



MILLINERY AUSTRALIA

Members Meeting Minutes

HELD via Zoom: Tuesday, 30th July 2024

7.30pm AEST (Melb/Syd)

Time	Item	Presented by
19:30	1. Welcome	President
	2. Apologies Gillian Andrew, Margret Keeble, Fiona Eichler, Wendy Skully, Christine Loof, Louise Macdonald, Fiona Sullivan, Leteisha Knecht, Catherine Storm, Kim Johnson, Jo Ramsay, Nayana Nilmini, Christine Waring.	Secretary
	3. Passing of June 2024 Meeting Minutes → Kathy Campbell - Motion to Approve the June Minutes → Second – Christine Martin	Secretary
	4. Treasurer Reports 4.1 Financial Reports - P&L, Balance Sheet, Bank Account → Mary Mohr - Motion to Approve Financial Reports & Ratify Payments made by the Committee → Second – Wendy Diggles Action: Mary queried the substantial Hootsuite annual fee increase. She will look in to this and clarify.	Treasurer
	5. President's Report → Possum thanked Andrea and Penny for heading up the Gala Committee and putting on "our greatest design award and gala"; with all entries showcasing 'immense talent'; → Possum thanked Georgia for putting on a wonderful Student award; → Congratulations to Sandy Forrester for her induction in to the Millinery Australia Hall of Fame; → Members monthly email for July will be in two parts, so look out for the emails; → Photos will be added to the gallery on the Website, and will go live shortly; → Aprons will be available for pre-order shortly; → Jo Ramsay continues to update and upgrade the website. → Possum confirmed that the Facebook page is being used to post information about Millinery, members, upcoming events, as an association diary. There are many posts which appear on FB that do not appear in Instagram. All posts placed on FB remain forever. → Objective of Instagram is now as a curated gallery of professional photos by members of MA for provide a more	President

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	<p>polished and professional look. Focus is on quality and renewing the posts to keep up the interest for return views of MA page. Currently at 4500 followers on Instagram, with dozens of daily interactions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Possum thanked Jo Ramsay for all her long hours and effort in keeping the social media pages up to date. And thanks also to Georgia, Andrea and Sarah Mensforth for their guest editing of our social media pages; ➔ Reminder to members to tag MA and use #millineryaustralia in their posts, which confirms that MA has members' permission to share the photos; ➔ In response to numerous inquiring from members of the public regarding learning millinery, the area of Millinery Education will be expanded. Current associate member educators are listed there. If members are interested in offering courses and being listed on the MA website, then they need to upgrade membership to add on Associate Member. Combo Fellow/ Associate membership fee is discounted amount of \$175; ➔ New website area of Millinery Resource Books is now up on the Website. Many thanks to Nicholette Pottier for collating this information; ➔ More resource pages will be added to the website shortly; ➔ Design Awards & Gala 2025 – calling for member interest in being involved in the organising committee for 2025. Location is not yet confirmed - waiting on enthusiastic members to step up first. 	
	<p>6. Guest Speaker – Bronwyn Shooks – The Millinery Dept.</p> <p>Bronwyn provided a great explanation of the thinking and processes behind her Award-Winning piece.</p>	Vice Pres
	<p>7. VP Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Wendy thanked Andrea, Penny & Nicholette (an others on the team) for all their work – the Gala was amazing, it was like being in a wonderful art gallery, with all entered pieces displayed like a piece of art. ➔ Congratulated all the winners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bronwyn Shooks – 1st ○ Cynthia Jones-Bryson – 2nd ○ Anita Marshall – 3rd & Patron's Pick ○ Lauren Richie – Packing Room ○ Sue Younis – People's Choice ○ Sandy Forrester – HOF Inductee ➔ Advertised Felting class was cancelled due to lack of interest from Qld members. If anyone has interest in the future, contact Wendy for tutors details. ➔ EKKA has had a great response in the number of entries. An increase on last year. Judging will be happening on Thursday 8th August. Judging criteria used will be to ensure consistency. 	Vice Pres

