

LVA Gardener's Report
February 2023
for Leura Village Association Meeting
of 28 Feb 2023

February has been another busy month with a total of 49 hours excluding administration. This was constituted of 15 paid gardener hours, 27 volunteer hours from Therese, Suzie, Phill, Wendy, Tom, Doug, Jenny and new volunteer Christine and a further 7 volunteer hours from me.

Weather: The waves of sun, heat and then rain continue to create a cycle of leafy growth that requires extra watering in the heat. This month, we got serious with the pruning shears.



Railway Corner Bed: A small splurge of resources on sunflowers and petunias has been very well received by locals as an additional happiness factor for the Mall.

Pruning: The roses have all been pruned and fed to see them through to their major haircut in late winter. Azaleas received their final prune before spring last month. We have been working down from Le Gobelet Bed and on other pruning – Lavender, Hebes, Diosmas, Coprosma, Curry plants etc.

'Off with their heads': The Agapanthus are done.

Compost Corner: Both bays are full with excess being picked up and/or chipped by Council. In March, the volunteers, led by Compost Corner Co-ordinator Doug Morris, will hopefully find time to build at least one more bay.

Mural Bed: Following the relocation of the Clivias to a more suitably shady location on the Mall last month, this month we replanted the exotic end of the Mural bed with three relocated pink Salvias, four Limonium, Catmint and petunias. This has created a very pretty pink and blue late summer show complemented by the pinks, blues and yellows of our plantings for Sue de Brett's Memorial Bed on the Mall at the western end of the Walk.

The Mural bed is in a rain shadow created by the surrounding buildings so we need to remember to water, despite the rain and the hardy native plants.

Rubbish Area between Waygoose building and public toilets: Owned by Council as part of the 170-174 Mall property, this eyesore for pedestrians walking between the Mall and toilets/Car park has been a bone of contention for decades. The tenants do their best to keep it tidy. But it is in public view and also subject to dumping. This month we added two 'screening' native bushes to the beds in front.

Golly Doug Morris is also in discussion with a local fencer for a project between us to screen and secure the rubbish area. We are consulting with Waygoose owner Becky Alchin (the tenant) who bears primary responsibility for managing the area.

Thank you to Jenny and Doug Morris, Wendy and Tom Whitton, Suzie and Phill Paul, Therese Underwood and our new volunteer (and former Birches owner) Christine Cuneo.

Kerry Brown
LVA horticulturist on behalf of the GOLlies

