

Murrumbateman Landcare Group Minutes, 2020 AGM, approved at 2021 AGM.

II:30am Monday 30 November 2020 at Four winds Vineyard

1. The President, Jacqui Stol, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, noting, in the words of one member, that 2020 was a very different year of drought, storms, bush fires, smoke and covid, causing families constant stress, hardship and tragedy across Australia, and our thoughts were with them.

2. **Apologies**: Michelle Storey; John Storey; George Brenan; Andrew Harding; Christine Butt; Lindsey Butt; Lise Hartge; Lisa Borella; Chris Fowler; Peter Baskett; Jo Baskett; Janette Hannan; Jan Downie; Ro McFarlane.

Present

President – Jacqui Stol

Vice President – Sue McIntyre

MLG Executive – Klaus Hueneke, Annaliese Caston, Gill Hall, Sheridan Roberts, Sue McColl, Fiona Hamer, Kylie Evans, Bob McColl

MLG members –, Jon Lewis, Geoff McFarlane, Colin Lee, Esther Robinson, Simon Evans, Simon McGrath, Virginia Rawling, Celina Pascoe, Bill Pascoe, Santo Lolicato, Pauline Thorn, John Thorn.

3. President's report

Jacqui noted that despite everything needing to be Covid safe, 2020 had been both busy and successful for MLG thanks to MLG's hard working and dedicated volunteers, and our rising membership. While Lisa Borella could not be at the AGM, her tabled Nursery report showed how she, Gill Hall and Annaliese Caston had worked hard with their volunteers in many working bees to come out of a drought and harness a boom year for propagation.

Jacqui brought members' attention to both MLG's Facebook page with its increasing following, reaching an audience beyond our membership, and to MLGs' website and its growing content, with a lot of information added or revised in 2020 to better support both members and the wider community in their Landcare activities.

Foreshadowing the treasurer's report Jacqui noted that the growing membership was underpinning a strong financial position further boosted with grant funding.

Jacqui updated the meeting on MLG's journey to become "climate ready" led by members Gill Hall and Sue McIntyre in collaboration across YAN to identify, source and propagate plants from selected species obtained from target areas most likely to deliver the genetic diversity for resilient revegetation in a changing climate.

Jacqui advised the meeting of progress in the protection and management of an endangered ecological community of Box Gum Grassy Woodland and derived grassland with very high conservation value in the middle of Murrumbateman Village.

MLG had partnered with determined community members who had approached MLG (including Annaliese Caston), and MLG obtained a licence to manage the site for environment protection. The project had support from Dept of Crown Lands, previous Federal Member for Parliament Mike Kelly (who facilitated a Commonwealth Stronger Communities Programme grant of \$9500 for acquittal 30/06/2021), the "Friends of the Murrumbateman BGGW", the Murrumbateman Progress Association and Yass Council.

MLG had also received a grant from YVC and the Murrumbateman Progress Association to progress a final Management Plan for the Murrumbateman Bush Cemetery to ensure that the conservation management of the cemetery is robust.

Jacqui lamented that while, as usual, the MLG year started in February with an event planning meeting that generated a very promising program of outdoor and indoor events for 2020, then Covid came. After a very well attended evening inspection of the Murrumbateman Box gum grassy woodland reserve in March, led by Annaliese Caston, Covid concerns led to cancelling the April propagation workshop and the suspension of indoor MLG meetings.

Our meetings started again in August, on Zoom, to a large and appreciative audience.

4. Any items to pick up in other business? None were suggested.

5. Minutes from 2019 *Motion to accept.* Bob McColl proposed, and Sue McColl seconded that the minutes previously circulated be accepted. All present (and who had also been present at the 20198 AGM) agreed.

6. Treasurer's/membership reports (Sheridan Roberts)

Sheridan spoke to her previously circulated report, highlighting MLG's strong financial position. In light of that, members wondered if MLG could invest more in the climate ready project. Jacqui invited members to make submissions and the committee would consider them in the new year.

7. Nursery Report (Lisa Borella)

8. Election of office bearers

Geoff McFarlane agreed to be the election officer.

All committee members and office holders indicated they wished to continue in their MLG roles

A call for nominations at the meeting did not add any nominations to those already received and those shown below were elected by acclamation.

President	Jacqui Stol	
Vice President	Sue McIntyre	
Treasurer	Sheridan Roberts	
Secretary	Bob McColl	
Public Officer	Sheridan Roberts	
Committee member	Lisa Borella	
Committee member	Gill Hall	
Committee member	Sue McColl	
Committee member	Kylie Evans	
Committee member	Fiona Hamer	
Committee member	Annaliese Caston	

Jacqui thanked Geoff for managing the process so well and thanked the committee for their team work, thanked all the members and volunteers that make MLG so successful and wished everyone a great festive season and hopefully a more settled 2021.

9. Other business. None

Meeting closed at 4.00pm