



ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB INC.

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## Friendship through Gardening

### Annual General Meeting

Baptist Church, 215 Matron Porter Drive, Narrawallee

28 February 2022

### MINUTES

Meeting commenced 9.50 am

#### 1. Welcome

76 members present.

#### 2. Apologies

Ann Keegan, Ronnie King, Lorraine Schachter

#### 3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting are available for all to read at the back table.

**Motion: THAT** the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 22 February 2021 be accepted.

**Moved:** Gillian Boyd

**Seconded:** Gary McConnell

**Result:** Accepted

#### 4. President's Report

Refer **Attachment 1** for the President's report.

**Motion: THAT** the President's Report be accepted.

**Moved:** Gillian Boyd

**Seconded:** Cheryl Fibbins

**Result:** Accepted

#### 5. Treasurer's report

Refer **Attachment 2** for Treasurer's report.

**Motion: THAT** the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

**Moved:** Sue Hobson

**Seconded:** Ruth Fucile

**Result:** Accepted

## 6. Appointment of Auditor

**Motion:** THAT Frazer Sibley Accountants be appointed as club auditor for 2022.

**Moved:** Sue Hobson

**Seconded:** Mark Kendall

**Result:** Accepted

## 7. Election of Office Bearers

Returning Officer Gary McConnell

All positions are open.

The Returning Officer advised that nominations had been received for the following positions:

President	<b>Sue McMahon</b>
Vice President	<b>Gillian Boyd</b>
Treasurer	<b>Sue Hobson</b>
Secretary	<b>Gillian Evans</b>
Activities Officer	<b>Debbie Kendall</b>
Committee member	<b>Ann Keegan</b>
Committee member	<b>Colleen Ringe</b>
Committee member	<b>Kathy Pearce</b>
Committee member	<b>Annette Cliffe</b>
Committee member	<b>Chris Turner</b>

In accordance with clause 14(6) of the Garden Club's Constitution the meeting is required to approve the re-election of Sue Hobson to Treasurer.

The following motion was put to the meeting by Gary McConnell, seconded by John Steadman and was passed by majority decision:

**THAT** Sue Hobson be approved for re-election to Treasurer.

As there is only one nomination for each of these positions, these nominees are duly elected.

The Returning Officer presented the badge of office to the new President. The President introduces the Committee and presents them with their badges.

## 8. President's Statement

- I would like to thank Gillian Boyd for all her wonderful work during her term as President. A lot goes on behind the scenes of the General meetings, there are 11 monthly Committee meetings each year and these meetings continued even though general meetings were interrupted by Covid restrictions. All the new committee members are about to find out how much fun these meetings are, they run for approximately two hours and we do get a lot done.
- Gillian and I have swapped positions, she will now be Vice President.
- Gill will remain as Secretary and does a good job putting the minutes together particularly when I don't follow the agenda.

- Thank you to Sue for continuing as our Treasurer, which I think is the hardest job in the club. Sue has introduced the Square payment system into the club which makes it much easier for members to pay for fees and activities and, in time, should be less work for her.
- Two committee members have been replaced, July Leslie is moving to Queensland and Mark Kendall has resigned but will continue to help Debbie with activities together with the many duties he undertakes at general meetings.
- I will be relinquishing both my Publicity and Health and Welfare roles at future meetings, these will be carried out by others.
- Thank you to all the continuing committee members together with the two new ones and I look forward to seeing you all at the next committee meeting on March 8th.
- The Milton Show is on this weekend and we will discuss this during the General meeting.

After a short break for morning tea we will resume our regular General meeting at 10.45am.

## **President's Annual Report**

### **Prepared for Annual General Meeting on 28 February 2022**

Ulladulla and Districts Garden Club was again disrupted by Covid Regulations in 2021. No meetings were held from June to November and all planned activities including a long-anticipated coach trip to Mayfield Garden and the Blue Mountains, were cancelled. Despite these disruptions we ended the year with 165 members including 8 Life Members and 3 Honorary Members

As in 2020, the newsletter has been the thread that kept members in contact with each other and our Garden Club. I'd like to thank all contributors to the newsletter throughout 2021. Particular thanks go to the editor of Garden Thymes, Ann Keegan. Ann does a great job collecting articles, typing and collating the newsletter as well as taking it to the printer and during the non-meeting period, hand delivering it to members who don't use email.

