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Maureen Meredith  Coordinator

John Curtin Weekend (JCW) is about providing volunteers with personal and professional development opportunities whilst giving back to the community and dedicating time to help those who need assistance. Over six weekends in September and October, JCW provides the opportunity for volunteers to work alongside communities on projects relevant to the locals in order to achieve a much needed outcome.

This year, over 640 JCW volunteers visited 43 sites including 31 in regional WA, seven in the Perth metropolitan area, four in remote Western Australia and one in Miri, Sarawak (Malaysia). Locally, the projects included environment work, building maintenance and assisting at agricultural shows. The volunteers from Miri, Sarawak worked at local primary schools, assisting with renovations, including painting and creating signs. The volunteers were almost entirely made up of students who come from 42 countries around the world. JCW is now in its 17th year and is Curtin Volunteers!’ largest community project.

This amazing project could not be achieved without the dedication from the volunteers, JCW team, sites, site leaders, regional coordinators and drivers. Thank you to everyone who has been involved. You generously gave your skills and time to help communities and impacted the lives of people that you may never have met before. I know from the feedback received, you have made a big difference in their communities.

Thank you to the sites for your amazing hospitality and giving our volunteers the opportunity to experience life in the country. The volunteers appreciate the unique JCW experiences and they will take away memories that will last a lifetime.

You may never know the difference that you have made to the people and their community; just know that you are appreciated.

I look forward to your involvement in 2016.

Gary Hepworth  Associate Director, Engagement and Community

John Curtin Weekend (JCW) has developed into a major multi-community project, with volunteers assisting in completing projects chosen by regional and metropolitan communities in Western Australia and Sarawak in Malaysia. This year, volunteers travelled to regions as diverse as Koorda, Lake Grace, Tambellup, Dardanup, Laverton and Wiluna. The regional towns share their community and their way of life to otherwise unlikely visitors and develop unique relationships with volunteers.

JCW embraces the challenges and opportunities of our time to change lives for the better, exemplifying the vision that Curtin will be a beacon for positive change. In the next decade, JCW has the opportunity to further expand regionally, nationally and internationally. With the continued dedication and enthusiasm of Curtin students, JCW can continue to grow based in the knowledge that we are working together on projects that benefit communities all over the region. 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.
Annika Htun  CV! President

John Curtin Weekend (JCW) is the largest community project at Curtin Volunteers!, providing incredible opportunities and unique experiences for our students.

This semester, I was lucky enough to be able to participate in two JCW projects, Laverton and Wheelchairs For Kids. The experiences were incredible. During these volunteering opportunities, I met my inspiring team mates who are so selfless, caring, devoted, hardworking and wonderful individuals who gave up their time willingly for purpose of helping out these communities. I have learnt so much from all these experiences that I have realised my own passion and experienced personal change and growth.

Being part of Curtin Volunteers!, I have been overwhelmed and humbled to personally witness the hard work and the impact our volunteers make at the sites and to understand the value provided from the perspectives of our community partners.

As a student myself, I feel that JCW is an incredible opportunity which brings students from various backgrounds and faculties together to make an impact in our community. I believe that JCW empowers students by providing opportunities that enhance their personal and professional development and allow them to embody John Curtin’s values of Vision, Leadership and Community Service.

JCW’s tremendous success is due to the hard work and dedication of our volunteer JCW team, led by our incredible Maureen Meredith (Mo) with the remarkable assistance of her Interns and Regional Coordinators. I would like to thank all of the amazing people who make JCW possible including our hardworking site leaders, extremely reliable bus drivers, our valued community partners and all our student volunteers.

When I first joined CV!, my incredible mentors, Marc, Mo and Krish taught me that “true volunteering is giving without expectation”. They also taught me that “it is the nature of volunteering that rewards you more than what you give”. I have gained so much through my journey and it has changed me tremendously. I would like to encourage my fellow students to continue to participate in the incredible opportunities provided by Curtin Volunteers!, as I have found them invaluable in my student journey.

I hope you enjoy this yearbook that celebrates our memories and experiences from JCW 2015 and let’s look forward to new JCW adventures in 2016!
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 emulate his community service 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 weekend, 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 we hired buses to take the volunteers to the sites. Feedback from the towns and the volunteers was extremely positive about the whole experience.

This format has continued throughout the years and the project has rapidly expanded to 43 sites and over 640 volunteers. JCW has become an amazing community project that benefits those in need while providing meaningful experiences for all involved.

