John Curtin Weekend (JCW) is an amazing community project where many people have worked hard to achieve the desired outcome for the sites involved. JCW requires great dedication from the JCW team, sites, site leaders, regional coordinators and vehicle drivers. The extraordinary teamwork and commitment that is shown before and during the project is admirable.

JCW has provided the opportunity for 520 volunteers in WA to work on community projects for the annual ‘backyard blitz’ involving 44 regional and metropolitan sites as well as volunteers working at Curtin Sarawak.

JCW provides an opportunity for the sites to start and finish their community projects. Feedback from the sites indicates how grateful they are to have extra pairs of hands working on their projects. Our volunteers get to experience life in the country and amazing country hospitality.

Well done to everyone who has been involved in JCW. You have worked hard together to achieve outstanding results and it has been an honour to work alongside all of you. It was also an honour to travel to Sydney recently to accept a Highly Commended award in the ‘Social Responsibility’ section of the Australasian Green Gown Awards. I believe that this award reflects the hard work done by many over the years. I look forward to your involvement in future years.

Now in its fifteenth year, John Curtin Weekend (JCW) has developed into a major multi-community project. Over 500 volunteers travelled to 44 sites to complete projects chosen by the regional and metropolitan communities and the return of our volunteers at Curtin Sarawak.

Volunteers travelled to regions as diverse as Gillingarra, Lake Grace, Kulin, Narrogin and Wiluna. The regional towns display their way of life to otherwise unlikely visitors and they develop unique friendships and good relationships with volunteers.

John Curtin Weekend volunteers enjoy a ‘once in a lifetime’ adventure; for most volunteers this is their only experience of country life. They also enjoy socialising with the locals.

In the next decade, JCW has the opportunity to expand regionally, nationally and internationally. With your continued dedication and enthusiasm we can continue to grow into the future based on the knowledge that we are working together on a project that benefits everyone.

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.
What a year for JCW! 2013 has seen a record number of 520 volunteers travel to 44 sites across metropolitan and regional WA, lending a helping hand on a wide variety of local community projects.

2013 has also seen JCW recognised in the Australasian Green Gown Awards, being Highly Commended in the category of ‘Social Responsibility’. This has drawn attention from across the region to the work we do, giving us time to reflect on how far we’ve come in 14 years and also spurred us all further onwards for the future.

Such a massive project cannot come together without the hard work and cooperation of many individuals. An honourable mention of course goes to Maureen Meredith (also known as Mo or the JCW Queen) who has once again done an amazing job of bringing to fruition the vision of a bigger and better JCW. She’s been ably assisted by Liz and Jo, the incredible JCW interns, as well as the regional coordinators, site leaders and vehicle drivers, all of whom are essential to the success of the weekends.

A big thank you also goes to all of the communities who warmly welcome and work alongside us on every one of the weekends, sharing local expertise which greatly enhances the experience for all of us. Lastly, to each and every one of the volunteers, whether this year has been one of many or maybe the first of many, the contributions of your time and skills are so valuable and have collectively helped to bring about positive environmental and social change.

On behalf of the team at Curtin Volunteers!, we’ve enjoyed hearing the stories, seeing the new friendships made, handing out the sleeping bags and being part of the weekends ourselves! Enjoy these photos and memories, thank you again for being a part of JCW 2013 and we hope to see you again next year!
John Curtin Weekend commemorates the anniversary of John Curtin’s accession to the position of 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 exercise 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 -- we had stumbled onto a really great concept!

The format has continued throughout the years and the project has jumped in size to over 44 sites and 600 volunteers. John Curtin Weekend is an amazing community project that benefits everyone involved.
**NAMES & ROLES**

**MAUREEN Meredith**  
JCW Coordinator & Regional Coordinator

**JO Armstrong**  
JCW Intern, Sundowner, Registrations

**JEMMA Morgan**  
JCW Year Book Designer

**LIAM Richer**  
Photo/Video Competitions

**LIZ Skinner**  
JCW Intern, Sundowner, Registrations

**AIMEE Hughes**  
Slideshow

**MARC Phillips**  
Advisor

**KRISHAN Shah**  
Advisor

**COURTNEY Meagher**  
Slideshow

**ELLIE Beurteaux**  
T-shirts

**TALIA Melsom**  
Registrations

**ADAM Goor**  
JCW Map

**FRASER Sprunt**  
Graphic Designer, Slideshow

**GARY Hepworth**  
Advisor

**MATT Kelly**  
Marketing, Advisor

**JO Oliver**  
Year Book Advisor
BALDIVIS CHILDREN’S FOREST

21 SEPTEMBER

Twelve volunteers travelled to assist at the Baldivis Children’s Forest. Volunteers did hand-weeding, straightened tree guards and stakes around seedlings, monitored seedling survival, removed stakes from dead seedlings and shifted reticulation.

The Site:
The volunteers were very helpful when working together on our projects. It was great to see the volunteers so interested in what we do.

My favourite parts of the weekend were meeting new people, learning about nature and seeing how people enjoy themselves.

Leo McBride

My favourite part of the weekend was painting the walls and bonding together at the campfire, helping each other was different and nice.

