



RECORD OF NTIG MONTHLY MEETING

Held: Wednesday 1 March 2017 7:30am-9:30am

Venue: Boulevard on Beaumont

Chairperson: David Brown

Minutes: Rachelle Brockbank

ATTENDEES: Stewart Ford (Fordtronic Video & Sound), Jake Relf (Quality Hotel NOAH's on the Beach), Mark Stratford (Newcastle City Council), Will Creedon (Willger), Snezana Bennell (Big Kiss Creative), Mike Hadaway (SNP Security), Richard Hamment (NTIG Sales), John Jenkins (Newcastle Car and Truck Rental), Debra Mackenzie (Quality Hotel NOAH's on the Beach), Ruth Appleby (Bombora Publishing/Appleby Solutions), Matt Anderson (Crowne Plaza Newcastle), Olivia O'Brien (Newcastle NOW BIA), Greg Frame (Frame Promotional Products), Dennis Parker (Luxlift Airport Transfers and Luxury Travel), Luke Foteff (Boulevard on Beaumont), Rebekka Cunningham (Newcastle City Council), Jan Ross (HBS Matters), Tim Askew (Newcastle City Council), David Brown (Port of Newcastle), Jim Garis (Hamilton Business Chamber), Nathan Errington (Hamilton Chamber of Commerce).

APOLOGIES: Rob Peel (Newcastle Event Hire), Jill Gaynor (Newcastle City Council).

1. MEETING OPEN

Meeting opened 8 am.

2. RECORD OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2017 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

3. WELCOME (David Brown)

Thank you to Boulevard on Beaumont for hosting.

Announcement of Matt Anderson's resignation as Chairman, and David Brown serving as Acting Chairman. Overview of Matt's time as Chairman of NTIG and presentation of gift.

4. COMMITTEE UPDATE (David Brown)

NTIG's Strategic Plan for 2017/2018 has been circulated to members and is available for download from the NTIG website. The Committee encourages all members to review the document and volunteer for any group for which they would be suited.

Committee is currently working on establishing working groups and with the election of a new Chairman. An update on this will be communicated to members' mid-March.

Discussed the alliance between NTIG and Hunter Business Chamber that occurred in 2016 when each became a member of the other organisation. Provides NTIG members with a link in to the NSW Business Chamber, including the Tourism Advisory Council. Encouraged members to go online and look at the tools available that they could utilise for their benefit.

5. COUNCIL UPDATE

- **Tim Askew – City Revitalisation Coordinator, Newcastle City Council**

Discussed the National Geographic Traveler article, where Newcastle has been announced as the next World Smart City to watch in 2017. Newcastle City Council have come up with a series of videos to link in with the release of the article, interviewing a variety of prominent Novocastrians who have relocated to Newcastle. It looks at what they love about the area and what opportunities are available for people who want to come here and further the economic development of the city. Tim showed one of the videos, which currently has 130,000 views.

Members sharing the content, which will be released over the next 18 months, will be of benefit to them. There will also potentially be a waiting list to develop more videos in the future, as more budget becomes available.

- **Mark Stratford – Major Events Coordinator, Newcastle City Council**

Discussed major events in Newcastle.

- ***New Years Eve 2016/2017*** – Moved to Honeysuckle from Foreshore Park a few years ago, to give it a more appropriate location and to capitalise on some of the economic benefits to the traders in the Honeysuckle Precinct. Moved back to setting the fireworks on a barge in the Harbour, as opposed to a land based setup.

- ***Australia Day*** – Crowd were diminished, compared to previous years, due to weather. Finding over the last few years that the trend of coming out in a big crowd is changing. People are now tending to go to a backyard barbeque option and enjoying what the City has to offer. The Citizenship Ceremony remains special, however, the attendance rate is dropping so Newcastle City Council will be working with the stakeholders from the event to see if they can redesign it to draw some interest back to the Harbour and the city.

- ***ANZAC Day*** – Plans are currently underway for this year's events. The event is the envy of many cities around Australia, drawing crowds of approximately 50,000 people for the Dawn Service. Retailers are starting to open earlier to take advantage of the increased visitors to the city.

