

OCTOBER 2021 EDITION

- Update from Sam
- JOB ALERT: Gap year student
- ServiceNSW mouse control rebate
- JobSaver & micro-business grant reporting requirements
- FAQ: When is my tax return due?
- Text messaging service



This month's photo is from Andrew P.

UPDATE FROM SAM

What does inflation look like?

Most of us have never experienced significant inflation. The Consumer Price Index (measure of inflation) has been steady at around 2% for the last 10 years.

Interest rates have been trending seriously low for the last 10 years.

Over the same period the RBA's target cash rate (measure of interest rates) has decreased from around 4% to 0.1%. Governments around the world have been pumping huge amounts of cash into the economy to steady the effects of lockdowns. An economics textbook will tell you that low interest rates generate inflation. When I watch the national news there is little mention of inflation, however it seems to be there. The average national house price is around \$950k! Last night I ordered a takeaway Chinese dinner for my family of 5 at a cost of \$85 (3 of the meals were kids chicken nuggets and chips!). I'm sure the same meal was cheaper a few years ago.

Farmers are making record sales for the commodities they produce, especially beef. At the same time there have been significant price rises for inputs including fertiliser and glyphosate. Rural land prices are also breaking records.

A period of serious inflation will create opportunities and wealth for some and will leave others behind. The same economics textbook will tell you real-estate, precious metals and some shares will move with inflation. However, an increase in inflation should be matched with an increase in interest rates. This can make holding those same inflation hedges more expensive.

An increase in inflation and a tightening of lending will do nothing for wealth inequality. It will be a very tricky issue for government to manage.

It's going to be interesting to watch the inflation/interest rate cycle play out over the next few years.



TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE

We would like to remind clients that we do use a text messaging service for appointment notifications.

We also use our text messaging service for annual company statement debt reminders which allow for you to pay any outstanding amounts from your phone.

If you are unsure if you have received a message from us or spam, please contact the office and we can assist.



DID YOU KNOW?

We keep our social media up to date in between our monthly newsletters with software tips and important updates. Be sure to like and follow our pages.

@martelwheatley



JOBSAVER & MICROBUSINESS GRANT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

If your business currently receives payments under the NSW JobSaver or Micro-business Grant schemes, you will now need to reconfirm your eligibility each fortnight to continue receiving payments.

What needs to be confirmed?

Each fortnight, your business will need to reconfirm that it:

- Continues to experience a decline in turnover of 30% or more; and
- Has maintained employee headcount stated in the application. Note that if your headcount changes, you are obliged to notify ServiceNSW.

Measuring decline in turnover

There are two main approaches to validate your decline in turnover depending on whether the business has traded during the relevant fortnight:

If your business was not trading during the relevant fortnight

There is no requirement to perform a decline in turnover calculation. You can simply select 'yes' on the confirmation screen to indicate that your business has continued to experience a decline in turnover of at least 30%.

If your business was trading during the relevant fortnight

You will need to determine if your business continues to meet the 30% or more decline in turnover eligibility criteria. There are three potential methods you can use but whichever method you use, you will need to use the same method for each subsequent fortnight.

Method 1 - 2019 or 2020 comparison period using testing period fortnight

If your initial comparison period was in 2019 or 2020, then you can use the same year but adjust the comparison period to match the current fortnight being tested.

Method 2 - 2019 or 2020 comparison period using original testing period

If the initial comparison period was in 2019 or 2020, then you can use the same year and comparison period that you used in your original application.

Method 3 - 12 June 25 June comparison period

If 12 June to 25 June 2021 was used as your initial comparison period, then you must use the same period as your initial application when reconfirming eligibility.

ServiceNSW states that you will not need to provide any additional evidence or attach any documentation when reconfirming your eligibility. However, it is essential that you maintain adequate records to show evidence of your eligibility in the event of an audit.

If you require any assistance with these calculations, please contact the office on 02 6813 0799.



JOB ALERT: GAP YEAR STUDENT

We are on the lookout for a gap year student to commence with Martel Wheatley in 2022. This position is for a student who will have completed their HSC in 2021 and is interested in a gap year role (with the opportunity to extend). No experience is necessary as we provide all training on the job.

The successful applicant will be immersed in the world of accounting and tax from the first day, completing tax returns, activity statements and assisting with front of house duties. They can expect weekly training with morning tea (hopefully after lockdown) and monthly social club lunches.

If you know anyone who is just about to commence their HSC and is looking for a gap year role in Dubbo, please pass on our details. A formal job advertisement will be made after the HSC concludes but we are happy to meet with students at any time.



FAQ: WHEN IS MY TAX RETURN DUE?

If you choose to lodge your own income tax return through MyGov or another online service, your return is due 31 October 2021. However, by choosing to lodge your return with us, your return will not be due until 16 May 2022.

When you got skin in the game,
you stay in the game
But you don't get a win unless you
play in the game
Oh, you get love for it. You get hate
for it
You get nothing if you...
Wait for it, wait for it, wait!

MOUSE CONTROL REBATE

The Service NSW mouse rebate for households is still available! Households can receive up to \$500. It is very easy to claim. Simply log in to your Service NSW account, enter your address and upload receipts and/or proof of address. Alternatively, you can apply in person at a Service NSW branch.

The rebate has no listed closing date so be sure to apply if you are eligible.