Sheree Walters

BUSSELTION

11-13 OCTOBER

Twenty volunteers travelled to Busselton, assisting the 1st Cape Naturaliste Scout Group with clearing scrub and bush around the scout hall so they could conform to Shire fire regulations. Other general maintenance was carried out by the enthusiastic volunteers.

The Site:
It was pleasing to receive another great group of volunteers to help at the scout site. Good, fun awards were presented and the singing of the national anthems around the campfire was again a highlight.

My favourite part of the weekend was painting the walls and bonding together at the campfire, helping each other was different and nice.

Naomy Dang

Sirinu Leeson

I loved meeting people from other countries. As I am also a foreigner I like living here and learning new things. I enjoyed doing something constructive to help others.
Volunteers assisted at the North Midlands Show and the Carnamah Town Centenary. Volunteers served food and washed dishes at the Art Exhibition and the Centenary Dinner. At the Show, the volunteers prepared and sold burgers and served food. On Sunday, the volunteers returned to help prepare the Art Exhibition.

**Carnamah**

The best part of the weekend was catering in the morning for the community – I really enjoyed the breakfast preparation.

**Iryna Moh Siew Chiet**

My favourite parts of the weekend were watching the fireworks and helping out at the main gate during the community event.

**Shanna Marsh**

I enjoyed meeting new friends and giving back to the community.

**Samuel Chelanga**

The Site:
We liked the cheerful attitude of the volunteers and their enthusiasm. They were willing to do assigned tasks and worked together well. It was helpful that they all wore their orange John Curtin Weekend T-shirts so they were easily identified.

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**Corrigin**

Ten volunteers travelled to help at the Corrigin Agricultural Show. Work for the volunteers included gate duty, displaying the 34 scarecrows entered into the competition, setting up the show bag stall, selling show bags, working the broom at the Shears competition, catering in the main pavilion and assisting with the flour bomb competition.

13-15 September

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I enjoyed mixing in with the locals and experiencing their lifestyle.

**Josh Barnett**

I enjoyed the sense of community within the town and that we were immediately treated like locals, loved the fireworks.

**Georgie Cooke**

I loved the craft of community within the town and that we were immediately treated like locals, loved the fireworks.

**Katherine Oliver**
Ten volunteers travelled to Cuballing to assist the Dryandra Regional Equestrian Association with their equestrian competition. Jobs included helping in the canteen, shifting equipment, setting up courses, jump judging, marshalling competitors, gear checks, dismantling and packing away equipment, cleaning up grounds, manning the office and PA announcements.

Cassie Paxman

My favourite parts of the weekend were judging cross country and dinner at the hotel.

Carrayne Teo

I enjoyed experiencing the equestrian environment and all the different opportunities to help out. Everyone was really hospitable and welcoming.

Eight volunteers travelled to Cunderdin to assist caterers at the lunch for the 10th anniversary of the Golden Pipeline Project. On Sunday the volunteers did tidying, cleaning and creating an inventory of museum items.

Baz Iyer

Achieving something that made a visible difference and being appreciated, that was the highlight of my JCW.

Katherine Salmon

I really enjoyed meeting new people and helping the community.

Peter Cash

Loved meeting a bunch of new people, the home-stay experience and dinner in town.
Ten volunteers travelled to Dardanup to assist at the Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival. They helped by taking guesses of the weight of a bull in a pen, managing the baby animal pens, taking bets on the great goat race, blowing up balloons in the free kids’ activities tent and cleaning up on Sunday morning.

The Site:
The Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival Committee are again thankful for the JCW volunteers who came along to assist us. The volunteers had a good time and worked really well. I’m sure that they enjoyed interacting with the locals as much as we enjoyed their company.

Chiquita
Volunteering at the Bull and Barrel Festival was great because I had multiple roles in different activities which made it more exciting and gave me wider experience.

I enjoyed watching the burning of the wooden bull and seeing the goats race.

Danial Zubair
My favourite part were helping people, free food and goat racing.

Allan Jiang

11-13 OCTOBER

Ten volunteers travelled to Dowerin, where they worked with the locals to attract wildlife by mulching 100 trees around a site. The group used shovels and hand shovels to place the trees around the site. The volunteers were given a tour that included learning about sheepdogs and watching them being trained.

The Site:
The volunteers were very helpful and extremely friendly. We would be happy if they were to come back to work with us in future years. Thank you.

Angel Kwong
I enjoyed getting to know the locals (and their dogs) and exploring Uberin Rock.

Crystal Leong Suky
My favourite parts of the weekend were learning about sheepdogs and how they’re trained, and taking pictures of the beautiful flowers.

Yu Seng Hoong
I loved planting the trees and can’t wait to see the difference it makes.
Six volunteers had the opportunity of working on the Duyfken, a replica of a 16th century ship. Plans had to change dramatically as it rained all day. This gave the volunteers the chance to learn how to knot and splice some of the old rigging rope to create some beautiful decorations along the dock where the Duyfken is berthed.

This group of volunteers also enjoyed the experience of working on a replica ship. They worked hard during the day, sandpapering the boardwalk prior to painting. A great contribution by this small, enthusiastic group. The Duyfken staff thank you.

