

Class 1
Local Impact Assessment

Fernhill Tavern Port Macquarie
4 Jindalee Road
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Licence Number: LIQH424004498
LGA: Port Macquarie Hastings

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The applicant submits a Class 1 Local Impact Assessment ("LIA") in support of an application under the *Gaming Machines Act 2001* ("the Act") for a low-range increase to the gaming machine threshold with an increase of eight (8) gaming machines for the Fernhill Tavern Port Macquarie (the "Hotel")
- 1.2. The threshold increase of eight (8) gaming machines would bring the overall total of the threshold to sixteen (16).
- 1.3. The subject premises is situated at 4 Jindalee Road, Port Macquarie.
- 1.4. The hotel is located within the Band 2 Local Government Area ("LGA") of Port Macquarie - Hastings.
- 1.5. The Act requires the Authority to be satisfied of the following in order to approve the subject gaming machine threshold increase application.
 - (a) The LIA complies with the Act & Regulation requirements;
 - (b) The LIA has demonstrated that gambling activities will be conducted in a responsible manner;
 - (c) The proposed increase in the gaming machine threshold will provide a positive contribution towards the local community; and
 - (d) The LIA has adequately addressed any community concerns arising out of the consultation.

It is submitted that the Authority would be so satisfied.

2. Hotel Background

- 2.1. The premises are located at 4 Jindalee Road, Port Macquarie NSW 2444.
- 2.2. The primary purpose of the Hotel will be for the sale of liquor by retail. The keeping and operation of gaming machines at the Hotel will not detract unduly from the character of the Hotel being within a discrete gaming room or from the enjoyment of persons using the Hotel otherwise than for the purpose of gaming. The Hotel currently operates 8 gaming machine entitlements.
- 2.3. The Hotel provides a full range of facilities for its patrons, including bar, bistro, (there is a heavy emphasis on food) bottle shop, TAB, Keno, function room and gaming room as per photographs attached. Light entertainment is provided, mainly of Duos, Karaoke, Wednesday night Poker events.
- 2.4. The Hotel's current total internal floor space substantially exceeds 400 square metres.
- 2.5. Attachment "A" depicts the existing floor plan with the proposed layout of the additional gaming machines inserted.
- 2.6. The hotel has 8-10 employees, full, part time and casual, thus providing significant local employment.

3. Responsible Gaming and Harm Minimisation

- 3.1. The Hotel's management and staff will be supportive of and encourage responsible gaming practices. All members of staff engaged in the operation of gaming machines have completed the prescribed *Responsible Conduct of Gambling Course*. A register of the RCG certificates and competency cards of all staff will be maintained at the Hotel.
- 3.2. The Hotel currently has 8 gaming machines. All gaming machines will be located within a gaming room as prescribed by Clause 9 of the Gaming Machines Regulation 2002, in that:-
 - (a) The gaming room is located in a bar area of the Hotel,
 - (b) The gaming room is physically separated from the general bar area by walls and doors,
 - (c) Patrons are not compelled to pass through the gaming room in order to enter or leave the Hotel or in order to gain access to another part of the Hotel,
 - (d) Entry to the gaming room is free of charge,
 - (e) The machines cannot be seen from any place outside the Hotel that is used by the public or to which the public has access,
 - (f) All gaming machines are suitably spaced in order to facilitate access,
 - (g) The gaming room is supervised at all times by way of electronic means and physical presence of the licensee or an employee,
 - (h) The gaming room has two (2) doorways that provide reasonable access to and from the gaming room to at least one operating bar and at least one toilet for each gender without the need for patrons to go on a public street, or to any area not forming part of the Hotel when moving from the gaming room to other facilities, and
 - (i) The gaming room cannot be accessed directly from a public street.

