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John Curtin Weekend (JCW) provides the opportunity for volunteers to work alongside metropolitan, country and international communities on their chosen projects to reach their desired outcome.

Over six weekends in September and October, 650 JCW volunteers visited 43 regional and metropolitan sites in WA and Miri, Sarawak to work with the locals on their community projects. Locally, the projects included environmental work, building maintenance and assisting at local fairs. The volunteers from Curtin Sarawak worked at the rural longhouse communities assisting with building restoration and organising cultural events. The volunteers are predominately Curtin students who come from 34 countries around the world. JCW is now in its 16th year and is Curtin Volunteers’ largest community project.

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

Thank you to the sites for looking after our volunteers, for letting them experience life in the country and for your amazing hospitality. The feedback from the volunteers indicates that they appreciate their JCW experience and will take away many lasting memories of their trip.

I look forward to your involvement in 2015.

John Curtin Weekend (JCW) has developed into a major multi-community project. Volunteers assisted in completing projects chosen by the regional and metropolitan communities in WA and Curtin Sarawak in Malaysia.

Volunteers travelled to regions as diverse as Koorda, Lake Grace, Tambellup, Dardanup, Laverton and Yalgoo. The regional towns display their community and their way of life to otherwise unlikely visitors and develop unique relationships with volunteers.

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.

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.

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.
Curtin Volunteers!’ largest community project has once again lived up to its name! John Curtin Weekend (JCW) 2014 has been bigger and better than ever before, and continues to proudly embody the values of vision, leadership and community service upon which this initiative began.

JCW is truly unique in the way it brings together so many university students from across the Faculties with diverse backgrounds, working alongside local community members to generate positive social and environmental change.

On behalf of the team at Curtin Volunteers! we say a massive ‘thank you’ to everyone who has made this possible. From the incredibly talented and hardworking team of bus drivers, site leaders, regional coordinators and JCW interns led by the one and only Maureen Meredith; to our community partners and every individual volunteer – JCW happens because of this astounding collective effort!

On a personal note, I could not be more grateful to JCW and the other amazing opportunities offered within Curtin Volunteers! which have defined my student experience at Curtin and allowed me to grow both personally and professionally.

I would encourage you to do the same and keep up your involvement with CV! into the future.

We hope you enjoy this yearbook, which brings together your photos and stories from JCW 2014 in celebration and in anticipation for 2015!

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 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 650 volunteers. John Curtin Weekend is an amazing community project that benefits everyone involved.

Curtin Volunteers!

- Ararat
- Ballarat
- Bendigo
- Bourke
- Broken Hill
- Burnie
- Coffs Harbour
- Collie
- Coffs Harbour
- Corrimal
- Coonabarabran
- Dubbo
- East Gippsland
- Echuca
- Geelong
- Goulburn
- Glen Innes
- Griffith
- Hervey Bay
- Hobart
- Launceston
- Lismore
- Maryborough
- Maitland
- Mildura
- Moruya
- MSNBC
- Muswellbrook
- Narromine
- Newcastle
- Nelson
- Portland
- Queanbeyan
- Queanbeyan West
- Richmond
- Rockhampton
- Sale
- Shepparton
- Tamworth
- Toowoomba
- Taree
- Wagga
- Wellington
- Wangaratta
- Warwick
- Yass
- Yeeda

CV! President

Alyson Chin

4 5
Maureen Meredith  
JCW Coordinator and Regional Coordinator

Liz Skinner  
JCW Intern, Regional Coordinator, Sundowner, Registrations

Liam Richer  
Photo Competition

Natasha Curran  
JCW Year Book Designer

Jo Armstrong  
JCW Intern, Regional Coordinator, Sundowner, Registrations

Marc Phillips  
Advisor

Fraser Sprunt  
Graphic Designer, Slideshow

Jessica Wall  
Marketing Advisor

Aimee Hughes  
Slideshow

Sarah Menaglio  
Regional Coordinator

Gary Hepworth  
Advisor

Chris Polain  
Regional Coordinator

Liz Skinner  
JCW Intern, Regional Coordinator, Sundowner, Registrations

Natasha Curran  
JCW Year Book Designer

Marc Phillips  
Advisor

Fraser Sprunt  
Graphic Designer, Slideshow

Kristen Barker  
Regional Coordinator

Tom Russell  
Regional Coordinator
AMAROO
6 SEPTEMBER

Ten volunteers assisted with gardening, weeding and pruning at the McMahon Caring Centre, an aged care facility which is part of Amaroo Village, Gosnells. Volunteers enjoyed working as part of a team to make a difference.

Site Feedback
Volunteers were a great help to us. The residents and visitors very much enjoyed seeing them busy working. The site leader was invaluable - she led a great group.

Meg Harvey
“I enjoyed giving back to the community.”

Olivia Peng
“I loved gardening as it’s something I don’t normally do at home. It was an experience!”

Chandni Manji Patel
“My favourite part was getting to know people and making new friends. Gardening in teams has never been this great before!”

BALDIVIS
20 SEPTEMBER

Baldivis Children’s Forest benefited from the work of the volunteers who came together to provide assistance with moving stakes, bags and removing weeds. The volunteers also attended an environment and sustainability workshop.