The Site:
The volunteers contributed well, they turned their hands to learn new skills when the rain came. The group were enthusiastic and bonded well, thank you for your efforts.

Andrew and Mirjam were great hosts and made our day very enjoyable, despite the weather. We were thrilled to be taught how to knot and splice. Thank you for the opportunity to learn about the history of the ship and about the sailors on board.

Ellie Beurteaux

I liked meeting the people of the town - they were so genuine and welcoming. Lindsay is a champion.

Jeffery Wong

Participating in a seventh consecutive John Curtin Weekend, this year the Gillingarra community hosted eleven volunteers. Tasks included working garden beds; raking; mowing overgrown grass areas; plastering and painting walls; cleaning the badminton area; and washing and cleaning tables, chairs, walls, windows, and toilets. In addition to working on existing amenities, volunteers also worked on new projects. This encompassed renovating the community rental house, placing limestone blocks in the community BBQ area, final re-plastering of public toilets and erecting a large, new community sign.

The Site:
This program works really well for the Gillingarra community. It is so well organized and the JCW team behind it make it easy to be part of, which is why we have been involved for so long. We love the myriad of positives that fall out of this program and the weekend, thanks again to the amazing volunteers. The volunteers were also able to experience farm life, country cooking, and a bonfire under the stars.

I loved the transformation of the site after all the work was done and the satisfaction on the faces of the locals.

Emily Ayam

My favourite part was getting a tour of the fields and having an amazing view of the lands.

Angelina Yeap
Twelve volunteers travelled to Gingin to work at the Gravity Discovery Centre. The observatory had recently installed an old but functional gravity monitoring device in the space outside several buildings. Volunteers worked hard to clear the area, remove the top soil, carry bricks and pavers and pave the whole area.

The Site:
We were very impressed with the volunteers. The tasks were very physical and labour-intensive and we were happy that so much was done by the volunteers in two days. The volunteers were cheery and hardworking, they were led in motivation by Lindsay and Erik.

Chunn How Goh

My favourite parts of the weekend included experiencing new things and meeting new people.

Kazeem Adefemi

My favourite aspects of the weekend were the people, the food and the support from Lindsay and Erik.

Goomalling

12-13 October

Ten volunteers helped a local Goomalling community group, the Slater Homestead Group, cater for a local wedding. Slater Homestead Group is a volunteer management group who look after the historic Slater Homestead, owned by the Shire of Goomalling.

The Site:
The volunteers were extremely helpful as we are a very small volunteer group. We were organised but made sure we left some of the food preparation for the volunteers to do. The serving, clearing and washing up was where we needed the most help and the volunteers dressed appropriately, were courteous and friendly, and undertook all tasks with enthusiasm.

Susan Duncan

The anticipation and excitement of catering and servicing a large function was my favourite part.

Meeting and spending time with our group was great.

Patricia Tanteckchi

I love our team, it was awesome and we had a great site leader - Kym. Our accommodation was lovely too.

Francesca Jose
A fun loving group of twelve volunteers once again assisted the locals of Harvey to undertake environmental work on the Harvey River and local reserves. Volunteers enjoyed the company and hospitality of the locals.

The Site:
Thank you, it is great to have such a nice, helpful group of volunteers who want to keep coming back year after year to help the locals with the Harvey River.

Fantastic company, rewarding work, beautiful town and great food. Seeing the Harvey Dam on the brink of overflowing was great.

Hannah Castledine.

I enjoyed spending time with fellow volunteers and the community and doing work which felt worthwhile.

Alyson Chin

My favourite parts of the weekend included the community spirit and seeing the difference our hard work made to the river environment.

Elizabeth Skinner

Ten volunteers travelled to the new site of Jarrahdale to assist at Holiday Haven. They cleaned the disabled walkways, pruned, swept up and repaired some general areas. During rain breaks the large workshop and BBQ pit were tidied.

The Site:
The volunteers were friendly, enthusiastic and a great help. They were a pleasure to have and the only change would be to see them more often.

I loved seeing the positive change we created.

Sohail Deeplaul

My favourite parts of the weekend were meeting new people and helping out.

Michael Bryan

I enjoyed meeting new people, working hard and the feeling of accomplishment.

Alessandro Mouola
The Site:
Despite the cold and wet weather, the group was very willing to get in and work. It has been a benefit to the centre, as we always have so much to do and a group like JCW volunteers are able to accomplish a big task in a timely manner which otherwise would mean one or two people struggling to complete.

My favourite part of the weekend was playing with the cockatoos.

Jamie McDonald

I enjoyed learning about the endangered species and making new friends.

Dilini Kristhombu Baduge

14 SEPTEMBER

I liked feeling like I did something constructive over the weekend.

Jarrad Gardiner

The volunteers weeded and mulched a large garden bed. They also planted a few of the advanced trees in the enclosures; hopefully these will give shade to the dingoes during summer.

I enjoyed meeting new people and getting up close with nature, as well as interacting with the animals.

Kong Sing Yio
Ten volunteers travelled to the Kensington Bushland Reserve to remove the noxious Gladioli weeds. A huge trailer-load of the weeds was removed from our local natural bushland, so that its environmental value may be maintained.

