

Meeting held on: Thursday 10 June
at: Soldier's Memorial Hall
Commencing: 10 am

Welcome

The President, Ted Ayers, opened the meeting at 10.00 am with an acknowledgement of country and welcomed members, new members and guests.

Apologies

Steve and Amy Press

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 6 May 2021 accepted.

Proposed: Jan Shepherd Seconded: Carlie Gould

Correspondence

Out:

Email to Bunnings seeking support for Town Garden maintenance and community activities
Submission of Invoice to WSC for payment of Tree Replacement Grant

In:

Invitation from Southern Highlands Greens for a Fundraiser – Gardening with Natives
Email from Alastair, Bundanoon RSL requesting completion of the garden replanting by June 21 to fulfill their grant requirements
Thank you email from Uniting Church for the lovely Tree Planting Event

Treasurers Report

The Club is currently spending more than it earns each month and we are waiting on the grant money from Wingecarribee Shire Council. The Balance at the end of May was \$14,206.

Presidents Report

The club currently has 165 financial members. Ted Ayers sought confirmation from the audience that a celebration Christmas Party be held for all members free of charge. Confirmed by a round of applause. Running the event would incur costs such as loos, a marquee and hopefully a piper. Fundraising is needed and we can do this through what the club does best – gardening! Ted encouraged all members to propagate some plants for the Trade Table, the Garden Ramble Stall and some market stalls.

Library and Trade Table

Thank you to this month's volunteers enabling the Library to continue to be available at meetings. The Trade Table is back, thanks to those who have brought plants for sale.

Town Gardens

The Celebration Lunch at the Garden of Memories was held on a beautiful day and enabled club members to meet the congregation of the Uniting Church many of whom have a long association with the gardens. Members of the congregation expressed their thanks for the work done. Corinne Buxton, Community Recovery Officer from Council, also attended enjoying the opportunity to see the outcome of the grant. Ted Ayers has seen people enjoying the garden for lunch and received positive feedback on the work the club has done.

Tim “the Yowie Man” who conducts tours of the local graveyards recently held a tour for 15-20 people from Canberra. Tim had really noticed the changes in the gardens and the Nancy Kingsbury Park, people were returning for the Ramble.

Unfortunately, the Pieris plants in the Nancy Kingsbury Park had been damaged and a Salvia “Hotlips” plant stolen. However, bulbs are up and azaleas and camellias are flowering.

A “Muscles and Mattocks” working bee would be held on Thursday 17 June to prepare the beds at the Bundanoon RSL sub-branch for planting. Ted pointed out that although the club is not going to take on every public garden, the RSL needed help to finish the upgrades on the building and grounds. Alastair Saunders was largely “a one man band” and the help was warranted. A request made to Bunnings for soil, compost etc. for the garden beds which are intended to be low maintenance.

Friendship Gardens

Unfortunate that the last Friendship Gardens were cancelled due to the rain. Thanks to Carlie Gould who has helped find interesting gardens for Friendship Garden visits resuming in September. David Humphrey outlined plans for a self drive trip to Retford House on Tuesday 24 August, a show of hands indicated planning a trip would be worthwhile. Various options for tours on the day, forms available with the options. Forms to be completed and returned at the next meeting.

Guest Speakers

Michael from Telopea Tools, Mittagong introduced the Ho Mi and Hori Hori knife and spoke about the correct tools for pruning, lopping and hedge trimming. Importance of using the right tool for the job so as not to damage the blades. Clean sap and dirt from tools after use.

Carmel Slade shared some of her techniques for sketching and water colour encouraging the audience get past the “can’t thoughts” with some simple drawing exercises ably demonstrated by volunteers Robin Coombes, Dale Hancock and Trish Badami.

Carmel donated one of her beautiful watercolours for the raffle, the offer receiving a spontaneous round of applause.

The Potting Shed

Ted Ayers and Carlie Gould demonstrated propagation techniques, encouraging members to propagate plants or invite others to take cuttings from their garden. Pots needed and can be left at the Trade Table.

Meeting closed at: 11:45.

Next Meeting: 1 July, Soldier’s Memorial Hall commencing at 10am