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WELCOME

At last, the first issue of the long awaited Broome Chamber Newsletter. After each month's Chamber Committee meeting, there will be a newsletter sent to members, outlining any ground breaking news, updating on coming events, promoting training opportunities and delivering the latest news on Chamber activities.

HELLO TO OUR NEW PRESIDENT

For those who I haven't met yet, my name is Patrick Imbert. My background is in banking, finance and credit. ANZ Broome employs me as a Senior Personal Banker. I am also a member of the Broome Lions Club.

The Broome Chamber's goal is to contribute to Broome business relations by gathering Broome members at a common platform where experience and visions may be exchanged. I look forward to my year in this role, to working with the Committee, and to meeting more of our members.



NORTH WEST EXPO

Member Subsidy!

Registrations are now being taken for exhibits in this year's North West Expo, being held at BRAC again on May 5th and 6th. Chamber membership entitles member businesses to a discounted exhibitor fee. AND in addition, the Broome Chamber is offering a \$100 subsidy to exhibiting members who display an A3 Chamber poster at their Expo site.

Imagine being able to shift your business to a huge shopping centre for one weekend. That's the opportunity the Expo offers.

KIMBERLEY ECONOMIC FORUM

A full day's value for your business. Hear first hand about significant developments in the region, emerging trends, new technology, joint ventures, community initiatives and how large corporate organisations are working with local communities to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. The Broome Chamber is initiating this event in order to inform members about opportunities which will benefit their businesses.

To be held in the Sam Male Room at Cable Beach Club on Wednesday May 2nd. Speakers will come from Woodside, Inpex, Chamber of Minerals & Energy, Telstra, Fisheries, Energy Developments and more.

FREE BUSINESS PROMOTION FROM BUSINESS AWARDS

Now is your opportunity to get free additional exposure for your business through participation in the Kimberley Small Business Awards.

Winners in the Broome awards go through to be judged in the Kimberley regional awards, and winners there go on to compete for State awards in Perth. There will be television exposure for regional winners on GWN, plus prizes and handcrafted awards designed and made by Linneys for Broome winners.

The last small business awards in 2005, saw Broome Sightseeing Tours, Broome & The Kimberley Holidays, Blooms Restaurant and Kimberley Bugbusters all take guernseys.

BUSINESS NEWS

Six months' free subscription to members expressing interest

WA Business News are offering all current Broome Chamber members a six month free subscription to their weekly business paper and e-news bulletin. This is a no obligation free offer.

This weekly publication covers all major industries and news breaking stories relevant to businesses in Western Australia. To register, email broomechamber@westnet.com.au.



SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

BROOME CHAMBER HAS A HOME

Thanks go to CCIWA for donating a space in their office in Herbert Street for use by the Broome Chamber. The office is normally manned from 10am till 3pm each Thursday, and it's a good idea to give Caroline a call on 9193 5553 to ensure she is in. The building was previously owned by local identity Trevor Tough.

THANKS FROM THE CHAMBER

Getting an office together has been an interesting adventure, and the Chamber has been generously assisted by the following businesses:

Commonwealth Bank for desks and photocopier, Broome Hovercraft for phone/fax machine, Eclipse Computers, computer set up and ongoing technical support, North West Finance for printer, GWN for filing cabinets, Kimberley Development Commission for assistance with storage of archives and magazines.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to new members, Regimen (John Vojkovich), Bargain Basement Gifts (Mark Forrest), Kleenheat Gas House (Natasha Aristei), Anastasias Pearl Gallery (Laurene and Darryl Young), Kimberley Psychology (Julie Anne Davies), Broome Directory (John Bryne) AEP Consulting Pty Ltd (Tony Proctor) Market Creations (Darren Lee) Sabar (Simon Pearson) H&M Tracey (Harold Tracey)

YOUR COMMITTEE

If you weren't at the Chamber AGM last November, here's a list of the current Chamber Committee:

Pat Imbert (President) Roger Colless (Deputy President), Jamie Stewart (Vice-Deputy), Elisabeth Lucke (Treasurer), Gavin Greaves (Secretary), Grant Smart, Graham McGinn, Ann Brown, Sos Johnston, Craig Philips, Tony Hutchinson, Paul La Spinda, Elizabeth Imbert, Ben Miller, Mike Dunnett.

Most importantly, the new Chamber Administrative Assistant is Caroline Gould, who will be the first point of contact for Chamber enquiries.

You may already have heard from Caroline, as she has been diligently working to get Chamber's records and membership contact list up to date.



FREE BUSINESS PLANNING WORKSHOP

The Australian Government is running free business planning workshops to assist small businesses be better prepared for, and being able to recover from a crisis. This seminar will help you prepare a continuity plan for your business. Enquiries or expressions of interest can be directed to workshops@industry.gov.au.

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

This year, the Chamber will be focusing on membership and its value to members. In addition to a strategic plan, the Chamber is moving towards the development of a permanent website which will allow members to link to their own websites, or simply promote their businesses through the Chamber's.

The Broome Chamber currently has 100 paid up members out of a normal 140. If your membership subscription is overdue, please remember to pay it before the fees go up this year.

Membership of the Chamber comes with some very significant benefits:

- Low cost public relations and marketing opportunities through Chamber Business After Hours and advertising discounts
- Access to Chamber resources and information, as well as its network of supporting organisations to assist in improving your business.
- Networking with like minded business people, exchanging ideas and finding new growth opportunities.
- Access to business development and training opportunities
- Affiliation with the CCIWA
- United voice on issues affecting your business, and advocacy opportunities
- Opportunity to sit on Chamber executive
- Fully tax deductible membership fees
- Monthly newsletter with locally relevant development information.
- Member discount on exhibitor fees for the annual Australia's North West Expo.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March Committee Meeting March 21
Business After Hours March
TBA
Workplace Agreements Workshop
. March 19-20
ATO Business Planning Workshop. . April 11
April Business after Hours April 11
April Committee Meeting April 18
Kimberley Economic Forum May 2
North West Expo May 5-6
May Committee Meeting May 16

FREE WORKPLACE AGREEMENTS WORKSHOP

If you would like some help understanding the process of agreement making under the new work choices legislation, email contactus@oea.gov.au to attend this free workshop.

BUSINESS TIP

Getting the best performance from your business depends on forward planning and implementing sound business practices. Many Broome businesses have issues relating to financial performance measurement and planning for improved administration processes. When your accountant only really deals with your book keeper and immediate tax issues, there is a whole area of financial performance assessment and forward planning missing from your toolkit. Many people benefit from the use of a financial planner. Why would you not apply this to your business, but seeking the advice of good business planner.

Thanks to John Vojkovich from new member business Regimen for this piece of advice. John is (coincidentally) a business planner and can be contact on 0422 993 224 or www.regimen.com.au.