I enjoyed seeing what we had accomplished at the end of it, and getting to know everyone.

Nicole Lekias

My favourite parts of the day were the weather and the company. Everyone was friendly and great.

Brittany Cant

I loved helping the environment.

Cheyenne O’Callaghan

The Site:
The most striking thing about the volunteers was their willingness to get involved and the volume of weeds that were consequently removed. It was a pleasure to work with the volunteers, and we cannot thank them enough for their help!

7 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers travelled to Koorda to assist at the Koorda Agricultural Show. The volunteers ran the ‘kids’ alley’. They also dressed as clowns, entertained the kids and organised games. Finally, the volunteers worked with the locals to pack up the Show and conduct a general clean up.

7-8 SEPTEMBER

I loved dressing up as a clown, seeing and playing with the kids, the country-side, and the fireworks!

Emma Love

My favourite part of the weekend was being a clown! I loved being silly and making people smile.

Rebekah Hooper

The firework display was amazing, though being clowns was also very enjoyable.

Scott Gibb

The Site:
The volunteers were amazing and friendly people who went out of their way to assist us. Their enthusiasm was infectious and they fitted in well with our community. Love to see them again.

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Nicole Lekias
Twenty three volunteers travelled to Kulin for the 19th annual Kulin Bush Races. The volunteers enjoy going to Kulin because of the atmosphere and variety of work, which includes face painting, serving hamburgers, selling souvenirs, working in the TAB, clearing tables and collecting rubbish.

**4-6 OCTOBER**

**The Site:**
The volunteers had an easy going, energetic and enthusiastic work ethic, proving that no job was too little or too small. We would like to say a huge thank you to the team from Curtin that assisted us in creating another successful bush races! We couldn’t do it without you.

**Zhou Heng**

My favourite was face painting in the kids tent.

**Anna Afzal**

I enjoyed helping out on the day and moving around each of the stations, also the bonfire and the music were great.

**Adam McGlashan**

I loved helping staff and watching the horses racing.

**Zhou Heng**

Twenty three volunteers travelled to Kulin for the 19th annual Kulin Bush Races. The volunteers enjoy going to Kulin because of the atmosphere and variety of work, which includes face painting, serving hamburgers, selling souvenirs, working in the TAB, clearing tables and collecting rubbish.

**11-13 OCTOBER**

**The Site:**
The volunteers were a bright, cheerful and willing group. At the fete, they used their initiative and their efforts during the final clean up at the conclusion of the fete were very impressive and greatly appreciated. The Hospital Auxiliary commented on how nice it was to have the students contributing to the fund raising efforts of over $12,000.

**Phoebe Gadd**

I loved painting the hospital porch.

**Caitlin Hindle**

Loved volunteering at the Hospital Fete, travelling to Bencubbin and Nungarin and experiencing the wheatbelt community. Knowing that we were helping was good.

**Amelia Santoro**

Twenty volunteers travelled to Kununoppin to help out at the Kununoppin and Districts Hospital Auxiliary Fete. The variety of jobs included running the children’s corner activities and supervising children’s outdoor games, servicing on stalls, modelling and assisting in the fashion parade. Back at the Kununoppin Hospital, volunteers painted the hospital verandas and cleaned up around the hospital.

**Loved the Kununoppin Hospital Fete. It was great to see a community pooling together for their hospital.**

**Phoebe Gadd**

Loved volunteering at the Hospital Fete, travelling to Bencubbin and Nungarin and experiencing the wheatbelt community. Knowing that we were helping was good.

**Amelia Santoro**
Fifteen people travelled all the way to Lake Grace to work with the locals to help beautify the Lions Park. Two new garden beds, bordered by rocks, were created and a variety of grasses and shrubs planted. The volunteers removed weeds, sticks and dead plants from the designated areas and then moved a good layer of mulch into the beds.

The Site:
The volunteers were great ambassadors for Curtin University. They were willing workers who didn’t hang back but took the initiative and got stuck into the work when they saw a need. The garden bed that was planted looks lovely and is evidence of their good work. They were happily interacting with each other and engaging with Lions members.

I loved the whole experience and I wish I had gone on more JCWs. I met a lot of great people and was able to help them and had the most amazing food ever since I came to Australia.

Thaisa Martins

My favourite parts of the weekend were the food, the people and just being in the countryside away from the city. Also, getting to help the local community with their projects was fulfilling.

Cheuk Tang

I had a great time on my JCW helping St John’s at their annual fundraising event. It was great to see the whole town coming together. A totally worthwhile experience.

Lauren Redi-Dornbusch

I had a fantastic time on the JCW trip. It was an amazing opportunity to experience life in a remote community and it was really special to be able to enjoy the races with the people of Laverton.

Fiona Shaw

It’s a tradition that has seen St John Laverton and Curtin Volunteers join together for the Laverton Races to help raise money. This year the volunteers helped supply race goers with food and beverage. Over $1000 profit was raised, putting the total raised with the assistance of the volunteers to over $15,000. Without them we wouldn’t be able to run the stall each year. They are part of the Laverton St John’s HEROES!!