Site Feedback
The group was enthusiastic and assisted well on the day. We would love to keep in touch with Curtin to partner with other projects.

Catherine Haryani
“I enjoyed getting to know more about the environment and sustainability, and working together to remove weeds.”

Kym Sher
“My favourite part was walking through the forest.”
BRIDGETOWN
20 - 21 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers were invited to assist the community of Bridgetown with work on the Blackwood River. Working alongside the locals, the volunteers removed weeds and help put up a fence to prevent farm animals from trampling the river. This immensely improved the river conditions and surrounding environment. It was certainly a great community project!

Site Feedback
The volunteers were very helpful, willing to learn new skills required and keen to do as much as possible in the time available. The CV!‘s van with its signage and the T-shirts were fantastic promotion. Congratulations on a wonderful service and opportunity for all.

Luke Smithers
“I enjoyed getting to know the volunteers, spending a weekend out of Perth, getting fresh air and good food.”

Jo Armstrong
“I loved spending time with everyone, the amazing food and the ambience. We got a lot of work done which was great!”

Emma Johnson
“My favourite part of the weekend was seeing a beautiful place and working to improve the natural environment.”

BUSSELTON
12 - 14 SEPTEMBER

Busselton was a popular destination for our volunteers this year, who journeyed to help the First Busselton Scout Group clear a fire break around the premises. All were presented with the opportunity to come together to provide assistance to the scouting movement.

Site Feedback
Thank you to the volunteers who travelled to Busselton to help clear the land surrounding the Scout site. The amount of work that they did was appreciated, a great group.

Samantha Hodgson
“The Scout volunteers were amazing in supplying us with food and a guided tour of Margaret River and they were welcoming and thankful.”

Emma Johnson
“I enjoyed being with everyone and knowing what we were doing was helping others. The incredible meals and sitting around the campfire was great too!”

Chloe Leopold
“I loved being able to have heaps of fun whilst helping others.”
CORRIGIN
13 - 14 SEPTEMBER

This year, volunteers had the opportunity to assist with the Corrigin Shire Annual Agricultural Society Show. The lucky volunteers were given the chance to participate in a variety of activities, helping with the flower-bomb relay, children’s activities and selling show bags. A wonderful, enjoyable event for all.

Site Feedback
The help of the volunteers was appreciated by the Corrigin Show Committee. We gave the group a tour of a local farm, including the animals. We would like to stay involved with this program next year.

Ju Heui Ha
“I enjoyed cleaning up after the Show, as I felt I was really helping the community.”

Owen Montana
“Meeting the locals and experiencing their way of life was great.”

CUBALLING
13 - 14 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers assisted the community of Cuballing by helping with their horse competition for the Dryandra Regional Equestrian Association. The volunteers helped at the canteen, shifting equipment, setting up courses, jump judging and packing away equipment.

Site Feedback
The volunteers were all lovely, helpful and cheerful people who were very adaptable, worked independently and willing to do a whole range of tasks. We would have struggled to get through the weekend without them.

Lawrence Ko
“Watching and helping the equestrian event and meeting new people was a highlight for me.”

Priyanshi Mittra
“There were too many favourite moments but I really enjoyed the organised teamwork and the horses!”

Anson Chan
“I liked getting to try out different volunteer duties at the event.”
Volunteers worked at the Cunderdin Museum, one of the best rural Museums in the state. The diverse range of memorabilia, photographs, story boards and household items were cleaned and other items catalogued.

The town of Dardanup once again hosted the Bull and Barrel Festival. Volunteers were lucky enough to assist with setting up the event, and helping out with the festivities throughout the day. Getting to be a part of this festival was an exciting experience for the volunteers.

Site Feedback
The Cunderdin Museum staff are appreciative of the work done by the volunteers, we can’t thank them enough. It was also good to see people from the younger generation maintaining a very good work ethic.

Site Feedback
On behalf of the LiveLighter Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival Committee and the community of Dardanup, we sincerely thank the JCW volunteers for their assistance.

Jen Dalby
“My favourite thing was working with all of the volunteers in a really friendly and team orientated environment. I also liked seeing such a cool piece of history being preserved by dedicated locals.”

Xavier Evans
“I liked touring the farm, cataloguing books and the pool!”

Mercy Tembo
“I loved working on museum artifacts.”

Sarah Michael
“My favourite part of the weekend was helping out with the different events and spending time at the festival. Watching the bull burn was also a highlight!”

Bariz Kurt
“I liked watching the Hakka and Aboriginal dances.”

Megan Jarvie
“I loved helping out at the festival and then watching the bull burn at night!”
Volunteers boarded the 16th century replica ship, Duyfken, to work with the ship’s crew, doing tasks like taking down rigging and other general maintenance. It’s not every day you get the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a sailor, and the volunteers certainly found it a rewarding experience.

**Site Feedback**
The volunteers were keen and helpful working on the Duyfken’s maintenance program. The volunteers took the rigging and yards down from the ship in preparation for its shift up the Swan River.

Ben Lowther

“It was a memorable experience working on a 16th century replica ship. It was great for our group to work alongside the Duyfken crew; we learnt a lot and had fun.”

Volunteers were required to assist at the Gravity Discovery Centre working together doing jobs such as painting, gardening and ground leveling. It was definitely a welcoming, friendly site and a great experience for all.

