

Dear Members

### **Update from The Committee and Advisory Panel - 18 May 2020**

To update you on things that have been happening at the Club. What is clear is that we still have some way to go before we get back to anything close to normal as we knew it. Challenging times are ahead for all businesses, not least for those in hospitality, as we are, and we look forward to when we can advise on our re-opening.

The Committee and the Advisory Panel have continued working hard behind the scenes throughout Lockdown. We have conducted a full review of all aspects of the Club's functions and operating structure and taken into consideration last year's Membership survey, feedback from staff, Committee and Advisory Panel. The Committee and Advisory Panel's position is the Club must be financially viable and at a minimum, it must achieve a break-even financial position. Covid-19 has further exacerbated the financial impact on our Club, and we are managing our way through continuous regulation changes and challenges. We have had to make some very tough decisions.

To lay some bare facts out for you:

- The Club cannot continue to run up operating losses as it has previously - it is not a sustainable business model.
- Covid-19 regulations on public gatherings and hospitality have and we believe will continue to impact both the Club's financial position and how it will operate.
- The Club cannot continually rely on the generosity of sponsors and cash reserves to pay the Club's operational running costs.
- Just to keep the club closed for the past seven weeks costs us around \$5000 a month, before wages which are currently covered by the wage subsidy
- To re-open, the expense is about the same but **per week**.
- Changes have to be made!

Sadly, after considering all the options available, it has been necessary to make the administration and bar staff redundant as there was no option for redeployment in such uncertain times. Their last official day is the 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Our staff are great people and have done a good job during their time with the Club - supporting the Committee and Advisory Panel, looking after you, our Members, and sharing their passion for our Club. We thank each of them for their dedication and commitment to the Club and hope that they will continue to be a part of our Club in some way in the future.

Also, for your information, Bill Cavanagh has also recently stepped down from his role on the Advisory Panel. He has played an important role on the Advisory Panel since its inception in helping the Club to navigate its way forward. We are very appreciative of his contribution and look forward to seeing him again soon over a beer once the Club reopens.

What was pleasing, with some creative thinking and support from sponsors (check out the photo section), we were able to hold a fishing competition during Level 3.

Other planned Club events are being worked on and we will advise as soon as more details are known.

THE GREAT NEWS IS – THE CLUB HAS SOME INCREDIBLY GENEROUS SPONSORS AND MEMBERS THAT HAVE COME FORWARD TO HELP OUT.

You will be in for some re-opening surprises. There has been much activity in the Club over the past week, thanks to some very generous supporters. We would particularly like to thank:

**Dean Waddell from Pak N Save Cameron Road**

**Tony Rich from Gerrand Flooring**

**Greg Clarke from Hawridge Developments**

**Doug Stewart from Higher Safe NZ**

**Lee Hillier – Brushcraft**

**Sid Carter – Height 4 Hire**

**Nick Shearman – Glass Art**

It must be stressed, that this work has only been done because of the generosity of these people and has NOT been funded out of the Club's capital or working funds. These must be preserved at all costs, to enable our Club to continue its long history.

We will keep you in suspense for now but please support these businesses, there generosity is truly appreciated.

We look forward to re-opening – as yet we can't say when.

**When we do re-open**, please understand that it will not be like it used to be, we will not be able to immediately go back to a 7 day operation and there is likely to be restrictions on how many people can be in the Club, how they are served, and so on. As regulations become clearer, we will put measures in place to comply and will advise you on this.

Plans are being progressed with haste to resume some Club activities as soon as possible.

In the meantime, enjoy some time on the water and we look forward to seeing you soon,

Kind regards

**Doug Stewart**  
**President**

**Ian Thomas**  
**Patron**

**Committee and Advisory Panel**