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## **‘PAW-FECT’ DOG TREAT BUSINESS BOOMS FOR FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD ENTREPRENEUR**

A fifteen-year-old Sunshine Coast entrepreneur has been making waves in his local community with his handmade dog treats and service with a smile – a passion earning him the top shelf at surrounding Sunshine Coast IGAs.

A love for animals led teenager, Ollie Akester, to embark on his own business venture – Ollie’s Dog Treats – offering chicken jerky, peanut butter cookies, blueberry cookies and other pooch-friendly goodies.

Ollie’s business has become an integral part of the Sunshine Coast community with monthly stalls in his community, Harmony by AVID Property Group (AVID), the Mooloolaba Sunset Markets, and now retailing in local IGAs and cafés.

Initially starting out as a hobby, Ollie said he has fast become the Sunny Coasts’ go-to for gourmet dog treats.

“My family first moved into Harmony in 2019 but it wasn’t until 2021 when I started selling dog cookies every Saturday at Harmony’s Grand Linear Park,” Mr Akester said.

“Throughout the years, I have perfected my baking skills and now only make the biscuits and treats which I know are a popular go-to for the locals and their four-legged friends.

“The community has been a great support network, especially Harmony’s Business Hub – an initiative within the community made to connect local business owners and the local community with our products and services.

“I was gifted a Square Reader – for cashless payments for my market stall – by one of the Business Hub members and another member even offered to help me set up my website,” he said.

[Small Business Month](#) in May recognises more than 473,000 small businesses in Queensland, which account for 97 per cent of the business sector and contribute around \$117 billion to the state’s economy.<sup>1</sup>

AVID General Manager Queensland Bruce Harper said AVID’s dedicated team is always looking for ways to engage and support its growing small business community at Harmony.

“A strong community setting helps small businesses prosper through word of mouth and regular customers that further support the economic development of our region,” Mr Harper said.

“People are at the heart of everything we do, and it’s initiatives like Harmony’s Business Hub that allows businesses to learn, grow and succeed through collaboration and innovation.

“Underpinned by AVID’s mission is the importance of strengthening ties with the local community and continuing our goal of fostering lasting connections with local community groups and businesses important to our residents,” he said.

Harmony’s Business Hub offers an online directory for local businesses to introduce and advertise their product or service to more than 700 members. The Hub also hosts monthly networking events at

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<sup>1</sup> [Queensland Government, Business Queensland Small Business Month, 2023](#)

the onsite café, Café Harmony, for the local business owners to connect and network with fellow founders, form collaborations and seek advice.

For more information about Ollie's Dog Treats visit: <https://www.facebook.com/Ollie'sDogTreats>

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### **About Harmony by AVID Property Group**

AVID Property Group's \$3 billion project – Harmony – is strategically located in the heart of the Sunshine Coast and is the largest masterplanned community underway in the Palmview area. Set on 378 hectares, Harmony will deliver more than 4,800 homes for 12,000 future residents, catering to a wide range of buyers – all enhanced by 130 hectares of open space and the future delivery of a more than 30,000 GFA Town Centre. More than 9,000 short-term jobs will be generated through the delivery of the project.

Harmony's design embraces the Sunshine Coast's enviable lifestyle and living at Harmony means it's easy to get around. Harmony is conveniently connected to the Bruce Highway and the Sunshine Coast Motorway, and Mooloolaba is 10km and Maroochydore 14km to the north, the coastline is only 7km to the east, Brisbane is 90km to the south, and the Sunshine Coast hinterland is only 20kms to the west.

For more information, visit [www.harmonyliving.com.au](http://www.harmonyliving.com.au).

### **About AVID Property Group**

AVID Property Group (AVID) is an award-winning Australian builder-developer, responsible for a diversified selection of residential masterplanned communities, completed houses and apartments, with 38 developments, located in key growth areas across Australia's eastern seaboard.

AVID has a proven track record with the delivery of \$5.2 billion worth of projects over the past 16 years. AVID's current portfolio will see the delivery of 15,000 blocks with a gross revenue pipeline of \$4.9 billion.

With a strong record of delivering connected and vibrant communities, AVID and its subsidiaries have created great homes and places for more than 75,000 Australians to live out their dream lifestyle.

Led by highly experienced senior management, AVID brings people together to deliver exceptional communities, valuable shareholder returns and thriving environments for its customers.

For more information, visit [www.avid.com.au](http://www.avid.com.au)

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