- 3.3. The Hotel gaming shutdown period is 4am to 10am daily and it trades 10am to midnight Monday to Saturday and 10am to 10pm Sunday.
- 3.4. The Hotel will maintain an active membership of the Australian Hotels Association (AHA) New South Wales and will continue to support its practices and procedures for gaming harm minimisation, and the principal of the owner is the President of the Local Liquor Accord.
- 3.5. Patrons of the Hotel will be made aware of the AHA's counselling services and of the government funded "gambling HELP" counselling service.
- 3.6. Patrons will be made aware of the chances of winning and the problems associated with excessive gambling through prescribed signage required to be located on each gaming machine and throughout the gaming room by way of the prescribed notices on display.
- 3.7. The ATMs located within the Hotel also display the appropriate signage to notify patrons of the problems associated with gambling.
- 3.8. The Hotel does not offer prizes associated with the use of its gaming machines and the Hotel has a policy of not cashing cheques.
- 3.9. The Hotel will comply with advertising requirements in respect to gaming:-
 - (a) The Hotel will not use the word "casino" in any description or promotion of the Hotel,
 - (b) The Hotel will not permit gaming related advertising material to be displayed on the exterior of the premises,
 - (c) The Hotel will not promote irresponsible gaming or gaming practices,
 - (d) The Hotel will display a clock, that is set to, or within 10 minutes of, the correct time and is in view of patrons in the gaming room,
 - (e) The Hotel will not publish the details of any person who has won a prize in excess of \$1,000, and
 - (f) The Hotel will display the prescribed signage in the gaming room, on all gaming machines, and on the ATM or any EFTPOS facilities.
- 3.10. The Hotel provides gaming related help line pamphlets and has signage located throughout the hotel.
- 3.11. The Hotel managers will be highly trained to watch for problem gamblers and talk regularly to patrons, assisting patrons when required.
- 3.12. The Hotel implements the AHA's Game Care problem gaming counselling and self exclusion scheme and gaming code of conduct and is a member of the Local Liquor Accord.

4. Local Community

- 4.1. The Hotel would be described as a hotel for "locals" and workers, with an emphasis on sports viewing supplemented by tourists at holiday time.
- 4.2. The Hotel is a prominent meeting place in Port Macquarie and the facilities are used by the "locals".
- 4.3. For the purpose of this application the local community has been identified as the Port Macquarie - Hastings L.G.A.

- 4.4. In July 2017 the Hotel was purchased by its present owner, who is also the owner by a different company of the Settlers Inn Port Macquarie. In much the same way as with the Settlers Inn, which has been developed in a 2 year period from a “tired” hotel into being chosen by AHA NSW in 2017 as the best Community Hotel in NSW, it is intended to apply the same “Community Centre Business Model” with these premises.

The grant of this application will assist this operator with a proven “track record” in Port Macquarie to upgrade the facilities of this hotel and make further positive contributions to the local community.

5. Demography

- 5.1. The population of Port Macquarie – Hastings LGA in the 2011 Census was 72,694 and the 2016 Census was 78,539. Tourism Research Australia’s latest visitor study estimates in 2016/17 there were 1.57 million visitations to the area.
- 5.2. Port Macquarie – Hastings LGA scored 957 in the 2011 SEIFA index of relative socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage. This hotel already provides an important social outlet for the local community, not otherwise available, and it is sought to continue and improve the facilities for, and contributions to the local community.

6. Positive Contribution to the Local Community

The applicant proposes to make donations totalling \$105,000 to the following local organisations:-

1. \$60,000 to Port Macquarie Mens Shed. Correspondence with it is attachment “B”.
2. \$45,000 to Port Macquarie Endeavour Clubhouse. Correspondence with it is attachment “C”.

7. Negative Effects

- 7.1. There may be some intangible negative impacts created as a result of an increase to the gaming machine threshold in relation to problem gambling.
- 7.2. The Hotel proposes to make a financial contribution in the sum of \$105,000 to the funding of organisations that provide support to people dealing with social and health problems, therefore offsetting any potential negative impacts that could arise from the approval.
- 7.3. The positive contributions will benefit the local community and the operators will continue to review and implement new responsible gaming and harm minimisation strategies in order to negate any negative impacts on the local community.

