

FRIENDS OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS INC
Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30 June 2019

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

Yet another busy year has passed and once again with the assistance of its many volunteers the Friends has successfully held a number of events, receipted income and just been available for contact and information. The Income Statement on page 2 details the varied ways we receive income, and apart from Membership fees which is our largest income source, the Friends are privileged to have the ongoing commitment from so many of the Special Interest Groups, such as Thursday Talks, the Growing Friends with their plant sales, Social Events (Summer Sounds and Wake Up with the Birds), as well as the Botanical Artists and Photographic Group who hold popular exhibitions each year in the Visitor Centre. Booked Walks managed by Harley Dadswell, is a constant providing income of about \$2,000 per year. The Friends' volunteers should be proud that their tireless efforts have been rewarded with about \$208,000 in income for the year which will, in the main, be donated towards projects proposed by the Gardens. Thank you to the Project Committee for reviewing these proposals and tabling them to the Friends Council for discussion and decision.

General expenditure was fairly much in line with previous years, as the Friends maintain a lean administration. Donations to the Gardens totalled \$100,325 including \$27,880 from the Public Fund. It was pleasing to donate the first tranche of \$26,758 (of the Friends \$100,000 commitment) towards the new Banksia Garden, as well as \$18,600 towards the new Conservatory for the Interpretation Plan. The Public Fund is a registered charity and receives tax deductible donations from members and the general public. This year the Public Fund received \$21,885 and tax deductible receipts were issued to all donors. As a result of these donations, the Public Fund could generously provide the Seed Bank with \$24,880 of new equipment as well as the x-ray assessment of legacy collections. This was in addition to \$3,000 for the collection of *Macadamia jansonii* seeds in far north Queensland. All worthwhile projects in support of the Gardens.

The combined Balance Sheet at 30 June 2019 states accumulated funds of \$514,388. However, it should be noted there is still a significant commitment to the Banksia Garden and potentially the new Conservatory. In addition, Council has called for other, perhaps smaller projects, to be proposed by the Gardens. Council is confident that the accounts are in a robust financial position to continue, as per our Constitution, *"for the purpose of supporting the Gardens."*

The Public Fund has accumulated funds of \$81,494 and will consider new projects to receive donations at its next meeting in July 2019.

The Friends' Financial Statements is consolidated and includes the Public Fund. However, there is Financial Statements for the Public Fund to provide transparency for our deductible gift recipient status and to assist in the various regulatory annual returns.

In conclusion, thank you to all the Friends volunteers who work so tirelessly to generate income and profile the steadfast work of the Friends. Thanks also to the Garden management and staff who are very collegiate, Council members and of course other members of the Friends for their continuing their support and renewal of membership.

Helen Elliot, Volunteer Treasurer