



Curtin University

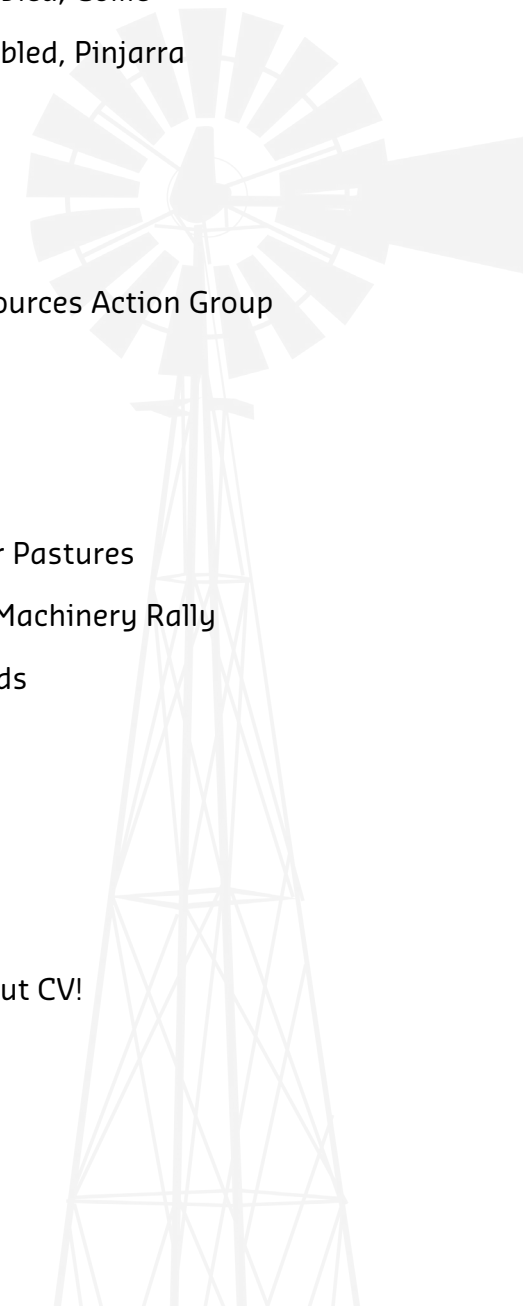
John Curtin Weekend



2017

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Maureen Meredith JCW Coordinator

The purpose of John Curtin Weekend (JCW) is to provide volunteers with the opportunity to give back to the community and dedicate time to help those who need assistance, while also developing personally and professionally. Taking place over six weekends in September and October each year, JCW provides a space in which volunteers can work alongside communities on locally relevant projects in order to achieve a much needed outcome that will benefit the community.

JCW is the largest project run by Curtin Volunteers!. In 2017, over 720 JCW volunteers assisted on 42 projects, 27 of them located in regional Western Australia, 11 sites in the Perth metropolitan area, 2 in remote Western Australia, 1 in Miri, Sarawak (Malaysia), and 1 in Singapore. Locally, the projects included environmental work, building maintenance and assisting at agricultural shows. The volunteers from Miri, Sarawak worked in the longhouses while the Singapore volunteers worked at a soup kitchen.

We had a very diverse group of volunteers who hailed from 37 countries around the world.

This amazing project could not be achieved without the dedication of the volunteers and site leaders, community partners, drivers, JCW team and regional coordinators. Thank you to all who have been involved, you generously gave your skills and time to help others. I know from the feedback received that you have made a big difference in the communities.

Thank you to the sites for your amazing hospitality. Our volunteers appreciated their unique JCW experiences and will take away memories and relationships that will last a lifetime.

You may never know the difference that you have made to the people and their communities. Your willingness to help others is appreciated.

I look forward to your involvement in 2018.



Gary Hepworth Associate Director Engagement and Community

John Curtin Weekend (JCW) has developed into a major multi-community project, with volunteers assisting regional and metropolitan communities in Western Australia, Malaysia, and Singapore, to complete projects which are of great importance in the life of their communities. This year, volunteers travelled to regions as diverse as Harvey, Pinjarra, Busselton, Kulin, Nungarin, and Bunbury. The regional towns share their community and their way of life with visitors from all parts of the world, and develop unique relationships with volunteers.

JCW is about embracing the challenges and opportunities of our time to change lives for the better, with volunteers exemplifying Curtin's vision of being a beacon for positive change. In the next decade, JCW has the opportunity to expand regionally, nationally and internationally. With the continued dedication and enthusiasm of Curtin students and community partners, JCW can continue to grow.

Congratulations to all who have been involved in the magnificent achievement of planning and executing JCW. We look forward to many more successful years to come.

“

JCW is about embracing the challenges and opportunities of our time to change lives for the better.

”



Marcella Low CV! President

John Curtin Weekend is now CV!'s largest annual event. Most of the 720 volunteers travel to regional towns throughout WA, giving a helping hand in exchange for good company, country food, and an experience that some students would never have thought could be part of their time at Curtin. The pages in this book showcase the volunteers involved in local races, carnivals, restoration of gardens and community sites, and engaging with the youth in those towns.

I, myself, have been on 4 JCWs, leading the team that goes to Toodyay for their Agricultural Show each year, and can confirm that participating in JCW provides an opportunity for exchanging stories, life experiences, meeting new people and making unforgettable memories, all whilst contributing to positive change in communities. At Toodyay, we get to stay with the townsfolk, and almost everyone who's been on the trip says getting to chat with the town's people and seeing their way of life is a highlight of the trip, something I believe many volunteers can relate with.

To many of the volunteers, the trip is also the first time they have been out 'to the country' and been immersed in all that WA has to offer. One of my favourite things about JCW is how people who have never met each other before come together and work towards the same aim and purpose to achieve the community's goals, often making friends along the way.

JCW would not be possible without the passion and dedication of Maureen Meredith, her team of regional coordinators, site leaders, interns, volunteer bus drivers, community partners and of course, all the student volunteers. All these people embody John Curtin's values, committing themselves to helping others, promoting kindness, leadership and courage through their actions. Curtin University, through platforms like CV! equip their graduates with values of leadership, community-mindedness, and a sense of commitment and discipline, resulting in individuals who do extraordinary things.