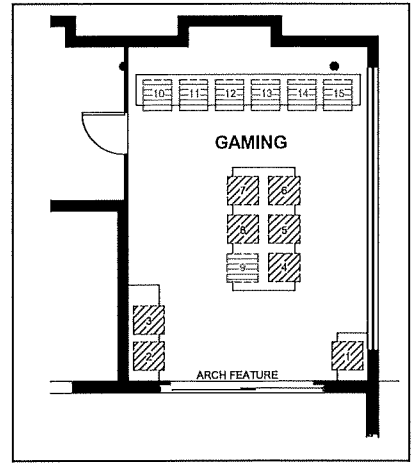
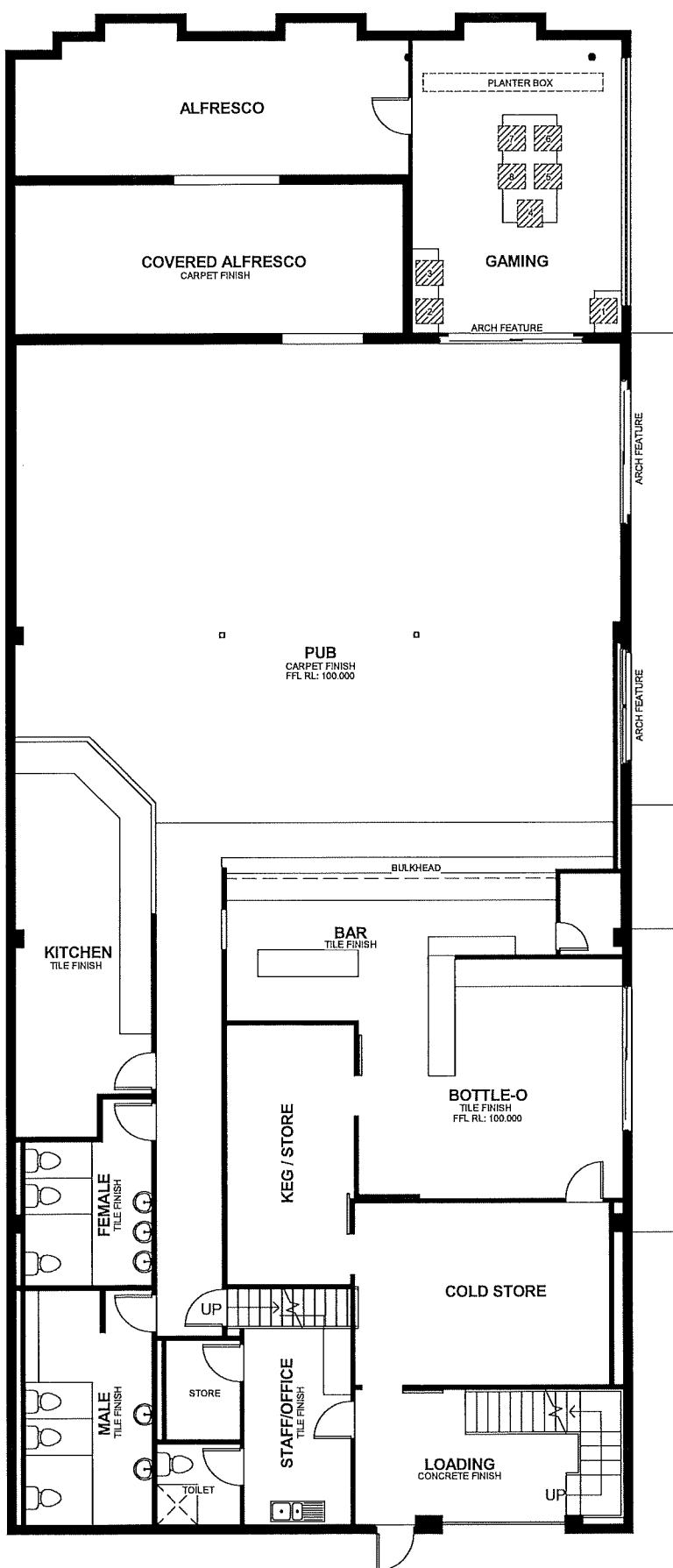
8. Conclusion

