

29 OCTOBER 2025

BEANS, BREWS AND HIGH-TECH BATTERIES: MEET NSW'S BEST BUSINESSES

What do a coffee roaster, alpacas and a pharmacy have in common?

They've all taken out top gongs at the Business NSW Awards, held last night in Sydney.

Business NSW CEO Daniel Hunter said the awards celebrated the dedication, resilience and creativity of businesses across every corner of the state.

"Running a business right now isn't easy," Mr Hunter said.

"Costs are up, staff are hard to find, and conditions remain unpredictable. This year's winners have shown what's possible when businesses stay focused and keep adapting.

"Whether it's growing into new markets, finding smarter ways of working, or delivering value to customers every day, these businesses prove that solid decisions and hard work still cut through."

Regional roaster Walcha Coffee won Business of the Year, while Iris Lodge Alpacas topped the field for Excellence in Sustainable Tourism.

Other winners included:

- Sicona Battery Technologies in Wollongong for Excellence in International Business
- Newcastle based SAPHI for Excellence in Small Business; and
- Billabong Zoo in Port Macquarie for Outstanding Visitor Experience.

Mr Hunter said the awards were about giving credit to business owners who were out there "solving problems, creating jobs and building something with long-term value".

NSW Premier Chris Minns, Opposition Leader Mark Speakman and Treasurer Daniel Mookhey also joined the celebrations at the International Convention Centre.

2025 BUSINESS NSW AWARD WINNERS

Business of the Year, [Walcha Coffee](#)

Outstanding Employee, Jessica Pantano [Milk Crate Theatre](#), Sydney

Outstanding Young Business Leader, Pete Morrison [GTT](#), Western NSW

Outstanding Business Leader 20 Employees and Under, Kirsty Evans [Cheney Suthers Lawyers](#), Western NSW

Outstanding Business Leader 21 Employees and Over, Paul Barnett, [Mingara Leisure Group](#), Central Coast

Excellence in International Business, [Sicona Battery Technologies](#), Illawarra

Employer of Choice 20 Employees and Under, [Seton Family Lawyers](#), Central Coast

Employer of Choice 21 Employees and Over, [Allcare Nursing & Community Services](#), Central Coast

Excellence in Innovation, [SAPHI](#), Hunter

Excellence in Sustainability, [Green Gravity](#), Illawarra

Outstanding Community Organisation, [The Community Transport Company](#), Northern Rivers

Outstanding New Business, [Deni SPOT](#), Riverina Murray

Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion, Priceline Pharmacy Albury, Riverina Murray,

Excellence in Micro Business, [Walcha Coffee](#), New England North West

Excellence in Small Business, [SAPHI](#), Hunter

Excellence in Large Business, [Topsoil Organics](#), Western NSW

Outstanding Local Chamber, [Gunnedah Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)

Outstanding Visitor Experience, [Billabong Zoo](#), Mid North Coast,

Outstanding Visitor Economy Collaboration, [Forster Tuncurry Business Chamber Community Partnership](#), Mid North Coast

Outstanding 24-Hour Economy Collaboration, [Lakeside Festival](#), Mid North Coast

Excellence in Sustainable Tourism, [Iris Lodge Alpacas](#), Central Coast

About Business NSW

Formerly the NSW Business Chamber, ***Business NSW*** is the peak policy and advocacy body which has been representing businesses in NSW since 1826. We represent almost 50,000 businesses.

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