

MOUNT ANNAN BOTANIC GARDEN

SITE MASTER PLAN REVIEW

VISITOR & STAFF SURVEY ANALYSIS

2005

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Basic Review and Statistical Analysis

Question #1

Have you visited Mount Annan Botanic Garden before?

Survey results indicate that 87% of clientele are return visitors to the MABG. Please refer to Statistical Analysis which follows.

Question #2

What is/was the main purpose of your visit? Recreation or not

Refer to Statistical Analysis (Table response).

Part Two: Response rate to question

Excellent response with 214 from 243 surveys providing comments. Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Question #3

Part One: Have you visited the Garden's website www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Conflicting response received. 94% of staff have visited the BGT website but only 41% of visitor responses confirmed use of it even though it appears on all BGT literature.

Part Two: If so, did it provide the information you required?

Only 6% of visitors surveyed desired more information. 51% of staff stated the information provided was inadequate. Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Part Three: Improvements to website

Anecdotal responses are reported in the Statistical Analysis. Key improvements wanted are better presentation, easier navigation and more up to date information about events and estate details.

Question #4

Have you visited or used: Playground, Garden Shop/Visitor Centre, Restaurant, Theme Gardens, Taken a guided tour, BBQ and picnic areas, Walking trails.

Refer to Statistical Analysis. The higher attendance at the Garden Shop and Restaurant is a strong indication that the central loop road (Yandel'ora Circuit) reversal is working as planned since visitors are better able to identify the Playground, Restaurant, Garden Shop & Terrace / Connections Garden prior to making any decision about parking and exploring the whole estate.

Q.4 Part Two: What could be improved?

Refer to anecdotal responses in Statistical Analysis. There were 88 different suggestions.

Question #5

Part One: What do you like and enjoy most about Mount Annan Botanic Garden? Please number your preferences. (1 = best)

Statistical Analysis revealed: Australian plants 19%; physical beauty 17%; fresh air 13% ; and natural areas at 13% were the preferred options.

Q.5 Part Two: Other things liked and enjoyed most about the Garden.

27 anecdotal responses are reported in the Statistical Analysis.

Question #6

Part One: Do you have a favourite area at Mount Annan Botanic Garden?

Over 50% replied in the affirmative. Refer to Statistical Analysis tabulated results.

Part Two: Please number your preferences

The preferred areas were Terrace/Connections Garden 22%, Banksia Garden 21% and Woodland at 19%. Refer to Statistical Analysis for full results.

Part Three: Favourite area besides those listed

There were 57 individual responses to this question. See Statistical Analysis for full response.

Question #7

Part One: Have you or your children attended any classes/courses at Mount Annan Botanic Garden?

Only 26% of those surveyed stated that they attended an educational program and as little as 16% were visitors. Refer to full results in Statistical Analysis.

Part Two: What educational activities have you participated in?

Surprisingly, only 26% of all respondees have participated in educational activities in the Garden and there were 50 anecdotal responses to this question reported. See Statistical Analysis.

Part Three: What educational activities would you like to see offered in the Garden?

Anecdotal responses totalled 86 and are reported fully in the Statistical Analysis which follows.

Question #8

Part One: There are a few artistic installations at Mount Annan Botanic Garden. Please tick what you have seen?

The Sundial was the most frequently visited Artistic item with 9% more seen than any other artistic item. The survey also indicates that the artistic items presented on the northern loop are the less frequented. 50% of people have stated that they would like to see more artistic displays positioned in the Garden. Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Part Two: Would you like to see more artistic installations?

Only 50% of responses were positive. Refer to Statistical Analysis for full details.

Part Three: Comments?

There were only 11 comments made. Many people had not yet noticed the smaller sculptural pieces that had begun to appear in 2005. Please refer to anecdotal comments reported in the Statistical Analysis which follows.

Question #9

Part One: Is the signage about Mount Annan Botanic Garden

The signage question scored 29% for easy to read, sufficient 24%, interesting 20% and in good order also 20%. There were only 2% of comments that would be interpreted as negative. For full response, see Statistical Analysis.

Part Two: Signage Comments

Refer to 64 anecdotal comments following the statistics table for Question #9 in Statistical Analysis.

Question #10

Part One: At Mount Annan Botanic Garden we conduct research and trials on Australian plants for conservation and sometimes for commercial release e.g. the Wollemi Pine and Flannel Flower. Do you consider this work important?

The survey results (139 responses) overwhelmingly confirm public support for research into conservation and commercial release that complements that process. Full results in Statistical Analysis.

Question #11

Mount Annan Botanic Garden's Millennium Seed Bank collects and saves seed from NSW including rare and endangered plant species. Do you think conservation should be an important function of the Garden?

Statistical Analysis of the survey results overwhelmingly endorse the Seed Bank's role as a vital part of BGT and MABG.

Question #12

A goal of Mount Annan Botanic Garden is to manage fire and maintain a green corridor link to the Nepean River to safeguard growing numbers of native animals. Do you consider this work important?

Refer to the Statistical Analysis which shows 91% support for development of fire management strategies and maintenance of flora and fauna corridor links between the Garden and the Nepean River.

Question #13

How do you rate the importance of the Garden's work to protect, extend and improve natural remnant Cumberland Plain Woodland on site?

79% high and 11% moderate importance. Full results in Statistical Analysis Table for Question #13.

Question #14

The road reversal had occurred just before the questionnaire was distributed and its impact was too soon to determine as indicated by the survey results in the Statistical Analysis table.

Question #15

What would improve access to the Garden for you?

There were 106 responses to this question. Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Question #16

Part One: How important do you believe Mount Annan Botanic Garden is to the local and regional community?

Survey results show that for 65% who responded to the questionnaire, MABG's importance to the local and regional community rates extremely high. For full results see Statistical Analysis.

Part Two: Why?

There was an even spread of reasons why as indicated by the tabulated results in the Statistical Analysis which follows.

Part 3: Other reasons?

There were 21 other reasons given for the Garden's importance to the local and regional community. Refer to the Statistical Analysis for the reasons given.

Question #17

Do you believe Mount Annan Botanic Garden should develop more partnerships e.g. with Local Government, RTA and Landcom so that the plantings and promotions outside the Garden can announce its presence?

72% responded in the affirmative as confirmed in the Statistical Analysis table for this question.

Question #18

Part One: The Garden is a full partner in the developing Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living. Do you believe partnerships like this are important to the Garden's future?

80% of responses were in the affirmative. Refer to Statistical Analysis for full breakdown of responses.

Part Two: Reasons to support partnerships?

There was a total of 132 reasons given to support partnerships as indicated by the anecdotal list presented in the full Statistical Analysis.

Question #19

Part One: Entry fees to the Garden assist with its running costs. Are you happy to continue paying fees which contribute to the Garden's facilities?

70% responded in the affirmative. Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Part Two: Entry fees comment

A total of 106 comments made about entry fees are reproduced in the Statistical Analysis.

Question #20

Part One: Are you a member of the Friends of the Gardens?

31% of respondees were members of the Friends of the Gardens and 54% were not. Refer to Statistical Analysis for full breakdown.

Part Two: If not, are you aware that for an annual fee of \$64, a family of 1 or 2 adults and children under 18 living in the same household can come to the Garden for "free" as often as they please?

22% were not aware, 31% did know about household membership and 47% did not respond. Refer to Statistical Analysis for full results.

Part Three: Friends of the Garden – value for money?

There were 45 written, varied comments made as reported in the second half of this report. See Statistical Analysis for comprehensive list.

Question #21

Are you from?

46% were local people; 41% from the metropolitan area of Sydney; 5% were from country NSW. For tabulated response refer to Statistical Analysis.

Question #22

Part One: What is your age group?

There was quite an even spread between the ages of 18 and over 60. Refer to the tabulated results in Statistical Analysis.

Part Two: When you visit the Garden, do you usually come alone, as a group member

The majority of people come with one or more adults (42%). 34% did not answer – the questionnaire was obviously seeming very long at this stage as indicated by the Statistical Analysis.

Part Three: Visited the Garden with?

There were 31 responses to this question. Refer to the Statistical Analysis.

Question #23

Are you aware that the Garden has researched and developed plants which are commercially available?

83% responded in the affirmative – a surprisingly high total. Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Question #24

Do you know that the Garden can be hired for a range of functions including weddings, conferences, seminars, photography?

Again, 83% said “Yes.” Refer to Statistical Analysis.

Question #25

Part One: Did you know that Mount Annan Botanic Garden encourages individual sponsorship - such as for trees and bench seats in the Garden?

61% were aware of sponsorship available through the Garden. 30% were unaware. For full results, refer to Statistical Analysis.

Part Two: Comment about sponsorship response

There were 19 comments made which are reproduced in the Statistical Analysis which follows.

Question #26

Part One: Have you found staff in the Garden to be?

The majority of visitors responded positively. Refer to Statistical Analysis for full results.

Part Two: Comments about staff in the Garden

There were only 27 comments made. However these comments indicated that since the majority of visitors attend the Garden on the weekend or at after hours functions, it is no wonder that people made comments about seeing very few staff. See Statistical Analysis.

Question #27

Part One: What could the Garden improve?

There was an even range of breakdown in the statistics in Statistical Analysis Table for Question #27.

Part Two: Suggestions for Garden improvements

Visitor response 71 suggestions and 16 staff suggestions. See Statistical Analysis for full reproduction of suggestions.

Question #28

What do you want Mount Annan Botanic Garden to be like in 10 years time e.g. developments, facilities, attractions, events etc.

Visitor response 136 suggestions and 56 staff suggestions. These were lengthy comments in many cases which indicates that the majority of people who responded to this questionnaire very much cared about the Garden and having their point of view noted. See Statistical Analysis for full details.

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #1
Have you visited Mount Annan Botanic Garden before?

Visitor Surveys

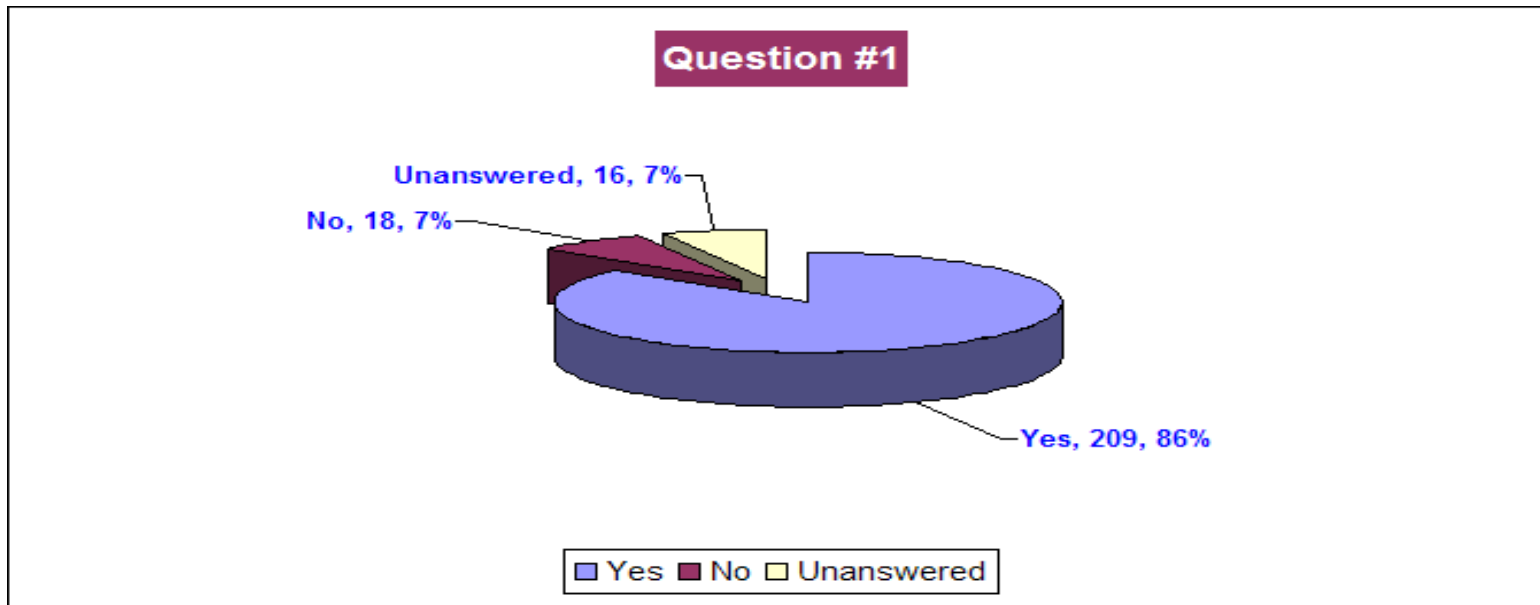
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	144	6	15
%	87%	4%	9%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
78	65	12	1
%	84%	15%	0%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	209	18	16
%	86%	7%	7%



Combined Surveys

Question #2

Part One: What is/was the main purpose of your visit? / Recreation or other?

- 1 School cross country & development day visit
- 2 To botanise, recreate, self-educate
- 3 High School assignment back in 1993
- 4 HSC Case Study
- 5 School excursion
- 6 TAFE class, family picnic
- 7 Tour
- 8 Daytrip with Sutherland National Seniors x 2
- 9 Plant survey work
- 10 To go to the education centre during school holidays
- 11 TAFE excursions as teacher, recreational visitor during past 15 years
- 12 Horticultural studies, family picnics, general enjoyment of gardens
- 13 Horticulture course study and pleasure
- 14 To bring hort. students for education/picnics
- 15 Conducting bird surveys for Allen Powel as well as recreational purposes
- 16 For bush regen. training and native flower sale
- 17 Look at Cumberland Plain Woodland habitat, attend workshops and undertake bush care activities
- 18 Bush regen. volunteer, picnics, lunch at the restaurant
- 19 Volunteer work
- 20 To walk and enjoy Australian flora and to conduct tours for visitors
- 21 Pleasure, also volunteer guiding and volunteer bush regenerating
- 22 Horticulture/botany/picnicking/walking
- 23 Look at the Acacias and visit the shop to look at plants
- 24 Picnic & family get together plus see the native plants of the gardens
- 25 Place to walk, be in a beautiful place, support conservation of plants
- 26 To see what could be grown in the Sydney Environment
- 27 See native plant specimens & plant sales
I think the Garden does a great job of showcasing Australian native plants, and I'd be delighted to simply see you do more of the same in the same fashion you do now. As the population of this area continues to increase, the demands on the Gardens will grow, so infrastructure such as parking, toilets, food outlets, etc
- 28 will have to continue to expand. I hope a way can be found to keep as much open space as possible while still encouraging people to come, as open space is one of the qualities of the Garden I most appreciate. I'm torn between wanting to keep the Garden a secret and telling all of the Sydney area to come enjoy this wonderful place!
- 29 Visit the plant sale, visit the restaurant / cafe
- 30 Interest in what the gardens looked like, what species were used and the design of the gardens
- 31 See the gardens overall as well as specific interest in some species

- 32 Spring flower blooming, shop, restaurant
- 33 To walk around the gardens, look at plants and lunch in the restaurant
- 34 Showing Australian landscape and wildlife to French visitors
- 35 To see the variety of Australian native species being grown
- 36 Buy plants, eat, walk
- 37 To visit rainforest (Terrace Garden/Connections Garden)
- 38 View the plants/take part in Grevillea Study Group display and plant sale
- 39 I love the gardens. Wanted to see its gradual maturity.
- 40 Walking in beautiful, safe surroundings and learning about native plants
- 41 Looking at plants
- 42 To visit an Australian plants botanic garden
- 43 To work for the Grevillea Study Group's April sale and buy plants
- 44 Photographic competition (last visit), show visitors our native flora, shop purchases, volunteering, Christmas gatherings
- 45 To visit the natural bushland area/bushwalk/cycle
- 46 Several visits – to see native plants, for annual plant sales and for picnics with friends
- 47 To see the Grevillea garden
- 48 To see spring flowering of natives, cycle the roads to view all areas of Garden
- 49 Enjoy the gardens and wildlife as well as the individual plants and trees
- 50 To walk in the gardens and get familiar with Australian native plants
- 51 Look at native plants
- 52 To have a picnic, see the wattle, take visitors to the Sundial, shop at the Gift Shop, walking, coffee
- 53 Relaxation/native garden
- 54 To purchase shrubs
- 55 Enjoy seeing a variety of Australian plants, for exercise and relaxation
- 56 Recreation, close, natural facility
- 57 Mt Annan Walk, family picnics
- 58 BBQ with friends
- 59 Enjoy a picnic in the lovely grounds
- 60 Picnic and walk around the gardens, different events eg World Environment Day, visit to the restaurant, Challenge Walk
- 61 Leisure, children enjoy the playground and I enjoy the gardens
- 62 Family time, BBQ, peaceful non-commercial nor over-entertained place to spend time
- 63 Picnic, take photos, children ride bikes
- 64 Bicycle riding with our family
- 65 Family get together x 2
- 66 Family picnic, bushwalking, BBQ, Soccer picnics/presentations, kids playground
- 67 Recreation, family get-togethers, walks
- 68 BBQ – family reunion
- 69 Day out with my elderly mother
- 70 Family BBQs, just enjoying the Garden
- 71 Family picnic and also tour with social group
- 72 Use playground, walking, join 'Friends of the Gardens' at gift shop, view the gardens
- 73 Family outings, interview panel, opening
- 74 Family get-together – seasonal visits to the changing face of the gardens and area

- 75 A family day out – view gardens – sporting club presentation
- 76 Cake and playground
- 77 Pleasure, family get-together, open day
- 78 Fun for kids, BBQ, education, bike riding, walking, study, bush regeneration, photography
- 79 Walking or dining or picnicking or to buy a gift. Taking grandchildren to play
- 80 Child's playground, BBQ facilities, plant workshops
- 81 Family picnic
- 82 Family picnics and play with the children
- 83 It is such a magnificent place to visit especially with visiting grandchildren
- 84 To enjoy the playground and surroundings of the Garden.
- 85 Walks, picnics, family outing
- 86 Recreational activities with my young children
- 87 Meet family and/or friends for lunch. Visit shop for plants or gifts. Walking in the gardens.
- 88 To have a picnic x 3
- 89 Group Lunch visit
- 90 Recreation/picnic
- 91 Picnic and explore gardens
- 92 Picnics, eating at the café, purchasing plants.
- 93 To walk and to picnic/BBQ
- 94 Organised BBQ
- 95 Pleasure – picnic
- 96 BBQs, bike riding, work functions, meetings, school excursions
- 97 Picnics, lunch at the café, buy gifts at the Gardens Shop, walks
- 98 Walking – picnics - restaurant - volunteer
- 99 Bicycle Riding, Picnics
- 100 Relax / Restaurant / Special occasions
- 101 Breakfast at The Gardens' Restaurant
- 102 Lunch
- 103 To go for a long walk and have lunch at the restaurant
- 104 Lunch at restaurant
- 105 Events like Mount Annan Walk, garden shop, restaurant
- 106 Just a leisurely stroll, or to take a break and have lunch
- 107 Quiet walks in the countryside
- 108 Experience a nice place that is quiet, green and healthy
- 109 Quiet time observing changing aspects of park – wildlife, flowers etc. Walking or a quiet picnic
- 110 To provide IT support and enjoy the surroundings
- 111 Attend meetings x 2
- 112 Function or event, business meeting
- 113 Recreational x 5
- 114 Recreation, walking, brunch with friends, simply to enjoy the gardens
- 115 1. Visit garden 2. Restaurant 3. Picnic Areas 4. Outdoor Theatre Event
- 116 1. Showing neighbour and having lunch at restaurant 2. Working at the Grevillea Spectacular 3. Picnic with Grandchildren
- 117 Recreation/relaxation x 2

- 118 Relaxation and exercise
- 119 Sports Function
- 120 Leisure
- 121 Day out
- 122 As a neighbour
- 123 Walking for pleasure & exercise
- 124 I visited the gardens and the education centre
- 125 Multiple
- 126 Enjoyment of surrounds – walking – dining – entertainment
- 127 Recreation – walking. Also to purchase wrapping paper in the shop
- 128 When I was looking to move to Mount Annan. The Garden was another reason for moving to the lovely area – now my home is at Mount Annan.
- 129 General visit
- 130 Relaxing sightseeing
- 131 Curiosity – to see what the gardens were like
- 132 Just to see it and take a friend
- 133 To have a look
- 134 Recreation and exercise
- 135 To enjoy the gardens and go walking
- 136 To go for a walk
- 137 Relaxation and exercise, feel and experience the openness
- 138 Cycling

Survey Analysis / Staff Response

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 To see what it was like 3 Work and social visits 5 Work and recreation 7 Work 9 Work 11 Work 13 To Check it out 15 Big Day Out 17 Work and recreation 19 Big Day Out 21 Work 23 Meeting and socialising with gardens staff 25 Work 27 Work 29 BDO 31 Work here 33 BDO 35 BDO 37 Work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 BDO and work 4 BDO and visit nursery 6 BDO 8 Translocation workshop 10 I work here 12 Picnic 14 Work here 16 Work excursion from RBG 18 Enjoy plants, plant sales 20 Enjoy the open space and trees 22 BDO 24 Work 26 Botanical interest 28 BDO 30 More detailed research information 32 Work 34 Work 36 Meetings 38 BDO and great to see Annan |
|--|---|

39 BDO
41 BDO and to see the Gardens
43 BDO
45 BDO Bonding day
47 BDO
49 BDO to meet people we are in touch with every day on the phone
51 BDO
53 BDO
55 BDO Work
57 BDO
59 Science
61 BDO
63 To play
65 Work
67 Work
69 Work
71 Work
73 Work
75 Work related

40 Work
42 BDO
44 Work pleasure
46 Work related
48 Work
50 BDO
52 BDO
54 To learn about the place
56 Work and recreation
58 Visit mother
60 Employment
62 Business as employee of BGT
64 Workplace and family
66 Work
68 Work
70 Work and picnics
72 Recreation
74 Study, family days out, work
76 Work
78 Work and pleasure

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #2
Part Two: Response rate to question?

Visitor Surveys

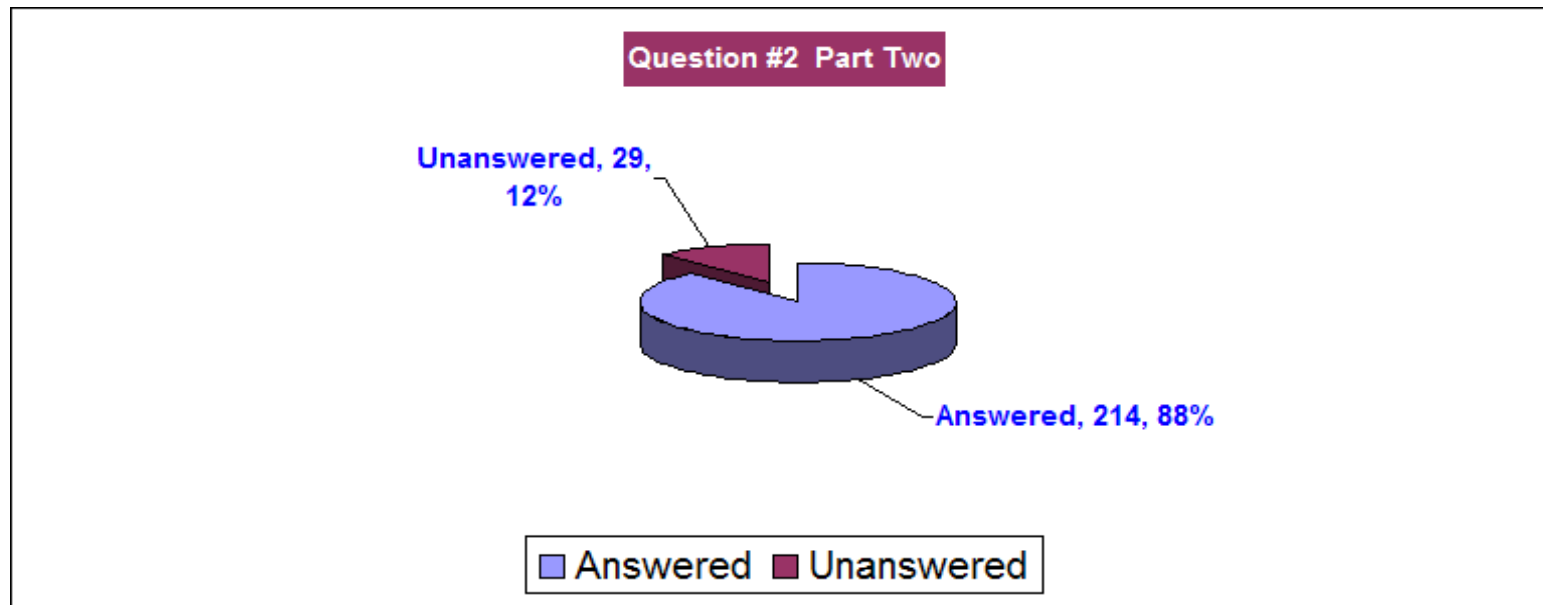
Survey Responses	Answered	Unanswered
165	139	26
%	36%	60%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Answered	Unanswered
78	75	3
%	75%	12%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	No. Answered	Unanswered
243	214	29
%	88%	7%



Combined Surveys

Question #3

Part One: Have you visited the Garden's website www.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au ?

