

Strategies for Business in the current VUCA world

BANKERS' BOOT CAMP

2020



# Speaker



Graham Killer
Partner, Financial Advisory
Grant Thornton Australia

# Housekeeping

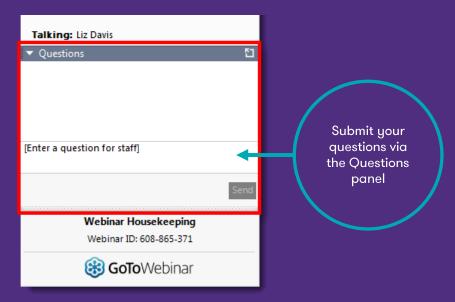


This is an interactive session so we encourage your participation



This session is being recorded and will be shared with all registrants and on our GTAL website and socials.

### How to ask questions?





# Agenda

- 1. VUCA
- 2. VUCA Antidote
- 3. Business of Today
- 4. Business of Tomorrow
- 5. Key Takeaways
- 6. Q&A



# 66

The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence. It is to act with yesterday's logic.

Peter F. Drucker

99



- Globalisation, the rapid pace of change and increasing uncertainty was already affecting all businesses in 2019.
- COVID 19 has simply amplified the speed of change and created a VUCA world for all businesses.
- Change is the only constant in this world



# **VUCA World**

**VOLATILITY** 

**UNCERTAINTY** 

**COMPLEXITY** 

**AMBIGUITY** 

# **VUCA Antidote**

**VISION** 

**UNDERSTANDING** 

**COURAGE** 

**ADAPTABILITY** 



# **Leading in a VUCA World**

**Vision** clarity of vision to be able to navigate their way through the

uncertainty and complexity

**Understanding** in-depth understanding of the various factors that impact

outcomes

Courage leaders need more courage and compassion than ever before

to step up to the challenges

Adaptability range of strategies and plans which could be put into practice

# As we all know

## Many businesses...



Don't have a clear strategy or vision



Never had to navigate changes in a VUCA world



Don't have the management team to support them.



Need an outsider to challenge them, support them and to work with them

Today, we will share some strategies / "ideas" for you to challenge your clients



# Challenge for your customers

To optimise the **Business of Today**while also developing the **Business of Tomorrow** 

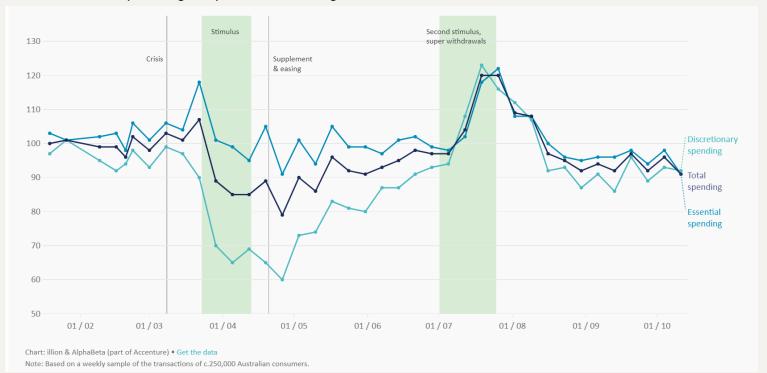




# Calm before the storm @ Grant Thornton

# **Riding the Stimulus Wave**

The injection of funds into the market through Government stimulus and early access to superannuation has increased consumer spending despite recessionary conditions.





# **Environment**



Government Stimulus



**Banking Deferrals** 



**ATO Deferrals** 



Payroll Tax relief



Property Code support



Protection from Insolvent Trading

# Headwinds



State Borders



Government regulation



International Tourism



Supply chain shock



Recession



Exchange rates



Unemployment



Online



Consumer behaviours



**Economic War** 



Business Confidence



**Vaccines** 



# 66

You can avoid reality, but you cannot avoid the consequences of avoiding reality.

