

Report on the AGM held Saturday 18th November 2017

The Annual General Meeting of Ostomy NSW Limited was again held at Club York in Sydney on the third Saturday in November. The meeting was well attended by sixty-one members, guests and directors, and ten suppliers. This was another opportunity for members to meet and greet each other and mingle with the directors and suppliers in an informal and organised setting. Club York provided excellent facilities for our meeting and most agreed the luncheon was excellent.

At the AGM there were two resolutions presented for voting. The election of Jason Rumble to the board was approved unanimously and the approval of the remuneration report within the financial statements was approved by a majority of votes. There were 63 proxy votes received ahead of the meeting, all nominating the chair to vote on their behalf. The president's and manager's report included a discussion on the refurbishment of the Kirrawee facility to improve the working conditions and flow of orders and products through the building. An explanation was given regarding the ransomware attack that occurred in late November 2016 and how the business responded. The members present applauded the effort of all the staff and volunteers who provided over and above service during a very difficult time for our organisation. Without doubt our team focus on member service as our number one priority, and this was shown in spades during the November and December period last year.

Our organisation reported another loss for the period ending 30th June 2017, some of which can be attributed to the ransomware attack and the cost to restore business as usual. The directors acknowledged the ongoing gross profit deficits being recorded for a number of years and our response for the future health of ONL. It was explained that ONL is the largest of 22 ostomy associations in Australia, servicing 15% of Australia's ostomates. We rely on paid staff to perform most of our duties (14 are currently employed full and part time), whilst being assisted by a small and very dedicated team of volunteers (23 during the year and 19 at the time of the AGM). The directors support the need to control costs and find additional methods to grow revenue from sales and fundraising. The Balance Sheet shows a strong position with cash at bank, current assets exceeding liabilities (an indication of good liquidity) and members equity of \$2.157 million. One of our members spoke on behalf of members to thank our board, staff and volunteers for the wonderful service performed throughout the year.

Our major raffle was drawn and the winners announced: 1st Place from Cumbalum; 2nd place from Werrington County and 3rd place from Birmingham Gardens. We finished our meet and greet, luncheon and AGM with our guest speaker, Luke Escombe. Luke's article appeared in our last journal and he is an ostomate and ambassador for Crohn's and Colitis Australia. Luke's experiences had our audience laughing continuously, both in recognition of the issues he has faced, and remembering similar occasions that have affected our members. If you have an opportunity to hear Luke speak, it is well worth the effort to laugh with his anecdotes.

Our next AGM will be held on Saturday 17th November 2018.



PHOTO: Luke Escombe, guest speaker at the AGM.



PHOTO: The refurbished office to improve working conditions for staff and volunteers.



PHOTO: New work benches improve the flow of products in our warehouse.