

COMMODORES REPORT 2025

Surviving the hiccup at the beginning of our term, your Committee was able to settle in and begin the business of running the club. After perusing carefully the financial accounts and quickly assessing the position of the club, it was plainly obvious that there had to be some serious attention to cost cutting and budgeting. Changing the financials to Omokoroa Accounting has been a master stroke as we are now able to access appointments without having to wait three months from the previous Tauranga based company. This has enabled the club to gain much needed financial advice and on the spot financial reports. In fact it was a statement report from Omokoroa Accounting which alerted us to the seriousness of our financial position, which in turn, has allowed us to plan and act to rectify the situation. Reports showed wages way up and turnover dropping. Competition from the Village Green and the Rising Tide ate into our turnover and the Friday night markets completely “stole” parking making it very difficult for businesses and the club to accommodate customers and club members. It appears we will have to contend with the status quo next summer.

There had to be corrective action taken and quickly. We began with reducing honoraria from \$41,500.00 per year to a maximum of \$13,000.00 per year, some office bearers donating their time. Removing unnecessary spending saving \$1,500.00 per year on plant hire and renegotiating prices with suppliers. Wherever we are able, we are relying on club members voluntary labour to complete minor maintenance projects. Thank you to committee member Jason of RZG Contractors for the replacement of cross members under the club house. Thank you to Helen Patterson from Eastern Payroll Solutions who kindly donates her services to the club to manage our payroll. Thank you to all who have contributed in some way or another helping the club survive.

The major cost was rising wages. This gave the committee no option but to disestablish the Club Manager’s position. This was a very unpleasant task but a necessary one in order for the club to survive and after what seemed like dozens of meetings searching for alternative solutions, the committee passed the motion unanimously in favour of disestablishing the position. I am unable to reveal the cost of savings on wages, but can report the club’s monthly financial report shows we are back in the black. While it is now winter when patronage normally falls, I can also report the club on a Thursday night, members night, is humming.

Committee members have combined to pick up the tasks that were included in the disestablished club managers role.

Events and activities

With the wonderful sunny summer we have just experienced, patronage has been exceptional, activities and events on the move, sailing events and club bookings all contributing to club enjoyment.

Both the adults and kids fishing comps were a success although the first attempt at the adults’ comp was weather affected. Thank you to the fishing comp organisers for successful days of competition.

Right up to the Easter break and the Kokomo Sunday, when the club was jam packed with patrons, the club prospered, the atmosphere was electric and fun was had by all. Jam sessions

are very popular and there was at least one per month. Thanks to the organisers as these sessions are very popular and well supported. It was a wonderful bonus for your committee who have worked tirelessly striving to get the club back, up and running.

Bookings for private functions have also been heavy, another bonus for the club. Wherever we can, we accept these bookings without interfering with members' rights. This provides added turnover for both the bar and the kitchen. Victor has the kitchen running magically which is very pleasing.

Members' nights are being well patronised these days, the members' draws and raffles a major attraction.

Our normal Quiz night winter attraction is still very popular. Thanks to Geoff and Sue Gripton for running this event. Jokers Wild had taken a break while the markets were operating during daylight saving hours.

Bar

At present, the bar is operating very well under the management of our Acting Bar Manager David Cooper and his very capable Acting Assistant Bar Manager Jess Logan. Casual bar staff include Bridget Hinton, Eryl Raymond, Mark Clifton and Donna Norris. Expect a price increase very soon, Government taxes. Thank you David and your team for your dedication serving punters.

Incorporated Society changes

These changes are now available for your perusal and will be voted upon at the AGM.

Building and maintenance

While we are keeping a close eye on general maintenance in and around the clubhouse we will not instigate any new projects until we solidify our financial position.

Sponsors

I wish to thank all of those Companies and persons who have in one way or another supported our club with sponsorship, in particular our major sponsors Rachel Millard from Your Real Estate and Steve Ling from Fresh Choice. It makes events a lot easier to organise with your help.

Conclusions

Despite all the hiccups the club has suffered recently, I am very positive and appreciative that this committee has performed admirably and without gripes and groans and have gone about their tasks diligently. There has been a huge amount to cover and with the resignation of Peter Hinton due to work commitment's we co-opted Gerrit Bahlman and Desiree Kansley. Desiree introduced the highly successful Wine and Cheese afternoon. Gerrit completed some great work modernising the club website

At the time of writing all committee members apart from John Garnett are returning to the fold this coming year to continue the great work they have started. We would like to fill the Club Captain's role so if you are interested, please make it known to the committee. As I have

mentioned, your committee has worked really hard this year with Secretary Janet a real asset and Treasurer Marcus to the fore. Well done you two. Thank you to the rest of the team for the hours generated and the support you gave given each other throughout the hard times. Whilst there are still some hard decisions to make, I am sure the club will be better off for it.

To all the other members who have contributed to the club, thank you for the paths you are helping to create. I believe we are slowly on the road to recovery and every one of us has a part to play. Once we negotiate the winter, I am sure we will have the experience and enthusiasm to make the club strong again.

AFTER ALL, IT IS THE SURVIVAL OF THE CLUB WE ARE WORKING FOR.

Ian Blunt

Commodore 2025