

MINUTES OF THE BANGALOW & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB
WEDNESDAY 4th MAY 2022 at the MOLLER PAVILION

- Present: There were 60 members in attendance.
- Apologies: Anne Tubridy, Sue Barrett, Zsolt Mankowsky, Bruce Tom, Mary-Lou Frazer, Annie Abbink, Margaret Byrne, Lyn Gray, Maree Pfisterer, Judy Baker, Ruth Hunt
- General: Co-President Adelina Linardon welcomed everyone to the meeting. Adelina explained her absence at the last meeting as she had grandma duties. Adelina mentioned that once we wished for rain and now, we wish it would stop raining. Adelina has had a digger lifting plants from a proposed building area and is distressed to see the mess the digger is making of the garden.
- Adelina welcomed the 10 new members from the April meeting and the two new members from the May meeting.
- Each new member present introduced themselves and briefly explained why they had joined the garden club.
- Co president Rosemary Edwards takes over meeting
- Announcements: Diana Harden mentioned brochures were available with information on the Brunswick Valley Heritage Park, Mullumbimby, a project undertaken by member Diana Hughes. National Botanic Gardens Day to be held 29th May – brochure from Friends of the Gold Coast Botanic Gardens. Both brochures will be emailed to members.
- Minutes: Diana had circulated the minutes. Moved Diana Harden Seconded Denise Willis
- Correspondence: Received Diocesan Fund bank statement.
- Treasurer's Report: Liz advised that the club closing balance (to end April 22) of \$6,641.46. Income from new members. Expenses include purchase of digital daylight projector and screen.
- The treasurer's report was moved by Liz Hind, seconded by Diana Harden
- Co-Presidents Report
- Motion: Adelina put a motion to the floor, that due to Co-President Anne Tubridy being unable to continue in her role, that Rosemary Edwards would step into the Co-President role. Moved: Adelina Linardon Seconded: by show of hands from the floor.
- Life Membership: Adelina presentation to Fay Bogg with a life membership and gift of a stainless steel trowel. Fay has been a long term member of the club since 2004. Fay has opened her beautiful garden on several occasions. Fay has maintained the club's website since 2013 and in 2021 recreated the whole website, which is a tribute to her and the club. Adelina thanked fay for her patience in tutelage as she hands over the maintenance of the website to Adelina.

Garden Visit: Suzie told meeting that next Saturday's garden visit is to Suzie's own garden and her neighbour's garden in Cumbalum. Suzie told the meeting to come even if it is raining for a cup of tea and a chat.

The June garden visit will be to Sue Barrett's garden in Ocean Shores.

Upcoming bus trip – Suzie explained that a bus trip organized for 6th August to the Botanical Bazaar in Nerang. There will be workshops, displays, plant sales, food stalls, entertainment etc. Cost will be \$25 for bus and entry. About 40 members expressed interest by show of hands. Payment details will be confirmed over the next couple of meetings. Payment by EFT, in person at credit union or by cash at June, July meeting. More information to follow at next meeting or newsletter.

Publicity: Diana placed the usual notice about this meeting in the Bangalow Herald.

Afternoon teas: Patricia handed around the roster and asked that slots for the next few months be filled. Patricia thanked Carol Lea's husband Tony for the kettle relay at the last garden visit. The urn will return to future garden visits.

Website: Adelina explained that there had been a glitch on the website updates for garden visits etc due to internet problems following storms.

Facebook: Adelina told meeting that 84 members have joined the club's facebook page and many are active.

What's Happening in Your Garden:

Combo with Q & A: Annette Rassow asked for recommendations for long handle pruners. Brands such as Stihl & Huskvarna were mentioned. Also battery powers rather than petrol power as battery lighter. Suggested visiting Johns (sells Stihls) or Steve's Mowers in Ballina? Sorry I forget which one was mentioned.

New member Anthony Hillin asked about the best garden edging to keep Kikuyu and Couch out of garden beds. One suggestion was a power edger as used by Jan in Eureka. Some just whipper snip. David Williamson has 150mm wide heavy weathering steel fabricated, which gives a nice clean line, but price implication. Steven Wedd uses rolls of plastic edging from Bunnings. Anthony also asked about the success of natural herbicides which didn't really get an answer.

Flora of the Month: Margaret Bruce introduced Flora of the Month.

- Hazel Sowerby – *Farfugium japonicum* 'Giganteum', a member of the Asteraceae (Daisy) family and native of Japan. Also called Leopard Plant. Likes semi to full shade, does best in with constant moisture in the soil. Evergreen perennial to 300mm spreads slowly by rhizome.
- Beth Noble – pink camellia, *Russelia equisiformis*, firecracker plant, native to Mexico. Weeping fine leafed habit with narrow tubular flowers, usually red, but also orange and yellow cultivars. A ginger.

- Steven Wedd – a large red Anthurium which gives a pop of colour under his large fig tree. A stunning flower/bract of a bromeliad, Guzmania wittmacki.
- Carol Lea – popcorn dwarf daisies, assorted chrysantemums – oranges, pinks, green (Carol especially likes the green flowered versions) and yellows
- Anthony Hillin – heritage roses, which he buys bare rooted. R. 'Showpiece Berry', R. floribunda 'Fairytale Magic', David Austen R. Abraham Darby and a Kordes rose.
- Margaret Bruce – Iris japonicum, a species Iris.

Guest speaker:

Margaret Bruce introduced Shirley Boyle who will talk about her memories and the history of Bangalow.

Shirley showed us a wide range of photos and newspaper cuttings covering her life whole life living in Bangalow. Her father farmed using draft horses. In 1946 if your car could make it up Springvale Hill it was considered a good car. Being a large family the children were welcomed at Nashua School.

1st year of school they weekly boarded in Lismore. Shirley' father responsible for the bus company starting up a service so they could go to Lismore daily.

The Rural Youth group was a thriving club, with young people cooking breeding cattle and showing at local shows etc.

Popular events in the area include dances held in the various halls, Saturday film nights in the A & I hall, Christmas Eve event.

1964 a huge tornado did a lot of damage. Some house were never seen again. The girls who worked on the local telephone exchange knew everyone's business.

The tradition was to leave work when you became married.

The Bangalow Bowling Club (since 1910? According to website), was originally hessian and tin cost 65 pounds. One they entered the shield competitions for instance it two days to get to Grafton.

Shirley's garden won Champion of Champion in the 2007 garden competition. Other memories include the torch relay going through Bangalow in 1965 and trips to Rocky Creek amongst many other stories.

Margaret thanked Shirley for her informative talk and presented Shirley with a deep red potted Chrysanthemum.

Lucky Door Prize:

Won by new member Bernie Bligh

Auction:

The auction was conducted by Hazel Sowerby.

Meeting ended at 4.00pm.