

FOUNDATION BROKEN HILL

PO Box 899 Broken Hill NSW 2880

A 164 Argent Street Broken Hill

P 08 8087 9985 | M 0448 182 941

E manager@foundationbh.org.au

W www.foundationbh.org.au

A newsletter for stakeholders

Issue 23

December 2021

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas
& a Happy New Year*



While 2021 has been a little tricky to navigate, the Foundation is finishing the year fully prepared for a productive 2022. Our recent AGM reported income returns and relatively stable investments, following a restructure of the portfolio from a 50/50 growth and income ratio to around 80% income/20% growth.

To date the Foundation has contributed more than \$1.4 million back into the regional community and there is currently \$100,000 working for Broken Hill through interest-free loans to small businesses.

While a key focus for activities in 2022 will centre on support for the 'resources cartel'

developed for Broken Hill's long-term future, our usual activities of providing employment generating support for small business and local events will continue.

Foundation Chairman John Lynch was unanimously endorsed for a second year of leadership, having stepped into the role in 2020 vacated by the retirement of long-standing Chair Vince Gauci who had held the position for more than 20 years.

Kevin Taylor was unanimously elected to the Deputy Chairman's role at the AGM after former Deputy Chris Dougherty stepped down following five years in the role.

Continued page 2

CBH Resources makes six for 'cartel'

The term 'cartel' can sometimes have negative connotations, but in this instance it's all positive—and all good for Broken Hill.

In a unique collaborative initiative the Foundation brought together three resource companies interested in major developments in our region to co-fund a role which could focus on what they would need to make their projects a reality—using residential workforces rather than fly-in fly-out employees.

Our last newsletter told of Perilya joining the Foundation; Benagerie Gold & Copper; Cobalt Blue Holdings and Lodestone Mines in the cartel and now CBH Resources has joined the group, with CBH Broken Hill General Manager

Giorgio Dallarmi to participate in the monthly stakeholder meetings.

More on the progress of this group next issue, but meanwhile there's lots to feel positive about for 2022. ■



Diary Dates:

- 24 December FBH Office closed
- 10 January FBH Office reopens
- February First 2022 FBH Zoom meeting
- 24-28 March Broken Hill Festival
- 8 September Broken Hill Festival No.2

Inside this issue:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| From the AGM | 2 |
| \$30k in school vouchers | 2 |
| A word from the Chairman | 2 |
| Cobalt Blue update | 3 |
| Staff team ready for 2022 | 3 |
| Bushy White not forgotten | 4 |
| Foundation BH How it works | 4 |

Donations work for Bro-

Annual General Meeting (cont.)

Continued from page 1

Chris's devotion to his role was well recognised by the Board, staff, all levels of governments and commercial organisations as well as the local community. Chris was a key hands-on contributor to the Foundation's refurbishment of its previous rental premises in the former TAB building in Blende St in 2015 and again when we moved to the former Chamber of Commerce building in Argent Street in 2020.

Chris has been an avid mentor for our staff over the years and board members and staff are equally delighted Chris will remain a highly valued member of our Board.

Kevin joined the Foundation Board in 2011. He sits as a member of our Finance Committee and has been a committed member of the Foundation-Skillshare Education Grant selection panel since inception.

Karren Howe joined the Board in 2010 and was unanimously re-appointed as our Company Secretary. She will also take on a temporary role as Treasurer. Karren is a member of our Finance Committee and will continue to Chair the Foundation-Skillshare Education Grant committee.

Other Directors unanimously re-elected at the Foundation's AGM include Communications Consultant Christine Ellis (first appointed in 2002); Pastoralist Lindy Molesworth (2016); Environmentalist & Queen's Counsel Simon Molesworth AO QC (2016); Business Owner Travis Nadge (2016 – temporarily on leave); and Business Owner Michael McIvor (2020).

The diversity of skills in this Board has us well-placed to take on what is building to be both an exciting and challenging year. ■

A word from the Chair...

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of Foundation Broken Hill I wish all readers a happy and healthy Christmas and a fun and festive New Year.

There's no doubt the challenges of the last two years have left their mark in varying degrees over all walks of life as we knew it, but the city of Broken Hill has always been able to demonstrate a resilience to overcome such things.

The Foundation, too, has been able to demonstrate resilience.

We have forged great partnerships with mining companies, the City Council, our local State and Federal members and the commercial members of Broken Hill and we are eternally grateful for those common bonds that we have created and look forward to the future with them all.

Finishing this year in a solid financial position is reflective of the flexibility of the organisation's investment strategy as well as Directors who not only volunteered their time, but constantly offered intellect, enthusiasm, and commitment to the city of Broken Hill and the region.

Our amazing staff have dealt with change and transformation with applaudable finesse and it has been an absolute pleasure to work with them all throughout my first full year of leadership.

The Foundation is viewing 2022 with some excitement at promising opportunities and we sincerely hope you can too.

Please stay safe if travelling and we look forward to communicating with you again next year. ■



**John Lynch OAM, Chairman
Foundation Broken Hill**

\$30,000 in school vouchers for 2022

Foundation Broken Hill has been approved for a \$25,000 grant from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) to provide Back to School Vouchers to disadvantaged students for the 2022 year.

The grant will provide us with 400 \$50 Kmart vouchers and 100 \$50 Far West Proud vouchers to distribute at the beginning of the new year.

