

BUSINESS UPDATE

November 2022

October Chamber Breakfast

Over 80 guests attended our October breakfast to hear Brad Williams from AGL give an update on the Liddell Power Station Closure & Demolition.

Brad provided a comprehensive presentation on the time lines and the procedures surrounding the closure of Liddell in 2023 and its demolition due to commence in 2024 - 2025.

Brad also provide an overview of potential use of the Liddell site post the demolition . There was lots of interest in the room which was reflected in the number of questions from the floor following the presentation.



Reminder - Have you renewed your
Chamber Membership?

**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL**



Renewal enquiries email: treasurer@muswellbrookchamber.com.au

**Our next Breakfast will be Tuesday 1st November
Muswellbrook RSL Club
Theme: Small Business Month**

This Newsletter is
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Dear Members & Colleagues,

Welcome to our November Newsletter and to SMALL BUSINESS MONTH.

With the recent Federal Budget, higher energy costs, the risk of power shortages, continuing supply chain issues and numerous infrastructure projects underway & planned, there is much for business to take into account. We have an increasingly complex mix of opportunities and threats to our businesses and one has to pay attention.

In this Newsletter you will see what the Chamber is doing in Small Business Month to support local businesses, including –

- ◆ Business Workshops covering Business Planning, Marketing, Cyber Security & Recruitment on 10th November.
- ◆ One-on-one Business Mentoring Programs.
- ◆ Attendance at the Muswellbrook High School Business Breakfast on 3rd November.
- ◆ Representation at the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Community Forum on 16th November.
- ◆ MCCI Chamber breakfast 1st November.
- ◆ Newcastle University – Current & Future Innovation in the in the Region forum on 23rd November.

Our Chamber Breakfasts continue to be well attended and we do our best to provide relevant and informative guest speakers. Our October Breakfast attracted much interest as AGL presented plans for the closure and demolition of Liddell Power Station from April next year. While the presentation was focused on the logistics and timing of the closure, attendees interest was more focused on the shortfall in generation capacity and the impact on availability and cost.

At this months Breakfast we are fortunate to have the Deputy Premier Paul Toole and a group of local small business speakers sharing their experiences.

I recently attended a seminar in Newcastle on the Circular Economy. There is a lot going on in the recycling space with substantial research being done in the Hunter on waste to energy, waste to soil, waste processing methods, waste to manufactured products and the like. Recycling and reuse are critical to our transition to a low carbon circular economy and there will be business opportunities in that process. The Chamber will stay in contact with the Newcastle University and others to bring insights on these opportunities to local businesses.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the events of Small Business Month.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Kelly

President



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

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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.



This newsletter is proudly supported by.....



OUR MISSION

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An important reminder in Small Business Month

Small Business Month is coming up in November, and it is an important reminder for everyone the significant role small business plays in our community.

At the Chamber we recognise the importance of our small business members and all small businesses in our region. According to the ABS in 2020 the Muswellbrook LGA had 1028 registered businesses and over 600 of those had turnovers of less than \$200K/YR. A further 321 businesses had a turnover of \$200K to \$2M and there were only 32 businesses employing more than 20 people. So, by numbers of businesses, our local business community is 'largely small'.

It is also worth remembering that, although we have some very large businesses in our area, there is a reliance on small businesses to provide products and services to the large businesses.

Small businesses are significant supporters of local charities, schools, and sporting groups, both financially through sponsorships, and in volunteering.

Small businesses contribute to local economies by bringing growth and innovation to the community in which the business is established. Small businesses also help stimulate economic growth by providing employment opportunities to people who may not be employable by larger corporations

Across Australia, small businesses accounts for almost 98% of all business. They account for 35% of Australia's gross domestic product (GDP), and they employ 44% of the Australian workforce. Of all Australian businesses, 88% employ 4 people or less.

Owning a small business can be extremely rewarding, but equally stressful at the same time. There are highs and lows, good times and bad, and the need to adapt to change and ongoing challenges is constant. The risks can be high, but so can the rewards, both financially and personally.

