



## Special General Meeting & Member Meeting Minutes

**HELD: Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025 - 7.30pm AEST (Melb/Syd)**

Time	Item
19:30	<p><b>1. WELCOME &amp; CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM TO PROCEED WITH SGM VOTING</b> – Voting undertaken by Zoom Poll for each of the 12 Resolutions</p> <p><b>VOTING RESULTS:</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 1:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 30; NO – 3; ABSTAIN – 2</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 2:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 30; NO – 3; ABSTAIN – 3</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 3:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 28; NO – 2; ABSTAIN – 6</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 4:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 33; NO – 2; ABSTAIN – 3</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 5:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 35; NO – 1; ABSTAIN – 2</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 6:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 33; NO – 4; ABSTAIN – 2</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 7:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 34; NO – 1; ABSTAIN – 2</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 8:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 34; NO – 1; ABSTAIN – 2</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 9:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 30; NO – 3; ABSTAIN – 6</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 10:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 28; NO – 3; ABSTAIN – 6</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 11:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 31; NO – 6; ABSTAIN – 3</b></p> <p><b>Special Resolution 12:</b> Declared as Passed  <b>Vote Tally – YES: 33; NO – 4; ABSTAIN – 4</b></p>

	<p><b>2. ATTENDEES &amp; APOLOGIES</b></p> <p><b>Eligible Voting Attendees</b> – Georgia Skelton, Tracey Tau, Kathy Campbell, Delphine Niucholson, Michele Cameron, Christine Martin, Robynne Dowd, Linda Ford, Ginetta Rositano, Joanne Cooke, Penelope Gervaise, Sandy Forrester, John Weswood-Hill, Julia Watson, Jo Honan, Catherine Storm, Andrea Cainero, Amber Louison-Suwal, Marea Bright, Nicholette Pottier, Kimberley Barnham, Araks Nazarian, Lisa Watt, Rose Hudson, Sarah Mensforth, Mary McCann, Leteisha Knecht, Louise Macdonald, JD Mannington, Chris Mullane, Angela Sullivan, Jo Peterson, Rachel Henry, Fiona Cooper, Serena Lindeman, Michaela Manning</p> <p><b>Eligible Proxy Vote Forms received</b> – Nayana Nilmini, Elaine Mergard, Catherine Whitelock, Karin Goodman, Sue Walsh</p> <p><b>Non-Voting Attendees</b> – Kelly Maskell, Jess Maddox, Kelly Dart-Fagan</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> – Christine Waring, Elaine Mergard, Sue Walsh, Karin Goodman, Catherine Whitelock, Nayana Nilmini, Sue Younis, Oksana Caretti, Rebecca Share, Kylie Bannerman</p>
	<p><b>3. PASSING OF AUGUST 2025 MEETING MINUTES</b></p> <p>3.1 <b>Motion:</b> to approve the Minutes of the August meeting  <b>Motioned:</b> KC, <b>First:</b> Christine Martin, <b>Second:</b> Linda Ford</p>
	<p><b>4. TREASURER'S REPORTS</b></p> <p>4.1 Financial Reports - P&amp;L &amp; Balance Sheet – Overview</p> <p>4.2 <b>Motion:</b> to approve the Financial Reports and to ratify the payments made by the Committee  <b>Motioned:</b> SM, <b>First:</b> Mary McCann, <b>Second:</b> Julia Watson</p>
	<p><b>5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Thank you for your attention and consideration for the vote and thank you to Kathy for the preparations. If you voted against the changes, I understand you will be disappointed, however I hope you will accept the outcome, and get behind the next chapter of Millinery Australia.</p> <p>I now ask you for your patience as we update our website and registration forms to reflect the changes. Once this is done, we will ask you to begin inviting your friends, family and fashion lovers, stylists and customers to join our Association as a Friend, and if you know a milliner who has been reluctant to join in the past, please give them a little push. The more the merrier!</p> <p>This is our last meeting before the spring carnival season and our AGM in November, as most of us, including the committee will be too busy to participate.</p> <p><b>5.1 Government House Cup Eve Reception</b></p> <p>The VRC have once again invited us to the Cup eve event at Government House. The committee each year determine the invite list for Millinery Australia. For full transparency I will share with you how we determined the list for this year.</p>

We were asked for 12 members to display at Government House. This consisted of the top 10 from the design award, the Photographers Pic and, due to Rebecca also winning the Jonesy, we added in the People's Choice Award. Two of the finalists opted to not display so it was decided to invite Jo Peterson as the Alison Morgan winner and Sarah Mensforth to represent the Committee in gratitude for all her hard work this year.

For the event itself the top ten were first on the list and their plus one is of their choosing.

Next is the committee, but their plus one is a member fellow or life member who has volunteered in a significant way throughout the year. For example, Archives, Heritage, Festival, Design and student Award, Gala, Block Library, I.T, etc. I feel this is a very fair way to distribute these invites and will be recommending that future committees consider the same method.

With a few of the committee not being able to attend we will have a few spares. I now call for you to pop your hand up if you would like to go into the draw for this opportunity?

### **5.2 Melbourne Cup Day Photo Shoot opportunity with Richard Shaw**

We are happy to announce that Richard will once again be our photographer for Melbourne Cup day. To better manage this opportunity for our members, we have made some changes from last year.

