

The Year in Review

Leura Mall Gardens

Dec 2021 - Nov 2022

Area of Activity - public gardens of Leura village centre

- Leura Mall from Railway Parade to Megalong Street (excluding roundabout centres, NE corner of top roundabout and median strip below the top bed and path.)
- Mural Walk to car park/ toilets, courtyard beside toilets and bed opposite toilets.
- Compost Corner in NE corner of car park.

Main Activities - landscaping, rejuvenation and maintenance of garden beds

- Procurement, planting, watering, feeding, weeding, pruning, soil conditioning, minor drainage and stone work.
- Establishment and management of Compost Corner for green waste from Mall gardening supplemented with Red Door coffee grounds and Leura Garage Closed Loop food compost

Participants - LVA Gardeners of Leura (Gollies)

Kerry Brown (paid & volunteer gardener), Jenny and Doug Morris, Wendy and Tom Whitton, Therese Underwood, Sue Harris, Ron Powell, Susie and Phill Paull (volunteer gardeners)

Summary

Time:

In the year to 30 Nov 2022, we accounted for **358 hours** of gardening and related activities. This included **118 paid hours** and **240 volunteer hours** (including 30 hours donated by me on top of paid gardening), i.e. a ratio of about one paid for every two volunteer hours. Many more unaccounted hours of service were donated by the team for off-site tasks such as procuring plants and products (approx. 30 hrs), preparation of the Garden Charter and draft Gardening Agreement with the City Council, preparation of GoLly related web and social media content, and managing the flags and banners for the top of the Mall.

Products

Compost-manure and organic plant food and tonics (seaweed) were the main products. In June 2021, the City Council provided 4 cubic metres of horticultural grade chip so only three bags of supplementary chip were purchased.

Plants:

521 new plantings were comprised of **307 annuals** and **167 perennials** (42 donated).

There was a small cost for hardware for the compost bays (which will eventually obviate the need for commercial compost). Other products such as the palettes and palings to build the

composts bays and signage, as well rocks and gravel for the gardens and drainage were donated. In particular, we thank former LVA president Tom Colless.

Costs:

Labour \$4720, plants \$1481, products \$250 for a total of \$6541

Thank you to all the volunteer Gardeners of Leura (Gollies) for their efforts, ideas, knowledge, skills, enthusiasm and excellent company and to Fiona and her staff at the Red Door Café for their friendly and free coffees every week for the Gollies team.

The Gollies were also volunteers for the LVA seasonal events (Xmas 2021 and Leura Fair 2022).

**Kerry Brown
LVA Gardener and GoLly
December 2022**