



MOVE Life



Issue #39/July 2025

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- Navigating the Cheque Phase Out

and more!

From your CEO Mike Currie

As we move through the middle of 2025, I'd like to take a moment to share some of the exciting things happening at MOVE Bank.

We are proud to announce that MOVE Bank has been recognised by MOZO as Australia's Best Small Customer Owned Bank^ for 2025. This prestigious award was determined from an assessment of 2,739 product rankings across seven categories, with only eight winners named nationwide. It's a fantastic reflection of our commitment to delivering great-value products and outstanding service to our members.

In our 2025 member survey, you told us it was important to reward existing members where we could. That's why we recently wrapped up our MOVE and Win campaign, where nine lucky members won prizes just for doing their everyday banking. It's always rewarding for us to give back to the people who trust us with their finances.

We also recently supported the QR Young Professionals and QR Women's Collective events, continuing our close connection with Queensland Rail staff. These events gave us the opportunity to engage with professionals in the rail industry and assist with their banking needs – helping them feel confident and supported as they build their financial futures.



We're proud to share that MOVE Bank was also named a finalist in the 2025 Broker Innovation Awards, in the category Innovator of the Year – Mutual Bank. This recognition highlights our continued efforts to evolve the broker experience and drive meaningful innovation across our services.

And finally, we were honoured to be named one of Australia's Most Loved Companies to Work For presented by *Hyer and Breakthrough Culture*. This recognition, based on independent employee feedback, reflects the positive culture we've built – one that supports our people to deliver exceptional service to our members every day.

Thank you for being part of MOVE Bank. Your trust and support drive everything we do, and we look forward to continuing to grow and evolve alongside you.

Mike Currie
Chief Executive Officer

^MOVE Bank recognised in Mozo Experts Choice Awards 2025 - more information on the awards research methodology at Mozo mozo.com.au





Who's Australia's Best Small Customer Owned Bank for 2025? We are!

At MOVE Bank, we believe that banking should be simple, supportive and designed around the needs of real people. That's why we are beyond excited to share that we have officially been named Australia's Best Small Customer Owned Bank[^] in the 2025 Mozo Experts Choice Awards!

This national recognition is more than just a trophy, it's a reflection of the work we do every day to put our members first, and to prove that smaller banks can deliver outstanding financial value without compromising on service or ethics.

What does this award mean?

The Mozo Experts Choice Awards are industry respected awards run annually by leading financial comparison site Mozo.com.au. Each year, Mozo experts review thousands of financial products to determine which banks are delivering the best value for Australians.

Unlike one-off category awards, the Australia's Best Banking awards recognise the banks that have outperformed others over the past year. To qualify, banks had to win at least two Mozo Experts Choice Awards in the past 12 months and offer a home loan product.

MV Bank stood out in a sea of products – 2,739 rankings across 47 award categories – and against dozens of other financial institutions, for our commitment to fair pricing and delivering great value to Australians across a full suite of products.

"While we do recommend consumers shop around to get the best deal for specific financial products, many Australians still prefer the simplicity of banking with one provider," says Peter Marshall, Mozo Experts Choice Awards Judge.

MV Bank has taken the title from last year's winner to mark its rise as one of the strongest small customer-owned banks in the country," says Marshall. "MV Bank performed impressively across a range of products and is now a real competitor on value."

Why does this award matter to us?

As a customer owned bank, MV exists to serve our members, not shareholders. That means every dollar we make goes back into improving our products, keeping our fees low, and ensuring our service stays personal and responsive.

We know many Australians are feeling the financial squeeze right now. Rising living costs, interest rate uncertainty and a competitive lending market have made it harder than ever to feel confident about your finances – and that's why it's so important to know your bank has your back.

This award confirms what our members already know, but now the industry can see– that MV Bank offers real banking for real people, and our products are designed to make your money work harder for you.

Whether you're opening your first savings account, refinancing your home loan, or just want an everyday account without pesky hidden fees, we're here to help.

About the Mozo Experts Choice Awards

The Mozo Experts Choice Awards were established in 2014 to help Australian consumers find the best value offers across a range of products and services, and awards are given irrespective of a commercial relationship with Mozo.