**Ayn Rand** 

99





# To survive, thrive and grow, business owners should:

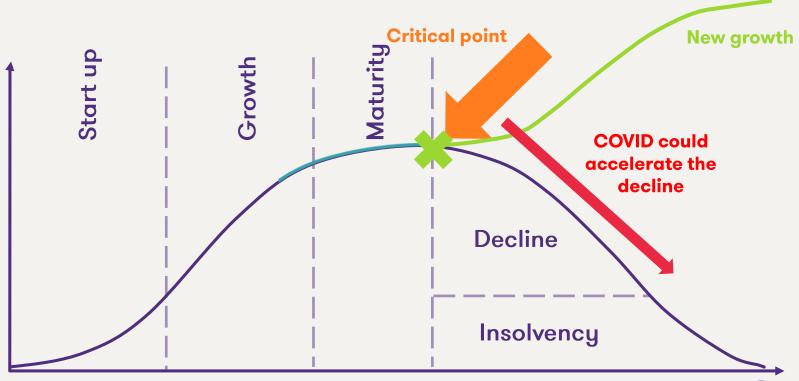
- Strengthen the core business today
- Restructure their operations for the future
- Focus on growth



# **Business of today**

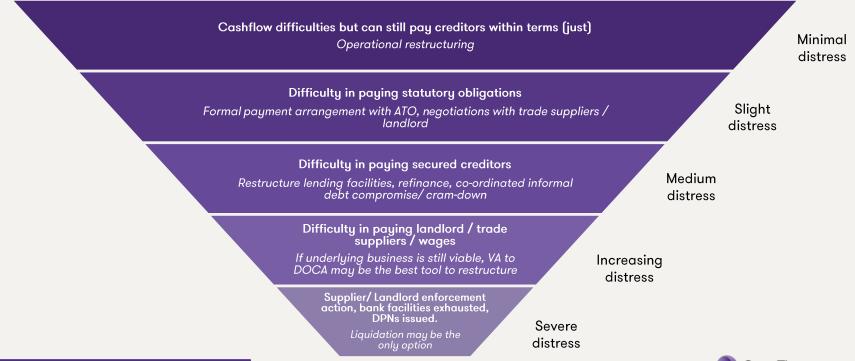


# The business cycle



# Early negotiations are the most fruitful

The more severe the stress, the less tools are available to protect a director's personal assets and restructure a business



# Optimise the business of today



Clear Strategy ("Vision")



Continuous Improvement Mindset / culture



Understand what our competitors are doing



Analyse business drivers



Courage to make the tough decisions



Tighten controls on spending authorisations



Zero based budgeting



Prepared for Multiple Events / Scenarios



Sell non-core / surplus assets



Reduce working capital required



Right funding structure

**Act Now to Restructure and Grow** 



# **Optimise the Profit of Today**



Price analysis

Products and product mix review

Relevance to customers

Sales volume analysis

Renegotiate with key suppliers

Increase business efficiency

Sharing economy

Zero based budgeting





"If you break down everything you can think of that goes into riding a bike, and then improve it by 1%, you'll get a significant increase when you put them all together."

# Imagine if you improved every aspect of a business by 1%



# Marginal gains - the one percent

	5% Profit	Do both!
Revenue	\$20,000	\$20,200
Costs	\$19,000	\$18,810
Profit	\$1,000	\$1,390
Impact on Profit		39%



# Movement (%) in 8 months to 28 February 2020

- Sales **15**%
- GP (\$) **.** 9%
- GM (%) 8 %
- Operating expenses 21% (\$3.15m)
- EBITDA % sales 2% > 11%

EBITDA % of	FY19	FY20	FY21
sales	2.3%	11.4%	14.5%





**Automotive dealership** 



Wholesaler



**Event business** 



**Printer** 



# Retailer \$45m turnover

- Directors viewed appointment as option with shut down potential
- 48 hours away from collapse
- Major player in sector
- Net profit \$100k current year
- Placed on hold by suppliers
- Urgent funding of \$2m
- ATO repayment plan \$800k
- Secured debt \$22m

# **Key Issues**

- Excess inventory (\$2m+ surplus)
- Wrong product mix
- Poor controls
- Forecasts lacked detail
- Too many employees
- Employee incentives not aligned
- Management issues



# **Outcomes**

- Clear strategy
- Changed product mix to match customer demand
- Business drivers identified, margins improved
- Employee incentives improved
- Renegotiated debt structure
- Right sized the business
- Tightened controls







**Mindset from Carol Dweck** 

# 66

Only when the tide goes out do you discover who's been swimming naked.