- ***Australian Board Riders Battle*** – A new event (previously held in Cronulla) that was attracted to the city, bringing surfing back to Newcastle Beach. An event where all the best board riders compete for their club. Surfing Australia were happy with the beach, the venue and the support from Newcastle City Council. Tied in the Australian Surfing Awards Night, held at NEX, and also lead in to Surfest.

- **Grundy's ABC Skate** – Grew from the development of the event at Empire Park. Attracts a crowd of 7000-8000 people, which has grown from approximately 2500 attendees in the first year.
- **Aged Championship Cricket Tournament** – The event included four different age categories and attracted clubs from all over NSW and ACT. Delivered approximately \$1,000,000 of economic benefit to Newcastle.
- **Eastern University Games** – Returning to Newcastle in June for their second time in the last four years.
- **World Masters Hockey** (male and female) – Coming to Newcastle later in 2017.
- **NRL Indigenous All-Stars Vs World All-Stars** – Held in Newcastle recently for the first time.
- **V8 Supercars** – The event and racetrack will be proceeding as planned. A Bill was put before Parliament, and will become an Act today, which will allow the continued planning of the project, as well as the civil works.

Working with EPA, Work Cover and other authorities to minimise the noise where possible.

Working with neighbouring LGA to cover accommodation requirements with the influx of tourism that is expected for the event.

Working with Transport for NSW and the new transport provider to have express routes, park and rides, and to be able to move freely around the city within the event zone. The new Transport Interchange will be open in September to help accommodate for this.

Currently sourcing a big name act for the 'Rock n Race', and Delta Goodrem has signed on as an ambassador.

There is a dedicated website set up, buy going to the Newcastle City Council website and going through to V8 Supercars, which provides a database of information.

Provides an opportunity for operators to capitalise on the event if they are proactive and reach out to the potential visitors. Looking at inviting visitors from cities that have previously hosted the event and have them discuss how they, as business people, have made money during the period of time.

6. GUEST SPEAKERS (Hamilton)

- **Nathan Errington – President, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce**

Introduced Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, what they do and their membership.

Discussed the upcoming Carnivale with an expected attendance of approximately 20,000. One of the regions most loved events due to the range of music and cultural entertainment. The Greater Bank will be working with the event this year to make it even better.

- **Jim Garis - Hamilton Chamber of Commerce**

Discussed the history of businesses in Hamilton over his 30 years of trading. Touched on topics such as the previous strong Mediterranean influences, the earthquake and refurbishments that followed, the development of multicultural influences over time, unique stores, festivals and events.

Discussed the Carnivale (12 March 2017), China Festival (Hamilton Chamber of Commerce are major sponsors), the Hunt and Gather Markets (relocating to Gregson Park in March).

Discussed their Strategic Plan to bring more people to Hamilton. Want to create a smart, safe and sustainable environment for their key events and business activities within the area.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussed future meetings. Will be confirming venues soon and looking forward to future guest speakers from Destination NSW, V8 Supercars and Newcastle Airport. More information will be sent out, once available.

UoN BusCom will be holding their Regional Tourism Meeting at Fort Scratchley on 16 March 2017. Will bring students, academics and industry together with a line-up of speakers for the event. NTIG will continue to send information out regarding the event.

8. UPCOMING MEMBERS MEETINGS

- **5 April 2017 - TBA**
- **3 May 2017 – TBA**
- **7 June 2017 – TBA**

Committee Members Contact Information

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ROLE	EMAIL	PHONE
David	Brown	Deputy Chair/Membership Sub Committee	David.Brown@portofnewcastle.com.au	02 4908 8223
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Kevin	Lyons	Comms/Advocacy Sub Committee	kevin.lyons@newcastle.edu.au	02 4921 8989
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9. MEETING CLOSE

Agenda items concluded at 9 am.

10. NEXT MEETING

DATE: Wednesday 5 April 2017

VENUE: TBA