Visitor Surveys

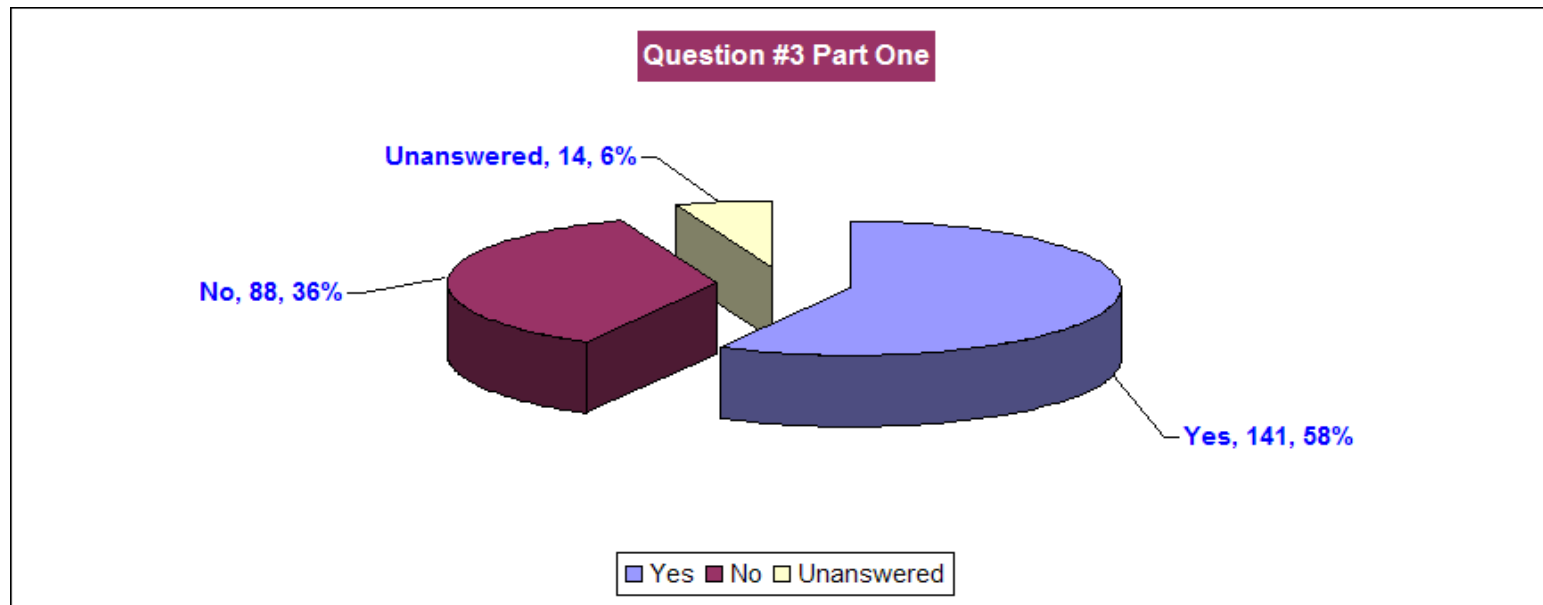
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	68	83	14
%	41%	51%	8%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
78	73	5	0
%	94%	6%	0%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	141	88	14
%	58%	36%	6%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #3

Part Two: If so, did it provide the information you required?

Visitor Surveys

Survey Responses	Visited Website	Unanswered
66	59	7
%	89%	11%

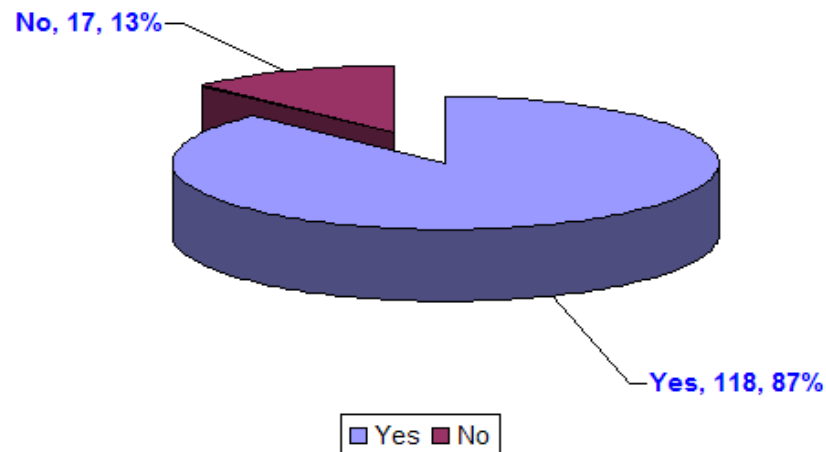
Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Visited Website	Unanswered
69	59	10
%	75%	12%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Visited Website	Unanswered
135	118	17
%	88%	7%

Question #3 Part Two / Combined Surveys



Combined Surveys

Mount Annan Botanic Garden

Survey Analysis / Visitor Response

Question #3

Part Three: Improvements to website

- 1 Wanted specific information on an upcoming event which was in the Friends of the Gardens magazine
- 2 I wanted to know about the horizon cinema, but I assume it is not happening anymore and hence that is why there was no information about it on the website.
- 3 No, more up to date detail is needed
- 4 No, more regular updates
- 5 More meaningful domain name?
The project plan summary should be directly linked to the main page and the remainder nestled in a compact manner. Please consider the Adelaide national park at Belair where extensive sporting fields complement use by the locals and is part of their community. Your mission does not appear clearly differentiated from the other Botanical Gardens. There appears no provision for updates, searches or links to other databases including weeds and plants for schools and TAFE to use. I could not see the enterprise accounting summary to support the management plan and allow donations for specific targets
- 6
- 7 Would have liked more information on the latest news about discovering more on the Wollemi pines
- 8 Eventually found it, but refining search engine could be good
- 9 Didn't say there was a \$50 wheelchair hire charge
- 10 Poor info (or access to find info) on events + function info
- 11 Need more detailed information on location of where plants can be located or if in the Garden
- 12 I would separate Mount Annan website from RBG site (with appropriate links). Currently if you click on 'Home' you are taken back to RBG site. Also more 'clickable' plants with identification guide to major genera

Survey Analysis / Staff Response

- 1 Not sure
- 2 Not easy to navigate
- 3 Better navigation, better updating of info
- 4 Better layout of events and venue hire section
- 5 More current info on Garden's exhibitions and projects
- 6 Categories and search facilities could be clearer? New version will look after this
- 7 It is sometimes hard to find out what section to look under, the search tool is very useful for this
- 8 The search function doesn't seem to locate forms
- 9 It's a bit hard to navigate like looking for maps
- 10 More plant information
- 11 Better plant info
- 12 Not sure
- 13 Up to date events, products for sale

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #4

Part One: Have you visited or used: Playground, Garden Shop/Visitor Centre, Restaurant, Theme Gardens, Taken a guided tour, BBQ and picnic areas, Walking trails?

Visitor Surveys

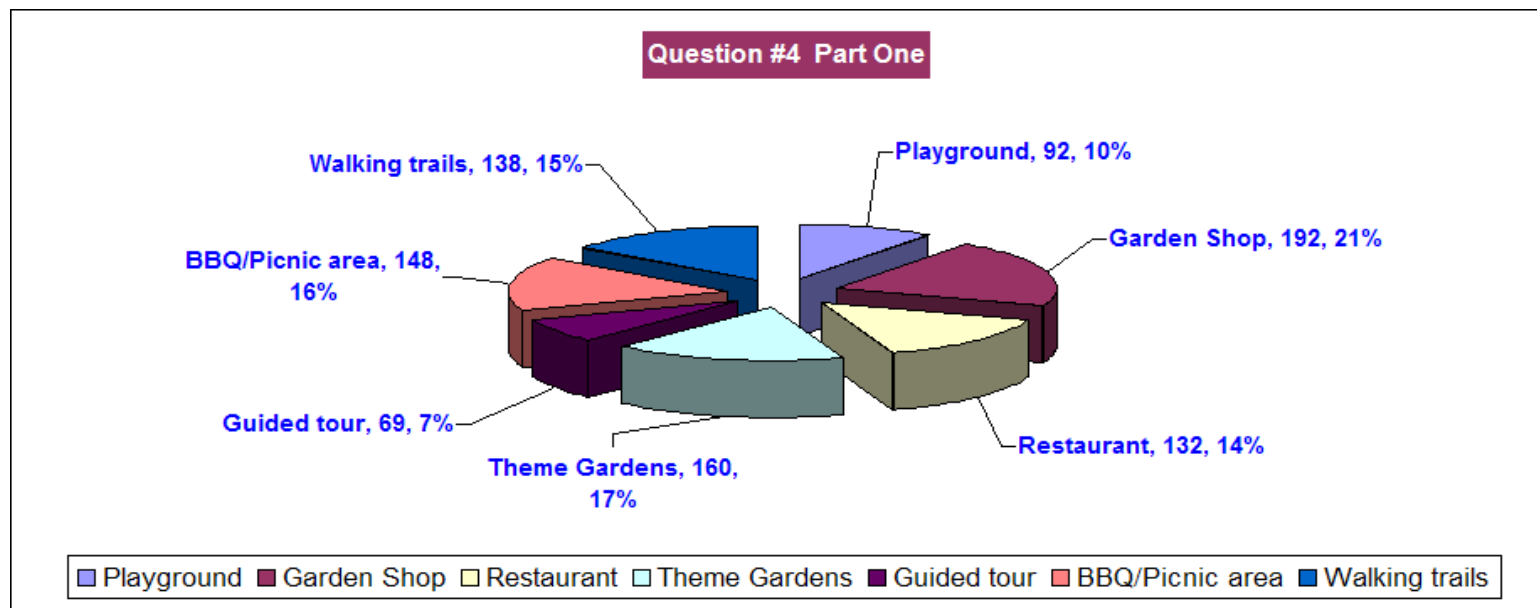
Survey Responses	Playground	Garden Shop	Restaurant	Theme Gardens	Guided tour	BBQ/Picnic area	Walking trails
165	63	131	99	113	45	109	99
%	10%	19%	15%	17%	9%	17%	15%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Playground	Garden Shop	Restaurant	Theme Gardens	Guided tour	BBQ/Picnic area	Walking trails
78	29	61	33	47	24	39	39
%	11%	23%	12%	17%	9%	14%	14%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Playground	Garden Shop	Restaurant	Theme Gardens	Guided tour	BBQ/Picnic area	Walking trails
243	92	192	132	160	69	148	138
%	10%	21%	14%	17%	7%	16%	15%



Combined Surveys

Question #4

Part Two: What could be improved?

- 1 Labelling of plants
- 2 Better signage, for example, maps of the whole of the Garden on boards at key places
- 3 Walking trails - More signage/direction- Wasn't sure where the walkways lead to
- 4 Signage of trails
- 5 Interpretive signage
- 6 Plant names on plant labels / tags
- 7 Spectacular! More signs on the trees away from garden areas please
- 8 Map was confusing
- 9 More info on walks
- 10 The Garden Shop is fabulous, could be more signage on walking trails (about natural area)
- 11 Trail guides
- 12 More plants and interpretive information
- 13 Plant signage
- 14 More theme gardens etc to take beautiful photos
- 15 Weeding the gardens
- 16 Need more garden beds of flowers in my view
- 17 Finish the work in the woodland so that we can walk through Woodlands full area again
- 18 More examples of NSW ecosystems if possible
- 19 Keep the grassy paths mowed
- 20 Customer service in Garden Shop has much room for improvement
- 21 More plants and books for sale
- 22 Rubbish bins or bags
- 23 Seating between theme gardens, control of exotic weeds such as African Olive and Broad leafed Privet
- 24 Provide more sheltered areas
- 25 More shaded areas
- 26 More shaded areas and a better eating facility for the purchase and eating of food
- 27 More adult seating outside playground area
- 28 Parking surrounding the various picnic areas, especially when attending large functions
- 29 Surfaces
- 30 Walking trails
- 31 Maybe the odd bubbler or seat along the more distant parts of the drives
- 32 Terrace Gardens are difficult walk for some seniors
- 33 More marked trails of different lengths
- 34 Additional playground/recreation areas. By attracting families, you will increase interest in the maintenance of such beautiful gardens.
- 35 I guess one challenge facing Mount Annan is to provide what people expect to see and experience when visiting a botanic garden - well established gardens and lots of flowers. Mount Annan is young, so the gardens are still establishing themselves. Plus, most people expect exotic gardens from Europe or Asia when

- visiting a botanic garden, and as Mount Annan is a native garden there is the challenge to make the garden different to what can be experienced by simply taking a bushwalk anywhere in Australia
- 36 Restaurant should be open Saturday nights
 - 37 Snack shop. Is there a snack shop to get simple food eg drinks and sandwiches? Or is it only the restaurant where you can buy food? I don't recall a snack shop as such when I visited
 - 38 Bigger restaurant, function room
 - 39 Kiosk food for young families using the playground; prices are high and not much to eat unless you pay restaurant prices eg. hot chips, meat pies, hot dogs etc.
 - 40 The coffee making
 - 41 Restaurant was closed – could be open weekdays
 - 42 The service in the restaurant was very slow
 - 43 The restaurant to be less up market
 - 44 Restaurant menu could be more varied and change from time to time
 - 45 Should not be charged an entry fee if only visiting the shop and/or restaurant
 - 46 Free entry
 - 47 Have the outdoor cinema there again - I wanted to go last year but it was not operating
 - 48 Not wheelchair friendly
 - 49 Unsure as unable to walk easily
 - 50 Nothing specific, just continue to develop it as you are
 - 51 We are very happy with the gardens experience as a whole
 - 52 I was impressed with all of the facilities
 - 53 Everything is very nice now
 - 54 Visited mostly the walking trails – they are fine
 - 55 Nothing I can think of
 - 56 I like it as it is x 2
 - 57 Tried to take a guided tour, was full (This as a note against the tour box, not a comment on what could be improved)
 - 58 It's all great
 - 59 OK at the time
 - 60 Excellent
 - 61 Nothing
 - 62 Loved it all

Staff Surveys

- 1 Weeds along paths
- 2 Weeds across site
- 3 Restaurant not for families
- 4 Seats along walks
- 5 Signage and way finding
- 6 Budget
- 7 Restaurant food
- 8 Cheaper restaurant
- 9 Slip and slide for hot days
- 10 It's fine
- 11 More information

- 12 Bikes for hire
- 13 More plants big shade trees for picnics
- 14 Complete the Connections Garden
- 15 Turf areas are full of weeds
- 16 Better leaflets/maps of walking trails and directional signage
- 17 Signage and brochures for walking trails
- 18 More such facilities should be created
- 19 Walking tracks need improved paths and interpretation
- 20 More water features
- 21 Value for money at the Restaurant
- 22 The coffee at the Restaurant
- 23 More picnic areas
- 24 Make Saturdays "free entry"
- 25 Occasional seats along walks
- 26 More facilities at Banksia Garden

Mount Annan Botanic Garden

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #5

Part One: What do you like and enjoy most about Mount Annan Botanic Garden? Please number your preferences. (1 = best)

Visitor Surveys

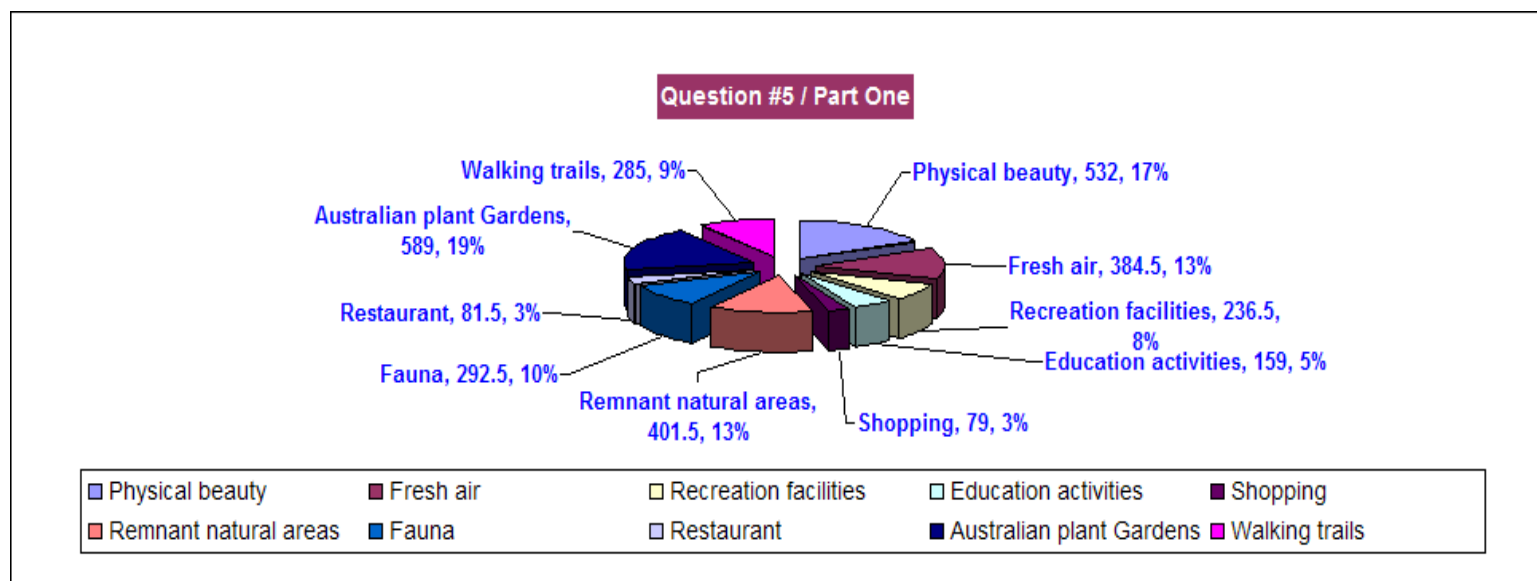
Survey Responses	Physical beauty	Fresh air	Recreation facilities	Education activities	Shopping	Remnant natural areas	Fauna	Restaurant	Australian plant Gardens	Walking trails
165	1072	798	671.5	432	300	775.5	614.5	403	1040.5	718
%	16%	12%	10%	6%	4%	11%	9%	6%	15%	11%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Physical beauty	Fresh air	Recreation facilities	Education activities	Shopping	Remnant natural areas	Fauna	Restaurant	Australian plant Gardens	Walking trails
78	532	384.5	236.5	159	79	401.5	292.5	81.5	589	285
%	17%	13%	8%	5%	3%	13%	10%	3%	19%	9%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Physical beauty	Fresh air	Recreation facilities	Education activities	Shopping	Remnant natural areas	Fauna	Restaurant	Australian plant Gardens	Walking trails
78	532	384.5	236.5	159	79	401.5	292.5	81.5	589	285
%	17%	13%	8%	5%	3%	13%	10%	3%	19%	9%



Combined Surveys

Question #5

Part Two: Other things liked and enjoyed most about the Garden

- 1 Friendly staff
- 2 The gardens are great but the facilities are not always ample, parking in some of the themed gardens are limited and shaded areas and seating is also limited. I love the use of the land and the themed gardens are well spaced
- 3 I go to the gardens to enjoy nature. The restaurant is nice, shop good for a browse, but ultimately I for the natural side of things. Don't know much about the fauna, except for the birds, would be interested to know more
- 4 Spring flower gardens in bloom
- 5 Walking trails
- 6 The escape from high residential life
- 7 Bird watching
- 8 Peacefulness, uncrowded, plenty of space
- 9 Peace and solitude
- 10 Quiet, solitude, no dogs and few cars
- 11 Views and peace
- 12 Its atmosphere
- 13 Space for families to meet and enjoy the environment
- 14 'Top site' green lungs surrounded by urban sprawl – great asset. A safe place to bring grandchildren – open spaces, walking trails and education activities
- 15 Cycling safely
- 16 Social contact
- 17 Playground
- 18 Guided tour
- 19 Did the 'behind the scenes' talk
- 20 Lawn areas
- 21 Being able to drive around

Staff Surveys

- 1 Views
- 2 Blue tree
- 3 Art in Gardens and events
- 4 Peace and quiet, calm
- 5 Panoramic views
- 6 Space

Question #6

Part One: Do you have a favourite area at Mount Annan Botanic Garden?

Visitor Surveys

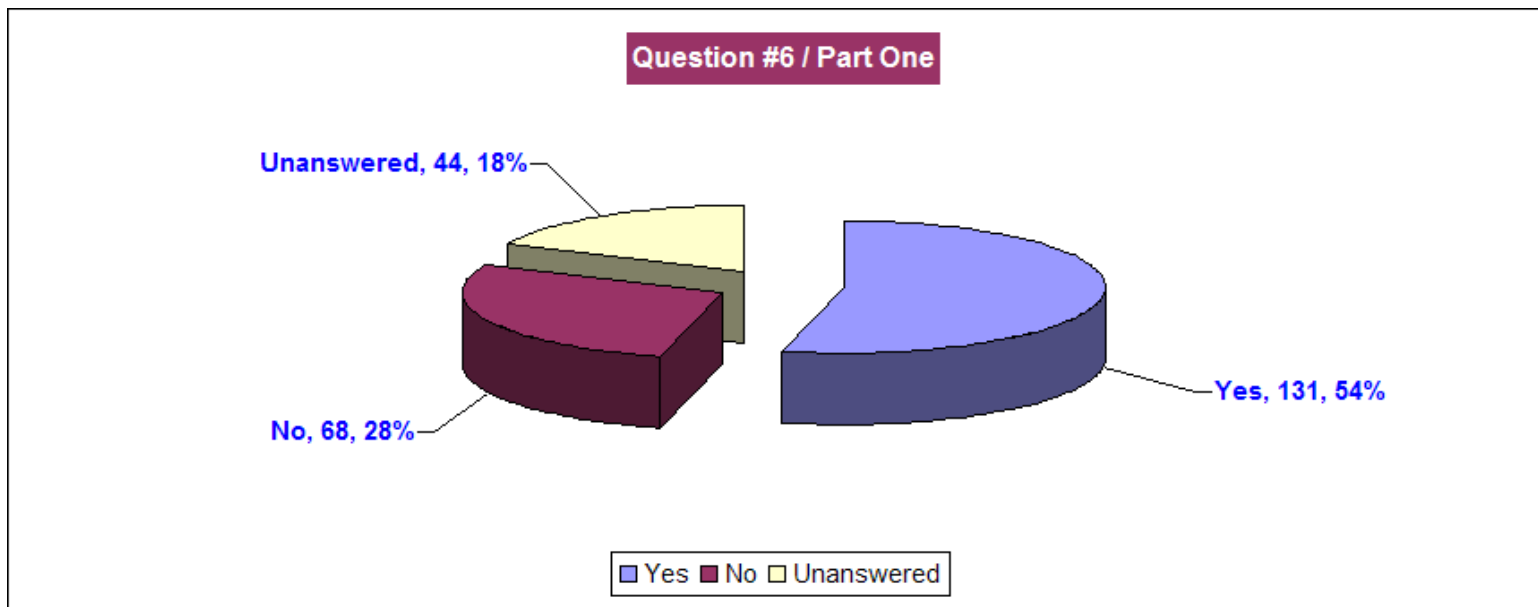
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	100	45	20
%	61%	27%	12%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
78	31	23	24
%	40%	29%	31%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	131	68	44
%	54%	28%	18%



Combined Surveys

Mount Annan Botanic Garden

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #6

Part Two: Please number your preferences

Visitor Surveys

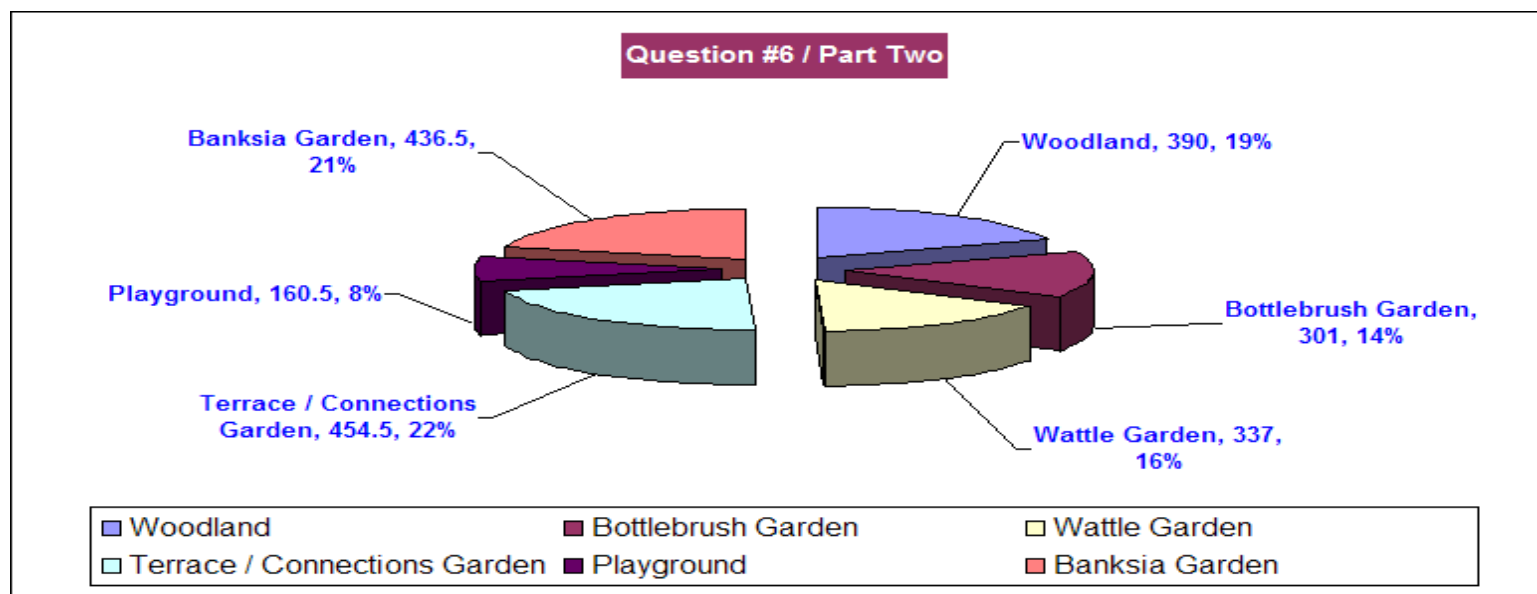
Survey Responses	Woodland	Bottlebrush Garden	Wattle Garden	Terrace / Connections Garden	Playground	Banksia Garden
165	270.5	214.5	236.5	294	140	266.5
%	19%	15%	17%	20%	10%	19%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Woodland	Bottlebrush Garden	Wattle Garden	Terrace / Connections Garden	Playground	Banksia Garden
78	119.5	86.5	100.5	160.5	20.5	170
%	18%	13%	15%	24%	3%	27%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Woodland	Bottlebrush Garden	Wattle Garden	Terrace / Connections Garden	Playground	Banksia Garden
243	390	301	337	454.5	160.5	436.5
%	19%	14%	16%	22%	8%	21%



Combined Surveys

Question #6

Part Three: Favourite area beside list

- 1 Outdoor café area
- 2 Restaurant
- 3 In front of shop
- 4 Terrace Garden because it is something different to what you can create at home in your own garden
- 5 The landscaping and water features of the terraced areas. The colour of the bottlebrush and wattle gardens and the picnic facilities
- 6 Terrace Garden – recent upgrade is excellent
- 7 The Terrace Garden - The walk is mostly well shaded, interesting and a bit like a maze
- 8 Rainforest area because of a personal interest in rainforest
- 9 By the lake near Narellan Road Why? Not many people there
- 10 Lake Gillingadanum and Lake Nadumgamba. Why? Relax and have lunch on the Lake side
- 11 1. Wattle Garden, 2. Banksia Garden, 3. Bottlebrush Garden – can view all different species/types
- 12 Sundial – the view
- 13 The picnic area near the lake. Why? It's just a pleasant spot to sit and enjoy the surroundings! I also like the hillside where the Sundial is
- 14 The Mount Annan. Why? A great walk for all the family. Great views
- 15 All the gardens and the southern ridge track because of the great views
- 16 Western Garden because it's quiet and beautiful
- 17 Grassland as equal number one because of space and fresh air
- 18 Area where Sundial is because you get wonderful views back to the city
- 19 Top of Cunningham Drive looking towards Blue Mountains (Need a picnic table there); ponds and lakes
- 20 3 & 5yr olds love that playground!!!
- 21 Open grass area for picnics and open air cinema including music.
- 22 The duck pond back up towards Narellan Rd. Why? We take our handicapped son there in peace and quiet. It calms him.
- 23 Woodland – enjoy natural habitat
- 24 Woodland for bird watching
- 25 Cumberland Plain Garden and BBQ in Woodland Picnic Area because is representative of that part of western Sydney
- 26 Remnant natural areas because of conservation objectives – CPW.
- 27 More plantings in Bottlebrush Garden and Terrace/Connections Garden
- 28 Fig Walk leading to bottle trees and kurrajongs because I like those trees - and there are often wallabies in the evening
- 29 The theme gardens and terrace are complementary – enable walks, education, pleasure. Woodland = conservation, because it is rare!! Playground has 'appropriate' plantings is safe/clean!
- 30 Lakes because of the variety of birds
- 31 I like all of them
- 32 Different areas are best because of the time of year of the visit.
- 33 It is a great place for family
- 34 I enjoyed it all x 2
- 35 Loved it all!