JCW Team

Maureen Meredith  
JCW Coordinator and Regional Coordinator

Liz Skinner  
JCW Intern, Regional Coordinator, Sundowner

Talia Melsom  
JCW Intern, Regional Coordinator, Sundowner

Michelle Vuailat  
Slideshow

Fraser Sprunt  
Graphic Designer

Liam Richer  
Photo Competition

Jessica Wall  
Marketing Advisor

Gary Hepworth  
Advisor

Jo Armstrong  
JCW Intern, Regional Coordinator, Sundowner

Xavier Hazard  
Slideshow

Natasha Curran  
Year Book Designer

Marc Phillips  
Advisor
**Avon Valley Environmental Society**

**Project**
 Volunteers traveled to Northam to provide much needed assistance to the Avon Valley Environmental Society. The volunteers worked with the locals to extend walking tracks on the Dorntj Koorliny (Walking Together) Track, they also cleaned up the surrounding area and planted seedlings.

**Site Feedback**

The volunteers were a very willing bunch who were fully cooperative and worked well together.

*Matthew Bilitec*

“My favourite part of the weekend was doing peaceful and entertaining traildozing around nature. The Horsley’s farm was fantastic.”

*Na Young Kim*

“I learnt Aussie slang words.”

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**Bolgart**

**Project**
 Volunteers traveled to the town of Bolgart to assist the community to prepare for the West Oz Blues Festival a fortnight later. Volunteers worked with the locals to tidy and remove timber from the Bolgart Community Park, also helping to cart the cut wood away and rake the paths.

**Site Feedback**

The volunteers were very helpful. They were an absolute delight to have in our country town, always smiling and still working hard, we would love to have them help us again next year.

*Jordan Mihic*

“I learnt how to sort wool.”

*Donna Rade*

“I met new friends, I enjoyed having dinner with the local community, also learnt how to play cards.”

*Wang Fan (Joy)*

“I learnt team work and I enjoyed dinner with the local people on Saturday night.”
Bunbury 5th - 6th Sept

Project
The SolarisCare Foundation required volunteers at the South West Cancer Support Centre to implement the redesign of the front garden. Tasks included the re-establishment of garden beds, pruning, weeding, planting and mulching.

Site Feedback
The volunteers were given a vast area that was neglected and they created something quite beautiful that delivers a strong message of welcome to our patients. They worked hard and delivered a great outcome, thank you.

Dylan Nguyen
“I learnt how to dig out and replant roses and use a crowbar.”

Alyson Chin
“I appreciated the really awesome people, both fellow volunteers and the people at SolarisCare who looked after us so well.”

Bunbury 12th - 13th Sept

Project
The SolarisCare Foundation were grateful for the assistance a second group of volunteers at the South West Cancer Centre. The group worked with the locals focussing on the redevelopment of the rear garden, establishing an informal seating area, a dining and BBQ area, a lawn area and a herb and vegetable garden.

Site Feedback
The volunteers’ work ethic was outstanding and without them we would not have achieved such an ambitious undertaking in such a short time frame. They showed initiative, independence and were incredible! The area can now be enjoyed by the patients, their families, volunteers and staff.

Marcella Low
“I learnt how to build a cabinet, plant an amazing garden and how to build an arbor.”

Jocelyn Tang
“My favourite part was seeing the garden when it was complete and spending time with friends.”
**Busselton 2nd - 4th Oct**

**Project**
Volunteers assisted the 1st Busselton Scout group with their annual upkeep and maintenance of the grounds and hall to comply with local shire regulations. Work included raking, shovelling and trimming for the fire breaks and planting trees.

**Site Feedback**
Thank you to the JCW volunteers. The 1st Busselton Scout group appreciate your help once again and we enjoy the time we spend with you, we look forward to seeing you next year.

*Emma Johnson*
“My favourite part was working alongside other people, seeing the results of our work, enjoying amazing hospitality and food.”

*Richard Handoko*
“I learnt lawn mowing.”

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**Chittering 12th - 13th Sept**

**Project**
The volunteers assisted with various duties around the Chittering Landcare Centre as well as planting screening plants and establishing some garden areas at the Brockman Centre, south of Bindoon.

**Site Feedback**
Willing, enthusiastic, positive, friendly, adaptable… do I need to go on?! What a lovely group of young people, a pleasure to host in our Shire.

*Sarah Al-halk*
“My favourite part was seeing all the animals and being able to touch and play with them.”

*Peter Sepede*
“I learnt about gardening, teamwork and trust building.”
**Corrigin 12th - 13th Sept**

**Project**
Volunteers assisted at the Corrigin Agricultural Society Show by helping at the gate, selling show bags, assisting at the pizza van, on a broom at the Shears and packing up equipment on show afternoon and Sunday morning.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers were very polite and most appreciative of our hospitality. Over the years JCW volunteers have made a wonderful contribution to the Corrigin Show.

*Alison Shak*
“My favourite part was being at the shearing section. We learnt how to throw the wool like champions, clean the wool and see how wool was packed for industry. People there were kind and friendly.”

*Zheng Yin Hon*
“I learnt how to handle ticket sales and communicate with customers.”

