

October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – October 2021**

We had a big week last week – you may have seen an article we had in The Advocate on Friday about the announcement of a \$400K federal government grant we have received to create the Table Cape Lightshow Experience. We are putting a large shipping container adjacent to the lighthouse and inside that we will be creating a high tech, immersive lightshow that will simulate things like you flying over fields of tulips or hovering over the cliff tops like a bird. The other half of the container will have interactive screens showing interpretative information on local agriculture, indigenous activity, the maritime history and other subjects.

The other component of the experience will be a projection mapped story beamed onto the side of the lighthouse each night in the main tourist season. This will be produced by local digital artists in conjunction with our friends at *Ten Days on the Island*. We are hoping to be able to go live by May next year – there are a lot of logistics to be worked through and we are working closely with the Parks and Wildlife people. Also last week Waratah Wynyard Council had funding approved to improve the parking on the site and enhance the track - so it's all coming together very nicely for us to make the Table Cape Lighthouse an iconic attraction. I thank West by North West for their ongoing support.

Last week I started negotiations with the Department of Education, Skills and Employment to finalise our grant to supply employability training services, a continuation of the *Helping Burnie Work* program. We will receive funding (\$119,000) to conduct four courses to train 32 long term unemployed people in the soft skills required to get a job and keep it. We will be providing three weeks of classroom training followed by a minimum one week of work experience plus ongoing mentoring. I will be asking local businesses who can host one of these trainees for a week or more to call me.

Our Breakfast Networking Sessions continue to attract excellent attendance and it was great to hear from TasTAFE CEO Grant Dreher on how he plans to turn around his organisation. A strong TAFE is critical for the economy of our region. I met with the Chair of TasTAFE and other Board members on Thursday to assure them of our support and I acknowledge their commitment to supporting Grant in his endeavours.

This week we have Grant Ollington, the GM from Zezt Pty Ltd speaking to us about *The Evolution of Zezt* – a former local company now owned by Aliaxis, a multi-national company based in Belgium.

We have completed our move to Shop 2 of Plaza Arcade at the Wilson St end next to the health food store. Drop in and say hello – we have good facilities and it’s less of a “fish bowl” than our previous location. Continuing with our goal of bringing art to the masses we have some interesting pieces in the windows and on the walls there.

Another project making good progress is the installation of live camera feeds from the Burnie Penguin Centre - Justin McErlain has done great work to get a camera into the actual burrow of one of the pairs – you can [view the site here](#).

If you have questions regarding any of the information in this report, please do not hesitate to call me or attend our General Meeting at the Burnie RSL Club this Wednesday commencing at 6pm.

Best regards



**Ian Jones** – President

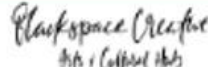
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