John Curtin had a dream of a society where 'men and women - not bricks, mortar and wealth - would have the highest value'.

By being involved and making positive changes in the community through volunteering, each and every one of us can work to make his vision come to pass.

This yearbook celebrates the effort and time contributed and experiences gained by our volunteers. I hope you enjoy the memories from JCW 2017, and have the courage to make a positive change in your community. Looking forward to seeing you in 2018!

History of John Curtin Weekend

John Curtin Weekend commemorates the day that John Curtin was sworn in as Australian Prime Minister on 7 October 1941. It was suggested that students and staff would follow his example of service to the community by undertaking activities on this day.

In 1999, six groups of students, coordinated by Curtin Volunteers!, undertook a variety of tasks on John Curtin Day, which included painting a drop-in centre for young drug addicts in Northbridge and erecting horse yards at Riding for the Disabled in Mt Claremont. In 2000, an anonymous benefactor provided funds for a major tree-planting project in the Southwest, which was undertaken on the weekend after John Curtin Day. Additional funds became available to repeat the project the following year.

In 2002, Australia celebrated the Year of the Outback, and it was decided to change the format of the service event, which became known as John Curtin Weekend for the first time. Various wheatbelt communities were contacted to see if they would like some volunteers to help with their community projects in return for accommodation and meals. There were eight sites that year and buses were hired to take the volunteers to the sites. Feedback from all was extremely positive.

This format has continued throughout the years and the project has rapidly expanded to 42 sites. JCW has become an amazing community project that benefits those in need while providing meaningful experiences for all involved.



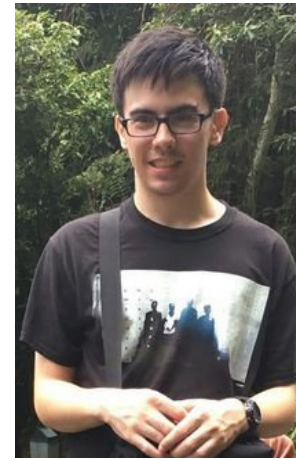
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2017



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JCW Intern,
Regional Coordinator



Marcus Wong
JCW Slideshow,
Graphic Designer



Mitchell Bruce
Photo Competition



Marc Phillips
Advisor



Krishan Shah
Advisor

Autism Alliance 1st October

Project

Volunteers visited the Autism Alliance Centre in Malaga, helping the staff by cleaning inside the premises and disinfecting the toys used by the children.

Site Feedback

"We would love a visit twice a year, I have only good things to say about the help that we have received from the Curtin volunteers!"

Volunteer Feedback

"I learnt that the behind the scenes skills are important."

- Kaya Jago

"It was interesting to learn about placing toys in a way that allows children to be inspired to play." - Isobel Ziatas

"It was great that every little effort we put in contributed to the program." - Nicole Chan

Avon Valley Environmental Society 23rd - 24th September

Project

A group of volunteers worked together with the members of the Avon Valley Environmental Society to repair a bridge that was damaged in the recent floods in Northam.

Site Feedback

"We love that the volunteers are always enthusiastic and we appreciate how easily they communicate. Keep them coming please."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed meeting the local family we stayed with." - David Bleakley

"I learned how to build a bridge." - Callum Duffy

"My favourite part was finishing the bridge and meeting all the locals." - Caitlin Withers



Bunbury SolarisCare 6th - 8th October

Project

Nine JCW volunteers assisted SolarisCare by setting up and looking after their stall at the Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival. The volunteers also helped set up other stalls and the safety fence around the burning bull sculpture. They also worked at the bouncy castle, goat races and "guess the weight of the bull competition."

Site Feedback

"Our JCW volunteers were simply brilliant! They embraced every task and request with a smile and an enthusiastic, "can do" and fun approach. Nothing was too difficult or challenging. We would happily do it all again."

Volunteer Feedback

"The festival was awesome - seeing the alpacas, goats and sheep, the burning of the bull, and just chatting with kids while working the bungee jump." - Sara Lonsberry

"I enjoyed helping the local community run the events - I particularly enjoyed running the kids activities." - Gina Journet

"I was able to improve my teamwork and communication skills." - Julia Pohjakallio



Busselton 23rd - 24th September

Project

The volunteers travelled to assist the 1st Busselton Scout Group with their annual fire break by mowing the lawn, cutting away dead branches, clearing and cleaning the building, and helping with building maintenance.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers worked tirelessly. They were enthusiastic and cheery. We appreciate their efforts and can't wait to see them again next year."

Volunteer Feedback

"I learned how to make a campfire." - Clark Barrola

"There were so many good things on the weekend. My favourites were getting to know friends better, learning about Busselton, and the food at the lodging." - Hui Min Chia

"I learned how to go crabbing." - Kantesh Gobindram

Chittering 15th - 17th September

Project

The volunteers worked to help protect a cairn erected by John Forrest in his surveying work in the 1860s in the Avon Valley National Park and cleaned up the reserve which has a well and water trough used by travellers and the monks from New Norcia in the early part of the last century.

Site Feedback

"I am impressed with the enthusiasm, co-operation and sacrifice of the volunteers, would love them to come back."

Volunteer Feedback

"My favourite part was when we helped the rangers in the Avon Valley National Park. It was really peaceful and we got to learn the history as well." - Amy Chu

"I enjoyed the beautiful and peaceful environment, meeting wonderful people, and helping to improve society." - Yollanda Fransiska So

"I learned what rangers and people who look after reserves do on a daily basis, caring for the environment around them." - Charmaine Koh



Cunderdin 22nd - 24th September

Project

The volunteers helped at the Cunderdin Museum by cleaning objects, developing and installing some displays, and relocating military history display cases.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers have a fantastic attitude and a, "can do" approach that is wonderful. It's lovely to see familiar faces return each year and to meet newbies willing to have a go."

