

Pymont Ultimo Landcare Inc

Convenor's Annual Report 2017-18

PUL was incorporated in 2006. We work on Wednesday and Sunday mornings. This year we continued removing weeds and planting infill. We hosted children from the City West Childcare Centre, including a National Tree Day event. We also participated in the City's National Tree Day at Arthur Paddy Gray Reserve in Glebe. Volunteer hours were down, possibly owing to wet weather. The feral campers at Wentworth Park Station were removed and the damaged area has recovered. However, a rock fall resulted in the area being closed to the public. We look forward to regaining access. Weed regrowth is reducing in some areas but elsewhere weed infestations still require regular treatment. We have lost some trees and shrubs due to the dry conditions, but we will replace them.

The City of Sydney provides mulch and plants through Randwick Native Nursery and Cornucopia Nursery in Gladesville. We thank the City and both nurseries for their continuing support. The City's *Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan* continues to inform our work. We enjoy cooperation from the Wattle Crescent apartments, with access to toilets, water and occasional power. Users of the Jones Street Pocket Park pathway encourage our efforts to restore native habitat for animals such as blue tongue lizards and possums. Similarly, we appreciate access to water from the Clifton Apartments in Quarry Master Drive and the 120-122 Saunders Street stratas.

54 volunteers (including 18 guests - corporate and students) worked 1,586 hours (up 10% on last year) by weeding, watering, planting, mulching, rubbish collection, and purchasing plants:

Quarry Master Drive/Clifton	138 hours
Saunders Street	80 hours
Wentworth Park	874 hours
RTA site (Bank Street)	45 hours
Carmichael Park	38 hours
John St/QMD ramp/stairs	64 hours
John St Pocket Park	212 hours
Fish Market Light Rail Ramp	54 hours

Pirrama Rd Bus Stop 49 hours

Plant Purchase 33 hours

Volunteers collected 167 cubic metres and 210 bags of green waste, plus 11 bags of garbage.

The Wildlife Corridor Project

Weeding and infill planting at established sites have been our main focus, but we continue to spend time cleaning up rubbish, especially at the Fish Market Station where we have failed to persuade Council, RMS or TransDev to install a rubbish bin. As we do not have access to adjoining sites, weeds continue to encroach, despite our efforts to cover exposed soil with mulch and groundcover. The main invaders include *Celtis sinensis*, asthma weed, fountain grass, balloon vine, crofton weed, nut grass, *Koelreularia paniculata*, *Bidens pilosa*, asparagus fern, turkey rhubarb and pampas grass. Nevertheless, and despite the drought, we enjoyed a wonderful display of spring flowers, including grevilleas, wattles and indigoferas. We are hopeful that Council will soon install a tap on the plaza, so that we can water areas on the ramp more safely.

The Saunders Street site continues to be a great showcase. So is the Wentworth Park Station site: despite the invasion of weeds from the side of the railway cutting, and a colony of cats. The site needs less maintenance overall and is now ablaze with golden wattle and pink grevilleas. Despite the invasion of weeds from the railway cutting, the site is requiring less maintenance overall. A colony of feral cats lives in the Council depot.

Carmichael Park has been replanted and mulched but the site receives little winter sun and is subject to desiccating winds. We are encouraging Council to replace the mature eucalypts lost in last year's June storm,

The trees and shrubs next to 2 Bowman Street continue to thrive. The site is shadowed by two large figs. But residents have assumed more responsibility for the site, and Council provides mulch every 6 months.

The City takes an active interest in our John St Pocket Park. We continue to ensure that exotics are kept out of our native plantings. The site is vulnerable to infestation from weeds on the cliffs above.

The Fish Market Station planting has been particularly successful, despite prolonged dry spells, rubbish, and lack of water.

Other Projects

PUL volunteers assisted with Clean Up Australia, this year organised by Coles. [Most of Pymont is much cleaner than when we started.](#)

Management

PUL is overseen by the Executive and Committee:

Mary Mortimer, Convenor

Elizabeth Elenius, Deputy Convenor

Karen Wyatt, Secretary

Bob Huntsman, Treasurer

Leone Huntsman, Public Officer

Trish Curotta, Trina Hodgson, Liz Adolphe, Committee

Liz Adolphe, Statistician

The Committee meets regularly with volunteers to plan the work and events. We have a healthy bank balance to buy tools and equipment.

Publicity

A comprehensive website www.pymontultimolandcare.org.au is maintained by Trish Curotta. We display our banner at Wentworth Park light rail station, with additional signs there and at the evolve* site. Our visi-vests have PUL's name on the back and our sites have notices advising people about PUL.

PUL is also publicised in *Jacksons Landing What's On* .

A Big Thankyou

I thank all the Committee for their support . I liaise with volunteers, Council and suppliers, Elizabeth Elenius manages plant orders; Trish Curotta maintains the website; Bob and Leone Huntsman keep track of the finances and corporate requirements; and Liz Adolphe continues to compile our statistics. All volunteers provide amazing catering for our morning teas and events as well as their enthusiastic work in bringing the bush to the city. Thank you all so much.

Mary Mortimer, Convenor,

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