



22 March 2020

Dear members,

I am writing to inform you that the Club's management committee has decided to postpone all future club events until the Covid19 pandemic has been brought under control. I will write to you again when we feel it will be safe for us to operate as Club that hosts runs and meetings. Please remember to renew your membership and your permits, instructions will be loaded onto the website to advise how the permit renewal process will operate for the foreseeable future.

Why?

The rate of infection is growing at a much faster rate than anyone seemed to have expected. The primary driver for the decision is your safety. We all need to observe social distancing to minimise risk. Venues such as the RSL where we meet will struggle as will virtually all public venues.

The committee organising the end of year Showcase decided on Tuesday night to postpone the event until next year; just when we will decide at a later stage. That is a shame as the level of responses coming from other clubs wanting to be a part has been very strong and positive. At the rate of current restrictions, we would have been unlikely to have staged the event in any case.

The AGM

We will be advising Consumer Affairs Victoria that we will not be holding an AGM until it is safe to bring members together. All current office holders will remain as is until you can vote.

My feelings about the decision

So many members of our club have worked hard in recent years to build a positive momentum with greater attendances and more frequent events; this momentum will be temporarily lost, but I am hopeful that when the pandemic starts to run out of its own momentum we can start to focus on rebuilding ours.

Stay safe and stay well

Our Club is a small part of a community and as such, we care about the health and welfare of all members. If anyone is struggling or needs a hand, please reach out to your fellow members. One thing this dreadful event has reminded us of is that we are part of a community, not just an economy, or an environment but a community. Practice social distancing, wash your hands regularly, listen to the advice that the best of our medical profession is providing, and fingers crossed, we'll all look back on 2020 as the reset of what matters.

Kind regards,

Stephen Whitworth

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