For Australia's Best Banking Awards, Mozo's experts analysed 2,739 product rankings across 47 Mozo Experts Choice Awards throughout the past 12 months.

Details of how the individual product rankings were calculated are in the Methodology Reports for each product area, available on the Mozo Expert Choice Award pages.

[^]MV Bank recognised in Mozo Experts Choice Awards 2025 - more information on the awards research methodology at Mozo mozo.com.au



Stay Scam Safe This Tax Time

Protecting Yourself from ATO Impersonation Scams

As tax season approaches, it's essential to be vigilant against a surge in scams targeting Australian taxpayers. The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has reported a significant increase in impersonation scams, with over 6,000 incidents reported in April 2025 alone¹.

Understanding the Threat

Scammers often pose as the ATO, contacting individuals via email, SMS, or phone calls, claiming issues with tax returns or offering unexpected refunds. These communications may appear legitimate, using official logos and language to deceive recipients.

In a notable trend, email scams have surged by over 300% compared to the previous year, particularly during tax time when individuals are more likely to expect correspondence from the ATO².

Common Scam Tactics

- **Phishing Emails and SMS:** Messages containing links to fake myGov websites, prompting users to enter personal information.
- **Phone Calls:** Scammers impersonating ATO officials, demanding immediate payment for alleged tax debts.
- **myGovID Scams:** Fraudulent communications requesting users to reconfirm details due to the transition from myGovID to myID, leading to identity theft.

Protecting Yourself

- **Verify Communications:** The ATO will never send unsolicited messages requesting personal information or include links to log in to online services. Access your account by typing the official URL directly into your browser.
- **Enable Multi-Factor Authentication:** Enhance your account security by enabling additional verification steps.
- **Stay Informed:** Regularly check the ATO's official website for updates on known scams and security advice.
- **Report Suspicious Activity:** If you receive a suspicious message or phone call, report it to the ATO at ReportScams@ato.gov.au or via [Scam Watch](#).

MOVE Bank's Commitment to Your Security

At MOVE Bank, your financial security is our priority. Visit movebank.com.au/scams for more information. If you think you've been scammed, contact us immediately on 1300 362 216.

Source: ATO

1. According to data reported by the ATO [Scam data](#) | [Australian Taxation Office](#), June 19 2025

2. [Scam emails – real consequences](#) | [Australian Taxation Office](#)



How to Prepare for Tax Time (without the stress)

As 30 June draws closer, many of us are either gearing up to get organised — or promising ourselves we'll definitely do it next weekend. Wherever you sit on that scale, preparing for tax time doesn't need to be a scramble.

With just a little planning (and a few smart tools), you can take the pressure off and feel confident when it's time to lodge your return. Whether you're hoping for a refund or just want to tick it off your to-do list, here's what you should know before the financial year wraps up.

The Basics: What You'll Need

Before you sit down to lodge your return, take a moment to round up your documents. Think of it like a mini financial stocktake. You'll need:

- Your income statement (your employer usually submits this directly to the ATO)
- Any bank statements showing interest earned — some of this may already be prefilled if you use myGov. You can also view our [tutorial](#) on how to locate your interest information in Internet Banking.
- Records of work-related expenses (travel, uniforms, tools, memberships, home office items etc.)
- Receipts for costs associated with investment properties (if applicable)
- Any other income you've received this year — side gigs, freelance work, dividends or Centrelink payments

To make things even easier, MOVE Bank members can try our Income Tax Calculator to estimate how much tax you will pay based on your employment income for the year.

Staying Organised All Year Round

Trying to piece together a year's worth of receipts in June can be a headache. Getting into the habit of simple, consistent recordkeeping makes a huge difference.

Simply create a folder (digital or paper) labelled by financial year, or even use an app like the ATO's myDeductions, which lets you scan and store receipts as you go.

Know What You Can Claim

Not everything can be deducted — but many everyday work costs can, depending on your role. If you're unsure what's eligible, the ATO has updated guidance every year, or a registered tax agent can point you in the right direction.

The golden rule? If you're claiming it, keep the receipt.

Think Before You Spend That Refund

Tax time is often followed by a spending spree — especially with sales tempting us from every angle. But before you click buy now, pause to consider what's really going to benefit you in the long term.