Volunteer Feedback

"I learned about museum curation and organisation."
- Rory Malcolm

"It was really satisfying completing a display." - Emily Hughes

"I enjoyed polishing the museum pieces." - Sarah Dentamaro

Dardanup
6th - 8th October

Project

Volunteers helped to set up for the Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival, supervising the have-a-go area, children’s cooking, selling raffle tickets, and assisting with pack up.

Site Feedback

“All these wonderful volunteers are such an asset to us and I honestly don’t know how we could hold the festival without their invaluable help.”

Volunteer Feedback

“Getting involved with the community and forming good relations with the people were my favourite parts.” - **Kelly Sansom**

“I enjoyed all of it - I loved my time during the festival; helping the community, experiencing a new place with new people.”
- **Teresa Kenny**

“I learned how to set up and put away tents, and how a big event should be organised.” - **Diana Do**



Dowerin
16th - 17th September

Project

The volunteers travelled to the central wheatbelt town to help weed and water the community garden at the Community Resources Centre, and catalogued items in the Dowerin Museum.

Site Feedback

“We hope the volunteers enjoyed themselves and got a bit of a taste of country life in WA. They did some great work and we were very grateful. We are totally in awe of what was achieved.”

Volunteer Feedback

“The things I learn were how to train sheep dogs and how to catalogue museum items.” - **Adrian Stoker**

“My favourite parts of the weekend were the sheep dog training and planting trees.” - **Chau Tran**

“I learned about museum cataloguing, dog training, how sandalwood trees are harvested, and about growing vegetables.”
- **Jen de Vos**



Gillingarra 1st - 3rd September

Project

Volunteers spent the weekend planting trees, gardening, clearing paths, cleaning the town hall and collecting wood and rubbish. Some of the group also helped with woodcutting and construction jobs.

Site Feedback

"Thanks for the volunteers, they were such a lovely, hard working group. Everyone will continue to rave about their input for months."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed meeting and spending time with the locals."

- Aaron Hardie

"I learned how to plant shrubs and how to feed Carnaby cockatoos."

- Tom Smedley

"It was great getting to meet new people and see a different part of Australia." - Grace Cronin



Gingin 15th - 17th September

Project

The group washed and repainted the artwork, installed new magnets for the "fishing" activity, cleaned, vacuumed, repaired, weeded, built a new bench, shifted exhibits and re-oiled the picnic tables.

Site Feedback

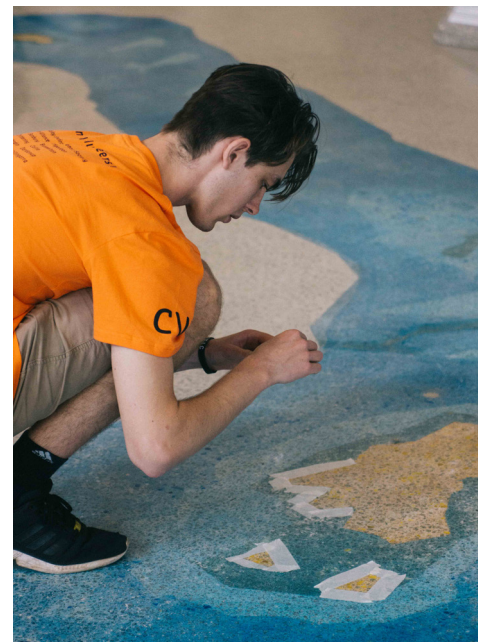
"The volunteers were particularly hard workers and very skilled. It's amazing how much work was completed. The Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory has had valuable work done that would have been impossible to achieve on our own, we are very grateful."

Volunteer Feedback

"My favourite part of the weekend was stargazing and using the telescopes to see the stars and Saturn, bushwalking, climbing the tower, and seeing how we made a difference." - Stephanie Wessels

"I enjoyed stargazing and meeting wonderful people. I also enjoyed the great food." - Daniel Hughes

"I learned more about the universe and communication skills with all the people." - Alvin Law



Harvey 2nd - 3rd September

Project

The volunteers travelled to the South-West town of Harvey and worked together with the locals restoring the fire-affected areas of Yarloop by planting numerous shrubs.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers worked tirelessly to restore our local area and were a friendly group. We appreciate their contribution and look forward to seeing them next year."

Volunteer Feedback

"My favourite part was learning about the wildlife and the great dinner with the whole group." - **Anna Emenheiser**

"I learned about plant restoration and some of the native plants." - **Emily Crocker**

"I enjoyed visiting the town, everyone was friendly and welcoming. I had a great time staying with the host family." - **Payal Patel**



Kensington 10th September

Project

The volunteers helped with the important weeding activities at Kensington Bushland, to continue the work of restoration following bushfires in 2016. They concentrated their weeding efforts within an area degraded by the impact of the fire suppression vehicles.

Site Feedback

"The town of Victoria Park once again gratefully accepted the enthusiasm of the JCW volunteers. The successful post-fire regeneration has arisen due in no small part to help given by groups like these."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed getting to work outside in the bushland." - **Aswin Rajagopalan**

"I learned about identifying weeds and different types of flowers." - **Jeannie Lee**

"It was great being outdoors, learning about new plant species and wildflowers, and meeting new people." - **Chathuri Welgama**



Kondinin 6th - 8th October

Project

The volunteers assisted at Kondinin's Red Soil Riches Weekend, which comprised the Kondinin Art Show and the Kondinin Community Garden Twilight Markets. They were selling food and show bags and helped with setting up and packing up the events.

Site Feedback

"The students were fantastic. Nothing was too much trouble. They were all very polite, courteous and grateful for the country experience."

Volunteer Feedback

"I learned about wheat farming and improved my tent/marquee setting-up skills." - **Alisha McMullen**

"I enjoyed chatting to locals and learning about the community, and spending time with other volunteers." - **Louise Miolin**

"My favourite parts were meeting and talking to the locals, and sightseeing." - **Montana Nicholls**



Koorda 2nd - 3rd September

Project

Volunteers travelled to Koorda to help with the annual show, working on the kids' games, taking notes for the shearing competition judging, selling entry tickets, and helping to pack down the show.

