



Member Meeting Minutes

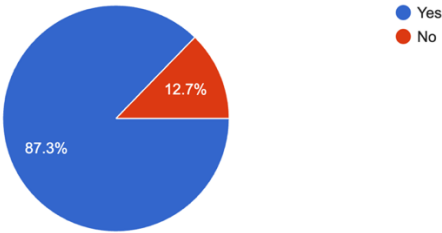
HELD: Wednesday, 30th July 2025 - 7.30pm AEST (Melb/Syd)

Time	Item
19:30	1. Welcome
	2. Apologies Catherine Storm, Cristina De Prada, Christine Waring, Desleigh Lobsey, Elizabeth Hemsley, Fiona Eichler, Fiona Sullivan, Louise Macdonald, Margaret Keeble, Pam Kelly, Robynne Dowd, Sue Younis, Wendy Scully, Weis Mauduit, Phillip Rhodes, Mary McCann, Joanne Cooke
	3. Guest Speaker – Rebecca Share
	4. Passing of June 2025 Meeting Minutes 4.1 Motion: to approve the Minutes of the June meeting Motioned: Kathryn Campbell, First: Julie Watson; Second: Linda Ford
	5. Treasurer's Reports 5.1 Financial Reports - P&L & Balance Sheet – Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Award – Loss of \$2000 (due to model sickness and changeout on photo shoot day) • Student Award – Profit of \$149.05 • Gala – Profit of \$108.33 • Term Deposit (\$20K) has been reinvested again for a further 3 months, including all interest received (around \$600 this year) 5.2 Motion: to approve the Financial Reports and to ratify the payments made by the Committee Motioned: Sarah Mensforth, First: Georgia Skelton, Second: Julia Watson
	6. President's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation that Louise Macdonald will be our guest speaker for the month talking about her recent experience in France. • The 490 blocks have been relocated from Keysborough to The Essential Hat in Malvern. A big thank you to Tracey Tau, Uri, Jo Peterson, and Fiona Echler for making this happen. Additionally, a special thanks to Kathryn Campbell for her legal work in drafting the contract between the MABL and Tracey, ensuring future committees have clarity on the details. Tracey will provide a more detailed report later in the meeting.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I received an email from Celia at the VRC magazine, and she is interested in doing a story on our design awards and our recent activities. I have asked Jo Peterson to write a summary for her and to send through some images.We have two more Newsletters to publish this year, and unfortunately, Serena has had to step away from her role. I called for a co-editor at the last meeting, but no one has volunteered yet. As this is an important aspect of the Associates membership, I filled in for Serena last month. While it doesn't require a significant time commitment, I would prefer to outsource this task as I have enough on my plate as President. If you are interested in taking on this role for the last two issues, please email Kathy via the secretary email! <p>6.1 <u>MAA – Is it Time for a Change? - Survey Results and Plan for Moving Forward</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I received 56 responses from the survey. The survey was anonymous so I can't directly contact members who had made comments. Most comments were of a positive and grateful nature, however one response has given me the impression that the survey may not be able to be read fully on all mobile devices as it was suggested that I was forcing a yes response. May I recommend that future surveys be read on a device that allows all responses to be seen. <p>These are the responses:</p> <p>What is your current membership title? 56 responses</p> <table><tr><th>Membership Title</th><th>Count</th><th>Percentage</th></tr><tr><td>Fellow</td><td>45</td><td>80.4%</td></tr><tr><td>Student</td><td>6</td><td>10.7%</td></tr><tr><td>Associate</td><td>2</td><td>3.6%</td></tr><tr><td>Hall of Fame</td><td>7</td><td>12.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Dual membership</td><td>0</td><td>0%</td></tr></table> <p>We would like to add a 'Friends of MAA' membership. More details to come. These Members would not have voting rights but would receive discounts to social events. Do you agree? 56 responses</p> <table><tr><th>Response</th><th>Percentage</th></tr><tr><td>I think we should have a 'Friends of MAA' membership</td><td>83.9%</td></tr><tr><td>No I dont think we should do this</td><td>1.8%</td></tr><tr><td>Happy to leave it to others to decide</td><td>14.3%</td></tr></table>	Membership Title	Count	Percentage	Fellow	45	80.4%	Student	6	10.7%	Associate	2	3.6%	Hall of Fame	7	12.5%	Dual membership	0	0%	Response	Percentage	I think we should have a 'Friends of MAA' membership	83.9%	No I dont think we should do this	1.8%	Happy to leave it to others to decide	14.3%
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	<p>I would prefer the 'Associate membership title be changed to</p> <p>56 responses</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Survey Results: Associate Membership Title Change</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Option</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Supplier</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate Supplier or Associate Tutor</td> <td>17.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leave as Associate</td> <td>17.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leave as Associate but add Supplier or Tutor on the website</td> <td>35.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Happy to leave it to others to decide</td> <td>23.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is clear that members are ready to embrace change. We are now working on putting this into a vote for a rule change and will hold a special meeting prior to the September GM to vote on it. Regarding the Fellow status, the option to allow members to have Fellow on their Bios was the most popular. I have simplified the current requirement list into a checklist and reduced the repetitive submissions. The committee feels that this application form, OR 2 Fellows recommending a member to the committee for Fellow status approval, would be sufficient for it to be added to their bio. We propose granting associates access to the Members-only Facebook page, specifically for the rules appendix. Although the social media rules are not included in the appendix, if this vote passes, we will trial "Tutor Tuesday" and "Supplier Saturday" postings. We believe this will be beneficial for both members and associates. Additionally, I