



Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation Limited

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Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible

BALLARAT BOTANICAL GARDENS FOUNDATION LTD 3RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CHAIRPERSON REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022

It is a great pleasure to present the third Annual Report of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation whilst it is exactly four years to this very month since the inception in September 2018. Due to extraordinary circumstances of a Global Pandemic, routines and timeframes were affected greatly, however your Foundation has continued important business, with appreciation to the Board Members, Robert Selkirk, Mark Schultz, Daina McLeod, Peter Wilson and Terry O'Brien for their continued commitment working together with the Friends of BBG to support our common aims, congratulations go to the Friends on their growth and achievements over the past 40 years as they celebrate this milestone.

The past fledgling four years have seen the establishment of a Policy Statement and Strategic Plan, establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Ballarat, establishment of a Ballarat Botanical Gardens Apprenticeship Programme, financial support to the Gatekeepers Cottage home of the education programme Botanikids. The Board continues to work with the City of Ballarat toward the total completion of the Fernery. Some Board members met with Evan King CEO and Mayor Daniel Maloney in March and were given the undertaking that the City would look forward to working together on future projects in the Gardens.

I would like to express appreciation to Arthur and Merrill Shulkes for their generous support of the BBGF Apprentice Troy Peddle who is mid way through the second year, attending weekly school lectures. At a recent meeting with Troy he stated "funny how it doesn't feel like school when you enjoy it so much".

Recognition must be given to Botanic Gardens for the vital importance of the relationship to socioeconomic value, community health and wellbeing through interaction by facilitating engagement, from an inspirational and subtle scientific perspective, providing a flow on effect to holistic outcomes. The Ballarat Botanical Garden is a world class regional Garden showcasing significant plant collections, congratulations to the staff for the excellent presentation as we look forward to welcoming visitors to the Commonwealth Games in 2024 the Gardens will hold great attraction.

WordsWorth communicating continues to maintain the BBGF Website and give administrative assistance, my thanks to Barb Schriver and Adel Urie for their professional and willing support.

This will be my last report . It has been an honour to Chair the BBG Foundation and my appreciation to Mark Shultz for nominating as next BBGF Chair. I look forward to being part of many future endeavors.

Elizabeth Gilfillan, BBGF Chair