

HBWN

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

ABOUT THE HBWN

The Hastings Business Women's Network (HBWN) is an organisation of local women who come together to exchange ideas, information and inspiration as they strive for business success.

Founded in 1999, the HBWN has a proud history of encouraging, empowering and educating women in business in Port Macquarie and surrounding regions.

The HBWN's membership activities, including networking events and educational services, provide valuable personal and professional development opportunities as well as a sense of belonging to a warm and welcoming business community.

By supporting and promoting the achievements of our skilled and talented members, the HBWN endeavours to raise awareness of the contribution of businesswomen to the local economy and community.

BRAND STORY

The red poppy flower has been a recognisable symbol of the HBWN since 1999. The poppy represents the right of every woman to be bold and hold her head high and stand out from the crowd. As an organisation, we embrace the 'tall poppy' philosophy and encourage members to be proud and promote their success, to be celebrated and not cut down.

A fresh take on the traditional HBWN Poppy was redesigned in 2019 to reflect a modern HBWN. While preserving the traditional HBWN deep red, the colours symbolise the layers of connectivity through time and the generations of women from all walks of life who are the HBWN. Soft red tones and pink hues emulate HBWN's warm, welcoming and fun approach through networking and events. Each petal reflects our core values: encourage, educate, empower and embrace.

VISION

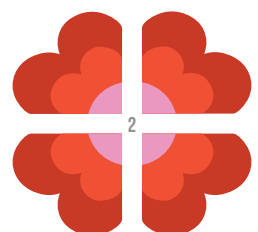
The Hastings Business Women's Network is committed to inspiring members to achieve their goals; dedicated to growth and development; providing a sense of belonging; and remaining relevant to the needs of our network and the community.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2021 continued to present challenges. From floods to the ongoing uncertainty of COVID-19, our business community faced many hurdles.

During these unprecedented times, HBWN remained steadfast in its commitment to connecting women in our community.

Our 2021 committee worked hard to develop and implement strategies that remained true to our core values and purpose. I am constantly inspired by the innovative ideas, dynamic events and diverse opportunities they deliver to support our members and contribute to the wider community. I would like to extend a personal thank you to these ladies for their ongoing support and tireless commitment to the network.



Our member-only Poppy Connect Facebook Group also played a key role in bringing together our diverse network through knowledge sharing, exclusive offers and opportunities to help members create their own successes.

Connecting women in our community remained our primary objective.

In a year of ongoing challenges, HBWN offered a wide range of events to encourage, educate and empower our members. We forged new partnerships and adapted our program to deliver inspiring content relevant to our changing times.

We invested in website upgrades to enhance our membership management systems and improve accounts processing.

To ensure member benefits were available to as many women as possible, free membership was extended to new and existing members for up to six months, from September 2021 to March 2022.

HBWN's contribution to the community remains steadfast through its support of the Hastings Education Fund, sponsorship of the Woman in Business Award as part of the Greater Port Macquarie Business Awards (postponed in 2020 and 2021), and significant donations to Liberty Domestic & Family Violence Specialist Service via our International Women's Day fundraising and Share the Dignity campaign.

The HBWN has also been pleased to represent our network as a Member of the Economic Development Steering Group and the Port Macquarie Business Hub.

Thank you to our Sponsors, Partners, and the local business networks and organisations who have worked with us during the year, and to the local media who have helped us spread the word about the work we do supporting women in business.

Thank you to all our members. Your ongoing generosity and willingness to support the network and each other is greatly valued.

Kelly King
President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well, it has certainly been another interesting year to be part of the Hastings Business Women's Network! It's been another 12 months with its share of challenges for us as a group of local businesswomen, but it has also brought us all together in beautiful and supportive ways.

It has been terrific to welcome new members onto our committee, new members into our network and new presenters, panel members and speakers to our events. I feel so very proud of the diverse range of ways that we are able to connect, learn and grow as a community of local women.



We were able to proceed with some fabulous events, despite the restrictions and impacts on our numbers, dates and venues. We were able to share, hear stories and learn from each other and realise that we have so much connecting us all as women.

We were able to meet most months in person, and for me, the real highlights were the panel events. I loved hearing the courage and inspiration from the speakers who were so open and generous in telling us their unique stories. What a privilege.

When necessary, we adapted quickly, such as a last-minute move for our September event to an online workshop, and I loved being able to facilitate the Science of Wellbeing session. It was an honour to share our new program and activities that really make a difference for us physically, emotionally, mentally and socially. It's really exciting that we will be expanding on this in 2022 and offering our members further opportunities to learn and implement wellness strategies that really work.

We have also continued to work with the Business Hub to collaborate effectively across other local entities, including Business Chambers and Council. We are lucky to have so much happening in our local area, and it's wonderful to have our network included in some really good discussions and plans.

Now that the 12 month period draws to a close and we work towards another Annual General Meeting, it's a good opportunity to reflect on how we have pulled through the challenging period with a wonderful level of support, empathy, courage and friendship - all of our members and committee deserve to be so very proud! I have been honoured to be part of Hastings Business Women's Network this year and can't wait to see what 2022 brings us all.

