

Berry Chamber of Commerce



Chamber Seminar

During July the Chamber held a seminar to identify the concerns and issues of members. This seminar was held in order to set the direction and projects for the Chamber over the next twelve months. The top five concerns in order of priority were:

1. Threats to the character, integrity and viability of Berry
2. Inadequate public toilet facilities in the town centre
3. Shabby/unclean buildings, parks and streets
4. Parking issues - these ranged from timed parking, shopkeepers and staff parking too close to shops and taking up customer parking through to inadequate parking spaces
5. Inadequate tourist information

Some of these issues are bigger than the Chamber can tackle on its own and need the cooperation of the town as a whole - businesses, community, Council and residents, but in regard to parking, development and tourist information we have had an on site meeting with council where current parking was reviewed and future parking was discussed. We have requested a review of the town DCP and with council have agreed to join a working party to design signage for the town including a directional map to be placed in Broughton Walk. This action was undertaken as a start to find some solutions and answers to those main concerns identified.

Future Seminars

Chamber members at the July seminar also identified a number of seminars that would be important to their businesses and to the community.

From this meeting two seminars have now been arranged. These are Fire Safety and Security Training and Event Organisation.

Fire Safety and Security Training is relevant to all especially when we are experiencing a dry winter. The threat of another bushfire prone summer is very real but not something we wish to experience. To this end a seminar is scheduled for October and the date will be advertised in the next edition of the Town Crier.

An Event Organisation seminar will be held in November. This will be of interest to all community groups and event organisers in Berry.

Full details of both seminars will be in the October issue of the Town Crier but if you would like to register your interest in advance and be notified direct of dates please email: info@berry.org.au or contact the Chamber at PO Box 216 Berry 2535.

The Gardens in Queen Street

Thanks to Grant from Berry Country Gardener the gardens in the main street are starting to look great! Planting on both sides of the street has been completed and the daffodils are starting to bloom. Thanks to the shop owners and staff for looking after the plants outside your shops, watering, keeping dogs away and picking up litter.

In the next few weeks pruning and maintenance will be taking place and a host of annuals will be planted with the intention that they will look spectacular for the garden festival in October. Many thanks to Grant, Lyndal from the National Bank, Penny from Penny Lane and Ross from the Pharmacy for looking after our gardens.

Congratulations to Col Waller and the Berry Hotel on receiving an award for their service to the community.

At a Shoalhaven industry dinner held in July at Worrigeer House Col and the Berry Hotel received a 'Stars of the Shoalhaven' award. The hotel was commended on their support for community events, the Berry Courthouse, fund raising for charities such as Noah's Ark and for their promoting of Berry.

Congratulations and well done on a well deserved award.



Chamber AGM

The Chamber AGM was held August 17th at the newly renovated Berry Bowling Club.

The elected executive for the Chamber is:

Linda Marquis - **President**

Margot Claringbold - **Vice President**

Katrina Owen - **Minute Secretary**

Rick Gainford - **Social Secretary**

Jean Sorensen - **Correspondence Secretary**

Palle Brask - **Treasurer**