Site Feedback

"Once again the volunteers were invaluable in assisting at our annual Koorda Show. Their willingness to work was really appreciated."

Volunteer Feedback

"It was great spending time with the other volunteers and Koorda community members." - **Kurt Charlton**

"I learned how to talk to people of different backgrounds, specifically farmers and country people." - **James Byrnes**

"I learned more about communicating with new people and working together." - **Caitlin Keating**

Kulin 1 23rd - 24th September

Project

The volunteers helped out at the race track to prepare for the Kulin Bush Races, with some painting of sea containers, as well as doing some cleaning and weeding.

Site Feedback

"The group of volunteers were so easy to work with, flexible and happy to pitch in where they could. We appreciate all the help that we receive from Curtin to run our large event."

Volunteer Feedback

"My favourite part was getting to climb Jilakin Rock and look at the amazing views." - **Aswin Rajagopalan**

"I enjoyed the campfire and helping prepare for the Kulin Bush Races." - **Wilhelm Law**

"I learned how to identify doublegee weeds and how to roast marshmallows." - **Sahan Amaratunge**



Kulin 2 6th - 8th October

Project

Volunteers assisted at the Kulin Bush Races in the kids' tent, the kitchen, clearing tables, selling souvenirs and doughnuts and cleaning up after the event.

Site Feedback

"The group were flexible and able to shift around seamlessly. They were always looking to help and used their initiative. Their efforts have been appreciated and we look forward to working with them in the future."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed making doughnuts, the teamwork to get the job done, and the team bonding sessions." - **Saheel Savadia**

"I learned how to cook doughnuts." - **Molly Logsdon**

"My favourite part was working in the kitchen with all the wonderful locals and tasty food." - **Keegan McNamara**

Kununoppin 6th - 8th October

Project

The volunteers travelled to Nungarin for the day to help out at the Kununoppin Hospital Auxiliary Fete. They worked in the kitchens, helped out at stalls and took part in the fashion parade. On Sunday, the volunteers worked with the locals raking leaves and branches at the Kununoppin Hospital.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers were very helpful and polite. Cannot fault their enthusiasm. The aging Auxiliary ladies depend on their assistance, we would love them to come back and help next year."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed the hospital fundraising fete, meeting and socialising with the community, and the tour around Kununoppin Hospital."

- Joy Misiko

"My favourite part was making connections and getting to know my team, and being part of something so big that will help so many people."

- Melinda Mbano

"I learned how to put up a bouncy castle." - Kamini Asokan



Laverton 25th - 29th September

Project

Five CV! volunteers travelled to Laverton to help the youth workers in running school holiday activities for the children in Laverton.

Site Feedback

"The young women volunteers were fantastic, involved, motivated, hardworking and used their initiative to work with the kids. The cooking activities, Big Brekkie and the Great LA Bake Off were brilliant and the science activities including using circuits and making the volcanoes went really well."

Volunteer Feedback

"I got to learn more about Aboriginal culture, see a different side of Australia and make some good connections with the kids and the youth centre leaders in Laverton. Being an exchange student, this has made my Australian university experience more diverse."

Margaret River 15th - 17th September

Project

The volunteers helped to relocate and secure the Rowing Club landing stage, cleared the embankment of weeds and debris, tidied up around the Historical Society's Old Settlement, and weeded in the Rotary Park bushland.

Site Feedback

"We liked everything about the group! They were polite, friendly, hardworking and enthusiastic. What a wonderful group of young people, and it was indeed our pleasure to host them."

Volunteer Feedback

"The inspiring generosity was amazing." - Eric Grandinger

"I learned how to use a fire hose and how to row." - Dale Jordan

"I learned how to remove big weeds and trees, nearly as big as me."
- Rebecca Davies



Meekatharra 22nd - 29th September

Project

Volunteers assisted with the annual Meekatharra Outback Festival, then stayed on to assist the local youth services with their school holiday program. Although a small rural community, it was a busy week which provided a great opportunity to experience the best of outback community life.

Site Feedback

"The girls brought with them complimentary characteristics and skill sets, all of which benefited the kids at the Youth Centre and the Outback Festival enormously. Their enthusiasm was contagious and never faltered. The kids, and myself, were buoyed by it. I can't thank them enough."

Volunteer Feedback

"Saw a totally new side of Australia, experienced a new culture and made amazing new friends."

"Makes me think about the importance of education and gives some practical experience."

"Just the smile on the kids' faces, unforgettable."

"This experience will stay as a highlight of my university years."

Merredin 16th - 17th September

Project

Volunteers supported the Merredin Community Recreation Centre with marshalling for the Fun Run, and cooked breakfast for the participants. This was followed by work at the Merredin Community Garden, painting, weeding, building, and moving logs and dirt.

Site Feedback

"All the volunteers were passionate, excited and keen to learn about Merredin. We were amazed at the relationships that were formed."

Volunteer Feedback

"It was great staying with our accommodation host - the hospitality was amazing." - **Kambrie Stephens**

"I enjoyed building new relationships and helping in the community." - **Jessie MacLean**

"I developed skills in painting and gardening." - **Akanksha Shukla**



Narembeen 30th September - 1st October

Project

The volunteers helped with the setup of the Narembeen Ladies' Long Lunch, and also helped clear out water runoff drains at the local wildlife sanctuary.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers are a credit to the University. They were so polite and helpful, they worked hard and had a keen interest in what they were doing. It was a pleasure having them, and Narembeen looks forward to welcoming them next year."

Volunteer Feedback

"I loved seeing the echidna and learning how to shovel dirt effectively." - **Veena Vinod**

"I learnt how to work with different people to achieve a common goal." - **Axel Poh**

"Keep it up, it is fun and good experience!" - **Boon Zi Yi**

Northam 8th - 9th September

Project

The JCW volunteers assisted at the Northam Agricultural Show with gate entry, cleaning the animal nursery area, assisted with poultry displays, set up the arena for equestrian events and helped the judges.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers were a great group, fitting in well with all arrangements. They were willing to have a go, were helpful in all activities and displayed a friendly attitude."

