

FOUNDATION BROKEN HILL

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A newsletter for stakeholders

Issue 19

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Farewell Vince: BH thanks you

At last month's AGM, the Foundation reluctantly said 'thank you and farewell' to its pioneering Chairman of more than 20 years. Vince Gauci stepped down from the role and resigned his position on the Board to pass his baton to Director John Lynch OAM, with the unanimous endorsement of other Board members.

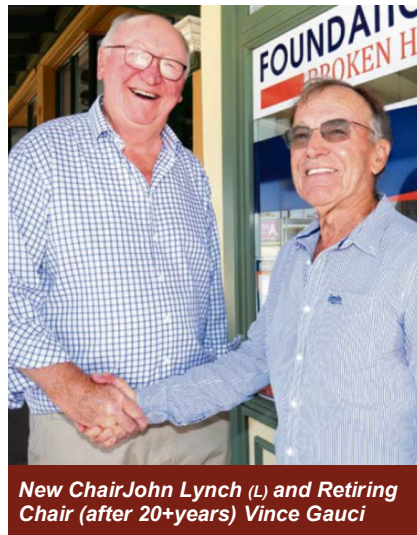
Vince led the Foundation to phenomenal success, building seed funding of \$0.5million to more than \$2.5million and contributing more than \$1.2million back into the regional community.

There is obviously some sadness attached to Vince's decision and it certainly wasn't made lightly – or quickly. Succession planning has been an agenda item at Foundation meetings for more than 18 months.

"I feel the time is now right," says Vince. "We have moved through establishment and development into a position of sustainability and we had a perfect candidate ready to step into the role."

That 'perfect candidate' is John Lynch. John was an early Foundation Director (2002-2010) and, after a sabbatical of eight years while he worked in Adelaide as CEO of the RFDS Central Operations, re-joined the Foundation Board in 2018.

"Broken Hill provided many opportunities for me, my wife Anita and our two sons. We are all eager to 'give back' and I look forward to guiding the Foundation's work in 2021," John says. "We have a fantastic team to do it."



New Chair John Lynch (L) and Retiring Chair (after 20+years) Vince Gauci

Deductible donations begin to come in

The April 2019 announcement that Foundation Broken Hill had been specifically listed in the Federal Government's mid-year budget for DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) status had us all excited—Board Directors and potential donors. But then there was some delay while the Budget passed through both Houses of Parliament and further waiting while the finer details were sorted—including our claim that the designated fixed-time limit should extend the full five years to 30 June 2025.

We are delighted that everything has been finalised and tax deductible donations have begun to come in.

Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Blainey—who was keynote speaker at the Foundation's launch in 1999—has sent in \$2,500 for our Capital Fund; Morgans stockbrokers (one of four investment funds we use) has committed \$25,000 (\$5,000 a year for five years); and the most recent was a \$100 donation from Hobbies & Electronics in appreciation of our help during our BDT support project. Our new DGR status will be a big part of our marketing strategy for 2021 and will add to our credibility when advocating on behalf of Broken Hill. ■



Diary Dates:

- Foundation Broken Hill's offices at 164 Argent will be closed for the period Weds 23 December 2020 until Mon 25 January 2021.
- For any urgent business please email us as per contact details above.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Tues 9 February 2021.

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Donations work for Broken Hill in perpetuity

More farewells, with thanks

Meanwhile, two other long-term Directors retired from the Foundation Board at last month's AGM.

Paul Edwards has been a highly valued Director for more than 13 years and, apart from the usual duties of the role, has often taken on the task of mentoring clients (either at start-up or when difficulties arose); advocating on behalf of the Foundation and the Broken Hill community with all tiers of government; and will long be remembered for his work preparing the submission which ultimately scored the \$2.5million NSW Government grant to upgrade the Jubilee Oval facilities.

Paul is relocating interstate and the pressures of his work as an Employee Relations Consultant will no longer allow the significant commitment of time to the Foundation.



