

June 14th, 2022

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – June 2022

Australia has a new government in Canberra, and they are busy already, especially with the energy crisis which seems to affect the mainland more than us. Minister for Climate Change and Energy Chris Bowen has affirmed his support of Project Marinus which is really good news for the region as it will unlock the massive windfarm at Robbins Island and the Battery of the Nation project at Lake Cethana and make energy one of our major export commodities in the next ten years.

I congratulate Gavin Pearce on being re-elected in Braddon and earning a spot as Shadow Assistant Minister for Health, Aged Care and Indigenous Health Services. I also extended my congratulations to Senator Anne Urquhart on her re-election at a meeting late last week. I also congratulate Senator Jonno Duniam being appointed Shadow Minister for the Environment, Fisheries and Forestry.

The highlight of last month was the State Budget Roadshow dinner we held at the BAFC with Treasurer Ferguson and Premier Rockliff joining over 80 guests for a great three course meal. TCCI CEO Michael Bailey chaired a panel discussion with the Treasurer and Premier who were asked a range of questions about the previous day's budget. The evening was an outstanding success and council staff at the BAFC did a great job and provided an excellent meal.

Another highlight was the visit to Burnie by Her Excellency the Governor Barbara Baker who was accompanied by her husband Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers. Justin McErlain, Cyndia Hilliger and I presented an overview of our *Burnie 2.0* project which was very well received.

We have finalised our second *Helping Burnie Work* program. Once again we have enjoyed good success and placed long term unemployed people into permanent work and I thank those members who have employed some of our trainees. Not only does this significantly benefit the economy as we transform tax receivers into tax payers but helps rebuild lives - I am very proud that we are responsible for helping change peoples lives through this program. Due to the changeover of the federal contract, we were unable to attract sufficient participants for the final course so had to cancel it and rework our contract with DESE. We reached an amicable agreement and I believe are in a strong position to secure a contract for the 2022/23 program – a decision on this is expected next week.

Our breakfast sessions continue to attract good speakers and good attendance (36). Last week, *Ellis Richmond* CEO Jess Richmond gave a great presentation on sustainability and carbon accounting and used Waterfront Wynyard Motel as a case study. *Ellis Richmond* has grown from 2 people a year ago to 19 now – phenomenal growth and it wont stop there as sustainability is the buzzword now; and as we saw in the election, emissions and climate management played a major part in the demise of the Coalition.

Our breakfast next week features Chris Catlin of *Safe Shore*. Chris will be presenting on cybersecurity threats and the title of his presentation is "When will your business be hacked? It's not if but when...". You need to be able to recognise threats and prevent them from infiltrating your business. These people are not just hackers in their parent's basement – they are large international networks focussed on scamming businesses - they don't target you they target everyone. Chris will tell us of the latest cyberthreats and how you can better protect your business.

In early July we will be hearing from the TasRail senior execs regarding strategic plans for the state's rail network and the development of the new ore loader at Burnie Port.

Our project at Table Cape continues to run into obstacles from Tasmania Parks & Wildlife Services. We have been forced to reduce the project to jut the projections on the lighthouse and we will redeploy the other attractions to another venue/site. The lighthouse show will still be spectacular but due to the bureaucracy of PWS will not reach the levels we had planned. We are working with Austrade to ensure that we can still add value to the tourism industry via the grant afforded to us.

Business Tasmania is conducting a survey to shape The Business Growth Strategy 2022-26. I urge you to do the [online survey](#) or attend the [session in Ulverstone](#) on June 29th.

I will be holding our June General Meeting at the RSL Club at 6pm this Wednesday 15/06 and hope you are able to join us.

Best regards



Ian Jones – President

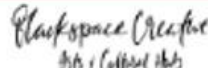
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