**Cunderdin 3rd - 4th Oct**

**Project**
Volunteers worked at the Cunderdin Museum Pump Station No. 3, restructuring the upstairs storage area, conducted a museum SWOT analysis, dismantled and stored Gwen Watson felting and wool display and revamped the school house display.

**Site Feedback**
A fantastic effort by a wonderful, enthusiastic team. They treated our collection with the respect and care it deserves, I love the JCW volunteers and every year, I’m impressed by the dedicated people involved. They are a credit to their university and themselves.

*Florence Tang*
“I enjoyed being out in the country and experiencing the quiet and stillness and the stars.”

*Sarah Dentamaro*
“I learnt how to organise things in a museum and loved the fulfillment of cleaning the store room.”
Dardanup 9th - 11th Oct

**Project**
Volunteers provided the locals of Dardanup much needed assistance at the Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival. Tasks included helping at the Sumo wrestling, fencing around the Bull and Barrel sculpture and then dismantling the tents, storing tables and chairs and picking up rubbish.

**Site Feedback**
Many thanks go to these volunteers who give up their time to help out with many duties all done with excellence and friendliness. We certainly look forward to hosting keen and ever helpful volunteers again next year.

*Ferges Dowey*
“I learnt how to milk a cow.”

*Lenny Liyana*
“Everything was amazing and full of joy.”

*Will Bell*
“I enjoyed helping out the kids at the Sumo wrestling station.”

Duyfken 3rd - 4th Oct

**Project**
The volunteers were in for a treat when they ventured to work on the Duyfken, a replica of the 16th century ship that was the first European vessel to sight Australia in 1606. The Duyfken was up on dry dock in North Fremantle so the volunteers worked together there to paint the hull with protective paint in preparation for other work done by the Duyfken volunteers.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers worked tirelessly to help with the maintenance of the Duyfken. They were a cheerful group who enjoyed being on a 16th century replica ship. Thanks for your great effort.

*Jasmine Fong*
“I enjoyed hearing about the history of the Duyfken and how passionate the workers and volunteers are about the ship.”

*Nishevitha Shanmugarajah*
“I enjoyed doing an activity for a project I didn’t really think about before – it has cultural benefits for the community as a whole.”
Gingin 18th - 20th Sept

Project
Volunteers traveled to the Gravity Discovery Centre and assisted by installing and painting marker posts on the 2km bush walk trail. The group also helped at the Gingin Science Festival with a variety of tasks, including helping with the sausage sizzle and kids entertainment.

Site Feedback
Once again, a dedicated group of JCW volunteers has provided assistance to the Gravity Discovery Centre. We cannot thank you enough for the enthusiasm that they showed over the weekend. Hope to see you next year.

Tina Przulj
“I enjoyed painting, setting up gazebos and engaging the kids of the town in science.”

Sarah Campion
“I learnt heaps about the universe at the Gingin Gravity Discovery Centre.”

Harvey 12th - 13th Sept

Project
Volunteers got a taste for the true country life, undertaking environmental work alongside the Harvey River and local reserves. The group helped plant a variety of native plants, did tree guarding, removed weeds and cleaned up in the area. Volunteers spent the night in the homes of local residents, who provided hearty, home-cooked country meals.

Site Feedback
The volunteers give the local environment workers a boost and increases their enthusiasm to continue. The group were very helpful working on the projects, it is a pleasure to host these dedicated volunteers.

Rob Di Giovanni
“I learnt how to use teamwork to pull out huge trees.”

Emma Love
“My favourite part was making a difference in the landscape and actually seeing how we helped with planting and gardening.”
Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre 5th Sept

**Project**
The Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre focuses on the rescue, rehabilitation and release of WA’s three black cockatoo species. The enthusiastic volunteers helped by planting trees, weeding, mulching and feeding animals. Interacting with the black cockatoos was a treat for the volunteers.

**Site Feedback**
We were very happy with the work the volunteers did. You have saved us a lot of time and we will continue to complete the work. Thank you, I am glad that you enjoyed your day with us.

*Shalia Goveader*
“I learnt how to weed and stay away from geese.”

*S. Banushan*
“I used a shovel for the first time, it was something new for me!”

*Chee chin Ng*
“I fed animals, planted and had a bird sit on my shoulder.”

Kensington 6th Sept

**Project**
The volunteers hand weeded the large patches of invasive gladioli’s from the Town of Victoria Park’s most valued community bushland. Working with the locals, they steered the troop to collect a bountiful harvest of gladioli’s.

**Site Feedback**
The JCW volunteers arrived early in their glowing orange t-shirts to fill many sacks of the bulbous weeds. Thanks to the volunteers and Town of Victoria Park staff for their continued support for the Kensington Bushland’s Grab a Gladdy day.

*Francielle da Silva Rodrigues*
“Getting to know new people was nice. It is also gratifying to help the community and the environment.”