Retiring Directors Paul Edwards (L) (who joined in 2007) and Paul Keady (who joined in 2011)

Paul Keady felt, after 10 years, it was time for another 'fresh mind' to meet our succession strategy. Paul chaired the inaugural Governance Committee to ensure the Foundation always behaved appropriately and, as a parting gesture, prepared formal Terms of Reference for each of our committees—Finance, Governance, DGR and Marketing.

Thanks guys, for your consistent, active and valuable contribution to us—and to Broken Hill. ■

Congratulations YourWay

YourWay Coatings is the most recent of our project clients to complete repayment of its interest-free start-up loan.



A decorative and safe upgrade to a tired outdoor area from YourWay Coatings

Back in October 2017, Boyd and Danielle Keenan applied to the Foundation for help in turning Boyd's part-time job into a fully fledged business.

That has been well-achieved. Not only is Boyd now flat out working full time, he has employed an apprentice. Local residents, businesses and organisations have been able to access a previously unavailable resin based coating (which has diversified from floors to tables, benches, planters and other objects) and the business has repaid its support so the funds can recycle into another Foundation project.

Well done Boyd and Danielle!

Check out YourWay Coatings at <https://www.yourwaycoatings.com> or browse the many reviews and photos on Facebook. ■

A word from the Chair...

I may have it all over Vince in terms of height, but he has left behind some pretty big shoes to fill. It's a task I will approach with vigour.

While 2020 has been challenging for most, for the Foundation it has been a year of renewal and 'busyness' unsurpassed. A number of opportunities has been flagged for the region's future and we have made sure we spoke to all of them—inviting them successively along to our meetings so we could better understand their proposals and they could better understand the Foundation.

A big 'thank you' to all our Directors. To accomplish these connections we met fortnightly (and, at times weekly)—which, for volunteers, was an enormous task in the midst of busy lives. We are hopeful that contribution will bring big dividends.

One has already been achieved, with a unique forum last month which brought all together at the one time to discuss their needs and aspirations. We'll keep you updated as things progress—there's big potential in job numbers, both in construction and ongoing operations.

Stay safe and happy in the Christmas period. ■



John Lynch OAM, Chair Foundation Broken Hill

News in Brief...

Now at 164 Argent St

- ◆ Did you notice our change in address?
- ◆ We're now at **164 Argent St**, in the former Chamber of Commerce building, which was gifted to us upon the Chamber's closure. It's now a working asset for us, with no rent to pay after a five-year lease with the Trades Hall Trust expired in June.
- ◆ Some minor renovations still to go, but we're in and functioning.

50+ businesses in our BDT project

- ◆ More than 50 local businesses benefited from our project to support the BDT avoid closure.
- ◆ The Foundation paid for a display ad for these businesses at a time when Covid-19 meant they were unable to fund it themselves.
- ◆ Significant extra work for Gayle (well done) but four-way benefits—the BDT received \$25,000 in much needed revenue; the businesses could promote their changes to meet pandemic restrictions; the community was kept informed; and the Foundation made contact with a whole new audience.
- ◆ Our thanks to the BDT advertising team who did an exceptional job creating the ads.

Quality in our youth

- ◆ We recently advertised for an Administration Trainee in response to the Commonwealth's new training subsidies.
- ◆ Applications have been amazing—both in number and quality. An extremely difficult task now for the team of Directors working on the selection process.

Meet the Board: Michael

Local businessman Michael McIvor joined the Foundation Board at last month's AGM with unanimous endorsement from other Directors.

Michael is the Owner/Operator of *Experience Broken Hill* and has attended recent Foundation meetings as an observer and advisor on local tourism issues.

Michael and his family relocated to Broken Hill from Geelong in 2010 when they purchased the *Broken Hill Tourist Park* and has since added the *Sturt Motel* and *Away Tours Broken Hill* to his portfolio.

Michael has worked in the caravan and camping industry for 15 years and holds a Bachelor of Business and Tourism and a Masters in Business Administration.

He has worked in the United States with a wholesale tourism operator and was recipient of the *Victorian Caravan Industry Young Achiever Award* and Finalist in the *Future Leaders of the Caravan Industry of Australia Award*.