This is on top of the \$5,000 worth of \$50 Kmart vouchers that we purchased as part of a Matched Program with the support of Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation, which means we will be able to support 600 students in the Far West with the cost of back to school supplies.

Each child within identified families in need will receive a \$50 voucher



to assist with the purchase of essential school items such as uniforms, shoes, school bags and stationery. The vouchers are expected to be available early in the new year.

Since 2005 when Foundation Broken Hill began with the back-to-school program we have distributed 6,406 vouchers totaling \$320,300 in Broken Hill and areas such as Wilcannia, Menindee, Tibooburra and White Cliffs—and also to students of the School of the Air. We are pleased the FRRR has approved our applications despite an influx of submissions. ■

News in Brief...

Money well spent

- ◆ We received a lovely email last week from one of our 2021 Foundation-Skillshare scholarship winners.
- ◆ Ellis Quinn, in her third year of a double degree in Education / Arts attached her results—a mass of Distinctions / High Distinctions.

Shannon Electrics top donor yet again

- ◆ Shannon Electrics has come to the fore yet again with a commitment to provide a new air conditioner for the Foundation's Argent Street premises in preparation for the predicted long hot summer.
- ◆ Kevin and Judy Taylor (owners of Shannon Electrics since 1985) are long-term supporters of the Foundation (a Gold Business Friend even before Kevin became a Director on the Board).
- ◆ Thanks Kevin and Judy—not only on behalf of the staff and voluntary Directors, but also the community and business members who call in to the offices to contribute a donation or submit a proposal for funding support.

Desert Art Equinox

- ◆ The Foundation was a sponsor of the 2021 Desert Art Equinox which enjoyed success last month despite the restrictions and limitations of the Covid Pandemic.
- ◆ The Art Challenge attracted good entries inter and intrastate as well as providing opportunities for local artists.
- ◆ The annual event also adds to Broken Hill's reputation in the art and tourism industries. ■

Cobalt Blue in the spotlight

A quick change to our meeting schedule enabled Foundation Broken Hill to meet directly with executives from Cobalt Blue on their recent visit to Broken Hill.

CEO of Cobalt Blue Holdings Joe Kaderavek and Broken Hill Demonstration Plant Manager Adam Randall spoke positively about the company's progress in the region, including the company's established \$2M cobalt processing pilot plant in our industrial precinct and plans for development of a cobalt mine 23kms from the city.

Cobalt Blue intends to become one of the world's largest ethical suppliers of cobalt, a battery-ready product, for use in utility-scale



renewable energy storage, for thousands of home energy storage systems, and millions of electric vehicles.

The company is ready to transition into the next stage of its Broken Hill project, expected to culminate in stage 3 around 2025 with first shipments of product shipped around the world.

At that point Cobalt Blue expects to be employing around 400 skilled and newly trained employees on the project—with as many as possible sourced within Broken Hill.

The current small workforce is all Broken Hill based, with two families relocating to Broken Hill to pick up the opportunity. ■

Team is prepared for a busy 2022

Friday was the last day for Gayle Ball as CEO for Foundation Broken Hill.

In our last issue we foreshadowed we would lose Gayle to her need to fulfill on-site placements to complete her degree in Education.

However we won't be losing Gayle entirely.

She will move into a part-time Administration Officer role that will allow our current Project Officer to become our Interim CEO.

Our trainee Willow Pascoe has completed her course with flying colours and will move into a full-time Administration Assistant role, retaining some government funding support for at least the first half of next year.



Travis Nadge (seated) and Gayle Ball

It's a fantastic team of three who will continue to serve the Foundation, the 'resources cartel' and the Broken Hill community to the extremely high standard we've all come to expect of them. ■

Please remember the Foundation in your Will

Bid to save Bushy White Art and Mining Museum

Newsletter readers who now live away from Broken Hill will no doubt have fond memories of Bushy (Kevin) White's Mining and Mineral Art Museum—while thousands of children have been delighted over the years by the Christmas Light display and petting rabbits.

With the recent loss of Bushy, the museum is now closed and there's some concern the fantastic displays may be lost to Broken Hill without intervention.

The Foundation has been involved in consultations with the White family, Broken Hill City Council and the Broken Hill Historical Society to help find a way forward.

Difficulties include the complexity of the actual displays.

We are advised Government funding would not be possible—mostly due to the fact it is a commercial enterprise, but also because the broad range of artefacts makes it difficult to obtain a true estimation of the full value.

The Foundation is looking at working in partnership with the Historical Society to acquire independent valuations of specific sections.

Various local and external experts have been suggested but there are more than 1500 pieces of mining memorabilia displayed and many dioramas depicting the history of mining from 1883 to the present.



Foundation Directors Michael McIvor and Lindy Molesworth at the now closed Bushy White Museum

It won't be an easy task, but we are hopeful of being part of a plan to preserve Bushy's life long work.

It's popular with locals and visitors alike and is considered an important stopping point in our tourism industry.

We'll keep you posted on any progress. ■

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...** where your gift is held in perpetuity but generates interest to be used for approved projects—or an option where your gift is held in a **Project Fund** to be channelled directly into assessed projects at the discretion of the Board,
- 4. Carefully assessing applications for funding support...** through a thorough process that includes review of documentation, 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 and Project Funds 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 Interim Chief Executive Officer Travis Nadge 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 9am to 3pm. Our website at www.foundationbh.org.au provides more information.