

SPAR Australia

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PRESS RELEASE

SPAR Launches New Store at Bermagui

SPAR Australia is proud to announce the launch of SPAR Bermagui on the South Coast of NSW. Owned by Wayne Harrison, SPAR Bermagui is a local community store who converted from IGA to SPAR to better benefit the local community and take advantage of the internationally renowned SPAR brand. SPAR provides greater assistance in working together with Wayne to ensure the success of his family business.

Born and bred in Moruya, Wayne has a strong background in independent supermarkets. His vast experience sees him being a respected Retailer in the industry. Wayne left school when he was just 14 years of age to commence his career working in an independent supermarket in Moruya. From this early start in retailing, Wayne progressed on to managing the liquor department when he was 18 and becoming Assistant Manager at 20. At 23 years of age Wayne's future in independent retailing was solidified when he moved to Tumut to become a Store Manager.

From these solid foundations, Wayne started his own business in Bermagui in 1999 and moved to Canberra to open another store in 2003 in partnership with another family. Since then Wayne has owned two other IGA stores in Waterloo and Rozelle in Sydney before exiting these stores to join SPAR. Even though Wayne now resides in Sydney, the success of his Bermagui store is paramount to Wayne due to his local upbringing and still having family in the area. Wayne's understanding of the needs of the local community is momentous, hence his desire for the freedom to cater to these requirements.

When asked why he converted to SPAR, Wayne advised it was "to be an Independent Grocer again as I have not felt like one for a long time under the previous supplier and banner. Also joining a truly independent warehouse that is family owned and run with a wealth of experience and understanding is what being independent really means".

Changing brands and suppliers is not all that Wayne has planned to continue to evolve to better serve his local community. In 2012, he will be extending the store to meet the needs of his customers and to grow the range. Wayne says "We will continue what we have done for the past 12 years, but will be better placed to offer a better range and better promotions under the SPAR brand and this will only improve again following the extensions. We have supported the community since we opened and will be strengthened to do more by working with SPAR Australia".

Given Wayne's strong background in independent FMGC retailing, and his position as a respected Retailer, SPAR Australia is excited that Wayne has joined the SPAR brand.

With a focus on providing exceptional customer service, SPAR Bermagui provides a comprehensive offer with an extensive range of groceries, fresh produce and fresh meat. It also boasts a great range of local products such as South Coast Cheeses.

SPAR Bermagui is located at 26 Lamont Street, Bermagui. This location provides a convenient shopping solution for customers, particularly with ample parking right at the front door. SPAR Bermagui is open from 8am – 6pm, 7 days.

Since December 2010 SPAR Australia has converted 19 Metcash supplied stores to the group and has welcomed another 12 independent retailers to the group. SPAR's business principal of supporting independent retailers through the motto of "family business helping family businesses" is one of the key reasons why Wayne joined the SPAR brand.

Since becoming Managing Director of SPAR Australia in December 2010, Lou Jardin has vowed to continue to provide competition at the wholesale level, ensuring independent Retailers are able to source deals that allow them to compete in the market and ensure the survival of family businesses in the grocery industry.

Locally owned and operated, SPAR Bermagui is part of the worldwide SPAR family. Over 12,139 SPAR stores across 35 countries meet the needs of over 11 million customers daily. At SPAR you can be assured of great service, a great range, low prices every day and specials that will SAVE you money!

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