Amanda-Lee Lockyer
(Chairperson, Laverton St John Ambulance Subcentre)
Volunteers travelled to Leonora to assist with the Back to Gwalia weekend to remember the 50th anniversary of the closure of the Sons of Gwalia Mine. Without the help of Elizabeth, Andrew, Athena, Cassie and Meng the event would not have been such a success - they helped in all areas of the weekend and always with a smile. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Gwalia Museum to officially thank them.

Gail Ross (Manager, Hoover House Museum)

The JCW weekend in Leonora was such an amazing trip! I was able to help in the Back to Gwalia Weekend. I enjoyed chats to the locals while I helped serve them dinner and breakfast.

Elizabeth Bailey

It felt really good to help at Hoover House, everyone was so appreciative so I didn’t mind working hard. I wish we could have stayed longer!

Andrew Cotterell

The Site:
All in all we were very impressed with the group, their willingness to get involved and the organisation of the program and would love to have the opportunity to participate in future programs. The volunteers were at all times keen to assist with the cooking and cleaning as required.

Twenty volunteers travelled to Margaret River to assist at Wharncliffe Mill. The weather was terrible all weekend, preventing the volunteers from completing the planned environmental work and limiting the recreation options.

My favourite part of the weekend was almost everything – especially enjoying the scenery at the beach.

Ye Yoxig

I enjoyed the sight-seeing and travelling through the forests, coasts and towns.

Lam Yuen

I loved spending time with other volunteers and visiting the chocolate factory.

Paulino Kieliba
MERREdIN

Volunteers travelled to Merredin to assist with community projects. The volunteers planted 65 plants in Pioneer Park, extending what the 2012 volunteers had done. They also worked in the community garden transferring soil into the beds and then planting summer vegetables.

The Site:
The volunteers should be proud of what they achieved and are wonderful ambassadors for Curtin University. They worked with willing hearts and hands, learning about our rural community and undertaking our projects with great enthusiasm and joy. They were here for a short time but had a great time and they are all STARS!!

The entire experience was brilliant! The people in Merredin were friendly, accepting and interesting, and I enjoyed learning about their culture.

Clarence

My favourite part was the people.

Danny Faulkner

My favourite part of the weekend was getting to know the amazing people who live in Merredin – they were so hospitable.

Melissa Sopher

NAREMBEEN

12-13 OCTOBER

Fifteen volunteers travelled to Narembeen, where they assisted with gardening for the Lions Club, a clean up for the Historical Society and painting two 3m Christmas street banners for the Shire. The Shire hosted the volunteers in the evening for a dinner.

The Site:
The volunteers were awesome. Great to have another group of Curtin University students with some internationals added into the group. Thank you.

Clare Barndon

Interacting with and feeling part of the small community was good. Getting to know different people and the yummy dinner that Narembeen made for us.

I love cleaning the gardens.

Douglas Briske

I like the way people received us, they were very hospitable.

Rafaela
Twenty volunteers helped out at the Narrogin Regional Leisure Centre. The volunteers assisted by cleaning and painting squash courts and change rooms; pressure cleaning the pavers around the outside pool; removing agapanthas from an established garden bed and replacing them with other plants; trimming back rosemary bushes and weeding garden beds.

The Site:
The volunteers were a wonderful, happy bunch and we are very grateful we were contacted to be involved. The volunteers applied themselves enthusiastically and the outcome was fantastic. The jobs were done really well, efficiently and professionally.

I enjoyed seeing the end result of everyone’s hard work and spending some time together.

Anneke Coetzer

I enjoyed volunteering, working together to accomplish so much in the short amount of time we had.

Aislinn Kowald

I enjoyed getting the opportunity to support the community and receiving good feedback from some locals.

Shaylee Vekaria

I enjoyed meeting the locals and chatting with them. We were definitely welcomed with open arms.

Jolin Chou

My favourite part of the weekend was helping the locals prepare food for the event.

Aleasha Rahmadi

My favourite part of the weekend was commentating the horse jumping.

Jennifer Cash

Twelve volunteers travelled to Northam to assist with the annual Northam Agricultural Show. The volunteers assisted at show activities and preparation. This included working in the sheep shed, animal nursery and poultry sections; assisting the judges of pony competitions with presenting prizes; helping at the climbing wall activity by assisting with gearing-up and demonstrating safety practices to the children; and making numerous rounds of sandwiches in the catering area for Show volunteers.

The Site:
All the volunteers were well mannered, continuing the tradition established over past years. The acceptance of responsibility in the performance of the allocated duties was, once again, well demonstrated by the students, ensuring the allocated work was well carried out.

My favourite part of the weekend was helping the locals prepare food for the event.

Aleasha Rahmadi

My favourite part of the weekend was commentating the horse jumping.

Jennifer Cash
Ten volunteers travelled to assist with the 100th Nungarin School Reunion, the Mangowine Concert and at the Nungarin markets. Volunteers cleaned and packed up at the reunion venue and Mangowine concert, made food baskets for the people at the concert and cooked at the BBQ at the Nungarin markets.

The Site:
The volunteers were a group of positive, passionate and friendly people and it was a pleasure to have them visit and work with us. We were impressed with how efficient and resourceful they were helping at the 100th Nungarin School Reunion, the Mangowine Concert and at the Nungarin markets. Thank you.