Kayley Riddle

WORLDWIDE PANDEMIC CONTINUES IN 2021

Impact



SMALL BUSINESSES

Impact

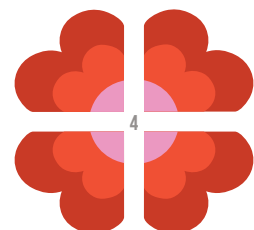


LOCAL COMMUNITY

Growth



MEMBERSHIP



YOUR COMMITTEE

The Hastings Business Women's Network is controlled and managed by a committee of nine positions which operates under a Model Constitution under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009.

The committee includes the executive positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary and coordinating positions of Sponsorship, Membership, Events, Professional Development and Communications.

The committee all generously volunteer their time to the HBWN, meet at least monthly to manage the network's affairs and work continuously throughout the year to ensure the ongoing success of the HBWN.



PRESIDENT • KELLY KING

MARKETING CONSULTANT, KING MARKETING

Charged with providing leadership and direction to the committee, the President is responsible for ensuring the committee fulfils its responsibilities for the governance and success of the organisation. The President also works to optimise the relationship between the committee, local business networks, volunteers and other members to achieve the organisation's agreed goals.



VICE PRESIDENT • KAYLEY RIDDLE

OWNER/DIRECTOR, PEOPLE ENGINE

The Vice President is responsible for assisting the President to fulfil her responsibilities for the governance and success of the HBWN. This includes chairing meetings and building good relationships between the committee, volunteers, other members and external organisations.



SECRETARY • JENNY EDMUNDS

COMMUNITY & SPORTS MANAGER, THE WESTPORT CLUB

The Secretary is responsible for the documentation and communication of the committee's activities. The Secretary is the primary administration officer of the committee and provides the links between the committee, members and outside agencies.



TREASURER • JILL BELL CPA

OWNER, POSITIVE BEAN ACCOUNTANTS

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial supervision of the organisation to allow the committee to provide good governance of the organisation. The Treasurer is the chief financial management officer whose tasks include the preparation of annual budgets, planning for the organisation's financial future and monitoring the organisation's revenue and expenditure.



SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR • GERRY BUCKLAND

PRINCIPLE, PILATES ON CUE

The Sponsorship Coordinator is responsible for developing and coordinating the annual sponsorship program. The Sponsorship Coordinator is responsible for securing sponsors, liaising with sponsors and ensuring sponsorship benefits are delivered in line with sponsor agreements.



MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR • VANESSA LAWRENCE

FOUNDER, THE STYLE VIBE

The Membership Coordinator is responsible for coordinating potential, new and existing members. The Membership Coordinator is responsible for welcoming all new members to the network, proactively identifying guests at events and others in our community as potential members. The Membership Coordinator is responsible for managing and maintaining the organisation's membership database.



EVENTS COORDINATOR • NICOLE LIDDLE

PLAN MANAGER, ALL DISABILITY PLAN MANAGEMENT

The Events Coordinator is responsible for coordinating and developing the annual events calendar for the network. The Events Coordinator is responsible for booking events and making all arrangements for events, including selecting menus, collating RSVPs, liaising with venues and managing the requests of the Committee.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR • DEB SAUNDERS

TAFE SERVICES COORDINATOR, TAFE NSW

The Professional Development Coordinator is responsible for the coordination of the Professional Development Series, which forms part of the HBWN annual event calendar. The PD Coordinator is responsible for planning professional development activities that are relevant, interesting and beneficial for business growth both personally and professionally.

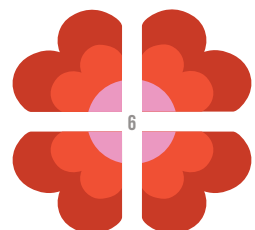


COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR • DEB SAUNDERS

TAFE SERVICES COORDINATOR, TAFE NSW

The Communications Coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing the HBWN's communications strategies which aim to increase value to members and strengthen the profile and reputation of the network. The Communications Coordinator supports the committee with writing tasks, media management, marketing activities, social media, stakeholder liaison, issues management and public relations.

Thank you to Louise Beaumont for her contributions to the committee in 2021.



A VOTE OF THANKS

2021 PRESENTERS

Sharon Longridge
Director, Leadium

Kayley Riddle
Owner and Director, People Engine

Natalie Isaacs
Founder, 1 Million Women

Rebecca Montague-Drake
Koala Ecologist, The Hastings-Macleay Koala
Recovery Partnership

Connie Porter
CEO, Ramsay Health Care Port Macquarie
Facilities

Carmen Abi-Saab
Infrastructure Stakeholder Relations Manager,
Port Macquarie-Hastings Council

Sandie Bennett
Owner, Muscle Function

Kathryn Stephens
Mindset Coach

Heather McGregor
Charles Sturt University



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

2021 has seen HBWN continue to focus on promoting leadership, emotional intelligence and self-care through our Professional Development (PD) events. After experiencing two years of radical change in how we operate in business, how we connect and how we care for ourselves, we have a renewed focus on ensuring our members understand a holistic approach to their professional development. We will continue developing our events to reflect this in 2022, with our first PD event focusing on Women's Wellness.