36 TKRx2 inhibits walking

37 They are all great

Staff Surveys

1 Terrace Garden is peaceful

2 Sundial area because of views

3 All of it

4 Haven't seen most

5 Cool attractive Garden in summer

6 It's all great

7 Cumberland plain woodland / remnant

8 Dams birdlife, vegetation

9 New garden / plant variety

10 Shady cool site

11 Like most areas

12 Lakeside / lovely views

13 Restaurant / good food though expensive

14 Sundial hill / spectacular views

15 Sundial – Functions, view

16 Lakeside / open space , facilities, surrounding areas

17 Variety of plants

18 Lakeside – sheer beauty

19 Shaded gully – can walk through, unlike Acacia gully and Banksia garden is the most interesting

20 Lakeside

Question #7

Part One: Have you or your children attended any classes/courses at Mount Annan Botanic Garden?

Visitor Surveys

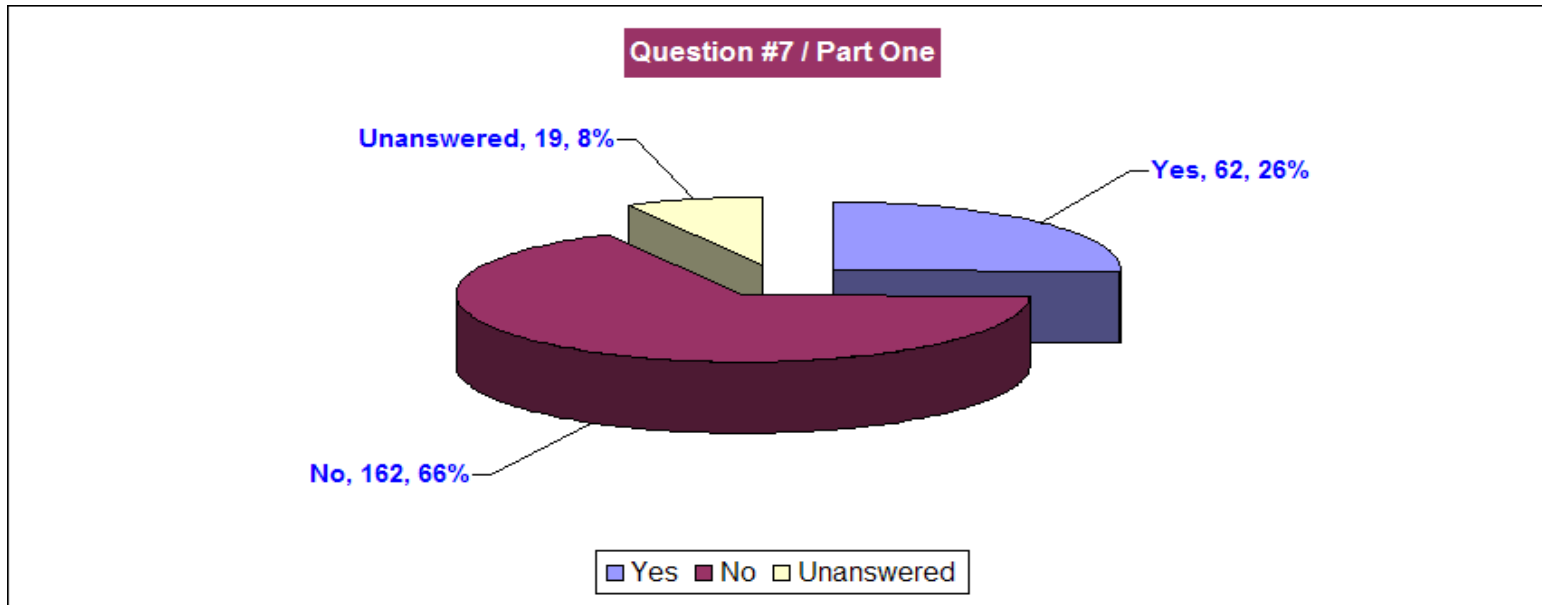
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	46	101	18
%	28%	61%	11%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
78	16	61	1
%	21%	78%	1%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	62	162	19
%	26%	66%	8%



Combined Surveys

Question #7

Part Two: What education activities have you participated in?

- 1 Tree planting and other horticultural excursions
- 2 Propagation workshop, kids via school excursions
- 3 Friends activities x 2
- 4 Guided tour, educational lecture
- 5 Bush regeneration
- 6 Volunteer x 2
- 7 Guide course x 2
- 8 School Excursion (Mt Annan P.S)
- 9 School excursion and picnic to the gardens.
- 10 School excursion, school holiday activity
- 11 Education centre – came on school excursion
- 12 School excursion x 2
- 13 School Holiday Activities x 4
- 14 A craft course making things out of natural objects. I think a man named Allen ran it
- 15 Gumnut craft in the school holidays
- 16 Cumberland bird watching/ APS Autumn meetings
- 17 Educational tour by Ed. Officer
- 18 We have attended most things offered
- 19 Attended Welcome Ceremony on Aboriginal Heritage and Culture weekend (Wirrimbirra course)
- 20 Bush regeneration with volunteers, VCN – Volunteer Co-ordinators Network
- 21 Cumberland Plain vegetation
- 22 School education, bird walk, propagation, Kew info
- 23 Educational
- 24 Cumberland Plain Woodland fire regimes talk, bush care
- 25 Courses held at the Education Centre
- 26 Sydney wildlife animal care, propagation
- 27 With Grandchildren – Ed Centre + many seminars/workshops
- 28 Plant ID workshops/ open air cinema
- 29 Various workshops associated with bush care
- 30 Talks by APS members and MABG staff
- 31 Propagation; stone walling
- 32 Dry stone walling x 2
- 33 Bush tucker
- 34 Twilight wildlife spotting
- 35 We have no young children now, years ago they did

- 36 Class groups with Education Officer; Sydney Wildlife course; Breakfast with the Birds; plant sales. Cumberland Plain walk with Beth Michie
- 37 Various courses re plant propagation etc

Staff Surveys

- 1 Dry stone walling
- 2 Dry stone walling
- 3 Nocturnal walk, Opening Sustainable Living Centre
- 4 Aboriginal culture, native gardens, window gardens
- 5 Horticultural scholarship
- 6 Dry Stone walling, children's school holiday programs
- 7 Translocation workshop
- 8 Manual handling course
- 9 ANPC activities
- 10 Staff training
- 11 Dog handling course, snake handling, defibrillator course
- 12 Stone walling
- 13 Sydney metropolitan wildlife training

Question #7

Part Three: What educational activities would you like to see offered in the Garden?

- 1 More workshops for schools and other groups
- 2 More planting plants during school holiday activities.
- 3 Free or inexpensive craft/exploration activities for children 3-10 years
- 4 More things for children in holidays, shows or activities
- 5 Physical school holiday activities
- 6 More lessons about the different animals
- 7 Bird watching, guided
- 8 Activities related to Australian Native Animals
- 9 School stuff. Advice on growing natives
- 10 More excursions to a place like this
- 11 Permaculture courses
- 12 Education on native gardening, water wise gardening etc. More structured weekend activities like breakfast with the birds. A Saturday/Sunday breakfast walking club would be good
- 13 Classes on designing water wise native gardens
- 14 Growing Australian Native Orchids.
- 15 What are the best plants for drought, reptile shows, to show children the dangers and what to do if they see a snake
- 16 Plant propagation
- 17 Propagation classes, bush tucker plants – how to grow, classes about what local natives to grow
- 18 ½ day courses on specific propagation issues
- 19 The use of native plants in private gardens
- 20 How to use native plants in a home garden/garden design
- 21 Would like to see 'experts' talk about their specialty areas
- 22 Collecting seeds from native plants, and germination of native seeds. Bush Tucker or cooking using native plants, dry rock walling, basic landscaping
- 23 Seed collecting and storage, water plants and native grasses
- 24 The growing of native plants
- 25 Learning about Australian plants including indigenous plants
- 26 Intro to Aust. plants/cultivating at home/activities of botanists at botanic gardens
- 27 Education on planting young seedlings – plants
- 28 Subjects that you can apply in our own garden
- 29 Programs re dry gardens, using less water, planting home gardens with Australian natives to achieve sustainable gardens (replacing lawns etc)
- 30 Plant identification and propagation. Indoor facilities for educational lectures
- 31 Courses in plant identification
- 32 Local plant identification, children's shows, early not late
- 33 Courses on growing natives, designing and planting a suburban backyard for children
- 34 Australian Gardening courses, Eco Friendly gardening.

- 35 Ecological Concepts, Plant Identification and Earth Education Activities (activities which increase connection to nature
- 36 Greater emphasis on information and education in the area of native plant propagation and cultivation.
- 37 The role natives play in the soil. The importance of the Cumberland Plain Woodland – a workshop for children to gain a good understanding
- 38 Single topic workshops on Cumberland Plain Woodland flora and fauna species
- 39 Cumberland Plain bushland courses; regen. courses; native genera courses
- 40 Sustainability
- 41 Anything that raises awareness of Australian Flora & Fauna
- 42 I go to the gardens to relax and enjoy nature, so don't really think much about educational activities. I did enjoy a bush tucker tour some time ago.
- 43 Any needed by community in general.
- 44 Fresh exhibitions only
- 45 Entertainment from which provide education to families
- 46 An education program to enable people to fully appreciate native flora.
- 47 More explanations at interesting sites
- 48 Excellent program already established!
- 49 Art workshops
- 50 Further Aboriginal heritage/awareness/plant uses
- 51 Educational activities for adults-family groups
- 52 What has been on offer eg. Dry stone walling etc – sound terrific – it's just a matter of getting to them
- 53 Environmental theme park incorporating alternative energy technologies, non-fossil fuel forms of transport
- 54 A carefully planned modern educational facility/area incorporating outdoor 'natural' features and more interesting features and funding
- 55 More on bush tucker
- 56 The excursions attended by school students are excellent. Why not similar opportunities for the general public?
- 57 Workshops for all!
- 58 Uses of timber, timber preservation outdoors
- 59 Evening identifying walks in summer
- 60 The sustainable house will be good.
- 61 Happy with what is offered
- 62 Program looks comprehensive already

Staff Surveys

- 1 Horticulture college
- 2 Native Plant Horticultural
- 3 Practical horticulture
- 4 Local plants for local gardens
- 5 Jewellery making, Aboriginal language classes
- 6 Historical talks & guided walks, including aboriginal subjects
- 7 Weed identification
- 8 Good flora/fauna and scenic tours eg sculpture/sundial etc
- 9 Weekend activities / clubs/ plant sales/ society displays
- 10 Whole day interactive environmental education
- 11 Working nursery tours
- 12 Not Sure

- 13 About plants
- 14 Education about weeds and how to control them
- 15 Hands on courses in the horticulture/propagation of native Australian plants
- 16 Water wise gardening. Select how to and grow Native trees at home
- 17 Introductory bird watching courses
- 18 Lectures/talks by visiting flora fauna experts
- 19 Under 5 years
- 20 Use of plants, materials, by products, other and different play uses
- 21 Other craft activities eg silk screening printing, photography, etc
- 22 I think we could have art in the park (like the seaside one in Sydney). This would appeal to high school students etc
- 23 Australian flower arranging + Australian Bonsai
- 24 Live displays of interaction between fauna and flora

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #8

Part One: There are a few artistic installations at Mount Annan Botanic Garden. Please tick what you have seen.

Visitor Surveys

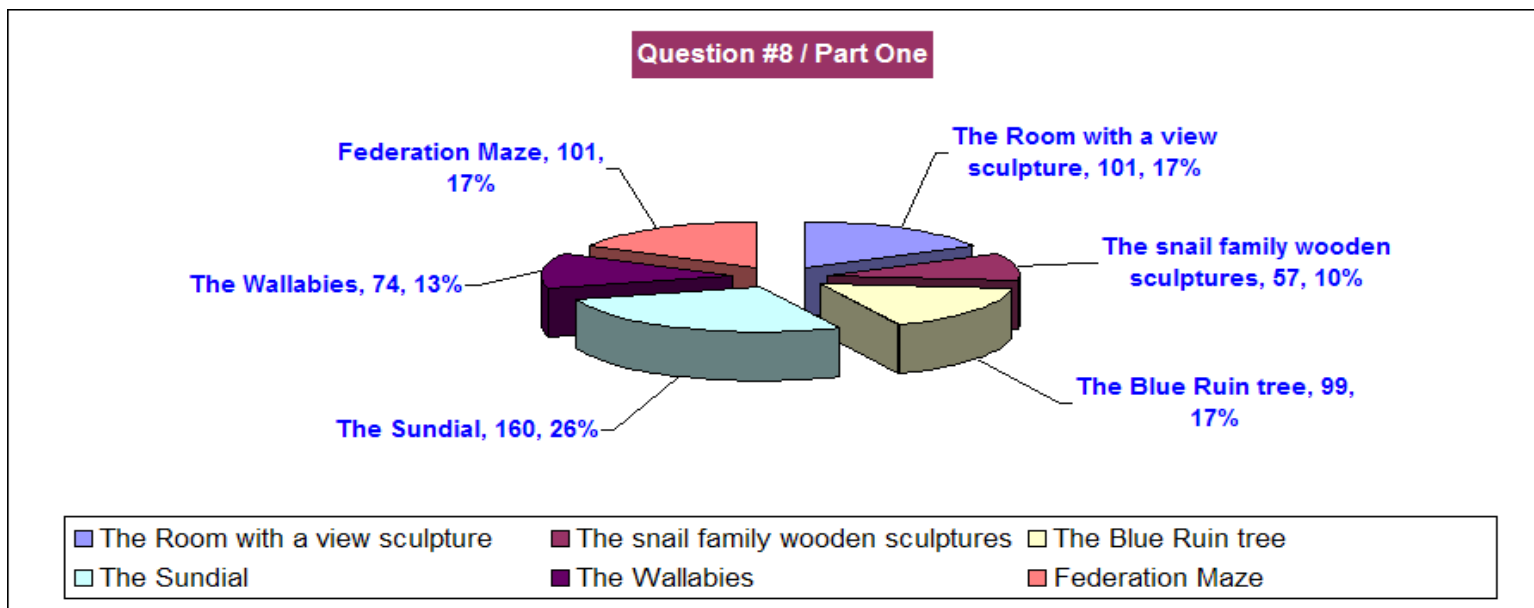
Survey Responses	The Room with a view sculpture	The snail family wooden sculptures	The Blue Ruin tree	The Sundial	The Wallabies	Federation Maze
165	67	35	66	110	51	64
%	17%	9%	17%	28%	13%	16%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	The Room with a view sculpture	The snail family wooden sculptures	The Blue Ruin tree	The Sundial	The Wallabies	Federation Maze
78	34	22	33	50	23	37
%	17%	14%	20%	31%	14%	19%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	The Room with a view sculpture	The snail family wooden sculptures	The Blue Ruin tree	The Sundial	The Wallabies	Federation Maze
243	101	57	99	160	74	101
%	17%	10%	17%	26%	13%	17%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #8

Part Two: Would you like to see more artistic installations?

Visitor Surveys

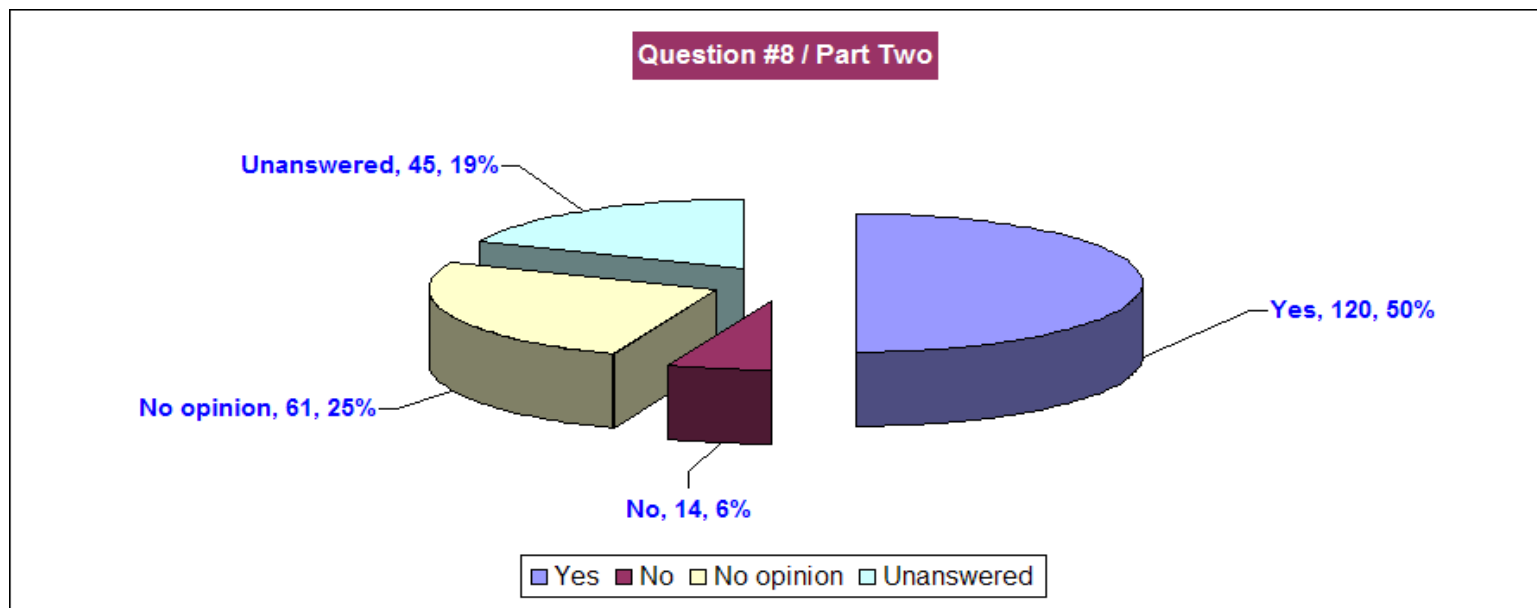
Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
165	74	9	51	14
%	51%	6%	34%	34%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
78	46	5	10	31
%	50%	11%	5%	34%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
243	120	14	61	45
%	50%	6%	25%	19%



Combined Surveys

Question #8

Part Three: Artistic installations comment.

- 1 Blue Ruin is a doubtful idea, seems to have discouraged birds from using the tree
- 2 So busy looking at beautiful plants, didn't notice these, but certainly will on our next visit
- 3 Where were they?
- 4 I'm sure I've seen them but they don't stick in my mind as I'm more interested in plants
- 5 Yes, more exhibitions
- 6 Most of the sculptures are quite good but I can't see the significance of the penguin – part of an educational bird walk.
- 7 Depends – some 'reference' to the Cumberland Plain woodlands' 'history'/use and its current status and value (future generations). Mount Annan could well contain the last, healthy example pre-European settlement! – Perhaps some 'fun' interpretive feature eg involving a living tree?
- 8 Yes, but only if it is not kitsch
- 9 Some installations impose on the natural beauty – eg metal wallabies when there is a group of living ones to be seen in the same area
- 10 It is good to have a few because of the element of surprise. If there are too many then it could be less natural and more like a sculpture garden
- 11 So long as it reflects the place and isn't just there.

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #9

Part One: Is the signage about Mount Annan Botanic Garden

Visitor Surveys

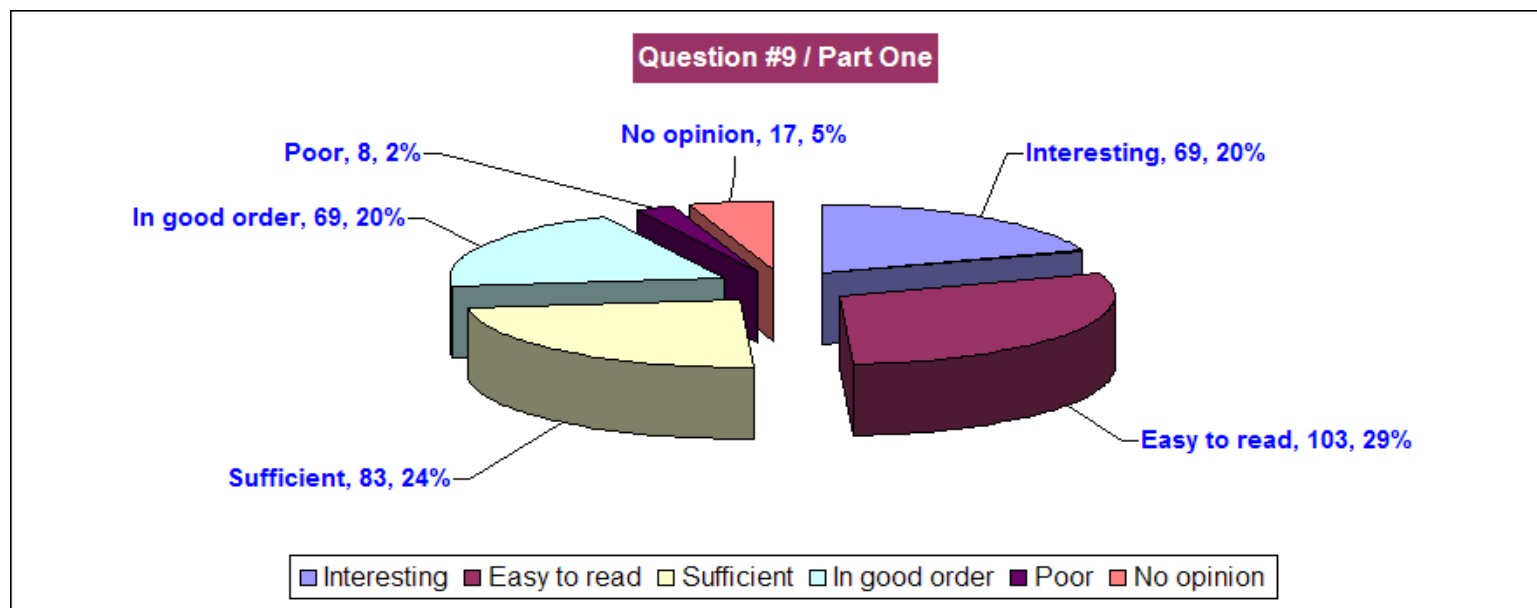
Survey Responses	Interesting	Easy to read	Sufficient	In good order	Poor	No opinion
165	38	68	62	43	7	12
%	17%	29%	27%	19%	3%	5%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Interesting	Easy to read	Sufficient	In good order	Poor	No opinion
78	31	35	21	26	1	5
%	26%	29%	18%	22%	1%	4%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Interesting	Easy to read	Sufficient	In good order	Poor	No opinion
78	69	103	83	69	8	17
%	20%	29%	24%	20%	2%	5%



Combined Surveys

Question #9

Part Two: Signage Comments.

- 1 Some of the signs are beginning to fade. Better signage on walking trails would help
- 2 Walking trail signage (distance etc) insufficient
- 3 Must be kept in good condition for walkers, only 10 weeks ago we got lost in ACT Bot Gardens, even with a map – roads are unsigned and by 5 pm it was dark, we headed down hill 'til we came to the lit area – very embarrassing!!
- 4 Has improved since road reversal.
- 5 On the brochure it would be good to have descriptions of each area - vibrant , dense , romantic etc
- 6 The newer, larger signs with pictures are very good
- 7 I like new coloured boards and explanations
- 8 New signage excellent. Please ensure all signs are maintained and visible
- 9 Excellent
- 10 All signage is adequate and clear
- 11 The information conveyed by them is good and helpful.I Not sure what you mean. The sign on Narellan Road is very bright, the colour changes are good. I don't recall my thoughts on the information signs in the garden. It has been I while since I have been
- 12 I like how it changes colour every year (the sign on Narellan Road).
- 13 Changing colours on sign at Narellan Road is interesting and easily noticed
- 14 Very minimal
- 15 More could be better
- 16 Larger, simpler
- 17 Noted that improvements are being made, more could be done
- 18 Getting better
- 19 Needs to be longer
- 20 I think could be improved to highlight features within the Gardens
- 21 Need more
- 22 Need more signage, especially interpretive
- 23 Plant labelling could be better maintained
- 24 The size of printing in some signs is difficult to read without getting close
- 25 Probably very difficult but names on plants are sometimes missing – I am interested in know names of plants
- 26 Information useful but there's not too much of it
- 27 Not enough of it
- 28 Plant identification signage lacking
- 29 Some can be hard to find
- 30 Signage not sufficient. Information is a large part of your job!
- 31 Some things that were of interest were not marked
- 32 Road to Sundial not clear
- 33 Better markings on map given at entrance would be helpful, more info on things of interest
- 34 Not a big issue but a better map would help

- 35 A bigger sign with Garden hours of opening and close times
- 36 The entry to Mount Annan Drive used to read 1.5 km every time this sign has been repainted I waited for the missing .5 to be replaced
- 37 Some directional signage confusing
- 38 Signage particularly at the high spots in the Gardens identifying surrounding features eg Glenlee House, Glen Alpine, directions to the extinct volcano crater
- 39 Can sometimes impinge on natural beauty if too large or eye-catching
- 40 Needs a significant sign at roundabout
- 41 Have only visited once
- 42 Not particularly aware of it

Staff Surveys

- 1 Slightly confusing
- 2 Too much signage around roads
- 3 Is much better than at the other 2 Gardens
- 4 More artistic/ catchy boards on freeway could help
- 5 These stood out as beautifully done!
- 6 Obscure
- 7 Some poor condition but most good
- 8 It is getting better (less boring)
- 9 Could be more
- 10 I love the new sandstone signs on entry
- 11 Haven't had a chance to look
- 12 Need more and better Botanical information
- 13 More contextual gardens
- 14 Need more – simple and complex information
- 15 Need more
- 16 There should be a lot more interpretive signage explaining about plants/ features/etc throughout the garden
- 17 Generally the signs are in good condition
- 18 Need more “interpretive” / telling story – connecting – rather than just information/directional signage
- 19 Some signs need replacement
- 20 The coloured signs in the arboretum areas encourage people to stop and look at them. Keep doing them
- 21 Sufficient, but could have more, can never be enough
- 22 Direction and interpretation signage should be different

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #10

Part One: At Mount Annan Botanic Garden we conduct research and trials on Australian plants for conservation and sometimes for commercial release e.g. the Wollemi Pine and Flannel Flower. Do you consider this work important?

