



Hello industry friends,

June was another busy month for workshops and networking events, providing our Board and team the opportunity to meet with industry operators and tourism stakeholders in the Goulburn region to hear about recent challenges and opportunities. Read on to find out more.

This month in **Local News**, we celebrate seven events that have received funding under the Regional Event Fund, along with new product launched across the region, and recognise business owners who are inspiring their industry peers with ecotourism certifications and successful funding applications.

Discover upcoming national events, new resources, and tourism news and insights under **Industry Updates**, and don't forget to scroll down to the **Grants | Funding | Awards** and **Workshops | Webinars | Training** sections for an impressive list of business and skill development opportunities, including on demand workforce development webinars, EV Charger funding and infrastructure grants for arts and culture, community, disaster readiness, and sport and recreation.

Stay warm,

The Destination Southern NSW Team

[Destination Southern NSW](#) | [LinkedIn @DSNSW](#) | [info@dsnsw.com.au](mailto:info@dsnsw.com.au)

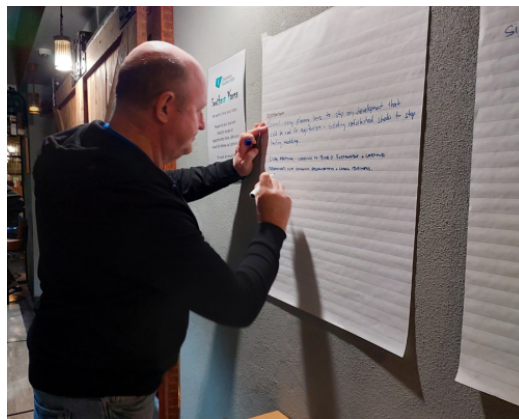
PO Box 1025 Goulburn NSW 2580

Banner Image: The Bungendore Wood Works Gallery exhibits and promotes Australian wood art, giftware, sculpture and contemporary furniture by the country's foremost designers and makers in wood | Bungendore Wood Works Gallery, Bungendore | Credit Destination NSW



# Destination Southern NSW

## Destination Southern NSW News



Top images: Southern Yarns at the Tattersalls Hotel, Goulburn.

Bottom image: Farewell to former Director, Penny Spoelder, Grazing Restaurant, Gundaroo  
L-R: Casual Director Yasmin Coe, Director Ian Stazicker, IDM Jenny Robb, Chair Kalina Koloff, Penny Spoelder, IDM Kylie Bushby, Director Olivier Kapetanakos.

## Visit to the Goulburn Region

Destination Southern NSW Board and team visited Goulburn in the NSW Southern Tablelands, from the 27th to the 28th June.

The 2-day program began with a farewell lunch for former Director Penny Spoelder. Penny was recognised for her generous contribution to the organisation over many years. Her deep strategic insights and her refined HR skills are key elements of her considerable legacy.

We moved on to [One Raceway](#), where preparations for their first event are moving along at a rapid pace. The metrics associated with the raceway upgrade are staggering, and the whole region is excited to see how things unfold. The board were impressed at the thoughtful approach the owners have taken to addressing community concerns and building a truly unique motorsport venue for NSW.

For a change of pace, we moved on to the [Goulburn Performing Arts Centre](#) (GPAC), another venue that has seen significant investment, and another venue that will be hosting nationally significant events for the region. We met members of the GPAC team and were grateful that members of the [Goulburn Mulwaree Council](#) made time to join us.

Our Southern Yarns event was hosted by the [Tattersalls Hotel](#). As with previous Yarns, the board and team enjoyed the opportunity to meet industry operators and key tourism sector stakeholders. Issues spanning insurance, community events, signage, and planning regulations were raised and documented, and it was great to hear excited conversations bubbling away around the room.

Friday morning saw the presentation of our FY2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget, and board meeting formalities. The program concluded at the [Goulburn Visitor Information Centre](#) where we met the gracious Sarah Ruberto, Business Manager Marketing, Events & Culture, and her talented team.