**Site Feedback**
On behalf of the Gravity Discovery Centre I would like to thank your volunteer team for the fantastic work that they did at the GDC. As a result of their hard work, the Centre is looking great and we are able to move forward with other improvements that are planned. The volunteers were a very dedicated and enthusiastic group and it was a real pleasure to have them for the weekend.

Lindsay Talbot

“GDC staff always welcome the volunteers, feed and look after them, nothing is ever too much trouble. The venue is amazing and it is brilliant to see the improvements from year to year.”

Matt Hall

“I enjoyed leading a team of volunteers and watching them all work together to achieve great results. Our team was very cohesive and appreciated the opportunity to help.”
HARVEY
13 - 14 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers got a taste for the true country life, undertaking environmental work alongside the Harvey River and local reserves. The group helped remove weeds and clean up in the area. Volunteers spent the night in the homes of local residents, who provided hearty, home-cooked country meals, an experience they’ll never forget.

Site Feedback
Thanks again to the enthusiastic volunteers who worked alongside us at the Harvey River. The volunteers have been coming to Harvey for many years to provide much needed ‘extra hands’.

Leoni Thomas
“I enjoyed getting to know everyone in the group, and helping with the river restoration and at the high school.”

Leo Chiziko
“Being able to help clean up the bushland, see a lot of animals and spend time with our team, was great.”

Hannah Vanshayh
“A highlight for me was getting to know my team and being able to bond over our achievements.”

JARRAHDALE
5 - 7 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers were required to assist at Holiday Haven at Jarrahdale. They came together in a fun atmosphere and provided much needed assistance for the Haven.

Site Feedback
A lot of hard work was carried out by the JCW volunteers and we thank them for that. We all learnt a lot and we would like to continue in the program next year.

Siyu Qin
“I enjoyed getting to know my team.”

Takara Rogers
“My favourite parts were meeting the other volunteers, playing heads up thumbs down around the campfire and the BBQ night.”

Manda Adam
“I liked everything about the weekend, especially working as a team.”
**KAARAKIN**

**20 SEPTEMBER**

The Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre focuses on the rescue, rehabilitation and release of WA’s three black cockatoo species. The volunteers assisted with activities such as planting, weeding, mulching and aviary cleaning. Interacting with the black cockatoos was a treat for the volunteers.

**Site Feedback**

Staff at the Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre would like to thank JCW volunteers for their work in caring for WA’s threatened black cockatoos. The group planted 160 trees which will provide an important food source for the black cockatoos in the future.

**Clementine Kohler**

“I enjoyed being able to have fun while helping.”

**Steven Wong Kah Chun**

“Being able to interact with the birds was the best experience! I loved tree planting, as it felt good to help out the Conservation Centre.”

**Luke Mitchell**

“My favourite part of the day was visiting the black cockatoos and getting to pat and feed them.”

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**KOORDA**

**6 - 7 SEPTEMBER**

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 keen to help out at the Koorda Show. They assisted by helping in the children’s activity tent, miniature train, front gate and the food outlets.

**Hon You Leow**

“I loved assisting and entertaining the kids and playing games with them. I also enjoyed the fireworks show at night.”

**Chuen Kwong Tang**

“I enjoyed helping with the children’s games, and cleaning up after the Show.”

**Alexx Siems**

“I enjoyed serving pizza and watching the fireworks.”
Ten volunteers travelled to the wheatbelt town of Kulin to assist the community by putting up the large marquee and general preparation for the 20th Kulin Bush Races. A trip to Kulin is always rewarding and fun, and this one was no exception!

Volunteers assisted at the 20th Kulin Bush Races, working together in a busy, friendly environment. Jobs undertaken included helping at food outlets, balloon sculpturing, face painting and cleaning up. Volunteers worked on race day and did a big clean up on Sunday morning.

Site Feedback
The volunteers worked very hard despite the windy weather, and provided some much needed help. They were motivated and put in a great effort – we thank them very much, they were amazing!

Site Feedback
The volunteers were extremely busy all day. They were in high demand; their skills of balloon sculpturing and face painting were very sought after in the kids’ tent. They seemed to really enjoy the Kulin Bush Races as for many this was their first ‘country experience’.

Marco Fukuya
“My favourite part of the weekend was talking with the locals after the work was done.”

Robert Hammond
“I liked meeting new friends, hanging out with the locals, helping to set up for the bush races and seeing the sights.”

Nicholas Brausch
“I learnt how to set up a marquee and the group that I was with was awesome.”

Alex Ahern
“I liked how everyone was included, both within Curtin and the Kulin community.”

Mandy Ng
“My favourite part was experiencing the Kulin Bush Races and meeting people from all over the world.”

Hui Zhen Liaw
“I liked getting to see the horse races and helping the stall owners prepare the food as well as selling it. The weekend was an amazing experience!”

David Hach Soeur
“I learnt new communication skills and I got to experience Australian farming life.”
**KUNUNOPPIN**
**10 - 12 OCTOBER**

Volunteers were required to assist by helping out at the Kununoppin Hospital Fete, which was held at Mukinbudin. Volunteers assisted by modelling for the fashion parade, children’s corner and face painting. Sunday was spent helping out around the Kununoppin Hospital. Volunteers had the opportunity to stay in the nurses’ quarters, which was a great experience.