New Foundation Director Michael McIvor

Michael is currently the Chair of the *Future Leaders of the Australian Caravan Industry* and also Chair of the local #25in25 committee, which seeks to expand Broken Hill's population and sustainability.

He was recently awarded *The Thyne Reid Foundation \$55,000 scholarship* to participate in a national *Rural Leadership Program*.

Welcome Michael! ■

New café finally flies at airport

Frustrated local residents and visitors to the city are delighted at the opening of a new kiosk/café at the Broken Hill airport after months dealing with vending machines.

Foundation Broken Hill was a contributor to the project by providing an interest-free loan to

new lessees Craig Ferguson and Jodi Beattie for enterprise start-up, while Broken Hill City Council funded an upgrade to a commercial kitchen in a new lease agreement.

The venture will provide meals in the form of hand-made hamburgers, an all-day breakfast and, later, evening meals with appropriate alcohol.

It's the first café of its type for 'southies' and will provide a popular meeting spot for community groups.

Craig and Jodi are also expecting workers in the area to call in.

The Foundation found merit in supporting the project due to future employment opportunities and also in providing tourist and business arrivals with a contemporary and professional image of our city. ■



Craig Ferguson, Jodi Beattie and Mayor Darria Turley at the launch

Special gifts ensure brighter days in 2021 !

Local artist Semitj (Peter) Hopcraft has ensured the new year will be brighter for the Foundation and visitors to our new location at 164 Argent Street by donating several magnificent artworks to adorn our initial blank walls.

Principally a landscape artist, Semitj loves to produce Indigenous paintings for public display to



Artist Semitj (Peter) Hopcraft with FBH Director Lindy Molesworth



Directors Simon Molesworth, Travis Nadge & Chris Dougherty

acknowledge and promote his Aboriginal culture. Each of the works Semitj gifted to us tells a

story and next year we will display those stories alongside the paintings. Meanwhile, our ever-ready Directors Simon Molesworth, Travis Nadge and Chris Dougherty were quick to put them in place. ■

Foundation Broken Hill: How it works...

Foundation Broken Hill facilitates employment opportunities and encourages social development in Broken Hill and the surrounding region. Its core function is to help Broken Hill create sustainable alternative businesses to replace mining industry jobs as the ore bodies are progressively exhausted.

The Foundation Board comprises a set of highly skilled people with diverse expertise, who give their time voluntarily for community benefit. We do this by:

- 1. Raising capital funds...** through fundraising campaigns which seek donations from current and former Broken Hill residents, local businesses, broader industry and governments,
- 2. Recognising contributions...** through a structured Friends of the Foundation pyramid at Platinum, Gold, Silver and Zinc levels, with opportunity for smaller once-only donations too,
- 3. Investing the capital...** to generate funds for approved projects, taking care to ensure our contributors' money is protected so that it works for Broken Hill in perpetuity,
- 4. Carefully assessing applications for funding support...** through a thorough process that includes documentation review, business planning assessments, face-to-face discussion and site visits where relevant,
- 5. Providing support...** in appropriate forms, which can include once-only small grants or larger interest-free loans repayable over a longer term with flexible sustainable payment plans and some 'breathing space' for new or emerging businesses, and
- 6. Monitoring and reviewing...** businesses who have received support to identify whether additional assistance is required, including mentoring.

Foundation Broken Hill has been operating in the local community for more than 20 years and is now sustainable in its own right. It needs support to grow the Capital Fund so it can increase more meaningful contributions to the community. ■

This newsletter is published by Foundation Broken Hill to inform stakeholders about activities of relevance to Broken Hill and the surrounding region. If you would like further information about articles included in the newsletter or ways in which you could support the Foundation, please contact our Executive Officer Gayle Ball on 08 80879985 or by email to manager@foundationbh.org.au. We would also welcome you to visit our offices at 164 Argent Street. The office is open Monday to Friday (by appointment only during social distancing) 9am to 3pm. Our website at www.foundationbh.org.au provides more information.