I enjoyed the people we met and hearing their stories, and also learning about the Parkerville program.

Brittany Cant

My favourite part of the weekend was talking to the kids and getting to know them.

Quanita Nathan

I enjoyed planting veggies with the Parkerville kids.

Katie Croston

Favourite part was helping the locals out in their community and having fun at the concert.

Jonathan Whittaker

I enjoyed helping out at the sausage sizzle at the markets on Sunday morning and helping with and watching the concert.

Katelin de Lunge

Loved volunteering at the ABBA concert at Mangowine and loved socialising with all the locals.

Amy McDermott

The Site:

Twelve volunteers travelled to Parkerville and worked alongside the resident youths. The group did mulching, weeding and planting vegetables and native plants – a good day’s work.

13 SEPTEMBER

The John Curtin Weekend volunteers helped us with our projects. Their assistance is very much appreciated by everyone at Parkerville Children and Youth Care. We look forward to seeing everyone next year.

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Katie Croston

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Quanita Nathan

I enjoyed the people we met and hearing their stories, and also learning about the Parkerville program.

Brittany Cant
Volunteers assisted with the laying of limestone barriers and digging holes for railings for an accessible walkway up to the Pingelly Apex Hill Lookout. The walkway now allows for wheelchair access which will make a positive difference to the community.

The Site:
The volunteers were friendly and enthusiastic; they all got on very well with each other, were extremely mature and enjoyed our company as well. A positive outcome for all.

I enjoyed the constant activities and tasks to do.

Ben Dutton

I liked being able to get out and physically work in the rural community.

Isobel Cooke

Making a difference to the development of the rural community was great.

Thomas Russell

Ten volunteers helped Riding for the Disabled with its annual State Games. The volunteers helped set up, manned the registration tent, handed out show bags and competition bibs, worked as marshals and helped with the scoring and running of events.

The Site:
Whilst we have always received great volunteers during past John Curtin Weekends, this band of volunteers was inspiring. They engaged with our riders and were keen to be involved in all aspects of the games. The volunteers were professional, helpful and fun to have around - true leaders of the future. They seemed to genuinely enjoy communicating with the riders and their families. It was a pleasure to work with them.

I really liked helping at the event and getting to know the kids.

Faiz Khaja

My favourite part of the weekend was watching the smiles on the kids’ faces as they paraded around on the horses.

Genevieve Hodge

I enjoyed seeing the wonderful relationships between the riders, horses and coaches.

Karen Taylor
Sixteen volunteers travelled to Quairading to work with the locals. Volunteers assisted with the OneLife funded Glen Mitchell event; some helped in the new kitchen, while others helped the Urban Youth Crew hip hop dancers entertain the kids. They also repainted the basketball courts at the District High School.

The Site:
The volunteers gave their usual very high performance in Quairading this year. They showed a willingness to work, pride in doing a job well and showed humour and enthusiasm at the same time to help a small community.

Loved dancing with the kids, getting them involved and working in a team.

Connor Marwick

Lindsay, our driver, was great.

Danielle Bejr

Love doing the gardening.

Matthew Hamilton

The villagers were very happy with our visit and the work that we carried out. We have been invited back to Rumah Musin to see the completed wooden hut, and have been honoured by being asked to name it.

Jean Yap

Over three weekends, 250 students and staff from Curtin University Sarawak worked on community service projects at three longhouses. At Rumah Ballie, volunteers gave extra protection to the longhouses by applying shellac to the wooden walls. They also planted flowers around the outside. On another weekend, fifty-three house exteriors were repainted at Rumah Mokeng and Rumah Musin. Flowers were also planted at these sites and some basic First Aid training was provided to the residents. Rumah Musin also hosted the third weekend, where a miniature wooden house kindergarten was built for the local children. Basic First Aid training was also provided, as well as some assistance with recycling, cooking and cleaning.
Walking the short distance from Curtin to SwanCare, fifteen volunteers worked on the gardens at the Kingia Care Facility. The volunteers worked tirelessly, weeding, planting new shrubs, spreading mulch across garden beds, raking, sweeping and watering. The transformation of the garden area from a dull, underutilised area to a neat, lively, tranquil place for Care Centre residents to meander and sit was amazing.

The Site:
The volunteers were amazing! They used their initiative and just got on and got the job done. Such a lovely group, that were a pleasure to host. We are just extremely happy and proud to be a part of the JCW experience.

My highlight was seeing what our efforts achieved and the transformation in the garden.

Michelle

I loved meeting the other volunteers.

Sarah Menaglio

Favourite part was getting lost and meeting all of the residents while trying to find everyone.

Rob Di Giovanni

Nine enthusiastic volunteers got up early travelling to Tambellup to help the locals with the annual Tambellup Agricultural Show. Volunteers enjoyed helping in the kids tent doing balloon sculpturing and face painting. Tambellup is a favourite location for our volunteers.

The Site:
As a committee we would like to thank you all for your time over the years. Even though you have graduated, we invite you to come back and help us again; your group has been great.

Love seeing all of the kids with their faces painted and balloon animals.

Eric Li

Loved meeting all the locals, the animals and the food.