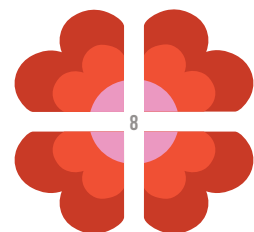
In May, we were fortunate to host a fantastic 'Stress Less Achieve More' PD event with Sharon Longridge from Leadium. Sharon was an engaging, energising and knowledgeable speaker who provided some great insights into how we can manage stress in our lives, how we can better achieve our goals and how we can be happier while doing it. Each of our members was appointed their own CEO - Chief Energy Officer, and went away with the tools to take charge of their own wellness-boosting assets.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the September PD event, 'Women's Wellness Breakfast', hosted by Geordie Bull and sponsored by TAFE NSW, was unable to be delivered. The event is rescheduled for April 2022.

While our 2021 professional development calendar didn't proceed as planned, we were still able to deliver valuable content to our members.

A special thank you to TAFE NSW for their sponsorship of the Stress Less Achieve More event and presenter, Sharon Longridge.

Deb Saunders



FINANCIAL REPORT

Membership fee income decreased this year due to membership extension and free membership offers. Still, membership numbers increased - with 110 individual members, 17 Life Members, and 13 Corporate memberships (46 members) at the end of December 2021. We reported a profit in December 2021 due to strong event attendance.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the financial year ending 31 December 2021:

- Community contributions remained steady. Due to COVID, our sponsorship of the Woman in Business Award at Greater Port Macquarie Business Awards was held over to 2022
- Website investments improved membership management and accounts processing
- Our net asset position at 31 December 2021 was \$5,493 higher than 31 December 2020

Donations included:

Donation to Liberty Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Services

Sponsorship to the Hastings Education Fund \$1,000

HBWN has a strong cash position as we head into 2022. This is partly due to the government grant from 2020, which will continue to be dispersed throughout the year to support events, community sponsorships, and various network operating expenses.

We changed from an accrual accounting method to cash accounting in 2020 to show a more accurate distribution of sponsorship income. The reports contained here are shown on a cash basis.

We look forward to building the resources of our network in 2022 to provide further benefits to our members and support women in our community.

Jill Bell CPA

Hastings Business Women's Network As at 31 December 2021		
Balance Sheet		
	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20
Assets		
Cash Balances	\$33,192.00	\$31,124.00
Deposits and other Assets	\$2751.00	\$2,751.00
Fixed Assets	\$16,454.00	\$14,529.00
Total Assets	\$52,397.00	\$48,404.00
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$75.00	\$75.00
Unearned Income - IWD Sponsorship Received	\$750.00	\$2,250.00
Total Liabilities	\$825.00	\$2,325.00
Net Assets	\$51,572.00	\$46,079.00
Profit & Loss		
Events		
Event Income	\$26,700.00	\$14,890.00
Less - Event Expenses	\$18,076.00	\$7,142.00
Event Gross Profit	\$8,624.00	\$7,748.00
Other Income		
Membership Fee Income	\$10,986.00	\$12,760.00
International Women's Day Proceeds	\$27,942.00	\$24,299.00
Interest and other Income	\$3.00	\$32.00
Government Grant		\$10,000.00
Total Other Income	\$38,931.00	\$47,091.00
Less Expenses		
Other Operating Expenses	\$20,067.00	\$16,703.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$20,067.00	\$16,703.00
Operating Profit	\$27,488.00	\$38,136.00
Community Contributions		
International Women's Day Donation	\$20,995.00	\$21,085.00
Sponsorships Paid	\$1,000.00	\$3,750.00
Total Community Contributions	\$21,995.00	\$24,835.00
Net Profit	\$5,493.00	\$13,301.00

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Member retention and growth was challenging again this year with the landscape continually changing and the network constantly adapting to restrictions and guidelines month to month.

To keep women connected throughout another turbulent year, we offered new members up to six months of free membership.

We extended renewals for existing members with expiring memberships during this time. Fortunately, we were able to provide new and existing members with a supportive space both face to face and online to connect. We had great engagement in the events that were able to go ahead.

Coffee catch-ups were held when possible at the Hastings Coffee Co. with a big thank you to our great supporter, The Westport Club. We were also excited to launch a new Poppy Pop-in option offering busy women the opportunity to connect over a 'cocktail' on alternate months to the Coffee Catch ups.

Due to restrictions, we were unable to get these off the ground in the second part of the year. We look forward to the opportunity to do so in 2022.

