



Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation Limited

1 Ascot Street South
Ballarat Vic 3350

Info@BallaratBotanicalGardensFoundation.com.au

www.BallaratBotanicalGardensFoundation.com.au

ACNC Registered - ACN 629 470 604 - ABN 71 135 954 893

Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible

Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation Limited Annual Report 2018-2019

It is a great pleasure to present the First Annual Report of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation Limited (BBGF).

Ballarat Botanical Gardens are of social significance as a reflection of the civic pride and prosperity of Ballarat, historic and aesthetic significance for mature avenues of trees. Enhancing the natural environment and in so doing advancing and preserving the heritage of the Gardens as a Horticultural museum. BBG sits among other botanic garden scientific institutions, Australia and Worldwide.

Following preliminary discussions on August 31st 2018 with City of Ballarat resolution to support the establishment of a Foundation, it was proposed that a Company Limited by Guarantee be established and registration ensued in September 2018, and it was sought to register as a Charity with Australian Charities and Not For Profit Commission (ACNC) under Charities subtype 'Advancing the natural environment'.

Enabling tax deductibility of contributions and gifts made to the BBGF, the principle objective being to "Build a secure, long term financial basis to support the Ballarat Botanical Gardens".

A BBGF Gift Fund was established and funds being held by the City of Ballarat, in the BBG Community Fund, were transferred to the BBGF Trust Fund. The Trust Deed will develop policies with respect to the application of Trust monies. An investment strategy will be developed over time.

Following registration the inaugural Directors meeting was held on November 28th 2018.



The following were duly elected to the Board:

Peter Wilson, Robert Selkirk, Daina McLeod, Mark Schultz and Elizabeth Gilfillan as Chair.

John Hawker - Patron.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to them all for their willing and enthusiastic commitment to the BBGF.

Work started on implementing a Policy Statement and Strategic Plan and discussions held with the City of Ballarat (COB).

A Memorandum of Understanding with COB has been approved for submission to COB Council in January 2020 for implementation.

A website was established.

A Marketing Plan is being established.

On March 26th 2019 an official Launch dinner of the BBGF was held at Pipers by the Lake with 100 invited guests. A press release was circulated to local news establishments. Considerable donations to BBGF were made by supporters.

Throughout the year there have been discussions with the City of Ballarat regarding support of projects, namely the Gatekeepers Cottage Education and Interpretation Facility and the historic Fernery redevelopment.

Donors to the BBGF have initiated a Horticultural Scholarship to be awarded to a new apprentice in the Gardens.

After great progress and establishment, the year ahead will be of consolidation and future planning.

In addition to the support of the City of Ballarat, the BBGF enjoys the support of many wonderful donors, the Friends BBG Group



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and Volunteers joined by the efforts of dedicated and passionate staff.

The Board joins with me in thanking everyone involved with the establishment of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation and look forward to a bright and productive future.

Elizabeth Gilfillan
BBGF Chair