Visitor Surveys

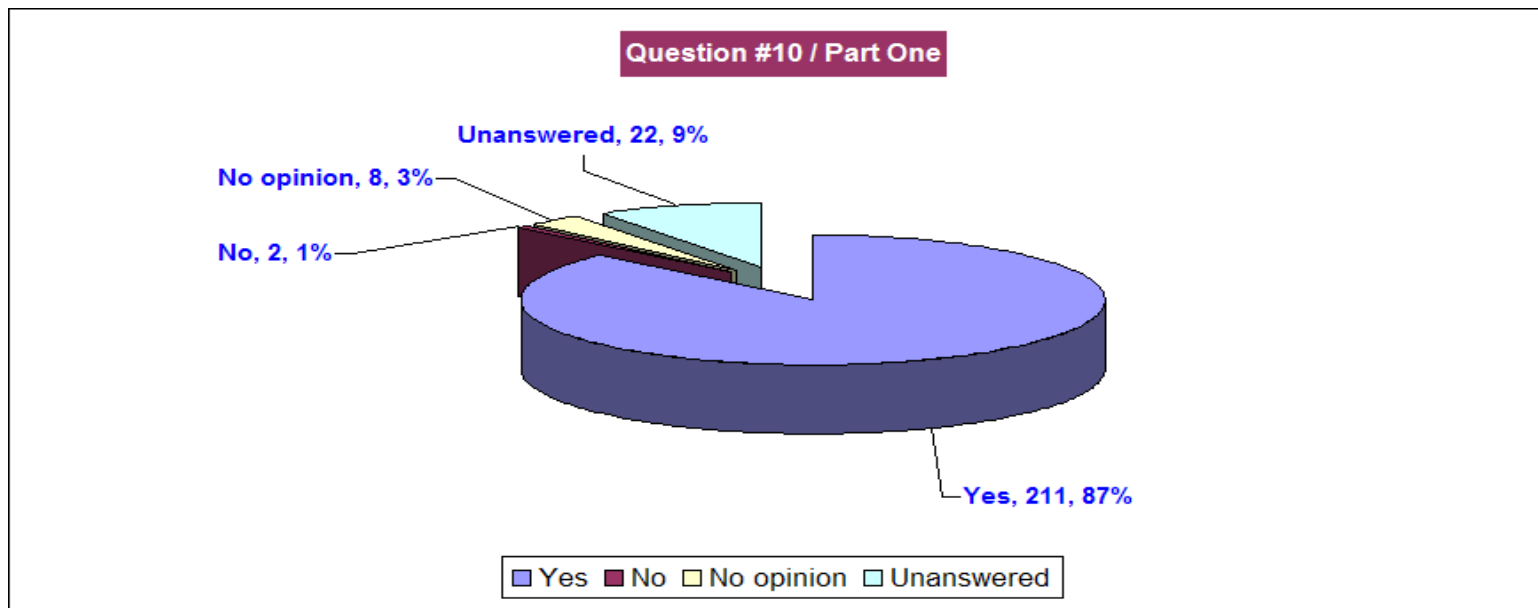
Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
165	139	2	7	17
%	85%	1%	4%	10%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
78	72	0	1	5
%	93%	0%	1%	6%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
243	211	2	8	22
%	87%	1%	3%	9%



Combined Surveys

Question #10

Part Two: Why do you see research for conservation and commercial release important?

- 1 So we have plants which will tolerate our weather conditions
- 2 My children certainly gained a greater respect for the environment and the extent of scientific input required in such research
- 3 Maintenance of biodiversity
- 4 Conservation and fund raising
- 5 Or conservation of these species and to promote their propagation and use in horticulture
- 6 Some one needs to
- 7 Commercial propagation is also critical to preservation
- 8 Yes, one reason why I support gardens. Valuable scientific work and conservation
- 9 For education and conservation of biodiversity, keep it up
- 10 This is true conservation, especially for the Wollemi Pines. Marketing it and the Flannel Flowers also make the Gardens a viable commercial entity that is not so sufficient with this inept State Govt when it comes to funding
- 11 Creates greater awareness & interest in conservation & biodiversity
- 12 Important role of botanical garden to do this – if you don't, who will?
- 13 Think its important to maintain and care for our environment
- 14 Surely this kind of work is very much part of why Botanic Gardens exist. Ultimately, as “consumers” we benefit from your scientific endeavours, whether in plants we enjoy in the Gardens, or in plants we can plant in our own gardens
- 15 Because it is a botanical garden and that is the appropriate place for such research programs
- 16 Because it is ensuring that plants that are sometimes rare and endangered are going to be around for future generations. It is also important if it encourages more people to plant native plants in their gardens rather than exotics. Native plants help provide food for our native wildlife and birds and are more adapted to the Australian environment
- 17 This should be one of the purposes of a botanic garden
- 18 I believe conservation to be extremely important
- 19 It is pleasing that someone cares enough to do what is important for the environments future
- 20 For the conservation of significant vegetation in the area
- 21 I think that it is important that the Campbelltown area is associated with these types of activities. It highlights some of the good things that are happening in our area
- 22 Preserving Australia's endangered floral heritage
- 23 These are important Australian Species
- 24 It is important to protect and maintain the biodiversity of all species
- 25 For conservation purposes
- 26 It stimulates interest in native flora and support for conservation from the community
- 27 It is important to educate people on protected species such as the Wollemi Pine
- 28 I value a sustainable future and the preservation of our native plants and animals
- 29 Assume you make money on this as well although I am not impressed with the Flannel Flower or the cost
- 30 Conservation is always an important issue especially for future generations
- 31 Native Plants facing extinction have been saved
- 32 It raises awareness ie: Wollemi Pine, and ensures we protect and save what we have that is so uniquely Australian

- 33 Keep up the good work!
- 34 To set a good example and make more native varieties available
- 35 Environment very important
- 36 To improve community awareness
- 37 Care for the environment
- 38 Development of Aussie hort.
- 39 Critical for preservation
- 40 Who else is going to do it? X 2
- 41 Essential for conservation
- 42 Heritage
- 43 It is important for the species and Mount Annan is the best place for it
- 44 To stop plants becoming extinct and making easier to grow in home gardens
- 45 It helps to manage preservation of our native plants and allows the public to enjoy them
- 46 Income for the Garden
- 47 Conservation – important for the future
- 48 Will increase number of plants and places they are in
- 49 To prolong the preservation of these plants
- 50 Conservation, floristry industry, home gardening with improved varieties
- 51 Increases knowledge base, keeps it in public hands
- 52 Who else other than commercially driven operators (= price)
- 53 To try and save these plants from dying out x 2
- 54 Much more research into native plants is needed and native botanic gardens should be in the forefront; earning money from plant releases helps fund research
- 55 Knowledge necessary for conservation: also good income source
- 56 Otherwise the plant may be lost; and needed for purchase for domestic gardens
- 57 For the future – to have a record and maybe seed should something go wrong
- 58 Broadens interest base
- 59 Brings the bush to the public
- 60 Conservation and biodiversity are two of the most important issues of our day. If commercial aspect helps Mount Annan, this is wonderful!
- 61 It is important to conserve our native plants, especially those on the threatened species list
- 62 For the preservation of rare species and increased use of native in horticultural uses
- 63 For conservation
- 64 Yes - Self-explanatory – I'm a Senior Head Teacher (of TAFE)
- 65 As more of our native vegetation disappears it is very important that we do not lose these unique plants so research and availability to the public is vital
- 66 Need for conservation is obvious – also provides more money for or within the gardens
- 67 A useful way for you to gain more funds
- 68 This is the ideal facility for research and development
- 69 Future sustainability of Australian fauna
- 70 More use should be made of native plants
- 71 Sometimes can't leave it all to economic or commercial growers
- 72 For preservation for future generations
- 73 Research preserves and protects our environment
- 74 Who else would do it? More informed – the better the decisions regarding conservation etc
- 75 So the research may be able to continue the species for a longer period of time

- 76 Essentially conservation and also helps pay for the park
- 77 So generations to come have plants to view and to learn and understand conservation
- 78 Mount Annan could/should 'lead the way' in research/conservation on Australian native plants. It often does eg Wollemi pine
- 79 To get more people growing natives
- 80 If nothing else to avoid repetition of past mistakes
- 81 Preservation for the future
- 82 Because the gardens are in strong position to provide this research (especially in relation to eastern Australian species) and because the work is important to preservation/propagation of our unique flora
- 83 Knowledge is good
- 84 Raises awareness of native plants through conservation
- 85 I consider that research is important to discover aspects of these native plants that can be used for conservation and commerce
- 86 To extend availability of endangered plants
- 87 If an institution like yourself doesn't do it, no one will
- 88 Just because we depend on Bot Gardens for such things
- 89 Increase profile for Gardens, potential income for gardens
- 90 Appreciate the scientific concerns of the Gardens' charter
- 91 Best for government to do it
- 92 Raises profile of Australian plants in the community
- 93 Conservation speaks for itself, commercial fields fund the garden
- 94 I think conservation of native flora is important
- 95 To develop and maintain our flora's heritage and future
- 96 The question is what should the commercial nurseries do and what the Garden should do
- 97 Gives people a chance to have their own plants
- 98 Conservation for future generations
- 99 General public is aware and has access to these Australian plants
- 100 Funds for the gardens. Training for young staff. If you don't do it, who will?
- 101 For the survival of species
- 102 This work is associated with the plants of our country and we need to understand as much as we can about our flora

Staff Surveys

- 1 To help release more plants to the public
- 2 The local community and nurseries need to be aware of good Australian plants which could substitute exotics
- 3 Good for the Garden to set standards, good for all sites
- 4 Conservation and research development \$ to be raised and awareness. Also in my opinion, that is part of a Botanic Garden's responsibility
- 5 To raise money to fund other important projects
- 6 Increase understanding of flagship and less well known species
- 7 Need more money for conservation
- 8 Increase knowledge and awareness of Australian plants
- 9 We must protect our biodiversity
- 10 Sustainability, revenue
- 11 Very important to use local plants
- 12 Conservation of Australian heritage plants and rare plants
- 13 Knowledge is power to improve

- 14 Promotion of native plants is very important
- 15 Preserve our native plants
- 16 Conservation
- 17 Conservation and knowledge
- 18 Who else could do it? Essential
- 19 Links science with Horticulture
- 20 To conserve plants in the wild
- 21 Conserving, promoting Australian flora
- 22 Conservation is important for future generations
- 23 To encourage people to use Australian plants / celebrate their beauty
- 24 Good source of learning
- 25 Because the natural assets need to be preserved
- 26 For conservation of plants
- 27 Helps secure the future of those plants and promotes Australian natives
- 28 It adds to the scientific role and world renown of BGT
- 29 The importance of conserving Australian Native plants is important for future Australia – preventing salinity, erosion, weed invasion etc
- 30 Assists with preservation of species and raises profile of native plants
- 31 Branding / image of BGT and promotion of Oz plants
- 32 Because then everyone can appreciate the work done
- 33 Introduce new plants, conservation through commercialisation
- 34 Preservation and promotion of our Native species is important
- 35 For research in plants
- 36 Because we are well positioned and set up to conduct research, so we should continue to further research and trials etc
- 37 Preservation of species / broaden access to the public

Question #11

Mount Annan Botanic Garden's Millennium Seed Bank collects and saves seed from NSW including rare and endangered plant species. Do you think conservation should be an important function of the Garden?

Visitor Surveys

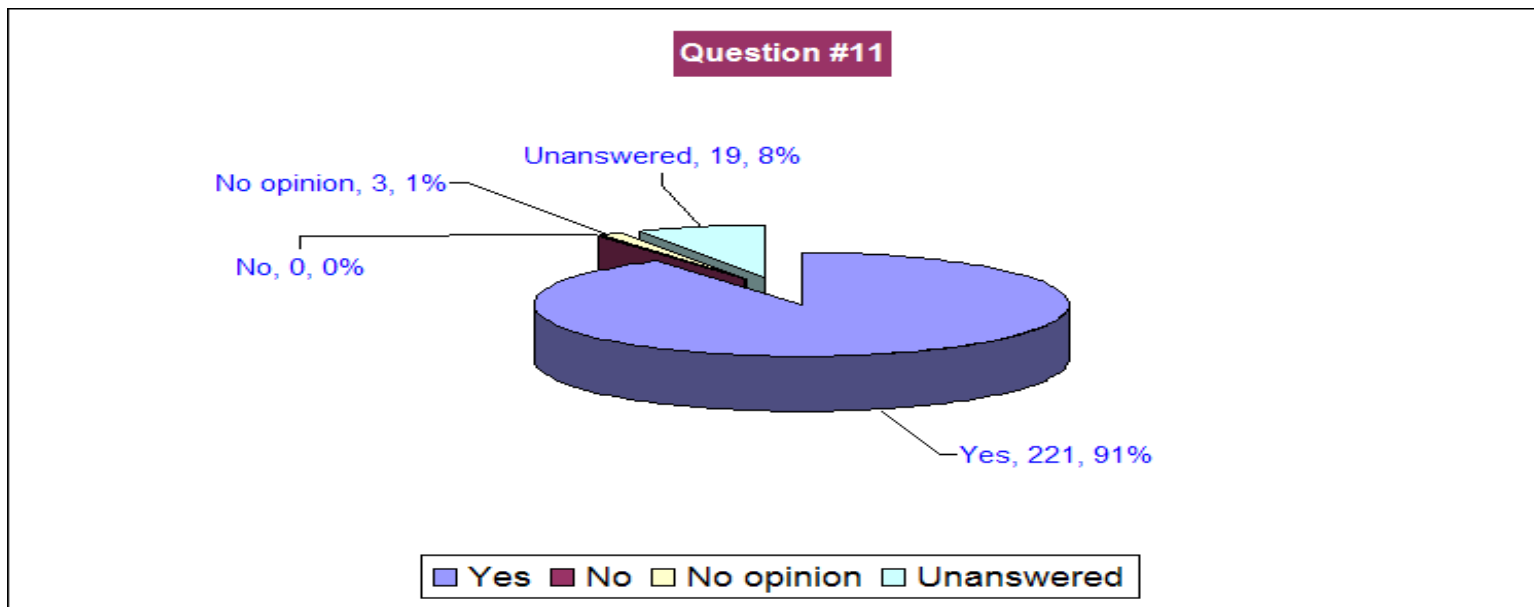
Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
165	148	0	3	14
%	90%	0%	2%	8%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
78	73	0	0	5
%	94%	0%	0%	6%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
243	221	0	3	19
%	91%	0%	1%	8%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #12

A goal of Mount Annan Botanic Garden is to manage fire and maintain a green corridor link to the Nepean River to safeguard growing numbers of native animals. Do you consider this work important?

Visitor Surveys

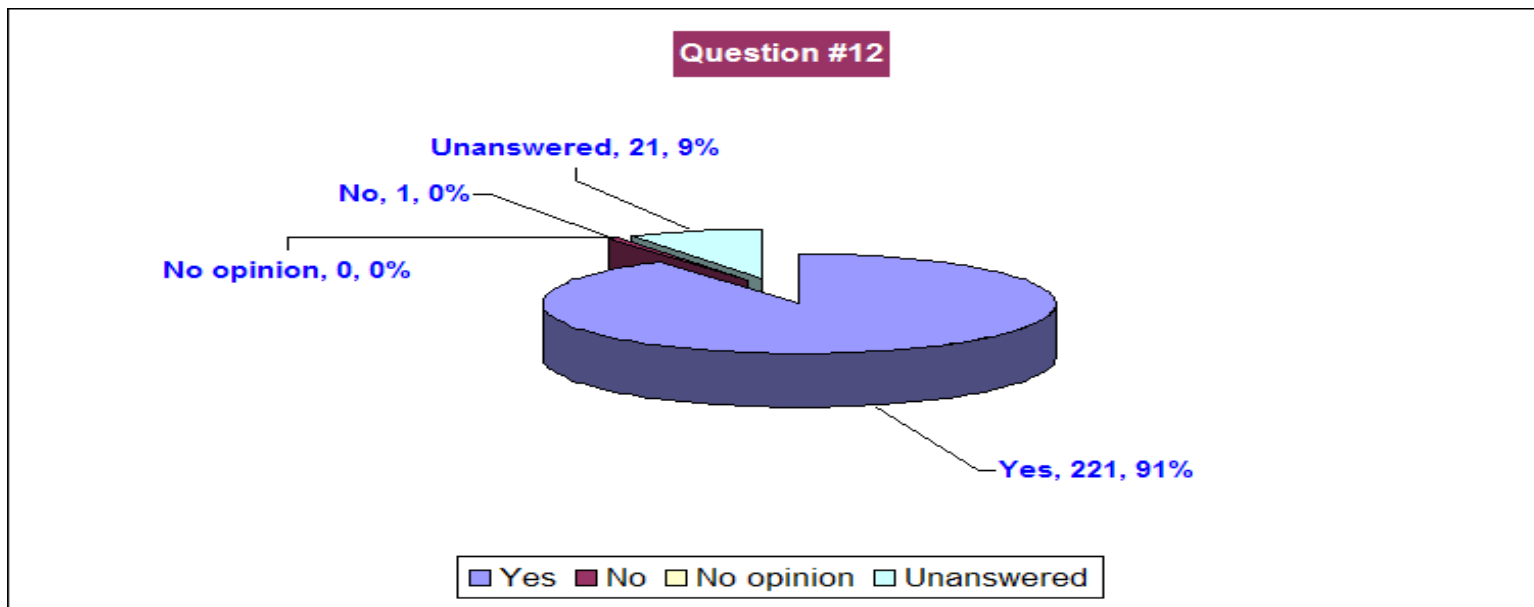
Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
165	148	1	0	16
%	90%	0%	0%	8%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
78	73	0	0	5
%	94%	0%	0%	5%

Combine Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
243	221	1	0	21
%	91%	0%	0%	9%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #13

How do you rate the importance of the Garden's work to protect, extend and improve natural remnant Cumberland Plain Woodland on site?

Visitor Surveys

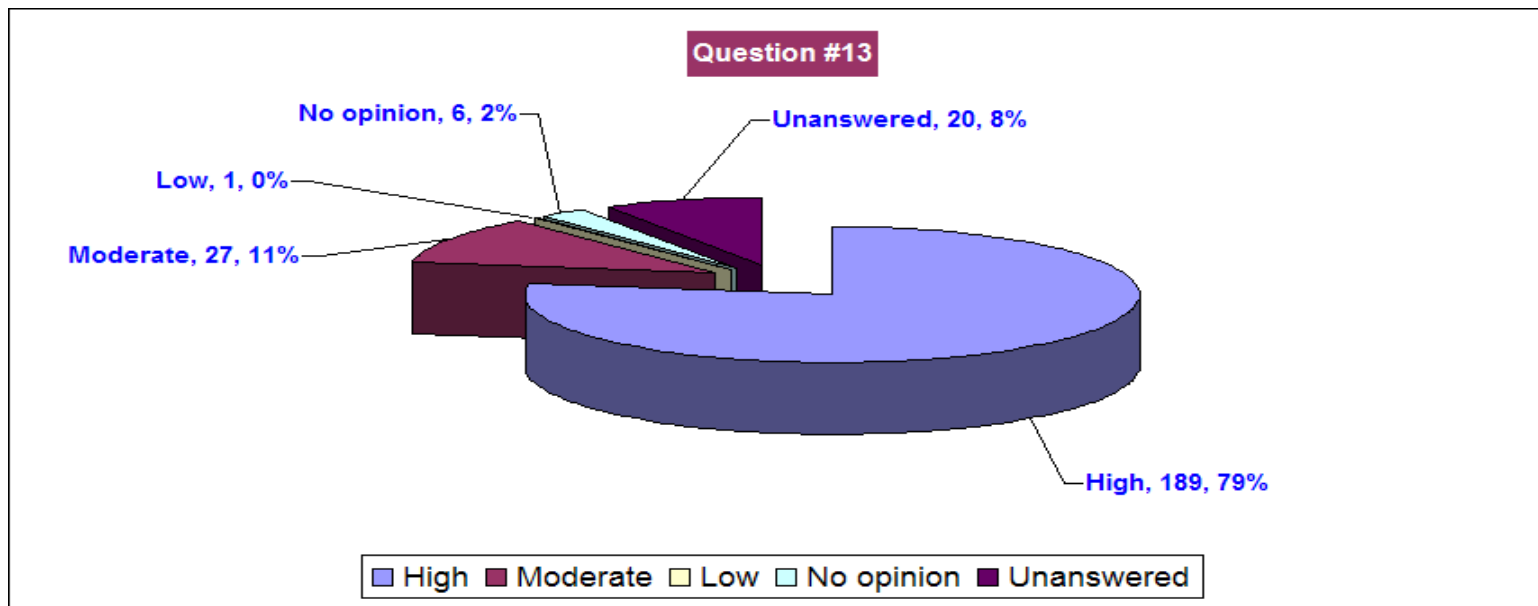
Survey Responses	High	Moderate	Low	No opinion	Unanswered
165	128	17	1	4	15
%	78%	10%	1%	2%	9%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	High	Moderate	Low	No opinion	Unanswered
78	61	10	0	2	5
%	78%	13%	0%	3%	6%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	High	Moderate	Low	No opinion	Unanswered
243	189	27	1	6	20
%	79%	11%	0%	2%	8%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #14

Following the recent road reversal, do you believe access and views have improved?

Visitor Surveys

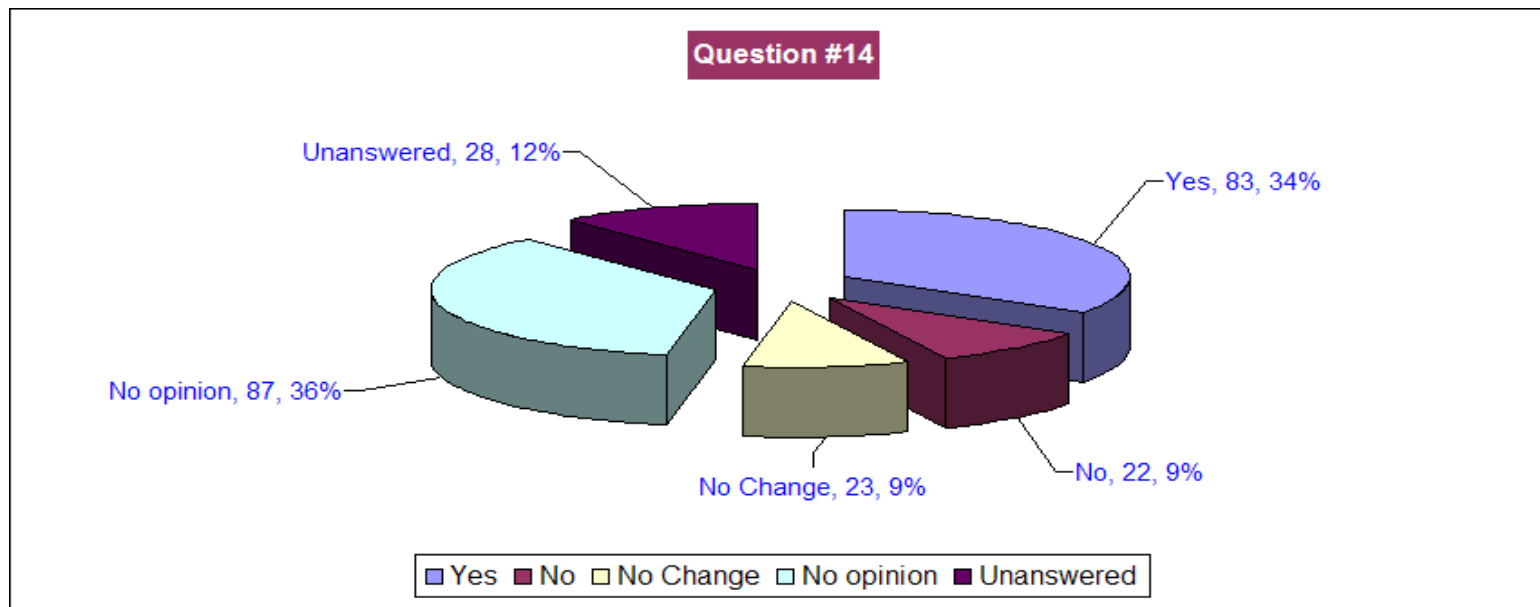
Survey Responses	Yes	No	No Change	No opinion	Unanswered
165	49	13	21	62	20
%	30%	8%	13%	37%	12%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No Change	No opinion	Unanswered
78	34	9	2	25	8
%	43%	12%	3%	32%	10%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No Change	No opinion	Unanswered
243	83	22	23	87	28
%	34%	9%	9%	36%	12%



Combined Surveys

Question #15

What would improve access to the Garden for you?

