

## CHAIRMAN | ANNUAL REPORT 2020

This past year has been rather tumultuous for the club industry as a whole and we are no exception. The onset of Covid-19 in March of this year necessitated a complete shutdown of our facilities for approximately six weeks.

Unfortunately this shut down had a detrimental impact on our trading to the end of financial year. Reporting an operating profit of \$1,013,040 which is detailed in our financial reports.

Moving into the new financial year the Board have recently approved a budget for 2020–2021 with a target operating profit in the order of \$182,000 by June 2021. This budget will be closely monitored.

These past few months have seen a number of personnel changes at board level with the resignation of Laurie Kennedy in June and further resignation of Diane Erickson in August. On behalf of the board I wish Laurie and Diane all the very best for their future endeavours and thank them both for the hard work they have put into the club during their time on the board.

We welcome Vivian and Raymond our new Bistro operators who have recently commenced with an improved offering for your enjoyment. Early reports are encouraging and I can only recommend that members give it a go (as the saying goes).

On a sad note our club has seen the passing of a number of active members including one of our life members Mr Ernie Miller. On behalf of the board I offer our condolences to all of the families who have lost loved ones during the year.

Going forward we have some exciting prospects which will enhance our ability to survive and prosper in the longer term.

Firstly, we have negotiated a heads of agreement to lease the Phoenix Room to an approved Gym operator. This necessitated submission of the development proposal to Ryde Council some months ago, and we are currently awaiting approval which is anticipated in the near future.

We also have an application with council to enable the club to utilise the bowling greens for a day market stall venue once a month. Again we await council decision.

Site development - discussions have been on the agenda for at least 10 years to my knowledge and the current board have undertaken a lot of research in an attempt to achieve the best outcome for the clubs future prosperity. Whilst we have received a number of proposals, we are of the opinion that we do not have sufficient details at this time to recommend any particular one to you our members. We have therefore in recent times agreed to a three months due diligence period with an experienced consultant to investigate the feasibility of our development potential, with an agreed commitment to report back to the board by mid December 2020.

Once we are in receipt of this information and are able to compare it with other offers we will convene a series of information sessions to inform the membership on the progress. We expect to be in a position to commence these meetings by late January, early February 2021.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of our management and staff for their continued good efforts. Particularly in their dedication during these difficult times managing the daily issues with our Covid-19 requirements and keeping our club open.

We also extend a warm welcome to the recently joined staff members.

I also wish to thank you, our members for your continued support throughout these difficult times. Without your continued attendance and support we will not be able to remain in business.

Yours truly,

Peter Simmons | Chairman | Club Ryde