*Kim Goei*
“I learnt about gladioli weeds and how they can damage other plants and how to remove them.”
Koorda 5th - 6th Sept

Project
Volunteers ventured into the community of Koorda and worked together with the locals to ensure the annual Agricultural Show ran smoothly. With great country hospitality, the Koorda JCW was certainly fun and rewarding.

Site Feedback
The volunteers were great, setting up and looking after the games of skill and candy floss stalls. They were always looking for ways to help out and never complained, even coming in early to start packing up on the Sunday. We’d love to have them around again next year!

Luke Mitchell
“I learned how to work at the food stall as well as improve my communication skills.”

Izama Madeinie
“My favourite part of the weekend was contributing to the Show, helping with the games and giving prizes.”

Kulin 19th - 20th Sept

Project
Volunteers traveled to the wheatbelt town of Kulin to assist the community prepare for the 21st Kulin Bush Races. The group helped by painting the tin horses on Tin Horse highway, laying pipes and conduits and doing general cleanup jobs. A trip to Kulin is always rewarding and fun, and this one was no exception!

Site Feedback
There is always a lot of preparation necessary for the Kulin Bush Races. We appreciated the group traveling to Kulin two weeks prior to race day to help with the many tasks. Their assistance was really appreciated.

Lydia Djaya
“Dinner with the community over the fire and painting the tin horses were my favourites.”

Alex Ahern
“I enjoyed helping the locals of Kulin with the different tasks – painting the tin horses, laying pipes and conduits.”
Kulin 2nd - 4th Oct

**Project**
Volunteers assisted at the 21st Kulin Bush Races, working together in a busy, friendly environment. Jobs undertaken included helping at food outlets, selling souvenirs at market stalls, balloon sculpturing and face painting at the kids’ tent and cleaning up. Volunteers rotated through a variety of jobs on race day and did a big clean up on Sunday morning.

**Site Feedback**
The Kulin Bush Races would like to express our thanks to the volunteers for all their help. The distribution of volunteers was sometimes unpredictable but the volunteers were flexible and hard working. A successful weekend where everyone had fun and learnt something new. Hope to see you next year.

_Zachary Baldock_
“I enjoyed working in the kids’ tent and learnt balloon sculpturing.”

_Nero Levinson_
“I learnt to sleep through snoring. Talking to the locals increased my social interaction skills and confidence.”

Kununoppin 9th - 11th Oct

**Project**
Volunteers assisted running stalls, helping in the kitchen or face painting at the Kununoppin Hospital Fundraiser Fete, held at Bencubbin. Some volunteers also gained experience as models in the fashion parade. Sunday was spent helping around the Kununoppin Hospital. Volunteers had the opportunity to stay in the nurses’ quarters, and were even lucky enough to see a bush thunderstorm.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers’ hard work at the Fete and around the Hospital was appreciated by all the Auxiliary members. We hope you all enjoyed visiting Kununoppin and Bencubbin, and learning to play lawn bowls on Saturday evening. We had fun teaching you!

_Jia Jia Tan_
“I enjoyed the awesome activities. The country people are fabulous.”

_Alex Peters_
“I enjoyed lawn bowls, learnt techniques and enjoyed the experience of working in a canteen.”
Lake Grace 2nd - 4th Oct

Project
Volunteers traveled south to work with the Lake Grace Lions Club on their community projects. Members and volunteers worked together sealing the rammed earth entry statements with raw emulsion and repainting a sign at Lions Park.

Site Feedback
The volunteers all displayed respect, good manners, maturity and enthusiasm befitting of a group of young people representing Curtin University. The volunteers seemed to be having fun themselves which we love to see. It was great to see the bus driver, David Lord, again - he is always in good spirits.

Flavia Steinauer
“I learnt how to communicate better with more remote communities, survive without reception and realised the importance of community involvement.”

Mujtaba Arif
“I got an insight into the lives of farming people living in the country. I learnt team communication, patience and meeting skills.”

Laverton 28th Sept - 2nd Oct

Project
Volunteers traveled to Laverton to spend the week engaging with the local children in a range of exciting activities including art and craft, sport, community BBQs and an overnight camp.

Site Feedback
The school holidays were amazing, fun was had by all. Special thanks to the crew from Curtin Volunteers! so special when the volunteers come up.

Annika Htun
“It was such an awesome experience for me.”
Leonora 28th Sept - 2nd Oct

Project
Volunteers flew to the remote Goldfields community of Leonora to assist with the school holiday program. This was a wonderful week full of arts and craft, music, sports, a games night and community cooking adventures.

Site Feedback
The way each volunteer interacted with the children and joined in the activities was really great. The games they prepared and led for games night were a great success.

Ronica Chigwaja
“The project was pretty fine, with very friendly people.”

Caio Graf Borges
“It was a great learning experience.”