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	<p>8. Design Awards & Gala</p> <p>➔ Invitation to hear comments from the organisers of both Awards:</p> <p>Student Awards – Georgia Skelton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Georgia felt as though she lost perspective this year as to where the Student Award was going, and wants to rectify this for next year. Unsure as to what tasks she was completing, and what the Committee members were doing on behalf of the Student Awards. - Felt disrespected this year. - Not happy to hear that changes to the rules of entry were tabled at Committee level, and asked that any decision be put on hold until she has the chance to participate in the decision making. - Raised objection to the idea that past winner of the SA could not enter again. - Felt that this year’s theme of “Priscilla, Queen of the Desert”, was a poor choice, and this was reflected in the entries submitted. - Confirmed that she enjoys being involved in the SA, enjoys the process of running the competition. Felt as though things got messy this year. - Suggestion made by Possum that Georgia put together a run sheet for the SA identifying tasks to be completed, and by whom, so that all future Committees can work consistently from that run sheet. Document would be saved on to the Drive for future reference. - Possum confirmed that there was no ill intent by anyone at a Committee level who was involved in the SA. All was done with enthusiasm for the SA. Possum offered her apology to Georgia, which was accepted by Georgia. - Wendy Diggles confirmed that the committee has a great amount of respect for Georgia and all she has done for the SA, and nothing was ever done with bad intent. Wendy also offered an apology to Georgia, if the Committee had overlooked some things it should not have, which was accepted by Georgia. <p>** (Note to Members for clarity on this point: the Committee has briefly discussed the need for clarification of eligibility requirements for the Student Award, including entry by those who already hold a Certificate III or IV, and are still within the annual membership period of their Student Membership. Such student members should upgrade to Fellow members. Eligibility of past winners has also been raised. A comprehensive discussion of these matters has not yet been had, and no work has yet begun on updating the entry requirements. Therefore no consultation with relevant/ interested members has yet been undertaken).</p>	

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Design Awards – Andrea Cainero & Penelope Gervaise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The DA & Gala was a lot of work, with more entries than ever before; - There was so much support for the committee in all aspects of the organising and on the big set up days, judging, photo shoot, Gala, with so much support from Sydney Milliners; - Andrea confirmed that the TAFE execs who attended the Gala were thrilled, and enjoyed being around such a “creative and positive energy” in the space. Penny’s colleagues also enjoyed the evening. - Thanks for Possum and Jo Ramsay for all their support in getting things done. - Overwhelmed with how many members came to Sydney in support. 	
	<p>9. General Business Open to Members</p> <p>➔ Photos on the Social Media Platforms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fiona Cooper raised concern that photos had been deleted from Instagram, and was concerned that this should not be happening. It is important to maintain all images for archival purposes. Concerned that some images could be lost. Feels that the work of past committees should remain, and not be touched by current or future committees. Important to keep the history together. Not everyone looks at Facebook, and Instagram has more traction than Facebook. Images should be kept on both to ensure that nothing is lost in the event that one system goes down, or is corrupted. ○ Possum confirmed that images had not been deleted, but Archived. All images were still available on Facebook. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What has been archived is Sponsors; images with the purple frame (which have been replaced with photos without the frame); theme logos ○ Andrea reiterated how important it is to create clear guidelines and procedures for the Association about the use of the social media, so that the Committees going forward know how things work. Acknowledged that things are done with good intentions. ○ Georgia Skelton queried who was going to make the decision regarding guidelines and procedures for social media – committee level or whole membership. Believes that all images should be reinstated, so that a full history is available to be able to see how the association has developed and changed. ○ Georgia – can the images be unarchived? Possum will talk to Jo Ramsay. 	

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	<p data-bbox="443 286 1094 320">20:21 – Possum visibly upset and left the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="496 389 1222 488">○ MM suggested that maybe the website was the best place for archived material/ images, as an avenue that we control. <p data-bbox="400 521 1198 620">➔ Any other matters should be address to the committee for discussion by the committee, before being brought to the Members.</p>	
	<p data-bbox="347 678 922 745">10. Next Meeting Wednesday, 28th August, 7.30PM AEST</p>	
20:36	<p data-bbox="347 768 836 835">11. Meeting Close Meeting closed by Vice President</p>	Secretary