

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS is a **Business Wangaratta** initiative to allow the business community to get together socially, once a month, between 6.00pm and 7.30pm, at the premises of a local business. The host business each month also has an opportunity to showcase their business.

“Official business” on the night is to be kept to a minimum though, as these nights are be seen as a social occasion with an opportunity to learn more about other local businesses and a chance to network with other business people. The official speeches are about 10 minutes in length to help everyone know a bit more about the business. Where appropriate, tours of the premises should also be encouraged and this gives an opportunity for additional questions to be answered and more information given to those in the group with a special interest in the host business – this gives the business people who want to socialise with other businesses an opportunity to do so.

Numbers: If space or other constraints are an issue, the host business can nominate the maximum number they can accommodate for the night. Once this number is reached, intending attendees will be told when they RSVP, that the night is fully booked but they will be listed for possible cancellations. The attendance will be on a “first in...” basis.

Any Wangaratta business can volunteer to host a *BUSINESS AFTER HOURS* function. The host business is responsible for supplying food and drinks for the gathering and in return has 10-minutes to deliver a presentation promoting their business. This should cover the history of the business (who/what we are, what we do, staff numbers, plans for the future etc) so that the guests leave with a better understanding of what that business contributes to the overall Wangaratta business environment. But PLEASE stick to the timeframe – we want the accent to be on socialising.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Business Wangaratta: We will promote the event, through advertising on EDGE FM, The Wangaratta Chronicle and emails to our members & database. We will designate an MC for the night who will introduce your nominated speaker/presenter to give your business spiel. For catering reasons, attendees will be asked to RSVP to Business Wangaratta and the host business will have an indication of the expected attendance several days before the event.

Host Business: The host business provides beer, wine and soft drink, glasses, plates/serviettes and finger food. Because of the time of night, some attendees will treat this as their evening meal, so the choice of food supplied should keep this in mind. The drinks should be available when attendees arrive and food should follow during the rest of the evening. Some businesses spend a lot – others a little – the choice is yours. But hopefully the cost should not be too high in return for the good PR you are generating for your business.

Further info: For further information please contact our ***BUSINESS AFTER HOURS*** organisers, Mary Vescio (0412 662 878) or Business Wangaratta Administration Officer, Malcolm Bradbury (03 5721 2690).