HBWN membership fees contributed significantly to the support of the wider community. This year your membership helped support these local not-for-profit organisations:

- Hastings Education Fund
- Liberty Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Services
- Share the Dignity

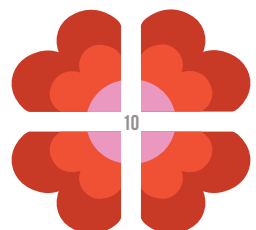
The continued dedication to growing our member-only Facebook community, Poppy Connect, has strengthened the opportunity for members to connect directly. The platform extends the opportunity for promotions and engagement, creating an interactive network outside of our set events.

Our member base has remained steady with a solid corporate base, which allows us to continue attracting new members.

Strengthening our member base will remain a focus in the new year.

Thank you to our amazing members for making what has been another challenging year still one of rewarding growth and connection.

Vanessa Lawrence





International WOMENS DAY 2021



We were thrilled to celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March 2021 with a sold-out crowd of 250 women and men. It was a special morning focussing on how we as women can #ChooseToChallenge the issues around gender equality in our homes, business, schools and community.

With challenge comes change.

Guest panellists included Port Macquarie-Hastings Council CEO Dr Clare Allen, 2016 Australian Olympian and 2014 Commonwealth Games gold medallist Shelley Watts and Heather McGregor, director of First Nations Student Success at Charles Sturt University.

Emcee Stacey Morgan spoke to Samantha Wills, who wowed the audience with her humble and authentic story of building a brand and jewellery empire.

These amazing women shared their journey as they challenged the status quo. The day was about celebrating women's achievements, inspiring change, and creating an inclusive world.

The HBWN's International Women's Day celebration is also a fundraiser for Liberty Domestic & Family Violence Specialist Services. We raised a combined \$30,000 from the morning and our Him in Heels events.



*Cheque presentation to Liberty Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Services
L-R pic: Leslie Williams, Caron Dyball, Kelly Lamb, Kelly King, Jill Bell, Michelle Parker, Sandra Magann,
Louise Beaumont, Jenny Edmunds*

A tradition in the Hastings for over a decade, the HBWN events have contributed over \$140,000 to Liberty Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Services. We are very proud that the event has grown and continues to increase awareness and raise money for our local women and community.

Gender bias and inequality is not just a women's issue. The Him and Heels event placed men front and centre as advocates and champions in creating gender parity. We all deserve equity, diversity and inclusion. Flower Hotels received the highest fundraiser, and Nick Krause of Settler's Inn raised the most individual donations. The Best Heels award went to Jason Cooper with his custom steel boots by none other than Bennetts Steel.

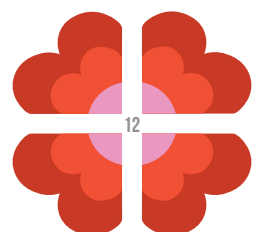
We're grateful to our IWD event partner Leslie Williams MP, who has been instrumental in promoting local women and supporting the breakfast event since its inception in 2010. A special thank you to this year's major sponsors, Port Macquarie Focus, Donovan Oates Hannaford, Bennetts Steel and Regional and Agribusiness Unit of Commonwealth Bank Port Macquarie.

A dedicated committee was supported with stage styling by Sess & Sass Design Co, Printing by Snap Print & Design Port Macquarie and Photos by Pen McKinley-Rodgers. Thank you to everyone who helped make the events a huge success.

2021 IWD Committee: Leslie Williams MP, Caron Dyball, Kelly King, Michelle Parker, Sandra Magann, Louise Beaumont, Jenny Edmunds.

This year's donation was needed more than ever. With COVID, Liberty saw the number of calls for help increase dramatically across the Hastings region. The fallout of COVID and its effects on domestic violence will persist for years to come. We're proud that we, along with our members and the community, will continue to contribute to a safer community and support local women.

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the IWD breakfast and Him In Heels in 2021.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

RESILIENCE

The past year has been challenging for small businesses across the region. Devastating floods hit the region in March with the continuation of lockdowns due to COVID. Like the pandemic, there was little warning that the floods were coming and the severe destruction it caused businesses and our community.

But our community is strong and unified. What we've seen over this trying year is the focus to help one another, buy locally and offer emotional support.

To ensure member benefits were available to as many women as possible, we extended memberships for new and existing members for up to six months at no cost.

Our members juggled saving their homes, helping neighbours dig belongings out of the mud all while keeping their businesses going. Our community has endured a lot, and we should all be proud of what we've been through together.



PANEL TO SUCCESS

Our Panel to Success luncheons were a space where we laughed and cried together. We were privileged to listen to very different, heartfelt experiences and left deeply inspired to be the best we can be.

Faced with obstacles that could have defined them, these women found ways to kick down barriers and fought to get to where they are today.

Listening to their personal stories and what they faced made us reflect on what actions we could take to encourage inclusivity and equality as we navigate through our own lives. We left with a deep understanding that making small changes can positively affect everyone's future.

