

OCTOBER 2025

MILLICENT AND COMMUNITY
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER



MBCA Annual General Meeting Wednesday, October 15th, 6.30pm The Grand Hotel (Back Room)

All office bearer positions will be declared vacant.

Nominations will be called for

Business Co-Chairperson

Community Co-Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Members

Media Person



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Local News

- **Roger Smith Auto Parts have moved from the George Street location to Davenport Street**
- **Legal Brite have moved across the George Street**

Mental Health Month

Why timely check-ins matter

This October, make space for mental wellbeing in your workplace.

Mental Health Month is a national initiative held every October to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and wellbeing. This year's theme, Connecting When It Counts, highlights how meaningful conversations can help during tough times or at pivotal moments.

For regional business owners, it's a chance to reflect on the mental load of running a business, especially during periods of financial strain or uncertainty. If you are feeling the impact of seasonal pressures or ongoing drought conditions, it's a good time to check in with yourself and your team. You can find local resources on our Drought Support page.

Further support is also available on Mindarma's Brain Food platform, which is free to access throughout October. It features a wide range of expert-curated content, designed to strengthen mental wellbeing. You will find guided mindfulness tracks, webinars, research, podcasts, videos and articles to help you and your team recharge and refocus.

Work is Changing

Are your AI skills ready?

Generative Artificial Intelligence is already transforming how Australians work, according to a new national study from Jobs and Skills Australia. The Generative AI Capacity Study, released this month, shows early signs of disruption across industries, regions and job types.

The study found that Gen AI is more likely to enhance roles than replace them. Many workers are already using tools on their own, while employers are just beginning to consider workplace-wide adoption. The findings highlight the need for stronger digital and AI skills, along with broader efforts to upskill and adapt.

If you're curious about how these tools actually work, this could be a good chance to try one. Use AI to summarise the report and see how it performs.

For more information visit Jobs and Skills Australia, for questions email AICapacityStudy@jobsandskills.gov.au

Wattle Range Council Events

https://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0033/1670775/OCTOBER-Events-2025-1.pdf

<https://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/tourism/all-events/events>

Spring Clean Your Digital Strategy **Track what's working, drop what's not**

For most small businesses, digital platforms are central to reaching customers, making sales and building your brand. However, if you are not measuring performance, you could be wasting time and missing opportunities. Now is a good time to check whether your website, social media or email marketing is doing what it's meant to. Start by setting clear goals, do you want more sales, more traffic, or stronger engagement? Then choose a few key metrics to track your progress.

Most digital platforms include built-in tools for monitoring, such as website visits, cart abandonment, social media engagement and email click-through rates. Use this data to spot what's working, adjust your content and improve your results. Find step-by-step guidance on measuring digital performance at business.gov.au.

Changes Ahead for Super Payments **Clearing House closing under Payday Super reforms**

From 1 October 2025, the Australian Tax Office's Small Business Superannuation Clearing House (SBSCH) will close to new users. The service will fully close for all users on 1 July 2026, as part of the broader Payday Super reforms.

If your business uses the Superannuation Clearing House, now is the time to start planning. The ATO recommends reviewing your payroll software, speaking with your super fund, or exploring commercial clearing house options. Many software providers already offer built-in super payment features.

For more information visit the ATO or speak with your registered tax professional.

Hiring Staff? Start Here **Updated guide outlines key steps and legal tips**

Thinking about hiring a new employee? An updated government guide outlines eight key steps to help you find the right person and meet your legal obligations. Designed for small and medium business owners, it's a practical tool for planning your next hire.

The guide covers how to choose the right type of employee, understand costs, meet tax and super obligations, and keep the correct records. It also explains what to do if the employment ends sooner than expected.

Long Staff's Content
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Access the guide here: business.gov.au – Guide to hiring employees

At RDALC, our small business team can help you make informed staffing decisions, including navigating workforce changes during drought or other seasonal pressures. To speak with us, email info@rdalc.org.au or call (08) 8723 1057.