Danny Wong

Special part was mixing with the friendly town members and the BBQ.

Sharsoti Thada
Enthusiastic volunteers painted a wall and children’s bathroom, removed gear from a storage area, cleaned and replaced gear, made up student folders and information and enrolment packs, assembled Ikea shelves and made literacy games.

**The Site:**
Thank you, all the jobs were done with energy and completed to a high standard. Our Family Liaison Officer wishes to pass on her thanks, many of the jobs that were completed are things that she normally would have to do and are jobs that take time directly away from her supporting families.

I enjoyed spending a horrible and rainy weekend with a great bunch of people, helping a good cause.

**Eeshwar Rajagopalan**

Ten volunteers helped locals at the Toodyay Agricultural Show. Volunteers assisted by helping with the equestrian events; traffic control and gate keeping at the end of the day; balloon sculpturing for kids; providing general assistance to stewards with the displays; and assisting with dismantling the Show.

Everything was amazing. Being able to offer help with clearing up after the show was great, it was a really different experience for me. Loved the fireworks!

**May Chong**

The community vibe is so different from the city and many international students don’t get to experience this very often, or at all. To experience a community show was good.

**Bronte Lyon**

It was interesting to stay with our ‘host family’ and hear about their way of life and stories, and of course the horses.

**Peich Boong**
TOODYAY RACES

28-29 SEPTEMBER

Twenty volunteers helped the community run the Toodyay Races. The volunteers were busy cleaning plastic chairs, raking and levelling horse stalls, weeding and raking garden beds, removing leaves and rubbish from the area, installing protective pads on the starting barrier and much more.

The Site:
The volunteers were again fantastic. They were able to initiate actions and stick at what can only be described as boring tasks, like raking and weeding on a warm day. The tasks were achieved quickly and we were able to stop and watch the grand final. A great effort.

Loved all of it, bonding time and meeting new people.
Yasgveeb Sunnassee

Great hospitality from the racecourse staff.
Lena Ngu

Doing volunteer work, meeting new friends, sharing ideas, experiencing local culture, great site leader and organisers.
Stanley How

I liked being able to help people and looking at the amazing scenery!
Megan Tickaer

TOODYAY FIRE

14 SEPTEMBER

Ten volunteers travelled to Toodyay to help with the Toodyay fire restoration. Very enthusiastic volunteers did lots of weeding, raking and generally cleaning up the bushland where the fires had been.

The Site:
Our Toodyay community again thanks the volunteers for giving up their time to help us restore our land and buildings. This group were very happy and committed to making things better for us. This is work that would take the locals a long time to do.

I enjoyed chatting to the locals and getting to know everyone’s stories, and then helping them.
Rebekka Jooste

My favourite parts of the weekend were making new friends, talking to the locals and having a tour of Toodyay – it was all really interesting!
Rachel Hair
Four volunteers eagerly assisted at the Waroona Agricultural Show. The volunteers helped set up the stalls and activities. The volunteers were in charge of manning the exit gates, ensuring that the stallholders were able to exit the grounds safely in their cars and vans. The next day, JCW volunteers, along with local volunteers, returned to the showground to help clean and pack up.

The Site:
All four of the group had an exceptional work ethic, were very polite and self motivated. We definitely appreciated the help with the features and entertainment section of the Show. Lovely young people and a pleasure to work with.

Meeting new people and experiencing the country was amazing. Touring of the farm at which we stayed was also good.

David O’Brien

Was great meeting new people and experiencing the close community atmosphere.

Heather Murray

Getting to know the town folk - they made us feel so welcome. Staying with our hosts and visiting their farm was good, I didn’t want to leave.

Michaela Fong

The volunteers were busy preparing lunch and games for the kids on the oval, basketball court or in the Rec Centre. The program we ran with the students was fantastic. It was very good - we did everything together and helped each other out.

Meleoni Nariro
(Sports and Rec Assistant Manager)

Spending time with the kids was exciting, fun and has been very memorable and inspiring. These trips have reinforced my passion to work in Indigenous communities with the youth and my dream to help achieve equality.

Ruth Joyce

The trip to Wiluna was great and I had a totally different experience. We had great support from the community and the turn out of enthusiastic kids was good.

Shihab Mithun
Nine volunteers travelled to York to assist the Avon branch of the Wildflower Society of WA in their Bushland Garden. They painted oil on the timbers of a shelter and table, pulled out weeds, constructed a rock wall and path edging, spread mulch and spread more mulch.

The Site
The volunteers were a cheerful and happy bunch, willing to tackle whatever we asked and the bus driver (Geoff) is a gem. The volunteers achieved a tremendous amount and we really appreciated their effort.

My favourite part of the weekend was working together with the local community of York. Wonderful people! Loved the hospitality.

Sangeetha Krishnaraj

I enjoyed working as a team to do volunteer work.

Elaine Ting
SPECIAL THANKS

Curtin University
For supporting John Curtin Weekend and providing an environment where our volunteers can engage in community work. Thanks to Gary Hepworth for his strong guidance and support.