- 1 Fee should not punish families but encourage them! Reduce the fee significantly for families. Macarthur is no longer a dormitory area and tourism from family and friends is increasing. Need to capture this market, not push it to go shopping!
- 2 Lowering the entry fee - I used to find it OK when it was just a fee per car, now that it is per person I find it a bit expensive, especially when you have several children. The botanic gardens in the city are free for users, why shouldn't this apply to the Garden as well?
- 3 Cheaper entry fee
- 4 Free entry, and more seats for those of us with medical conditions and disabilities, and for the general able bodied population too
- 5 Free entry
- 6 Lowering the cost of admission. This has stopped friends of mine from visiting on a few occasions
- 7 Payment per car, not per person
- 8 Free entry for people dining at restaurant
- 9 Advertised free days to country areas
- 10 Cheaper fees
- 11 We really appreciate the opportunity of access during the hours of daylight
- 12 Nothing really. Maybe opening later in Summer, say till 8pm on a Saturday or Sunday, even if only every now and then
- 13 Being able to go there for an early morning BBQ or maybe just an early morning drive to see the animals
- 14 Open later in the afternoon
- 15 Longer hours in Winter. Having to leave at 4.00 on a beautiful Saturday or Sunday afternoon a real bummer
- 16 As a 'Friend', being allowed to park inside during daylight hours rather than on the road outside prior to 10 am or after 4 pm in Winter
- 17 Longer opening hours eg. 8 am to 5 pm from May to September and 7 am to 7 pm October to April
- 18 Longer opening hours especially in Summer months
- 19 Longer opening hours in Winter – should be open to 5 pm – I could come after work, see sunset from the Garden etc
- 20 Suggest temporary signage to focus areas (eg this month's focus area – Bottlebrush Garden) to encourage people to explore areas that they wouldn't always go to eg. specific plants in areas that are in flower
- 21 OK but larger signs
- 22 Less road signage
- 23 More signage along Narellan Road would help visitors to locate where the Garden is
- 24 Better signage indication various area and times/distances for walks
- 25 A better map x 2
- 26 Better maps and signage
- 27 A consistent and stable road situation which will allow infrequent visitors to get to know the place and want to return. I am a frequent visitor, so I know of the changes but it can be disconcerting for infrequent visitors who've arranged a group to visit the Garden and find their directions were meaningless to others of the group who asked how to get there. Its especially important in recreational situations to keep frustration levels low
- 28 2-way roads?
- 29 Front entrance, would allow me to walk to the gardens, rather than have to drive
- 30 Entrance from Narellan Road
- 31 Moving the entry to Narellan Road as noted in Site Master Plan – beautification of the Garden's side of Mount Annan Drive
- 32 Very accessible as is. If there was an access via Menangle Park would be much closer for many people

- 33 The sharp right turn near the exit (40 m from the Entry Booth) seems a little clumsy in design
- 34 Physical and aesthetic 'entrance' off Narellan Road – proximal to MCSL
- 35 At entrance on Mount Annan Drive from footpath on other side of road from Garden – need a crossing to go across to Garden as it is unsafe
- 36 I find access to the correct road to follow at the entrance is confusing and the car park also. It would be good to have an entrance nearer Narellan Road, perhaps
- 37 I think present access is good but perhaps if the local bus service came along Mount Annan Drive, it may be better for some of the local people
- 38 Public transport link to, say, Campbelltown or Macarthur station
- 39 Public transport to the Garden
- 40 Explorer type buses running regularly between exhibits
- 41 Transport- golf buggy? I regularly bring my elderly parents and my husband who needs a stick to walk and find that here are numerous place that they can't manage
- 42 Public transport access
- 43 More walking trails with possibly harder surfaces or raised platforms for better viewing of areas around the Garden
- 44 Reaching the carpark immediately on entry
- 45 Inclusion of more playgrounds around the gardens for children to use
- 46 Increase entry points for walkers
- 47 Lower the cost of Friends' membership
- 48 More natural bushland area – improved condition of what is there
- 49 Less traffic on roads
- 50 More disabled parking on special occasions
- 51 Screening the tip and waste collection from view at entrance
- 52 Have not visited the Gardens since the road changes
- 53 I just need to find more time in my week to get there – you're doing a great job!
- 54 Wouldn't make a difference
- 55 Nothing x 5
- 56 OK as is
- 57 It's OK for me
- 58 If I lived a bit closer
- 59 Easy to find, came from Sydney on tollway
- 60 Helicopter service from Wollongong!!
- 61 Nothing you can change, I live 1.5 hours away
- 62 No improvement needed at this stage
- 63 It's easy!
- 64 It's fine the way it is
- 65 For me nothing
- 66 I have no problems with access
- 67 I like the access road
- 68 Access OK
- 69 Access acceptable now
- 70 As I cycle, reducing the inclines would be good – ha ha ha

Staff Surveys

- 1 More paths
- 2 Traffic management on Narellan Rd, access from Narellan Rd

- 3 Electric cars
- 4 I feel it is sufficient
- 5 Public Transport to within close walking proximity
- 6 Public transport more available
- 7 Easier access by public transport
- 8 Freeway access, better public transport eg train , bus
- 9 Public transport
- 10 Bus at station and signage at Campbelltown station
- 11 Allow dogs on lead or off lead in a fenced off area
- 12 Bicycles for hire
- 13 Satisfactory
- 14 Parking not so good
- 15 More options to turn left off freeway if you miss Narellan Rd
- 16 Link to train station, bikes for hire
- 17 More colourful wildflower displays
- 18 More signs on approach
- 19 The exit is confusing and the corner too sharp
- 20 Rail link – combine with Thirlmere steam engine run
- 21 A boom gate
- 22 Narellan Rd entrance and free entry
- 23 Bus to door
- 24 Buses
- 25 Entrance off Narellan road
- 26 Don't know as this is first visit
- 27 Parking closer to lakeside for families with children and picnic gear
- 28 Regional cycleway/footpath linking the garden to the Nepean River/Narellan/Camden
- 29 Increased/better signage, particularly along M5 and at Narellan Rd exit, which would show the actual distance to the Garden and provide good directions
- 30 If I lived closer to Annan. At present it is 1 ½ hour drive one way
- 31 Easier availability of public transport to Garden's entrance
- 32 Free days, more facilities for other activities
- 33 A better public transport link or Gardens shuttle bus
- 34 Better public transport
- 35 Nothing for myself, but for others the entry fee should be altered, thus allowing more visitors to frequent our gem
- 36 Public transport more available

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #16

Part One: How important do you believe Mount Annan Botanic Garden is to the local and regional community?

Visitor Surveys

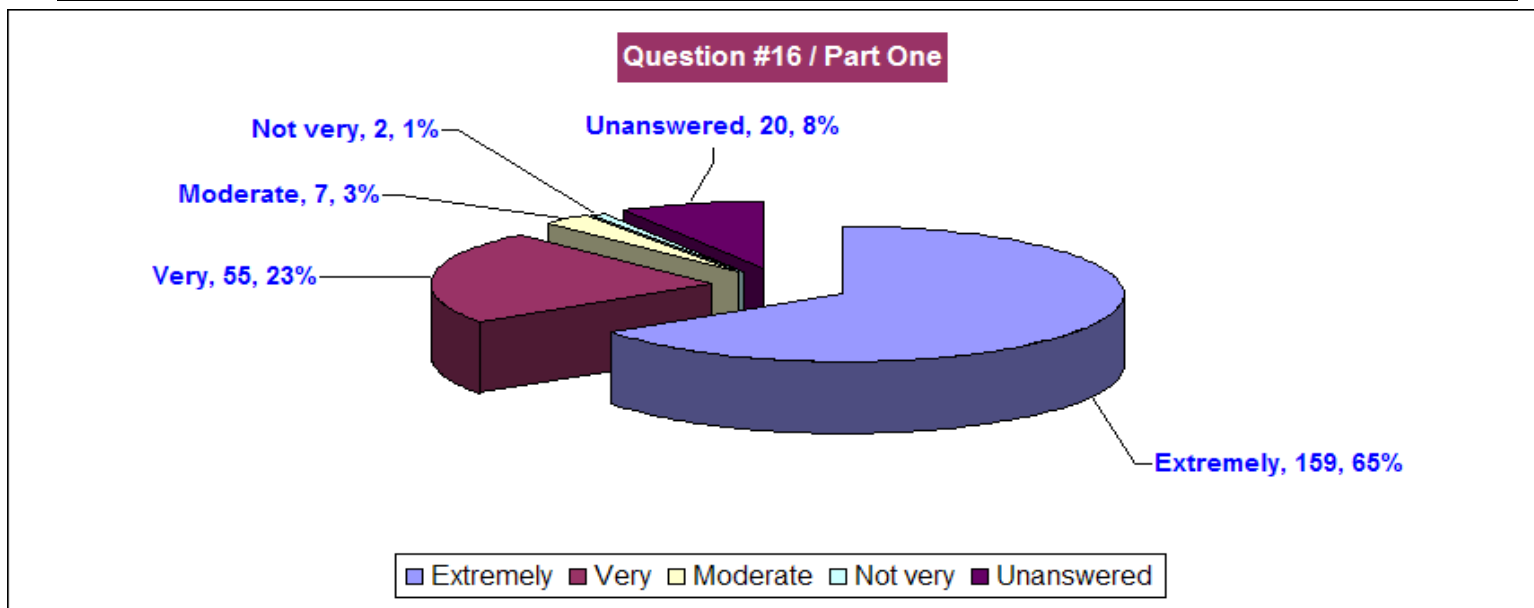
Survey Responses	Extremely	Very	Moderate	Not very	Unanswered
165	115	27	5	2	16
%	70%	16%	3%	1%	10%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Extremely	Very	Moderate	Not very	Unanswered
78	44	28	2	0	4
%	56	36	3	0	5

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Extremely	Very	Moderate	Not very	Unanswered
243	159	55	7	2	20
%	65%	23%	3%	1%	8%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #16
Part Two: Why?

Visitor Surveys

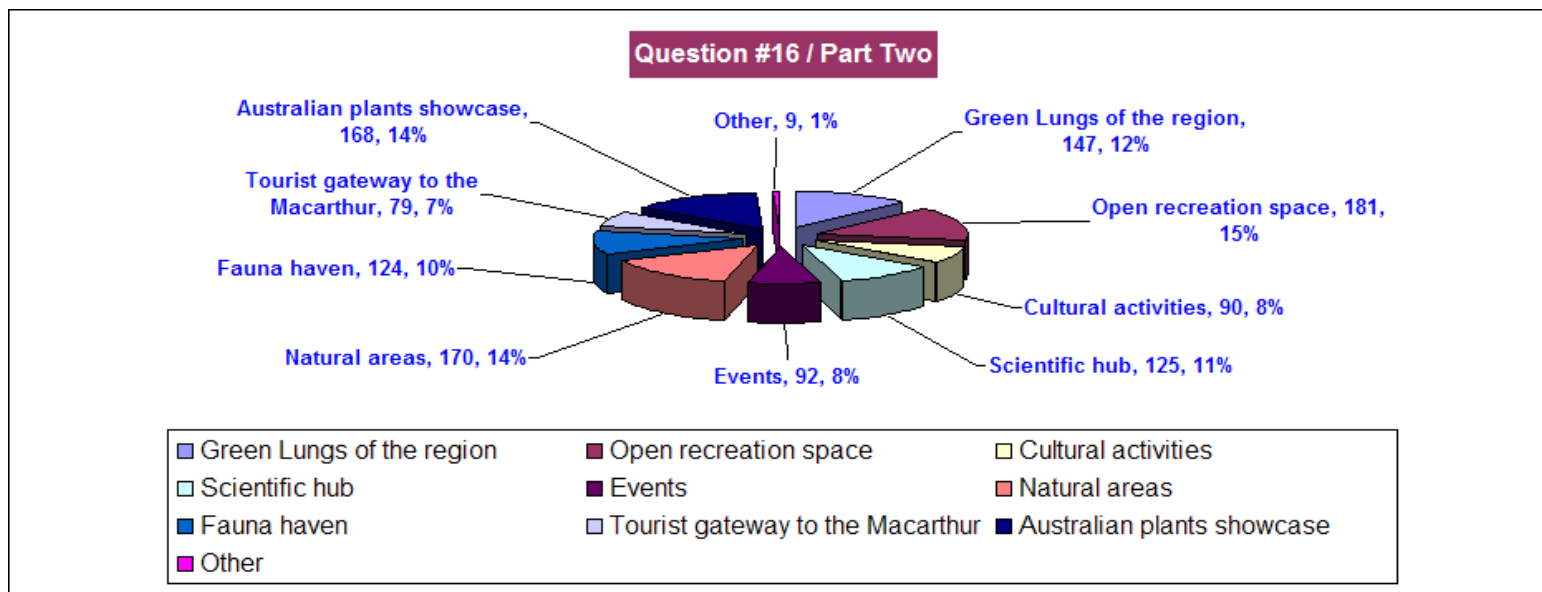
Survey Responses	Green Lungs of the region	Open recreation space	Cultural activities	Scientific hub	Events	Natural areas	Fauna haven	Tourist gateway to the Macarthur	Australian plants showcase	Other
165	104	125	59	89	66	124	95	58	113	4
%	12%	15%	7%	11%	8%	15%	11%	7%	14%	0%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Green Lungs of the region	Open recreation space	Cultural activities	Scientific hub	Events	Natural areas	Fauna haven	Tourist gateway to the Macarthur	Australian plants showcase	Other
78	43	56	31	36	26	46	29	21	55	5
%	12%	17%	9%	10%	7%	13%	8%	6%	17%	1%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Green Lungs of the region	Open recreation space	Cultural activities	Scientific hub	Events	Natural areas	Fauna haven	Tourist gateway to the Macarthur	Australian plants showcase	Other
78	147	181	90	125	92	170	124	79	168	9
%	12%	15%	8%	11%	8%	14%	10%	7%	14%	1%



Combined Surveys

Question #16

Part Three: Other reasons Mount Annan is important in local and regional community?

- 1 Retain corridors and sanctuary for flora and fauna
- 2 Lovely restaurant
- 3 Unfortunately - not very important, perhaps because the focus of the majority of local residents and visitors is on money, greed in general and narrow minded selfishness rather than environment, peace and sharingin my opinion
- 4 The area needs something to take pride in. Mt Annan will be an icon for the future
- 5 Important as urban area grows around it
- 6 It's our show piece
- 7 Enhances bushland link of Macarthur region
- 8 Available for local area residents and families
- 9 Not enough cultural activities
- 10 Best cure for feeling low!
- 11 Restaurant and playground – we don't have much of this standard in the region
- 12 Fantastic preserved area, teaches respect for the environment
- 13 Educational environmental facility
- 14 All reasons – perhaps
- 15 Improve publicity/focus by having entrance off Narellan Road, improve view from freeway
- 16 Its value will be even greater as development proceeds apace

Staff Surveys

- 1 Education & awareness of nature
- 2 Last green oasis in 100 years in region
- 3 No idea as I don't live in the local community
- 4 Education of the public
- 5 Help people to grow their connection to Australian native plants and understand the importance of conservation

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #17

Do you believe Mount Annan Botanic Garden should develop more partnerships e.g. with Local Government, RTA and Landcom so that the plantings and promotions outside the Garden can announce its presence?

Visitor Surveys

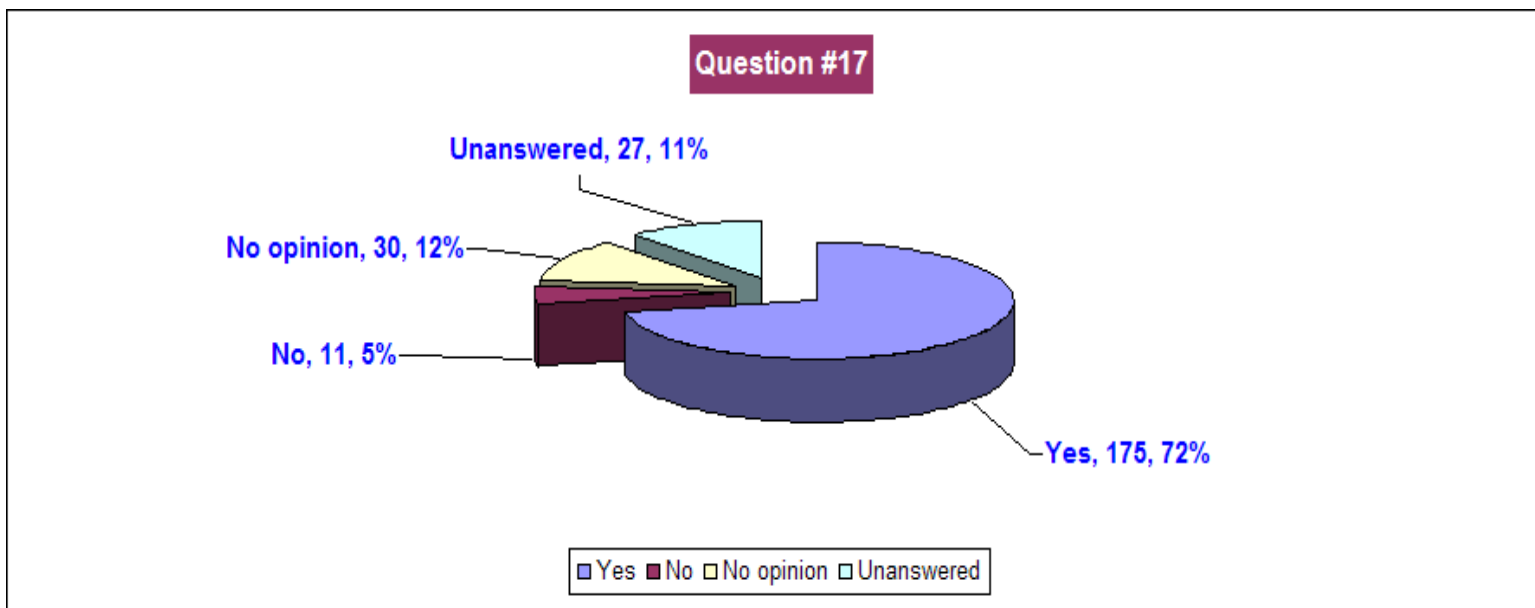
Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
165	111	8	27	19
%	67%	5%	16%	12%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
78	64	3	3	8
%	82%	4%	4%	10%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
243	175	11	30	27
%	72%	5%	12%	11%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #18

Part One: The Garden is a full partner in the developing Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living. Do you believe partnerships like this are important to the Garden's future?

Visitor Surveys

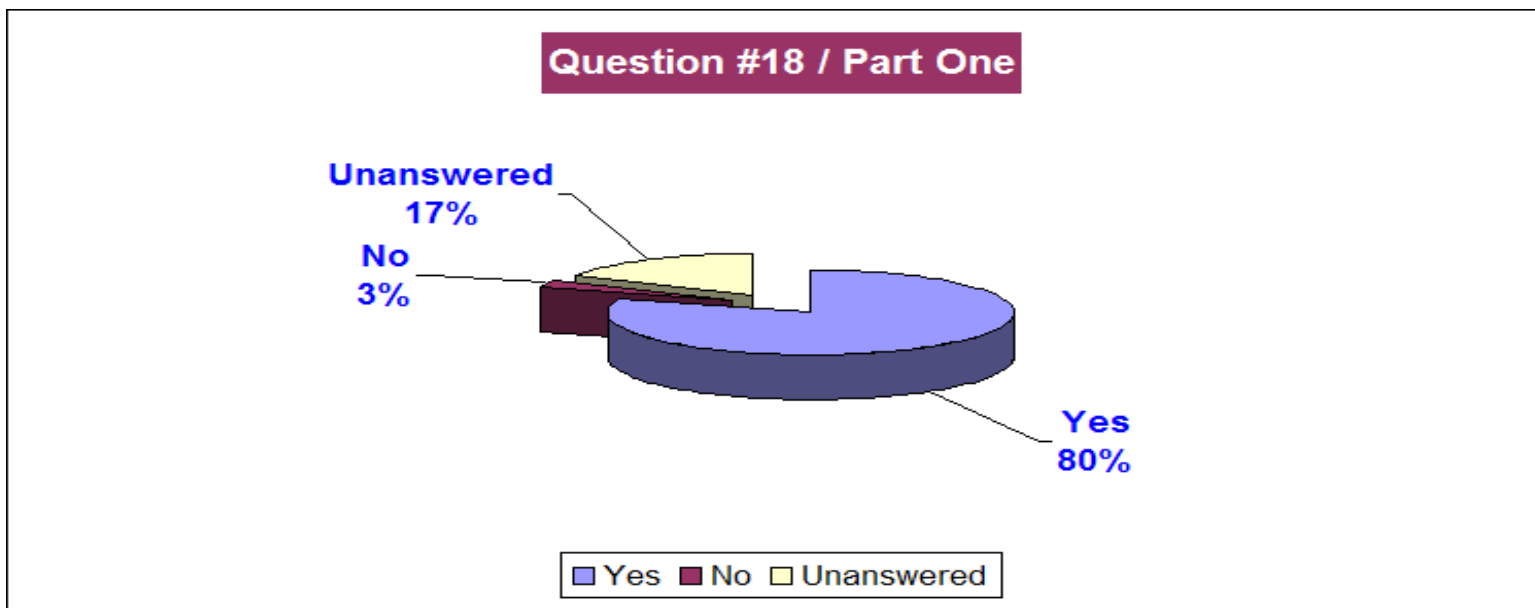
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	128	5	32
%	78%	3%	19%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
78	67	2	9
%	85%	3%	12%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	195	7	41
%	80%	3%	17%



Combined Surveys

Question #18

Part Two: Reasons to support partnerships?

- 1 To continue development and attract more people
- 2 Such partnerships also mean support for Mount Annan's endeavours and greater exposure of its activities and mission to the public
- 3 The area is being swallowed by development – needs to be protected
- 4 Western Sydney needs indigenous plants to be planted and be sustainable
- 5 Knowledge
- 6 Don't know. Will it take away the main focus from the gardens?
- 7 We need collaboration of experts from all different fields to develop a sustainable cultural repertoire
- 8 Applying your knowledge of the environment to a useful endeavour
- 9 To become an integral part of the local community. Encourages ownership of the Garden by the local community
- 10 Important to be involved; not sure how important to sustainability of botanic gardens
- 11 It creates awareness of the importance of our environment and how the Garden contributes to this
- 12 While I think things like this are great, I have to confess I don't know much about the Centre.
- 13 If the Garden is not involved who else is going to undertake important ecological sustainability promotional work?
- 14 Because partnerships show that the Gardens are actively trying to broaden their role and the experiences available (many people do not know of the activities that go on behind the scenes). It becomes more than a passive recreation venue
- 15 I believe there should be more focus on sustainable living in our area which is becoming more densely populated
- 16 To promote environmental awareness to the community
- 17 Much of the Garden's responsibilities are about maintaining the natural environment. If they can help encourage that outside of the Gardens that is important
- 18 Promotion and funding would be greater
- 19 We all need to be aware of and be careful of the use of our natural resources
- 20 I think the Gardens and the Centre work hand in hand, the partnership is important in promoting the objectives of both facilities. I would be more likely to visit the gardens as a result of the Centre being there.
- 21 To help it become more self sufficient
- 22 No, not necessarily. Why? Perhaps the Garden could be viewed more as a peaceful oasis and sanctuary
- 23 Yes, they have like goals for the future of our environment and have a natural link with each other
- 24 Raise community awareness regarding sustainability
- 25 Because it is raising awareness and is a place of education
- 26 Teaching our youth
- 27 I am not sure what this means to Campbelltown or to the Garden.
- 28 Bigger profile adds to awareness of the community
- 29 It is important we learn to live in a sustainable manner. It is important we have examples of how we can achieve this
- 30 Garden makes a contribution to the living standards and appeal of our area
- 31 To encourage community involvement
- 32 Help develop the big picture for the region
- 33 Relationship to sustainability is critical
- 34 Don't know much about the Centre for Sustainable Living

- 35 They complement each other
- 36 Good PR for the Garden plus better integration with other planning for the area
- 37 If the community is involved, everyone can benefit
- 38 It will develop people's awareness to healthy ways of living
- 39 Co-operation is always good to achieve common goals
- 40 Otherwise developers would overrun such a large parcel of land
- 41 It will give the Gardens more opportunity to promote themselves to a wider audience
- 42 Raises the profile of the Gardens and gives benefit to outside groups but must be possible within the resources available.
- 43 Who else available?
- 44 If we work together we can save endangered plants and animals x 2
- 45 Improved quality of life for region
- 46 Demonstrates relevance of Gardens to community
- 47 Good for promotion of native fauna
- 48 The involvement of all interested bodies can only be good
- 49 To help plant gardens which are more resilient to drought conditions
- 50 Viva permaculture and organic gardening forever!
- 51 Because it brings it to the attention of the public and promotes Australian plants
- 52 Everyone should work together for the common good
- 53 For educational purposes
- 54 Hands on gardening. To live a better and sustainable life through education etc
- 55 Need a link to transport people without cars
- 56 No, but I believe it is a very important function of gardens and fully support
- 57 The public have to 'see' that the Gardens are 'relevant' – then hopefully they will support the Gardens and the sustainable living concepts
- 58 While both have individual value this partnership has the potential to increase the garden's educational/scientific base
- 59 It will help you to not be regarded as a museum
- 60 For more resources and input
- 61 Can assist in financial revenue
- 62 Because sustaining the garden's flora is important to the area
- 63 Provides resources and contact point to enable these initiatives to happen
- 64 Need to keep and improve and extend natural landscape for many reasons
- 65 Keeps the community involved
- 66 Anything that extends information, education and awareness of the environment is a good thing
- 67 I haven't looked into the Centre for Sustainable Living – I will make sure I do soon
- 68 The more involvement and ownership by the community of organisations through partnerships will ensure the work undertaken by MABG continues its long term sustainable operation.
- 69 Particularly if somewhere in the future the term 'sustainable living' is explained
- 70 Absolutely – could we not create an environmental theme park like the Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales, UK. The Centre for Sus. Living could be the first step.
- 71 It will become a hub (meeting place) for all plant lovers
- 72 Add interest, educational and informative ideally sited to encourage 'flow-on' visitation to Mount Annan Garden
- 73 A holistic approach to the environment
- 74 Both organisations have crucial functions. An ideal site for MCSL
- 75 Community involvement assures survival of the Garden
- 76 Because they provide additional resources. I would like to see the gardens utilise recycled water as a model to other communities and to better showcase rainforest plants

- 77 Education/conservation
- 78 No, I feel that the Garden should pursue scientific plant research firstly and anything else secondly
- 79 Just because it is!
- 80 Showcase environment potential
- 81 In terms of research scientific, I can see that such a partnership is in the Gardens interest
- 82 Gardens will be used more
- 83 Raises profile in community
- 84 I'm not sure
- 85 Not much to show for it yet – so it is hard to comment at this stage
- 86 Promotes both the Garden and related activities
- 87 Promotional work
- 88 It is about preserving the environment
- 89 No, not the most important partnership. Need lost of partnerships with lots of community groups
- 90 To keep the gardens developing and keeping up with current world thoughts. Any partnership or sponsors should be encouraged
- 91 Co-developers in these initiatives – integration and importance for publicity and scientific advances
- 92 In context
- 93 I think this is a very good partnership and it will be great to have 'model' gardens for new home owners. The two programs will go well together

Staff Survey

- 1 To further promote the Garden and help people to get a better understanding of horticulture in Australia
- 2 To create a better world for future generations
- 3 No Money at RBG
- 4 Important educational facilities should and can be promoted through as many avenues as possible
- 5 To maintain relationships
- 6 Probably
- 7 Relevance in the community
- 8 Broader range of activities, displays, expertise
- 9 Unfortunately necessary to secure funding etc
- 10 Sustainable living is becoming a more and more important issue
- 11 Promoting the Garden, educating the public about sustainability
- 12 Education on sustainability and local plant usage
- 13 Should be seen to be green
- 14 Local support
- 15 Mt Annan could help showcase sustainable living with examples for visitors to follow
- 16 Maintain a public profile in areas of relevance to broad community c.f. more specialist roles
- 17 To make it more relevant to society and help improve and highlight sustainability in the community
- 18 Gardens / living landscape needs to be sustainable and community based
- 19 Shared interest increase visitation and education
- 20 Link between community and the Garden
- 21 Ensure future funding and relevance
- 22 Community involvement > complimentary
- 23 To better serve the local area

- 24 Community involvement, education re sustainability
- 25 Garden's outreach
- 26 To highlight the importance of conservation and low impact habitation of this earth by man
- 27 They will attract more members of the public to the Garden
- 28 To maximise opportunities for the Garden to increase its regional profile
- 29 The Garden has its own charter and role and it is funded by the state government, so such partnerships only play a secondary role
- 30 I am unaware of the full details of this partnership so I am inclined not to comment. Should be partnering with care of choice of company RTA perhaps is not a compatible match
- 31 Complementary activities and philosophy extend the reach into the public's understanding of sustainable practices and hopefully contribute to improving behaviour in relation to the environment
- 32 Alliances get government and community support
- 33 Because as people learn more they can hopefully learn to appreciate more what we are about
- 34 It involves the garden with the local community in an active rather than passive way
- 35 Broader appeal
- 36 The Garden has a better chance of surviving if it is attached to other educational facilities (or facilities that deal with issues that are the current trend)
- 37 Essential to long term relevance
- 38 Yes if they can complement each other without competing with each other
- 39 Cross promotion assists both groups and will complement each other's operational and presentation features

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #19

Part One: Entry fees to the Garden assist with its running costs. Are you happy to continue paying fees which contribute to the Garden's facilities?

