



Lower North Shore
Easy Care Gardening Service

VOLUNTEER NEWS

September/October 2006 Issue 1

Out and About... Recent Gardens



Chatswood—Thursday 20 July

Volunteers Steve and Julie, along with Alison and Barry, managed to transform this overgrown garden above into a tranquil corner. This was not an easy task as the mulch had to be lifted over the fence - just proves that no challenge is too great for the gardening team!

Welcome to the first issue of Volunteer News!

This newsletter will be produced bi-monthly with the aim of linking all of our volunteers, providing information about the service and other general interesting "stuff". We will email you a copy, however for those of you without internet or who prefer a hard copy, we'll have copies in the truck.

We welcome all input from volunteers - please let us know if you'd like to contribute.

With thanks to all our volunteers,
Barry, Sandeep and Alison

Students lend a helping hand

During June and July we had a number of students volunteer with Easy Care Gardening as they completed various school requirements.

From June 19-22, we had six students from St Josephs College, Hunters Hill take part as a component of their Year 11 Ministry Program.

Soon after, from July 4-13, four Year 10 students from St Pious College, Chatswood came gardening during their school holidays, to complete their required community service.

It was great having them all participate and enabled us to complete a lot of gardening. They certainly brought their own experience and energy to the service—we've never been through so many biscuits before!

It is hoped that the positive relationship with these local schools will continue, and efforts are being made to encourage other schools to also participate. This is part of our focus to boost volunteer numbers across the service.



St Josephs College students strike a pose gardening with Barry and volunteer, Paul Vonwiller

Gardening Tips with Tsandeeep



PLANT of the MONTH

Grevillea juniperina

Description: A vigorous, dense ground-cover plant with narrow, pointed foliage. Most of the year this shrub produces red spider flowers.

Uses: Use as a groundcover for embankments, tubs and rockeries.

Position: Grow in a sunny position in moist, well-drained soil. Tolerates periods of dryness, frost & hot, dry spots.

Care: Prune after flowering to maintain compact growth.



Did you know....?

That the hair on your head contains 30 times more nitrogen than manure? Next time you go to the hairdresser, ask for a few pounds of this nitrogen goldmine to add to your compost!!

Source: Plantes.com/compost

Focus on: *Barry...Coordinator Extraordinaire*



Over the first issues, we will be introducing you to your coordinators - in a different light! Then we'll be focussing on our more interesting subjects...the volunteers.

I was born 57 years ago in Perth. We (Mum, Dad & 2 younger brothers) lived close to the beach at Floreat Park. Consequently summers were spent at the beach and winters were spent wishing it was summer. Whilst in my early teens we lived in Denmark for a year (Mum is Danish). After an idyllic childhood & somehow completing high school, my first job was with a share broking firm. A couple of years later I went on a 2 year holiday in Europe. One of my favourite memories is catching a ferry from Sweden, driving through East Germany and entering West Berlin via Checkpoint Charlie. At the time it was considered quite adventurous!

I returned to Perth but soon decided to visit my family who had moved to Sydney. Not long after I met my wife to be and since then Sydney has been my home. Jann and I were married in 1975 and our twin daughters were born in 1981 – and life has not been the same ever since! Currently one daughter is overseas on a working holiday (not much work, but a lot of holidaying) and the other works at the same company I did for many years.

During my working career I have travelled within Australia and overseas, mainly in Asia/Pacific. At one stage we lived Singapore for 4 years which we all enjoyed - our daughters regard it as a second home.

I started the gardening service in 2001 and find the time spent gardening with our volunteers very enjoyable. I really hope the service can increase the number of gardens per year and expand its range of activities.

Snapshot...

During the month of August we completed 19 gardens!

Happy Birthday!!

Steve O'Reilly - 13 September



Julie Dixon - 14 September



Paul Vonwiller - 16 September



Susan Botrill - 25 September



Susie Ikin - 25 October



Shee Fong Kuang - 30 October



Easy Care Gardening NEWS

New Volunteers

🌿 Jose and Celeste Cambe



Many of you had the opportunity to meet and garden with Jose and Celeste during June & July. They were able to spare time to volunteer whilst in Australia visiting their family.

It was a pleasure to have them volunteer with us and share their interesting life stories. Unfortunately (for us!) they have returned to the Phillipines, however we hope they will join us again when they return.

In the Office

🌿 Lawn Mowing Service

We recently received a grant from Willoughby Council to start a Lawn Mowing Service to clients in need. Planning has begun and it will begin by the beginning of September.

At this stage it will operate on a Monday and won't interfere with regular gardening days. However, if you are interested in volunteering for this service, please let us know.

🌿 Tools

We are currently investigating the use of some small power tools to assist with gardening tasks. We also recently had our secateurs sharpened (you'll be happy to know!)

Events

🌿 LCCAS Annual General Meeting

9 September @ 4pm

A guest speaker will be providing an interesting & informative talk. All invited. Please notify the office if you wish to attend.

🌿 Spring Lunch

Tues 19 September @ Noon

Yellow Restaurant, 94 Longueville Road, Lane Cove.

A lunch has been organized to welcome new LCCAS General Manger, Phil Lowe, as well as a get together for staff, volunteers and the community.

Booking Essential.

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