



220 – 232 Oxford Street Paddington NSW 2021

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Chairperson Report

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the land on which this club is situated belongs to the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation and I would like to acknowledge all first nations people, past present and emerging and acknowledge the contribution they have made to this land and pay my respects and acknowledge all first nations people who are members of this great club.

I would also like to pay tribute and honour all members who have passed over the last 12 months, especially our previous President Richard Best who served as President from 2017-2021. Richard always displayed hard work and dedication to the role, providing support and mentoring not just to me but to all the board, he was a champion person who will be sadly missed.

2022 was a challenging year for the club as we climbed out of the COVID 19 crisis.

The 2022 reporting year still suffered the effects of COVID 19 with some events cancelled during the beginning of the year. On a positive note, club membership increased by 500 new members.

During the year a membership survey was conducted with 113 members providing feedback, this enabled the board to set a strategic planning day and strategic direction for the club, this plan was displayed to members in December 2022.

The board also ensured all regulations in relation to WHS, Fire Safety, Liquor, Gaming, Food Hygiene, Building and Club Regulations had been met and achieved.

The ageing infrastructure of the club caused some issues throughout the year which required additional funds to carry out repairs and maintenance. The major infrastructure that failed was:

- the roof, due to neglect over the past twenty (20) years,
- the lift which cost \$25,000 to repair and
- the compressor.

The board has now set aside a strategic budget to ensure ageing infrastructure can be maintained, repaired, or replaced prior to malfunction or end of life. In addition, the board also secured AON as the Insurance agent for the club.

Members also benefitted throughout the year:

- with the introduction of 'Member for Life' for members who have maintained current financial membership for twenty (20) or more years, they are now not required to pay an annual subscription fee.
- Happy Hour was changed to 5:00pm to 7:00pm, Monday to Friday. Beer prices were \$8.00 for non-members, \$6.50 for members and \$5.00 during Happy Hour.
- Christmas drinks was held for members with good attendance.
- The board is carrying out a comprehensive overhaul of the membership database so we can accurately record and understand the demographics of our membership to best meet their needs.
- The board has incorporated Club Pass which will enable accurate data to support this initiative.
- New first aid kits and Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) have been installed in the club this will provide members and guests will early access to first aid and enhance survivability if the need arises.
- The board is also posting financial statements every quarter on notice board.

The year also saw some significant changes throughout the club with the Crafty Cook contract being terminated and Soul Bistro engaged as the new catering company. Raj has worked at the club for some years now and decided to start his own company, the board recognised his strong work ethic and good kitchen skills and have secured Soul Bistro for the next three years.

The club also saw Ross Lamb leave after eleven (11) years' service as the General Manager and welcomed Stuart Cairns as the new General Manager. The board has worked closely with Stuart to implement a range of initiatives to assist with the running of the club. All staff now undergo a Police criminal check when seeking employment with the club. Leave liability is being reduced across all staff to ensure our staff are rested and free of fatigue as well as to reduce the clubs' financial responsibility. The board rewarded staff with a Christmas bonus to say thank you for their dedication and hard work during the year. The club engaged with Robert Oatley wines to provide uniforms for our staff. All Directors have registered with the Australian Business Registry to ensure they all have Director ID. Lastly, Nick Penny our director resigned in July 2022 and the board thanks him for his dedication to the role.

The board is always looking at ways to reduce costs and create financial incentives and throughout the year implemented the following:

- Changed the public address system and have saved \$300 per week.
- Partnered with Coopers to implement a food and beverage offer on Wednesday nights.
- Reduce the amount of FOXTEL licences to save the club \$1,200 per month.
- Implemented a TAB digital platform which has saved money on commission, equipment, stationary and human resource hours.
- Installed a Return and Earn recycling centre to reduce environmental waste and carbon footprint on the community, this is also providing a profit back to the club.
- The impending sale of twenty-seven (27) poker machine licences. The club currently has twenty-one (21) poker machines on the floor and intends to keep that amount on the floor.

- Pinball machines were removed due to providing no revenue and creating a cost.
- Staff wages were tracking at 36% in 2021 and in 2022 have been reduced to the mid-20s.
- Geoff Trio from Code One Entertainment has been engaged to invigorate the music and entertainment section of the club.
- The club is investigating the opportunity to seek competitive deals on electricity usage.
- The club joined the Paddington Chamber of Commerce to leverage the business community.
- The club is also investigating the implementation of a K-Touch Keno terminal & 44digital Keno which will save the \$2,200 per month in Keno Commission, which is cost prohibitive.
- The maintenance and outside cleanliness of the club with fortnightly cleaning.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the members for their continued support of the club, the staff for their hard work and my fellow board members Paul, David, John, Daphne and Suzi for their tireless dedication and long hours spent ensuring Paddington Woollahra RSL is a family friendly venue which prides itself on being a venue which offers great food, great live entertainment and cold refreshing drinks at affordable prices.

Terrence Farley JP

President

Paddington Woollahra RSL