Visitor Survey

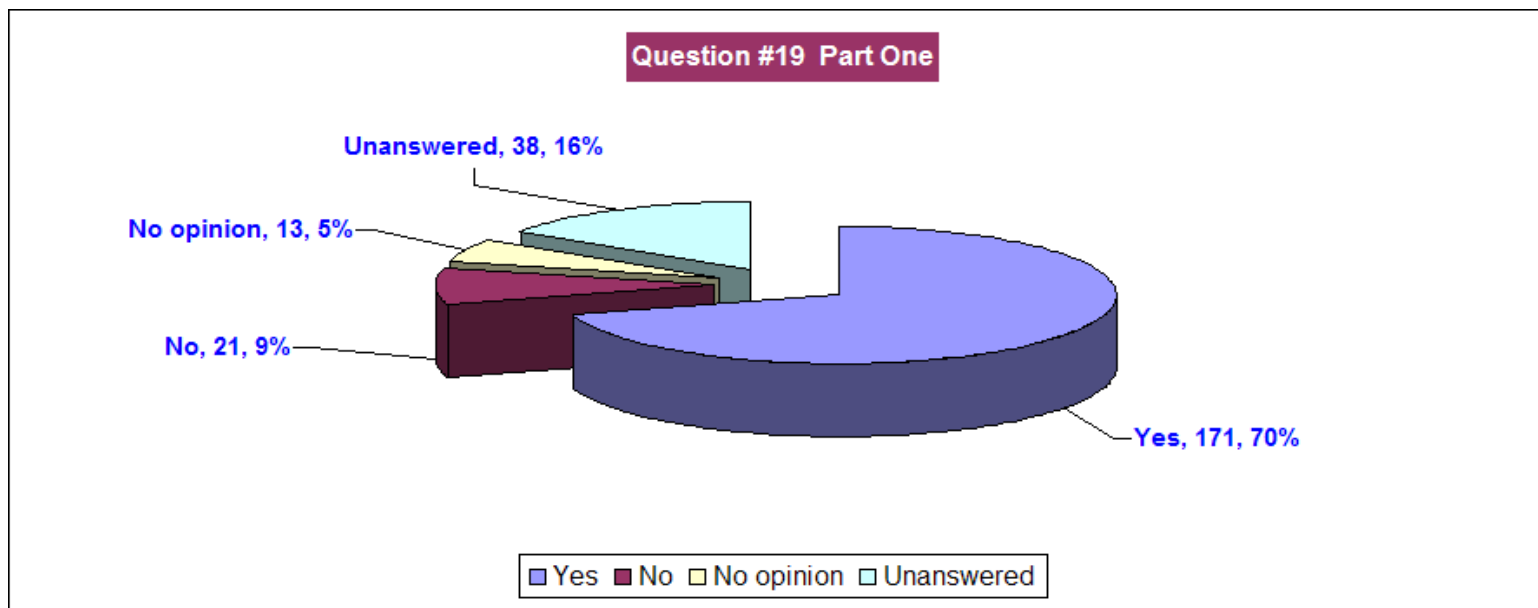
Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
165	126	14	4	21
%	77%	8%	2%	13%

Staff Survey

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
78	45	7	9	17
%	57%	9%	12%	22%

Combined Survey

Survey Responses	Yes	No	No opinion	Unanswered
243	171	21	13	38
%	70%	9%	5%	16%



Combined Survey

Question #19

Part Two: Entry Fees Comment.

- 1 Helps with protection as all visitors want to be there for the right reasons/ prepared to pay
- 2 Few people value what they don't pay for!
- 3 Yes, if fees are abolished it will become a local speed track and the park will degenerate
- 4 If there is a small fee then I think people respect the area more and will be less likely to damage it
- 5 Reduces vandalism to some extent
- 6 Paying entry avoids abuse of area, it attracts only responsible visitors
- 7 It's a delight, well worth every cent!
- 8 The main reason I support the entry fee is that it means that only people who want to visit, access the gardens (not people likely to cause nuisance/litter etc.)
- 9 The small entry fee is only a token to run a place such as the Botanic Garden
- 10 Yes, a great day, even the movies cost money for a few hours entertainment
- 11 It was very reasonable for a family outing
- 12 Reasonable at present
- 13 Yes, if used for this purpose
- 14 Yes, definitely
- 15 Always a bone of contention (very reasonable though). Nice if we could be 'self-sustaining' in the future
- 16 Yes, current fees are very good value, however, I would hesitate to suggest they be raised and it might lower utilisation
- 17 Yes, if the fees were to remain reasonable
- 18 The Garden doesn't receive enough finance from other sources, and needs a little donation from users
- 19 Friends member so don't pay
- 20 Membership is a great way to offset costs and keep me connected with the Garden. I feel a sense of "ownership" now
- 21 Being a member of the Friends is very worthwhile
- 22 RBG Member but yes
I think offering Friends' membership as an alternative to just collecting entry fees would encourage more families to join. Many may consider annual membership when compared to cost of single entry. The benefits of becoming a 'Friend' seem to be poorly advertised, if at all, and your front gate may be the best place to do this.
- 23
- 24 Membership could be a little cheaper for local residents eg. Mount Annan residents
- 25 Why don't you have 5 year memberships, or 10 years? I'd like to pay like that
- 26 Membership is expensive
- 27 My family is a member of the Friends of the Gardens
- 28 Entry is covered by membership, which is great
- 29 Friends of Gardens members x 2
- 30 I became a Friend of the Garden to avoid the entry fee and feel sometimes it is a bit expensive. But I suppose the cost is justified when you see what you get
- 31 Annual membership great value for repeated visits
- 32 Why is an entry fee payable at Mount Annan but not at the harbourside Gardens?
- 33 Why is the Garden in town free. It must have running costs too?
- 34 Should be publicly accessible as is the Royal Botanic Gardens or reduced nominal fee – this could well enhance attendance and improve contribution overall.

35 Unfair that Royal Bot Gardens are free to public
36 I understand why fees are charged but feel there is an injustice that there is no fee payable to access facilities of Royal Botanic Garden in Sydney
37 Entry to Royal Botanic Gardens is free. More people would use the garden if entry was free. It was better when you paid per car rather than per person
38 Disincentive to go there I think it is better to have free entry (cf. Sydney RBG) and donation boxes placed strategically. Fee is high for Seniors
39 Must be cheap
40 Obviously I would prefer not to pay fees, but knowing these contribute to the running costs, and providing the fee remains reasonable, this is OK
41 As long as they are made affordable for low income earners or charged on a sliding scale
42 Fee should not punish families but encourage them! Reduce the fee significantly for families. Macarthur is no longer a dormitory area, and tourism from family and friends is increasing. Need to capture this market, not push it to go shopping!
43 Although I do think there should be reduced rated for coach tours (less than the reduced rate already provided). The entry fee does make it expensive if you are just going to the restaurant for a quick lunch - I think it acts as a deterrent for business lunches
44 I work so can afford fees, but some of my friends/neighbours won't come because of the fees
45 But I do feel that a per person fee is excessive. The per vehicle fee that you had previously was much better. The gardens are in a lower socio economic area, people cannot afford the higher fees. I used to be a regular at the Garden until the fees were increased. The whole community has a right to enjoy the Garden, the per person fees make it very difficult for families to make use of its facilities
46 Because of the fee I will go to a local public park more regularly as opposed to the Garden. Also I can take my dog to a local park. However, I don't begrudge paying a fee as the money goes to a good cause
47 Yes, but it is expensive for families to visit
48 No, fees strongly limit mine and others' access to the garden. I believe that the government should accept more responsibility for running costs
49 Yes, I am happy to pay but the fee discourages some & they miss out on the experience
50 No charge open days might help boost numbers
51 Yes, we are members, so you don't really feel like you are paying other than once a year when you pay your fee. Maybe you could have free days or cheap days or family days so that more people will come and see the place and realise how great it is (although that means it will be less peaceful for us, but that's life).
52 Suggest one or two 'free days' to encourage new visitors
53 Whilst I am happy to pay a fee, a smaller fee would get families there more often
54 Payment per car, not per person
55 But it would be good if the charge was lower for us – we are self-funded retirees and have limited means
56 Must be affordable
57 Yes, unless they are too high – that would stop people visiting
58 Yes, but if fees become too high it would be a deterrent to visitors coming often
59 I am happy to pay but for many people this would be a deterrent
60 I stopped visiting when fees were introduced. We are low income working family – this penalises the poor who probably could most benefit!
61 I think entry should be free. The educational value is immense, government should pay
62 As long as the fees are kept within the limits that people can afford on a regular basis – I wouldn't like to see the Garden priced so that families and the elderly can only afford to go occasionally
63 There is a need to get more people 'through the gate' and while recognising the need to finance the Garden's facilities maybe promotions such as first weekends of the month free – voucher given to rate payers/ new home buyers etc could encourage return visits – domino effect
64 I think fees should be kept to a minimum to encourage a broad a cross section of people access to the gardens
65 Do buses run past the gate for people without cars?
66 I think it can be relaxed for locals taking children for a walk or to play – or walking groups to promote good health without having to pay. For groups using the facility for picnics and get-togethers a blanket fee could be used
67 Should have one free pass per ratepayer per year to encourage first time users to utilise the facilities
68 No, because most of the dollars find their way into town
69 Yes, but it could be cheaper to locals
70 Maybe a lower rate for pensioners and families – to encourage more visits and avoid denial of access due to affordability issues
71 Yes, but too high compared to other National Park fees

- 72 Yes, the entry fee is minimal compared to National Parks
- 73 No, if you are walking in alone it should be free to rate payers
- 74 Yes, lower fees preferable (discounts?)
- 75 Yes, it should be cheaper for the yearly pass, then you will encourage more families to join.
- 76 Yes, provided there is a discount for Friends of the Gardens. I would like to see a special rate of entry for residents of the Camden and Campbelltown LGAs. The current entry charges discourage families and groups of local residents from using the gardens, if they do not have 'Friends' membership
- 77 Obviously would prefer not to. Perhaps charge per vehicle, not per person. Would probably use more if no fee, and bring other people
- 78 Yes, payment should be per vehicle
- 79 Local ie Macarthur postcodes should get a discount
- 80 No, original charges (by car) were reasonable. Increase during Howarth directorship was excessive and affected attendance

Staff Surveys

- 1 I don't have to pay, I work here
- 2 All Gardens should charge a fee, especially Sydney
- 3 Only if there is an entry fee at all 3 sites, does it really assist with running cost or just cover wages
- 4 I think if it was free to get in we would attract more people through the gate. They become a captive audience and we could charge them for parking, tours, BBQ's and other commercial activities
- 5 I do however personally think that they should be supported by everyone ie Gov.
- 6 As long as it is a manageable price
- 7 I would prefer that adequate government funding paid for all the Gardens
- 8 Sydney should charge too
- 9 \$2 is a more reasonable price for adults
- 10 As long as the fees are kept low
- 11 If free more people will come in and then hit them with fees for tours etc – but get them inside first
- 12 I'm staff so I don't pay
- 13 Have to pay the workers
- 14 Should be a flat car rate of \$5 - \$10, currently too expensive
- 15 Staff so don't pay fees
- 16 Should be per car
- 17 Cheap at half the price
- 18 Staff don't pay
- 19 Need to trial a set period of no entry fee
- 20 Entry fees ensure that only those people who are genuinely interested in visiting the Garden are allowed inside and any undesirables are kept outside, although the fee structure could be simplified (eg per car and round – figure fee)
- 21 I think charging to visit via the booth a negative. Would rather see revenue collected via parking meters, shop/visitor centre sales, restaurant, café and a request for donations in prominent places – also coin operated BBQs
- 22 Not relevant personally, but believe the moderate entry fee is reasonable
- 23 It's a cheaper family outing than going to the movies
- 24 Entry fees should be scrapped. They discourage the local market from visiting on a regular basis. And, the money the fees make would barely cover the attendants' pays, A cheap pay per parking system may be a viable alternative. Or make the charge a flat rate per car
- 25 Fee free Saturdays (or Gold coin donation) and go back to \$5 per car, regardless if people all cram into the one vehicle. At least they are through the gate and more likely to spend money at restaurant and or Visitors Centre and more likely to return
- 26 A minimal fee per car will help keep the trouble makers out. A face at the entry booth promotes our presentation and provides vital information to visitors

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #20

Part One: Are you a member of the Friends of the Gardens?

Visitor Surveys

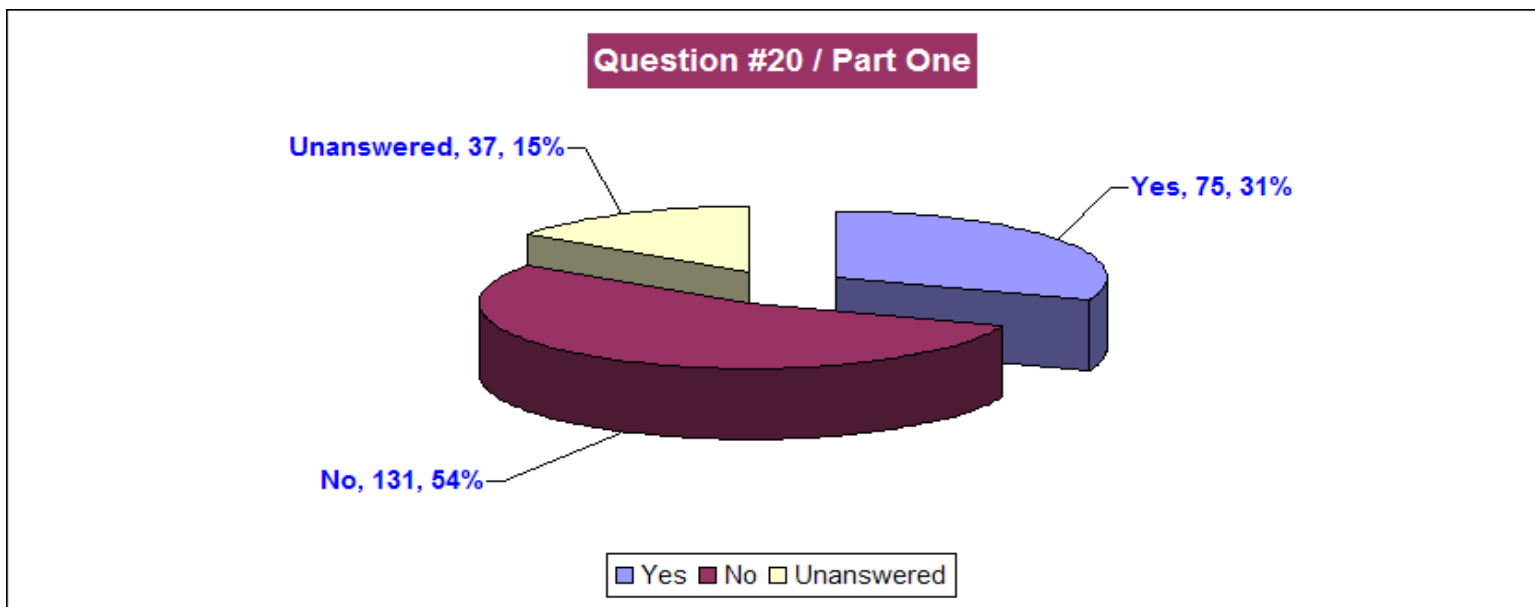
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	65	70	30
%	39%	43%	18%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
78	10	61	7
%	13%	78%	9%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	75	131	37
%	31%	54%	15%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #20

Part Two: If not, are you aware that for an annual fee of \$64, a family of 1 or 2 adults and children under 18 living in the same household can come to the Garden for "free" as often as they please?

Visitor Surveys

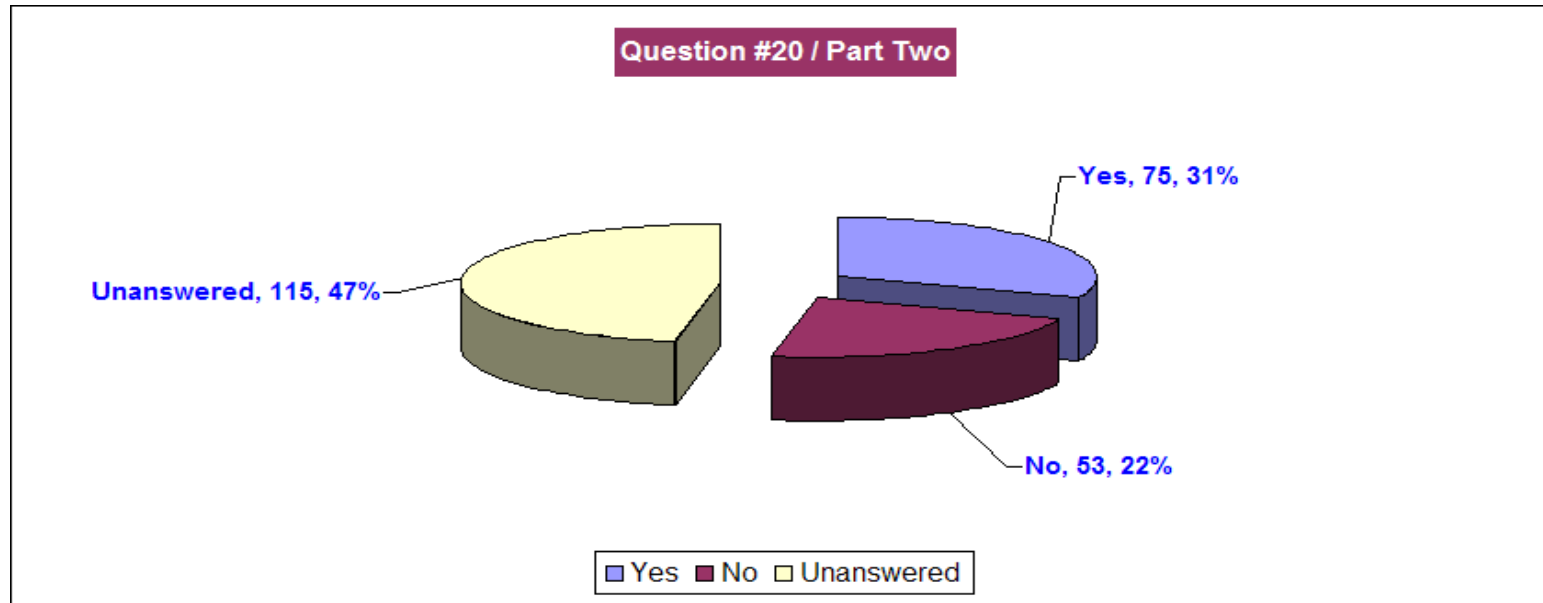
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	47	40	78
%	28%	24%	48%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
77	28	13	36
%	36%	17%	47%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	75	53	115
%	31%	22%	47%



Combined Surveys

Question #20

Part Three: Friends of the Garden – value for money?

- 1 I think subsequent family subscription renewals could be lowered for families who want to be ongoing members (eg. \$50 for each subsequent subscription after the initial \$64, as you may retain family memberships which may otherwise be allowed to lapse because of the new renewal system
- 2 Already a member
- 3 To much \$\$
- 4 I cannot afford this membership fee
- 5 Member of APS
- 6 Our pension doesn't allow that expense
- 7 Very expensive for elderly people like us
- 8 Yes, but the annual fee is expensive. And maybe prohibitively so for many
- 9 My family could not afford \$64
- 10 Not everyone has \$64 spare to spend but would like to go to the Garden once or twice a year
- 11 What about bigger families?
- 12 Was not aware, and don't have children
- 13 But why can't I bring in friends instead of children?
- 14 Having joined the friends we can visit more often, however it is too expensive for visiting relatives
- 15 The fee is good value and I wish to support all the Gardens anyway
- 16 This will save me paying entries all the time
- 17 I am not a member but the idea of a family pass is excellent
- 18 I'm not a member, but this sounds like a good deal for locals
- 19 Just looked at your website and it seems to indicate no limit on children under 18, and members benefits page does not indicate any limit. Perhaps should be per car?
- 20 Not interested – too far from home for frequent visits
- 21 Joined for a few years but too far away to go regularly. Maybe when I return
- 22 My family was not aware of this x 2
- 23 Don't have opportunity to visit often due to distance
- 24 I'd like to join
- 25 I'm not a member but should be
- 26 TAFE pays my fee, I'll join when I retire next year
- 27 Great idea. Are seniors catered for in some way?
- 28 How about 1 adult + 2 pensioners getting in as a 'family' – it's my family!
- 29 Sometimes a family consists of more than 2 adults and 2 children
- 30 Make the fee less and limit the number of visits
- 31 Not now
- 32 Used to be a 'Friend' – missed renewing!! (oversight)
- 33 Now aware

- 34 It should be free to local rate payers. I do not have children
- 35 May be cost effective for locals but otherwise not attractive unless membership offers more
- 36 Am a member now (after reading questionnaire)
- 37 No comment – we pay enough fees!!
- 38 Excellent idea for the families who visit on regular basis
- 39 Don't manage to visit as often due to distance/time
- 40 This is excellent and should be kept this way
- 41 Terrific value for repeated visits

Staff Surveys

- 1 I have ceased membership as value has depleted from being a member
- 2 Very good value for money, considering the value of the daily per person fee
- 3 I am staff and have free access to the magazine
- 4 Current employee

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #21
Are you from.....?

Visitor Surveys

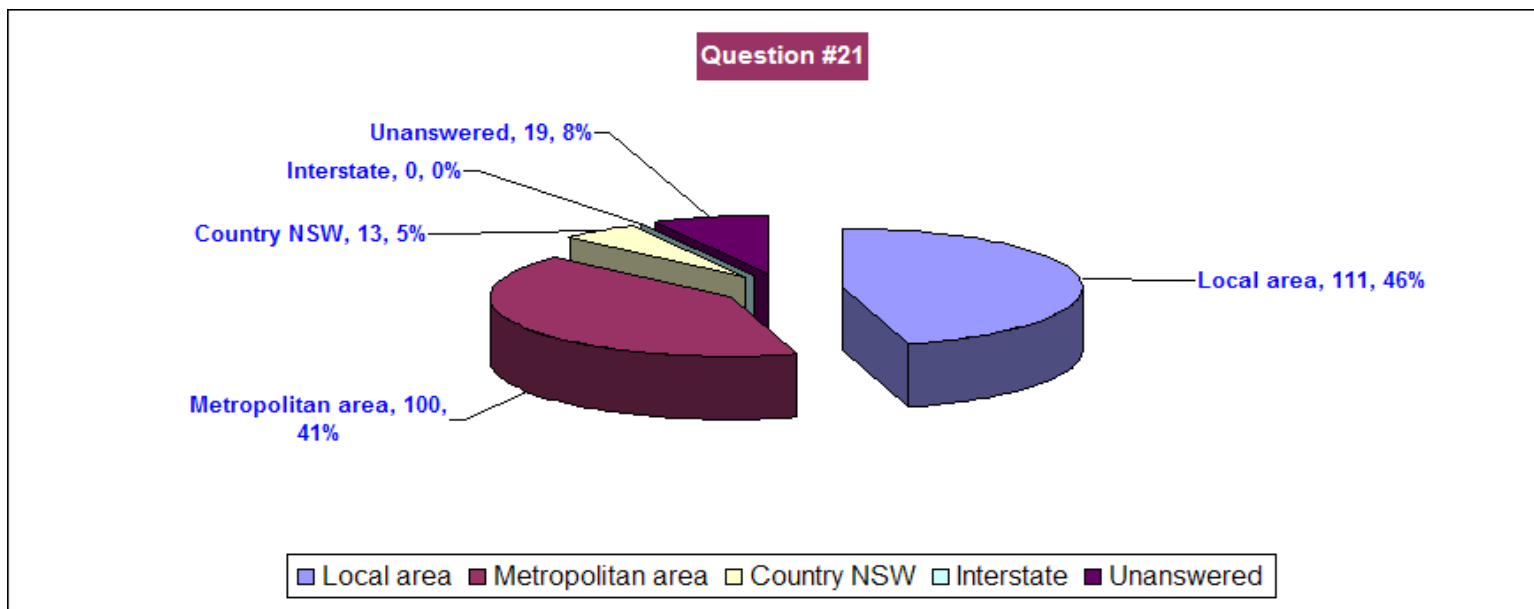
Survey Responses	Local area	Metropolitan area	Country NSW	Interstate	Unanswered
165	94	45	10	0	16
%	57%	27%	6%	0%	10%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Local area	Metropolitan area	Country NSW	Interstate	Unanswered
78	17	55	3	0	3
%	22%	70%	4%	0%	4%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Local area	Metropolitan area	Country NSW	Interstate	Unanswered
243	111	100	13	0	19
%	46%	41%	5%	0%	8%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #22
Part One: What is your age group?

