



## President's Report July 2019 – June 2020

Greg Bugden

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I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the highlights and achievements for the year. It can be said that 2020 has been a year like few others with the Covid-19 pandemic causing many restrictions on organisations like SEBA. The ability to arrange gatherings and fund-raising events has been very much curtailed. We look forward to a more open environment where we can support those communities, medical research organisations and the needy in 2021.

We received the sad news that one of our original members, Ernie Payne had passed away in early August. Ernie was a long-time member of SEBA and for many years was also very active in the Lions Club organisation. Fortunately, several of our members were able to attend Ernie's funeral and at the same time represent SEBA.

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### **Events 2019**

Annual Fundraising event for Mary's House Domestic Violence Shelter on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

The Charitable Heart of Sydney Foundation Award. This year we chose Father Chris Riley, Founder and CEO of Youth Off the Streets to receive the award.

September – SEBA Annual General Meeting

Christmas donation for St Vincent de Paul Society, Maroubra

### **Events 2020**

February – Chinese New Year Dinner with Australian Chinese Charity Foundation

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### **FUNDRAISING DINNER SEPTEMBER 2019**

If you weren't there, you've missed a great evening with over 200 members and guests, gathered together to enjoy a delicious 10 course dinner, accompanied by fabulous wines at Zilver Restaurant, Haymarket with entertainment provided by Ian Epondulan. The evening provided a successful outcome for Mary's House Domestic Violence Shelter where we raised over \$15,000. The live auction attracted generous bids for the limited signed State of Origin Jersey won by the New South Wales Blues amongst some other popular auction items. We also ran a silent auction for six different items and a raffle on the night with 42 prizes.

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## **CHARITABLE HEART OF SYDNEY FOUNDATION AWARD - SEPTEMBER 2019**

The Charitable Heart of Sydney Foundation were delighted to make their annual award in 2019 to Father Chris Riley – Founder and CEO of Youth Off the Streets. Father Riley was a very worthy albeit reluctant recipient who prefers to promote his organisation rather than himself. SEBA made a surprise donation to Youth Off the Streets for \$5,000 which was very much appreciated by Father Chris.

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## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

SEBA held the AGM on 20th September 2019 for the year 2018/2019. The meeting was held immediately following the Mary's House fundraising event at 10.45pm at Zilver Restaurant with all members at the function in attendance.

The meeting elected the following members to the Board :

Greg Bugden – President  
Luci Ozcan – Vice President and Fundraising Chair  
Milan Grzic – Director and Public Officer  
Vincent D'Cruz – Director and Secretary  
Craig Jones – Director and Treasurer  
Lesley Bell – Director and Raffle Co-ordinator

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## **2019 – CHRISTMAS DONATION**

SEBA also donated \$3,000 to St Vincent de Paul Society at Maroubra to assist in their Christmas fundraising appeal where they support local families with children who are severely disadvantaged. The funds are used to provide a few Christmas gifts for those who are left without and to help by providing breakfast to young school children who often arrive at school missing food at home. Support is also given to buy school requirements and fund school excursions where otherwise these children would miss out.

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## **2020 – CHINESE NEW YEAR**

For our first networking event of the new year we attended a Chinese New Year banquet at The Marigold Restaurant, hosted by The Australian Chinese Charity Foundation. And no respectable CNY celebration is complete without the noisy pounding of the drums and the clanging of the cymbals for the traditional lion dance.

This event coincided with a major fundraising aimed at assisting in the Bushfire Emergency Relief Appeal in partnership with the Salvation Army. SEBA donated one Silver Table and the directors not only attended this function in support but also donated \$2,000 to this worthy cause. The ACCF appeal realised donations totalling \$164,739

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## **THANK YOU**

The 2019/20 year has presented a difficult environment for SEBA to be able to fully realise its objectives of fundraising and providing a platform for members to meet and provide services to our charity support groups. Having said that we did have some memorable achievements throughout the year of which we can be proud.

As President I am blessed to have had the support of a small group of like-minded individuals who share the SEBA passion. I want to thank those people who served on the Fundraising Committee for the generous amount of time and money they invest for SEBA – many hands make light work – so thank you all for contributing to a very successful event.

In closing, I would like to once again thank my Board of Directors and members for your support. I am grateful to all the sponsors and friends I have had the pleasure to meet and work with. Thank you all for your generous and continued support that you have shown to me and SEBA.

Here's to a successful year ahead. May you, your family and friends all enjoy the upcoming festive season and travel safely particularly in this restricted current environment.

Kind regards,

Greg Bugden - President

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