



## **AGM 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2009**

### **President's Report**

#### **1. Yamba Surf Life Saving Club TV Marketing Project**

Featuring archival photographs and music from Colin Hay (ex front man from Men At Work), this 30 second commercial was screened throughout the North Coast and regional NSW over a six month period. Whilst it gave strong support to our surf life saving club's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, it featured Yamba as a wonderful destination with an amazing beach safety record.

#### **2. Surfing the Coldstream – Gold Sponsor**

The Chamber again got behind this exciting festival which not only brings our community together but attracts many visitors to the town. Our congratulations are extended to Dom Ferry and his team in running another successful festival.

#### **3. Website**

Our website is a work in progress. New features include the archiving of all minutes, media releases and newsletters onto the site for public record. Thanks are extended to Melissa Lutton who has continued to update and upgrade our website. Thanks also go to Elizabeth Kime for the many hours she contributed in checking and editing the site. Each week numerous inquiries are received via the site, often from potential visitors to our town. These inquiries have been responded to efficiently over the past year by Elizabeth Kime, Bev Mansfield and myself.

#### **4. Meet the Candidates Night**

Organised by our organisation and held in August pre-local election, this night gave our community an opportunity to meet and hear from candidates for the CVC election.

#### **5. Tourism Touchscreen**

Situated at the Yamba YHA, this Touchscreen is designed to assist visitors whilst in town with information, as well as offer Yamba as a destination from other locations.

## **6. Yamba Plastic Bag Free**

Amazing progress, not to mention an enormous amount of time and effort, has been made by this Chamber committee being driven by Marea Buist and Jane Mitchell. As well as garnering significant media attention for Yamba, this committee is responsible for progressing our town a long way towards taking responsibility for our use of plastic bags. More sponsors are needed so get involved. Well done Marea, Jane and the team.

## **7. Christmas Sponsorship Program**

Yamba businesses proved they have a heart of gold with the level of voluntary involvement by which members and non members of the Chamber alike got involved. A program which included accommodation, meals, activities and special treats was put together for a deserving family at Christmas. Unfortunately the program came to a grinding halt when the selected family (selected by an independent charity group) were unable to make the holiday. Although it didn't come to fruition this time, we know our community is ready and willing to come together should another program be attempted again.

## **8. Newsletters**

Our Executive re-introduced the newsletter which was received very well. 6 issues were released over the term of this year. Unfortunately it did become onerous to pull it together regularly. It would be wonderful if a volunteer were to take this project on.

## **9. Network'n Yamba**

An on-going initiative of the Chamber, these networking nights continued again this. Thanks go to Rick Angelo for being the Chamber coordinator along with Kevin Hassey from Rotary for organising the events.

## **10. Business Showcase**

Also described as the Boobie Prize by one winner, this initiative saw one member featured at each meeting and in the subsequent newsletter.

## **11. Australia Day Awards**

Our Chamber put forward two nominees for the Clarence Valley Council Australia Day Awards. Our very own Bev Mansfield was nominated for CV Citizen of the Year and Shane Miranda was nominated for Young Talent of the Year.

## **12. Clarence Valley Business Excellence Awards**

Again the Chamber is a major sponsor of these awards. Thanks to Kathy Lollback and John Robson for their continuing work with the CVBEA.

### **13. Christmas Broadcast**

The Chamber supported local radio in an advertising campaign and outside broadcast pre-Christmas reminding our community of the importance of shopping local.

Numerous other committees and organisations are represented by the Chamber, including the Liquor Accord, Sewage Augmentation Project, Crime Prevention, Community Noticeboard, Neighbourhood Watch, Clarence Tourism, Street Cruise, RTA Deviation and many more. To the Executive of Bev Mansfield, Maria Evans, Kellie Henwood, Rick Angelo, Kathy Lollback and Elizabeth Kime, I say my sincere thanks for their support. As well as those mentioned in the report, I have to single out Sammy Hunt and Karen Toms for representing the Chamber on so many committees and keeping our group informed on important developments.

I am very confident the new-look Executive will continue on with the great work of this Chamber and I am excited to be involved with this group.

Finally, a big thank you to all of our members for their support this year.