Richard Everson  
General Manager | [Destination Southern NSW](#)

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Experience Development Workshop - Clifton House & Gardens, Young | Credit - Hilltops Council

## Experience Development Workshop

Adriana Biuk and Annika Leslie, from the [Destination NSW](#) Product Teams, joined [Hilltops Council's](#) Manager Destination and Economy, Joe Conneely and his team, and our own Industry Development Manager for the Southern Tablelands, Kylie Bushby, at the historic [Clifton House](#) to deliver a full-day Experience Development Workshop on Thursday, 20 June 2024.

Eighty of the region's operators welcomed the chance to learn how to create, tailor, and deliver world-class, bookable visitor experiences. Adriana and Annika delivered the content as part of the [NSW First program](#), which has been designed to support industry operators as they build their capability from 'business ready' and 'tourism ready', through to 'distribution ready' and 'export ready'. In addition to having access to the latest insights on experience development, consumer trends, and technology solutions, attendees welcomed the chance to network with their colleagues and soak in the amazing ambiance of the historic Clifton House and Gardens.

From our perspective, the event was a great example of how a local government economic development and tourism team can work with us, at the regional level, and our colleagues at Destination NSW, to deliver a program that combines both localised insights and industry best-practice.

To those of you who attended, thank you for your enthusiastic participation. We value your feedback and are busy analysing it. We will be sharing this analysis with Destination NSW and look forward to building on the momentum established in June to deliver ongoing industry support into the new financial year and beyond.

Richard Everson  
General Manager | [Destination Southern NSW](#)



# Local News

Discover what's been happening across the tourism industry within the Destination Southern NSW network. To share your **new** product, experience or event, please get in touch with the [Industry Development Manager](#) responsible for your region.

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## Regional Event Fund recipients announced! 🎉

Seven events from across the Destination Southern NSW region have been awarded funding through the Regional Event Fund, as follows:

Regional Event Fund Incubator Event stream 2024/25

- [Dine in the Bines](#)
- [Stranded in the Snowies](#)

Regional Event Fund Flagship Event stream 2024/25

- [Australian Alpine Ascent](#)
- [EAT Bega](#)
- [Murrumbateman Field Days](#)
- [Snowies Multi-Sport Festival](#)

Regional Event Fund Event Development stream 2024/25

- [Cobargo Folk Festival](#)

Congratulations to the teams behind these events, we look forward to celebrating your upcoming events!

The Regional Event Fund, managed by Destination NSW, bolsters event organisers with equipment and venue hire, market research, photography, videography, publicity and marketing to attract out-of-region visitors, providing an important economic boost in regional areas, creating jobs, injecting vitality and supporting accommodation providers, restaurant owners and tourism operators.

Find out more including a list of recipients [here](#).

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Navigate Expedition - Aboriginal Cultural Tour | Credit Davey Rogers Photography

## **Navigate Expeditions | ROC Certification**

Congratulations to the team at [Navigate Expeditions](#), who have proudly announced its [Respecting Our Culture \(ROC\) Certification with Ecotourism Australia](#), respecting and reinforcing Indigenous cultural heritage and communities' living cultures.

Alongside this, the Navigate Expeditions holds Advanced Ecotourism and Climate Action Certifications. The team would like to send out a special thanks to [Twofold Aboriginal Corporation](#) for their essential collaboration and support.

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Mona Farm | Credit - Mona Farm

## New Gold & Gourmet Getaway

Congratulations to the team at Mona Farm who have released a new luxury getaway with a historic twist! Guests are invited to step back in time with journalist, author, and historian **Tim the Yowie Man** as he unveils the hidden myths and legends of heritage-listed Braidwood.

Mona Farm's Gold & Gourmet Getaway, which will be hosted from 20-21 July, promises to immerse guests in the rich tapestry of Braidwood's past while treating them to memorable culinary experiences and luxury accommodation.

Find out more [here](#).

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### Local councils reclaim the streets

Yass Valley and Upper Lachlan Shire are among numerous regional communities that are reclaiming their streets, by hosting a community event supported by the NSW Government's Open Streets program.