Volunteer Feedback

"I learned about how horse jumping is marked and set up for the courses." - **Megan Heslop**

"I enjoyed getting to know the volunteers and mixing with the locals." - **Ellie Narducci**

"I liked the scenic views during the drives and getting to watch the hot air balloons." - **Manpreet Kaur**



Nungarin 30th September - 1st October

Project

The volunteers helped at the annual Mangowine Concert on Saturday evening, by assisting with the gate entry, packing the VIP packages, and helping with restocking. On Sunday, the group assisted at the Wheatbelt Markets, at the St. John Ambulance sausage sizzle, and the community café serving morning tea.

Site Feedback

"We had so much positive feedback about how willing and obliging the JCW volunteers were. The group did themselves proud. We are very appreciative of the support we receive each year, and look forward to them coming back in 2018."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed having conversations with the locals." - **Cassie Simmonds**

"I learnt how to work at a bbq, it was really social so I got to speak to a lot of people." - **Reshan Perera**

"My favourite part was volunteering and learning from new amazing people, we made an impact on the community, was great."
- **Yu-Wei Chang**



Parkerville 29th September

Project

Volunteers carried out gardening duties including weeding, mulching, mowing and general tidying for the Parkerville Children and Youth Centre's houses in Armadale.

Site Feedback

"We appreciate the ongoing dedication and support of JCW volunteers, and it was a pleasure having the group work with us this year."

Volunteer Feedback

"Everything was great, Site Leader Amberly was amazing."
- Rima El Chami

"I made new friends and challenged myself to speak more often with new people." - Fransiska Puspitasari

"My favourite part was meeting new people and knowing that we helped." - Edwina Liew



Possum Valley 1 16th September

Project

The volunteers undertook four projects at the Animal Sanctuary: putting slabs in paddock huts to keep the animals' feet dry, removing old fencing to prevent animal injury, digging a trench to provide water to a new enclosure, and removing spent hay from a large enclosure.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers had an excellent attitude, were willing to work, respectful and received instructions well."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed learning about the animal rehab process." - Jay Whyte

"My favourite part was meeting and petting the animals."
- Lawrence Alago

"The new skills I learned were teamwork, communication, and empathy for animals." - Pratiq Daya

Possum Valley 2 30th September

Project

The second group of volunteers worked on putting the foundations and slabs in animal shelters, undertook weeding work essential for the upcoming fire season and helped move spent straw.

Site Feedback

"The group worked well as a team and were very keen to learn new skills and meet the animals. We would love to have JCW volunteers visit again."

Volunteer Feedback

"It would be great if we could go for a longer day or a whole weekend, it was awesome." - Nicola Rundle

"I loved seeing the different animals and learning their stories." - Jane Jia Suen Lee

"I learnt how to use a wheelbarrow and I loved getting close to the animals." - Jeannie Lee



Riding for the Disabled, Brigadoon 2nd September

Project

Riding for the Disabled have several large paddocks, and many of these had become overgrown with weeds that are poisonous for horses. The volunteers helped clear several hundred square metres of these weeds, allowing the horses to safely use the paddocks. Other jobs included polishing riding boots.

Site Feedback

"Riding for the Disabled were very appreciative of the volunteers' hard work. They were especially grateful for the volunteers doing work that would normally take the on-site workers several weeks. We were so appreciate of the work by the volunteers that we let the volunteers ride on the horses."

Volunteer Feedback

"It was great going to a beautiful place and being able to work with like-minded students in a welcoming environment." - Blayz Carter

"My favourite part of the weekend was riding horses." - Jed Herne

"I learned about weeding, teamwork, and loved the horses." - Maddie Gribble

Riding for the Disabled, Collie 23rd - 24th September

Project

Volunteers assisted the Riding for the Disabled group in Collie. Their jobs included painting equipment, clearing away fire hazards, raking and installing insulation in the shed.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers were friendly, fun to host, and did lots of jobs. We would love them to participate again next year."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed helping a community group with a good cause, and socialising with friends." - **Keaton Howe**

"I learnt about horses, and fire break safety." - **Laura Cheetham**

"My favourite parts of the weekend were painting, getting to know our hosts and my team members, and the great food."

- **Maria Jacobson**



Riding for the Disabled, Pinjarra 8th - 9th September

Project

The volunteers assisted the Riding for the Disabled Association of Western Australia State Games at Fairbridge Village. They set up the games and marquees, helped score, and assisted with the kids' games, bouncy castle and pack down.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers were a great help and a very dedicated group. We look forward to their assistance in the future."

Volunteer Feedback

"It was great meeting new people, helping out with setting up the event, and getting to ride a horse." - **Jade Laventure**

"I learned how to ride a horse and how to make fairy floss."

- **Tomas Wust**

"It was great to learn how to put up gazebos. I developed my confidence meeting so many new people." - **Bethany Palmer**

Sarawak

22nd September - 7th October

Project

Volunteers worked on three different projects in the rural communities ranging from clean-up, local farming, repairs and painting work, installing solar lamps and water filters in a low-income community village. They also facilitated a school outreach camp for primary school students, focussing on leadership and motivation.

Site Feedback

"I am happy that Curtin University students visited our longhouse, it is good to get to know new people." Rysha, community resident

"I would like to thank the volunteers for their support and help. JCW is a good program."

"I am happy to meet the volunteers and proud of our longhouse residents for the support they have given for every activity held here."

"This is a good community program, the sense of togetherness is very good, especially seeing all assisting in the longhouse."

Volunteer Feedback

"JCW is an event where all volunteers can reach out to communities. In addition, we got to learn about culture in Sarawak. The event taught me to be more appreciative and to continue the volunteerism spirit in my university life." - Wong Chuon Seng, organising chairperson for CV!

