



Annual General Meeting – 4 November, 2020

President's Report

This year has proven to be one of the most challenging for your Club. We received notification from HOTA in mid-March that HOTA would be closing and all our bookings from April through to September had to be cancelled. That was a first ever unique situation for your Club. Despite meetings with HOTA to resurrect some activity it proved unsuccessful.

Fortunately, we were able to kick start what was left of the year in September with considerable restrictions for your Club. The Committee agreed that 'something was better than nothing' so we pressed on with severely reduced numbers in the Lakeside Room. Capacity was reduced from 320 to 112 which impacted across the board with bands, budgets and members. We restarted on Wednesday 2nd September with the Andrew Baxter band 'History of Blues' and had a sell-out. That was followed by sell outs for Caxton Street Jazz Band on 7/10 and again on 8/10 to allow our members a chance to attend with such reduced numbers. Our final show for this year is the Soul Men who again sold out very quickly.

In view of the limited benefit for members for most of the year, your Committee decided to reward members with a spectacular full moon Xmas party at Skypoint Q1 featuring entertainment from Issi Dye who was well known in the 70's for his popular music. The entire evening will cost only \$20 per head which is the Clubs way of saying "Thankyou" to all our long-suffering members and supporters for an interrupted 2020. The evening has already sold out at maximum capacity of 158 patrons.

Your Committee has worked diligently through all the various issues and we have finished the year in good shape both personally and financially.

I would like to pass on my sincere thanks to your Committee for their efforts and time in guiding your club through a 'minefield' of challenges as the year progressed

Financially your Club finishes the year in a pleasing position. The Treasurers report covers the full year financials for your Club but suffice to say we have managed the pandemic situation very well thanks to our efficient and hard-working Treasurer.

I am pleased to report I have had preliminary discussions with HOTA re 2021 and can report we have confirmed our first three shows for next year commencing in February. We expect to finalise the full years activities early next year so we can offer a full program of fine Jazz and Blues for your Club.

Your Club entered into an additional arrangement this year with the popular Bleach Festival. We are partnering with them and presenting a Honky Tonk show at their festival 'Chez Nous Club' on Chevron Island on Wednesday 18th November. It will feature the very popular Honky Tonk queen Jan Preston, who has blown our patrons away with her music. Club members can get a discount to the show and should go to The Bleach Festival website for tickets. Our Committee member Nikki Murphy is hosting the event on behalf of our Club which is sure to sell out and be a blast.

We hope we have served you well and communicated with you all during the restrictions and we really appreciate we have kept our membership growing throughout. Let's all hope for an uninterrupted year of fine music in 2021

John Purnell

President