The Chamber congratulates those championing small business in Muswellbrook, particularly considering the challenges faced by many over the last three years due to the impacts of the pandemic.

To all small business owners, we salute you!

To learn more about Small Business Month visit: <https://www.smallbusinessmonth.nsw.gov.au/about-us/>

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Small Business Month



Business Workshops

Thursday 10th November
Muswellbrook RSL Auditorium

Attend All Day
or
Attend Selected Sessions



Session 1
10.30am
To
11.30am

Business Plan Workshop

Presented by Julian Campbell - ETC Management

Session 2
11.45am
To
12.45pm

Marketing Workshop

Presented by Sarah English—Sarah English Marketing

Session 3
1.30pm
To
3pm

Cyber Security Workshop

Presented by New Era Technology

Session 4
3.15pm
To
4.15pm

Recruitment Workshop

Presented by Programmed

Register for all day, or for selected sessions.

To book, email: info@muswellbrookchamber.com.au

The Chamber's Small Business Month
Workshops are be made possible with
the support of:



To register email: info@muswellbrookchamber.com.au

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Bengalla Community Open Day a huge success.



The recent Bengalla Community Open Day held at the Muswellbrook Showground on 22 October was a great success with lots of visitors attending the day.

Due to COVID the event was postponed in 2021, however this year we were ready to go and it was pleasing to see that so many people were keen to come along.

It was a day of fun for families and kids big and small as many of our valued suppliers and community partners joined with us with displays and activities for everyone.

We also had our children's zone with a jumping castle, rock climbing wall, baby animals, reptile display, face painting, Sparkles the clown and a mini digger and dozer.

One of the most popular parts of the day was the opportunity to take a guided bus tour to Bengalla Mine. This year was a little different and those who took the tour were able to see up close a dragline bucket and sit in the seat of our EH500 (truck 85).

Bengalla would like to thank all of our vendors and community partners that joined with us on 22 October to share what you do with the community. We cannot host an event like the Community Open Day without you and the feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive.

We are looking forward to planning our next open Day in 2024...stay tuned.



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2023 Great Cattle Dog Muster



2023 Great Cattle Dog Muster

Sponsorship Opportunities
Now Available.

Contact:

Wayne Toms

0438 517 311

info@muswellbrookchamber.com.au

Sponsorship Opportunities are limited and are secured on a first in - first allocated basis.

The Great Cattle Dog Muster

Community Family Fun Day



Muswellbrook Showground
10am - 4pm Saturday 9th Sept

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2022 COMMUNITY FORUM

Wednesday 16 November
Muswellbrook RSL Club



The theme for the 2022 Community Forum is 'PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE', with a focus on economic diversification and new opportunities for the communities in the Upper Hunter region.

The Forum will be part of a live broadcast of Hunter Valley Today on 2NM hosted by Darren Cutrupi and featuring interviews with speakers and attendees.

8:30 AM	FORUM OPEN - Arrival, breakfast and networking coffee and tea available	
9:00 AM	Welcome to Country	Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council
9:05 AM	Welcome from Facilitator	Di Sneddon, Forum Facilitator
9:10 AM	Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue In Review (2020 - 2022)	Sarah Withell, UHMD Chair; and James Barben, UHMD Secretariat
9:30 AM	Community Perceptions Survey - Insights and Opportunities	Katie Ferro, CEO, CRNRSTONE Research (formerly Stable Research)
9:45AM	Industry Update and Outlook	Stephen Galilee, CEO, NSW Minerals Council
10:00AM	Government Update on future strategic planning and land use issues for the Hunter	Stephen Wills, Department of Regional NSW
10:20AM	MORNING TEA	
10:40AM	Update on Muswellbrook Coal's Closure Plan	Julie Thomas, Muswellbrook Coal Company
11:00AM	Update on Mt Arthur Coal's Pathway to 2030	Adam Lancey, BHP
11:20AM	Community Panel Discussion	Panelists will include representatives from business, local government and community interest groups.
12:00PM	LUNCH	
12:40PM	Small Table Discussion and Feedback Session	Various themes including Environmental Issues, Post-Mining Land Use, Economic Diversification, and Social Engagement
1:50PM	Final Remarks & Summary of the Day	Di Sneddon, Facilitator
2:00PM	FORUM CLOSE	