- 8.1. It is submitted that the foregoing information complies with the guidelines for a Class 1 Local Impact Assessment attaching to an application for an increase in the gaming machine threshold of the Hotel by addressing the responsible gaming and harm minimisation measures taken by the Hotel; identifies the local community of

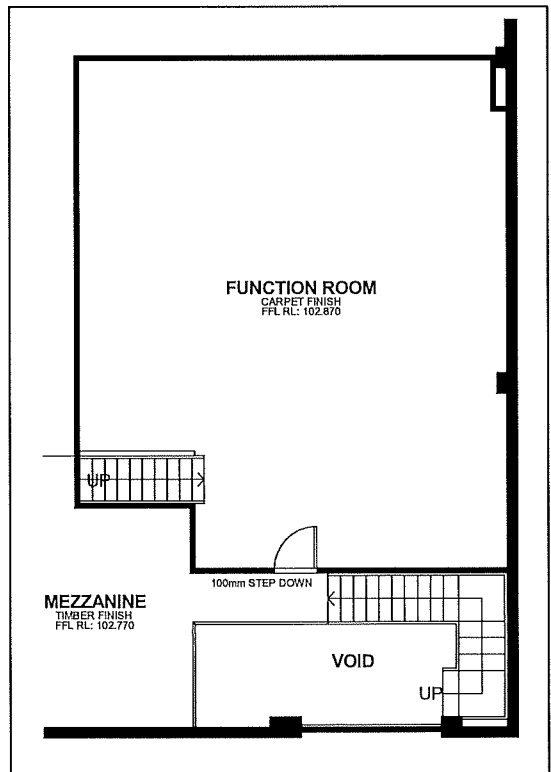
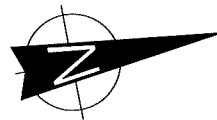
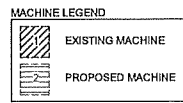
the Hotel; and provides information to show that a positive contribution will be made to the local community if the LIA and increase application are approved.

- 8.2. Approval of the gaming machines threshold to sixteen (16) will result in a direct positive impact by way of financial support and contributions to local organisations to the sum of \$105,000.
- 8.3. Based on the foregoing information and as the Hotel is located in a Band 2 Local Government Area and the application is for a low-range increase in the gaming machine threshold, we submit that there are more positive impacts for the community if the threshold application is approved than any negative impact by the installation of an additional eight (8) gaming machines within the local government area. In addition, the installation of eight (8) gaming machines at the Hotel will also reduce the overall number of gaming machines state-wide due to the forfeiture provisions.

ATTACHMENT "A"



PROPOSED MACHINE LAYOUT SCALE 1:100



EXISTING GROUND & MACHINE LAYOUT SCALE 1:100

EXISTING UPPER FLOOR PLAN SCALE 1:100

ATTACHMENT "B"



27 February 2018

Men's Shed Inc
5/25 Central Road,
Port Macquarie, 2444

Dear, Dennis Woods

RE: Proposed Donation

I am a director of the Fernhill Tavern and am preparing to apply to the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority for an increase in the gaming machine threshold of the premises from 8 to 16 machines. I have discussed this intention with you. We expect the application to be lodged next week.

