

**MINUTES OF THE BANGALOW & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB
WEDNESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2022 at the MOLLER PAVILION**

- Present: There were 74 members in attendance.
- Apologies: Pam Barrett, Denise Willis, Judy Baker, Lyn Gray, Ruth Hunt, Debby Hayward, Athena McIvor, Ann Smith
- Welcome: Co-President Rosemary Edwards welcomed everyone to the meeting, including visitors and life members.
- General: Rosemary reminded everyone that the AGM will be held at the November meeting. The meeting will be short. Members are asked to consider nominating for the vacant positions of vice-president and catering co-ordinator.
- Rosemary also reminded everyone about the Christmas Party to be held on Wednesday 7 December at Invercauld house in Goonellabah. A reminder was sent to members on 4 October.
- Rosemary said that there was no guest speaker today and that the meeting will take a slightly different format. Three talented members will be making decorative items using materials from the garden. Rosemary advised that these demonstrations will take place after the auction. After the demonstrations members and visitors can drift onto the verandah to enjoy afternoon tea.
- Finally, Rosemary welcomed Annie Abbink and thanked her for filling in for Diana and for taking the minutes.
- Rosemary said how full life has been for several members in the last few months. Hazel Sowerby has been busy selling her property and preparing to downsize after 27 years! Diana Harden is selling her home. Despite being busy with keeping her property in pristine condition for sale, she invited members to visit her garden last weekend. However, this visit was cancelled due to wet weather. Her garden will be open to members next Saturday 8 October. Adelina has been busy gyprocking her kitchen after several months of builders in her home and Rosemary has also been busy with renovations at her home.
- Minutes: Diana had previously circulated the minutes of 7 September. Annie asked that the minutes be moved and seconded. Moved: Hazel Sowerby. Seconded: Diana Sharpe
- Correspondence: Letter from Diocesan Investment Fund regarding interest accrued. (Handed to Liz)
- Four copies of Our Gardens magazine. Handed to Adelina to distribute to committee. This is an excellent magazine and the subscription is \$20 for a year.

Treasurer's Report: Liz advised that the opening balance as at 1 September was \$5,183.28. The main expense for the month was the deposit for the Christmas lunch (\$2,259.00). Liz advised that the club was subsidising 50% of the cost of the lunch which means tickets are only \$25.00. Members can pay today to Sue Brennan or pay on line. Expenses totalled \$2,469.00. Balance in bank as at 30 September is \$2,397.73. Report moved by Annie Abbink, Seconded: Adelina Linardon.

Co-Presidents Report: Adelina reminded everyone about the Christmas lunch to be held at Invercauld House in Goonellabah on Wednesday 7 December. This venue is a beautiful location with a lovely garden. Adelina hopes as many members as possible will attend. The venue has been booked for 80 people but this could be extended to 100 if necessary. Please RSVP by 2 November. Payment (\$25) is due by 11 November. If paying on line please put "xmas" and your name in the reference section.

Adelina advised members that the club has made a new constitution to comply with NSW government's Statement of Regulatory Intent. The new constitution is a bit longer than the original but now covers matters the garden club needs to comply with. If any member has any feedback, please let me know by the end of the month.

Adelina said that there will be no speaker next month but she is hoping the meeting will have a "roses" theme, seeing as this has been cancelled a couple of times due to the weather and no roses! She asks members to bring in a rose from their garden and to give a little talk on why you like it, where it grows in the garden and anything else of interest. There will be a roving mike to facilitate this. A nice afternoon tea will follow with drinks provided.

Garden Visit: Susie Johnston advised Diana Harden's garden will be open next Saturday. This was scheduled for last weekend but was cancelled due to wet weather. Diana's garden is a modern garden surrounding a modern house. The garden has been open a couple of times before but changes have been made since the last visit. It is on a sloping site with several garden "rooms". Members are advised to wear sensible shoes as there are a few steps. Diana, a landscape designer, designed the garden. The address is 74 The Ridgway, Cumbalum. Details are on the garden club website.

Lesley Player gave advance warning of an open garden in February next year. The Crew Garden in Uralba will be open on 11 & 12 February. It is a big garden and has been open previously. There will be an entry charge. The address will be given at the February meeting next year.

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

Website: This work in progress is "chugging along" according to Adelina.

Facebook: More members are joining which is great. Some lovely photos have been posted by members of flowers in their gardens.

Flora of the Month: Maree Pfisterer introduced Flora of the Month.

- Steven Wedd – (1) Phaius Australia (swamp orchid) – beautiful specimen over a metre tall, native to this area. Can propagate by laying spent flower stems horizontally on garden bed. (2) two varieties of Penstemon flowers – perennial – come in many colours
- Beth Noble – Louisiana iris – grows in pond or garden bed
- Julia Bambery – (1) Paphiopedilum greensak orchid– hybrid, green colour. Won first prize at the Casino show. (2) Paphiopedilum Billy Cardinao orchid – hybrid (3) Yellow clivia.
- Fay Bogg – Rainforest small under storey tree – powder puff plant (Syzygium wilsonii wilsonii) – clusters of white seeds form where flowers have been. Fay suggests this would grow anywhere! Her plant is about 30 years old. Takes about 2 years to flower.

Lucky Door Prize: Won by Adelina Linardon.

Auction Numbers and Name cards:

Sue Brennan said there is a problem with auction numbers and name cards – not everyone is returning them at the end of each meeting! To save Sue and others going around collecting them from members, Sue will put a colourful box near the door for members to drop their badges in plus their auction number if they haven't already handed it to Liz. Sue suggested if people take these items home, they may be asked for a gold coin donation!!

Auction:

The auction was conducted earlier than usual to allow time for the flower demonstrations. Auction conducted by Hazel Sowerby.

Guest speaker:

Margaret advised that there will be no guest speaker today. Instead, there will be a special treat: three very talented members, Carol Lea, Annet Rassow and Faye Dwyer, will each give a floral demonstration using flowers and greenery from their gardens. Carol demonstrated how to make a floral wreath – her example was a large one, about 3/4 metre in diameter, with a mainly green theme. Annet demonstrated how to make kokedamas. She described them as a “poor man’s bonsai”. Annet demonstrated how to make a kokedama using coconut fibre and twine to hold the plant in place. The twine will break down after a while. She suggested you could use paperbark or moss to wrap the plant in. She suggested that the kokedama be put in a bucket of water once a week. Faye demonstrated how to make beautiful, delicate wreaths in different shapes, eg heart shaped, using mulberry branches and attaching dried flowers for a long lasting piece.

Demonstrations ended about 3.00pm after which members had afternoon tea on the verandah.