One hundred and thirty (130) festivals, markets, food, live music, arts and cultural events were awarded funding under the program, providing an antidote to the cost-of-living squeeze through free entry, designed to bring people together for budget-busting, family-friendly fun.

Find out more about the program [here](#).



## The hunt is on! | Macenmist Truffles

Congratulations to Barbara Hill and her trusty truffle hunting dogs, Tawdiffu and SongLu, who are collaborating with Canberra region accommodation providers and inbound tour operators to entice visitors from as far as Singapore and Hong Kong, for unique truffle hunt experiences.

Barbara and her late husband Richard, planted their first truffle inoculated trees in 2008, unearthing their first truffle three years later. Macenmist offers visitors the opportunity to purchase fresh black truffles, hand-grown and harvested on the property, along with a number of gourmet truffle goodies.

Find out more [here](#).

## Industry Updates

### 2024-25 NSW Budget Visitor Economy Boost

The 2024-25 NSW Budget has been announced, with \$1.66 billion in funding allocated to the arts, tourism and night-time economy.

Destination NSW received \$324.5 million in funding to support its focus on experience tourism, including investment in visitor experience development, marketing and events to drive visitation to the state.

Find out more [here](#).

### NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week, 7-14 July 2024, will celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This year's theme, Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud, honours the enduring strength and vitality of First Nations culture – with fire a symbol of connection to Country, to each other, and to the rich tapestry of traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Find out more [here](#).

### Accessible and Inclusive Tourism Conference

The [program](#) for the 2024 Accessible and Inclusive Tourism Conference (AITCAP), which will be held in Melbourne on the 27th August, is now live.

Our network has been offered 20% off registration to attend the conference.

Please enter the discount Code : 20ENEWS via [this link](#) to take advantage of this generous offer from the AITCAP team.

### State of the Australian Tourism Industry 2023

The annual State of the Industry report presents a snapshot of Australia's visitor economy in 2023 and discusses trends in both demand and supply.

The report indicates that in 2023, Australia's visitor economy made clear progress towards sustainable growth, a core aim of the national strategy for the visitor economy, THRIVE 2030.

Access the report [here](#).

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## **Communicating Accessible Tourism Online**

Tourism Australia and Sparrowly Group have released a guide on how to make online communications and content more accessible.

Following the tips and tools will assist business owners to make content more accessible to a wider range of people with disabilities and generally more approachable.

Access the guide [here](#).

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## **Night-time Economy Toolkit**

The Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner has developed the Local Government Night-Time Economy Toolkit to support councils in developing and managing night-time economies.

The toolkit includes advice and tools that are available to councils to progress their night-time economy, along a five-stage continuum from 'Emerging' to 'Established', recognising that every local area is different.

The Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner can assist council representatives with how to best use the tools, which include a Maturing and Capacity Framework and series of Implementation Guides.

More information on the toolkit is available [here](#).

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## **Australian Regional Tourism Convention**

The 2024 Australian Regional Tourism Convention will be held in Mackay, QLD on 9-11 October 2024.

The 2024 ART Convention theme is Regional Tourism: Inspiring Success, and provides a networking opportunity and forum to exchange ideas about ways to grow a sustainable regional destination and to showcase best practice success.

Find out more [here](#).

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## **Working Holiday Maker Visa**



The Department of Home Affairs is seeking views on regional migration settings, in relation to Working Holiday makers.

Have your say via the [Department of Home Affairs website](#).

Submissions close 26 July 2024.

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## Wine Tourism and Cellar Door Grant Extension

The Australian Government has announced that it is extending assistance for wine producers to grow domestic sales and promote agritourism by supporting the Wine Tourism and Cellar Door Grant Program for another year.

Businesses can access \$10 million in funding to help attract visitors to Australian wine regions and promote agritourism. Under the program, wine producers can apply for grants of up to \$100,000.

Find out more [here](#).

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## New Noise Complaint Regulations

A new era for music fans, artists, venues and neighbours began on 1 July 2024, as new noise complaint regulations came into effect.