*Rebecca Montague, Carmen Abi-Saab, Connie Porter
Sandie Bennet, Kathryn Stephens, Nessy, Heather McGregor*

1 MILLION WOMEN

We were thrilled to team up with 1 Million Women, MidWaste and the NSW Government's Love Food Hate Waste program to offer an extraordinary event at the Mecure Port Macquarie in June.

A sell-out crowd of over 80 local women joined the 1 Million Women movement and were captivated by guest speaker and 1 Million Women founder Natalie Isaacs. Natalie has been empowering women to make the world a better place for over a decade.

Now, more than ever, it's imperative that our businesses commit to sustainability and responsibility. As business owners, leaders and members of our community, we all have a role to play.



KELLY KING INDUCTED AS A TALL POPPY LIFE MEMBER

In her role as President of the HBWN for the last four years, the HBWN Committee and Tall Poppies were thrilled to induct Kelly King as an incredibly worthy Life Member during the 2021 AGM.

As a leader who has put her heart and soul into the HBWN, Kelly epitomises the level of commitment she has demonstrated since joining the network as a new business owner. Kelly jumped straight into a committee position as Events Coordinator and then as Communications Coordinator the following year.

She has steadily helped build a culture for HBWN that is open and welcoming. Her marketing and business skillset, gentle poise, and professional approach are invaluable assets for the network and all women in our community. Kelly is reliable and proactive, always going above and beyond to represent the network with admirable energy.

Kelly is an amazing ambassador for HBWN, her communication skills build positive connections with the broader community from business groups and economic influencers to local, state and federal governments.

She showed courage, leadership and generosity to support our community of women during the pandemic by pulling people together and remaining focused on the greater good. A tireless campaigner and founder of Dyslexia Support Mid North Coast, her passion to encourage, educate and empower others is an inspiration.

TALL POPPY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Tall Poppy Life Membership Awards are presented to members who have excelled in their business success and their support of others, particularly women.

These women have taken time to mentor others and are a living, breathing example of HBWN's vision, ethos and core objectives. They continue to support HBWN members and ensure the network evolves to promote the next generation.

Tall Poppy Life Members

Michelle Vassallo	Debbie Moore
Anne Kocass	Ann-Maree Crowe
Kellie Mills	Sue Reid
Sue Carson	Kelly Lamb
Glenda Hamilton	Barbara Smith
Helen Ross	Robyn Flanagan
Peta Simmons	Loris Hendy
Di Edgerley	Kelly King
Caron Dyball	

EVENTS REPORT

With devastating floods affecting our local area and ongoing COVID-19 requirements, our events were again under threat in 2021. However, we managed to hold all of our events over the calendar year. We decided to continue holding events in line with guidelines and requirements. We worked with venues and provided members and guests with the option to attend.

The AGM was moved from March to April, and the August 'Panel to Success' event was rescheduled due to the extension of the NSW lockdown.

Our September event was offered as an online zoom event due to a snap 7-day lockdown applied to our region. Thanks to our Vice President, Kayley Riddle, for stepping in to present a well-received, free presentation on the Science of Wellness.

We started 2021 with a fabulous networking event, our calendar launch at Chop 'n Chill, sponsored by Just Better Care.

This was followed by the very popular International Women's Day and Him in Heels events in March.

INSPIRING FEMALE LEADERS

Our 'Panel to Success' events, sponsored by Port Skin Clinic, continued to be very well received.

In May, Rebecca Montague-Drake, Connie Porter and Carmen Abi-Saab, leading the way in their respective industries, shared their personal stories.

In August, Sandie Bennett, Kathryn Stephens and Heather McGregor shared their stories concerning diversity.

We are grateful to all of these speakers who shared their very personal and inspiring stories.

ENGAGING NETWORKING EVENTS

Our networking events held at Billabong Zoo and Mansfield Estate, sponsored by Donovan Oates Hannaford and Regional Australia Bank respectively, were enjoyed by all who attended.

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

We thought it would be fitting to celebrate the end of a challenging year in style, with a party at The Westport Club, sponsored by The Style Vibe, The Westport Club and Elders Lifestyle Group, with live entertainment and dancing.

Our AGM and monthly coffee catch-ups, thanks to The Westport Club, gave members (and those looking to join) another opportunity to come together over the year.

What a year! Our committee has worked very hard to support members with events that provided guidance during a difficult time, and we have tailored our events to the ever-changing, required restrictions. We are grateful that our events have been well attended, considering the environment, and we have received some excellent feedback about our events.

We look forward to continuing to provide events to HBWN members that are current, inspirational, thought-provoking and fun in 2022.

