

# BUSINESS & INDUSTRY



## Hello and welcome

February is here, and we have a few updates that might interest you, including details on the Seniors Festival, online events from NORTEC and some funding opportunities. Read on to learn more

We hope you find this newsletter valuable. Feel free to share it with your colleagues and team members. They can also subscribe to receive their own copy directly [here](#).

## Local news and events

### Work begins to protect Riverside Park foreshore



You may have noticed works taking place at Riverside Park in Kempsey.

Riverside Park Precinct Foreshore Stabilisation project is designed to protect key assets, including the Kempsey Traffic Bridge and the CBD flood levee, by constructing a new sheet pile wall along the bank to enhance protection against future flood events.

In addition to these crucial safeguards, the project will extend the footpath and enhance the public recreation area, encouraging more people to enjoy and spend time in the Kempsey CBD.

[Read More](#)



## **Macleay Seniors Expo**

As part of the 2025 NSW Seniors Festival, Kempsey will host the Macleay Seniors "Time to Shine" Expo on March 7 from 10am to 2pm at Kempsey Central.

The Seniors Festival is a fantastic opportunity for seniors to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, take part in fun activities and discover something new.

We encourage businesses and service providers to get involved in the festival by either setting up a stall at the Expo or offering special seniors' discounts and promotions throughout the festival, which runs from March 3-16. Your participation will be promoted as part of the event, and best of all – it's free!

### **Why Host a Stall at the Expo?**

- Highlight your services, activities, and programs to raise awareness and engage with the senior community.

- Inspire seniors to join your group, access your services or get involved in your activities.
- Network with attendees and other local organisations, creating meaningful relationships that can amplify your impact.

If you would like to know more, please reach out.

[Get in touch](#)



## Macleay Youth Laneway Festival returns in April

Youth Week kicks off in April, and what better way to celebrate than with the Laneway Festival in Kempsey's CBD on Saturday 12 April from 2-6pm. This exciting event will be packed with fun activities, attractions, stalls, food, drinks and more to create an afternoon full of entertainment for everyone.

Businesses are invited to join in the Youth Week celebrations. Here's how you can get involved:

- CBD businesses can stay open later to welcome festivalgoers.
- Offer discounts to youth.
- Set up a stall in the festival area.

This is a great opportunity to connect with the local community and showcase your business. Your participation will be promoted as part of the event. If you'd like to be involved, please get in touch.

[Get in touch](#)



## Tradie Ladies course at Kempsey TAFE

Kempsey TAFE is offering a free course to help residents get a Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways.

This course will help you develop your employability and literacy skills with hands-on training in Basic Carpentry, Electric Welding, Horticulture, WHS (Workplace Health and Safety) and home maintenance and repair. Please pass this on to anyone you think may be interested.

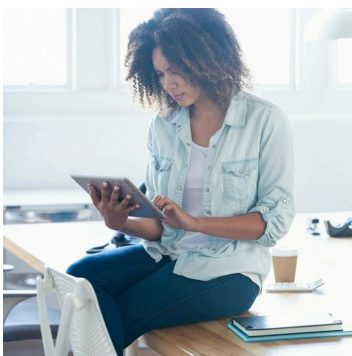
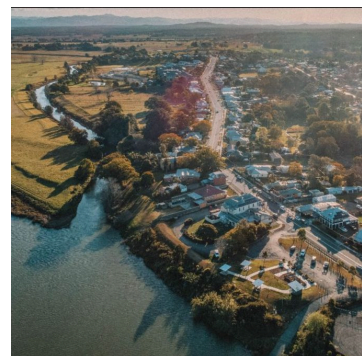
For more information, contact Pete Burgess on 0419 416 424 or email [pete.burgess@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:pete.burgess@tafensw.edu.au).

[Contact Kempsey TAFE](#)

## Business Conditions survey

Business NSW's Business Conditions Survey is now open, helping track business confidence and identify key issues in the Kempsey Shire.

[Take the survey](#)



## Managing online reviews

Reviews are a form of free advertising. You can use good reviews to promote your business.

Even negative reviews are an opportunity to attract more customers – it all depends on how you handle your responses.

