

A BELATED Update from the Community Recovery Officer...

After a busy period of head scratching rearranging (thankyou COVID), we hope that those of you who were able to attend our events and programs over the past month have gained new skills or are formulating new ideas of your own.

But even as we launch a brand new schedule of events across our Community (more on this below!) there's a heavy hesitation that some just aren't ready.

Which I say is ok...to...a...point.

Waiting for the right time can be an illusion. Our mind tricks us into thinking that waiting is the same as doing something.

It's easy to find ourselves in a state of always waiting... for the right moment, for things to be perfect, for everything to feel just right. Now, I'm certainly not suggesting anyone go against current health orders and restrictions, but it can be easy to find reasons not to do something, convince yourself that you're not ready or if you wait just a little bit longer, things will be easier.

Waiting rarely makes things easier.

Most of the time, waiting makes things harder.

The right time is now.

Updating those calendars!

Rachel Nicoll - Community Recovery Officer (0419 100 085).



Artist callout - ReNew bushfire exhibition

Lithgow City Council is inviting artists and community members to submit artworks for a special exhibition documenting the 2019/20 Black Summer bushfires.

The exhibition, titled ReNew, will be hosted at the Union Theatre Gallery presenting artworks by the local community that respond to the bushfires, capturing our collective experience and subsequent journey to recovery and resilience.

Lithgow City Council is calling for submissions from people who live, work or study in the Lithgow region whose artwork responds to the impact of the 2019/20 bushfires. Artworks can be of any medium including photographs, digital, performance, sculptures and stories.

Important dates:

- entry forms due Tuesday 10th August 2021
- artworks delivered to Union Theatre 5th and 6th September
- exhibition opening Friday 10th September 6pm
- exhibition dates 10th - 19th September

For questions relating to the exhibition or assistance to connect with support services, including mental health, phone 0419 100 085 or email

Rachel.Nicoll@lithgow.nsw.gov.au.

The exhibition is presented by Lithgow City Council thanks to the Federal Government, National Bushfire Recovery Agency and the NSW State Government through Resilience NSW as part of the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund.



UPDATES!

Bushfire-generated Green Waste Clean-Up and Processing Program

Lithgow Council submitted an application under the NSW Environment Protection Authority's Bushfire-Generated Green Waste Clean-Up and Processing Program for remaining green waste generated by the 2019/20 bushfires.

The EPA has completed an initial eligibility check of Lithgow Council's application, which has now progressed to the next stage of the assessment process.

What's next?

The EPA's Technical Review Committee is meeting in August to review and assess all applications and determine recommendations. The EPA will then review the recommendations of the Technical Review Committee and decide on the outcome of Lithgow Council's application. Once this formal assessment and approvals process is complete, the EPA will be in contact to advise if the application has been successful.

We appreciate your continued interest and patience as we await the result.

Planting of 13,500 trees and nest box installation in Lithgow LGA

Transport for NSW is pleased to advise that 160 nesting boxes were installed on properties in the Lithgow LGA during June 2021 by Hollow Log Homes.

The nesting boxes will increase fauna habitat in bush fire affected areas by providing shelter and breeding habitat.

The community response in NSW for tree planting was overwhelming. TfNSW partnered with Landcare to engage local groups capable of assisting with the roll out of the tree planting prior to the 30 June deadline, resulting in 24,380 trees being planted in fire affected areas throughout NSW.

Transport for NSW will keep contact details of anyone whose property was not selected on this occasion, should this program be extended in the future.



Workshoptime



Never waste a crisis

This is not the first and will not be the last.

Strengthening Business helps you to rebuild, transform and adapt.

Who led the digital transformation of your company?

- A) CEO
- B) CTO
- C) COVID-19

July was a big month of new knowledge with a special series of Grant Writing sessions delivered by grant guru Melanie Trethowan. Participants who attended the workshop built up basic grant writing skills before delving into a Stage 2 intensive on the Black Summer Bushfire Grants.

With Covid lockdowns on either side, we delivered two free workshops with Strengthening Business looking at digital resilience. Businesses were empowered with tools and techniques to start the new financial year with a boost of digital confidence in handling their small business social media, systems and presence.

We look forward to bringing you, and our community together safely for more in grant and business building events - keep reading for more details in this newsletter!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Tue 10th, 10:00 am

*Black Summer Bushfire Recovery
Grants Applicant Support
Workshop*

Lithgow Workies Club,
3-7 Tank St Lithgow,
NSW 2790

Register [HERE](#)

Tue 10th, 5:00 pm

*Entry Forms Due
ReNew Exhibition*

Send entry forms to:

Council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

**Mail: PO Box 19,
Lithgow NSW 2790**

**Drop in to Council: 180 Mort
Street, Lithgow NSW 2790**

**Thu 12th,
10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Community Chats

Hatters Cafe & Meeting Space
227 Chifley Road, Dargan,
NSW 2786

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

Register by calling 0419 100 085

**Sat 14th,
10:00 am - 1:30 pm**

*Grant Writer Support for your
BSBRG application.*

Lithgow Transformation Hub
Western Sydney University
Corner Mort St and Bridge St,
Lithgow, NSW 2790.

