

The Sandgate & Districts Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit incorporated association made up of community minded business people. The Chamber area covers Sandgate, Brighton, Shorncliffe, Bracken Ridge, Bald Hills, Boondall, Carseldine, Fitzgibbon and Taigum. A key focus of the Chamber is to:

"Empower local business by celebrating the Community"

Last year, our Member's generous contributions helped fund a number of efforts toward making Sandgate & Districts the preferred location to live and do business by working in partnership with our community to encourage economic development and growth:

- Successful advocacy initiatives with local government
 - Assisting local businesses in the industrial precinct of Kempster St, Nash St, Agnew St and Connaught St in the upgrade of lighting to ensure safety for residents and people working in the area;
 - Working with community members in advocating for the Sandgate Neighbourhood Plan to be renewed by Brisbane City Council in order to plan ahead for the future success of Shorncliffe, Deagon and Sandgate;
 - Lobbying for the Shorncliffe Escarpment Management Plan to be renewed by Brisbane City Council.
- Working to support initiatives of local community members and businesses in fundraising events such as the *Super Sausage Sizzle* which was held at Einbunpin Lagoon - the community successfully raised significant drought relief funds donated to our struggling friends in Charleville;
- Bringing the business community together through social gatherings, networking and informative sessions;
- Successful annual events organised by the Chamber to promote our area and support businesses
 - The *Long Table Dinner* held in April which attracted more than 700 guests for a unique dining experience on the Shorncliffe Pier that is quickly becoming a sought-after highlight on the Brisbane event calendar;
 - The *Blue Water Festival* held in April continues the Easter tradition in our bay attracting people from all over Brisbane and beyond to celebrate the start of the Brisbane to Gladstone yacht race;
 - Local businesses banter together to dress up their shop front windows and show off their wares for *Jingle all the Bay* which attracted thousands of attendees to Brighton

Road in Sandgate to enjoy a vibrant street parade with entertainment, stalls and plenty of community cheer.

This year, we hope to accomplish this and even more, including

- Working Groups in Brighton, Deagon, Fitzgibbon, Boondall, Taigum and Bracken Ridge to embrace business precincts across our catchment;
- Creative Lighting Project in conjunction with Brisbane City Council's *City of Lights* initiative which aims to activate the city, bring people together to celebrate our enviable lifestyle, support small businesses and create a strong local economy;
- Hosting *State of the Village* talks with our Local Councillor, State Member and Police liaison at our General Meetings;
- Reactivate the *Shop Local* Campaign to create a strong local economy;
- Increased opportunities for Members to gain exposure through advertising, business directories and editorials featured online and in printed publications;
- Reassess our direction, set new goals and objectives for the next Chamber of Commerce Strategic Plan in 2020.

We look forward to discussing with our Members further concepts for the following year such as:

- the Chamber's *Rising Stars* initiative which aims to recognise, celebrate and encourage young entrepreneurs of our area;
- Create a *Business Toolkit* offering a suite of resources to Members by Members, in areas such as Legal, Marketing, Accounting, Administration, IT, HR, Events.

However, we couldn't do it without the generous contributions of our members! We welcome you to join our organisation - simply submit your application and payment on our Member Portal by visiting: www.sandgatechamber.com.au/membership/

We look forward to serving you for another year!

Sincerely,

Lucinda Black, Memberships, on behalf of



Bill Gollan, President