ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB INC

GENERAL MEETING

Baptist Church, Matron Porter Drive, Narrawallee 26th September 2022

1	Meeting opened at	Sue McMahon
	9.31 am	
2	Members Present	Sue McMahon
	79	
3	Apologies	Sue McMahon
	None	
4	Welcome to Visitors	Sue McMahon
	Margaret & Michael Shannon, Sue Gosewisch, Jeff Peterson, Sue Baker, Trish Worthy, Annette Fowler, Terrie Gardner and Ian Austin (guest speaker)	
5	President's Message	Sue McMahon
	Acknowledgement of country. I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Dhurga Language Group known as Yuin and pay my respect to Elders both past, present, and future.	
	Welcome everyone. Today we have a visitor, Margaret Shannon, Zone Co-ordinator for the Illawarra for 6 years some 18 years ago and I invited her to speak about her time in that role and what she is doing now.	
	Margaret first came to the Garden Club originally held in Mollymook Surf Club and reminisced about attending some memorable events, in particular, Ulladulla Garden Club's Friendship Day to which she brought Irene Wood and Lorraine Gillan the President and future President of the Garden Clubs of Australia. They all had such an enjoyable day that the idea was shared with other zones and that's how Friendship Day became a GCA event. Margaret spoke about her time with U3A from which she has just retired and has now rejoined Shoalhaven Heads Garden Club.	
	The last few years have been disrupted because of Covid, who knows perhaps Friendship Day may happen again soon.	

From today you will know that we have decided not to charge \$2 for morning tea. Since the Baptist Church no longer charges us for rent for our meetings we have decided to give back to the members and drop the morning tea charge.

For those of you who don't know the Trading Table has a card system, each time you bring plants in your card will be stamped, after 8 stamps you may redeem your card for potting mix at the produce store. This will help with the cost of potting up plants and, as we all know, many gardens are filled with plants from the Trading Table.

Thank you to everyone who brought plants to the Milton Public School fete on Friday, the plant stall looked very good. We look forward to an ongoing relationship with the school by way of encouraging the students to get involved with gardening. More about that next year.

The Committee Meeting has been changed to 4th October to accommodate a Garden Club trip on 10th October.

6	New Members	Sue McMahon
	Trish Worthy and Barbara Bell were presented with their badges.	
7	Health & Welfare Report	Chris Turner
	Cards sent to Marilyn Lane following her knee operation	

Health awareness:

suffered terrible falls.

 Breast Cancer Awareness which can affect both women and men, well known fundraisers for this are Girls Night In and the Big Morning Tea.

together with Annette Crabtree and Kay Bryant who both

- Mental Health Awareness which includes Borderline Personality Disorder, a fascinating syndrome and Head Space - 8 to 15 October.
- World Arthritis Day
- Lupus Awareness Month
- Dyslexia
- Spina Bifida
- Bleeding Disorders
- National Amputee Awareness Week
- Kidney Health Awareness Week
- World Cerebral Palsy Day
- World Polio Day
- National Carers Week 16 to 26 October

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	Plenty to think about this month.	
8	Guest Speaker	Judy Hamilton
	Bees & Beekeeping - Ian Austin	
	lan has been a beekeeper for over 40 years, he started off with one hive given by a friend which then became an addiction increasing to six, then thirty, then three hundred and now running over one hundred hives.	
	This season and previous bushfires have devastated hives on the South Coast, not to mention all the other problems such as the small hive beetle which came in a container from South Africa during the Olympic Games and wiped out most of the small hives in trees. Most hives have beetle traps now which help to control them.	
	When Ian began beekeeping most of his honey came from Paterson's Curse, one hundred hives could make one ton of honey a week. Biological control twenty years ago decimated Paterson's Curse however, in a perfect season, such as two years ago, it was back again! Paterson's Curse used to be Ian's main source for honey.	
	Another pest is the Varroa Mite found near the Newcastle area and is a major problem. Many beekeepers in that area have had to burn their hives for which they've received some compensation from the Government. Now this expensive process has changed so beekeepers may kill the bees in the hive but save the hive material and receive \$200 to replace the bees only. The bees are killed by using petrol, the fumes of the petrol euthanase the bees outright in seconds. A lot of work goes into making the frames in the hives so this is a more cost effective way of treating this devastating problem.	
	If the mite gets out into the community beekeepers will have to put chemicals in their hives so the bees can survive which they don't want to do because the chemicals might contaminate the honey.	
	The Varroa Mite is smaller than the head of a pin, the only way to see them is to put the bees into a ziplock bag with icing sugar and the mites will be seen as little black spots. Or, give the bees a metho wash by putting them in a basket in a container, then lift out the bees to see if there are any mites left floating in the metho however this way the bees are lost!	
	Another problem in the Riverina is a pest from Tasmania called the Wingless Fly. A beekeeper who had taken his	

hives to the NSW side of the Riverina had a visit from the DPI who told him if the fly had contaminated his hives they would have to be burnt which, at \$500 per hive x his 1700 hives, would be a huge loss.

lan really enjoys his beekeeping activities, his bees are currently placed near a Canola crop, he hasn't been able to go to them recently because of the weather but they build up well near Canola and they may well have swarmed into trees. If you see a swarm in a tree, let a beekeeper know and they will collect them although they are not so common now because of the small hive beetle.