**Warren Buffett** 

99



# **Business of Tomorrow**

It can be difficult for business leaders to stop and take a broad, strategic view of where they are, and where they want to be.

Finding the time and resources to focus ON the business rather than working IN the business can prove impossible.

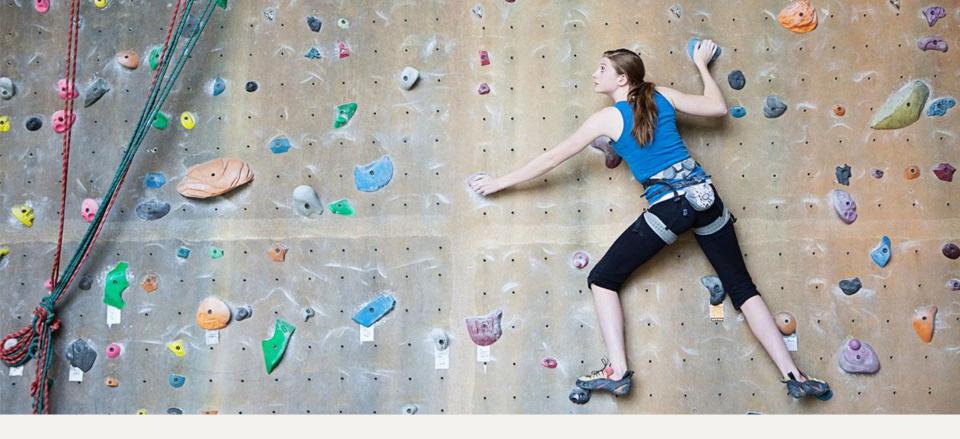






Zooming in...





... but you need to zoom out and take a strategic view



# **Future thinking - Questions for customers**

- Where do we want the business to be in 12 months?
- Where will it be in three years?
- If we started the business today, would it look the same?
- If I wanted to launch a business to completely disrupt the market, what would I do?
- Who are our non-customers, how can we help them become customers?
- How would you use more funding to grow?

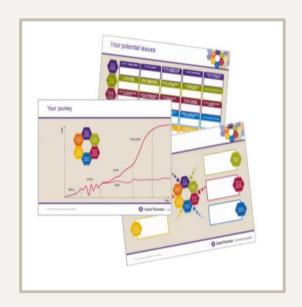


# **CEO Room | The Owner's Room | 6-Box Model**

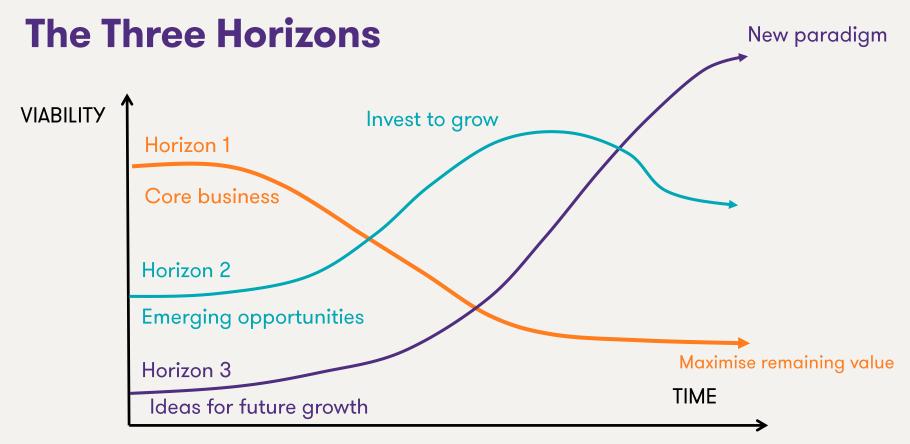
At Grant Thornton, we have a number of tools we use with our clients