Margaret River 19th - 20th Sept

Project
The volunteers completed cleaning around Rotary Park and the Old Settlement run by the Historical Society. They also repainted the iconic steam train and re-oiled the wooden decked pathway and veranda areas of Old Settlement School House and Group Settlement house adjacent to Rotary Park.

Site Feedback
We enjoyed the team’s terrific work ethic and group cohesion and the way they came together to work so well and with joy for the benefit of others. Fantastic job, well done! Grateful thanks from The Historical Society and Rotary, Margaret River.

Eeshwar Rajagapalan
“I enjoyed dinner with the host Rotarians around a fire, good conversation, great food and friends.”

Kristen Barker
“I enjoyed meeting new people, having dinner together by the fire, helping at Rotary Park and great country hospitality.”
Margaret River 25th - 27th Sept

**Project**
Volunteers traveled to Margaret River to work on a joint project between Curtin University and Cancer Support WA. Volunteers felled and cleared trees and bushland to create firebreaks for the summer. They then sorted wood into piles all over the property to be kept as firewood. The fence around the vegetable garden was fixed and reinforced and arum lilies were cut to try to prevent the spread of the weed.

**Site Feedback**
I was overwhelmed at the helpful attitude everyone showed. The volunteers worked very hard, consistently and achieved so much. Words just don’t express how I feel about meeting these special people and the amazing support from them.

*James Boyle*
“The teamwork and camaraderie, and the time spent around the fire at night, memorable.”

*Andra Griffond*
“My favourite part was seeing people getting together for a good cause. I learnt to chop and pile wood, trimming and social skills.”

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Meekatharra 25th Sept - 2nd Oct

**Project**
Six volunteers assisted at the annual Meekatharra Festival, before continuing on to assist the local youth services with their school holiday program. It was definitely a busy week and a great opportunity to experience the best of outback community life!

**Site Feedback**
I was really satisfied with the volunteers, their interaction was very good.

“I rate this experience a 10/10! I made friends for a lifetime and I gained so much knowledge, the entire trip was fantastic. I would not change a thing.”
Merredin 5th - 6th Sept

Project
Volunteers assisted the community of Merredin by building and painting new plant boxes, assembling a new shed and using old railway sleepers to create a path at the Merredin Community Garden. They also assisted the Merredin Hands for Earth group in clearing a full trailer load of rubbish.

Site Feedback
It was great to see the volunteers try new things, helping the community and learning along the way. The input of the volunteers allows us to achieve projects in a weekend that would otherwise take all year to complete.

Sarah-Jane Noble
“It was great hanging out with the group and helping the locals who were nice.”

Lewis Oliver
“I enjoyed collaborating with a team.”

Christian Joachim
“Building a shed was fun.”

Mukinbudin 11th - 13th Sept

Project
Volunteers traveled to the wheatbelt town to assist with the Mukinbudin Spring Festival. They helped set up the beach to bush deco at the Sporting Oval and also served food. On Saturday, the volunteers directed traffic, assisted stall holders and helped with the de-installation of the Art Exhibition. Sunday was spent clearing up and packing away after the event.

Site Feedback
The volunteers were incredibly helpful to our small rural community. Our event would not have been possible without them and their friendly personalities. A massive job with the volunteers working efficiently and always with a smile on their face.

Wanyu Zhang (Evelyn)
“Several favourite parts: selling popcorn on Friday, listening to the band on Saturday and playing games with the lovely children.”

He Danshuo
“Working together with a group is the happiest thing, helping prepare the Spring Festival was my favourite part.”
Narembeen 3rd - 4th Oct

**Project**
The volunteers assisted the Narembeen Historical Society with the preparations for their 50th anniversary celebrations. Their tasks included: polishing old brass musical instruments and silverware, raking and tidying gardens outside the old church as well as tending to the Grain Discovery Centre.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers were very helpful. There are a lot of items in the museum and without their help it wouldn’t have been completed in time for the celebrations. We really enjoyed having everyone here and showing them our town. I think they also enjoyed the experience, especially the visit to the farm.

*Nick Lowry*
“I learnt how barley is planted and harvested and loved the team spirit. I loved visiting Sheree and Bevan’s farm.”

*Novita Mulyani*
“I learnt about polishing and how to catch yabbies (the prawn thing).”

Northam 11th - 12th Sept

**Project**
Volunteers helped out at the annual Northam Agricultural Show. They set up on Friday, assisted throughout the day working in the Exhibition Hall, helping the judges at the equestrian centre and clearing up on Saturday.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers were interested in the activities at the Show, learning aspects of agriculture they may not have considered previously. They showed a willingness to be helpful and worked together in a fun atmosphere and provided much needed assistance. Many thanks from the Northam locals.

*Daniel Ha*
“I learnt how to feed chickens and a lot about chickens generally.”

