\$33.00* for members

\$38.50* for non-members

(* incl of GST)

RSVPs close midday,

Thursday 28th April 2022

info@muswellbrookchamber.com.au

Price includes a hot buffet breakfast and tea & coffee.



To represent, promote and encourage business enterprise in Muswellbrook and its districts.



RSVP to Wayne at info@muswellbrookchamber.com.au by midday Thursday 28th April

Payment options: Card or cash on the day or request an invoice with your RSVP.

Please advise any dietary requirements with your RSVP.

RSVPs are compulsory and must be paid. If you are unable to attend you may send a colleague in your place.

1800 Mr Excavate	Challenge Community Services	Hedweld Group of Companies	Magnium Group
A Corp Computers	Chandler Macleod	Hermitage Motel	Malabar Coal Ltd
AEE Services	Cleal, Doug & Roslyn	Hitachi Construction Machinery (Aust) P/L Muswellbrook Branch	Mangoola Coal Operations
AGL Macquarie	Colourworks for Hair	Hollydene Estate Wines + Vines Restaurant	Mark Diggins Solicitor
APM	Commonwealth Bank	Hunter Belle Cheese	Melanie's Jewellers
Aaron Henry Optometrist	Comprint	Hunter Carpet & Tile Care	Melt Hunter Valley Operations Pty Ltd
Aberdeen Highland Games	Coolmore Australia	Hunter Plant Mechanics	Merton Living
Airspeed Aviation	Crossfit Muswellbrook	Hunter Region Business Hub	Mikala Lighting Towers
Allweld Services	Curtis Gant Betts	Hunter River Times	Monteath Powys
Austmine Limited	DK Heavy Plant Services	Hunter TAFE	Mosaic Therapy & Supports Pty Ltd
Australian Community Media	Davies Thompson & Wright Services	Hunter Valley Elite Window Tinting	Mountain of Love
BHP Billiton Mt Arthur Coal	Denman Legal Pty Ltd	Hunter Valley Operations	Muswellbrook Coal Co
Beacon Automatiom	Dezigns Hub	Hunter Valley Printing	Muswellbrook & District Workers' Club
Beauty Co	Dirragarra Contracting Pty Lt	Hunter Valley SUP	Muswellbrook Floral Studios
Bengalla Mining Company	Domino's Muswellbrook	Innovationclub Pty Ltd	Muswellbrook Home Timber & Hardware
Beyond Dog Training	Double Picc	Integratedliving Australia Ltd	Muswellbrook Motors
Big Lift Cranes & Heavy Haulage	EMF Group	iSimplify Pty Ltd	Muswellbrook PCYC
Blackrock Industries	Edmonds Joinery	JTS Realty	Muswellbrook Race Club Ltd
Blackwoods	Edward Higgins Parkinson First	Jennifer Lecky & Associates	Muswellbrook RSL Sub-Branch Club Ltd & Golf Club
Bowditch Earthmoving	Elks Enterprises Pty Ltd	Joblink Plus	Muswellbrook Security Services
Breathe Skin Body Mind	Envy Cleaning & Property Maintenance	Jo Bailey Quality Care Pty Ltd	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Briken Group Services Pty Ltd	Equilaw Solicitors	John Hunter Motel	Muswellbrook South Public School
Brook Enviro Services	First National Real Estate—Edward Higgins Parkinson	LCC Asia Pacific Pty Limited	Muswellbrook Steel Supplies P/L
Brook Medical Centre	Fyfe Pty Ltd	LJ Hooker Muswellbrook	NBN/NBN Local
Brook Outdoors	GJ's by the Lake	Lake Liddell Recreation Area Trust	NSW Business Chamber—Business Australia
CPR Pest Management Services	Gowing Advisory	Launchpad9 Pty Ltd	NSW Minerals Council
C-Res	Greentree Financial	Liv Media	National Australia Bank
CRJ Maintenance Pty Ltd	Hair by Maddi	MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd	
Cattle Dog Florist & Café	Harvey Recruitment	MV Solar Pty Ltd	
Central Arcade Pty Ltd			

National Group – National Plant & Equipment Pty Ltd	Roger Skinner Photography	The Red Door Community Kitchen (Inc)	Upper Hunter Turf Services
Northwest Mining	Royal Hotel Denman	The Royal Hotel	Upper Hunter Youth Services
OAS Technology Group	Rural Recycling Pty Ltd	Thiess Pty Ltd	Valley Fasteners Muswellbrook
Ochre Opportunity Hub Upper Hunter	SGS Australia	Think Goat	Warburton Estate Agents
Onsite Rental Group	Satur Veterinary Clinic- Muswellbrook	Tradecore Industries Pty Ltd	Warrior Disability Services
Persas	Sincerus Business Group	Transcare Hunter Ltd	Wear Parts Services
Pet Medical	Small Forest Pty Ltd	Travel Partners	Westpac
Pickering Homestead	Soley's Handyman & Maintenance	Tutt Bryant Heavy Lift & Shift	Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service
Pirtek Muswellbrook	Southside Newsagency	Two Rivers Wines	Whiteman Welding
Pores & Claws	Sparke Helmore	UON Upper Hunter	Wideland Motor Group Pty Ltd
Pukara Estate	Speaking in Colour	United Contract Services	Workpac
Pumps & Pipeline Services P/L	Specific Solutions Pty Ltd	Upper Hunter Automotive	Yore Contractors
RMS Services	Success Tax Professionals	Upper Hunter Community Services	Youth Express
RA Peasley Consulting	Supply First Aid	Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music	
Radio Hunter Valley	Supply Solutions Group	Upper Hunter Economic Development Corporation	
Raine & Horne Muswellbrook	TAFE NSW	Upper Hunter Fire Protection	
Reece Pty Ltd	TGM Enterprises	Upper Hunter Homeless Support	
Recovery Partners	TLE Electrical	Upper Hunter Investments	
Reg Osborn Pty Ltd	Teterin Supply	Upper Hunter Property Inspections	
Regional Australia Bank	The Business Centre	Upper Hunter Regional Museum Inc	
Remington Muswellbrook P/L	The Chop Shop Butchery	Upper Hunter Show Inc	
Richard Gill School of Music	The Happy Tooth Muswellbrook		
	The Hunter in a Basket		

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