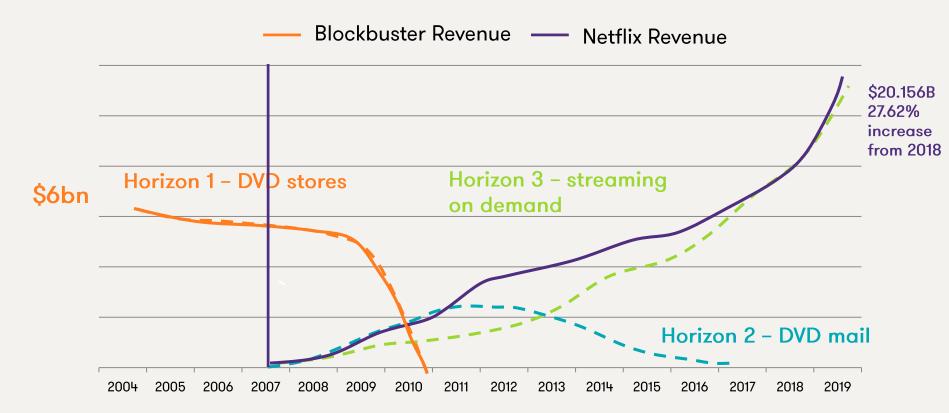
Businesses must manage along all three horizons concurrently



What if we don't manage our business across all three horizons?

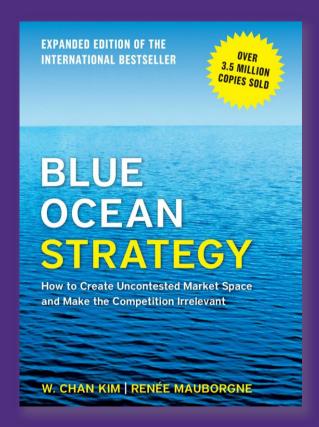


#### Three horizons - on demand content





#### The CEO Room







## The market is composed of two types of oceans



Unexplored opportunity, making your competition irrelevant



#### All about competition

- Compete in existing market space
- Beat the competition
- Exploit existing demand
- Make the value-cost trade off
- Everything aligned to either differentiation OR low cost

#### **Creates new demand**

- Create uncontested market space
- Make the competition irrelevant
- Create and capture new demand
- Break the value-cost trade-off
- Everything aligned to differentiation AND low cost.