"Being a part of JCW was one of the best experiences I've had. Overcoming challenges with inspiring people, experiencing and learning together. At the end, getting to see how every student and facilitator enjoyed the camp." - Yong Li Yee

"This is my fifth JCW, the people were really friendly, and I like the environment. We had lots of fun and the kids were really good. It was really enjoyable." - Sajit Shekhar

"This is my first time with JCW. All of the things we did were memorable, I learnt a lot of different dances, especially from the children at the cultural night." - Nyasha Bennita

"I think it was a great event. My biggest takeaway from JCW is the experience gained; we had quite a lot of learning opportunities." - Kee Kia Wei



Singapore 24th September

Project

Willing Hearts is a charitable organisation which runs a soup kitchen that provides more than 5000 meals daily to over 40 different locations island-wide. Beneficiaries include the elderly, families in poverty and children from single parent families. The volunteers prepared the vegetables, folded the spring rolls, sorted out the bread, marinated fish and moved 50 large bags of rice.

Site Feedback

"The students are hardworking, fearless in their commitments and very enthusiastic. They were a great help to us. We will always welcome them back."

Volunteer Feedback

"I thought the JCW event was a great opportunity for me to lend a helping hand. Alongside my friends, I marinated fish, chopped vegetables and folded samosas."

- Baey Yu-Ling

"I feel like this has been a meaningful event. As I was packing food for the needy, it reminded me to be grateful. I believe that volunteer work should be measured by how much you are willing to do for the needy."

- Alvin Haridjanto

"My experience has been eye-opening as this is my first time helping out at a soup kitchen, made better by working with friends. Volunteering here has given me a sense of fulfilment, I'm glad to be able to be part of it."

- James Wee



SwanCare 7th October

Project

JCW volunteers, SwanCare staff and their partners and children spent the day gardening at the aged-care facility. Under the guidance of the SwanCare village gardening group, the volunteers worked extremely hard and enjoyed spending time with the residents.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers were enthusiastic, worked hard, showed compassion for our residents and were just amazing. We completed all 24 job requests from the senior residents. Thank you again to our wonderful neighbours at Curtin University."

Residents' feedback

"The volunteers were friendly and their help was very much appreciated."
"Thank you so very much for spending your Saturday helping us."
"We never dreamed when helping others in the past that one day we would need that help."

Volunteer Feedback

"I learnt more about aged care and the community behind it."

- Jordan Wilson

"I enjoyed gardening and getting to know some of the residents."

- Anita Lim

"My favourite part was the reactions from the residents once we cleaned their gardens - they really appreciated it."

- Brennan Penfold



Swan Estuary Resources Action Group 1st October

Project

The volunteers undertook bushcare work to increase and strengthen habitat value of a Bush Forever site 402, involving spreading mulch, preparing soil and planting native vegetation in an area previously covered by running grasses.

Site Feedback

"We really enjoyed working with the volunteers, they were interested, enthusiastic and hard-working."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed doing something worthwhile, helping with the environmental project." - **Charlotte Mack**

"My favourite part was working and talking with each other and enjoying the view." - **Xingru Lin**

"The site contact Cathie was lovely." - **Rachel McKenna**



Toodyay Races 23rd - 24th September

Project

The volunteers travelled to Toodyay to assist with the annual community races. They helped with setting up, manning registration desks, marshalling, and packing down after the event.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers were a very cohesive group and their engagement was brilliant. We would love to have them back again next year."

Residents' feedback

"The volunteers were friendly and their help was very much appreciated."
"Thank you so very much for spending your Saturday helping us."
"We never dreamed when helping others in the past that one day we would need that help."

Volunteer Feedback

"I enjoyed helping out at the races with great people." - **Sofie Reidy-Crofts**

"My favourite part was hanging out with my fellow Curtin Student Ambassadors and seeing the races for the first time." - **Regina Nunag**

"I loved walking through the bush and being able to experience the amazing landscape." - **Danielle Leotta**



Toodyay Show 7th - 8th October

Project

Volunteers assisted with the Toodyay Agricultural Show. They helped with equestrian events, accident simulation, conducting an attendance survey, traffic control, helping with face painting, balloon sculpting and bubble making, and assisting in pack up and cleanup of the show grounds.

Site Feedback

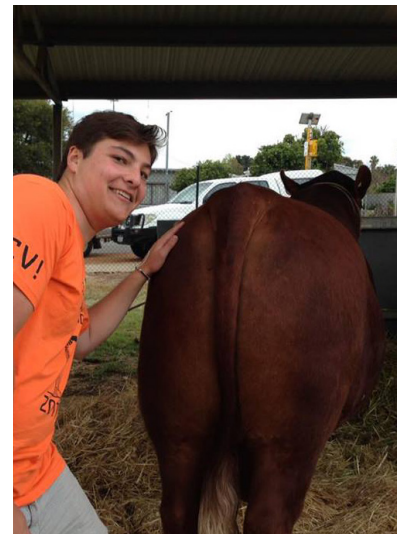
"Our Committee are always pleased to have the volunteers back each year. Apart from the significant contribution they make to the running of the Show, they are a group of young, intelligent and enthusiastic people."

Volunteer Feedback

My favourite part of the weekend was watching the fireworks together with everyone, meeting and talking to the local people." - **Mi Tran**

"I enjoyed walking around to see the show and making balloon art for the kids." - **Norma Bertram**

"I learned how to tie balloon animals and how to approach people to enter them into surveys." - **Nirzari Dave**



Waroona Show 6th - 8th October

Project

Volunteers assisted at the 87th Waroona Agricultural Society Show by setting up, packing down, helping with logistics, parking, and running competitions.

Site Feedback

"The volunteers bring vibrancy, enthusiasm and energy to the Waroona Show. All were eager to learn, take instruction and be flexible. We welcome them back every year."

Residents' feedback

"The volunteers were friendly and their help was very much appreciated."
"Thank you so very much for spending your Saturday helping us."
"We never dreamed when helping others in the past that one day we would need that help."

