



THE JAM EXCHANGE 2026

Event Program | 5 October 2026 | Bowral NSW

9:00am – 2:00pm, Monday 5 October 2026
Bowral Public School, Southern Highlands NSW

What's included with your entry:

Free access to the JAM Marketplace, live music, producer tastings, and the opportunity to meet makers, growers and artisans from across NSW. Jam Swap participants receive access to the swap experience, competition entry (optional), and curated event programming.

The Six Important Things to Bring (Jam Swap Participants)

1. Your ticket or registration confirmation
2. A valid form of ID
3. A signed copy of the Jam Exchange Event Rules
4. Six (6) jars of jam (250–300ml each, sealed and labelled)
5. A label for each jar (including jam name, ingredients and allergens)
6. A small serving spoon or utensil (optional but encouraged)

Event Timing

9:00am: Event Opens

The JAM Marketplace opens to the public.

Live music begins.

Jam Swap registration desk opens.

Guests arrive, browse stalls, enjoy coffee and food offerings.

10:00am – 11:00am: Jam Swap Registration & Drop-Off

Jam Swap participants check in and submit their six jars.

All jars are recorded, sorted and prepared for exchange and competition.

⚠️ Please note: Participants must have all required items to participate. No late entries will be accepted after registration closes.

11:00am: Official Welcome

Event welcome and overview delivered via microphone.
Explanation of Jam Swap process, judging and event flow.
Judges arrive and prepare for blind tasting of finalists.

11:00am – 11:30am: Judging Period

Top entries are assessed for:

- **Best in Show** (flavour, creativity, quality)
- **Best Jam Story** (origin, narrative, connection to place)

11:30am: Winners Announced

Judges announce winners on stage.
Recognition of makers and storytelling behind winning jars.

11:30am – 12:00pm: People's Choice Voting

Guests vote for their favourite jam.
Voting open for 15 minutes.

12:00pm: People's Choice Winner Announced

Jam Swap concludes.
Participants collect exchanged jars and rejoin the broader marketplace.

12:00pm – 2:00pm: Marketplace & Social Experience

Guests continue to:

- Meet stallholders and producers
- Purchase jams and local goods
- Enjoy food, coffee and live music
- Engage with makers and stories

2:00pm: Event Closes to Public

Marketplace concludes and guests depart.

Jam Guidelines (Participant Expectations)

- Jars must be **homemade preserves using food-safe ingredients**
- Each jar must be **clearly labelled**
- Focus on **quality, flavour and creativity**
- This is a jam-focused event — no chutneys, sauces or unrelated products in swap
- Participants are encouraged to bring something they are proud to share

The Experience

The Jam Exchange is not just a market — it is a celebration of **seasonality, creativity and connection** in NSW