#### **Blue Ocean Strategy Tools**



Strategy Canvas



Four Actions Framework



Six Paths Framework



Three Tiers of Non-Customers



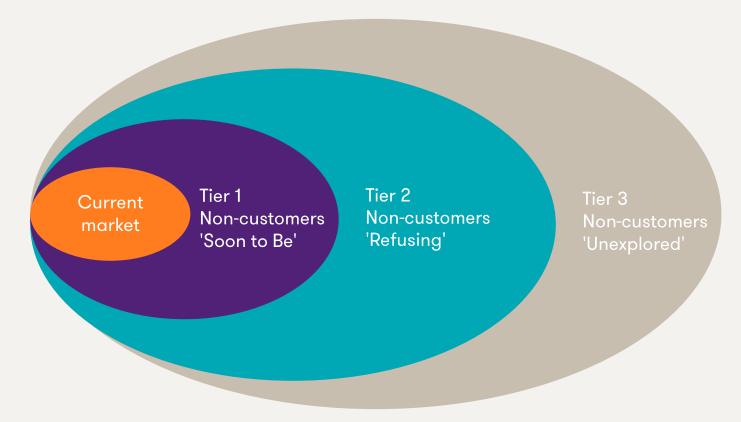
# The Strategy Canvas







#### **Non Customers**





# Casella Wines [ yellow tail ]

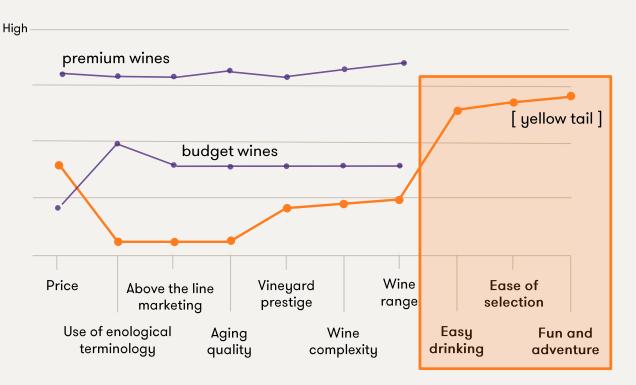
To 1990's	Casella Family mostly bulk grape, bulk wine suppliers
2000	Casella connected to major US distributor and [ yellow tail ] developed - a simple US\$6 wine appealing to the wine non-customer.
2001	Exports 200,000 cases.
2002	Exports 2.2 million cases.
2005	Exports 7.5 million cases. The largest wine importer to the USA - more than all French producers combined.
2018	5th largest wine brand in the US. \$481m revenue, 690 employees. 20% of all Australian wine exports, world wide.





## Casella Wines [ yellow tail ]

#### **Strategy Canvas**





Easy drinking

Ease of selection

Fun and adventure



# [ yellow tail ] Super Bowl 2018 Commercial









The [ yellow tail ] strategy was not to compete.....

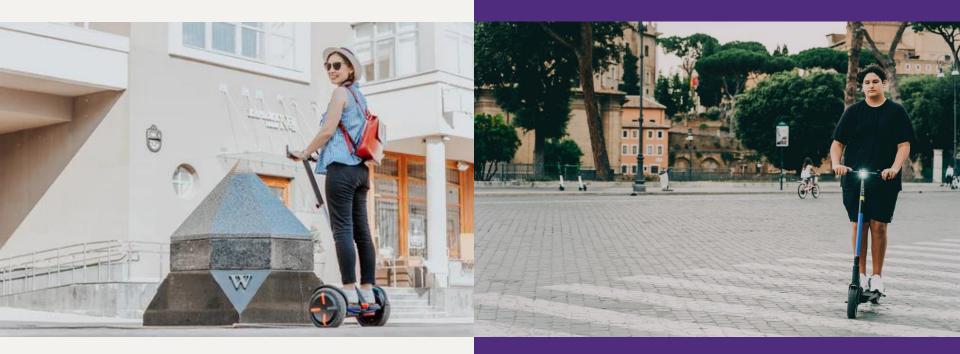
... but to convert



# **Technology Innovation**

#### **Value Innovation**

VS



# **Key Takeaways**

- VUCA Antidote (Vision, Understanding, Courage, Adaptability)
- Calm before the Storm
- Now is the time for Clients to strengthen the core business
- Earlier clients act, the more options available
- Benefits of marginal gains on both Revenue and Expenses
- Continuous improvement mindset / culture



# **Key Takeaways**

- Take the time to focus ON your business rather than IN your business.
- Effective planning requires visibility of three horizons now, transition and future.
- Challenge your clients. Some of the questions
  - If we started the business today, would it look the same?
  - Who are your non-customers, how can we help them become customers?
  - How would you use more funding to grow?
- Businesses need an Outsider to challenge them. Ask the difficult leading questions



"We've always done it this way" may lead to business failure in 2021 Graham Killer on LinkedIn



Forecasting optimism could lead to business failure in 2021 Graham Killer on LinkedIn

# Linked in

#### **Graham Killer**



Business viability - time to restructure and grow Graham Killer on LinkedIn



Business Success - Right People in the Right Seats Graham Killer on LinkedIn







