CHAIR'S 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Members

Your Board of Directors remain extremely proud to be involved with a great organisation that has such strong connections to all parts of our local and regional communities, who benefit from us realising our Vision "to make a significant contribution to the quality of community life".

Mingara Leisure Group continues to grow with the construction and opening of our hotel, Encore by Mingara, adding great value to not only our business but offering fantastic accommodation for our members and the tourist community in general. Encore has also partnered with several local businesses in the Tuggerah Business Park becoming their preferred corporate partner.

Red Eye Constructions took the opportunity to make a submission in the \$20 - \$30 million commercial project category of the recent Master Builders Association (MBA) Newcastle Excellence Building Awards. They won this category which is an accolade to the construction of Encore by Mingara. The reopening of the new club building at The Greens The Entrance has also been a very significant event for us in the past 12 months. The new club has been well received by our Members and the community at large.

We, as a group, have commenced a fantastic project called Towards 2030. The team have worked on identifying, assessing, and recommending initiatives that improve our business performance, focusing on reducing costs and waste together with efficiency improvements whilst keeping our team and customers safe. In addition, we have installed solar panels at all of our clubs, including the recent installation of 1,300 solar panels at Mingara, taking the number of solar panels installed to over 2,400 group wide.

We are committed and proud to continue to support the many community events and organisations through our ClubGRANTS program, some of which I have shared below.

Elsie's Project is the first in-patient palliative care unit on the Central Coast at Gosford Hospital, established by The Lions Club of Wyoming East Gosford after identifying the need for a dedicated facility. The unit officially opened in 2021 with 10 patient beds, and Mingara has been supporting this vital community service since it's inception.

The Elsie's Project began when much-loved Central Coast resident, Elsie Green, was diagnosed with breast cancer. At just 51 years of age, Elsie was not able to secure a hospice bed and sadly lost her battle with cancer while living in a nursing home. Elsie was passionate about the need for a dedicated palliative care unit, and her friends at the Lions Club promised they would do their best to make it happen.

The Westport Club's **Library Regeneration Program** is an exciting community initiative aimed at inspiring young children in Port Macquarie and surrounding areas to fall in love with reading. Partnering with Dymocks Children's Charities, the program has been a consistent in our community calendar for over 10 years! For our most recent roll-out, we aimed to provide local preschools with new books and give children the opportunity to explore the world of literature.

Over the course of the program, we visited twelve local preschools, delivering plenty of books to the delight of little learners. We were continually thrilled to deliver the program and proud to have inspired more children to fall in love with reading.

Cerebral Palsy Alliance is a global leader in cerebral palsy, bringing together leading services, research, advocacy and technology to improve the lives of people with cerebral palsy and their families, at every stage of life.

Lantern Club have partnered with Cerebral Palsy Alliance Clinic in Roselands, Sydney. This clinic offers a wide range of services, programs and general support for members of our community with cerebral palsy and similar conditions, and their families. We have seen first hand the difference our support makes to this clinic.

The Blue Mountains Safe Space for Suicide Prevention (BMSSSP) is non-profit organisation which is a non-clinical, walk-in community space providing a warm, welcoming environment free from stigma where people experiencing emotional distress or suicidal thoughts can find support.

Springwood Sports Club have recently partnered with BMSSSP where many volunteers who have their own lived experiences of suicidal crisis are available to speak to people and provide assistance through mutual understanding. They also respond to the needs of the local population impacted by suicide, overcoming geographical challenges, and providing this essential physical space.

The Shepherd Centre for Deaf Children is an organisation providing specialised programs for children with hearing loss and their families. Their programs meet the needs of children of all ages; from world-leading early intervention system for babies and toddlers, through to their mentoring program, Hear for You, which supports school-aged children and teenagers.

They have been enabling children with hearing loss to develop their listening and spoken language, literacy, and social skills for over 50 years, ensuring they can go on to achieve their full potential in life. The Centre support over 900 families all over Australia with Online Telehealth for rural and regional areas together with 9 centres in New South Wales, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

Over the past 25 years our organisation has achieved significant progression with numerous amalgamations, significant renovations at all our clubs along with technology innovation and a focus on both our culture and people. A major element of this has been the support of Members and their guests, together with the combined management skills and experience of our team. Another huge part of our success has been the leadership from our Chief Executive Officer Paul Barnett who has proved himself to be a great leader of our industry and our group of clubs. Paul is retiring in January 2026, and I can only thank Paul for his support and commitment during my time on the Board. We wish him well.

I would like to also thank Chief Operating Officer Grant Gladman, Chief Financial Officer, Joanne Gresham and Chief Property Officer Andy Yelds for their outstanding contributions to the business. Of course, the business doesn't operate at all without the support of our large team, and you, our Members, who without your continued support, nothing progresses.

Also, thanks to Catherine, the Executive Assistant to the CEO. Amongst her very busy role, she has the onerous duty of supporting myself and the Board of Directors.

Thank you to Mingara's Community Advisory Committee members, for the work you do each and every year to support the business and the Board of Directors. This year The Greens The Entrance's Community Advisory Committee recommended to dissolve their committee. The committee was established with a group of key members of The Greens, assisting us with the success of our amalgamation with The Entrance Bowling Club. Their dedication and collaboration is appreciated and we also thank them for their commitment.

After 13 years as Chairman, this is my last AGM as I have decided to stand down from this position. I am however standing this year for one more 3 year term as a Director. It has been an honour and privilege to lead your Board of Directors over these years and we will be electing a new Chair, immediately after this AGM. I would like to thank both this Board and previous Boards for their support and friendship during my time as Chairman.

As the end of the year approaches, and we head into the festive season. I wish you a safe and merry Christmas, and look forward to an exciting and successful hear ahead.

Phil Walker

Chair

Mingara Leisure Group

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