

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

It is my privilege on behalf of the Board of Directors to present, for your adoption, the 49th Annual Report for the Laurieton United Services Club Group for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. And What a Year it has been!!

The year in review has seen us all face some horrific challenges – a Pandemic, Bushfires, Floods and the Pandemic again.

This year has really emphasised what the Club movement is all about – we are here for the support of our community and our members in a time of crisis, and I am sure your Club lived up to those expectations.

Throughout these challenges your Board has continued to focus on responsible financial management to secure the Clubs long term future, and in so doing has achieved a record profit of \$1.095 million. This profit has been achieved primarily from the receipt of the Federal Governments JobKeeper program to stimulate the economy during Covid., which in effect allowed the Club to trade for 3 months without the expense of any wages. This together with a \$500k insurance claim following the flood, has allowed the Club to retire debt in excess of \$1 million this year. All of this has placed your Club in a favorable position to move forward with repairs to the Club and our continued expansion program.

During the year our Government Grants Committee managed to secure 2 additional government Grants – one to upgrade the Clubs generator (\$110 k ) and one to replace the surface of a Synthetic bowling green and complete \$50k of cart paths at Kew Country Club ( \$220k).

Your Board recognises the importance of a close relationship with Local, State and Federal authorities and we thank Mayor Peta Pinson, The Hon. Leslie Williams MP and Hon David Gillespie MP for their ongoing support.

I sincerely thank all my Board colleagues for their continued support to me and their contribution and commitment to your Club. I would also like to welcome April Saunders who has been appointed to the Board to fill the large gap left by the retirement of Anne Burton, after 11 wonderful years of service to your Club. Thank you Anne.

Along with a full calendar of Board meetings, conferences and Club visitations, each Director is a member of the Club Directors Institute, and all have

attended educational seminars and workshops ensuring that they are fully prepared to set the future direction of your Club to move forward.

I am also proud to report that the LUSC Brand is being acknowledged in many areas of our Community with our continued focus to support Local organisations through our Club grants, donations and sponsorships Community expenditure and other in kind function support to over 80 local organisations.

A culture of mutual respect between Board and Management is paramount for success. To this end I would like to express the Boards thanks to our General Manager, Robert Dwyer and Assistant General Manager, Nathan Kerr together with our Management team for their professional way in which they conduct themselves and represent the Club whilst sustaining member interests as a priority.

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the contribution of all our staff, some of whom went beyond their normal duties when the Club was an evacuation centre during the fires and flood. Those back and front of house and cellar staff have had a very difficult time over the past 12 months, which has taken us to a to a new level of challenge, to which all our staff have risen.

On behalf of the Board, Management and staff I would like to convey our condolences to the families and friends of members who have passed away and sincerely thank our Welfare team for their continued outstanding work.

In conclusion I would sincerely like to thank you the Members for your continued support and patience during the 'new norm' Covid regulations. Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you around the Club.

Greg Armstrong

President