Volunteers worked with the Lions Club of Lake Grace on their community projects. Together they painted, raked and planted native bushes at Lions Park rest stop and painted the crosswalk at the medical precinct. Volunteers loved a tour of a farm and witnessing lamb shearing for the first time. All enjoyed great country hospitality.

**Site Feedback**
Thank you to a cooperative and friendly group of volunteers. They used their own initiative when needed and continued to assist the auxiliary members throughout the day. Their efforts at the final clean up were also appreciated.

**Sharree Williams**

“My favourite parts were working in the kitchens at the fete and lawn bowls.”

**Huei Ti Soh**

“I loved helping out and getting involved in the community and the food was fantastic!”

**Oliver Oon An Ting**

“I enjoyed face painting with kids and helping out in the kitchen.”

**LAKE GRACE**
**3 - 5 OCTOBER**

Volunteers were required to assist by helping out at the Kununoppin Hospital Fete, which was held at Mukinbudin. Volunteers assisted by modelling for the fashion parade, children’s corner and face painting. Sunday was spent helping out around the Kununoppin Hospital. Volunteers had the opportunity to stay in the nurses’ quarters, which was a great experience.

Volunteers worked with the Lions Club of Lake Grace on their community projects. Together they painted, raked and planted native bushes at Lions Park rest stop and painted the crosswalk at the medical precinct. Volunteers loved a tour of a farm and witnessing lamb shearing for the first time. All enjoyed great country hospitality.

**Site Feedback**

The Lions Club of Lake Grace would like to thank the volunteers for their hard work over the weekend. There were many handshakes and hugs as the volunteers left town. We would love to see them back again next year.

**Aathrey Chandran**

“I enjoyed spending time with the locals the most, but the whole weekend was great!”

**Meejeong Cha**

“I loved planting and painting, and I had an extraordinary experience with other volunteers and residents. I felt really good that I was able to help the town and community.”
LAVERTON
29 SEPT - 2 OCT

Curtin Volunteers! has been visiting the remote Goldfields’ community of Laverton since 1997, and this JCW trip certainly did not disappoint! Six volunteers spent the week engaging the local children in dynamic, exciting activities including art and craft, sport, healthy cooking and dancing.

Site Feedback
The service that CV! provides is so valuable, the energy and enthusiasm the volunteers have is awesome and the kids love them each time they come to town. It was a pleasure working with the team.

LEONORA
1 - 6 OCTOBER

Five volunteers flew to the remote Goldfields community of Leonora to assist with the Walkatjura Rangers school holiday program, before running a kids activity table at the Leonora Bush Races. The weekend was jam-packed with games, magic tricks, balloon sculpturing and face-painting - the kids loved every minute of the fun.

Site Feedback
The volunteers were so helpful with the face painting and helped us out with the emergency afternoon tea – without them, we would have been in trouble! We really appreciate all of their hard work.

Eunice Lau
“I enjoyed the whole experience in Laverton, particularly establishing friendships with the kids and learning about young children and the Aboriginal lifestyle and culture.”

Ben Mason
“The landscape was sublime and the kids were a ball to be around! The desert BBQ and post-work swim in a wonderful watering hole were extra delights for us.”

Ashley Pelton
“I loved spending time with the children and learning about the culture, it was valuable to see the impact of the community on an individual’s happiness and wellbeing.”

Zoe Bosch
“Working with the kids in Leonora has inspired me to continue working with the community and I have learnt invaluable skills that I will carry with me for the rest of my days.”

Sarah Bertola
“I loved getting to know the beautiful, independent children of Leonora and spending time with the elderly at Leonora Hospital.”

Karinda Eggington
“The trip really opened my eyes to life in regional and remote towns, and I enjoyed working with the kids and the elders.”
MARGARET RIVER
5 - 7 OCTOBER

Volunteers worked with the local Lions Club at Wharncliffe Mill. The volunteers provided much needed assistance to the locals of Margaret River.

Valunteers were hard-working and provided much help in gardening and up-keep of the amphitheatre area. We enjoyed having the volunteers come, and thank them for their fantastic work.

Site Feedback
Volunteers worked with the local Lions Club at Wharncliffe Mill. The volunteers provided much needed assistance to the locals of Margaret River.

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

The volunteers operated as professionals and displayed a range of skills that were invaluable to the community. They were self-driven, used initiative, worked well as a team, and had great communication skills to build relationships with the local community. We would like to thank them for the great help and hope.

Site Feedback

Xinya Liu
“...My favourite part of the weekend was working in the National Park.”

Jensen Falker
“...I loved being outside and working in nature. I also enjoyed the free time to explore the National Park.”

Leo Rocha
“I enjoyed working together and seeing what we accomplished as a team.”

Danika Sharpe
“The experience was diverse and I loved every moment. My overall highlight was building relationships with community members and providing entertainment for the kids.”

Cole Ward
“I had a fantastic week working in the community with a great group of people. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity!”

Sani Crous
“I loved the festival and events, the kids, and awesome group of people who went with me. Being the first group to experience Meekatharra was super special.”

Jensen Falker
Leo Rocha
Sanri Crous

Meekatharra
26 Sept - 3 Oct

Xinya Liu
“...My favourite part of the weekend was working in the National Park.”