would like to clarify that Hall of Fame members can become associate Tutors by paying the difference between a membership and an associate plus membership, which is currently \$40. We need to do what we can to encourage education with the loss of all Australian TAFE courses. Regarding fees, the finances have been managed exceptionally well under the leadership of Sarah Mensforth. As a result, the committee sees no reason to increase fees for 2026. However, we will be adding the transaction fee to the membership fee instead of having it separate. Example the membership fee was \$120 plus \$5 it will now be \$125 with no transaction fee. This change makes it easier to administer. The committee and all sub-committees for this year deserve congratulations for their efforts. Our financial issues have been resolved. The Friends Category proposal received strong support! We suggest inviting Friends to the start of the General Meetings for our Guest Speaker and offering them a discount on social events. We believe \$35 is a suitable price for this. Remember, it is everyone's responsibility to invite guest speakers, so please keep an eye out for anyone you think would be a great fit for us. <p>6.2 <u>Plan To Get Involved! – 2026 Committee and Sub-Committee Positions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GS confirmed that many of the current Committee members would like to remain for 2026. Kathy and Sarah will not be renominating for their current positions. KC provided a brief description of the role of Secretary – primarily communications with ASIC and CAV; setting and distribution of meeting Agendas; taking of and distribution of meeting Minutes; uploading of meeting documents to 	Option	Percentage	Supplier	0%	Associate Supplier or Associate Tutor	17.9%	Leave as Associate	17.9%	Leave as Associate but add Supplier or Tutor on the website	35.7%	Happy to leave it to others to decide	23.2%
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	<p>the website; management of the Membership list. KC will be on the 2026 Committee in another role and will be there to help with a smooth transition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SM provided a brief description – use of Xero, integration with Paypal; printing of reports relevant for distribution for meetings; busiest time is during the Design Award & Gala and end of the year with Membership fee invoicing. SM will also be available for a transition with instruction manuals for use of Xero, and whatever may be needed. <p>6.3 <u>Melbourne Fashion Festival 2026</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As you know, I have been in touch with Todd Heggie from Melbourne Fashion Festival, and I am working with him to get us involved in next year's event. Fashion, like any other industry, is all about connections. I will have more information after our next meeting. I appreciate those of you who have shown interest by responding to the survey. My goal is to make Millinery Australia the go-to name for designers and creative directors when they want to collaborate or feature millinery in a parade or photo shoot. I believe the creation of a Millinery Australia Look book would assist in this. This event will also be beneficial for our tutor associates to promote education. <p>6.4 <u>2026 Design & Student Awards & Gala</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With no interest from other states, the Design Awards will be held in Melbourne, as will the Gala which has been booked for July 3rd at The Bank. Thank you, Rachel Hart, for stepping up to run the Gala. • Regarding the Design Awards, the committee are going to give you the themes for 2026 at our September meeting with the 2027 theme and each following year being announced at the Gala. We feel that this will add another conversation topic for guests of the Gala adding a further excitement. It will also aid with planning for the competitors. • If you have any ideas for a good theme ideas, please forward to Kathy at the secretary email. <p>6.5 <u>Around the World – Who's at the Meeting + Any News?</u></p> <p>33 Members in attendance - VIC – 18; NSW – 6; WA – 1; SA – 2; Qld – 4; ACT – 1; International – 1</p> <p>News?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bec Bayss summed up the Milliners 4 Recovery Auction and donations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raised \$12606.00 – distributed to 20 permanent resident homes in Croki, NSW - \$615 each. Will be able to spend the \$ how they will choose. • EKKA is coming up - 9-17th August
	<p>7. Other</p> <p>7.1 <u>Ballarat Mini-Convention</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The interest in a mini con in Ballarat mid-year was high with 87.5 % wanting it to go ahead. Rose Hudson is looking into the pros and cons for us.

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	<p>Would you be interested in attending a Millinery convention in Ballarat mid year 2026? Probably Friday night to Sunday night/ Monday morning. 55 responses</p>  <p>7.2 <u>Block Library (MABL) – Update – TT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All blocks have arrived – 490 blocks • Opens Friday 1st August – come in and have a look at the blocks and workroom. <p>7.3 <u>Archives – Photos Request – SF</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archives have been handed over to the State Library of Vic and are now in a de-bugging quarantine for a time. Curator will then determine what they actually need/ want. • Curator has asked for good quality photos of members work, as it relates to the Millinery Association (not just person pics of pieces), especially workshop photos etc. Send through to Sandy for passing on to the State Library.
	<p>8. General Business – Open to Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jo Peterson confirmed that the website should now have been updated for a 'Forgot Password', so give it a try. Let Jo know if they have any problems.
	<p>9. Next Meeting Monday, 25th August @ 7.30pm AEST Via Zoom & In-Person: Hawthorn Library 584 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn, 3122</p>
20:25	10. Meeting Close – 8.25pm