The Gaming Machines Act requires that I demonstrate to the Authority that there will be a 'positive contribution towards the local community' if the application is granted. The accepted means of demonstrating that is to make a donation to a local organisation which works with those, who may be impacted, directly or indirectly, by alcohol or gambling related abuse or otherwise suffer socially or economically. I believe that your Men's Shed, Port Macquarie would be a worthy recipient and propose making a cash donation to your Men's Shed, Port Macquarie

The purpose of this letter is to determine whether or not the Mens Shed, Port Macquarie would accept this donation which would be made after the Authority grants this application. We do not know when that may be but it should occur in the first half of this year. Similarly, we do not know the quantum of that payment but expect it to be in the order of \$60,000



It is likely that the Authority may specify that the donation be used for counselling or youth development dealing with issues arising from the above. We assume your Men's Shed, Port Macquarie could use the money in that manner.

We would appreciate your advice on whether or not the Men's Shed, Port Macquarie would be in a position to accept our donation and as to how it might be used. You might also comment on whether there will be a positive contribution to the local community if the application is granted, and that you are aware it is contingent on the Authority approving the increase in gaming machine entitlements in the hotel.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on 0419 977 871.

Yours sincerely

Alistair Flower
Director
Fernhill Tavern



1. Organisation details

Name of organisation: The Hastings Mens Shed Incorporated

ABN: 73 881 755 779

Type of Organisation: Incorporated Entity

Registered for GST: Yes

DGR Endorsed: Yes (Item 1)

ATO Charity Type: Health Promotion Charity

Registered Charity No: 9889515

Registered Address: PO Box 662 Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Phone: 02 6581 4421

Email: hastingsmensshed@gmail.com

Contact Persons: Dennis Woods. President. (0410551326)
Joe Meredith. Secretary. (0432242854)

2. About the organisation

The Hastings Mens Shed Inc (known as Port Macquarie Mens Shed) is affiliated with the Australian Mens Shed Association (AMSA) the national peak body of the Mens Shed Movement. AMSA is the peak body representing almost 1000 Mens Sheds in Australia and has been acknowledged by the Australian Government as a significant part of the Australian Male Health Policy.

The Port Macquarie Shed is an updated version of the shed that has long been part of Australian culture. We are a not for profit, non-commercial organisation that is accessible to all men and whose primary activity is the provision of a safe and friendly environment where men are able to work on meaningful projects at their own pace and in the company of other men.

A major objective is to advance the health and well-being of our members.

Our members work on community projects, specific shed projects or projects of their own choice in their own time and where the only "must" is to observe safe working practices, all in the spirit of mateship.

The Port Macquarie Shed provides a community environment where senior men and young men with special needs can come together to learn and benefit through social interaction and stimulation.

This includes a vision impaired member, one who is wheelchair bound and currently six New I.D.A.F.E clients and their carers. The Shed also supports Centrelink clients on the New Start program.

After eight years of rental payments we are in urgent need of land and a shed for our expanding membership base which currently stands at 93. The size of the premises and ongoing rental payments have the potential to make our shed unviable which would affect not only our members but many community groups who use the shed's services.

Our lack of space is hampering our ability to help other organizations that regularly seek the support of the shed for building outdoor furniture or repair work.

The following is a sample list of groups the Port Macquarie Shed regularly does projects for:

Cerebral Palsy Alliance
Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Service
Base Hospital Rehabilitation Unit
North Coast Area Health Service
Green Meadows Medical Centre
Riding for the Disabled
Eye Q Optometry
Port Macquarie Hastings Council
Koala Hospital
Gowrie NSW (childrens disability service)
Tacking Point Public School
Westport Tennis Club
Lake Cathie Garden Centre
Port Macquarie Golf Club
Tacking Point Lions Club
Sunrise Rotary Club
Ford Car Club
Fire Museum
Ruins Café
Friends of the Court House
Billabong Zoo
Vinnies
Beetles Club
Hastings Public School
Tacking Point Lions Club
Womens Refuge
Holden Car Club
Hastings Bonsai Club
Hastings Yesteryear Truck and Machinery Club
Port Macquarie Astronomical Society

The Hastings Mens Shed Inc is run as a totally voluntary entity with none of the committee or members being paid for services.