Nicole Liddle
Events Coordinator

2021 HBWN EVENTS

	DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:
JANUARY	Thursday 28th January 5.30pm-8pm	Chop 'n Chill Town Green 17-19 Horton Street Port Macquarie	January-June Events Calendar Launch Social & Networking Kick off the New Year by sharing a friendly drink with members and guests to launch an exciting lineup of events for the first half of 2021.	
MARCH	Wednesday 3rd March 7.45am-8.45am	Town Green Port Macquarie	Him in Heels This fabulously fun event is back for 2021! Shining a spotlight on equality, local businessmen are invited to grab a mate, slip on some stilettos and walk with us. Spectators encouraged!	 Regional and Agribusiness banking team Port Macquarie
MARCH	Monday 8th March 6.30am-8.30am	Panthers 1 Bay Street Port Macquarie	International Women's Day Breakfast HBWN and Leslie Williams invite you to 'Choose to Challenge' with a panel of inspiring speakers to celebrate International Women's Day.	 
MARCH	Thursday 25th March 6.30am-8.30am	The Westport Club 25 Buller Street Port Macquarie	Annual General Meeting Join us for our AGM as we recap the year that was 2020 and welcome our 2021 Committee.	
APRIL	Thursday 29th April 5.30pm-8pm	TAFE Port Macquarie	Focus on Business - Professional Development Workshop Join us for an interactive workshop 'Mind at Work - stress less and achieve more'.	
MAY	Thursday 27th May 12pm-2pm	Rydges 1 Hay Street Port Macquarie	Panel to Success Lunch Enjoy an inspirational lunch event with a dynamic panel of speakers.	
JUNE	Thursday 24th June 5.30pm-8pm	TBA Port Macquarie	July-December Events Calendar Launch Come along for a drink and mingle with fellow members and guests. We will also reveal what events we have planned for the second half of the year.	
JULY	Thursday 22nd July 5.30pm-8pm	Billabong Zoo 61 Billabong Drive Port Macquarie	Networking Event Join us to spend some time socialising with fellow members and guests.	
AUGUST	Thursday 26th August 12pm-2pm	The Westport Club 25 Buller Street Port Macquarie	Panel to Success Lunch Join us for our popular series of inspirational lunch events with a dynamic panel of speakers.	
SEPTEMBER	Thursday 30th September 6.30am-8.30am	Rydges 1 Hay Street Port Macquarie	Focus on Business - Professional Development workshop Join us for an interactive workshop.	
OCTOBER	Thursday 28th October 5.30pm-8pm	Mansfield Estate 743 Ocean Drive Grants Beach	Twilight networking event - What spooks you? Join us for our 'Halloween' inspired discussion on what spooks you in business! Share ideas on how to overcome these challenges.	
NOVEMBER	Friday 26th November	The Westport Club 25 Buller Street Port Macquarie	It's In The Bag Our stylish year-end celebration supporting 'Share the Dignity'. Donate a handbag filled with items that would make a woman in need feel special. Exciting news to come regarding this event!	  
MONTHLY	Last Tuesday every month 9am-10am	Hastings Coffee Co. The Westport Club 25 Buller Street Port Macquarie	Coffee Catch Up Join us each month in an informal setting to meet members. The smaller group size is a great way to start your business to business networking. Do you know someone who is thinking of joining the network? Our Coffee Catch Ups are a great introduction to HBWN.	

SPONSORSHIP REPORT

The HBWN acknowledges the sponsors and partners for their contributions, resulting in a very successful sponsorship program in 2021.

The support received from our sponsors allowed us to be flexible during COVID-19 isolation restrictions. Sponsor and partner support meant we were able to keep the HBWN community engaged and informed. During a challenging year, sponsors and partners enabled growth in the network, supporting local businesswomen and the local community.

The sponsorship income is indispensable for the HBWN to provide high-quality, low-cost events for members. As a not-for-profit organisation, any 'profit' goes back into the network and community. Sponsors benefit from the recognition and promotion across all of our social media sites, print media and through media releases to local media outlets.

The variety of sponsorship packages offers a unique opportunity for sponsors to align their brand with the values of HBWN and position themselves as industry leaders who support local businesses, businesswomen and the local community.

We appreciate all our sponsors for 2021 and are grateful for their support of the network and local women.

Gerry Buckland

2021 SPONSORS

Calendar Event Sponsor



Networking Events Sponsor



Panel to Success Sponsor



Professional Development Sponsor



Celebration Sponsor



International Women's Day
Platinum Sponsor



International Women's Day
Gold Sponsor



International Women's Day
Silver Sponsor



Him in Heels



Regional and Agribusiness
banking team Port Macquarie

2021 PARTNERS

Print & Web



Coffee Catch Up



Media



Annual Report



Photography



COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

With another year finding ways to connect through the restrictions of COVID-19, communications for HBWN has continued to be agile and speak to our members and the wider community.

Being flexible in our approach to the ever-changing landscape of COVID-19, our lines of communication embraced technology when face-to-face wasn't available to deliver interactive discussion, events and meetings. This year we were also fortunate to host a number of valuable face-to-face connections.

All committee members owned the role of Communications, contributing to ensure HBWN remained relevant and supportive for our community and pivoting to maintain meaningful connections. Thank you to our local media, community groups, sponsors, and partners to help HBWN promote our network and for being open for connection through another challenging year.

