

President's Notes – November 2019

I had an interesting day yesterday as I was Master of Ceremonies at the UTAS Small Business Symposium. From international award-winning gin distiller George Burgess to Andrew Davies from Taz Drone talking of swarms of drones being controlled by one person and augmented reality to amazing high-tech being used in the dairy industry it was a very interesting event - the forerunner of what I expect to be an annual event held on all three campuses. Well done to UTas for developing the concept and delivering a great day.

This year's TCCI Tasmania report will be something different. Unfortunately, Saul Eslake is unable to deliver the report this year so Chris Richardson renowned economist and partner at the Deloittes will be providing the report at breakfast in Hobart and lunch in Launceston. Unfortunately, Chris cannot stay in Tasmania for dinner, so we are going to participate in the breakfast via a Skype telecast. That is on Monday, December 2nd at Wellers Inn and takes the place of the breakfast that we had planned for that week.

It is great to welcome our new Gold Sponsor, Knight Frank represented by Nick Bond. Knight Frank – a leader in commercial real estate in the region was formerly a Bronze Sponsor but decided to upgrade their level and join Hays which signed on last month as a Gold Sponsor.

We have recently completed our second training course of our Regional Employment Trial. Five of the participants in the two courses now have full time employment. The third and fourth courses will be provided from February to the end of April next year.

We are holding a Christmas event at Wellers on Thursday, November 28th starting at 6.00pm; everybody is welcome to attend and bring partners and or guests - there is no charge for the event – BNW will provide some finger food and drinks will be at bar prices. Why not come along and celebrate the enormous year we have had?

The Burnie Excellence Awards were held recently at the Arts & Function Centre. Around 100 people attended, and an enjoyable time was had by all. Congratulations to BNW members Northwest Cleaning, Trent Aitken, Bobby Eaves and Sargent's for winning awards. My special thanks and appreciation to Rebecca (Bec) Luck, Giovanni Simpson and Michael Cannon for the amazing amount of work they put into organising and running the event.

Thanks also go to 7BU/SeaFM for their naming rights sponsorship of the event and financial assistance given by Burnie City Council and Matrix Security as major sponsors.

Also, our gratitude to Roger Jaensch, Joan Rylah, Gavin Pearce, Kelly's Waste Management, Anita Dow, WIN Network, Burnie Airport and Zenith Wealth for sponsoring awards on the night. We learnt some valuable lessons along the way and will make next year's event even bigger and even better.

This week's networking breakfast features Professor Jim Cavaye the new Pro Vice-Chancellor at UTAS Cradle Coast campus. Jim comes from rural Queensland and has previously lectured at the Burnie campus so he's very familiar with the Cradle Coast. He is a keen admirer of the region and has settled into a house in Penguin. He will be speaking to us on *how UTAS will work with business in the region*. A highly intelligent and articulate man I recommend this event to you.

Burnie City Council will be providing one-hour free parking in the multi-storey carpark from December 14th to the 31st. Get the message out to your customers so they can spend a bit more time in your business this festive season.

Many are already in countdown mode to Christmas and I expect it will only get worse the closer we get. The Burnie Christmas Parade is on Friday 13th (a bit ominous!) and if you can volunteer to help please let me know. Our last general meeting for 2019 is December 18 – why not join us for a meal after the meeting to farewell the year.

Until next month.

best regards



Ian Jones – President