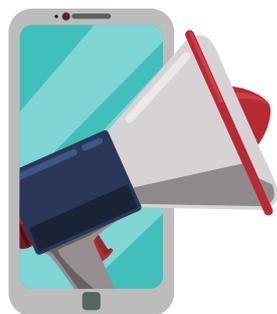
Register by calling 0419 100 085

Join us for a Digital Drop In

Already a month into the new financial year - this is a great time to be planning what you're going to do in your business during 2021/22. With the continuation of COVID-19, there is going to be ongoing problems, particularly for businesses. In the meantime, there's plenty you can be doing online to prepare and promote your business until something approaching "normal business conditions" emerges.

The Strengthening Business Program and Lithgow City Council are excited to be bringing you some Monday Motivation via a regular fortnightly Digital Drop In. These **30min power sessions** feature a range of expert masterclasses of real, tangible value and networking right from your screen. All of which are **FREE** for you as a business owner to attend!

The series is a great companion if you are working on a particular problem, need some advice / tools or templates or just a refresh on your current vision and goals.



**Monday 16th, August
3:00 - 3:30pm**

**Monday 30th, August
3:00 - 3:30pm**

**Monday 13th, September
3:00 - 3:30pm**

**Monday 27th, September
3:00 - 3:30pm**

**Monday 11th, October
3:00 - 3:30pm**

**Friday 29th, October
Networking event**

We'll wrap up the series with an in-person networking dinner to round out Small Business Month on Friday, 29th October 2021.

Keep an eye out for our media for details and links or register to be the first to get news and alerts via 0419 100 085 or email Rachel.Nicoll@lithgow.nsw.gov.au.

"There's no question that we live in unprecedented times. But even being mindful of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, we still need to prepare for natural disasters no matter where we are in the country".

- Dr Ben Gursansky, Head of Rural and Regional Affairs - Telstra

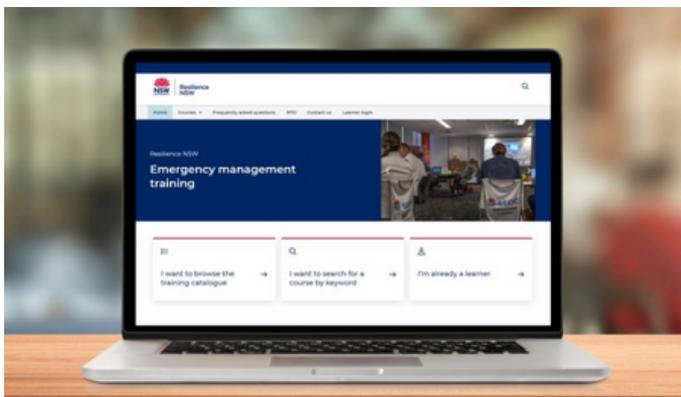


Are you currently in an emergency management role and need to refresh or build your skills?

Resilience NSW offers training to build capability across government, industry, business and community, through training in emergency management, lessons management, emergency exercises, research and planning.

You're invited to view the range of courses on offer, available to anyone interested in building capability in emergency management.

<https://emtraining.nsw.gov.au/course-catalogue/>



How to prepare and stay connected during natural disaster

Even with COVID-19 front of mind, we still need to prepare for a season of natural disasters no matter where we are in the country. Here's the tech you need in your disaster kit to stay connected.

Telstra Exchange / Dr Ben Gursansky / 17 Sept 2020

NSW Department of Primary Industries

Training Courses Available

NSW Department of Primary Industries are looking to bring training courses to those communities affected by the 19/20 Black Summer bushfires to help the community be more prepared and skilled going into the future. Subsidised places available for eligible applicants.

The courses include :

- Fencing course (2-day course)
- Machinery hygiene (1-day course)
- Chainsaw – fall trees manually (2-day course)
- Chainsaw – Trim & Cut felled trees (2-day course)
- Know your weeds (2-day course)

If you'd like more information on the courses or you are interested in getting a course run in your local area please email an expression of interest to southinland.recovery@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Treat yourself Thursday

Come visit our Community Hub to share a cuppa & chat
Pick up an art pack or work on a project with us.

10am-2pm, Thursday 12 August 2021
@Hatters Cafe and Meeting Space
227 Chifley Road, Dargan

LIMITED TO 10 PEOPLE
DUE TO COVID-19 SPACE RESTRICTIONS

Contact Rachel on 0419 100 085 for information or to register

First and foremost, we wish to keep our community, staff, and agencies safe during this time.

With this in mind we've re-started a Community Hub with COVID-19 safe plans in place, which will allow our community to visit, have a chat over a cuppa and connect with friends and support services who are here to listen and help.