Free registrations close Friday 11 November: miningdialogue.com.au/engagement/2022-community-forum

Muswellbrook High School Invitation to local Businesses

Muswellbrook High School is inviting local businesses who have supported them in the past and at the same time, are wishing to connect with new and additional organisations that they may not currently be connected with, particularly since the outbreak of Covid.



BREAKFAST IS ON US!



Muswellbrook High School Business Breakfast

Connecting with our Community

Join us for guided tours of our school, listen to guest speakers & meet past students who have forged interesting pathways

Thursday 3rd November 2022

7:00 - 8.30 am

RSVP : Monday 17th October to
muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
please advise any dietary requirements

POSTGRAD INFO SESSIONS



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

2 November 2022
Online one-on-one appointments
4-6pm AEDT



**WANT TO UPSKILL, RESKILL AND PURSUE THE CAREER YOU REALLY WANT?
POSTGRAD COURSEWORK COULD BE THE ANSWER.
2023 APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!**

Pursue the career you really want with postgraduate study at the University of Newcastle. If you are making a career change or chasing that next promotion, there is a qualification to suit your needs. With over 85 degrees, FEE-HELP options available and the flexibility to shape study around your lifestyle, now is the time to do what's important to you.

ONLINE POSTGRAD INFO SESSION

We are committed to supporting students and helping them get to where they want to go in their careers. This includes providing prospective students opportunities to upskill and retrain with postgraduate studies.

Book your free 15-minute online one-on-one appointment with our expert staff to get your postgrad questions answered.

- Date: Wednesday 2 November 2022
- Time: 4pm – 6pm AEDT
- Location: Online via zoom

Visit the University's website below to register and select the Study Area your degree sits within. If you are interested in a combined degree, you can make a booking with either degree representative.

Make sure you select a degree in the 'Select Staff' section of the booking form to speak with the correct staff member. Alternatively, you can select the General Enquiries option if your chosen degree is not available.

Get in quick and secure your spot!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
[NEWCASTLE.EDU.AU/STUDY/POSTGRADUATE/INFO-SESSION](https://newcastle.edu.au/study/postgraduate/info-session)

NUPREP FREE BRIDGING AND REFRESHER COURSES



**FREE Courses
that can be completed
in one week!**



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS THINKING ABOUT ATTENDING UNIVERSITY BUT IS UNSURE WHETHER THEY ARE STUDY-READY? PERHAPS YOU KNOW SOMEONE STRUGGLING TO KEEP UP WITH THEIR UNIVERSITY STUDIES? MAYBE THERE IS A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER WHO IS LOOKING TO UPSKILL OR SWITCH CAREERS?

The University of Newcastle's FREE NUPrep Bridging and Refresher courses will open to ALL Australian permanent residents aged 16 years and over.

NUPrep courses are delivered in either online or on-campus modes of study. The different delivery modes cater to independent and self-paced learning styles, as well as learners who prefer a more guided and supportive experience with direct access to our University experts.

NUPrep Bridging and Refresher Courses expand to include enrolments from both current and prospective students, as well as community members looking to study at University.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS COULD BE LOOKING TO DEVELOP OR ENHANCE THEIR:

- Academic study skills
- Digital literacy or
- Discipline-specific knowledge in the areas of maths and science.

NUPREP TERM DATES:

- Online: commencing 31 October 2022
- On Campus: commencing 5 December 2022

Enrolments for NUPrep have now officially opened. If you or anyone you know is interested in enrolling in a NUPrep course, please head to the NUPrep webpage or contact NUPrep@newcastle.edu.au directly.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
[NEWCASTLE.EDU.AU/STUDY/PATHWAYS/NUPREP](https://newcastle.edu.au/study/pathways/nuprep)



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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MUSWELLBROOK
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
& INDUSTRY

Tuesday 1 November 2022

CHAMBER BREAKFAST

Venue: "Muswellbrook RSL Club"

7am - 9am

Theme:

Small Business Month

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

November is Small Business Month, and the Chamber will be celebrating the importance of small business in our region and the role that it plays in supporting the local economy.