Our Facebook community flourished throughout 2021, reaching over 2500 followers, a large increase from the previous year. Members and the wider community used the page to receive information, view photos from our events and interact with one another.

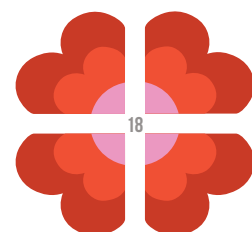
You can find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hbwn1 and Instagram @HastingsBusinessWomensNetwork. Tag #connectingwomen to help us share your experience at HBWN events.

2021 continued to see member connections through Poppy Connect, our private Facebook group. Exclusive to financial members of the network, the group is a sought-after resource within the HBWN community and provides a vibrant flow of engagement for members.

Thank you to our skilful photographer Kate from Zoom Photography by Kate for capturing the essence of our face to face events beautifully throughout the year. A special thanks to Jody Carey for again taking on the massive task of coordinating the production of our fabulous Annual Report.

Please keep the conversation going! Share successes, ask questions, seek advice and enjoy what the members of HBWN can offer to help you succeed.

Deb Saunders



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

HBWN supports our community by sponsoring awards and scholarships benefiting women of all ages. As HBWN members, we collectively lift women at various stages of their careers, whether they are starting out or nominating for a business award. Membership fees help support these worthy causes and allow our members to make a larger impact in the community.



BUSINESS HUB

A joint collaboration with local business networks including HBWN, Council, Chamber of Commerce, regional economic and business groups met regularly during 2022 to discuss and promote the local business community. HBWN VP, Kayley Riddle and Secretary, Jenny Edmunds represented HBWN members.

The Business Hub provides the opportunity for information exchange, networking and collaboration on issues that may impact the business community.

This is a key communication point between business networks for greater synergy and contribution more broadly to economic development in the Port Macquarie-Hastings region.



BUSINESS AWARDS

Each year the HBWN is proud to sponsor the 'Woman in Business' award as part of the Greater Port Macquarie Business Awards. We help strengthen the local business community through our sponsorship and support of the HBWN members who nominate.

Congratulations to the 2021 Woman in Business award and HBWN members: Angela Frimberger, Facade Escape Room and Jo Hollis, All Disability Plan Management. We are patiently waiting to hear who will take home the award. Due to COVID, the Gala event was rescheduled to 2022.



HASTINGS EDUCATION FUND

As an inaugural gold sponsor of Hastings Education Fund, HBWN membership has helped provide \$10,000 to support local students in their transition to higher education and achieve their career goals.

Membership Coordinator Vanessa Lawrence had the opportunity to sit on the panel and listen and interview wonderful applicants.

The HEF community fund has assisted hundreds of school leavers in accessing tertiary and vocational studies to achieve their educational goals. HEF's motto is Dream, Believe, Achieve.

Recognising further study or training costs can be much higher for regional students together, HEF, local residents, businesses, and community groups help support our next generation financially in their startup and continuing studies.

HBWN and the entire membership are proud to support such a wonderful cause that makes a huge difference for the students in our community.

Congratulations to all 34 well-deserving recipients of the HEF Scholarships.



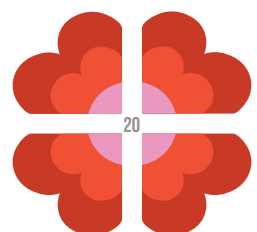
SHARE THE DIGNITY

We ended the year with a glitzy Gala Celebration that included an honoured HBWN tradition. Each year, we support Share the Dignity's #ItsInTheBag campaign with members generously donating handbags full of personal items for local women and girls.

As a membership, we have the opportunity to help women and girls experiencing homelessness and poverty. Everyday personal hygiene products are luxuries to many women.

Share the Dignity is an Australian organisation that distributes personal and sanitary items to women who are homeless, at-risk or experiencing domestic violence. This is the fifth year HBWN has dedicated the year-end event to support a worthy cause.

The handbags will directly benefit local women in crisis and go to charities such as the Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Services women's refuge.



MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

VENUE: THE WESTPORT CLUB | DATE: THURSDAY 1 APRIL, 2021 | TIME: 6:30AM

ATTENDANCE: 27 MEMBERS

Members present: Jody Carey, Michelle Parker, Sara Kelly, Sandra Magann, Holly Mullington, Sue Smith, Deb Saunders, Gerry Buckland, Loris Hendy, Vanessa Lawrence, Barb Smith, Mel Haverfield, Stacey Morgan, Louise Beaumont, Kayley Riddle, Di Edgely, Glenda Hamilton, Alison Davis, Sue Reid, Leslie Williams, Caron Dyball, Kelly Lamb, Alex Glen-Holmes, Nicole Liddle, Jill Bell, Kelly King, Jenny Edmunds (Secretary/minute taking).

Item 1 - Welcome

Kelly King, President, welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting which had to be rescheduled because of the recent natural disaster in our region. Kelly advised \$10 per ticket from this event, together with the sale of the HBWN Poppy Earrings, would be donated to residents affected by the floods through an initiative with Hastings Coop. Kelly acknowledged and thanked the 2020 Network's Sponsors, Partners and local business networks and organisations and local media who have helped spread the word about the Network and its achievement in supporting women in business over the past year.