*Tannishtha Haldar*
“I learnt about horses, leadership and responsibility.”
**Nungarin 3rd - 4th Oct**

**Project**
The volunteers traveled to Nungarin to assist at the Mangowine Concert at the Mangowine Homestead. They put together the VIP and Sponsor hampers assisted at food outlets, stacked away tables and chairs and helped dismantle overhead shelters. On Sunday, the volunteers were cooking burgers for the Wheatbelt Markets stall holders and serving food to the public.

**Site Feedback**
We were extremely grateful to the volunteers for their preparedness to work, displaying enthusiasm and going about the tasks asked of them in an orderly and happy manner. A great bunch of volunteers who we hope can return again in 2016.

*Frances Jones*
“My favourite part was the openness and kindness of the locals who were always up for a positive chat.”

*Uli Pretorius*
“I enjoyed the local hospitality and learnt to be confident in conversation.”

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**Parkerville 18th Sept**

**Project**
The mission of Parkerville Children and Youth Care is to protect, care, advocate and promote recovery for children and young people who have experienced trauma. Volunteers assisted Parkerville by working on the gardens, laid statues, moved garden art and worked on the gardens of the foster care homes.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers enjoyed their time with us at Parkerville, they worked well and did a great job, hope to see them again next year.

*Kaitlyn Perkins*
“I’m from the US so it was great getting to meet and work with new people.”

*Jade Chow*
“The whole team worked well together and got along.”
**Pingelly 18th - 20th Sept**

**Project**
The volunteers traveled to the South East town of Pingelly to assist with the maintenance of the war memorial park in the centre of town. Work involved digging up garden beds (including tree roots) and replacing the soil, mulching and planting flowers. Volunteers used shovels, wheelbarrows and rakes to undertake the challenge but rewarding activity.

**Site Feedback**
A great group of volunteers, always willing to work hard and mix with our locals. They achieved a lot and we sincerely thank them for that. Always a great weekend for everyone.

*Lucas Sukadana*
“I enjoyed being able to volunteer but also make a meaningful contribution to society.”

*Bec Byrne*
“I learnt how to make a garden bed that will grow things.”

*Graham Goslin*
“Great weekend, I enjoyed working and eating dinner with the locals.”

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**Riding for Disabled, Brigadoon 3rd Oct**

**Project**
The volunteers worked with the members of the RDA, Brigadoon to clear Patterson’s curse, a weed that can make horses ill. They also spread mulch in the pony paddock and helped out where they could.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers were willing and helpful, working hard on a hot day. They were also really friendly and lots of fun. Always welcome at RDA, Brigadoon.

*Deborah Quek*
“I enjoyed spending time with friends, meeting new people and doing something meaningful out of my comfort zone.”

*Caryn Teo*
“I learnt how to shovel mulch and even out the dips on the ground.”
Project
Volunteers assisted at the RDAWA State Games at Fairbridge Farm, arriving on Friday night they helped set up equipment, courses, stands, merchandise and assisted again on Saturday with medals and general jobs.

Site Feedback
The volunteers really helped, they were willing workers and a very friendly group who achieved so much. A rewarding experience for all.

Amy Chronis
“I learnt how an event like this can be set up and organised.”

Catherine Leong
“I learnt leadership, setting up a marquee, working in a team – great weekend.”
Project

Volunteers traveled to assist six rural communities and one rural primary school in Miri Division. Community activities included basic road repairs, painting, helping out at small oil palm plantations, clean-up activities, and motivational workshops for school children. The volunteers also assisted the local health department with activities such as health workshops and basic medical check-ups.

Rumah Genatan, Pidek Sibuti
Khai Loon
“Obviously, small changes and small steps created massive impact to the residents and ourselves, this is an amazing project where everyone benefits.”

Rumah James Biri, Bukit Enteli
Kuap Jalo
Dickson Chong
“Leading a team of people with so much volunteering spirit is the best thing ever. We painted non-stop till the sun set. We know we are doing it right when we see the smiles on their faces.”

Rumah Ayai, Batu Niah
Hillary Ho
“Seeing the faces of the elderly and every resident in the long house when they penned their wishes on the lanterns, was such a heartwarming sight.”

Rumah Jarek, Sungai Ukong, Lambir
Wen Jing
“The feeling of leading a group of people to work at a rural long house is truly incredible. Experiencing bonding moments and cultural exchange.”

Rumah Ampik, Lambir
Reine Beryl
“JCW in Rumah Ampik was a success! The volunteers did an amazing job of painting the house exterior and creating the new community sign board.”

Rumah Agan, Batu Niah
Jasmond Sim
“JCW was an eye opener for all. We are able to experience their culture, food, living style and enthusiasm while doing community work at the same time.”

Rumah Jarek, Sungai Ukong, Lambir
Wen Jing
“The feeling of leading a group of people to work at a rural long house is truly incredible. Experiencing bonding moments and cultural exchange.”
SwanCare 10th Oct

Project
Volunteers walked to SwanCare, Curtin’s close neighbours. They assisted with general jobs consisting of weeding, planting shrubs, raking, sweeping and watering.