Volunteer Feedback

"I loved seeing how passionate the Waroona Agricultural Society is and how tirelessly they work putting everything together." - **Jenna Tobey**

"My favourite part was meeting new people and the sense of community in the town." - **Tayla de Valle**

"I learned how to blow up helium balloons, pack up gazebos properly, and how to use two way radios." - **Alicia Phan-Tran**

Waroona - Greener Pastures 2nd September

Project

The volunteers assisted the Greener Pastures Sanctuary on different projects around their farm, including cleaning shelters, clearing paddocks, and collecting wood for the fundraising 'Bonfire in the Pasture' night.

Site Feedback

"All the volunteers were really hard workers, we think they enjoyed their experience at our sanctuary. We have enjoyed their company and hope that they will keep coming to help out."

Volunteer Feedback

"My favourite part of the weekend was interacting with the animals." - Sue Lynn Teh

"I learned about teamwork, communication and working around animals." - Auriah Lane

"I learned how to complete tasks accurately and how to interact with people from different backgrounds." - Tan Jia Ern



Waroona Vintage Machinery Rally 24th September

Project

The volunteers travelled to Waroona to help at the Vintage Machinery Rally. The jobs included setting up at the site, assisting at the entry gate and face painting.

Site Feedback

"We were really glad to have the extra help of the JCW volunteers, they were so helpful and we would love to have them come back again."

Residents' feedback

"My favourite part of the weekend was getting to know new people, and the locals of the town." - Zachary Van Wieringen

"I became a professional at facepainting." - Nyasha Bepete

"I enjoyed having the opportunity to converse with the little children while painting their hands and faces." - Tamika Tembo



Wheelchairs For Kids 7th October

Project

The volunteers travelled to the Wheelchairs for Kids, Wangara factory to help with assembly and packaging of wheelchairs. The wheelchairs are needed for millions of severely disabled children throughout under-resourced countries of the world.

Site Feedback

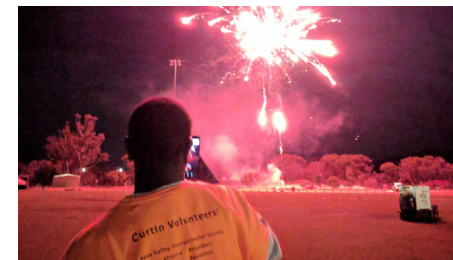
"We are always very appreciative of the assistance from the volunteers, and would love to have them back again next year."

Volunteer Feedback

"I learned some packaging skills and the distribution of the wheelchairs around the world." - *Su Sandar*

"I enjoyed everything and loved every moment." - *Far Hardy*

"I learnt the technical steps to make a wheelchair." - *Saung Yu Lwin*



York Show 2nd - 3rd September

Project

The volunteers helped at the York Agricultural Show with the equestrian event, in the exhibition pavilion, dressed up as mascots, helped with parking and cleaned up after the show.

Site Feedback

"The JCW volunteers did a remarkable job from the lead up and throughout the day. They were eager and willing to please at all times and were a great pleasure to work with."

Residents' feedback

"I enjoyed selling show bags, seeing the fireworks and working with friends." - *Jason Lai*

"It was great getting to interact with locals from all around the area." - *Shelby Goh*

"I learned how to talk to different people of different ages." - *Anesuishe Mtabeni*

York 9th September

Project

The volunteers assisted the Avon Branch of the Wildflower Society WA. They worked tirelessly weeding, spreading mulch, pruning and carting.

Site Feedback

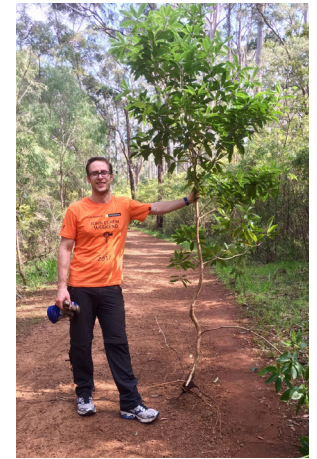
"The volunteers were really helpful working together with our members to keep the garden looking attractive for locals and visitors alike. We were really happy, they were a wonderful group."

Volunteer Feedback

"My favourite part was learning about the different types of native plants." - [Kim Ang](#)

"It was great meeting my fellow volunteers and getting to know them, as well as interacting with the people of York. I also learnt a bit about wildflowers." - [Brad Devon](#)

"I learned how to cooperate and work quickly together in a team." - [Joyce Tsang](#)



SPECIAL THANKS

Gary Hepworth

JCW is an amazing community project and we couldn't do this without Curtin's support. In particular, thanks to Gary Hepworth for his experience and guidance.

JCW Interns

Thanks to Mikayla McKinlay, Dana McMullan and Simon Christie, the awesome interns who worked well to plan and implement JCW. Their project management and attention to detail produced outstanding outcomes.

JCW Sites

Thank you for providing the opportunity for our volunteers to work on your community projects. Our volunteers are always well looked after at the JCW sites.

Regional Coordinators

The Regional Coordinators are a reliable group of experienced volunteers who liaise with the sites, ensuring accurate information is passed onto the Site Leaders. Thank you!



SPECIAL THANKS

Volunteers

Thank you for the time that you give up, your hard work and enthusiasm. The regional and metropolitan sites that you have worked for appreciate your efforts.

JCW Team

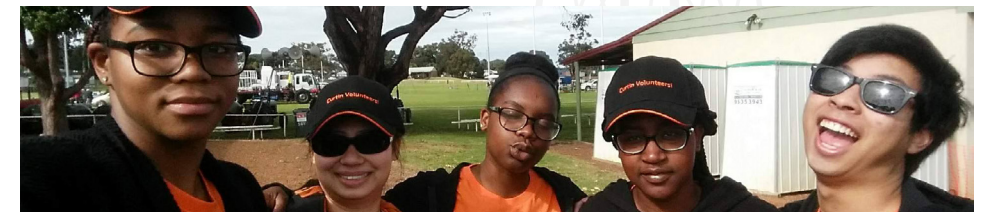
A skilled team of dedicated members who work on different aspects of JCW. Their project management, quality work and timeliness, is appreciated.

