

Garden Committee report November 2023 – January 2024

The weather has spurred on growth of all plants and the lawns of SG Estate. The gardener has had to increase his mowing to accommodate the quick growth of the lawns and the strip on QRS Road. Additionally, the gardener poisoned weeds when appropriate. A significant amount of hedging has been undertaken by the gardener and his staff over the period.

Rain, the heat and public holidays over the last three months have affected the amount of work needing to be undertaken. Don, Liz and Bert Hall and Linda have spent a significant number of hours working to ensure that the gardens continue to look their best. Linda is working on the garden on the pathway alongside the western tennis court fence. The work has involved removal of agapanthus and replacing an area with bromeliads that were being overtaken by the agapanthus. Mulch from the stockpile has been added to this area and further work will be undertaken to thin out the remaining agapanthus clumps over the next few months. The agapanthus plants were deadheaded once flowering ceased. The area between the north tennis court fence and the hedges was trimmed and weeded. Mulch was then placed over the ground to reduce the weed growth.

Don helped to remove the mondo grass at the entrance to the Clubhouse. He has spent 25 hours trimming the bottle brush, weeding the native garden, trying to control the bamboo shoots in the pool gardens, working on drainage of the gazebo and deadheading roses. He spent another 5 hours helping LG at the Clubhouse entrance, pulling the odd weed.

Liz and Bert Hall have undertaken many hours in the gardens, weeding and pruning. Also, Liz has worked to remove the mealy bug that has attacked quite a few of the gardenia and other plants. She and Bert have also been clearing along the outer fence behind the estate and she has asked Hornsby Council to remove some tree branches. Amanda Maitland has continued to care for the gardens allocated when she has the time.

We hope to order more mulch for the gardens once the weather cools. This will be used to cover areas that to date have not been mulched. The garden areas that have been mulched have meant a noticeable reduction in weed growth since July.

Water usage over the last 12 months has been compiled by Don and is attached to this report.

<u>Water</u>					
<u>Date</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>@ \$2.50/KL</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>@ \$2.67/KL</u>
<u>Jan-23</u>			<u>Sep-23</u>		
4	3479.6		4	3791.8	
12	3517.0		7	3806.6	
17	3531.0		9	3816.1	
18	3545.6		14	3834.0	
20	3553.3		15	3845.7	
26	3554.2		20	3855.5	
KL used	<u>88.9</u>	\$222.25	22	3861.2	
<u>Feb-23</u>			KL used <u>79.6</u> \$212.53		
1	3556.6		<u>Oct-23</u>		
5	3568.9		4	3895.1	
11	3569.2		11	3921.4	
KL used	<u>15.0</u>	\$37.50	12	3927.4	
<u>Mar-23</u>			13	3941.6	
1	3586.8		22	3943.2	
3	3602.4		25	3986.5	
7	3604.8		28	4010.5	
8	3614.8		KL used	<u>149.3</u>	\$398.63
9	3626.2		<u>Nov-23</u>		
15	3639.5		2	4029.3	
16	3646.9	7	7	4044.2	
20	3660.4		9	4065.8	
22	3672.5		13	4080.6	
23	3680.0		17	4112.9	
KL used	<u>110.8</u>	\$277.00	22	4130.0	
<u>Apr-23</u>			24	4153.6	
8	3720.6		KL used	<u>143.1</u>	\$382.08
12	3708.4		<u>Dec-23</u>		
13	3716.2		13	4243.0	
KL used	<u>36.2</u>	\$90.50	14	4259.4	
<u>May-23</u>			16	4275.7	
11	3723.5		28	4326.4	
29	3725.5		29	4349.1	
KL used	<u>9.3</u>	\$23.25	KL used	<u>195.5</u>	\$521.99
<u>@ \$2.67/KL</u>			Total 2023 883.8 \$ 2,322.51		
<u>Jul-23</u>			Total 2022 677.8 \$ 1,680.11		
26	3742.6		Total 2021 866.4 \$ 2,062.03		
KL used	<u>17.1</u>	\$45.66			
<u>Aug-23</u>					
4	3780.5				
23	3781.6				
KL used	<u>39</u>	\$104.13			