In the period from January to June when we were not constrained by Covid restrictions, members enjoyed several Open Gardens at members' homes, a Rose information session and visits to the Rectory Garden at Bodalla and to Horse Island. The visit to Horse Island is the highlight of my time as a member of this Garden Club. We also hosted a very successful visit by Bowral Garden Club. A reciprocal visit to Bowral is planned for May 2022. I hope these exchange visits with other Clubs become part of the annual Garden Club calendar. Thanks go to Linda Slinger for arranging the refreshments at Open Garden Morning teas.

Once Covid restrictions eased we ended the year with a happy, casual outdoor meeting at Lions Park in Burrill Lake and a lovely Christmas party at the Mollymook Golf Club,

On behalf of all members, my sincere thanks and congratulations go to Debbie Kendall for her excellent and enthusiastic organisation of the Club's activities program. I know Debbie says it's a team effort but she does a superlative job which is appreciated and valued by every member of this Garden Club. Thanks and appreciation are also extended to Debbie's husband and committee member, Mark. Mark strongly supports and helps Debbie in her role as activities officer.

None of the activities of the Club could go ahead without a Treasurer to receive and pay bills and monitor the club's finances. As in the previous three years Sue Hobson has done a great job and in 2021 implemented two initiatives to improve the efficiency of managing the finances - changing banks so payments could be made electronically and introducing the payment Square that enables members to make payments using a credit card. My sincere thanks and appreciation to Sue for delivering these initiatives and her ongoing contribution to managing the Club's finances. Thanks also go to Colleen Ringe who, as Assistant Treasurer supported Sue throughout 2021.

At every meeting we have a dedicated band of volunteers who manage the activities that contribute to the vitality of our meetings. From the Welcome table to the Raffle, Garden Gems, Competition and Trading Tables, and the all-important Morning Tea team on behalf of all members we say thank you, meetings would be very dull without your enthusiasm and welcoming smiles. Very special thanks and acknowledgement go to Yvonne Steain and Janet Baxter who have been longstanding and dedicated volunteers, Yvonne on the raffle table and Janet on the trading table. Unfortunately, Yvonne and Janet are unable to continue for health reasons.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the Propagation Group. It's a small group but busy and productive. We have learned how to propagate new plants from old both for our own gardens and for sale on the Trading Table and at the Club's Plant Sales. Many thanks to Rhondda Bentley for her guidance and leadership and to Marilyn who hosts our monthly gatherings and allows us to raid her beautiful garden for plant material and spill soil all over her terrace.

Finally, I would like to thank each member of the Committee. Each committee member has contributed enthusiastically to managing this organisation and has supported me as president throughout the year. Maintaining enthusiasm has been difficult in covid affected times but we have managed to do so with the support and encouragement of our members. I would particularly like to acknowledge the contributions of retiring committee members Mark Kendall and Julie Leslie. Mark will continue to work on setting up the venue and managing the IT at meetings, while Julie is moving closer to family on the Sunshine Coast.

I am stepping down as President. It's time for someone else to lead the Garden Club into a revitalised future uninterrupted by Covid. My thanks go to you for your support and encouragement over the past 4 years. I have enjoyed getting to know all of you and learning more about gardening in this beautiful part of the world.

Gillian Boyd

28 February 2022

## TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared for AGM on February 28th 2022

The audited financial statements for the Ulladulla and Districts Garden Club are available at this meeting and monthly financial reports are available at every General Meeting for reading by members if they so wish. The audit states that the Garden Club made a profit of approximately \$218 in 2021.

We have had another strange year in 2021, with many General Meetings, functions and trips cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

Members' subscriptions and support of Garden Club events and fund raising has underpinned the financial health of the Garden Club during 2021. Your support has ensured the ongoing running of the club and has facilitated the many activities arranged for club members during 2021 as well as enabling the club to make donations contributing to support of the wider community in garden related endeavours. Thank you.

