

## Chairperson Report – 2025.

It is my pleasure to present this report on behalf of the Board. The year ended 31/12/2025 has again been successful financially, posting a surplus on trading of \$389,000, a decrease on the last year, however increases in insurance, electricity and supplier costs put pressure on our business as well as your household.

Progress has been made with the finalisation of the amalgamation with the Wellington Golf Club on 29/04/2025, which contributed to a gain in funds, whilst upgrading the Golf Club's assets by way of capital purchases of equipment and golf carts.

Investment properties at 91 Gobolion Street and 27 Swift Street have been added to the books whilst the property at 93 Simpson Street has been held for acquisition by the Dubbo Regional Council in line with their REZ. It is the intention of the board to use those funds for the development of 91 Gobolion Street, for accommodation, which will increase the value of the Club's property portfolio into the future.

The purchase of 27 Swift Street, has provided the opportunity to improve the Club's offerings to our patrons as well as providing continuing accommodation to the current lessee's Wellington Information and Neighbourhood Centre.

We have continued to host your usual entertainment, live musical performances on an almost weekly basis, raffles, and bingo. The Scholarships to "Stop the Brain drain" were again offered in 2025 and we have recently followed up for 2026. Our programme has generated interest from Squadron Energy who have expressed interest in the programme for 2027. We continue as the major sponsor of the Wellington Boot Racing Carnival hosted by the Wellington Race Club, in both 2025 and 2026.

It is also important to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding service of the Board's nominee for **Life Membership, Victor Howe**. Vic's long-standing dedication and commitment have made a significant contribution to the Wellington Soldiers Memorial Club. His 18 years of service exemplifies the values of loyalty, leadership, and community on which the Club was founded, and we sincerely thank him for his continued support.

Life Member - Terry Dray has also resigned from the Board after serving a cumulative total of 34 years of service at the Wellington Soldiers Memorial Club. A truly substantial undertaking on his part. The Board wishes both Vic and Terry all the very best as they enjoy their retirement.

Lastly, I wish to thank our Manager Stephen Hodge, and our valued staff of the Club, our Administration staff, Cleaners, Grounds Keepers, Security, Bus drivers, Door and Bar Staff and Supervisors. The resilience and professionalism you display in completing your duties is exemplary.

A big thankyou to our Members, your continued patronage is highly valued, the Board, Staff and Management hope to see you all soon. Wellington Soldiers "the place to be".

  
Robyn Edwards

Chairperson