

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY



Thank you for attending the Artificial Intelligence (AI) workshop

The recent AI business event brought together enthusiastic small business owners eager to harness the power of AI. Attendees engaged in insightful discussions and learned practical strategies to implement AI solutions in their businesses. Thank you very much to everyone who participated!

Your feedback is invaluable to us, so if you have thoughts on the event or suggestions for future workshops, please reach out. Together, we can continue to explore innovative ways to empower small businesses with AI technology. Stay tuned for more opportunities!



Provide your feedback or ideas



Missed the AI workshop?

Don't worry! Another free AI workshop is coming to South West Rocks.

Join your local Business Connect Advisor for hands-on activities and expert guidance from an experienced advisor, helping you discover how AI can save time, cut costs, and drive business growth—even on a limited budget.

Date: Thursday 21 November

Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm

Location: Seabreeze Beach Hotel

Cost: **FREE**

Booking link: [Business Connect](#) | [Service NSW](#)

Find out more or register for an online workshop



Come along to the Exploring Social Media for Small Business Workshop

Tailored for small business owners, this engaging workshop will demystify social media and demonstrate how it can attract and retain customers create opportunities, and drive business growth.

Date: Wednesday 27 November

Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm

Location: Slim Dusty Centre

Cost: **FREE**

Booking link: [Business Connect](#) | [Service NSW](#)

[Find out more or register for an online workshop](#)



Craig Milburn to step down as General Manager in December

The new Council elected to Kempsey Shire in September will be paired with a new General Manager after Craig Milburn announced he will step down from the role after 7 years.

On Monday, Mayor Kinne Ring accepted Mr Milburn's request to commence his retirement, with his last day at work set for Friday 13 December.

Mr Milburn said he had been planning for his retirement for some time and he was confident he was leaving the organisation in the very best of hands.

[Find out more](#)



Join the Macleay Valley Business Chamber

Connect with like-minded business owners dedicated to enhancing the local business landscape.

Whether you need business advice, valuable connections, referrals, or just a sounding board, they're here to support you.

[Join the chamber today](#)



Register Now: Automated External Defibrillator

Whether you're a business, a sports club, or a residential property, registering your AED could be the life-saving jolt someone needs in an emergency. Find out how easy it is to register your AED on the Heart of the Nation app.

[Find out more information](#)



Cyber Security: Protect Your Business Now

A new report on the impact of cyber attacks on NSW small and medium enterprises (SMEs) has revealed some 22 percent of small businesses and 15 percent of medium businesses plan to reduce spending on cyber security management.

The decision is despite 94,000 reported cyber crimes in Australia in the last financial year alone, according to the Australian Signals Directorate, a 24% increase from the previous year.

Find out how you can protect your business via the link below.

[Find out more](#)



How Council's Economic Development Team Supports the Macleay

Business Advice and Support: Offer tailored advice to help businesses navigate challenges, from startup guidance to growth strategies.

Funding Opportunities: Provide information on grants, loans, and financial assistance programs available to local businesses.

Networking and Partnerships: Facilitate connections among local businesses, government agencies, and industry groups, fostering collaboration and support.

Workshops and Training: Organise workshops to enhance skills in areas like marketing, finance, and technology, empowering businesses to thrive.

Market Research: Provide valuable insights and data on local and regional markets to help businesses make informed decisions.

Promotion of Local Businesses: Actively promote Macleay Valley businesses through events, marketing initiatives and the Macleay Valley Coast website, helping to increase visibility and attract customers.

Get in touch to learn how we can support your business!

[Send us a message now](#)



Prepare for sales

Major sale days are coming up, is your small business prepared to make the most of the online sale events? Check out our tips to help your business make the most of the online sales.

[Find out more](#)



Tools and advice to save you time

The Fair Work Ombudsman's free tools and resources include a Pay Calculator, award summaries and job ad, roster and pay slip templates to help you save time.

[Learn more](#)

Opportunities update

Free mental health training and coaching

Get practical tools to talk about and support mental health in your workplace. NSW Government is offering free training the eligible businesses, which will be delivered by experts from the Back Dog Institute. [Register here](#)

Macleay Grant Hub

Macleay Grant Hub is a free resource available to all local businesses, community groups, not-for-profits, and individuals. This site provides a comprehensive list of grant and funding opportunities available to you.

Register to receive email alerts for new grants, save your favourites and access tips to help you apply for grants. [Sign up here](#)

\$1,000 SafeWork small business rebate

If you are a small business owner in NSW, this \$1,000 rebate will help you purchase safety items to improve work health and safety for you and your workers. [Learn more](#)



Connect with your Local Business Chamber

[South West Rocks Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Macleay Valley Business Women's Network](#)

If you have any questions, please contact our Economic Development Team at business@kempsey.nsw.gov.au



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