

***Minutes of the General Meeting of The Gap Garden Club Inc held at
Rivercity Church on Tuesday 24 November 2020***

Meeting: Our President, Judy Dittman welcomed all members to our Annual Christmas Luncheon and November General Meeting with the meeting formally opened at 11.00am.

Judy welcomed our Patron and Life Member Helen Page, Life Members, Beryl Hogan, Pat Speechley, Narelle Richter, Val Reville and Jo Ranson.

Judy welcomed and thanked our guest speakers, Danny and Lindsay from Buderim Bromeliads for making the journey from Buderim to attend our meeting and for all the wonderful plants they have brought for sale.

Our membership currently stands at 130 Financial Members and 20 Non Financial Members. Contact has been made with these unfinancial members to seek renewal of their membership. There are currently 23 on the waiting list with a view that their membership may be secured early next year.

We also reflect today on our current and past members that we have lost during the year and those members who are not able to join us today due to ill health. We look forward to seeing them next year.

Apologies: Our Life Members Betty Ryan, Rita Thompson and Elwyn Radcliffe. Unfortunately Elwyn is presently in St Andrews Hospital following a nasty fall and we wish Elwyn a very speedy recovery.

General Business:

- Welcome back Morning Tea will be held on Tuesday 2 February 2021 at the St Mark's Anglican Church Hall, cnr Waterworks Road and Kullaroo Street, The Gap commencing at 10am. Due to current COVID19 requirements it will be necessary for members to bring their own cup and food. Tea and coffee will be provided. Please see our Secretary, Cathy Schofield to record your name as an expression of interest to attend the morning.
- Our Clinic Convenor, Bernadette Murray is looking for members to offer their gardens for a morning Clinic in 2021. Judy encouraged all members to consider participating in holding a clinic as it is a rewarding way to meet all club members and enjoy the beauty of members gardens.
- Our 2021 Calendars are still for sale with limited numbers available for \$8 each. Please see Narelle Richter to secure your purchase.

Guest Speaker: Noela Geeves introduced our Guest Speakers, Danny and Lindsay from Buderim Bromeliads. Danny gave a particularly interesting and entertaining presentation. A large variety of plants were presented, some of which are grown organically. Presented plants included: Caladiums, Crotons, Cordylines, Pussy Plant, Devil's Ivy, Pepperomia, Bromeliads, Grandfather's Beard, Air Plants, Diefenbachia, Anthuriums, Dracaena, Calathea and Philodendron. Danny also gave insight as to the best growing conditions for these plants. Members had the opportunity for question time. All plants were for sale prior to and during lunch.

Helen Page moved a vote of thanks to Danny and Lindsay for their most interesting presentation. Helen also acknowledged that they had driven from Buderim with a very large number of plants to present to us. Helen commented that the Club Members have always enjoyed our Field Trip visits to their nursery up at Buderim and the viewing of their gardens over two properties.

Minutes: The Minutes of the October General Meeting were tabled by the Minutes Secretary, Jill Davies who moved that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. Seconded: Glenys Gillespie.

Correspondence: The Minutes Secretary tabled the correspondence on behalf of the Secretary and moved that the incoming correspondence be received. There was not outgoing correspondence. Seconded: Narelle Richter.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, Karen Curtis presented the financial report for the Club's working account for the month of October 2020 showing an opening cash book balance of \$11,738.24. Income for the month of October 2020 was \$1,617.00. Expenditure for the month of October 2020 amounted to \$2,796.63, resulting in the closing cash book balance of \$10,558.61. The account balance as per the Bank Statement was \$12,787.55 with unpresented cheques of \$2,198.94 resulting in a closing balance of \$10,588.61. Karen gave details of the Number 2 account showing a closing balance of \$49.08.

The Treasurer moved that the financial reports be accepted and the accounts passed for payment. Seconded: Miriam Brown.

New Novice Floral Art Trophy: A new Trophy for Novice Floral Art will be awarded in 2021. This trophy has been donated by Pat Speechley in honour of her late husband Richard Speechley who was a long term member of The Gap Garden Club. Richard undertook the role of Field Trip Convenor for many years and in addition to arranging the day outings he also arranged several 4 day coach trips through Queensland and New South Wales. Judy read a dedication of this trophy giving the full history of Richard's involvement in the Club and the valuable contribution that Richard made to the Club over so many years. Thank you to Pat Speechley for donating this very special award/trophy.