Visitors Surveys

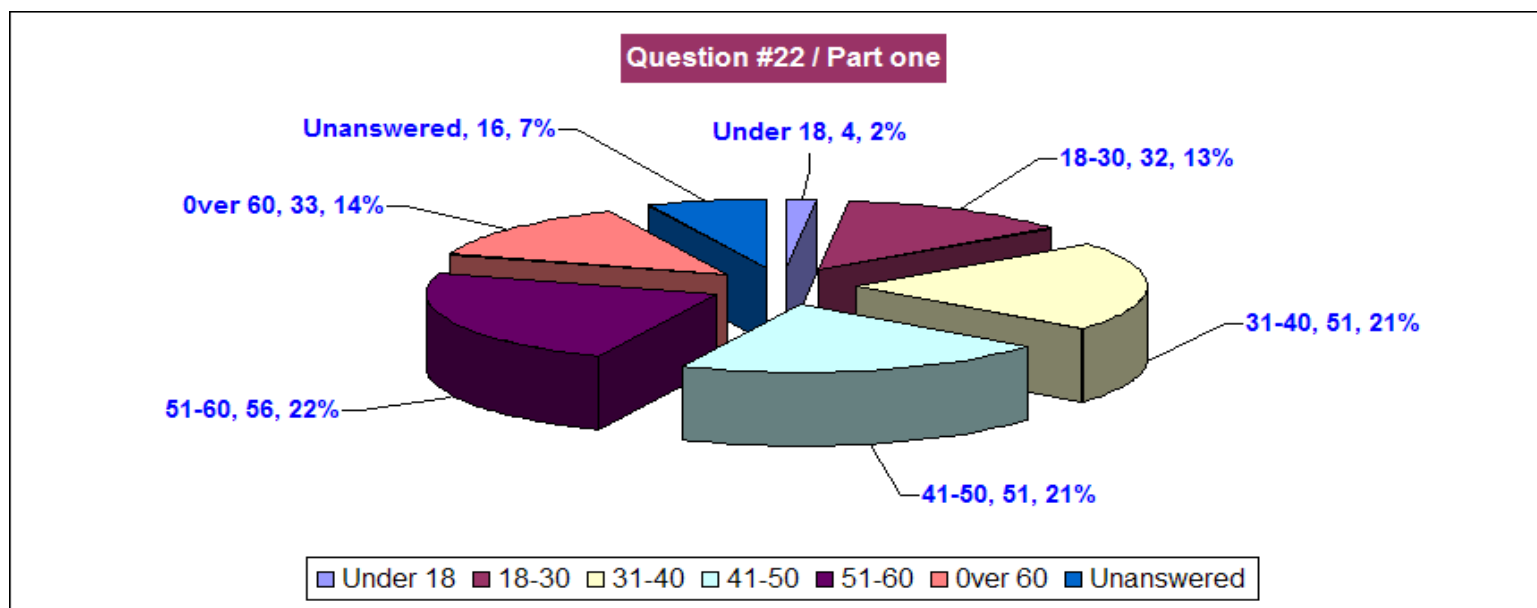
Survey Responses	Under 18	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	Over 60	Unanswered
165	4	13	30	33	41	33	11
%	2%	8%	18%	20%	25%	20%	7%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Under 18	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	Over 60	Unanswered
78	0	19	21	18	15	0	5
%	0%	24%	28%	23%	19%	0%	6%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Under 18	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	Over 60	Unanswered
243	4	32	51	51	56	33	16
%	2%	13%	21%	21%	22%	14%	7%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #22

Part Two: When you visit the Garden, do you usually come....?

Visitor Surveys

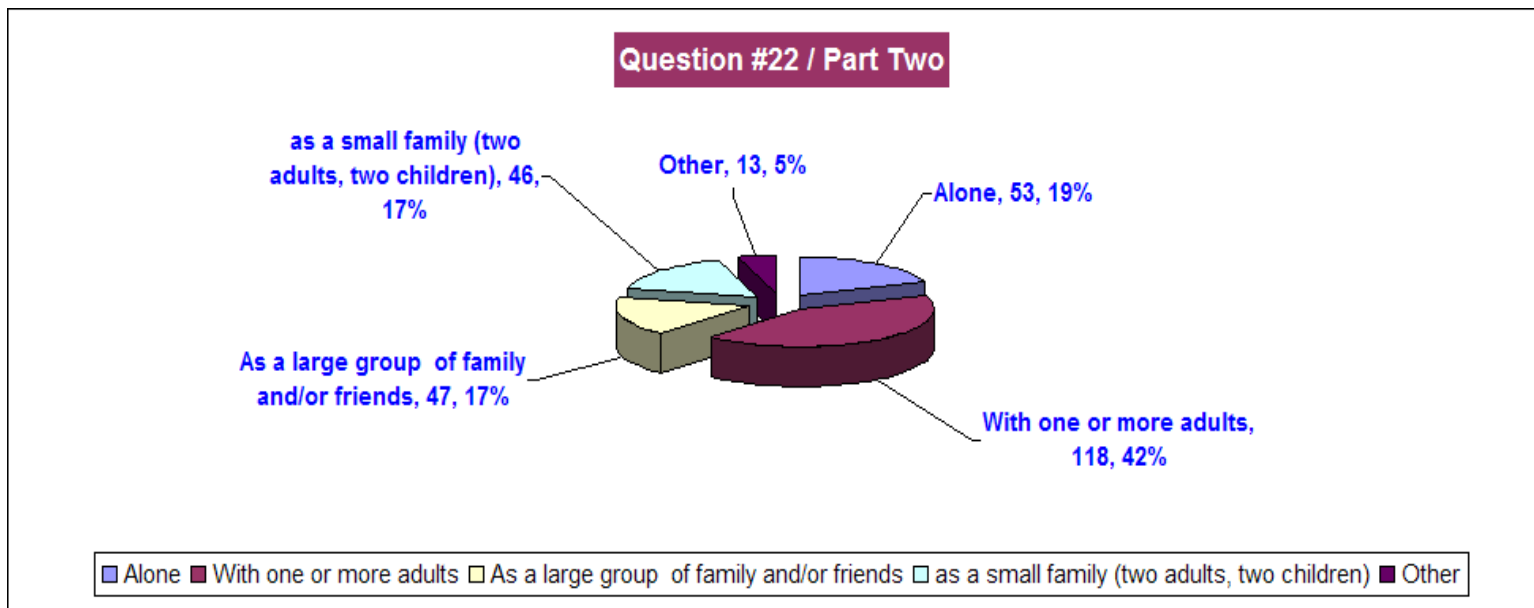
Survey Responses	Alone	With one or more adults	As a large group of family and/or friends	as a small family (two adults, two children)	Other	Unanswered
165	37	83	40	36	9	-40
%	18%	40%	20%	18%	4%	

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Alone	With one or more adults	As a large group of family and/or friends	as a small family (two adults, two children)	Other	Unanswered
78	16	35	7	10	4	6
%	21%	44%	9%	13%	5%	8%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Alone	With one or more adults	As a large group of family and/or friends	as a small family (two adults, two children)	Other	Unanswered
243	53	118	47	46	13	-34
%	19%	42%	17%	17%	5%	



Combined Surveys

Question #22

Part Three: Visited the Garden with

- 1 With school excursions x 2
- 2 Educational purposes
- 3 With APS or TAFE group
- 4 As a TAFE class
- 5 Students from Yallah TAFE college
- 6 As part of Grevillea Study Group fraternity
- 7 As a teacher, I bring my class with special needs to the Garden for picnics.
- 8 Meetings and lunches
- 9 We regularly have BBQs with the same group of about 12 friends
- 10 Occasionally as a large family group
- 11 As a small family (two adults, two children).....but we have four children
- 12 As a small family (two adults and up to 5 children)
- 13 Tourist bus
- 14 I occasionally go alone but not often
- 15 With grandchildren (two)
- 16 With grandchildren (different) for playground and bush experience
- 17 Sometimes with play group
- 18 Mount Annan suits each of the family/social visits/functions
- 19 Meet friends there
- 20 Meeting with friends and young children
- 21 We use the Garden for a variety of reasons with varying numbers of people

Staff Surveys

- 1 Place of employment
- 2 With work
- 3 For work only to date
- 4 With work, this is the first time here
- 5 Work
- 6 With RBG staff
- 7 Work outing
- 8 Haven't been before
- 9 For recreational visits – small, but extended family group
- 10 Working or with family

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #23

Are you aware that the Garden has researched and developed plants which are commercially available?

Visitor Surveys

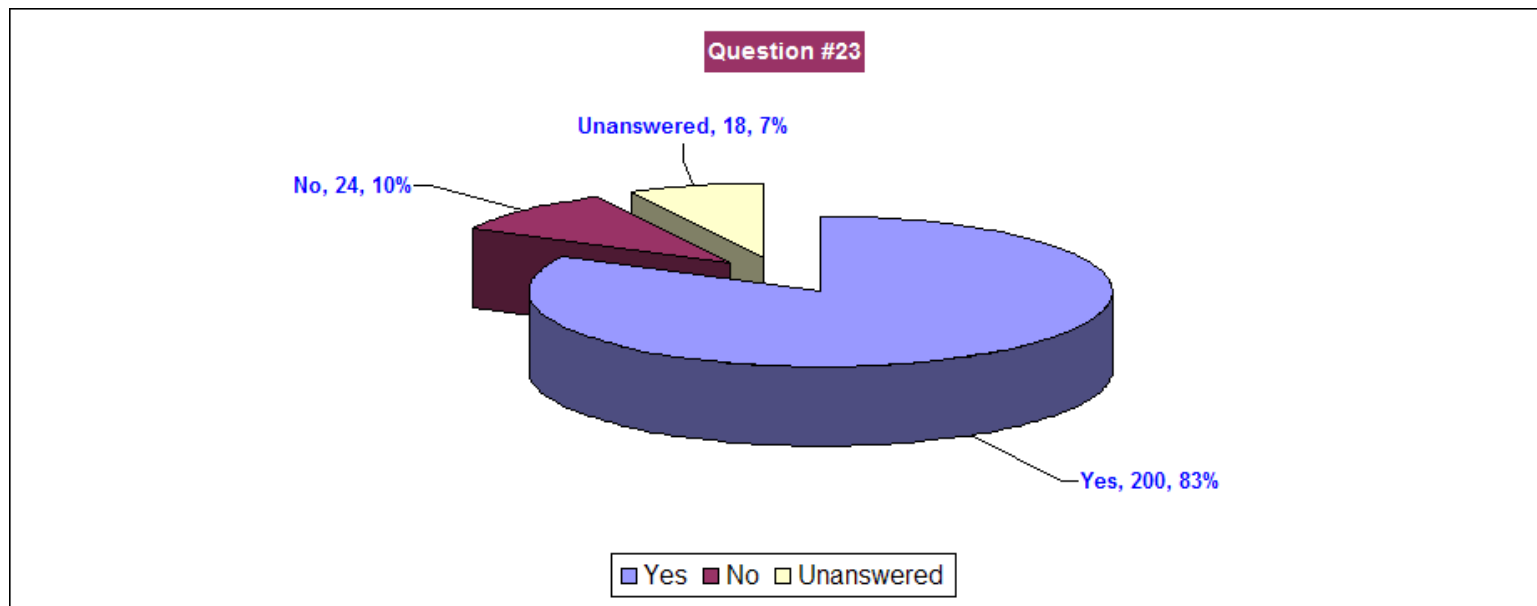
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	129	20	16
%	78%	12%	10%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
77	71	4	2
%	92%	5%	3%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	200	24	18
%	83%	10%	7%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #24

Do you know that the Garden can be hired for a range of functions including weddings, conferences, seminars, photography?

Visitor Surveys

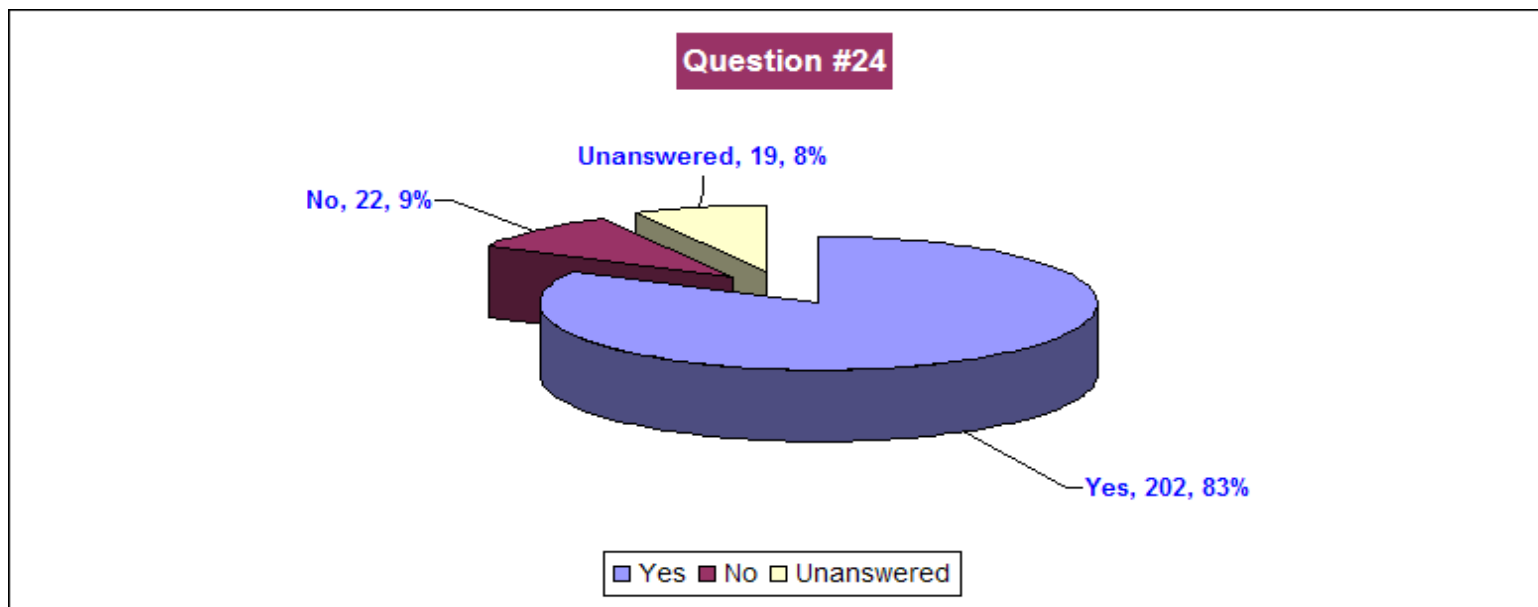
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	129	21	15
%	78%	13%	9%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
78	73	1	4
%	94%	1%	5%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	202	22	19
%	83%	9%	8%



Combined Surveys

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #25

Part One: Did you know that Mount Annan Botanic Garden encourages individual sponsorship - such as for trees and bench seats in the Garden?

Visitor Surveys

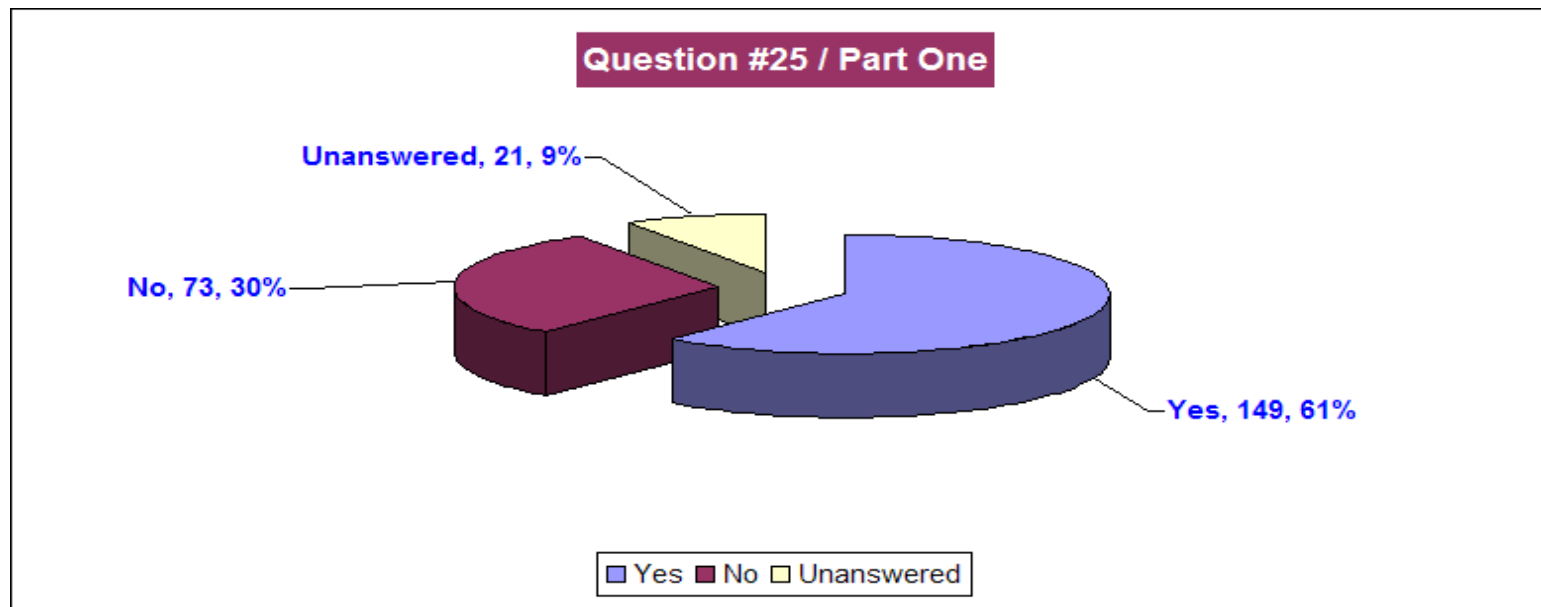
Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
165	81	67	17
%	49%	41%	10%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
77	68	6	3
%	88%	8%	4%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Yes	No	Unanswered
243	149	73	21
%	61%	30%	9%



Combined Surveys

Question #25

Part Two: Comment about sponsorship response?

- 1 A good idea x 2
- 2 Think that tree sponsorship is great, but I think that bench sponsorship is corny
- 3 It is a good idea x 2
- 4 Don't know how to apply
- 5 OK
- 6 A good source of income for improvements
- 7 On a few occasions I have tried to arrange an individual sponsorship of a tree in memory of my late father and have been advised that I would have to wait until 'some time in the future'. I'm still interested.
- 8 Just found out.
- 9 There is a need for more publicity in this area eg. Bench seats appear/seem to be high in price
- 10 I want a seat, but they are expensive
- 11 More info please!!
- 12 Now aware. Great idea
- 13 Yes – prices recommended would help those considering sponsorship as well as more publicity
- 14 Not broadcast enough

Staff Surveys

- 1 Great for promoting ownership of our land
- 2 A great opportunity
- 3 Should be more
- 4 Very good idea and there should be more of it, given how low the current level of state government funding is
- 5 Streamline the donation process

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #26

Part One: Have you found staff in the Garden to be....?

Visitor Surveys

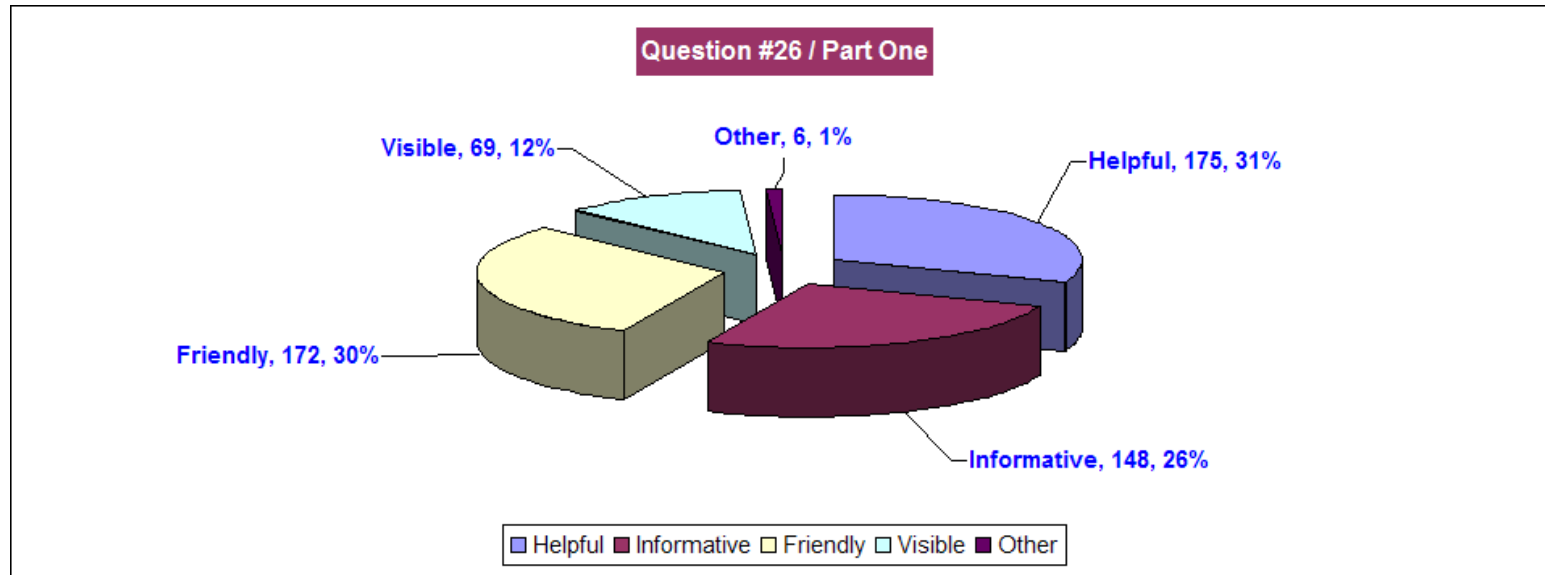
Survey #'s 165 (Max Score 825)	Helpful	Informative	Friendly	Visible	Other	Unanswered
825	116	93	114	45	5	452
%	31%	25%	31%	12%	1%	

Staff Surveys

Survey #'s 78 (Max Score 390)	Helpful	Informative	Friendly	Visible	Other	Unanswered
390	59	55	58	24	1	193
%	30%	28%	29%	12%	1%	

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses 243 (Max Score 1215)	Helpful	Informative	Friendly	Visible	Other	Unanswered
1215	175	148	172	69	6	645
%	31%	26%	30	12%	1%	50%



Combined Surveys

Question #26

Part Two: Comments about staff in the Garden.

- 1 Not visible
- 2 Haven't seen
- 3 Staff are good
- 4 Haven't had the opportunity to deal with any staff
- 5 The staff you do see are helpful, but there does not seem to be a large number of staff present at the Garden
- 6 Don't recall, only really spoke to the booth attendant
- 7 No comments as I have not spoken to any except for the entrance gate person
- 8 Not visible - can be seen as good or bad
- 9 We believe our family game of cricket with adults and young children using a tennis ball was really not going to damage the lawn near our BBQ. The Ranger thought otherwise and stopped the game
- 10 I only deal with people in restaurant, shop, gate
- 11 Invisible, except in shops
- 12 Supportive
- 13 Friendly at entrance gate, haven't seen others except restaurant staff and tour person
- 14 Very informative at entrance, friendly at café and entrance
- 15 More staff needed?
- 16 Person on entry gate is helpful – others not really visible
- 17 Didn't really notice them
- 18 Volunteers – great
- 19 Allen Powell particularly helpful and informative
- 20 On the whole fabulous, but on one occasion a male staff member was extremely rude
- 21 Shop/info staff very good
- 22 Staff in the shop are always extraordinarily helpful
- 23 Only person here was cashier
- 24 Another loaded question

Staff Surveys

- 1 It's all good
- 2 Very good looking especially the Illustrators
- 3 Varies with individuals

Survey Analysis / Combined Visitor & Staff Responses

Question #27

Part One: What could the Garden improve?

Visitor Surveys

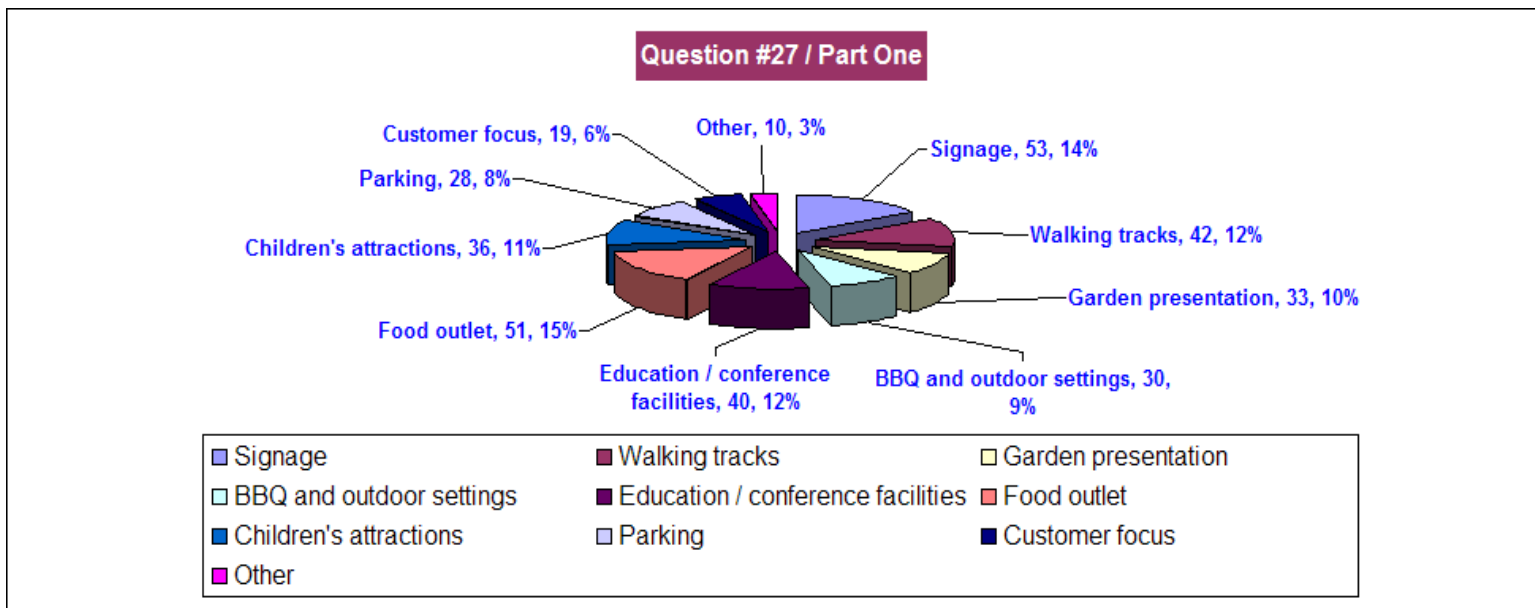
Survey Responses	Signage	Walking tracks	Garden presentation	BBQ and outdoor settings	Education / conference facilities	Food outlet	Children's attractions	Parking	Customer focus	Other
165	35	28	17	21	19	34	20	16	12	6
%	17%	13%	17%	10%	9%	16%	10%	8%	6%	3%

Staff Surveys

Survey Responses	Signage	Walking tracks	Garden presentation	BBQ and outdoor settings	Education / conference facilities	Food outlet	Children's attractions	Parking	Customer focus	Other
78	18	14	16	9	21	17	16	12	7	4
%	13%	10%	12%	7%	16%	13%	12%	9%	5%	3%

Combined Surveys

Survey Responses	Signage	Walking tracks	Garden presentation	BBQ and outdoor settings	Education / conference facilities	Food outlet	Children's attractions	Parking	Customer focus	Other
243	53	42	33	30	40	51	36	28	19	10
%	14%	12%	10%	9%	12%	15%	11%	8%	6%	3%



Combined Surveys

Question #27

Part Two: Suggestions for Garden Improvements?