Our membership is continually growing but due to conditions on our lease we are restricted from opening more than three days a week. When we have our own premises we will better meet the needs of members and open more often.



THE HASTINGS MENS SHED Inc.
5/25 Central Road
(PO Box 662)
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
ABN 73 881 755 779
Phone: 02-65814421

**HASTINGS MENS SHED
COMMITTEE MEETING 6 MARCH 2018**

Opened: 2.00pm

Present: Dennis Woods, Joe Meredith, John Bradley, John Macpherson, Simon Abell, Ian Jessop, Brian Jones

Apologies: Wal Waterston

Minutes of previous meeting approved: Moved John Macpherson/seconded John Bradley

Matters arising from previous meeting: None

Treasurer's Report tabled: Attached. Moved Simon Abell/seconded John Macpherson

Wauchope Shed

Request for \$400 to transport and cut 20 pine trees into slabs. Moved Brian Jones/seconded John Bradley

Items to be displayed at Wauchope Easter Show.

Port Macquarie Shed

Lions BBQ almost completed. Lions to reimburse shed for materials purchased and Lions to make generous donation to shed for labour

General Business

On 27 February 2018, Dennis Woods and Joe Meredith met with Alistair Flower from the Fernhill Tavern to discuss a sponsorship proposal for the shed. Mr Flower was referred to the shed by Leslie Williams who had suggested that any support would be used in the building of a shed. The Proposed sponsorship was discussed and covered the fact that accepting sponsorship from Mr Flower was no different than receiving the CLUBS grant money that we have previously accepted. Moved John Bradley/seconded John Macpherson. Approved unanimously.

Request from Port Macquarie Arts and Crafts Centre for reimbursement of half expense of survey for an amount of \$2420.00. Approved to pay amount but PMACC be requested provide an invoice for the amount. Moved Simon Abell/seconded John Bradley.

Dennis Woods advised meeting that he Joe Meredith would be meeting with architect Chris Jenkins on Wednesday 7 March. Unanimously agreed that final site of shed is not an issue.

Submission from Scott Barnes and Alan Bruhn to purchase lathe from Newman College for \$1500. Approved. Moved Brian Jones/seconded John Bradley.

Expectations are that we can sell our lathe for between \$800-\$1200.

Suggestion that members supply own paint brushes for private jobs and brushes to be available for shed jobs.

Meeting closed: 2.30pm

Attachment C



PO Box 6095, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

The Director of Endeavour Mental Health Recovery Clubhouse Rob Moorehead was contacted on March 1st 2018 by Alistair Flower of Settlers Inn Port Macquarie on the recommendation of the State Member for Port Macquarie Lesley Williams. He subsequently met with Rob at the Clubhouse and a draft proposal was discussed re a grant for Endeavour.

This proposal was taken to an Endeavour Advisory Board meeting which recommended that the Endeavour Chairman and the Director meet with Alistair to gain a greater understanding of the proposal and if it was the right fit for Endeavour Clubhouse.

The discussion with Alistair was very open with a lot of questions raised and answered. The most poignant point that emerged was that the offer is little different from Clubs grant money which Endeavour has been the beneficiary of on a number of occasions. Alistair explained in some detail how, by being able to build the footprint of his hotel which included expanding accommodation and restaurant facilities, community organisations like Endeavour Clubhouse can benefit from these type of grants. We left this meeting with a better understanding of the proposal and appreciative of the contribution Settlers Inn is making to the community.

Below is an overview of Endeavour Clubhouse's journey over the past three years and of the services we provide to those suffering from moderate to severe mental illness in the Hastings.