Jensen Falker
“...I loved being outside and working in nature. I also enjoyed the free time to explore the National Park.”

Leo Rocha
“I enjoyed working together and seeing what we accomplished as a team.”

Danika Sharpe
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Sani Crous
“I loved the festival and events, the kids, and awesome group of people who went with me. Being the first group to experience Meekatharra was super special.”
MERREDIN
6 - 7 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers assisted the community of Merredin by working together in the local community gardens and on an art project. The volunteers had a once in a lifetime experience, staying together at a local farm.

Site Feedback
The volunteers continued the work of previous JCW groups who helped to beautify our Pioneer Park and planted 86 plants this year. The volunteers were willing workers, interacting with the locals over the weekend.

Sarah Devenish

“Working together as a group to accomplish projects was the best. The community was very welcoming!”

Patricia Tanteckchi

“I loved getting to know a bunch of awesome people and working towards a great cause.”

Bernard Tanteckchi

“I enjoyed meeting new people and learning more about the life of a farmer.”

Anna Balston

“I loved watching the sunset at the farm.”

MUKINBUDIN
12 - 14 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers were required to assist at the Mukinbudin Spring Festival. The volunteers set up and stayed together at the golf club, being presented with the opportunity to come together in a fun atmosphere and provided much needed assistance at the festival, which was enjoyed by all.

Site Feedback
Overall, the most constant attribute commented on by all Mukinbudin community members was the group’s work ethic and helpful attitude. Nothing was too much trouble and they carried out the jobs quickly and efficiently. Thanks so much.

Danielle Bejr

“I enjoyed helping out and coordinating activities, and using the walkie-talkies.”

Dylan Heywood

“I enjoyed seeing how down to earth everyone was and their eagerness to have us on board.”

Khairi Harith

“It was great to get involved with the community and have fun while volunteering.”
The weekend provided volunteers the opportunity to work together in the local community on the local Lions projects; gardening and painting. Volunteers stayed together at the local recreation centre, and left with memories to last a lifetime.

Volunteers assisted the community of Narrogin with projects such as painting, gardening, cleaning up the BMX site, and working at the skate park.

Site Feedback
It is wonderful to support the John Curtin Weekend program - we love having the volunteers come to see and help our little community!

Robert Ferritto
“I enjoyed helping the community by planting trees.”

Nishka B
“Staying in a tent was a new experience, and I also enjoyed the opportunity to visit the country.”

Lucy Barton
“I loved helping a community and the environment by planting trees.”

Site Feedback
The volunteers were helpful and worked hard. We would like to think that perhaps the Leisure Centre in 2015 could run some additional sporting events which the students could assist with.

Cherlyn Tay
“I loved being with a group of enthusiastic and awesome people!”

Eunice Lau
“My favourite part of the weekend was being able to contribute to the community.”

Nguyen Tho Bich Hang
“I enjoyed painting the fence in such a warm and happy atmosphere, and I loved being able to bond with everyone!”
Volunteers for this JCW Site were given the opportunity to help out at the annual Northam Agricultural Show. Volunteers helped set up on Friday, assisted throughout the day and cleared up on Saturday, much to the appreciation of the Northam locals. Volunteers worked together in a fun atmosphere and provided much needed assistance.

Site Feedback
The Northam Show Committee is grateful for the help that they received from the volunteers. There were positive comments from the locals about the volunteers. Staying together on a local farm was a treat for the group.

Linh Nguyen
“I enjoyed staying at a homestead with animals that had been run by 5 generations – such an experience!”

Venesia Teh
“Staying at the farmhouse and seeing the animals was fantastic!”

Ivyna Moh
“My favourite part of the weekend was helping out with the horse competition.”

Volunteers assisted the community of Nungarin with the Mangowine Concert and the local markets. The group members worked at the concert on Saturday night putting together VIP picnic baskets and packing up. At the markets on Sunday they helped at the BBQ and prepared morning tea. With such an action-packed weekend, it’s clear the Nungarin JCW was one to remember.

Site Feedback
Community organisers of the weekend and visitors commented on the JCW volunteers. They all appreciated the willing manner of the volunteers and how hard and enthusiastically they worked in their given tasks.

Hayley Davis
“I enjoyed working hard setting up, cleaning the concert venue and dancing!”

Jinesh Thakrar
“I loved helping at the festival. I got to see the live music and meet good people.”

Kate Keisler
“Enjoyed hanging out with friends and helping the Nungarin community.”
Volunteers were needed to assist the Parkerville Children and Youth Centre. Jobs included gardening at the youth homes in Armadale. Their hard work was appreciated by the Parkerville staff.

Site Feedback
Staff from Parkerville really appreciated the hard work done by the JCW team. They worked at different locations and nothing was too much trouble. Thank you.

Jessica Henderson
“My favourite part was seeing the difference we made to one of the houses we cleaned up.”

Irene Loo
“I loved helping clean the houses up and meeting new people!”

PARKERVILLE
19 SEPTEMBER

The community of Pingelly worked alongside the volunteers on garden beds at the Pingelly Memorial Park. The group removed old picket fences, replenished soil and mulched, leaving the park looking lush and green once again.

Site Feedback
Volunteers were extremely helpful and worked hard to complete the project within the time-frame. The whole event went very smoothly and it was great to see the volunteers having a good time.