Some savvy ways to use your refund might include:

- Boosting your emergency fund
- Making an extra repayment on your home loan
- Contributing to your super
- Paying down high-interest debt
- Starting a savings goal — like that dream holiday or a new car

A refund can be a great opportunity to get ahead, not just catch up. To visualise the interest you could earn, try our [Savings Plan calculator](#).

Revised Personal Income Tax Rates for FY 24-25

Effective from 1 July 2024, the Australian Government has implemented significant changes to personal income tax rates and thresholds to provide cost-of-living relief¹:

- Tax Rate Reductions:
 - The 19% tax rate has been reduced to 16%.
 - The 32.5% tax rate has been reduced to 30%.
- Threshold Adjustments:
 - The threshold for the 37% tax rate has increased from \$120,000 to \$135,000.
 - The threshold for the 45% tax rate has increased from \$180,000 to \$190,000.

These changes mean that all 13.6 million Australian taxpayers will receive a tax cut from 2024-25 onwards. For example, a person earning \$75,000 will receive a tax cut of approximately \$1,554.

Don't Leave It Too Late

The official deadline to lodge your tax return is 31 October — unless you're using a registered tax agent, in which case they may have special lodgement extensions (as long as you're on their books before then). And if you do end up with a tax bill instead of a refund, your Notice of Assessment will include instructions on how and when to pay.

Source: ATO

1 <https://www.ato.gov.au/about-ato/new-legislation/in-detail/individuals/individual-income-tax-rates-and-threshold-changes>

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Navigating the Cheque Phase Out?

We're Here to Support You

Australia is moving rapidly toward a more digital future—and that includes how we manage and move our money. In line with this shift, a few years ago the Reserve Bank of Australia announced its plan to phase out cheques. MOVE Bank is decommissioning all cheque services from the 31st of August 2025.

While many Australians have already embraced digital payments, we understand that for some members, cheques have been a long-standing part of their everyday banking. Whether you've used cheques for paying bills, sending gifts, or receiving payments, this change may feel significant. That's why MOVE Bank is here to help make the transition smooth and stress-free.

With a range of easy-to-use digital payment options, you can continue managing your money with confidence. Our internet banking, mobile app, along with services like PayID, Osko, Apple Pay and Google Pay, makes sending and receiving money quicker and more convenient than ever before.

Even easier with the MOVE Bank App

The MOVE Bank App makes managing your money on the go simple. Whether you need to transfer money, pay bills, check your balance, or set up scheduled payments, it's all in one secure place. You can download the MOVE Bank App from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and start using it today.

Fast, contactless, and secure payments with Apple Pay and Google Pay

You can also add your MOVE Bank Visa Debit card to Apple Pay or Google Pay for fast, secure contactless payments from your phone or smartwatch. No need to carry your wallet—just tap and go.

We're Here to Help

We know that change can take time, and you may have questions about how to get started with digital banking. Whether you're looking for one-on-one assistance or simply need help setting up PayID or our app, our friendly team is here to support you.

Call us on 1300 362 216, email info@movebank.com.au, or visit movebank.com.au/cheques to learn more.

Let's move forward together—securely, simply, and with confidence.

Here's how you can replace common cheque uses with modern, digital alternatives:

If you used cheques for...	Try this instead
Paying bills like electricity or council rates	Use BPAY through MOVE Bank's Internet Banking or App, or set up Direct Debit or card payments
Paying your rent	Make a direct bank transfer using your recipient's BSB and Account Number, or use PayID for faster transactions
Paying tradies or service providers	Make a direct bank transfer using your recipient's BSB and Account Number, or use PayID for faster transactions
Paying school fees or sports club memberships	Use BPAY or direct bank transfer through your MOVE Bank App
Sending money as a gift	Make a direct bank transfer using your recipient's BSB and Account Number, or use PayID for faster transactions, and include a personal message
Receiving rent or other payments	Ask the payer to deposit funds using your BSB and Account Number, or share your PayID for easy identification
Making a donation	Most charities now accept online donations or card payments via their websites
Sending money to family or friends	Use PayID or Osko for fast, simple, and secure payments
Depositing a cheque	Visit a participating Australia Post Bank@Post outlet with your MOVE Bank Visa Debit card, or ask the sender to use direct deposit into your account

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Maximise Your Property's Potential

Smart ways to increase the value of your property

Whether you're planning to sell or simply want to build equity in your home, increasing your property's value can offer long-term financial benefits. The good news? In today's market you don't need to undergo a full-scale renovation to see results.