Site Feedback
Volunteers were able to mix with the local seniors while undertaking their jobs. Assistance such as this gave the seniors a real boost. Thank you for the annual visit of your great volunteers.

Laura Gaunt
“I enjoyed being able to give back to the community and interacting with the residents.”

Eeshwar Rajagopalan
“Nice being thanked by the residents for the help we were providing.”

Tambellup 10th - 11th Oct

Project
Enthusiastic volunteers traveled to assist at the Tambellup Agricultural Show. The team had a fantastic time painting faces and interacting with the locals. The dog jumping show was one particular highlight! The team stayed in a local shearing quarters and were able to go on a farm tour to see how life on the farm operated. The day after the show, the volunteers were treated to an Aussie BBQ and a chat with many more locals.

Site Feedback
Our community were happy and grateful for all the work of the volunteers, they were enthusiastic and cheerful, making the weekend one to remember for all.

Meg Mathys
“I learnt new leadership skills, how to get along with new people and make strong connections.”

Lauren Noonan
“I learnt face painting, surviving a four hour van drive, and lots of things about farm life and crop farming.”

Kaitlyn Perkins
“I really enjoyed the farm tour.”
Toodyay Races 26th - 27th Sept

**Project**
Volunteers were keen to assist at the Toodyay Community Race Day. The volunteers worked together doing jobs such as preparing the track, cleaning and setting up for the races on Saturday and assisting on race day.

**Site Feedback**
Thanks to all members of the JCW group for their hard work and diligence at our race day. Your contribution added to the success of the day. Thank you for the plaque and t-shirt, we will treasure them.

*Stephanie Brokenshire*
“I learnt how to be productive and predict what jobs need to be done.”

*Pitchaporn Settachinpong*
“I met many people from different countries and enjoyed a good dinner.”

Toodyay Show 10th - 11th Oct

**Project**
Volunteers helped at the Toodyay Agricultural Show, doing balloon sculpturing, and taking part in a simulated accident scene demonstration, being “treated and assessed” and “extracted.” They also helped with the cleanup tasks after the show.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers were really helpful. At such a busy time, we are grateful to have some extra, willing people around to assist. They made things so much easier, thank you. Hope to see you next year.

*Irene Soon*
“I learnt balloon sculpturing and I enjoyed the fireworks and working as a team to achieve a goal.”

*Wayne Zacccheus*
“It was great to meet the locals, make new friends and work together.”
Waroona Show 9th - 11th Oct

Project
The volunteers assisted at the Waroona Agricultural Show by directing parking, working on the admission gates, assisting stewards in the Hall, cattle sections, monitoring the milking of cows, assisting the entertainers and dismantling marquees.

Site Feedback
What impressed our committee most was the extremely high level of common sense and initiative shown by the volunteers. We were all amused when the students were having fun dancing on the stage with some little children! Don’t know how we could do without the volunteers now.

Amanda Crouch
“The fireworks were amazing and the people were also super friendly.”

Briar Falgoust
“I am from the US so I enjoyed meeting the locals and staying the night in a beautiful house on a farm property.”

Waroona Vintage Machinery Rally 20th Sept

Project
Volunteers assisted at the Waroona Vintage Machinery Rally, a one day event featuring engines, antiques, vintage cars, tool and trucks. The volunteers helped with the event set up, face-painting, canteen and pack up.

Site Feedback
The volunteers were energetic, engaging and fun, they got involved in everything from face-painting children and adults to working in the canteen, wonderful group.

Carrisa Van Wieringen
“I learnt how to face-paint and how to put up a double marquee.”

Nadine Elmowafy
“I enjoyed meeting all the kids and chatting about what kind of face-paint they wanted, loved riding the barrel train.”
Wheelchairs For Kids 10th Oct

**Project**
Wheelchairs For Kids manufacture wheelchairs for poor and disabled children in developing countries. The volunteers put the nuts and bolts into the seats and backs of the wheelchairs and were thrilled to be working on such an amazing project.

**Site Feedback**
All the volunteers were very helpful. They were extremely interested in the project and did great work in putting the wheelchairs together as well as packing them for distribution – we hope you come back again next year.

*Sahaab Akbar*
“I learnt how to package wheelchairs, bend aluminium on a metal press, drill holes in metal frames and team building.”

*Nafisa Akhter*
“I enjoyed meeting Brother Olly and making parts that went into assembling the wheelchairs.”

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Wiluna 2nd Oct

**Project**
Five volunteers were flown to the remote Goldfields’ community of Wiluna to help run a school holiday program, with plenty of swimming pool fun and footy madness! The trip was a fantastic opportunity to learn more about remote communities in WA.

