HAYMARKET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HCC News – March 2023

President's Welcome

Congratulations to **Premier Chris Minns MP** on his and his party's success in the recent NSW State Election. We look forward to working closely with the new State Government for the benefit of all our members and our community and it goes without saying, for the success of the State of New South Wales and in this regard, the Chamber is always ready and willing to assist the Government in any way that it can.

Interest rate rises continue to be a major concern for businesses and households. Although the Australian Bureau of Statistics reported a fall to 6.8% in the annual inflation rate as at February 2023, down from 7.4% in January 2023 and a peak of 8.4% in December 2022, economists remain divided as to whether the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) will on 4 April 2023 announce a further increase in the cash rate. There have been ten consecutive rate rises since 4 May 2022 taking the target cash rate from 0.1% to 3.6%.

We remain of the view that any over-tightening of monetary policy by the RBA could result in a major slowdown in the economy and that perhaps the full effect of the past rate rises should be allowed to flow through first before any further increases.

A reminder to all that applications to participate in the **City of Sydney's free Business Innovation Program** close on 11 April 2023 (see details below).

The Chamber's autumn networking event will be held in May and as soon as details have been finalised, an announcement will be made.

Wishing all a productive and successful month of April and for those taking time off during the school holidays, I wish each of you a most enjoyable break with your family.

Vincent Lim
President

Latest News

NSW Women's Contribution Awards Night 8 March 2023

On **International Women's Day,** 8 March 2023, non-profit organisation, Resilience Together Association Inc, in partnership with Women NSW, celebrated the contribution of women through their **NSW Women's Contribution Awards.**

The **Haymarket Chamber of Commerce** is proud to have been a supporter of this event which was delivered with funding from the NSW Government's **2023 NSW Women's Week Grants program** and the financial and other contribution from various entities.

The Awards evening held at St Leonards was a celebration of women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in each of these categories:

- Supporting women's health
- Building women's resilience
- Enhancing women's empowerment
- Advancing women's opportunity

Supporting Women's Health Award
The finalists were **Dr Sue Velovski, Chaoying Guo, Maria Rosa Casanova** and **Dr Bibiana Chan**. The joint winners were **Dr Sue Velovski** and **Dr Bibiana Chan**.

Building Women's Resilience Award
The finalists were **Ann Emmanuel, Luci Ozcan, Tina Qian** and **Penny Christie.** The winner was **Ann Emmanuel**.

Enhancing Women's Empowerment Award
The finalists were **Suet Koon Lai, Suna Flynn, Kimiyo Aizawa** and **Valerie** (surname withheld at her request). The winner was **Suet Koon Lai**.

Advancing Women's Opportunity Award
The finalists were **Vivien Feng, Zepur Mouradian** and **Fiona Ho,** and the winner was **Zepur Mouradian**.

Congratulations to all finalists and award winners. All of you deserve to be recognised and acknowledged for the wonderful and important contribution that you make.

More photos here at our Chamber website.

NSW State Election 25 March 2023

We congratulate **NSW Premier Chris Minns MP** and his team for winning the recent state election and wish the new State government well. We look forward to working closely with the new government on matters pertaining to our local precinct and community.

We also extend our congratulations to our local member of parliament, **Alex Greenwich MP,** Member for Sydney, for being re-elected for a fourth term. Mr Greenwich has been an avid supporter of Haymarket and the Chamber's initiatives, and we look forward to the continuation of our close working relationship with him. We also congratulate **Jason Yat-Sen Li MP**, Member for Strathfield, and **Jenny Leong MP**, Member for Newtown, both of whom are great leaders of our Chinese-Australian community and strong supporters of the Chamber.

City of Sydney Councillor Jess Scully steps down

City of Sydney Councillor Jess Scully will step down from her role after 3 April 2023 citing the lack of parental leave for councillors as she prepares to give birth to her second child.

Since joining Lord Mayor Clover Moore's Independent Team on being elected in 2016, Councillor Scully has been proactive in the Haymarket community and most supportive of the Chamber's work.

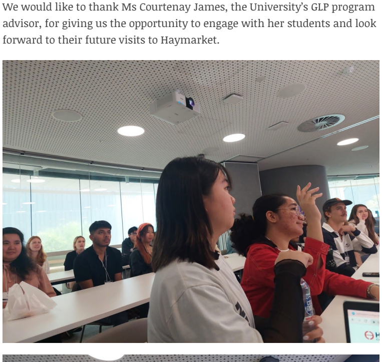
The Chamber wishes Councillor Scully all the very best for her future endeavours.

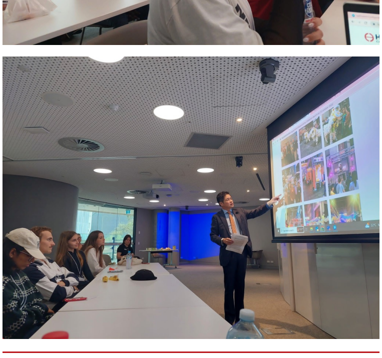
Macquarie University Global Leadership Program students' visit to Chinatown

Our Chamber President, Vincent Lim, and Soul of Chinatown's Kevin Cheng were invited to speak to students from the **Macquarie University's Global Leadership Program** at the Darling Square Library on 24 March 2023. Vincent gave the students an outline of the history of Sydney's Chinatown and a presentation on what makes Haymarket such a great place to live, work and play and the various initiatives that the Chamber undertook to support the area during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also spoke on how the Chamber engage with the various levels of government and other associations and community organisations. Kevin spoke to the students about the significance of Sydney's Chinatown and the bright opportunity that lies ahead.

We understand that, after our talks, the students had a tour of Chinatown and also treated themselves to a nice lunch at Thai Town.