Pingelly
5 - 7 SEPTEMBER

The community of Pingelly worked alongside the volunteers on garden beds at the Pingelly Memorial Park. The group removed old picket fences, replenished soil and mulched, leaving the park looking lush and green once again.

Site Feedback
Volunteers were extremely helpful and worked hard to complete the project within the time-frame. The whole event went very smoothly and it was great to see the volunteers having a good time.

Nikita Stockinger
“My favourite parts of the weekend were meeting new people and working as a team to accomplish something good and worthwhile.”

Darcy Austin
“A highlight for me was working at the site as a team and with the locals.”

Georgia Gillies
“I enjoyed meeting the locals and working as a team to achieve something useful for the community.”
RIDING FOR THE DISABLED, BRIGADOON
20 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers helped out at Riding for the Disabled (RDA), Brigadoon by picking up tree branches, sticks and anything that could be a potential hazard to the horses. Old hay and leaves were raked up into piles and later loaded into a trailer for removal. Volunteers patted the horses and got up close and personal with their new furry friends.

Site Feedback
RDA Brigadoon would like to thank all the JCW volunteers who attended on a very hot day for their hard work. The volunteers were all friendly and really helpful and their assistance allowed us to get paddocks cleaned. It was very much appreciated.

Sarah Linnegar
“I enjoyed getting the job done and feeling genuinely appreciated.”

Leah Thomas
“Highlights for me were getting to know new people and interacting with the horses.”

Tania Newnham
“I loved being able to do jobs that really benefitted people and the horses, and getting to know other volunteers.”

RIDING FOR THE DISABLED, PINJARRA
5 - 6 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers assisted at the Riding for the Disabled Healthway State Games at Fairbridge, Pinjarra. The State Games gave volunteers the opportunity to come together in a fun atmosphere and provide much needed assistance to ensure everything ran well.

Site Feedback
We would like to thank the volunteers for assisting in the State Games. The day was fantastic, and the volunteers really helped in making the day run smoothly.

Cara O’Brien
“I enjoyed helping register all the kids and giving out ribbons.”

Jo Edmondson
“I loved getting to know and work with a really great team!”

Alessandra Shunmigam
“It was great to work with a lovely bunch of volunteers. The company was great and it was great to see such talented kids riding for RDAWA.”

Sarah Linnegar
“I enjoyed getting the job done and feeling genuinely appreciated.”

Leah Thomas
“Highlights for me were getting to know new people and interacting with the horses.”

Tania Newnham
“I loved being able to do jobs that really benefitted people and the horses, and getting to know other volunteers.”
Volunteers worked in five small villages in the Iban and Kedayan communities, setting up a local library, providing basic first-aid training, painting, general maintenance, organising children’s activities including helping to set up a village blog and assisting the Local Health Department in conducting medical and dental check-ups.

Site Feedback

“Sweet memories! Thank you Curtin Volunteers!”
- Ms Nora Ree, Rumah Ree

“It is good experience for us to share our culture with the students, they are welcome any time!”
- Mr Robert, Rumah Robert

Brandon Cheng

“JCW gave me the opportunity to explore and experience the lifestyle of the rural community. I learned about their culture and language. The JCW project is a great platform for students to give back to the community.”

Nabila

“The JCW has given me the chance to teach the less fortunate children. It felt really good to be able to help the children in their studies.”

Volunteers worked in small villages in the Kedayan community, providing general maintenance, painting, organising children’s activities and assisting the Local Health Department in conducting medical and dental check-ups.

Site Feedback

“A great and useful program for students. We would like to thank the volunteers and university for doing such wonderful community services work to our village. We hope they will continue this program and help other communities.”
- Mr Junit, Kampung Kelulit

Elton Hiew

“An awesome event! Not only I can gain leadership and voluntary experience but also help out the rural long houses communities. A must try experience!”

Sugar Toh

“JCW is a platform for us students to further explore communities that we do not often keep contact with. Experiencing a different daily routine and different culture was awesome. Looking forward to more JCWs.”
Volunteers were needed to assist the local residents of SwanCare. General jobs consisted of weeding, planting shrubs, raking, sweeping and watering. Volunteers were able to mix with the local seniors while undertaking their jobs. Assistance such as this gave the seniors a real boost.

Enthusiastic volunteers travelled to assist at the Tambellup Agricultural Show. They used their skills in balloon sculpturing and face painting to the enjoyment of the local children. The volunteers stayed together in a local farmhouse and got to experience true country life.

Site Feedback
The volunteers accomplished a lot during the short period and definitely made a difference to the gardens in the Village – thank you from the residents and staff for beautifying the Village. We would love to be involved in the JCW program in 2015.

Alyson Chin
“My favourite part was being able to meet and get to know some really great people from a variety of different academic and cultural backgrounds!”

Hui Zhen Liaw
“I enjoyed helping the Swancare village doing gardening jobs and also appreciated meeting new friends.”

Sadia Mirza
“I loved chatting with everyone and having fun in general. The food was good and our hosts were very considerate and kind!”

Kazeem Adefemi
“The highlights of the weekend were the festival, making balloon animals and seeing the smiles on the kids’ faces.”

