

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – 15th JULY 2026

Last month, I wrote of the war being over – today it's back on again, and the US may be charging "passage fees" for ships in the Strait of Hormuz. Oil prices are going back up so it's like a scene from *Groundhog Day*.



Burnie Council GM Shane Crawford provided an excellent budget briefing to a sold-out crowd at breakfast last week. The rate rise of 3.95% is under the inflation rate, and there is a good mix of "spend" on capital works for the year. The budget forecast for the next few years looks good, and hopefully some funds can be released for property acquisitions to help expand the city. Mayor Brumby provided an excellent overview of what is actually happening now in Burnie – a long list of projects injecting tens of millions into the local economy.

At our Exec meeting last month, the topic of youth behaviour on Wynyard was discussed and it was resolved that Chloe Foster would lead an initiative to host a community forum to discuss the issue and generate some solutions. Given a very short timeframe, Chloe was able to hold a forum at the Yacht Club that attracted around 100 concerned community members including Government and Opposition politicians, Councillors, TasPol and several active community groups. The meeting has resulted in a FREE Engaging With Young People Seminar by Will Smith OAM, of [JCP Youth](#), on July 29th, in Wynyard! This is a great start – well done Chloe, Giovanna, Cyndia and Justin in executing such a successful event.



The *Permission to Trespass* festival got off to a great start last week with an outstanding *Gather & Glow Night Market* event in Wynyard followed by the *Moonlight Stories* projection onto Table Cape lighthouse, which is now in its fourth year – unfortunately, bad weather caused the cancellation of last weekend's showing, but a catch-up showing will occur this coming Sunday.

One of our longtime sponsors, Peter Mancell of Mancell Financial Group, has recently retired from a 40+ year career in financial services based in Burnie. Peter came to Burnie as a cricketer and never left. He has grown his business to employ over 20 people and provides valuable wealth management services to many Tasmanians. I spoke with Peter today and he and wife Leonie plan to do lots of travelling, starting with a trip to the mainland followed up by some time in Europe. We thank Peter for his support over the years and wish him a happy retirement. Michael Rowland has purchased the business, and we wish him continued success.





I am looking forward to our lunch this Friday – we have the federal Minister for Employment & Workplace Relations Amanda Rishworth MP. The Minister will be attending a community forum on the Australian Government’s Employment Services Reform in the morning before lunch at 12:30. There is a handful of tickets left for the lunch – see cradletickets.com for details.

Dates to be remembered

The financial year is now over and all the books are being balanced for our AGM on September 16th at 7:00pm following our normal meeting at 6pm. All members are welcome to both meetings.

BNW is hosting a council candidates forum at Burnie Arts on September 30th at 5:30pm – hopefully all candidates will attend and introduce themselves and answer questions regarding their experience and policies.

Give your business a voice! All businesses in Burnie and Wynyard are entitled to vote in council elections providing they have registered to do so on the General Manager’s Roll. This can be accessed on Burnie Council’s website, or feel free to call me on *1300 BURNIE* if you need assistance.

Best regards



Ian Jones – President

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