



PROBUS CLUB OF MOSS VALE INC.
ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023



Our Probis Club has come through the Covid pandemic that commenced late 2019 with a reduced number of meetings held in 2020 to late 2021 due to State and National lockdowns, isolation etc. When General meetings were relatively back to normal at the beginning of 2022, society, particularly the elderly being the most vulnerable were reluctant to venture out after becoming accustomed to the 'new' way of living, which was understandable, plus Covid was still rampant in the community.

This had an effect on the low numbers attending meetings early 2022, but now I am pleased to say that our membership attendance has improved considerably.

Immediate "Double" Past President Malcolm Stephens steered the Club through those 2 tumultuous years which I'm sure kept the Club together and placed us on a good footing to continue on in 2022, which we are grateful for, and on behalf of the Committee and total membership, I thank him for that.

The current Committee members have worked hard to bring the various activities, that make our Probis Club a happy place to enjoy each other's company and make available to members, enjoyable outings, whether they be overnight stays or simply morning teas or our monthly Coffee Club.

This year the Committee has put together events to occur on a monthly basis which are listed in the Club's Newsletter which I encourage you all to support.

The Club's membership as of February stands at 85 which equates to 70 active members including our two life members Gordon Dummer and Francis de Beaujeu and 15 non-active members.

During the period 1 April 2022 to February 2023, sadly six of our members, Stan Morgans, David Simmonds, Kaye Lush, David Forbes, John Clancy and John McDonald died and seven members resigned. We inducted 8 new members and thank them for becoming valued members of our Club and urge them to participate in the activities provided, and maybe have a say in the Clubs operation by becoming a committee member.

We acknowledge those members who have died and also those that are on the non-active list. We hope they enjoy the monthly Newsletter and look forward to them re-joining us at the General meetings in the not- too- distant future.

The Committee is conscious of the fact that we continually need to attract new members to the Club and we believe the best method is for members to talk to friends, relatives, neighbours and invite them along as guests, so that they can experience a General meeting for themselves.

Guests can visit up to 3 times before applying for membership. The ceiling of our membership is 104 by constitution, therefore we have ample space to grow the Club to the next level.

During April-May the Committee conducted a Club Survey with the main aim of obtaining Statistics and Suggestions. It was a pleasing result to have replies from 45 members and implementation of the feedback from this survey has commenced and will continue over time. Thank you to all those who replied to this important survey.

The Committee for the 2023-2024 period will be put in place at the Annual General Meeting to be held in March.

Arthur Delbridge AM and John te Wechel will be leaving the Committee and I thank them on behalf of the Committee for their in-depth contribution and vast knowledge over many years. Both are past Presidents, Arthur in the 2016-2017 year, and John in 2017-2018 year.

The Clubs Newsletter is the most important conduit in providing information to members and it's portrayed as an easy-read document which we are all proud of and it's put together every month by our Newsletter Producer Bruce Pearson without even the slightest hiccup (that we know of!) so I thank Bruce on behalf of all members for his commitment to this portfolio. Bruce also attends to the Clubs website which I urge you all to visit at probusmossvale.org.au

The Club finances are in a strong position with \$5091.49 being the total in the Clubs bank account as at January 31. This has allowed the Committee to keep annual and joining fees stable over the last few years. Control of the Clubs finances have been handled by Treasurer Brian Collath over a number of years now and behalf of the Club I thank him for his untiring effort.

The Probus Club of Moss Vale Inc, being the only Men's Club in the Southern Highlands, (there being 4 combined Clubs), must continue to make available to its members events and outings that portray the Probus motto of fun, friendship and fellowship. That is what your committee is about, providing a range of activities, including trips and outings for members to enjoy and monthly General meetings with interesting Club speakers, and it's great to hear from our members on their life experiences. I encourage all members to think about contributing to General meetings in this way.

Guest speakers are of a high calibre and notable presenters, and I thank our Speakers Officer, Geoff MacBean for the hard work that it takes to locate a quality guest speaker in the time frame that suits both parties, and also encourage a club speaker to make a presentation!

I hope that the 2023-2024 term under your new President will be a building year for the Club encouraging new members and providing new experiences and friendship for all, through high quality tours, outings and the Monthly General meetings.

Jim McGrath
President,
March 2023.