Item 2 - Apologies & Distribution of Proxy Forms

Apologies: Ann Marie Crowe and Janette Hyde.

Proxy Forms: Janette Hyde provided a proxy form if any voting was required.

Quorum: In accordance with the Constitution, a minimum of 5 members must be present for the AGM to proceed. A quorum was established, and the meeting proceeded.

Item 3 - Minutes from the 2018 AGM held on 25 June 2020

The minutes, as printed in pages 20-21 of the 2020 Annual Report, held on 25 June 2020, were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting, unopposed. This was moved by Jody Carey and seconded by Alex Glen-Holmes.

Item 4 - Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motions.

Item 5 - President's Report

Presented by Kelly King

The President, Kelly King, acknowledged the extraordinary year of significant change and challenges endured by the Network and its members. Kelly spoke of how proud she was of the achievements by the Network with delivering 16 online events; 9 live events; provided an additional 3 months membership free; delivered on 90% of our commitments to our sponsors; and incredibly raised over \$27,000 for our community.

Kelly acknowledged the work of the committee who managed to maintain the Network events bringing women together despite the many crises. Every Committee member continued in their role for their entire term of office. "The previous year dared us to adapt", Kelly said. The committee worked with remarkable capacity and expertise and continued to serve our Network's best interests. The Network contributed to the community through donations to the Hastings Education Fund, sponsorship of the Woman in Business Award; and significant donations to Liberty Family and Domestic Violence Special Services. Kelly acknowledged the International Women's Day sub committee members for 2020 - Leslie Williams, Sandra Magann, Kelly Lamb, Terry Sara and Louise Beaumont. Kelly thanked the Committee for their dedication to the Network, especially during the

height of the COVID-19 pandemic ensuring the Network was on the front foot in providing support and access to resources for members. The President's Report was adopted unopposed: Moved by Barb Smith and seconded by Loris Hendy.

Item 6 - Financial Report

Presented by Jill Bell

The Network's membership had remained steady throughout 2020. Treasurer, Jill Bell, acknowledged the support of the Network's members through the last 12 months. The Network reported a profit in December 2020 in large part because of the Bushfire Recovery Grant of \$10,000 which the Network was successful in obtaining (with the assistance of C2Hills). This grant supported the Network to extend membership renewals by 3 months and fulfil sponsorship agreements. The Network changed from an accrual accounting method to a cash accounting method during the year to show a more accurate distribution of sponsorship income. The Financial Report was adopted unopposed: Moved by Leslie Williams and seconded by Sue Reid.

Item 7 - Appointment of Returning Officer

As no election was necessary a returning officer was not required.

Item 8 - Election of Positions

Loris Hendy, the HBWN's Public Officer, on behalf of the HBWN Members, thanked the Committee for their leadership over the past 12 months. As only one nomination was received for each position vacant, Loris declared the following positions were filled by the nominated person:

President: Kelly King

Secretary: Jenny Edmunds

Communications Coordinator: Louise Beaumont

Membership Coordinator: Vanessa Lawrence

Sponsorship Coordinator: Gerry Buckland

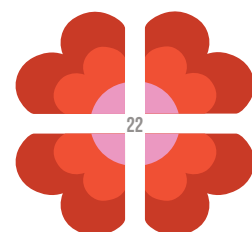
In accepting the nomination to remain as President of the HBWN, Kelly King acknowledged each Committee member, and thanked the outgoing Committee members who were presented with flowers in appreciation of their support (as was Jody Carey in appreciation and acknowledgement of her coordination of the Annual Report).

Item 9 - for Financial records and signatory authority

In acknowledging the incoming committee, it was agreed that the financial authority for signatures on the HBWN financial accounts with Westpac Bank (including online banking) be given to Kelly King (President); Jill Bell (Treasurer) and Jenny Edmunds (Secretary). It was further agreed that Amanda Larkin be removed from the authority list and as administrator for the HBWN financial accounts with Westpac Bank (including online banking) and this authority be transferred to Jill Bell. Moved by Mel Haverfield and seconded by Nicole Liddle, passed unanimously.

Item 10 - Close meeting

The Annual General Meeting for 2021 closed at 8:30am.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Annual Report was proudly prepared, produced and printed by



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WEBSITE

www.hbwn.com.au

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/hbwn1

MEMBERS' FACEBOOK GROUP

www.facebook.com/groups/HBWNPoppyConnect/

INSTAGRAM

www.instagram.com/hastingsbusinesswomensnetwork

@hastingsbusinesswomensnetwork

#connectingwomen

LINKEDIN GROUP

Hastings Business Women's Network

PHONE

0431 510 071

EMAIL

hbwnpresident@gmail.com

ADDRESS

PO Box 5458 Port Macquarie NSW 2444