

# THE TRANSFORMER

FEBRUARY 2024

Welcome to the 18th edition of *The Transformer* - an update from the Smart Transformation Project.

Smart Transformation works to future-proof the communities of Dysart and Moranbah, as we face rapid technological changes being experienced globally, and build the sustainability of our towns.

Smart Transformation operates independently, with support from BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA), and is driven by the two towns' Smart Transformation Advisory Councils (STACs) and Youth Advisory Council (YAC). Council members capture feedback and advice from the communities they call home, to direct resources and effort into projects important to local residents.

## YAC 2024 identifies community issues



Students from Dysart and Moranbah State High Schools came together to represent their communities on the 2024 Youth Advisory Council.

Priorities to help drive the sustainability of Dysart and Moranbah have been classified by members of Smart Transformation's 2024 Youth Advisory Council (YAC).

Coming together in Dysart for their first meeting of the year, the students were welcomed to Smart Transformation and congratulated on their selection to the 2024 YAC by facilitator Mitch Innes.

"We will give you information on the future of work, the skills you will need and how to access the new opportunities available," Mitch told the group.

"What we want from you is a youth voice into Smart Transformation – we want what you know to drive our priorities and our focus."

YAC members rated key challenges for their communities, with Childcare and Housing ranked the highest by the group. Innovative Futures – project supporting the investigation of economic development opportunities – was the

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YAC members identified their main priorities for community sustainability for Smart Transformation.

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**BMA Broadmeadow General Manager Peter Baker discussing the future of mining with YAC members.**

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*We will give you information on the future of work, the skills you will need and how to access the new opportunities available.***//**

**MITCH INNES** - YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FACILITATOR

third highest rated, with all the data reviewed by the Smart Transformation Advisory Councils in Dysart and Moranbah.

BMA Broadmeadow Mine General Manager Peter Baker spoke about his journey in mining, the introduction of technology at BMA's operations and the skills which mine employees will need in the years ahead – vital information for the YAC members which they welcomed.

Smart Transformation's Youth Advisory Council will meet again in Term 2.

# Projects progressing under Smart Transformation

**Eight exciting projects are currently being pursued by Smart Transformation to help future-proof the Dysart and Moranbah communities, with regular updates on progress and successes available on the project website.**

Smart Transformation Advisory Council (STAC) member Carolyn Fritz encouraged everyone to check out the site.

"The Smart Transformation website is a great place to see what we're trying to put in place for the betterment and long-term development of these communities," Carolyn said.

"The project page gives a great overview of each project and what we're looking to achieve.

"Myself and all those involved are excited about the continued development and implementation of the projects throughout 2024!"

Current projects ranging from addressing community wellbeing in Dysart, through to Childcare and Housing challenges, are available here [smartrtransformation.com.au/projects](https://smartrtransformation.com.au/projects).

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**CAROLYN FRITZ** – MORANBAH STAC MEMBER

# 2024 – The Year of the Volunteer

Smart Transformation has declared 2024 as the Year of the Volunteer, kicking off our brand new Volunteering Project to celebrate existing community volunteers and attract new helpers to not-for-profit organisations and sporting groups.

With support from BMA, the Smart Transformation Volunteering Project will increase community awareness of the need for volunteers to keep important community events on the social calendar and help keep local clubs and organisations running.

The project includes a series of social media videos featuring many of Moranbah's top volunteers, with Smart Transformation Advisory Council (STAC) Moranbah project lead and active community volunteer Amanda Raymond saying it's time for the people of Moranbah to put their hands up to help.

"If everyone did just a few hours a week, we'll be able to continue some of our favourite community events," Amanda said.

The campaign will run throughout the year, showing appreciation for current volunteers while also encouraging new volunteers to share the workload.

Moranbah Miners Junior Rugby League Under 13 Coach Mark Neil features in the campaign videos, recommending the volunteering experience.

"It's good, I really like it. You get a lot out of it," Mark said.

"Hopefully the kids get a lot out of it, I really enjoy it."

Mark solved the problem of his weekly roster by teaming up with a mate, and for seven years now they've taken turns to coach the kids, depending on who is at work.

"Give it a go, it's definitely worth it," Mark said.

**“***If everyone did just a few hours a week, we'll be able to continue some of our favourite community events.***”**

AMANDA RAYMOND – MORANBAH STAC MEMBER



 SMART  
TRANSFORMATION

"It helps the Club and the team out, and the kids out a lot too."

Smart Transformation has a proud history of boosting community volunteering, having run a series of community training events and uploading those videos to our website: [smarttransformation.com.au](http://smarttransformation.com.au) – click on the 'Library' tab to view them.

Topics include 'Attracting and Retaining Volunteers', 'Being a Committee Member Made Easy' and 'Social Media for Community Organisations'.

Anyone looking to help their local club or community organisation is encouraged to contact other volunteers through the organisation's Facebook page.

Smart Transformation has declared 2024 the Year of the Volunteer.

Keeping you up to date today, for our tomorrow.

# STAC Profile – Ash Dowd



**Ash Dowd is a familiar face as General Manager of the Moranbah Workers Club, but he's also a tireless campaigner for his community.**

A STAC member since Smart Transformation's inception in 2019, Ash wants to see his town grow and flourish as technologies change.

"My role is helping our town really move forward with technology, to make sure we're not missing out. We need to keep up with the Fourth Industrial Revolution and grow with it," Ash said.

Ash describes his years on the Moranbah STAC as "productive and satisfying" because he enjoys the opportunity to have a say and make a contribution to his community's future.

"We have such a great range of community people involved with the STACs, from business, education, medical – it's great that we can all come together and have important conversations about what our town needs to thrive.

"Bringing 5G into our region as quickly as we have has been the biggest achievement for me, but the job's not done."

Increasing the town's female population by encouraging more young families to move to Moranbah is now a key focus for Ash, and one that he believes will cement the town's long-term future.

"To bring in that higher female population, we need to fix childcare and we need better housing.

"It's time to sort childcare and housing to make sure we can really grow our town."

**||**  
*It's time to sort childcare and housing to make sure we can really grow our town. ||*

**ASH DOWD**  
– MORANBAH STAC MEMBER



## Get involved in Smart Transformation

The Smart Transformation Project is a community initiative to shape our own future for ourselves. If you would like more information, please drop us a line at [smarttransformation@outlook.com](mailto:smarttransformation@outlook.com) or check us out at [www.smarttransformation.com.au](http://www.smarttransformation.com.au)

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