We did manage to have General Meetings in the early part of 2021 and I want to express my thanks to our hard working members who get involved with either running or contributing to the Gems and Competition Tables, the Trading Table, Raffle and Morning Teas and setting up/taking down.

Specifically I would like to thank:

Colleen Ringe for her support as Assistant Treasurer.

Our President Gillian Boyd, who has been as hard working as ever and always steps in to take on the hard stuff – thank you Gillian! Our secretary, Gill Evans for her help and support in varied ways.

Our priceless Debbie and Mark Kendall and main helper Ann Keegan for their tireless work and attention to detail in organising the trips, social activities, functions and speakers. They have done a fantastic and accurate job of handling the large amount of payments that come in at General Meetings and their receipting of these payments makes my job manageable. In particular, their record keeping enabled the efficient and accurate refunding of monies paid for trips which had to be cancelled.

Thank you Ann Keegan for doing a wonderful job with our newsletter. The newsletter has been a great communication tool and the means of keeping our community connected.

Colleen, Janet Baxter and other helpers worked on the Trading Table and Plant Sales, which between them raised about \$1100 in 2021. Thank you also to Rhonda Bentley, Marilyn Ellerton and the hardworking members of the Propagation Group who have propagated and cared for so many young plants that have been offered for sale to support the club.

Various raffles were well supported and also raised close to \$1100 over the year. Thank you to Yvonne Steain, Enid Kelley, and their helpers for their valuable work.

Other Committee members Sue McMahon, Kathy Pearce and Julie Leslie have worked in a variety of ways to support meetings and activities – thank you.

Thank you to all members who attended meetings and were welcomed by Lorraine Pryor and her helpers. Your contributions towards the cost of catering and the happy atmosphere engendered contribute greatly to the ambience and vitality of our club.

The Garden Club Christmas celebration at the Mollymook Golf Club was a highlight of the latter part of the year and with the informal gathering at Burrill Lions Park, at least gave us two occasions to meet.

### **Community Support**

Gillian has attended meetings with staff from Ulladulla High School to continue the Val Tranter Student Award. We are currently providing funds (\$250) for an Ulladulla High School agriculture student, Laura Bryant, to pay for her school needs during 2022. This award is funded by our 'Student' account which was set up during the GCA Conference which our club hosted in 2017.

We have continued our support of community organisation Jindelara Cottage by paying for a contractor to mow the lawns and deal with weeds. This support started in late 2018 and during 2021 our Garden Club paid out over \$1300 for lawn mowing and grounds maintenance. From the end of March 2022 this support will cease as Jindelara will be run by another organisation which will not need our support.

The Club's support of the Milton Show has also continued with a donation of \$200 given to support various competition categories.

### **Banking**

In September 2021 the Committee decided to change banks from The Commonwealth to Westpac. This change was to facilitate the online payment of accounts and transfers for reimbursements and refunds. During 2021 Westpac enabled us to efficiently and accurately refund the large amount of money paid by members for cancelled trips.

The second big change has been the setting up of the 'Square' payment system whereby payments can be made with credit and debit cards. This has proved convenient and popular. It should be noted that there is a charge to the club of 1.9% per transaction.

We currently have three bank accounts – the Westpac 'working' account, the Westpac 'Student' account and the Bendigo Bank Term Deposit account.

Financially the Garden Club is still in a very healthy position despite the decrease in income which came about as a consequence of missing out on six General Meetings in 2021. I refer members to the Audit and Finance Reports for details.

I would like to recommend that we retain the services of Bill Frazer, the accountant who has done our audits for the last three years.

I also want to mention the invaluable help given to the club by Sue McMahon's brother in law, Brian Horsell, who donated his time and expertise to do a rescue job on the club computer and also assisted me in getting the Square system running.

I am happy to continue as Treasurer in 2022 if that is the wish of the membership.

Thank you.

Sue Hobson