- 1 Sometimes a simple café/kiosk meal is all you want, not the cost associated with a sit down lunch. Having said this, the restaurant is delightful.
- 2 Restaurant is not open Saturday nights which is inconvenient
- 3 A better range of plants for sale and more importantly a food outlet that is not so upmarket as the restaurant – like \$13 for a plate of soup – hello. -- Why not a few sandwiches/pies take away coffee etc – anything but full table service and an expensive wine list. Anyway for those prices the restaurant needs to be better located at least a bit off a view thrown in.
- 4 Food outlet (the little take-away shop could do with more variety and some more interesting stuff, healthy alternatives etc)
- 5 Walking into posh restaurant to buy kids an ice block
- 6 My only disappointment is the coffee. I avoid going there for morning and afternoon tea because it's so badly made
- 7 Is it possible to have coffee/drinks vans further out during busy times?
- 8 Restaurant is far too expensive for simple family snacks
- 9 Only appeared to be one restaurant – closed
- 10 To buy coffee we had to enter the restaurant. It was not clear
- 11 Whilst we have enjoyed the food outlet and found the staff very friendly, it has become too expensive for families with children and pensioners. There should be light snacks available
- 12 Cheaper food outlet for visitors – a gourmet restaurant is too much for local and regular visitors
- 13 There could be more affordable food
- 14 Restaurant is great but a little expensive. Garden to open longer hours.
- 15 The restaurant building is very unattractive – dark and 'closed in'. Need to take advantage of garden views and offer light meals. The bar along wall seems inappropriate for such a place
- 16 Food outlet with shaded outdoor terrace; interactive water garden for children
- 17 Garden presentation
- 18 The garden will improve with time as plants mature and plantings are extended
- 19 Specifically, just continue to develop as you are. Maybe a total perimeter walk eg: very top of range and right down the bottom near freeway. Also please get rid of African Olive shrubs which are very invasive
- 20 More floral displays!
- 21 More plantings
- 22 I think the Garden is beautiful and have seen it dramatically improve over the last couple of years. It looks wonderful. I haven't had a chance yet to fully explore but I know that the potential of the Garden is very high. I would like to see it continue its development.
- 23 I love visiting the Garden. There is always something new to see, but attractions and facilities need to be spread out throughout the Garden and not just all at the playground / Information Centre area
- 24 There is a natural lake on Narellan Road. Perhaps that area could be made more enticing in the fullness of time to attract more visitors to the gardens
- 25 Naturalistic settings rather than cladistic ordering. Nice Australian setting, bush scenes etc
- 26 More plantings and research into reliable and desirable species
- 27 Concentrate/encourage local councils, green corridors conservation/planting, and preserve Cumberland Plain Woodland areas
- 28 There's quite a bit that has been under repair and renovation for a while as work was concentrated on the Terrace, Room with a View etc. Will it get done soon?
- 29 More shade on walking tracks and BBQ and outdoor settings. Current developments good start on garden presentation. Very limited parking in main parking area. The map handed out to visitors is poor – the Sydney street directory is better. Suggest National Gardens as good example. Very small area for plant sales – range poor. Why not contract commercial nursery to provide this service?

30 Continue the asset management; ongoing maintenance will be beneficial
31 More outdoor settings
32 More disabled parking near facilities
33 Toilet facilities could sometimes be cleaner
34 Wheelchair access could be better
35 Parking is a problem when the Garden is busy
36 Kids play area near BBQ areas; a sign at the blue tree
37 Demountables appear in poor conditions and look like demountables
38 A program of fresh presentations and upgrades plus more weed control programs
39 More tours on weekends for working people. Loved watching the birds being tagged. Would have liked to know more about the small bird that nested on the ground near the duck pond. That should have been an important event
40 Promote woodland plants for local gardens
41 Perhaps special presentations that the Botanic Gardens in Sydney has.
Weed identification display (lantana, olive, celtis, madiera vine). Whilst a native garden – maybe a bit of Tasmanian Bot Garden inclusions (Veggies, espaliered fruit) and various European style cottage gardens. Sections devoted to a) natives as hedges, b) natives as climbers etc. Too far for me to travel but lectures on plant identification and if you do (professional) plant identification, please publicise the fact especially weed identification (WIN 4 might do some free co-operation on this matter, too late now for weed busters week – next year!
42 My husband and I once came an hour before the Garden was due to open so as to be the first ones in to book a table area for a family get together. We had come the week before to choose the area we felt would cater for our needs. After being the first ones through, we discovered people already in the area had taken all the tables. The man there said he had arranged it with someone on staff prior to the day. We found this very disheartening and have never gone back again for family functions.
43 I realise there must be rules in the park to keep it nice for everyone, but we thought the Ranger should perhaps look at each activity individually, rather than just a ‘no cricket’ policy
44 Not sure if walking tracks are good or not - I've only driven around the park
45 Possibly link the longer walks or make some short ones
46 Safe walking tracks for people, not just on edge of roads
47 Walking tracks sometimes need mowing
48 Everything is excellent as long as the grassy tracks are kept mown (snakes, you know!)
49 Affordable entry. I only go on the free events as my family can't afford entry
50 Native animals that children can be in a natural environment
51 Less ‘man-made’ items of ‘interest’ I didn't like or agree with removal of garden/plants for the change in road access to the Education Centre
52 More things to do for families, more play areas
53 More areas where ball games, group games can be played – the Gardens are very restrictive on activities for older children, other than walking tracks
54 Not sure – a few years since I've visited
55 Everything is very nice
56 Turf near opposite gift shop
57 Public transport?
58 I like the gardens the way they are
59 Impressed as it is
60 Most facilities well located and adequately resourced!
61 It's lovely!
62 Hard to answer – can always improve
63 I think these are all fine
64 Carry on with your good work
65 Doing all very well!
66 Most of the above if money was available
67

- 68 Presentation and facilities are good
- 69 Great the way it is
- 70 Free entry
- 71 I would like to be able to take my dog. But I know that does not go hand in hand with environmental protection

Staff Surveys

- 1 VC foodstuffs are so expensive; weeds
- 2 Need more government funding
- 3 Like more sculpture, but no more blue trees please
- 4 Promotion
- 5 Camping
- 6 Self promotion
- 7 Public transport links
- 8 Picnic areas, BBQ facilities
- 9 More signs
- 10 Bikes please
- 11 Big shade trees, more plantings, more plants
- 12 Toilet signage could improve, the block behind the shop
- 13 More densely planted gardens ie more trees
- 14 A garden for the disabled and elderly; a garden specifically designed for children
- 15 Creation of more theme gardens. All current facilities are reasonably well maintained, but many more such things should be created for public use
- 16 More attractions for kids would obviously boost visitation through their parents and or extended family

Question #28

What do you want Mount Annan Botanic Garden to be like in 10 years time? eg. developments, facilities, attractions, events etc?

Expectations for the Garden's future?

Comments:

- 1 Want it to maintain its present ambience- wish to see it grow and adapt to the needs of the community and scientific research but would not like to see the garden modified to such an extent that it loses its appeal within a maze of commercial products
- 2 A place that is a haven in the city, protected and secure from the ugly side of city living (eg. graffiti, rubbish). At the moment it is a place you can go to escape the hectic noisy world – it is quiet and peaceful. I'd like to see that continue and "green up" a little more. I wouldn't like to see it overdeveloped since the focus should always be the plants and nature. If this remains the focus, kids can be taken into a world which for once doesn't have to be "lights, bells and whistles" distracting them from what is real. Using their imagination and listening should be the focus
- 3 Would like to see it looking as "natural" as possible without too much development. It is such a nice experience being out amongst nature and enjoying the freshness and unspoiled land that it would be a shame to commercialise it too much
- 4 I think the Gardens do a great job of showcasing Australian native plants, and I'd be delighted to simply see you do more of the same in the same fashion you do now. As the population of this area continues to increase, the demands on the Gardens will grow, so infrastructure such as parking, toilets, food outlets, etc will have to continue to expand. I hope a way can be found to keep as much open space as possible while still encouraging people to come, as open space is one of the qualities of the Garden I most appreciate. I'm torn between wanting to keep the Garden a secret and telling all of the Sydney area to come enjoy this wonderful place!
- 5 In 10 years there will so much thoughtless development in the Macarthur region that areas like Mt Annan will become a critical refuge for animals and plants in the region. The garden needs to maintain a focus on the core goals of promotion and preservation of Australian native plants. In ten years I would still like it to be pretty much like it is now, by that I mean not over developed but as a peaceful oasis in the urban sprawl
- 6 The Garden to be a real visual experience, with the return of native wildlife and well established gardens. Busloads of people visiting the venue daily. Tours guided by professional guides, not horticulturalists who would rather be out in the garden. A variety of different events held each month - cinema under the stars, Shakespeare in the Park, concerts - an entertainment hub for the region. An Indigenous experience as well, especially for group tours and international tours - bush food tours and cooking, didgeridoo and boomerang making and playing/throwing, dreaming stories. Large conference facility for the business tourism market.
- 7 More trees and plantings, more like a forest
- 8 As a local I would not like to see it commercialised but to retain its beauty and natural wonder
- 9 A natural environment, larger function centre, I would like to see access for local residents to be free or cheaper than Friends' rate, as there is not enough parkland in the area; fun walk to continue, open air cinema; the Garden has come a long way but still needs to have more garden attractions for visitors and to be a prettier place to visit as other botanical gardens are.
- 10 To still be a place to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends and to see the fauna and flora that is in abundance at the moment
- 11 An oasis for families to enjoy; a research centre of excellence
- 12 Not too much overdevelopment for me. One of the major attractions is the natural state of large areas
- 13 A haven that represents the variety and diversity of the Australian bush that has not sold out to commercialism and cheap, cruddy entertainment and food outlets etc. A place that is classy and well respected. A centre of education that also brings to life and educates people about our diverse cultural heritage including our indigenous culture
- 14 Wild animals to roam about. Love to go koala spotting. I'd like to see a native orchid area. I'd also like to be able to go into a heavily wooded area and stroll along some paths
- 15 I like it the way it is, natural
- 16 Keep it as natural as possible; encourage more plants to grow
- 17 A haven for Western Sydney that sets an example of how native plants can help maintain biodiversity in Western Sydney
- 18 Maximum vegetation and wildlife

19 A world renowned centre for Australian native plants and a local 'green lungs' asset for the community of Macarthur, southwest Sydney region and the greater Sydney region

20 Preserved woodlands, open quiet spaces, fauna and native plant displays

21 Natural. A research leader. Socially responsible

22 I'd like to see it retain its natural appearance

23 It should not be overdeveloped as far as facilities go - need for peace and quiet while enjoying natural surrounds. Some attractions throughout year – cinema, drama, music

24 Calm, green, no blackberry, no African olive, big trees, lots of shade

25 To stay as natural as possible

26 Natural bushland areas expanded and enhanced by regeneration (ie. Limit mowing and weed invasion. Shop continues to stock attractive items. The Garden has become an escape for people being crowded by rapid development

27 A green space with plenty of activities for family and education

28 Keep it green please?! Open areas, walks, native plantings are the greatest assets

29 Flora and fauna nature reserve

30 A welcoming green oasis where families, friends and tourists come to enjoy the Australian bush/flora/fauna experience – children/locals learning in a facility purpose built

31 Bigger and better let the trees grow

32 Facilities are good. It will be good to see the plantings evolve over time

33 The garden will improve with time as plants mature and plantings are extended

34 Somewhere that Sydney-siders may talk about to their friends and encourage them to visit our area

35 Modern facilities always look nice and make the place seem well-cared for, but providing the critical functions are maintained. Research, preservation, commercialisation of plants. The Garden displays are wellkept and an interesting diversity of plants and habitats is maintained. I think this is a worthy vision

36 Mixture of recreational space (visit gardens, BBQs etc) and research to support botanical/fauna of region

37 As inviting as the Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens - advanced trees, safe relaxing and educational atmosphere. Showcasing the latest in innovation

38 As is but better maintained display gardens – yes that takes money but I assume that your CORE business is to showcase Australian plants in a natural presentation

39 10 years: Trees have grown. More plantings and gardens. Maybe more picnic “nooks”; maybe more walking and riding trails. Essentially more of the same

40 More native flower exhibits

41 Continued plantings, you're doing a wonderful job

42 To have a long bike track through the trees and gardens and to see lots more beautiful flower beds

43 To have a bike trail through nice gardens and lakes

44 Extended garden areas, especially the long promised Grevillea Garden; continued and extended research facilities; possibly extended for commercial use eg weddings and conferences to help fund the other activities

45 More plantings and more species of Australian plants grown

46 The same with higher vegetation/trees to block out the houses over the back

47 More advanced with respect to plant material, better funded – I could write to an MP about this

48 The internal area of the gardens has developed well. Plantings along Narellan Road and Mount Annan Drive to form an avenue driveway to the Garden's entrance would be spectacular; similar to the streets of Adelaide

49 More plantings of Grevilleas etc and removal of weeds

50 As it is, but obviously established planting will be more developed, and the new plantings will make an impact

51 Continued growth of Australian native plants and events to highlight these

52 Continue to develop Terrace Garden

53 I would like to see continuing integration of the Theme gardens and natural woodland leaving some wild areas for those who wish to get away from the crowds. An effort to screen the boundaries from encroaching housing development and make it secure against dogs. A regular annual concert, Shakespeare in the Garden etc

54 More plantings eg more theme gardens; more information and signage on Australian native plants

55 Less scrub, with more gardens featuring natives as the predominant planting and also natives that flower at different times of the year

56 Botanical displays that are located centrally and more easily accessible
57 More development as a 'botanical garden'
58 Many more beautiful flowering garden display beds, seats and free entry
59 A completely child friendly environment with continued development and research into endangered and rare species of fauna and flora. I would love to see sculptures and other artworks scattered randomly around the Garden as this provides curiosity and surprise for visitors eg. along walking trails, around bends in paths etc.
60 Demonstrate some sustainable living principles, with built infrastructure etc
61 Like Centennial Park, but with more public art space! A maze that you could actually be lost in would be a real attraction!
62 Still as big as it is for even larger. Green and beautiful
63 A showcase for the management of remnant Cumberland Plain flora and fauna + as a context for other Australian plants
64 To remain a space for people to enjoy and learn more about our Australian plants and fauna
65 I will continue to enjoy watching the Gardens mature. I would like to see the restaurant become a little more sophisticated
66 All I really want is for the restaurant to not burn the milk in my coffee and for the Garden to be a hub for education and conservation in Macarthur
67 Attract more people, more advertising as people in the area are unaware of what the Gardens have to offer
68 Needs outdoor lighting in the car park and between car park and restaurant given the restaurant is open at night
69 More events would be good including regular events such as a weekend walking club and education on native gardening
70 Not that you want to make it too commercial or detract from the natural beauty that is present but other facilities such as a more adequate eating facility or small water features for children to play in would be great, so that even on the really hot days visitor numbers will still be high. More evening events such as jazz nights, rock and roll nights, kids shows like "The Wiggles". A larger multipurpose function centre that could cater for large weddings and conferences. Bike hire, equipment hire. Mobile confectionary van that drives through the park selling ice creams, coffees and drinks to the themed gardens that are further away from the visitor's centre
71 I would like to see it teeming with people, especially those between 20 and 40 years that seem to be underrepresented in the visitors
72 Have RAVE parties once a year in open space
73 A family friendly place where parents and children can enjoy picnics and discover the environment together. More opportunity for outdoor performances and shows
74 More events attracting the community similar to movies under the stars or of that nature. Possibly have Christmas/Boxing Day picnics and events for those people who either don't have big family gatherings or can't afford to go out for Christmas. I think a picnic in the Garden would be a lovely way to spend Christmas
75 Have regular events - Outdoor movies, plays, concerts
76 Family activities – more film, drama, music in the Garden
77 More family events. I'm not sure what activities would interest teenage children – that would be something worth considering
78 I would like Mount Annan to be the community hub of the area. More annual events for all members of the community
79 Very happy as it is. Strengthen community activities – this isn't like the city where lots of attractive facilities are available in a family friendly way. I think 10 years is too far down the track. I would like to see more events both day and night. More sculptures and artistic displays. Toilets off carpark should be larger and updated and the shop is way too small. Pottery and paintings and works of art including silver and gold flora and fauna should be on offer similar to Mt Tomah. What is meant by developments?
81 More family things, which is very important
82 More outdoor community events, incorporating access to Garden, art in the Garden (sculpture displays etc), beautiful native gardens for Sydney siders to enjoy
83 I think usage of the garden by various groups eg. cycling groups, especially on summer evenings for a small fee would be great. PS perhaps this already happens - if so, great!
84 All features are currently outstanding. Perhaps a venue for outdoor children's concerts and regular craft activities involving nature
85 A major tourist and visitor centre. Have more planned picnic areas
86 Perhaps more shelters in picnic areas and more outside theatre events
87 I am happy with its current progress; just would like to see it more affordable for families
88 More on site educational activities at each theme garden along with better signage on species; maybe concentrate on more man made water features (such as running water) similar to that of Garden Magic at Narellan.
89 Facilities to be kept up-to-date and to cater for expanding population

90 More community facilities and the inclusion of more protected / endangered species in the gardens
91 Just make sure the amount of facilities keep up with the number of visitors eg. add playgrounds if the playgrounds are always full
92 A financially self-sustaining enterprise by hiring out of areas
93 I think it would be great if there were more plants for sale that you see around the Garden (maybe even if they are only as seeds to purchase). People to talk to about growing different plants seen in the garden, gardening advice. More signs explaining the types of plants and their habitats and where they are from. Some walking or running clubs set-up, and some type of club for teenagers to get involved
94 Improved walking tracks. Much larger garden with some native wildlife? The lakes full of water. More BBQs
95 To slowly continue to develop so that every time you visit there is something new to see
96 A great place to go and enjoy a day out
97 More facilities etc (toilets, shade)
98 More displays of Australian fauna with explanation notes/signs
99 Keep doing what you are doing at present
100 I believe the Garden to be excellent at present and further improvements (signage, walking tracks, garden presentation) would make it even better
101 More maturity will hopefully bring more fauna. Improvement of natural spots eg. removal of weeds etc.
102 Free of African Olive and other weeds. Employ more staff to work with volunteers
103 No African Olives
104 Weed free!
105 1. Mount Annan summit replanted with natives after removal of African olives. 2. Hopefully by then, koalas will have reached the Garden, encouraged by appropriate plantings
106 The wild olives replaced by natives (I know that's difficult). Keep it a wonderful place to visit
107 I'd like to see the African Olives disappear. What a blot on the landscape!
108 Keeping its bush areas and reducing the weeds which infest them, and maintaining the garden areas in current good state
109 I think you do very well but the development of the research and educational element make the Garden unique. I would like to see this aspect developed
110 More of the same, so that the next generation will learn to appreciate and love their unique Australian bushland
111 There should still be peaceful places, educational areas, 'natural' places. Show cases for Australian plant genera and families and education on speciation, natural selection and long-term evolution. Focus on Cumberland Plain species
112 To be maintained, kept to same size or larger, and presented as is today
113 Shady, bigger restaurant veranda, interactive centre for children
114 More science, more Aboriginal culture/heritage features, especially plant uses; seasonal plant display occasions. We would like to congratulate Mount Annan Botanic Garden staff. We have spent many happy days there since the Garden was started. Thank you
115 More plants, more plant sales with person to advise, more art and cultural activities, development of the sustainable living centre, free entry
116 More shady trees, more sculptures
117 I'd love to see more fauna – if some koalas found their way in it would be great. You should promote the walking tracks for health more
118 To keep up with the times, and keep the good work up
119 Continue what it has been doing for some time now. I think it is an excellent facility for a wide range of activities
120 Four wheel drive tours – use of the unsealed tracks at the Hume Highway side of the Botanic Gardens
121 Continue as is but definitely less sculptures or building structures called 'Art' – it's a natural environment and not enhanced by walls, ornamentation etc.
122 I like it the way it is. Not too commercial. Peaceful, fun, getaway place
123 All of the above as long as it doesn't sell off any of the land to private developers
124 Centre of biodiversity education, centre leading international research in NSW flora and fauna, more fauna exhibits, more events
125 Similar to what it is today – but not getting carried away with constructing walls etc
126 A section for an environmental theme park where the Centre for Sustainable Living is, but the rest kept from overdevelopment
127 Removal of pest species. More artwork
128 Free to locals
129 At present, the Gardens seem very low key, used mainly for their picnic/BBQ facilities during weekends of warmer months. In 10 years, garden should have major visitor facilities, auditorium, indoor exhibits, student education facilities. Desert Park in Alice Spring is a good model. A high profile benefactor would help

- 130 1. Demountables replaced by permanent/well-built education facilities. 2. Distinctive Australian garden art. 3. Healthy growth of theme gardens. 4. Continuing regeneration of bushland. 5. Great Australian plants resources and bookshop
- 131 All of the above!
- 132 Just improve the present layout – it's so beautiful now, it can only get better
- 133 More signage detailing interesting botanical, cultural, historical facts about plants, sites etc. More playground facilities like the one near the kiosk
- 134 An iconic jewel in Macarthur's crown. Develop its uniqueness, yet allow people to enjoy
- 135 A central hub with facilities, walks to escape and recreation facilities for families
- 136 Unsure

Staff Surveys

- 1 Have an even wider range of Australian plants maybe have some exotic garden beds as well
- 2 Interesting exhibitions, more highly developed garden beds and plant displays, the very best native gardens
- 3 A working part of the community
- 4 Continual improvement to current format. More children's attractions
- 5 I would like to see it develop along the lines of the Desert Park Alice Springs combining flora and fauna in sympathetic enclosures
- 6 More of everything already here
- 7 More theme gardens
- 8 Other pleasant food outlets, walking trails
- 9 Good facilities for conferences
- 10 Keep it as natural as possible
- 11 More events, outdoor concerts, large playground, improved public access
- 12 More promotion and awareness among public
- 13 Reserve of remnant bushland, research hub, a centre for recreation and education
- 14 Beautiful, more trees and native plants in the local area / developments
- 15 Not too much built development – a good education/ conference building but not much else
- 16 In ten years time it should improve more on education and conference facilities
- 17 Just pleasant to come and relax
- 18 Tourist destination
- 19 A showcase for Australian native plants for overseas/interstate as well as local visitors & a large green open space for Western Sydney
- 20 A green and educational refuge from the surrounding suburban sprawl
- 21 Continue with science and hort research as well as becoming/ remaining an important recreation and educational resource for the local community
- 22 Sustainable, educational, community garden promoting the environment
- 23 Continue to have more BBQ/shelters and attractions such as Durie sculpture/ sundial
- 24 Just more well established Australian flora
- 25 Well established garden plantings and regular community events
- 26 To grow, it looks more beautiful each year
- 27 Restaurant with a view to gardens new facilities / research facilities, more floral displays
- 28 Increase area of use for Australian plants in landscape design
- 29 Emphasis on natives to continue
- 30 Well interpreted themed plant displays complemented by recreation area 9 Australian plants focus)
- 31 More art work – large scale
- 32 Large tracts of Cumberland plain woodland, more trees, interesting information above incidental plants, insects – more like a real native walk in out of the way places

- 33 More horticultural displays and complete connections garden
- 34 More planting, woodland, less grass
- 35 Trees
- 36 More advanced trees, shrubs and gardens
- 37 Hopefully not too much different from now
- 38 More attractions
- 39 To become the focal green space for the region, supported by a comprehensive program of ecological research and first class horticulture
- 40 More theme garden/ artistic installations/attractions should be developed, esp. on first part of Cunningham drive to make the garden develop a true” gardenesque” setting
- 41 Free entry with paid parking and donation encouraged, Connections Garden completed and attracting more people
- 42 Areas of natural remnant (woodland) vegetation to be in healthier (less weedy etc) condition and self sustaining and respected by people
- 43 Range of artworks/ installations around the Garden
- 44 More horticultural displays
- 45 I think they need more points of interest, interactive sites and recognisable features that people can relate to
- 46 I want it to be an integral part of the Macarthur community and a well known and well-loved in Greater Sydney. Plus an under cover sheltered area which can be booked for weddings, parties etc
- 47 Control and revegetation of African Olive areas. Some sort of lookout at the top of Mount Annan
- 48 1. There is potential for wedding reception venue to be built and surrounding gardens. The hall needs to function independently from the restaurant and allow for their own catering etc. There is plenty of money to be made from this type of facility in this location
- 49 2. Perhaps a bimonthly produce and craft markets, or international food fair theme etc. maybe an annual environmental market etc
- 50 3. Art exhibitions (temporary ones) and demos, for educational purposes
- 51 4. Community services eg mobile blood bank day – free entry to donors on the day etc
- 52 5. I could go on and on but that’ll do for now
- 53 6. Forgot one – yoga in the park
- 54 I would like it to be a place that is well developed and managed, have areas that can be kept up to scratch 24/7, don’t open up lots of areas if they cannot be kept up to standard and well presented. Keep us “Royal Botanic Gardens” we should be referred to by our proper title “Mount Annan Royal Botanic Garden”
- 55 More theme gardens
- 56 Live displays of interaction between fauna and flora eg. as per Taronga Zoo. Cumberland Plain Woodland.