

FRIENDS OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS INC
Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30 June 2017

It is my pleasure to present my second Treasurer's Report for the Friends.

At last year's AGM, the Friends endorsed a change of Auditor, on the basis of robustness and good governance. The new Auditor is Jeff Brewer Chartered Accountant and Partner of MGI Joyce Dickson, Manuka.

The new Auditor has advised that the Friends annual Income Statement and Balance Sheet should include the Public Fund to afford a complete financial situation of the Friends, and also because both the Friends and the Public Fund have the same Australian Business Number ('ABN'). The Auditor has signed off on a separate Public Fund Income Statement and Balance Sheet, to provide transparency for our deductible gift recipient status and to assist in the various regulatory annual returns.

Once again, the Friends with the assistance of its many volunteers has successfully held numerous events and functions throughout the year. The Income Statement details the varied ways we receive income, with commitment from many special interest groups, such as Thursday Talks, the Growing Friends with their plant sales, Social Events (Summer Concerts and Breakfast with the Birds), as well as the Botanical Artists and Photographic Group who hold successful exhibitions. Booked Walks managed by Harley Dadswell, is a constant providing income of about \$2,000 per year. It has been another busy 12 months and it is pleasing that the tireless efforts of volunteers are well rewarded with strong income being generated for the Friends to assist the Gardens.

General expenditure was fairly much in line with previous years, as was Gardens Support, that is, donations to the ANBG for various projects. There are a number of projects that Council had expected to be completed by 30 June 2017 but due to unforeseen circumstances these have been carried forward to this financial year. In particular, the major project of the Paperbark Treehouse is now well underway and construction should be completed early November, with payment made to the Gardens sometime soon thereafter. At that point, Council will be in a clearer position to consider further projects put forward by the Gardens, for as per our Constitution, the Friends was "established for the purpose of supporting the Gardens."

The combined Balance Sheet at 30 June 2017 states accumulated funds of \$596,212 with a significant commitment to the Paperbark Treehouse yet to be finalised. Council is confident that the accounts are in a robust financial position to enable us to meet the aims of the Friends in the foreseeable future.

Donations to The Public Fund totalled \$24,065 including an unexpected \$10,000 family donation received late June 2017. A number of projects were supported by the Fund but unfortunately none were completed in time for payment in the year. The Public Fund has accumulated funds of \$103,477, part of which has also been reserved for the Paperbark Treehouse.

In conclusion, thank you to Kim Liston, who assists me in managing the financials of the many events, as well as Council members and other members for their support.

Helen Elliot, Treasurer