



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Another 12 months has gone by since my last report, and what a year it has been. If anyone had suggested some of the things that have happened during the year, you would have thought they were crazy.

We all know what happened in March this year when all clubs were forced to close due to the pandemic. This was a very trying time when we had to stand down all our staff without pay. However, with the Government's help, we were able to retain our staff, and now that we are open again, we can still see their smiling faces. During the close they were absolutely marvellous and came in to carry out all sorts of tasks. They cleaned, painted, moved furniture, and showed their support for the club. I thank them all.

Our CEO, Peter Negus had intentions of retiring in July, and early in the year we sought expressions of interest for a replacement. We had quite a few applicants and managed to get down to a short list of possible candidates, but circumstances forced us to put our plans on hold. Peter then decided to stay on for a further 12 months and steer the ship through stormy waters. The Board greatly appreciates this, and thanks him sincerely for making the commitment. In addition, our Administration Officer, Sandy Stanbridge put in many long hours sorting through the mounds of paperwork, circulars and instructions that seemed to change daily.

The Directors have had to absorb a lot in the last few months, and I thank them for their continued support. Even though the Club was closed, Warren and his team managed to serve our members with takeaway meals which were well accepted. They are back in business and once again pleasing our diners. The good comments are most welcome.

Obviously, our finances suffered greatly during the period, without income there were still bills to pay. Accordingly, our bottom line this year has been affected. Since reopening though, we are starting to see improvements, and our cash flow is strong.

Because of the restrictions placed on us regarding the number of people allowed in the Club, we have had to put our AGM back to October this year. There will be four positions up for nomination this year: Chairman and three Directors, one of whom will be for two years to fill the position vacated at the end of 2019. There will also be some changes to our Constitution to be voted on, together with a Special Resolution to allow non-bowling members to stand for Board positions. This was narrowly defeated last year, and I commend it to you for approval this year.

We still have a way to go to get back to “normal” if there is to be such a thing, and rely on the support of you, our members. Club North Haven will continue to be here, and we welcome your continued support.

To our members who have lost loved ones during the year, we extend our sincere sympathies.

Gary McLoughlin
Chairman
August 2020