- This year, the cost will be \$45 for three high-resolution images of one look. A "look" can be a photo of your model, yourself, OR a couple/group photo, but it does not mean one of each.
- If you want all three options, it will be \$45 per option or look.
- We will not be restricted to time slots this year. Instead, you will purchase a ticket (soon to be released) and show it to Richard on the day. This will allow you to skip the queue of non-paying fashionistas. You will receive your images via email as soon as possible after the event.
- The designated location will be advised prior to the event.

### **5.3 2025 Lillian Frank Award Entries**

I had a chat this week with Christie Lougon from the VRC who has been running the competition since 2016 apart from the last few years when she was on leave. Interestingly the information she had was that 40 milliners competed and paraded in the Lillian Frank Millinery Award last year and that most if not all entries were invited to parade and to be judged on the stage. We had much discussion about this, and I am now confident that this year's competition will provide a larger parade and bigger competition, than last year. I feel the competition is on a good path and any confusion or mistakes from last year will be addressed.

This is my understanding of the process.

- Entries are submitted online and you will be notified if you make the final parade. This part of the judging is to purely check that you are indeed a milliner and that your work is worthy of the competition and if necessary to keep the numbers manageable.
- The judges for this portion may not be the judges of the competition on the day.
- The judging of the comp is all done on the day from all entries on the stage.
- The VRC have been very active in getting great prizes for us to compete for and we need to put last year behind us and show them support by entering the comp.
- Chistie is going to try to get out to us the finalist asap after the closing date and she has offered to answer any questions we have for her. She has also asked

me to ask you tonight if you are planning to enter to help them with that planning.

#### **5.4 Stephen Jones Christmas Get Together – December 4<sup>th</sup> – 7-10pm**

A big thank you to Sandy Forrester for researching venues for our end of year party with our Patron Mr Stephen Jones OBE in attendance.

The ticket price will be \$79 for canapies plus one hour of drinks and is **strictly a member only event**, which will now include our new category of Friends.

Millinery Australia will be subsidising \$3 for each ticket, and any short fall of the minimum spend if necessary. Tickets will be on sale soon.

#### **5.5 Melbourne Fashion Festival**

I had another meeting with Todd Heggie and Sai Wai from the **Melbourne Fashion Festival**. Todd requested that I send him our Look Book this week so he can forward it to creative directors for consideration. Thank you to all members who have provided their details and images. The document is simple by both request and design. It is a live document, allowing easy addition and removal of participants, and should be easily managed by any future volunteer.

Following a suggestion from the MFF team, we are applying to run two events during the festival: one in Melbourne and one in Geelong. In Melbourne, we hope to host an afternoon tea party called "Fashion OFF the Field with Millinery Australia." We will have prizes such as millinery vouchers and will seek additional prizes as we go. We also hope to have an exhibition of millinery, allowing members to further showcase their work. The goal of the event is to raise the profile of Millinery Australia and attract both men and women especially from the racing fashion crowd.

This is still very much in the planning process, so if you have any ideas, please send them to me or stay after the meeting for discussion.

#### **5.6 2026 Ballarat Convention**

I had a lovely brunch with Rose Hudson in **Ballarat** this month. And after we had solved all the problems of the world, we discussed our upcoming mini con in July,

We have decided that all tutors will be members of Millinery Australia. Please start to think about what you would like to teach so you are ready for when we do the shout out.

Remember it has been around 10 years???? since our last one so many of our new members have never had this wonderful experience. Apart from being a healthy learning environment it is a lovely way to connect with like-minded people and make new friends.

#### **5.7 2026 Design & Student Awards Themes**

As discussed previously, this year's committee have decided to give you **the themes of the 2026** design awards tonight and then announce the following year's theme at the Gala. This will give you more time to plan around your commitments and travel schedules and be a great talking point at the Gala.

The approximate due date will be around May/ June. With the Gala being June 26.

Design Award theme – 'Enchanted'

	<p>Student Award theme – ‘Curiosity’</p> <p><b>5.8 2026 Committee</b></p> <p>As this is our last meeting prior to our AGM I need you to consider being of service to the association. Most of the committee are willing to nominate again with some wanting role changes. I will be nominating as President again. We need a Treasurer and Secretary and at least one other ordinary member. Kathy will be staying on the committee and both her and Sarah will ensure an easy handover of their roles, providing training and ongoing support. If you are interested in those roles please chat with Kathy and Sarah or stay on after the meeting to find out more about being on the committee. It is very rewarding and a wonderful way to make friends.</p> <p><b>5.9 Around the World – Who is in attendance?</b></p> <p>Current Membership Numbers: 119 Fellows; 10 Associates; 12 Life; 20 Students</p> <p>Members in attendance at this meeting - 36  Vic: 21 NSW: 11 SA: 1 Qld: 3 Tas: 0 WA:0 NT:0 ACT: 0 Int'l: 0</p>
	<p><b>6. Other</b></p> <p>6.1 Spring Social Media – Jo P &amp; Julia Watson are going to be keeping up the social media with a raft of different ideas.</p>
	<p><b>7. General Business – Open to Members - None</b></p>
	<p><b>8. Next Meeting - AGM</b>  Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November @ 7.30pm AEST  Via Zoom &amp; In-Person:  Hawthorn Library  584 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn, 3122</p> <p><b>** Come along to the Library... wear a Hat &amp; bring a plate etc.</b></p>
20:36	<p><b>9. Meeting Close</b></p>