Chunn Keat Goh
“I liked visiting Tambellup, meeting new people, seeing such an interesting town and staying with great hosts.”

Daniel Hottzman
“I loved everything about the weekend, especially the balloon animals and making new friends.”

Site Feedback
The Tambellup Agricultural Show Committee values the time and skills given by the volunteers. The Show would not be the same without them and we look forward to seeing them again next year.
Volunteers assisted some of the residents of Toodyay with recovery work following the fires in their area several years ago. Volunteers helped out by gardening, making rock walls and other general jobs. Assistance gave the locals a real boost, and was very rewarding for the volunteers involved.

Site Feedback
Once again the volunteers assisted the local community of Toodyay with restoration. It was nice to have the volunteers stay overnight providing an opportunity for further work on Sunday. The help is really appreciated.

Navin Welgama
“I enjoyed the satisfaction of eating a BBQ and sitting around the campfire after working during the day.”

Tan Hui Yit
“My favourite part of the trip was being able to help out the residents of Toodyay.”

Natalie Sanchez
“I liked meeting new people and learning about nature, such as the different types of bushes.”

Volunteers were required to assist at the Toodyay Community Race Day. This event provided the volunteers the opportunity to work together doing jobs such as preparing the track, cleaning and setting up for the races on Saturday.

Site Feedback
The volunteers were very quick to help with the jobs and made themselves available for whatever was needed. We would love to be involved next year. It is the 150th year of racing at Toodyay so we would appreciate the help of your enthusiastic volunteers again.

Lui Dong
“My favourite part was the horse races – it’s so cool and it was the first time I have seen one!”

Tiong Leh Min
“I liked getting the opportunity to help prepare for and watch the horses racing.”

Haleigh Gross
“I loved meeting the locals and working with new friends. The meals were awesome and I enjoyed the physical labour and being outside!”
TOODYAY SHOW
11 - 12 OCTOBER

Volunteers helped at the Toodyay Agricultural Show. This community project provided the opportunity for volunteers to work together doing jobs such as preparing for the show, assisting throughout the day and cleaning up. Another fun weekend away!

Site Feedback
The group worked efficiently on the many tasks involved during and after the Show. As well as the assistance given, they were a pleasant group to have around. We thank them for their consistent hard work.

Radhika Kayarat
“I loved getting to look after a baby joey and driving the van!”

Kathleen Hupfeld
“I enjoyed getting to spend time at the show during the day and watching the fireworks at night.”

Isabel Moussalli
“My favourite part of the weekend was looking at all the funky chickens with afros and prize-winning pigeons! The food was also amazing.”

WAROONA SHOW
11 - 12 OCTOBER

Volunteers assisted at the Waroona Agricultural Show by carrying out a variety of roles such as front gate duty, car park assistance and helping in the livestock section.

Site Feedback
We would like to thank the volunteers. Volunteers assisted in a range of activities and all were exceptionally helpful and willing. We had a large crowd so really appreciated their hard work, they made the Show run smoother.

Shuk Man Ng
“My favourite part was the fireworks!”

Quang Ngo
“I loved getting to meet new people and the jobs were really fun.”

“Waroon Show Sat. Oct. 11th”

Quang Ngo
“I loved getting to meet new people and the jobs were really fun.”

Kathleen Hupfeld
“I enjoyed getting to spend time at the show during the day and watching the fireworks at night.”

Isabel Moussalli
“My favourite part of the weekend was looking at all the funky chickens with afros and prize-winning pigeons! The food was also amazing.”
Volunteers assisted at the Waroona Vintage Machinery Rally for the first time. Everyone was busy helping set up, face painting and pack-up. It was definitely a rewarding experience for both the volunteers and the rally attendees.

Site Feedback
We were very impressed with the enthusiasm and hard work of the volunteers - they helped where they were required, were approachable, friendly, trustworthy and helpful.

Tiffany Bunter
“My favourite parts of the trip were seeing the excitement of the children getting their face painted and making friends with the locals.”

Jagdave Singh
“I enjoyed seeing and learning about a new place.”

Kirtika Kayarat
“I loved face-painting, meeting the locals and being able to help out on a great day and community event!”

WATHEROO
6 - 7 SEPTEMBER

Volunteers were required to assist the community of Watheroo in preparing for their 100th year celebrations. Getting to be a part of such a monumental event was an excellent experience, and one not to be forgotten!

Site Feedback
We appreciated help from the volunteers, and thank them for their hard work in cleaning and setting up for the 100th year celebrations. They were a great bunch of young people and it was wonderful to have them assisting the Watheroo community again.

Michael Massen-Hane
“I loved doing cementing and visiting the local golf course.”

Sarah Battaglia
“I enjoyed helping lay a concrete path with stones at the local school.”
Five lucky volunteers were flown to the remote Goldfields community of Wiluna to assist the local health services run an early childhood school holiday program in the mornings, and a youth program at the Recreation Centre in the afternoons. The trip was a fantastic opportunity to learn more about remote health services in WA.

**Site Feedback**

The volunteers were vital in much of the organisation of the Centre and were great in their offering of ideas and expertise. We want to thank the volunteers for their time and dedication, and sincerely welcome them back at any time they wish in the future!

**Lucy Wilson**

“The biggest thing I took away from the trip was an increased understanding of how remote communities operate and the complexity of the situation. It was such a privilege!”

