

WORONORA RIVER RSL & CITIZENS CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

President's Report

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge all our current board of directors, patrons, life members and members of Woronora River RSL & Citizens Club. Without each and every one of you, we would not have this wonderful little club of ours. On behalf of my fellow board members, I extend my sincere condolences to the families of our members who have lost loved ones over the past year.

I am happy to report that financially, the club is trading smoothly with increased profit results. Our club has gone from strength to strength over the past year. These results are due largely to the appointment of Ross Tillett as acting Treasurer. With Ross' vast experience in the financial industry he has introduced new systems and restructured how finances are managed. Ross has put a lot of time and effort in to ensuring the club achieves its best results. So, a big thank you to Ross.

With the future growth and ongoing viability of the club in mind the board of directors have been working on planning improvement strategies in order to provide comfortable facilities and amenities for our members and guests.

The club has many facilities on offer including a great beer garden to relax outdoors and the auditorium is available for hire for your next function. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner Wednesday to Sunday. We have FoxSports to watch your favourite game, TAB, Keno, weekly raffles and regular entertainment. Recently we had a 'mini makeover' in the poker machine area where older games have been upgraded and the poker machine bases and chairs have been replaced for your comfort.

New members are always welcome to join Woronora River RSL Fishing Club. It is a strong family orientated club holding monthly weigh-ins for juniors, ladies and open divisions, regular charter boats, friendly competitions and plenty of fun social outings including the annual golf day, race day, Christmas in July dinner and of course the presentation night. Thank you fisho's for organising these events throughout the year.

Woronora River RSL Snooker Club participate in a competition each Tuesday from 7pm March - September with teams all over the Shire. It is played in a handicap format and open to players of all abilities. Again, new players are always welcome or come along as a spectator to watch some top-class snooker!

The club and sub-branch continue working well together. Barry Grant and his crew put on another great Commemoration Day and ANZAC services. I am proud to be part of this club and the standard of services that the sub-branch co-ordinate. These services are a reminder of why RSL clubs were formed. The sacrifices of many who have gone before us should never be forgotten and while RSL clubs remain a part of local communities these sacrifices will live on.

Regrettably, we are losing a long time stalwart of the club. Maureen Davis-Catterall (Maud) is retiring from the board. Maud has been the Licensee and Secretary-Manager since 2009. This position is a full time voluntary role. Maud and has put in countless hours dealing with the day to day running of the club and given up hours of her time with the numerous amount of work behind the scenes, attending seminars, keeping up to date on legislative guidelines, just to name a few. She has seen many ups and downs within the club but always stuck in and dug deep when needed. Maud would never be fazed by any situation, always saying 'don't worry - it will all work out' and of course, it

usually did. Thank you Maud – you've left some big shoes to fill and you will be missed. Enjoy your well-earned retirement but don't forget to drop in for a beer and chat.

Peter Lucas is also retiring as a director of the board. Thanks Pete for your input and contributions at the meetings and helping out at raffles. I look forward to catching up for a beer and chat with you too to hear your travel adventures.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all staff members - administration, cleaning, bar staff, courtesy bus drivers all maintaining a high standard of customer service.

Thank you to the board of directors for your support, commitment and dedication throughout the year. The voluntary time you commit to the club plays an important role in keeping the club going.

Finally, thank you to the members for your support and patronage throughout the year. Clubs are nothing without their members. You will no doubt be aware of the increasing number of clubs that are closing due to lack of patronage support and management. With your continued support we'll only grow stronger and keep this little club of ours open.

I look forward to seeing you in the club soon.

Darren Parker
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is with much pride that I present my final report as Honorary Secretary Manager of our Club. I was elected to the Board in 2008 and took on the role of Secretary Manager in August 2009. It has been a very rewarding experience and I believe under my stewardship our club has prospered and grown.

The steady growth of our club of course is not down to simply one person. The Board, all of whom volunteer their time, are an important part of the continued success of the Club, as are the members and our staff.

The 2016 financial report shows that the policies and procedures developed and implemented during this time were sound and successful. The River Room is regularly booked for functions and patrons love the value they get for the price of the room. Entertainment has proven successful and the atmosphere in the beer garden is second to none. Our one shortfall is the lack of cover outside to accommodate smokers and entertainment in wet weather.

Legislation has a great impact on our day to day running. By 2017 all directors will be required to undertake mandatory training. Gaming machines will need updating to accommodate the introduction of the new \$5 and \$10 dollar notes. Regular maintenance and repair all eat into our small profit margin. But we continue to maintain. Not a lot of other small clubs can boast the same success.

Friday Bingo has again proven a hit on the last Friday of the month. This activity was introduced by Amanda Bower when she was a Director. To this day Amanda calls bingo donating two hours of her time during her working day. That's right. Amada does not get paid to call bingo.

Although expensive, Fox Sport is popular. I love the atmosphere during the game and in particular State of Origin. Darren Parker does a great job organising the hot dogs for half time. Kylie Bain keeps us all involved with the NRL footy tipping competition and Peter Lucas and Bruce Powney give the Friday regulars a treat with the well-loved prawn raffles. Ross Tillett, John Thompson, Aaron Shute and Deb Clements are invaluable to our success and growth. However it's our members who should be proud. If it weren't for you the door would be closed. In 2016 our member numbers grew to well in excess of 800. It appears that when our children turn 18, it's down to the Wonni to sign them up as members. Great job.

The Fishing and Snooker Clubs continue to bring family and friends into the premises and I encourage to check out the notice boards and come along and check out the great fish caught and the hotly contested games of Snooker.

Over the past year members have experienced loss of love ones. To all I extend our heartfelt condolences.

I thank everyone for their contribution and look forward to seeing our club continue on this upward growth trend.

Maureen Davis-Catterall

Hon. Secretary Manager