Due to the current health orders we are restricted to limiting this event to **10 people** at a time.

We understand this is disappointing, however, we do encourage those in our community who are interested in participating in these activities to please call our Recovery Team on 0419 100 085 or email:

Rachel.Nicoll@lithgow.nsw.gov.au to register your interest, and to have a chat about what is on offer.

Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program

The \$280 million Black Summer Bushfire Recovery (BSBR) Grants program will help communities address priorities for recovery and resilience after the 2019-20 bushfires.

This grant program comes from the National Bushfire Recovery Fund and covers every Local Government Area that was disaster declared as a result of the 2019-20 bushfires.

Quick facts:

- Community organisations, businesses and local councils can apply.
- Applications opened on 22 July 2021 and close on 2 September 2021.
- Successful projects will be announced by the end of 2021.
- Grant funding may be between \$20,000 and \$10 million.

Workshops

The National Recovery & Resilience Agency are holding a Grants Applicant Support Workshop in Lithgow to give an overview of the guidelines and cover tips on how to write good grant applications.

Tue 10th Aug 2021, 10:00 am AEST:

Lithgow Workies Club,

3-7 Tank St Lithgow NSW 2790

Register at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/black-summer-bushfire-recovery-grants-applicant-support-workshop-y5afkhca>

Work with us

Would you or your group like to work with a grant writer on your application? Submit your draft application for our professional grant writer to review. We'll then provide feedback and tips to strengthen your application with you.

Draft applications due: **COB on Wed 11 Aug 2021**

Feedback session: **Sat 14th Aug 2021, 10:00am - 1:30 pm**

Lithgow Transformation Hub - Western Sydney University

Corner Mort St and Bridge St, Lithgow.

Register by calling 0419 100 085

E-learning modules

Can't make a workshop? The National Recovery and Resilience Agency has released a series of Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants E-learning modules.

There are six videos and the total viewing time is approximately 55 minutes:

- Overview of the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program - <https://youtu.be/dhRe0uQlp-s>
- What are the eligibility requirements? - <https://youtu.be/alhxZ8KLAhE>
- How to apply for a Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grant - <https://youtu.be/jOHO1FnYuss>
- How to respond to Assessment Criterion 1 - <https://youtu.be/pLKjBAPotXw>
- How to respond to Assessment Criterion 2 - <https://youtu.be/DZ1HVFT2mGo>
- Tips for writing your grant application - <https://youtu.be/WfnKDGXwyyc>



BUSINESS & FINANCE



CENTRAL NSW
BUSINESS HQ

HEALTH CHECK YOUR BUSINESS

Have you ever considered a health check for your business?

Hi I am Russell Meadley from Business Connect and this is one of the services I can provide for your business.

The Business Health Check covers all the vital areas of your business and rates how you are performing and then provides a simple but informative report with an action list to develop and implement.

I can also provide a dedicated and personalised service to help you problem solve an issue or start, run, grow and adapt your business. The advice is tailored to your needs to help you achieve the desired results. If I am not able to assist I will pass you onto our experts in digital, tourism, agriculture or other business professionals like accountants. My advice is independent and completely confidential

Please feel free to contact me on 0437467699, bathurst@bizhq.com.au or book on the Business Connect link below.

<https://business-connect-register.industry.nsw.gov.au/pages/Advisor4.html?id=a37f1f90-0fe8-e611-80dc-00155d0c141e&type=local>



Russell Meadley
Business Connect Advisor
Central NSW Business HQ
Bathurst Upstairs Business Hub | 1/203
Russell St Bathurst NSW 2795
M: 0437467699
Email: bathurst@bizhq.com.au
Website: [Central NSW Business HQ](http://CentralNSWBizHQ.com.au)

Has your business been affected by COVID-19?

The NSW Government will be offering financial support to businesses impacted by the recent COVID-19 restrictions and stay-at-home orders. If your business or not-for-profit organisation has been impacted by the restrictions, you may be eligible to apply from 19 July 2021.

You can be notified on existing and upcoming financial support, including:

- **COVID-19 business grant:**

A one-off payment to help businesses, sole traders or not-for-profit organisations impacted by the first 3 weeks of the Greater Sydney lockdown which started on 26 June 2021.

How much

Between \$7,500 and \$15,000 depending on the decline in turnover experienced during the restrictions.

Eligibility

A turnover between \$75,000 and \$50 million

Annual wages of \$10 million or less

- **Micro-business COVID-19 support grant:**

A fortnightly payment for micro business (small business or sole trader) with a turnover between \$30,000 and \$75,000.

How much

\$1,500 per fortnight

Eligibility

A turnover between \$30,000 and \$75,000.

A revenue decline of 30% or more.

Businesses that provide the primary income source for a person associated with the business.

To be notified of details
please register at:

service.nsw.gov.au/covid-19-businesssupport-2021

or call Service NSW on

13 77 88

