



Moss Vale Probus Club Inc

A statement on recent changes to financial arrangements

This statement was presented to the General Meeting held on 11/5/23 to clarify for members, the recent Committee decisions regarding the Club's financial arrangements.

The Committee of Moss Vale Probus Club is elected by the members to oversee all operational matters pertaining to the Club. Over recent years there has been concern expressed regularly at Committee Meetings by several committee members over how our members interact financially with the club in a rapidly changing financial landscape.

A bit of background to the concerns of the Committee includes:

- The recent changes to the way most Australians now do their banking
- The effect of the COVID pandemic in accelerating some of these changes
- The declining use of cash for many transactions
- The removal of chequing facilities by many banks
- EFT and credit/eftpos cards increasingly becoming the accepted transaction norm

The committee has been monitoring the impact of these banking changes on members and has (for several years) been seeking a solution. There have been two primary areas of financial interaction concern for the Committee:

1. The monthly cash payment at the welcome desk of the \$5 charge for the morning tea at General Meetings.
2. How members choose to pay for other Club services (dinners, events, outings and annual membership fees).

In making its decision, the Committee has been mindful of the following:

1. Approximately 98% of membership (apart from 2) have access to the internet
2. An increasing number of members are comfortable with (and skilled in) remote banking (evidenced by the increasing use of EFT payments for club activities).
3. A few Club members are not comfortable with the use of EFT as a means of transacting.

To balance these conflicting interests within our duty of care for all members, the Committee has determined that:

1. Tea Coffee \$5.00 payments

- For 2023/24 cash payments for tea/coffee will continue to be accepted at each monthly meeting at the welcome desk in the usual time-honoured way.

- Members are however encouraged to **pay for their annual tea/coffee in advance.** This advance payment can still be made in cash at the desk but **preferably by EFT to the club account**
- From April 2024 the annual membership fee of \$40 (which has remained unchanged since 2011) will continue unchanged but a **Tea/Coffee fee of \$30** will be charged.
- This combined amount can still be paid in the usual way my members, but the Club's **preferred option is for payment by EFT**
- From April 2024 monthly cash payments for tea/coffee will no longer be accepted at the welcome desk.
- The Committee acknowledges our special members and guests and so the tea/coffee fee will not apply to Life Members, Non-Active Members or any guests attending General Meetings. These will be the guests of the Club at the fellowship break.

2. All other financial interactions

- The method of payment will remain the same for membership fees, tours, dinners etc but with the understanding that the Club's **strongly preferred option is payment by EFT.**

For further clarification please have a conversation with a committee member.

June 2023

Michael Hissey

President

Moss Vale Probus Club Inc