

OCTOBER 2019 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We have commenced our second employability training course of the *Help Burnie Work* project. We have 10 people enrolled and the project is progressing well at this stage. Two weeks ago, I met with Erin Rule the State Manager of the Department of Jobs and Small Business to give her a debrief on our first training course. The local program facilitator James McCormack was also in attendance, and they are very pleased with our results so far.

The current course will conclude in three week's time and another six-week course will commence immediately. It will be followed by the final course to commence around mid-January.

Our *Hercules* project is close to completion with all six videos having been delivered to the Director of Policy and Coordination at the Department of State Growth. We will be producing a 30 second snapshot of the videos that will be used as a teaser on the Department of State Growth website. The videos will be put on our website and be circulated to other chambers, government departments, Cradle Coast Authority plus several large employers/manufacturers in the region to assist them in their personnel recruitment campaigns. A final report to the DoSG will be sent in November.

Planning for the *Burnie Excellence Awards* is well underway with window posters having been produced last week that will be distributed around the CBD area in the next few days plus voting boxes will be located in several locations in the CBD area.

Thanks to Rebecca (Bec) Luck and Michael Cannon for their solid work in getting us to this stage; plus Debbie King and 7BU for distributing voting boxes and posters this week. Radio advertisements promoting the event and the voting will be created this week and hopefully on air by the end of the week. Don't forget the event is on November 9th at the Burnie Arts and Function Centre. Please make it a successful event by voting in the many categories available and also attending on the night. Ticket sales will be available on Burnie Tickets in the next few days.

I recently attended the launch of *Burnie Shines* and they have a massive line-up of events over the month of October. There is another *Bite n Brew* in the area between the art gallery and museum this Friday night from 5 to 10 pm. It's only \$5 to enter and there will be a big range of food and beverages available plus the Coachmen will be appearing on the Mona FOMO stage.

A big welcome to the new Pro Vice Chancellor for UTAS Cradle Coast campus, Professor Jim Cavaye. Jim and his wife have settled into a house in Penguin and are enjoying their

move from Queensland. I met with Jim today and we are planning to have a small welcome celebration in the very near future.

We will be working with UTAS to conduct a small business symposium in Burnie on the 18th of November from noon to around 7 pm. The program will be structured around four key areas

1. achieving your goals
2. leveraging your brand
3. productivity
4. profitability digital change and its impact on business

A mix of presenters from business and other organisations will talk to these topics - more details in coming weeks.

Last week I met with Rodney Greene and David Pease of the city council to further discuss the CBD promotions group. We are working together to create an event calendar and supporting actions to present to council next month. We have identified several important functions, initiatives and events that we need to work together on to help build the image of our city, and especially the CBD area.

Later this week I will be meeting with executives from TasNetworks to get an introductory briefing on the *Marinus* link and supporting northwest transmission upgrades. It will also be an opportunity for us to receive the workforce data TasNetworks has assembled to date and discuss how we can engage with them as the project progresses.

Until next month.....

Ian Jones

President