**Site Feedback**
We are once again happy with the volunteers, it is always nice to have them in town. Thank you for the time you give to our community.

*Volunteer*
“The trip was very good.”
York 19th Sept

**Project**
Volunteers assisted members of the Avon branch of the Wildflower society with tasks which included oiling the garden furniture and mulching the garden beds.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers did a superb job of moving large volumes of mulch which will assist in the survival of plants in the garden, thank you so much for your hard work.

*Hope Heinfelder*
“I built upon my teamwork skills.”

*Celine Chid Sin Lin*
“I met new friends and was able to help improve the gardens of York.”
Special Thanks!

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

Curtin Volunteers!
Special thanks to Marc Phillips, Krishan Shah, Abeena Mohann, Annika Htun and Alyson Chin from Curtin Volunteers! This amazing group of leaders provide volunteers with opportunities that benefit everyone.

JCW Interns
Jo Armstrong, Liz Skinner and Talia Melsom worked tirelessly throughout the year to plan and implement JCW. With maturity beyond their years, they project managed JCW to achieve great outcomes. Their persistence and willingness to work effectively was appreciated.

JCW Sites
Thank you for participating in JCW, allowing our volunteers to have the opportunity to work on your community projects. Thanks also for accommodation, catering and great hospitality.

Volunteers
Thank you for giving up your time. Your commitment, skills and energy are appreciated by the regional and metropolitan sites that you have worked for. Feedback from the sites indicates that your hard work enabled them to complete their projects.

Regional Coordinators
The JCW Regional Coordinators are an efficient and reliable group who communicate with the sites, ensuring accurate information is passed onto the site leaders. Thank you!

Site Leaders
The site leaders shouldered a lot of responsibility to ensure that there is a good outcome at the site and also that the volunteers return safely to Curtin. They displayed excellent leadership and problem solving skills which is appreciated by both the site and their group.

Vehicle Drivers
If we didn’t have the volunteer drivers we could not do JCW. The time that they have given, combined with their skills meant that volunteers returned safely to Curtin. The support that they give to the site leaders is also greatly appreciated.
Acknowledgements

JCW SITES 2015
Avon Valley Environmental Society
Balgard
Bunbury 1
Bunbury 2
Brigadoon
Busselton
Chittering
Corrigin
Cunderdin
Dardanup
Duyfken
Gingin
Harvey
Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre
Kensington
Koorda
Kulin 1
Kulin 2
Kununoppin
Lake Grace
Laverton

Regional Coordinators
Jo Armstrong
Kristen Barker
Talia Melsom
Liz Skinner
Chris Polain
Maureen Meredith

Bus Donors
Como Secondary College
Penrhos College

Site leaders
Abeena Mohann
Aislinn Kowald
Alison Shak
Amanda Thompson
Amber Camp
Annika Htun
Carrisa Van Wieringen
Dana McMullen
Dio Luuwardri
Eeshwar Rajagopalan
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Hannah Salm
Hayley Davis
Hazel Erol
Hui Zhen
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Kirsty Whittle
Kirtika Kayarat
Kizzy Mansukhani
Kristy Walden
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Liz Skinner
Marcella Low
Matt Dentamaro

Vehicle drivers
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Amber Camp
Bianca Pereira
Ben Lowther
Bob Meredith
Brendan Baird
Dan Lewis
David Lord
David Richer
Deborah Quek
Dylan Melsom
Erik Helmerhorst
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Jess Henderson
Jessica Skoog
John Rees
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Kevin Pestell
Lindsay Talbot
Matt Dentamaro
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Tristan Kolay
Wilhelm Law

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Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd
Budget Car and Truck Rentals

Final round of applause
Year Book Designer
Natasha Curran

Yearbook content
Jo Armstrong
Liz Skinner
Talia Melsom
Rob Di Giovanni
Maureen Meredith
John Curtin Weekend 2016

John Curtin Weekend (JCW) is CV!’s largest community project, where volunteers work with the locals on community projects at regional and metropolitan sites. This is an amazing project where everyone benefits.

We welcome your participation in JCW 2016. The dates have been confirmed as the six weekends from 3 September to 8 October.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Maureen Meredith – m.meredith@curtin.edu.au
JCW by numbers.

- **1 International Site**
- **4 Remote and Indigenous Sites**
- **7 Metropolitan Sites**
- **31 Regional Sites**
- **43 Sites in total**
- **16,000 Kilometres**
- **31 Buses and Vans**
- **4 Planes**

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED:
- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Brunei
- Cambodia
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- France
- Germany
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Japan
- Kenya
- Korea
- Lebanon
- Malaysia
- Mauritius
- Myanmar/Burma
- New Zealand
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Peru
- Philippines
- Romania
- Scotland
- Singapore
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Sri Lanka
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- Trinidad
- UK
- USA
- Vietnam
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe