

JANUARY 2020 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year and welcome to 2020!

Our activities have been somewhat diminished in the last few weeks because of the holiday season but we are now back on track and looking forward to a great year.

The last few weeks have seen devastating bushfires on the mainland and our fire season is still to come. We also nearly saw the start of WW3 with tensions in Iran and the terrible accidental shooting down of the Ukrainian airliner.

These events could have a dramatic impact upon our businesses and our community in coming months. The drought and the bushfires have devastated farming communities in several states so one can expect that we will see price rises in beef and lamb with 9% and 12% of the national herd lost in recent weeks. Wine crops in at least two states may also be seriously affected. The tensions in the Middle East also have the potential to impact upon the price of oil and therefore the cost of fuel for Australians which will drive up the cost of doing business through more expensive logistics.

On a local level we will be re-commencing our employability training courses in early February and also planning the release of the videos we made under project Hercules.

The announcement at our last meeting of the partnership with Burnie City Council to form the retail promotions group will be finalised in coming weeks. Our first event will be a sidewalk sale on Saturday, February 1st and is well in the planning stage - the event coincides with a visit by the *Queen Elizabeth* with around 3000 passengers so with good weather the CBD will be bustling. February will be very busy with a dozen ships visiting. [Full season schedule](#)

Our breakfast networking sessions will recommence in early February and I hope to announce a list of speakers in the next week or so. A lot of effort goes into the organising and execution of these events so we would like to see more folk attending - please try and bring a friend or a work colleague as the sessions are very informative and provide great networking opportunities.

We will be conducting a survey in the next few weeks about the type of events we conduct and what you want us to provide – I hope you make the effort to respond when it is released.

I want us to build on the momentum we created last year but need your feedback and support as to what services you would like us to provide and the types of events you want us to conduct. Please call me or email me if you have input.

I hope to catch up with you in the near future.

Until next month..... Ian

Ian Jones

President

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