[Keep reading](#)

## Online NORTEC events

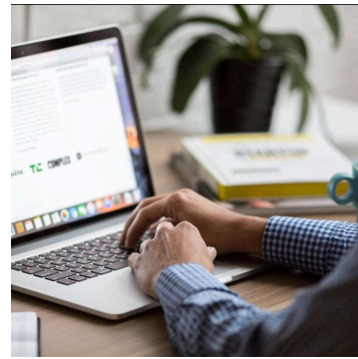
Join free skills-based webinars:

5 Must-Dos to Successfully Sell Online

Thursday 6 February | 12pm - 1.30pm.

More sessions are available throughout February.

[Register now](#)



## Grant Funding and Opportunities



### Applications open for Native Fish Stocking Program

The NSW Government is accepting applications for the Community Native Fish Stocking Grant Program. This initiative provides \$2 for every \$1 of funding contributed to stocking native fish species, such as Australian Bass, into rivers across NSW.

Bass fishing on the Macleay Valley Coast is exceptional, with the upper Macleay River being particularly popular among anglers seeking the thrill of bass fishing.

Eligible applicants include non-government and not-for-profit groups involved in approved fish stocking activities in NSW public waters. This includes fishing clubs and individuals participating in community fish stocking programs to support recreational fisheries.

If you'd like assistance with your grant application, please contact us at [business@kempsey.nsw.gov.au](mailto:business@kempsey.nsw.gov.au)

**Find out more about the Native Fish Stocking Program**

## Supporting Women in Business Grants

Grants are available to boost women's skills, confidence and business success. Funding covers tailored projects, including training, mentoring and more.

[Keep reading](#)



## More funding opportunities

### Primary Care Impact Grants

Healthy North Coast is offering grants to support better care for chronic diseases, which are long-term conditions with lasting effects on individuals and communities. These grants focus on two critical areas:

- **Proactive prevention:** Reducing the risk of chronic diseases through early intervention and health promotion.
- **Team-based management:** Empowering multidisciplinary care teams to deliver comprehensive, patient-centered support. [Learn more](#)

### Energy Savings Scheme NSW

The Energy Savings Scheme provides businesses with financial incentives to upgrade equipment and processes to improve energy efficiency. [Find out more](#)

### DRIVEN Charger Rebate Stream

This program aims to offer rebates to dealerships and EV repairers for the purchase and installation of smart EV chargers at eligible sites. [Learn more](#)

### Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program

Applications open for projects that promote regional economic development and support employment creation and retention. [Tell me more](#)

### Community Grants

While not for businesses, Community Grants can assist your volunteer organisation with projects. [Find out more](#)



## Macleay Grant Hub

[Home](#) [Search](#) [Our Grants](#) [Top Tips](#) [Grant Writers](#) [Grants Explained](#) [How to](#)



### Macleay Grant Hub

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

Register to receive email alerts for new grants, save your favourites access tips to help you apply for grants.

[Register for Macleay Grant Hub](#)

## Economic Development and Tourism contacts

Annabelle Sneddon  
Economic Development Officer  
[annabelle.sneddon@kempsey.nsw.gov.au](mailto:annabelle.sneddon@kempsey.nsw.gov.au)  
[02 6566 3200](tel:0265663200)



Amelia Coy  
Tourism Development Officer  
[amelia.coy@kempsey.nsw.gov.au](mailto:amelia.coy@kempsey.nsw.gov.au)  
[02 6566 3200](tel:0265663200)



Alex Henley  
Economic Development and Tourism Manager  
[alex.henley@kempsey.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alex.henley@kempsey.nsw.gov.au)  
[02 6566 3200](tel:0265663200)





Kempsey Shire Council  
22 Tozer Street, West Kempsey NSW 2440  
(02) 6566 3200  
[business@kempsey.nsw.gov.au](mailto:business@kempsey.nsw.gov.au)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

**Kempsey Shire Council acknowledges the land of the Thunggutti/Dunghutti Nation. We pay respect to Elders past and present. We acknowledge the role of emerging leaders to continue to guide us in the future. We acknowledge the Stolen Generations and the need to change practices to be inclusive. This land always was and always will be Thunggutti/Dunghutti land.**