Here are practical ways you can boost your home's value and make it more appealing to future buyers.

1. Curb Appeal Matters

First impressions count. Simple updates like repainting the front door, adding modern house numbers, tidying the garden, or installing outdoor lighting can make a big difference. A well-presented exterior sets the tone for the rest of the property.

2. Modernise the Kitchen and Bathroom

These two rooms can have the biggest impact on a home's value. You don't need to gut the space — updating fixtures, replacing cabinet handles, painting tiles, or installing a new splashback can all give your kitchen or bathroom a refreshed look without a major budget.

3. Add Energy-Efficient Features

Buyers increasingly value energy efficiency. Consider installing LED lighting, ceiling insulation, or even solar panels. These upgrades can help reduce utility costs and make your property more sustainable and appealing.

4. Create Functional Spaces

If you have an unused nook or spare room, consider turning it into a home office, study zone, or storage area. COVID changed the way we think about our home and workspaces, many buyers are looking for flexibility in their floorplans.

5. Repaint with Neutral Colours

We can make fun of millennial grey all we want but, a fresh coat of paint is one of the easiest and most cost-effective ways to breathe new life into your home. Stick with light, neutral colours to make spaces feel bigger and brighter.

6. Update Flooring

Worn carpets or dated tiles can drag down a property's appeal. Replacing flooring with timber, hybrid planks, or modern carpets can instantly uplift the look and feel of your home.

7. Enhance Outdoor Living

A usable outdoor area is a big tick for Aussie buyers. Consider adding a deck, outdoor kitchen, fire pit, or simply sprucing up your patio with furniture and plants to create an inviting space.

8. Declutter and Depersonalise

When it comes time to sell, less is more. Removing excess furniture and personal items helps buyers imagine themselves in the space and can make rooms feel larger.

Thinking of renovating or refinancing?

At MOVE Bank, we offer [free property reports](#) to give you an indication of your home's value. We're here to help you take the next step, whether that's unlocking equity, upgrading your home, or planning a future sale. Talk to our team today to explore your options.

[Get in touch](#) with a lender or explore our [home loan options](#).

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Ready to make the move?

Our team look forward to helping you through each step of your loan journey!

Speak to one of our friendly lending specialists today. [Book an appointment.](#)

MAXIMISE YOUR PROPERTY'S POTENTIAL

QRI Lifestyle

JOIN | SAVE | WIN



More Than a Membership – It's a Lifestyle

Ready to unlock a world of member-only perks, discounts, and unforgettable experiences? QRI Lifestyle is your community-driven membership program offering:



→ Everyday savings on **groceries, fuel, entertainment, electrical goods**, and **250+ top global brands** – including Coles, Woolworths, AMPOL, Apple, Amazon, Dan Murphy's, Sephora, Rebel Sport, JB Hi-Fi, BCF, Bunnings, Kmart, Chemist Warehouse, Webjet, Harvey Norman, The Good Guys and more.



→ **Exclusive holiday apartments** for members in Queensland (Coolumb, Mermaid Beach, Yeppoon), as well as Australia and New Zealand



→ **Travel and car hire discounts**



→ **'The Daily Win'** – a free daily cash giveaway for members with prizes ranging from \$100 to \$3,000



→ Access to **sporting and social events**



→ **Discounted concert tickets, theme parks, and entertainment**



→ **Scholarships** in academia, the arts, and sport for members and their children/grandchildren



→ **The Railways Club** (Brisbane Bar)



→ A fun and engaging **Kids Club**



→ Partnerships with **MOVE Bank, Tynans Financial Advisors**, and **Allianz Insurance** to provide you with trusted advice and support across every stage of life.

Whether you're looking to save, connect, or just enjoy more out of life – QRI Lifestyle has something for you.



SCAN ME

QRI
Lifestyle

HELPING MEMBERS LIVE MORE FOR LESS



Find out why we
are **Australia's**
Best Small
Customer Owned
Bank!





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