



## KENNEDY BARNDEN

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Kennedy Barnden is a boutique tax and business advisory firm providing a complete range of services to clients extending from the Central Coast to all over the world. We are proud to be associated with some of the most dynamic and successful business people on the Central Coast.

We have a friendly professional team which has the perfect combination of experience, innovation and energy who strive to provide a customised service.

Our practice works with a range of small to medium private and family businesses, providing a range of tax, accounting and business advisory services. In addition, Kennedy Barnden offers specialist services in Superannuation, Bureau Services (Back Office Solutions), Estate and Succession Planning.

The practice engages professionals with tested ability and knowledge in the SMSF sector. Martyn Kennedy and Tammy Barnden are both SMSF Specialist Advisors and Auditors and can assist with SMSF:

- Establishment
- Administration & Strategy
- Audit
- Taxation
- Pension Administration, and
- Technical advice

**We can provide you with the right knowledge, expertise, service and commitment to help you achieve your financial goals. Let us be part of your financial success.**

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### Something to be thankful for: super property \$500 / \$50 concession

Despite any financial troubles the State Government may be in, there's a fantastic opportunity for self-managed super fund investors.

Transfer NSW commercial property from your name to your super account and the stamp duty is \$500 or even \$50.

This could save you over \$10,000 on a \$325,000 property.

Now is a great time to review your investment strategy to ensure you've got the right mix of assets for your appetite.

You can now put your retirement nest egg in a safe place to enjoy the benefits when you start drawing a pension.

**To see if this opportunity is right for you, contact Courtney on 4324 2988.**

### Something to get you moving: last chance for \$50,000 contributions

The clock is ticking for you to get money into super.

The Federal Government reduced the amount of concessional contributions those over 50 can add to their retirement savings. 30 June 2012 is your last chance to contribute up to \$50,000 from your employer, salary sacrifice, or personal deductions.

From July 2012 everyone is limited to \$25,000 concessional contributions annually.

Hopefully the Government will keep their promise and retain the \$50,000 cap for over-50's with balances under \$500,000. Watch the Budget for updates.

**The clock is ticking, so contact Geoff on 4324 2988.**

### Howes Accounting Services

Are you thinking of going into business, already in business or are you looking to sell your business?

**Do you need help?** • Accounting • Audit • Tax returns (Individuals, Company, Trusts, SMSF, FBT)  
• Business Planning • Business Activity Statements (BAS)

What about your Investment, Superannuation, Wealth Protection and Estate Planning Needs? Why not take advantage of our FREE initial consultation and experience the difference?

**Call 4323 3677 or email [reception@howas.com.au](mailto:reception@howas.com.au)**



H & M Financial Planning Pty Ltd is a division of Howes Accounting Services and a member of Count Financial Ltd AFSL 227232.

### Tax returns are the easy part

If your current accountant is proactive and giving you all the help you want, at a reasonable price, this advertisement is probably not for you.

However, if you want more from your accountant, please contact us to arrange a meeting. No obligation, no cost, just a chat to gain understanding of your situation. Over the past 17 years in Wyong we find that Berkman's clients have more peace of mind and their businesses grow faster.



**Please visit our website [www.berkmans.com.au](http://www.berkmans.com.au) or give us a call on 02 4351 2622**

## Selecting an Accountant

Accounting is the story of a business told in the language of numbers. Some people have a natural understanding of numbers, but it is not something that comes naturally to everyone. Thus, even if you have learned the basics and can prepare your own budgets or monthly financials, it is very possible that you will require an accountant at some point. You might need someone to help you with a budget or cash flow forecast; prepare your tax returns; external financial statements; or provide assistance with a long-term financial plan.

When you decide to hire an accountant, you will want to find someone that you feel comfortable with and whose style is compatible to yours. You are not just looking for someone to take over the accounting – you are looking for someone that will be a key advisor to your business. They will be giving you advice about an area of critical importance – your money. So take care in choosing your accountant.

Here are some suggestions to help you find the right accountant:

1. Determine the general scope of work that you want an accountant to provide to your business. Are you looking for someone to help you keep the books and prepare monthly financials? Are you

looking for an annual audit and periodic advice? Are you looking for someone to prepare your annual tax return and BAS Statements.

2. Ask for referrals from other small business owners or from a local business resource centre. Look for someone that has experience working with small businesses and has provided the type of service that you are seeking.
3. Set up interviews with two or three accountants so you can see which one you are most comfortable with.
4. Keep the interview focused on its purpose, that is, to determine if you are comfortable and have confidence in the accountant. Don't ask for accounting or tax advice during this process, except in the most general sense to see how they communicate their advice.
5. Ask each accountant for two or three references from other small business clients. Contact the references to find out their feelings about how easy it is to work with that accountant.
6. With the information you have gathered, you should be prepared to select the right accountant as an advisor for your business. The following questions should be covered in the interview process:

- What are the primary services that you provide to small businesses?
- Do you have knowledge about my industry or field? If not, ask them to describe whether or not they think this is important for the services they will be providing to you. In some circumstances this experience may not be essential, but in others it will be, so talk this through during the interview process
- How will you be charged for their services? Some accountants will establish a monthly retainer for recurring services such as monthly or quarterly financial statement preparation and charge by the hour for audits and tax returns.
- What can you do to reduce your fees? Listen to the answers you get, and determine if you will be able to keep your accounting costs down using the tips provided.
- As your business grows, how will they be able to help you? Ask them to describe services to other clients that they have. You can learn a lot from an accountant that has helped other small businesses go through growing pains such as changing working capital needs, obtaining financing, raising venture capital or even selling their successful business.

### More than just an accounting service

At Harwood Chartered Accountants, we provide accounting and taxation services to small to medium businesses and individuals on the Central Coast. We also supply a range of auditing services for clients Australia wide as well as SMSF auditing services.

More than just an accounting service, we offer extensive support, business advice and strategy to

help you achieve results and improve your bottom line. As your partners in accounting, taxation, SMSF accounting and business, we deliver fast, reliable service with a proactive and personal touch. If you need help with ATO income tax preparation, Investment property tax return, BAS / IAS preparation or SMSF, then we'd love to hear from you.

**HARWOOD**  
Chartered Accountants

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Scott Elwin (B.COM, CA, REG. TAX AGENT) heads up our Central Coast office. Scott has been providing accounting, taxation and business advice for over twelve years.

## TAXATION SPECIALISTS TO PRIVATE BUSINESS OWNERS

Few people realise the true value of a good accountant who has expertise to anticipate change and plan for economic survival and growth.

The Kelly+Partners philosophy is simple – expert advice that is tailored to the client's unique personal and business circumstances. We promise:

- **Care+Help** – We review your entire financial universe and show you how we can help.
- **No surprises** – Fees in writing, agreed upfront.
- **Forward looking advice** – Our system takes you to your financial goals.
- **Access 24/6** – No 'hoping' your accountant will call you back!

FOR A COMPLIMENTARY TAX REVIEW OF YOUR GROUP, CONTACT SCOTT TODAY TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT.

**KELLY+PARTNERS**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Fastest Growing Firm 2011  
**BFW**  
Top 100 Accounting Firms

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