Most of lan's honey goes to Capilano in Brisbane and, being a long term shareholder of Capilano, he is compensated for freight to Brisbane to transport his honey. In lan's best year he produced 30 tons of honey. Years ago he'd work all week and drive Friday night to deliver the honey to Brisbane and drive back on Sunday then back to work on Monday but those days are long gone.

Questions:

Q: Do domestic hives put commercial hives at risk?

A: All hives are at risk. If a bee robs honey from a hive that's died possibly from American Foulbrood Disease it can bring that disease back to the hive. This can often be spread using flow hives which melt during the eradication process and have to be replaced.

Q: Does the Varroa Mite kill the bee?

A: Yes it sucks the blood from the bee. To control the Varroa Mite, Apivar Strips can be used in the hive and the mites will stick to the strip a bit like the old fly strips.

Q: How far do bees fly from the hive?

A: 5 kilometres.

Q: How does honey become candy honey?

A: By reducing the moisture in the honey.

Q: Do the DPI contribute to the cost of Apivar Strips?

A: No

Q: How long does the Queen bee live?

A: Queen bees may live 5 or 6 years but are usually replaced every 1 or 2 years by the Beekeeper. If a Queen bee begins to fail the other bees will start a supercede cell and install another Queen bee then that bee will kill the old bee.

Activities Report 29 September - Illawarra Rhododendron and Rainforest Garden; Burnetts on Barney Garden Nursery, Kiama. Weather doesn't look good but we are going,

	 Mayfield - 8am departure from Civic Ce at 7.30am to load bags onto the bus. 23 Nov - Coffee morning and open gard Richardson's house. 8 Dec - Christma lunch at Mollymook G 	den at Rose	
10	Garden Gems		Graeme Oke
	Graeme presented garden gems.		
	Ifafa Lily, Princess Lilies - Yvonne Steain Lunaria Annua "Honesty" - Anne Eggins Lilies - Ann Keegan Salvias, Euphorbia, Sprekelia Formosissima Ja James Lily - Bronwyn Roberts Clivias - Diane McConnell White Geranium - R Spry Hipeastrum - Larraine Schachter Weigela - Kaye Grant Green Goddess - Janey George Indian Hawthorn and White Lavender - Catheri Seedling Clivias, Sanicula Caerulescens, Pieris variegated foliage - Graeme Oke	ne Craig	
11	Secretary's Report		Sue McMahon
	Minutes of the General Meeting of 29 August 2 available on the welcome table for members to they come into the meeting. The minutes are a the website prior to the meeting for you to refer Motion : That the Minutes of the previous meet	read when also posted on r to and read.	
	accepted. Moved: Gill Evans Seconded: Ann Keegan Result: Passed	9	
12	Treasurer's Report		Sue Hobson
	Finance summary August 2022		
	Westpac balance as at July 3st 2022	\$ <u>31,987.55</u>	
	August Income	\$ <u>20,603.54</u>	
	August Expenditure	\$ <u>2,277.57</u>	
	Westpac balance as at August 31st 2022	\$ <u>50,313.52</u>	
	Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	\$ 10,012.65	

	Westpac 'Student' account \$2,426.28	
	Approx funds in the bank not counting income for trips is \$12,179.	
	Profit/money raised for Community Projects from Soup Day is \$827.43.	
	Motion : That the Treasurer's Report for August be accepted.	
	Moved: Sue Hobson Seconded: John Steadman	
13	Member Participation & Questions	Colleen Ringe
	No questions in box. Azalea green and healthy but not flowering. If it's healthy just wait until next year, it may flower. Grevilleas do not like too much water so all this rain may be affecting them.	
	Wisterias are going very well in this weather.	
	We have promised the Baptist Church that we will put down pebbles near our storage shed where it is particularly muddy in return for allowing us to meet rent free. Please let Nolan know if you can help with putting the pebbles down.	
14	Competition Results	Rosie and Catherine
	August: Orchids	
	1st Prize: Cathryn Craig 2nd Prize: Di & Gary O'Connell 3rd Prize: Janice Titcombe	
	October: Roses	
	Competitions for 2022 are published in the Newsletter.	
15	Trading Table	Ruth Facile
	\$95 - plants + items from Colleen's table	
16	Today's Winners	Gary McConnell
	Lucky Door - ?	
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	1st Prize: Kaye Grant 2nd Prize:Jocelyn Lavering 3rd Prize: Bronwyn Roberts	
17	Next Meeting	
	26th September 2022	
18	Meeting Closed	
	11.25am	