Site Leaders

The Site Leaders display excellent leadership and problem solving skills which ensures that the volunteers return safely and achieve great outcomes on the community projects.

Vehicle Drivers

The drivers are an integral part of JCW - we couldn't do it without them. Their skills ensure that the volunteers are transported safely. Their support to the Site Leaders is also appreciated.



Special Thanks

Autism Alliance
Avon Valley Environmental Society
Bunbury
Busselton
Chittering
Cunderdin
Dardanup
Dowerin
Gillingarra
Gingin
Harvey
Kensington
Kondinin
Koorda
Kulin
Kununoppin
Laverton
Margaret River

Meekatharra
Merredin
Narembeen
Northam
Nungarin
Parkerville
Possum Valley, Mt Helena
Riding for the Disabled, Brigadoon
Riding for the Disabled, Collie
Riding for the Disabled, Pinjarra
Sarawak
Singapore
SwanCare
Swan Estuary Resources Action
Group
Toodyay
Waroona
Wheelchairs for Kids
York

Regional Coordinators

Mikayla McKinlay
Dana McMullen
Simon Christie
Kimberley Wynhorst
Matthew Dentamaro
Maureen Meredith

Site Leaders

Adam Goor
Adrian Stoker
Alisha McMullen
Amberly Kilmartin
Amy Owen
Annika Htun
Brie Byles
Carrisa Van Wieringen
Dale Jordan
Danika Wellington
Daniel Sutherland
Emily Theseira
Hannah Salm
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Hope Kleinfelder

Jason Lai
Jayde Frank
Jed Herne
Jessica Leyton
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Kimberly Wynhorst
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Lawrence Alago
Lorenzo Cruz
Luke Mitchell
Marcella Low
Marcus Wong
Megan Heslop

Megan Jarvie
Megha Patel
Mitchell Bruce
Montana Nicholls
Nero Levinson
Prachi Savani
Prithvi Ravi
Rex Tion
Rosie Earl
Russell Tsingano
Sarah Dentamaro
Sarah Jane Ip Kwong
Suzanne Ahern
Tegan Baesjou
Wayne Zaccheus

Vehicle drivers

Aaron Mohann
Aaron Sta Maria
Adam Goor
Adrian Stoker
Amber Camp
Brie Byles
Carrisa Van Wieringen
Chadd Simson
Daniel Sutherland
David Richer
Fergus Downey
Jennifer Talbot
Jessica Leyton
Joanne Rooke
John Rees
Karen Yu
Katie Marshall
Kettesse Hansen
Kym Sher
Liam Richer
Lindsay Talbot

Lisa Ely
Matthew Dentamaro
Megan Heslop
Nadine Elmowafy
Norma Bertram
Paul Yates
Tom Russell
Tristan Kolay
Wilhelm Law

Final round of applause

Year Book Designer

Jay Neish

Yearbook content

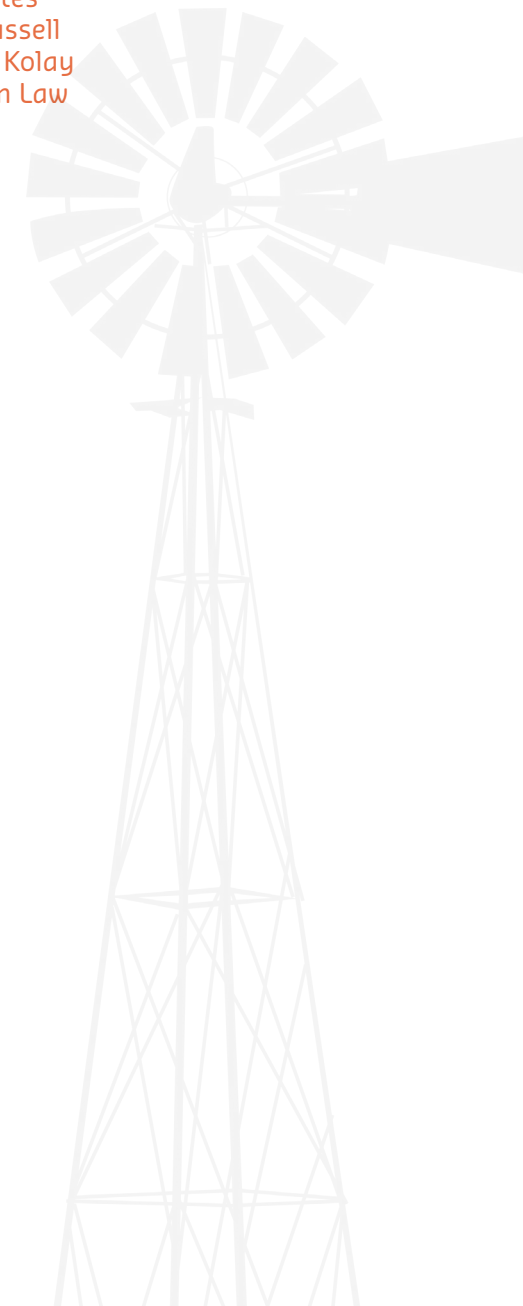
Simon Christie
Stephanie Wessels
Maureen Meredith

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John Curtin Weekend 2018

We welcome your participation in JCW 2018. The dates are the six weekends from 1 September to 6 October.



JOHN CURTIN WEEKEND BY NUMBERS



Number of volunteers

400 in WA
260 in Sarawak
60 in Singapore



2 Planes
3450 kms



31 vehicles
12,000kms Driven

42 Sites

27 Regional
11 Metropolitan
2 International
2 Remote

Our volunteers' countries of origin

Australia
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Burma
Canada
China
Egypt
Finland
Germany
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Ireland

Japan
Kenya
Lebanon
Liechtenstein
Malaysia
Mauritius
Myanmar/Burma
New Zealand
Nigeria
Philippines
Scotland
Serbia
Singapore

South Africa
South Korea
Sri Lanka
Taiwan
Thailand
United Kingdom
United States
Venezuela
Vietnam
Zambia
Zimbabwe