

Meeting held on: Thursday 3 February 2022
at: Soldier's Memorial Hall
Commencing: 10 am

Welcome

The President, Ted Ayers, opened the meeting at 10.00 am and welcomed members, new members and guests.

Presidents Report

The current wet weather has seen an abundance of snails and slugs and also zucchinis! Dahlias, salvia, astilbe are still flowering.

Ted thanked all those involved in propagating plants and helping with the Exeter Markets Fundraiser. The audience agreed that the resulting 'free' Christmas Party was a success with a round of applause.

The committee wants to hear from members. A Suggestion Box to be set up and questions invited for Q&A. Money raised by the club can be spent on excursions, workshops or another party. Members encouraged to let the committee know how funds should be spent – email, messages etc.

Hopefully 2022 will be a busy year with interesting speakers lined up together with some workshops. Some of these will be free and others will have a small charge. Some ideas were Bonsai, pruning roses. The Garden of Memories is looking beautiful courtesy of rose pruning by Peter Rezek. Also Glenquarry Tree farm to learn about pruning trees to suit the situation.

The AGM is next month and with a number of committee members stepping down we welcome nominations, particularly for Treasurer. The committee is a good group meeting once a month at someone's home. Membership fees are also due, please see Cat

Finally, thank you to Tim and Glynnis Charles running the Trade Table to day and Wendy Norris for taking over the Library, also available today.

Apologies

Laurel Hones

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 10 June 2021 accepted.

Proposed: Carlie Gould

Seconded: Jan Longton

Correspondence

In:

GCA – Zone and Affiliate Co-ordinators Handbook. GCA aiming to improve connections between clubs and the GCA.

SHBG - Autumn Plant Fair – invitation for local Garden Clubs share in a membership/information tent. Which is also on a networking theme.

Out:

GCA - membership numbers for insurance

Expression of interest to the SHBG to be part of the membership/information tent

Treasurers Report

Costs for the Christmas Party amounted to \$1900, with the Plant Stall covering \$1200.

The club holds a current balance of \$14,000 and the Treasurer, Trish Badami, is pleased to be leaving the club in a good financial position.

Town Gardens

There has been little need for the watering system over the summer but thank you to those who have been pruning, weeding and mowing.

Next working bee will be held on Thursday 17 February in the Nancy Kingsbury Park – weeding, pruning and mulching to be done. Coffee and cake to follow.

Friendship Gardens

Sixty members visited the four gardens opened in November and David Humphrey invited members to visit three lovely gardens around Greasons Road on Saturday. Visits were on unless thundering, bring an umbrella. Details in the Newsletter.

Guest Speakers

My Favourite Tools

David Humphrey spoke about the problems with power tools in the garden and recommended battery operated blower, trimmer which were inexpensive, light and easy to use. His petrol versions were too expensive to fix and had to be discarded. David introduced his swan necked hoe, 'swoe', brought over from the UK and not available in Australia (although Wolfgarten have an attachment head).

Morning tea

Sustainable Gardening Practices

Rick Shepherd, Head Gardener at Retford Park, shared tips and techniques for sustainable gardening with some beautiful images. Bugs for Bugs, tree necklaces and whimsical sculptures.

Ted Ayers closed the meeting with a joke since Laurel couldn't attend and some Q&A's

Meeting closed at: 11:45.

Next Meeting: 3 March, Soldier's Memorial Hall commencing at 10am