Longevity Certificates: The President Judy Dittman announced and presented the certificates to the Members together with Annette Morgan, the Membership Convenor.

10 Years: Noela Geeves, Marilyn Twomey (taken by Trish Green on her behalf), Jo Axten and Trish Green.
30 Years: Leah McCallum.

Unfortunately some members were unable to attend the function today to receive their certificates and these will be presented at an alternative time. These members were, Pat Brough (10 years), Hilary O'Donnell (15 years), Claire Lunney (20 years) and Elwyn Radcliffe (35 years).

Judy thanked Wendy Hillhecker for the printing of the Certificates.

QCGC: Tom Hayes addressed the Members with a brief overview of his role in QCGC (Queensland Council of Garden Clubs). Tom is currently both a QCGC Delegate and a Committee Member. The QCGC is for the benefit of all Garden Clubs in Queensland and assists in the control and conduct of all clubs and maintenance of club records. Approx 4 to 5 events are held each year. 2020 was a difficult year and unfortunately most functions had to be cancelled including the Annual Christmas Lunch. Tom's role in QCGC followed that of our past member Richard Speechley and our current member, John Leak and involves operating as a conduit between our club and the QCGC. Tom encourages our members to be involved in QCGC events with the first one planned being the April-A-Fair in April 2020. Tom mentioned that The Gap Garden Club is held in very high regard by the QCGC as one of the best garden clubs in Queensland.

Further General Business:

- The February General Meeting will be held at the Rivercity Church on Tuesday 23 February 2020 commencing at 9.30am. The Guest Speaker will give a presentation on "Lawn Care".
- A number of club activities will recommence at the February General Meeting including Trade Table, Library and the Bench. All these activities will be subject to COVID19 requirements including social distancing and necessary sanitisation.
- Under current COVID19 requirements visits to the Trade Table will involve minimal hand contact with cuttings etc. Glenys Gillespie is very knowledgeable in all aspects of gardening and very happy to assist with any queries you may have. Please bring along cuttings for sale and any spare plastic pots.
- The Bench will be operated by Julie Ledden with assistance from Leonie Christie and Narelle Richter. Please ensure that exhibits are viewed in a single file "one way only" with no group gatherings. Judy thanked Linda Corcoran for her assistance on the Bench in the past.
- The Library will be run by Trish Renton (with gloves and mask) with a box provided for the books and magazines being returned for sanitisation following the meeting. Please only handle the books you are wanting to take home to read.
- All Committee positions are vacant with a view that if agreeable the current Committee holders will continue on in their respective roles. It is great news to announce that Robyn Porter has agreed to take

on the role of Field Trip Convenor with Bernadette Murray as her very capable Assistant. Thank you very much to both Robyn and Bernadette.

- As a result the position of Clinic Convenor is vacant and nominations for this position are sought. Bernadette Murray gave a quick overview of what is involved with the role ie 1st Tuesday of the month for 2 hours. The Club provides the morning tea with the Host Member given \$20 to purchase milk and biscuits for the morning tea.

Raffle: Jan Stephenson drew the raffle tickets with many potted plants as prizes. Thank you Peter from the Plant Shack for the lovely plants and gift wrapping them.

Judy thanked all who had assisted in the running of the Christmas Luncheon today. In particular Di Ward for the meals, Karen Curtis for the raffle prizes and assistance to Di, Maxine Silvestro and Lyn Crandell for the afternoon tea. In addition Judy thanked the following:-

- Management Committee for all their valuable assistance in what has been a very difficult year and setting up today. It has been necessary and greatly appreciated;
- Bob and Narelle Richter for management of the Club Web Site – Narelle received a bottle of wine to share with Bob in thanks;
- As Judy was unable to attend the Melbourne Cup Luncheon, thanks was given to Bernadette and Robyn (Clinic Convenors), Helen and Jo (Sweeps), Narelle (floral arrangement demonstration), Karen and Jill for their assistance in organisation and set up of the day and those members who stayed to help clean up.

Narelle Richter did mention that unfortunately our Web Site has been hacked and is currently down. Bob Richter will be working on reconstruction of the web site with a view to have it up and running by January 2021.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 2.10pm.