The noise and licensing reforms coming into effect from 1 July relate to:

- Order of occupancy.
- Simplifying the noise complaint process.
- Requirements of complainants.
- Take-away alcohol for small bars.
- New extended trading applications.
- Streamlined consultation processes for liquor licence applications.

More information about the noise and licensing reforms is available [here](#).

## Grants | Funding | Awards

Government agencies and organisations offer grants, funding and award programs, designed to assist with improving your business or product offering.

Review the latest opportunities below. Click on the 'Grants Search' button below to access the Commonwealth Government's grant finder tool.

[Grant Search](#)

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Please note that the grant and funding opportunities shared are not administered by Destination Southern NSW. Please refer to the information provided on who to contact for guidance and support for each opportunity.

Destination Southern NSW may be able to provide a Letter of Support (LOS) for your project if it aligns with the [Southern NSW Destination Management Plan \(DMP\)](#).

Letter of Support requests can be made via [this online form](#).

If you have any questions regarding support for your project, please contact the [Industry Development Manager](#) responsible for your region.

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### **Clubgrants Category 3 Fund**

The Clubgrants Category 3 Fund, managed by the Office of Responsible Gambling, funds infrastructure grants for arts and culture, community, disaster readiness, and sport and recreation.

Local Government and Not-for-profit organisations can apply for infrastructure grants that provide funding starting at \$50,000 and up to \$300,000 for eligible projects under a range of categories.

**Applications close 22 July 2024.**

Find out more [here](#).

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### **Electric Vehicle (EV) Charger Grants**

The deadline for Round 2 of the EV destination charging grants has been extended until **5pm on Friday 2 August**.

Under the program, the NSW Government will fund the following for up to 4 EV charging ports per site:

75% towards the cost of an eligible 7 kW and/or 22 kW electric vehicle charger(s)

75% towards the cost of installation (capped at \$3,000 per charging port)

75% towards the first year of an eligible annual EV charger software subscription.

Find out more [here](#).

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### **NSW Tourism Awards**

Nominate for the NSW Tourism Awards for your chance to be recognised for your commitment to excellence in the tourism industry.

**Applications close on 7th Jul 2024.**

Find out more [here](#).

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### **Australian Event Awards**

The Australian Event Awards is the national awards program for the Australian events industry, fostering continued excellence, innovation and unity.

The Awards program provides the opportunity for Australian event professionals to establish themselves within the industry as Australia's best in events and event-related goods, services and innovations.

**Entries close 5th August.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Workshops | Webinars | Training

### **Introduction to Export Workshop**

Business owners are invited to join a free 'Introduction to Export' workshop in Goulburn.

This NSW Export Capability Building workshop is aimed at businesses seeking to initiate export activities, or export-ready businesses looking to consolidate their knowledge and maximise long-term export gains. The workshop will include discussions on export fundamentals and business capacity and capability for exporting.

**Thursday 25th July | 08:00 – 11:00**

Light breakfast served from 07:30

The Collective Impact, 175-181 Auburn St, Goulburn NSW 2580

Cost: Free - registrations essential.

[Register Here](#)

### **Hiring Outside the Box Webinars**

The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations have released a series of on demand webinars to help business owners to learn about alternative recruitment practices to develop their workforce.

The webinars provide information from industry experts and employers about practical strategies they've used, including the benefits of tapping into new pools of talent, and hiring a diverse and inclusive team.

Find out more [here](#).

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Destination Southern NSW acknowledges the many Aboriginal Nations and Aboriginal People of the Southern NSW region as the traditional carers and custodians of the land that we all now live and work on. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging. Destination Southern NSW values the diversity of this region and works in partnership with local Aboriginal communities to respectfully celebrate and share Aboriginal culture with visitors to the region and also with locals who live here.

**Destination Southern NSW Ltd is supported by the NSW Government and Destination NSW**





Destination Southern NSW, PO Box 1025, Goulburn, NSW 2580, Australia

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