We would like to thank Ms Courtenay James, the University's GLP program advisor, for giving us the opportunity to engage with her students and look forward to their future visits to Haymarket.





City of Sydney's free Business Innovation Program – Applications close 11 April 2023

Looking for support and actionable strategies to grow your business? Apply now for City of Sydney's free Business Innovation Program and emerge well-equipped to take your business to the next level.

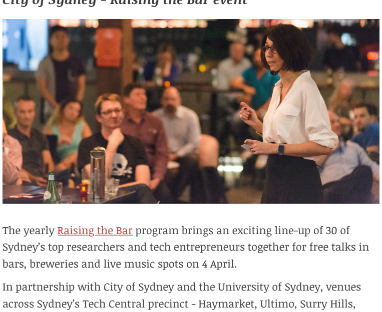
Applications are now open, and the closing date has been extended to 5 pm on Tuesday, 11 April 2023.

This free 12-week business accelerator program is open to retail, hospitality, tourism and social enterprise businesses in the City of Sydney local area at the growth and scale-up stage.

The City is looking for 20 motivated and ambitious local business owners who are ready to take their business to the next level.

Starting on 1 May to 24 July 2023, this program will equip participating businesses with the latest innovation methods, help assess business models and operational processes, and share the tools to scale business.

City of Sydney – Raising the Bar event



The yearly Raising the Bar program brings an exciting line-up of 30 of Sydney's top researchers and tech entrepreneurs together for free talks in bars, breweries and live music spots on 4 April.

In partnership with City of Sydney and the University of Sydney, venues across Sydney's Tech Central precinct - Haymarket, Ultimo, Surry Hills, Camperdown, Darlington, and Eveleigh - will bring you big ideas, over your favourite drink.

From architecture to robotics, artificial intelligence to food security, Raising the Bar is a new take on a Tuesday night out. Each of the 15 venues will host 2 talks on the 1 night, at 6pm and 8pm.

Find out more here.

City of Sydney's Reboot Free Business Webinars from 14 March 2023 – 30 May 2023

The City of Sydney's Reboot webinar series commenced on 14 March 2023. The weekly webinars are intended to help small businesses, creatives and retailers learn, innovate and grow.

The remaining webinars in this series are as follows:

- Finding power in your voice and story: Kylie Captain, educator and author - 4 April 2023
- Networking for growth: Janine Garner, business mentor - 2 May 2023
- Transforming your business into a powerhouse: Justin Hemmes, Merivale - 9 May 2023
- Start selling more to more customers: Victoria Butt, sales mentor - 16 May 2023
- The secrets to rapid online growth: Julie Mathers, Snuggle Hunny and Jane Cay from birdnest - 23 May 2023
- Building a purpose-driven business: Hunter Johnson, The Man Cave - 30 May 2023

Bookings are essential.

Sydney Streets @ Haymarket event 24 June 2023 – call for Expressions of Interest

Sydney Streets is returning to Haymarket on 24 June 2023. Parts of Dixon St, Hay St, Little Hay St and Sussex St will again be closed to traffic from 11am- 10pm, with street stalls, alfresco dining, entertainers and live music set to brighten Chinatown.

Businesses can apply to be part of the festivities by activating inside stores, displaying goods on the footpath or activating the road space in front of premises.

If you're interested contact the City of Sydney's Business Concierge team on 02 9265 9333 or sydneystreets@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Official welcome event for International Students at Town Hall 26 April 2023

City of Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore will be hosting an official welcome event for international students at Sydney Town Hall on **Wednesday 26 April 2023.**

If you are an international student and wish to attend, you may book your ticket HERE.

You may also access a copy of the City's guide for international students via this link: City of Sydney's guide to Sydney for international students.

New Members

Suna Flynn

Suna Lau Flynn is artistic director and conductor of Musicáno Fusion Ensemble and director of the *Showcase in Paradise* music education, events management and entertainment studio in Gladesville. She is also currently contracted with Sydney Catholic Schools as their string ensemble conductor and is a professional accompanist for the Sydney Community College Choir.

Classically trained on piano and in singing, Suna also plays the violin and pipa (Chinese lute) in addition to music arranging and conducting.

At age 16, Suna came second in the Formosa (Taiwan) Piano Competition. She later studied music at Fu-Jen Catholic University in Taiwan and performed on TV and talent shows, and she had also taught at the University's piano club and at various private education centres.

Suna has resided in Australia since 2008 and has dedicated herself to community activities: students' recitals, performance art and music pedagogy workshops, attendance at many festivals including the Atherton Music Festival and Chinese New Year Festival Cairns 2018. She founded the Cultural Festival in 2016 and the (renamed) Showcase in Paradise events in 2017, 2018 and 2019. She assumed the role of the secretary of the Queensland Music Teachers Association in early 2019 and moved to Sydney for further career opportunities in late 2019.

In 2017, she met her pipa teacher, ChuYi Zhang and started her journey of fusion music. In 2019 she rearranged the classical "Playing Pipa Behind the Back" with a semi-retired Chinese folk dance master, May Wang, and she can perform the Dun Huang Chinese folk dance while playing the pipa.

Suna is currently also learning *erhu*, a two-stringed Chinese instrument similar to the violin.

Suna was also a finalist in the *Enhancing Women's Empowerment* category in the recent *NSW Women's Contribution Awards* hosted by Resilience Together Association Inc in partnership with Women NSW on 8 March 2023.

HCC on social media

The Chamber is now on social media, including Facebook and Instagram. Please keep up to date with the latest news from Haymarket and give us a follow and like!

JOIN HCC

If you would like to join the Haymarket Chamber of Commerce as a member, or would like to have more information about us, please visit our website at https://haymarketchamber.org.au/

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