**Joshua Lam**

“I learnt about the needs of the rural communities of Australia and I would love to go again.”

**Maddison Ludwig**

“My second trip to Wiluna was an awesome experience! It was challenging but also very rewarding.”

**Joshua Lam**

“My second trip to Wiluna was an awesome experience! It was challenging but also very rewarding.”

Six volunteers assisted with the set up and logistics at the Yalgoo’Emu Cup. They even dressed up in emu suits to run in the cup! With so many wacky events held in the Murchison region the volunteers certainly gained memories to last a lifetime!

**Site Feedback**

The feedback from a variety of people was overwhelmingly positive. Everyone had a really great time, especially the kids - thank you one and all for your contributions!

**Nick Brausch**

“My favourite part of the JCW was getting the opportunity to see a part of Australia that many aren’t lucky enough to see.”

**Jaydon Battersby**

“The trip was incredibly rewarding in allowing myself and other volunteers to have a positive impact on the lives of some wonderful kids.”

**Yenny Rodriguez**

“I believe going on a trip like this is the most meaningful experience an international student can have in Australia. I loved meeting and understanding the Indigenous people and their culture, making the kids smile and making amazing friends.”

**Joshua Lam**

“My second trip to Wiluna was an awesome experience! It was challenging but also very rewarding.”
Curtin University
For supporting JCW 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. 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 JCW. They showed that they have the skills and knowledge to manage this amazing community project. Their enthusiasm and dedication is appreciated.

JCW Sites
Thank you for participating in JCW 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, enthusiasm and energy are appreciated by the regional and metropolitan sites that you have worked with. You have made a big difference to the sites and they have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside you.

JCW Team
The members of the JCW Team are skilled, resourceful, energetic and focused. 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 contributed greatly to their community projects.

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

John Curtin Weekend Sites of 2014

Amaroo Village  Koorda  Parkerville
Baldivis      Kulin #1    Pingelly
Bridgetown    Kulin #2    Pinjarra
Brigadoon     Kununoppin Sarawak
Busselton     Lake Grace  Swancare
Corrigin      Laverton   Tambellup
Cuballing     Leonora    Toodyay Fire
Cunderdin     Margaret River Toodyay Races
Dardanup      Meekatharra Toodyay Show
Duyfken       Merredin   Waroona Show
Gingin        Mukinbudin Waroona Vintage
Harvey        Narembeen Machinery Rally
Jarrahdale     Narrogin Watheroo
Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Northam Wiluna
Conservation Centre Nungarin Yalgoo

Site Leaders
Adam McGlashan
Aislinn Kowald
Ben Hogan
Ben Lowther
Chelsea Smoker
Danielle Bejr
Danika Wellington
Dennielle Messeng
Dio Luwandi
Eeshwar Rajagopalan
Eric Li
Isabelle Southern
Jasmine France
Jay Bassett
Jinesh Thakrar
Jo Armstrong
Josh Patat
Kaveenar Rajendran
Kazeem Adefemi
Kettese Hansen
Kirtika Kayarat
Leo Rocha Soler
Liam Richer
Liz Skinner
Matt Hall
Megan Jarvie
Moira O’Brien Smith
Rachael McMinn
Sarah Menagio
Sharree Williams
Shelley Cable
Swati Mangalam
Takara Rogers
Timothy Man
Tom Russell
Venessia Teh
Victoria Gelmi
Wendy Andrews

Vehicle Drivers
Adam Goor
Alwyn Birch
Ben Hogan
Ben Lowther
Bob Meredith
David Lord
David Richer
Erik Helmerhorst
Hannah Castledine
James Boyle
Jo Armstrong
John Rees
Karen Taylor
Kettese Hansen
Kevin Pestell
Kym Sher
Lindsay Talbot
Max Polain
Paul Yates
Praveen Elango
Radhika Kayarat
Santana Stanley
Sean Simpson
Wilhelm Law

Regional Coordinators
Chris Polain
Jo Armstrong
Kristen Barker
Liz Skinner
Maureen Meredith
Sarah Menaglio
Tom Russell

Bus Donors
Como Secondary College
Penrhos College

Sponsorship
Advance Press Print and Communication Specialists

Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd

Final round of applause

Year Book Designer
Natasha Curran

Yearbook Content
Jo Armstrong
Liz Skinner
Maureen Meredith

PRINTED BY
Advance Press Pty Ltd
Designed by Natasha Curran
Photos for Kulin, Toodyay Races and Wiluna – Joshua Lam
NUMBER OF SITES VISITED IN 2014

REGIONAL 30
METROPOLITAN 7
INTERNATIONAL 1
REMOTE + INDIGENOUS 5

11,000 KMS
34 BUSES
4 PLANES

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED BY OUR VOLUNTEERS
Australia Brazil Cambodia Canada China England Ghana Hong Kong India Indonesia Kenya Malawi Malaysia Maldives Mauritius Myanmar Nepal New Zealand Nigeria Pakistan Philippines Republic of Korea Scotland Singapore South Africa South Korea Sri Lanka Thailand Turkey UK USA Venezuela Vietnam Zambia Zimbabwe

WEEKS 6

VOLUNTEERS 450 IN WA + 250 IN SARAWAK