Endeavour Mental Health Recovery Clubhouse is the initiative of the local Port Macquarie community and follows an international, evidence based model for mental health recovery. The first Clubhouse opened in 1948 in the USA and there are now 350 Clubhouses operating in 34 countries worldwide. There are currently eight in Australia with more in the start-up phase. The Clubhouse model is the recovery model most highly funded by USA Health.

Following 13 years of fund raising by the community Port Macquarie has a purpose-designed Clubhouse on Hamilton Green. Clubhouse is recognised as an evidenced based program and assists people with a mental illness to increase their social inclusiveness and participation in society. Studies have shown that Clubhouse attendance improves employment outcomes; increase quality of life and wellbeing; and reduce rates of hospitalisation and involvement in the criminal justice system.

Endeavour Mental Health Recovery Clubhouse is a specialist recovery program receiving support from the Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW. Endeavour is the only psychosocial vocational program on the Mid North Coast providing members with a non-institutional service in a safe caring environment. Clubhouse is for adults who suffer from the social and vocational damage that mental health problems can cause. It is a voluntary program where participants are members not patients or clients. We believe that every member has a contribution to make and the Endeavour model relies on members' talents, skills and strengths in order to function.

Endeavour is a place to interact, learn and regain confidence by being an active productive member. Every member is encouraged to contribute to the functioning of the club and members work together to achieve this. Our philosophy is to create an environment where all activities are satisfying and productive and to assist members to achieve individual vocational and social goals.

Both community funds and NSW government grants have contributed to capital development. However no Federal or State program funding is received. After 14 years of development we have been operational now for two years. We are open three days per week and have over 200



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members registered. The demand for our services has been quite amazing and we need funding from every possible avenue so that we can provide a quality service to our members.

We successfully implemented a Hospital to Home Program where we worked with the Inpatient Mental Health Units at Port Macquarie and Kempsey. The program provided a Coordinator and two Peer Support Workers who worked with Health on the discharge process to provide support back in to the community, providing links to appropriate services in a caring, empowering and holistic manner. This program was evaluated by University of Sydney and results across NSW for the 160 Hospital to Home referrals showed only one readmission and zero suicide attempts.

In Port Macquarie we received twenty five referrals from the Base Hospital Inpatient Unit. There were no readmissions, no suicide attempts and twenty two of those inpatients became members and continue to be supported by Endeavour Clubhouse. It was very disheartening when this Federal funding ceased at the end of June 2016.

Our members have completed courses such as Introduction to Computers, Introduction to Healthy Cooking, Safe Food Handling, Moving Forward with Confidence, Hospitality, Retail, Construction, Horticulture and building pallet furniture. Courses are ongoing with over 140 members having now completed either accredited and/or non-accredited courses.

Outcomes working with our members on their individual recovery journeys have been exceptional and we now have:

- * 22 members in award wage paid employment
- * 20 members who have never worked now doing voluntary work

The real success so far for this recovery program has been the extremely high percentage of members who are now much more socially inclusive, they are empowered, have friends and a safe place to come to as they continue their recovery journey.

Endeavour Clubhouse provides an essential service for the region. There is currently no other safe place for people with a mental illness to go to where they can develop social and vocational skills, build relationships and develop a healthy lifestyle in a recovery specific service.

The implementation of the NDIS in July 2017 has caused a great deal of concern for mental health sufferers who must prove that their illness is a disability that prevents their ability to function. The episodic nature of mental illness makes it very difficult to provide the evidence needed. Current statistics suggest that up to 85% of Endeavour's members who suffer from moderate to severe mental illness will not receive packages under the NDIS.

We see this proposed grant from Settlers Hotel in Port Macquarie, if approved, as a real benefit to us at a difficult point in our history. We have over 250 registered members and provide services for more than 80 people per week. We receive no State or Federal program funding. We do hope that Alistair's proposal is successful as a donation of this size will make a huge impact as we continue to provide quality service to mental health sufferers in the Hastings.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Boss-Walker".

Bob Boss-Walker
Endeavour Chair 6 March 2018