

# Great Lakes BUSINESS

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June / July 2009

**This newsletter is a joint initiative of Great Lakes Council and Hunter Business Centre.**

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Time is the scarcest resource - unless it is managed, nothing else can be managed.  
Peter Drucker

## Business Planning Workshops

In response to numerous enquiries about the possibility of more business workshops for the Great Lakes and Gloucester areas, Hunter Business Centre will be presenting a series of business development workshops consisting of 'building blocks' to assist businesses towards future growth and continued development. The building blocks will include sessions on marketing, sales, finance and planning.

The first workshop will be on developing your business plan and will be held in the Great Lakes area on Thursday the 9th of July and will be replicated in Gloucester on the 30th of July. It is essential to book as there will be limited places available for each session.

### **Building your Business Plan Workshop with Lorna Smyth of Hunter Business Centre**

**Date - Thursday, 9th July 2009**

**Time - 2.30pm to 5.30pm** - please arrive 15 minutes beforehand if possible to allow workshop to start on time

**Venue - Forster Tuncurry Chamber of Commerce Boardroom,  
Ground Floor, Forster Towers, Wallis Street, Forster** - next to Golden Age

Media

**Cost - \$20 per head including light refreshments**

To make your booking please phone Hunter Business Centre on 02 6539 3966 or email [reception@businesscentre.com.au](mailto:reception@businesscentre.com.au) by close of business on Monday 6th of July - payment can be made on the day by either cash or cheque.

The venue for the Gloucester workshop on July 30th is yet to be confirmed, but you can also book now for that session.

## Small Business Clearing House

The Small Business Clearing House was initiated after a small business credit roundtable held by the Hon. Dr Craig Emerson, Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy; Minister Assisting the Finance Minister on Deregulation in March this year. Small businesses now have access to a business loan finder through the [www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au) website to assist in finding the right kind of finance to suit their circumstances. The business loan finder will help to locate and compare the range of business loan options that may be available.

[For further information](#)

## Telstra Business Women's Awards 2009

For the past 15 years, the Telstra Business Women's Awards has been celebrating the journeys of some of Australia's most inspirational women. Entrepreneurs, innovators, up-and-coming young business women, corporate leaders and those working in the not-for-profit sector. Entries are now open for the 2009 awards.

**Step 1:** To nominate yourself or a business woman you know, simply provide their name, business and contact details. You can remain anonymous if you wish.

**Step 2:** All nominees are invited to enter the program by submitting their entry online or by mail. Entries must be submitted online or postmarked by 31 July 2009.

**Step 3:** Entries are assessed by a judging panel and finalists are selected.

**Step 4:** State and territory winners are announced at the state/territory awards ceremonies.

**Step 5:** National winners are announced at the national presentation dinner in Melbourne on 12 November 2009.

[For further information](#)

## Great Lakes Women - Business program

A quick update for all those women who earlier this year expressed their interest in participating in a business program for women within the Great Lakes area.

Planning continues towards hopefully having a program ready to run at the beginning of Spring. Details will be available within the next month and will be passed on as soon as they are ready.

## Additional support for new businesses Great Lakes & Manning areas

**New Enterprise Incentive Scheme - NEIS** is a Federal Government initiative, which provides a comprehensive package of assistance to eligible Centrelink assisted clients to help them start their own business. Assistance includes small business management training and business plan development, NEIS allowance for up to 52 weeks, business mentoring and ongoing support during the first year of business operation.

Potential NEIS participants from the Great Lakes and Manning areas will be able to, from July 1st, have their business idea assessed, attend training and receive ongoing mentoring without having to travel outside the local area.

For further information you can make an appointment to see Great Lakes Business Facilitator, Sue Druce by phoning 6539 3966 or email [sue@businesscentre](mailto:sue@businesscentre) **OR** contact

New Hunter Business (NHB) Phone: 4925 7704 - Email: [neis@businesscentre.com.au](mailto:neis@businesscentre.com.au) - or go to <http://www.newhunterbusiness.org> - TOLL FREE 1800 815 705

## Useful contacts

Comments and feedback on the Newsletter's content is always appreciated. You might also like to suggest a topic or share some ideas or tips for future editions - good news stories are also welcome - email Sue Druce of the Hunter Business Advisory Service to do so. For past editions of the newsletter please visit

[www.greatlakesbusiness.com.au](http://www.greatlakesbusiness.com.au)

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