Curtin Volunteers!
Special thanks to Alyson Chin, Marc Phillips and Krishan Shah from Curtin Volunteers! JCW is Curtin Volunteers! largest community project. Curtin is fortunate to have such a strong group of leaders, providing volunteers who support mutually beneficial community initiatives.

JCW Interns
Jo Armstrong and Liz Skinner worked tirelessly to plan and implement John Curtin Weekend. They showed that they have the skills and knowledge to work on JCW from start to finish. Their enthusiasm and dedication is appreciated.

JCW Sites
Thank you for participating in John Curtin Weekend and providing projects, accommodation, catering and the opportunity for our volunteers to travel to the country to work on your community projects and experience country life.

Regional Coordinators
JCW could not run smoothly without your leadership and communication skills. You provide the vital link between the sites and the site leaders - we couldn’t do JCW without you.

Volunteers
Your commitment, time, skills and energy are appreciated by the regional and metropolitan sites that you have worked for. You have made a big difference to the sites and they have enjoyed working alongside you.

JCW Team
The members of the JCW Team are skilled, resourceful, energetic and focussed. Each member works hard and plays a part to achieve a great outcome. You can all be proud of a fantastic team effort.

Site Leaders
Outstanding leadership is displayed by our site leaders. They shoulder a lot of responsibility to ensure that the sites and the volunteers have a good outcome and a great time. Feedback from the sites indicates that your planning, leadership and team skills have meant completion of their community projects.

Vehicle Drivers
JCW could not happen without your time, expertise and commitment. The safety of our volunteers is paramount and you always ensure that they return safely to Curtin. The support that you give the site leaders is appreciated.

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**JCW SITES 2013**
- Baldivis Children’s Forest
- Busselton
- Carnamah
- Corrigin
- Cuballing
- Cunderdin
- Dardanup
- Dowerin
- Duyfken
- Gillingarra
- Gingin
- Goomalling
- Harvey
- Jarrahdale
- Karrakinn Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre
- Kensington
- Koorda
- Kulin
- Kununoppin
- Lake Grace
- Laverton
- Leonora
- Margaret River
- Merredin
- Narembeen
- Narrogin
- Northam
- Nungarin
- Parkerville
- Pingelly
- Pinjarra
- Quairading
- Sarawak
- Swancare
- Tambellup
- Telethon Speech and Hearing Centre
- Toodyay
- Waroona
- Wiluna
- York

**SITE LEADERS**
- Adam Goor
- Alphonse Ndava
- Angel Kwong
- Ben Hogan
- Claire Kendrick
- Courtney Meagher
- Danielle Behr
- David D’Orazio
- Eeshwar Rajagopalan
- Ellie Beurteaux
- Emma Folley
- James Boyle
- Jasmine France
- Jeremy Low
- Jess Henderson
- Jinesh Thakrar
- Jo Armstrong
- John Fielder
- Jordan Correa
- Katherine Oliver
- Kaveenar Rajendran
- Kazeem Adefemi
- Ketesse Hansen
- Kym Sher
- Leo McBride
- Liam Richer
- Liz Skinner

**REGIONAL COORDINATORS**
- Chris Polain
- Ellie Beurteaux
- Jo Armstrong
- Kate Frusher
- Kristen Barker
- Liz Skinner
- Maureen Meredith

**SITE LEADERS**
- Louis Clarke
- Megan Jones
- Michael Cornelio
- Michaela Fong
- Michael Rainone
- Mitch Cox
- Pratul Awasthi
- Rachel McMinn
- Sarah Henn
- Sarah Menaglio
- Shaun Gedye
- Shiladitya Banerjee
- Talia Melsom
- Thomas Russell
- Yash Gandhi

**VEHICLE DRIVERS**
- Amanda McCleary
- Andrew O’Brien
- Ben Hogan
- Bob Meredith
- David Lord
- David O’Brien
- David Richer
- Drennan Goodall
- Geoff Lever
- Gina Ferreira
- Halit Erin

**Hannah Castledine**
- Jennifer Talbot
- John Rees
- Josh Barnett
- Karen Taylor
- Ketesse Hansen
- Kevin Pestell
- Krishan Shah
- Kym Sher
- Lindsay Talbot
- Matt Garrett
- Max Polain
- Paul Elliott
- Paul Yates
- Ray Palmer
- Sam Henderson
- Sarah Henn
- Sean Simpson

**FINAL ROUND OF APPLAUSE**
- Year Book Designer
  - Jemma Morgan
- Margaret River Photos
  - Joshua Lam
- Video Production
  - Chanel Bowen
- Yearbook content
  - Jo Armstrong
  - Liz Skinner
  - Jo Oliver
  - Maureen Meredith

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES REPRESENTED BY OUR VOLUNTEERS</th>
<th>Number of sites visited in 2013</th>
<th>44</th>
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<tr>
<td>Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, East Timor, England, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Phillipines, Poland, Russia, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, USA, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zimbabwe</td>
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<td>Number of metropolitan sites</td>
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<td>Number of international sites</td>
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<td>Number of kilometres driven over six John Curtin Weekends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of transport vehicles used over six John Curtin Weekends</td>
<td>41 buses and vans 3 planes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of volunteers</td>
<td>520 in WA 250 in SARAWAK</td>
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</tbody>
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