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Thank you to a caring community

I blinked and there went 2011. It seems like yesterday we were battering down for cyclone Carlos but in the middle was a wonderful dry season and here we are already into the wet with Christmas on our doorstep.



Wayne's World

WAYNE ZERBIE PRBA President

Recently, PRBA held its 14th annual general meeting. Nowadays it's not such a little band; there are several hundred companies, community groups and sporting organisations that make up our numbers.

The venue for our get together was Salt 'n' Peppa at Fairway Waters. What a wonderful venue this is.

Mary and Chris, our hosts and members of PRBA, and their staff provided service that was second to none and the standard of the food and preparation made me very proud to think how far this little village has come.

At our first meeting in 1998 we all fitted around a table in the PCC offices.

At this AGM we filled the restaurant to capacity.

Last year's committee did a huge job, delivering some great events, some new and innovative and some that have stood the test of time.

Just to highlight one event that was a bit different was our jaunt to Blaydin Point with Sean Kildare from Inpex on board the amphibious larks. This involved co-ordinating the two larks, two helicopters, a television crew and feeding 120 people over two nights at the Larrakia Trade Training Centre.

As we were progressing through the second I realised just how much work the committee put in to making PRBA work.

The committee that served us so well last year was elected again this

year and for that I am extremely grateful.

This year's committee is vice-president Andrew Byrne, treasurer Paul Chin, secretary Lia Finocchiaro and committee members Darron Outram, Varenya Mohan-Ram and Jodie Milne (and they gave me another go as president).

These are all busy successful people, but they give their time to make Palmerston a better place, not just business-wise but also in the community.

One of the things I am most proud of is our involvement with community. Our monthly raffles, golf day and our Christmas show all provide funds for various community endeavours.

Without the amazing generosity of our members

we could not do this. I have learned over the years I live in a community that cares.

I sign off with two special thank yous, firstly to Nadine Jones and her crew at Southern Cross Television, who have, over the past 10 years, provided the air time for *Around Palmerston*.

These little programs are often the only opportunities some community groups have to publicise their events and fund raisers.

So to Nads and her team, on behalf of all those who you help and the daggy presenter, we say a huge thank you.

Finally to my family, Rhonda, Ryan and Chantelle, knowing you are there just makes it all so worthwhile.

Community unites to do best for all

THE Palmerston Regional Business Association's November function doubled as its annual general meeting, where Wayne Zerbe, right, retained his presidency for the 14th term and the 2011 committee was re-elected unopposed.

The committee also comprises:



ANDREW BYRNE — VICE PRESIDENT

Andrew has been a PRBA committee member for the past seven years.

"I can truly say it is the best committee and organisation I have been involved with," he said.

"The current committee does a fantastic job organising great events and helping members and it is a privilege to be a part of this group.

"I would also like to thank the many members that form the PRBA, their generosity never fails to amaze me.

"Over the years the PRBA has raised funds and helped many charities, sports and individuals and I believe this commitment to the community is what sets the PRBA apart from other organisations.

"I look forward to being a part of the PRBA again in 2012."

PAUL CHIN — TREASURER

Paul Chin remains as treasurer.

"I have been lucky enough to be on the management committee again for 2012," he said.

"Retaining the same committee as 2011 allows us consistency to be able to continue the good work that PRBA does for both business and the community. I look



What's next on the agenda?

WHAT: Palmerston Regional Business Association's 2011 Christmas Dinner.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 13 at 6.30pm (for 7pm)

WHERE: Darwin Convention Centre
HIGHLIGHTS: Come and enjoy the festive season with your business

partners and colleagues and enjoy a three-course dinner, with cash bar. Sean Kildare will provide an Inpex year in review and what the future holds.

COST: \$85 per person
BOOKINGS: Required by December 2
MORE INFO: admin@prba.com.au

forward to another successful year of PRBA as we move into our 14th year."

LIA FINOCCHIARO — SECRETARY

Lia is a lawyer in the litigation division of Ward Keller Lawyers in Darwin and has been secretary of PRBA for three consecutive terms. She is looking forward to the new challenges.

"As a born-and-bred Palmerston resident, I'm pleased to continue my contribution to the business fabric of a very proud and vibrant community," she said.

"I continue to be motivated by the growing success of PRBA members and am dedicated to continuing PRBA's commitment to the Palmerston region."

VARENYA MOHAN-RAM

Varenya is a long-term resident of Darwin who lives in Palmerston and is married with two daughters.

Varenya attended Harvard Business School in Boston MA to study finance and is the senior relationship manager for REST Industry Super and chair of the ASFA (Association of Super funds of Australia) NT discussion Group.

Varenya joined the PRBA because

the PRBA represents member interests to all levels of Government.

"The PRBA is a community-based organisation that encourages networking and the committee is solutions-oriented striving for better economic outcomes for Territory businesses," he said.

DARRON OUTRAM

Darron said it is great to be on a committee that does not take itself too seriously, but still manages to be very productive for its members.

"The first year has been a hoot with a lot of good work and events completed. I am looking forward for an even better year in 2012," he said.

JODIE MILNE

Jodie is the manager of Quest Palmerston and this will be her second term as a committee member.

"The PRBA is a fantastic organisation and I feel very privileged to be a part of the committee to assist with the engagement and growth of the local community," she said.

"2012 is going to be a fantastic year and I am thoroughly looking forward to working with all the local business and ensuring that Palmerston is recognised both nationally and internationally."

