

Pyrmont Ultimo Landcare Inc

Convenor's Annual Report 2020-2021

PUL was incorporated in 2006. We work on Wednesday and Sunday mornings. This year we continued removing weeds, planting infill, mulching and watering when needed. The pandemic has caused many cancellations, including National Tree Day (again), the involvement of Ultimo Public School students and continued engagement with Atlassian volunteers.

We were able to host some preschoolers from City West Child Care Centre.

We are still frustrated by losing access to the upper side of Jones Street Pocket Park. We met with staff from the Office of Strategic Lands, but nothing has happened yet. Transport for New South Wales installed a gabion wall behind the Wentworth Park light rail platform, and decimated the area we had planted. Now we will remediate the soil compacted by the bulldozer, and plant a tiny forest.

The City of Sydney provides mulch from Australian Native Landscapes, and plants from Indigrow, a native nursery at La Perouse. We have asked the City to establish a native nursery where we can obtain local indigenous plants.

The City's *Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan* continues to inform our work. We have enjoyed cooperation from the Wattle Crescent apartments, with access to toilets, and occasional water and power. Similarly, we appreciate access to water from the Clifton Apartments in Quarry Master Drive and Richmond and the 120-122 Saunders Street stratas. Users of the Jones Street Pocket Park pathway encourage our efforts to restore native habitat for animals such as blue tongue lizards and possums.

We have good support from Jenny Kent, Council's volunteer co-ordinator.

Negotiations continue about the location of a water tank at Wentworth Park light rail stop.

We obtained grants from the Community Bank and the City. We are conducting a composting trial with 2 types of tumblers and 2 compost heaps. The grants have also made a significant contribution to our overall budget.

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 light rail stop where we have failed to persuade Council, Transport for NSW 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.

Nevertheless, we again enjoyed a wonderful display of spring flowers, including grevilleas, wattles and indigoferas.

We work on many sites around Pyrmont. They are listed below.

39 regular volunteers + 42 guests (mainly corporate) worked 1,493 hours (impacted by covid-19) weeding, watering, planting, mulching, rubbish collection, and purchasing plants:

Admin / Plant Purchase	17 hours
Bank Street/Quarry Master Drive corner	136 hours

Bus Stop	56 hours
Carmichael Park	96 hours
Clifton rear	65 hours
Dragon boats	26 hours
Fish Market Light Rail	36 hours
Maybanke Reserve	25 hours
Paradise Reserve	72 hours
Quarry Master top/ramp	100 hours
Saunders St	77 hours
Trina's path (Jones St Pocket Park)	195 hours
Wentworth Park light rail	592 hours

Volunteers collected 195 cubic metres and 123 bags of green waste, plus 6 bags of garbage.

We now compost much of our green waste in our tumblers and compost heaps.

Management

PUL is overseen by the Executive and Committee:

Mary Mortimer, Convenor
Elizabeth Elenius, Deputy Convenor
Karen Wyatt, Secretary
Patrick Moul, Treasurer
Karen Wyatt, Public Officer
Trish Curotta, Website,
Amanda Dunn, Deb Yeo, Liz Adolphe, Committee
Liz Adolphe, Statistician
Mary Mortimer, Council liaison

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

Publicity

A comprehensive website - www.pyrmontultimolandcare.org.au - is maintained by Trish Curotta. Karen Wyatt has created a PUL profile on social media with an Instagram account and promotion of our work on Pyrmont Locals Facebook. This has led to a new member, 130 followers and increased visibility in Pyrmont, especially with local businesses. We display our banner at Wentworth Park light rail stop, with additional signs there and at the evolve* site. Council has produced signs for Jones Street Pocket Park, but put them behind the cyclone fence where they are barely visible. Our visi-vests have PUL's name on the back and our sites have signs. PUL is also publicised in *Jacksons Landing What's On*.

A Big Thankyou

I thank everyone for their support. I liaise with volunteers and Council; Elizabeth Elenius manages plant orders; Trish Curotta maintains the website; Patrick Moul keeps track of the finances, Karen Wyatt looks after corporate requirements; and Liz Adolphe continues to compile our statistics. Volunteers now take more responsibility for managing the work, especially Deb Yeo, who has taken over from Harold Adolphe on Wednesdays. Thank you all so much.

Mary Mortimer, Convenor,
9518 8681; 0410 679 204; mary.mortimer@bigpond.com