While our club does not aim to make any profit, it is important that we are able to meet our financial commitments throughout the year. Like everyone, we are also experiencing increasing costs, and this is reflected in our predicted balance of being left with under $300, this year.

Looking back over the past few years’ financial records, it is possible to outline reasons for our financial position.

* We have lost the meat raffle income we earned by conducting these once a month at the club.
* Covid years meant fewer expenses during that period.
* We have increased fees to many judges and presenters who need to travel to Wangi (doubling to $100)
* My Photo Website fees have doubled for us and are now $10/member.
* NSW FCC membership has been $10/club plus $5/member plus $50 to enter Interclub Competition.
* New sound system, projector, stands and other incidentals.
* PSA membership $87
* APS Cup entry $40
* Perpetual Trophies $90
* New permanent trophies (introduced 2023) $222
* Catering comp and tutorial nights $270
* Awards and Christmas Party $300

**We are proposing to increase membership fees to $50 for 2024/2025 financial year**.

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| **Comparative Membership Fees** |  |
|  | The Entrance | $55 |  |
|  | Castle Hill | $50 |  |
|  | Maitland | $50 |  |
|  | Northside Creative | $75 |  |
|  | Lake Macquarie | $50 |  |

This, based on budget forecast, in which the Budget aims to include all the known expenses for next year and assumes all the members would remain (at least 57) but at the new membership fee. If that eventuates then we have a surplus of just under $200. We do also have 4 life members.

Unfortunately, this is not going to cover any purchase of items such as a laptop (which we desperately need to update).

I have set up a ClubGRANTS account and have placed an application to The Wangi Workers Club for a new laptop. Hopefully this will be successful. Will keep you posted.