

**PROBUS CLUB
MOSS VALE
ANNUAL REPORT
2021-22**



**President
Malcolm Stephens CB**

President's Report to Members 2021/2022.

I ended my Report for last year with the wish that 2021 would be a better year than 2020 had been. Sadly, my wish did not really come true.

However, despite a range of problems and challenges, Moss Vale Probus has survived and in recent months General Meetings and the Coffee Club have resumed.

This is my second and last report, but I want to say that I have been honoured to serve for two years as your President.

Membership.

Membership is currently 90 – 76 Active Members and 14 on the Non-Active List.

During the year, five of our members (Martin Lemann, Stan Morgans, Roy Alvaro, David Simmonds and Kaye Lush) and 2 former Members (Clive Lee and Creswell Godlonton) died and five members resigned. We inducted five new members.

PROBUS Life Membership to Francis de Beaujeu and Gordon Dummer, both long-standing Committee Members who have contributed greatly to the life and success of our Club through their range of roles on the Committee over many years.

Finance

In spite of all the challenges and the 50% reduction in fees for 2021, Club finances are strong. We hold \$6214.26 in our bank account at end February 2022

Mittagong RSL

We have continued to receive strong support from the Mittagong RSL and they continue to provide the Room and Visual/Audio facilities at no cost to us under a Club Grant.

Bradman Centre

We are very grateful to the Bradman Centre and, in particular to the former Director, Rina Hore for their help in providing use of their

facilities both for the Coffee Club and Committee Meetings in 2021. This has no longer been possible for them in 2022 but I would like to record our grateful appreciation.

Bowral Bowling Club and Bowral Golf Club.

We have now started to use the Bowral Bowling Club for Coffee Club gatherings, and this is working well. We have returned to the Bowral Golf Club for our monthly Committee Meetings.

Functions.

Covid restrictions have meant that the planned holiday in Cowra has had to be postponed twice, But, we still hope that it will take place later in 2022.

The high spot of the year was probably the Christmas in July Lunch at the Robertson Hotel. Many thanks to Geoff McNamara for organising this so splendidly. We hope to resume more functions in 2022 and I strongly encourage members to support these.

Committee.

The Club simply could not function without its committee which has continued to meet monthly. Your committee has shown real and practical commitment, and, on your behalf, I want to record sincere thanks for all they have done and continue to do. The Committee embraced the various protocols during the Covid pandemic as laid down by the State Government over the past two years and, in so doing, appointed a Covid Marshall in Arthur Delbridge AM

Gordon Dummer is standing back a little from his work as Events Organiser. He and Lyn have done an outstanding job over many years and our debt of gratitude and appreciation to them is huge. It is totally fitting that he was made a Life Member in 2020.

Graham Warner, a Past President, Secretary and Membership Secretary is also standing down. He is an extremely efficient man and has done a great job in all his committee roles.

Jim Cole is also leaving the Committee and I thank him for his practical common sense contribution and advice

Finally, I want to mention Bruce Pearson who month after month come rain or shine does a superb job in producing the impressive and enjoyable Newsletter – but no more jokes about Argyle Street, please!

New Members.

I believe that our main challenge (apart from doing our bit in learning to live with Covid) is to recruit some new members. Experience shows that the most effective and successful way of doing this is by personal introduction by existing members. So we plan to have a couple of “Bring a Friend” General Meetings in 2022. I strongly urge you to attend these occasions and to bring a friend with you.

Changeover.

My two years as your President have in some ways been a strange period with Covid presenting so many challenges to all of us. I sense that any return to what we used to regard as normal life may well not be rapid or complete.

However, Moss Vale Probus has done more than simply survive and I sense that 2022 will be an active and enjoyable year, complete with fun and fellowship and intellectual stimulation. I want to thank you and all of the Committee for all the help, encouragement and support and, especially, friendship over the last two years and I am sure that our Club will be in safe hands under your new President.

Malcolm Stephens CB

President

March, 2022.