



MEDIA RELEASE

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Hastings Co-op: More important than ever to shop local

Give the gift of supporting the local economy this Christmas. That's the message from Hastings Co-op chief executive officer Allan Gordon.

"To keep Wauchope growing from strength to strength, and minimise any impact of the CBD improvement work, we need to keep Christmas dollars in Wauchope and outlying areas," he said.

"We're spoiled for choice when it comes to gift ideas, eateries and attractions, so you don't have to look far."

November, December and January are traditionally the busiest months of the year for many local businesses, especially the community-owned Hastings Co-op, which now has 15 businesses and employs 300 people across the Hastings and Camden Haven.

"Backing the local business community is one way we can ensure the engine room of our economy keeps running," Mr Gordon said.

"As a result, you'll be helping local employment and enjoy the customer service Wauchope is renowned for.

"Given the ongoing CBD works, it's more important than ever that we shop local and support one another during the festive season.

"The beauty of buying from independent and locally-owned businesses is you're sure to find something unique that's difficult to find online or anywhere else."

It's estimated that for every \$100 spent at an independently-owned business, approximately \$73 stays local, as business owners employ local people and purchase products and services from other local businesses.

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