COST:

\$33.00* for members

\$38.50* for non-members

(* incl of GST)

RSVPs close midday,

Thursday 27th October 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 27th October

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	Central Arcade Pty Ltd	Fyfe Pty Ltd	John Hunter Motel
A Corp Computers	Cetnaj Muswellbrook	GJ's by the Lake	LCC Asia Pacific Pty Limited
AEE Services	Challenge Community Services	Gowing Advisory	LJ Hooker Muswellbrook
AGL Macquarie	Chandler Macleod	Greentree Financial	Lake Liddell Recreation Area Trust
APM	Cleal, Doug & Roslyn	Hair by Maddi	Launchpad9 Pty Ltd
Aaron Henry Optometrist	Colourworks for Hair	Harvey Recruitment	Liv Media
Aberdeen Highland Games	Commonwealth Bank	Hedweld Group of Companies	MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd
Airspeed Aviation	Comprint	Hermitage Motel	MV Solar Pty Ltd
Allweld Services	Coolmore Australia	Hive Fitness	Malabar Coal Ltd
Ausgrid	Cre8ive Solutions	Hitachi Construction Machinery (Aust) P/L Muswellbrook Branch	Mangoola Coal Operations
Austmine Limited	Crossfit Muswellbrook	Hollydene Estate Wines + Vines Restaurant	Mark Diggins Solicitor
Australian Community Media	Curtis Gant Betts	Hunter Belle Cheese	Melanie's Jewellers
BHP Billiton Mt Arthur Coal	DK Heavy Plant Services	Hunter Carpet & Tile Care	Melt Hunter Valley Operations Pty Ltd
Beacon Automatiom	Davies Thompson & Wright Services	HunterNet Cooperative	Merton Living
Beauty Co	Denman Legal Pty Ltd	Hunter Plant Mechanics	Mikala Lighting Towers
Bengalla Mining Company	Dezigns Hub	Hunter Region Business Hub	Monteath Powys
Beyond Dog Training	Dirragarra Contracting Pty Lt	Hunter River Times	Mosaic Therapy & Supports Pty Ltd
Big Lift Cranes & Heavy Haulage	Domino's Muswellbrook	Hunter TAFE	Mountain of Love
Blackrock Industries	Double Picc	Hunter Valley Elite Window Tinting	Muswellbrook Cinema
Blackwoods	Duffeyco Electrical Solutions	Hunter Valley Operations	Muswellbrook & District Workers' Club
Bowditch Earthmoving	EMF Group	Hunter Valley Printing	Muswellbrook Home Timber & Hardware
Breathe Skin Body Mind	Edmonds Joinery	Hunter Valley SUP	Muswellbrook Laundrette
Briken Group Services Pty Ltd	Edward Higgins Parkinson First	Innovationclub Pty Ltd	Muswellbrook Motors
Brook Enviro Services	Ekulpoin - Mapping Memories	Integratedliving Australia Ltd	Muswellbrook PCYC
Brook Medical Centre	Elks Enterprises Pty Ltd	iSimplify Pty Ltd	Muswellbrook Race Club Ltd
Brook Outdoors	Envy Cleaning & Property Maintenance	JTS Realty	Muswellbrook RSL Sub-Branch Club Ltd & Golf Club
CPR Pest Management Services	Equilaw Solicitors	Jennifer Lecky & Associates	Muswellbrook Security Services
C-Res	Everest by Chef Raymond	Joblink Plus	Muswellbrook Shire Council
CRJ Maintenance Pty Ltd	First National Real Estate-Edward Higgins Parkinson	Jo Bailey Quality Care Pty Ltd	

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

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