

HUNTLEE ACADEMY

ON THE RISE



1 MILLION  
1 RECYCLED

Edition 2  
November 2019

## GM UPDATE

This edition of our newsletter will have a focus on our Parks and Gardens team who play a pivotal role in the presentation and upkeep of Huntlee Township by maintaining and expanding our parks, gardens, plants and surrounds. The P & G team has seen some major changes since our last newsletter beginning with the newly appointed Parks and Gardens Manager, Belynda Davies, who has been a welcome addition to Huntlee Academy. Belynda brings with her an extensive background in horticulture, a passionate drive for sustainable agriculture and an acute sense of organization skills.

With Belynda's drive and eye for detail and knowledge of plants, Parks and Gardens have already seen an uptake in residential yard maintenance and backyard landscaping. Another addition in this area is our own water truck utilising the recycled water from Huntlee households to nourish the park, gardens and roadside plants.

The Return and Earn collection point continues to grow with

locals from Greta, Branxton, Cessnock and Huntlee allowing HAL to reach the 1MILLION containers recycled in the last year. A lofty number considering it has only been in service a little over 18 months.

As per our goals, we continue to offer employment opportunities to individuals when the work load allows and HAL is closely aligned with the experts in these areas such as Mai-Wel LabourForce Solutions, Salvation Army Employment Plus and Joblink Plus to name a few.

Unfortunately, some callous individuals decided to carry out a robbery of our site on the June long weekend burning 3 vehicles to the ground and making off with \$120k worth of tools and equipment as well. It's a sad reflection on today's society that thieves would target a Not for Profit business in this callous fashion. Though it has taken a few months to get back on our feet, purchase some replacement equipment and tighten security we are looking to the future.

Training and upskilling of our work force will take a leap forward this year with a format designed to enhance the skills learnt here and gain certification, licenses and competencies where ever possible.

HAL also participated in the Greta Migrant Camp celebrations in November by providing all the recycling needs of the event.

I thank all our customers, suppliers and partners for the last twelve months and look forward to continuing our success.

**NOEL KIRBY** - General Manager



**On the June long weekend, callous individuals carried out a robbery of our site, burning 3 vehicles to the ground and stealing \$120k worth of tools and equipment**

If you would like to know more about Huntlee Academy and our services, please contact us:

P. 02 4938 2172 | [www.huntleeacademy.com.au](http://www.huntleeacademy.com.au) | [@Huntlee Academy](https://www.facebook.com/HuntleeAcademy)

## PARKS AND GARDENS BIOGRAPHY

### HORTICULTURALIST JOINS HUNTLEE ACADEMY

In February 2019, Belynda Davies took over as Parks & Gardens Supervisor with Huntlee Academy. An accomplished horticulturalist and advocate for sustainable agriculture, conservation and land management, Belynda has already proven a key asset to the team.

Belynda brings to her role more than five years' horticultural management experience in varied aspects of the field, from design and maintenance to sustainable agriculture. Specialising in garden design and aesthetics, permaculture and vegetable production.

Belynda has also taken on the management role in our landscaping team, bringing creativity, depth and variation to the residents landscape designs.

In addition to Belynda's position at Huntlee Academy, she is also the horticultural adviser in the Muse Restaurant's produce garden. Her previous roles include the Head Gardener at Crowne Plaza Lovedale, Senior Horticultural Manager at Hunter Farm Collective and Head Horticulturalist at both Willinga Park north of Batemans Bay and MilkHaus Wholefood Café near Ulladulla.

Belynda said her interest in Huntlee was predominantly due to her knowledge of LWP's (Huntlee's developer) Ellenbrook development in the Swan Valley of Western Australia.

"I find Ellenbrook's strong moral compass for building a sustainable community really appealing," said Belynda.



"Having the Huntlee development right here in the Hunter Valley was something that excited me, and I wanted to become a part of its evolution. When the opportunity arose to join the team, it was an easy decision to make. Belynda said "I look forward to catching up with all the current and new residents to discuss everything from turf to plants and sustainable agriculture".

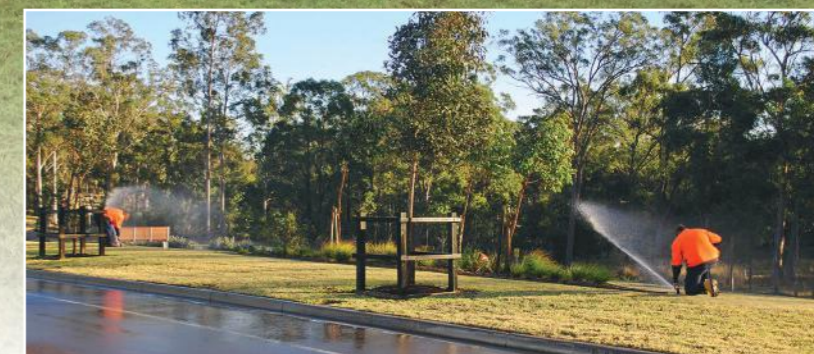


### PARKS AND GARDENS TEAM

*From left to right: Johnny, Greg, Ian, Mick and Belynda (Parks and Gardens Manager)*



📌 Adopt-A-Road program



📌 Irrigation at Riparian Park

# LANDSCAPING



## COTTAGE BLOCK FRONT YARD LANDSCAPING

Comprising feature plants of Syzygium Resilience standards, with Gardenia O So Fine understory planting. Formed raw concrete pavers and white cowra rock.



## BACKYARD LANDSCAPING COMPLETION

Utilising drought and frost tolerant species to facilitate minimal water consumption.

The use of natural timber and steel components to compliment the plant scape.



## FRONT YARD LANDSCAPE DESIGN - CORNER BLOCK

Utilising plants that are tolerant to the Hunter Regions harsh climate conditions:

- Boundary Hedge: Rraphiolepis Little Bliss
- Footpath Border Planting: Rraphiolepis Oriental Pearl
- Raised Garden Bed Feature: Olive tree with lavender understory planting



## FRONT YARD LANDSCAPING DESIGNS

Incorporating natural sandstone and oxidised steel.

Use of Australian Natives that tolerate heavy clay soils, drought and frost:

- Leucadendron Harvest Sumer Sun
- Leucadendron Argenteum
- Leucospermum Carnival Copper
- Adenanthos Wolly Bush
- Lecadendron Devils Bush
- Protea Pink Susara

Feature Tree: Magnolia Teddy Bear 2.7m high

## CUSTOM LANDSCAPE DESIGN



## LANDSCAPE CREW

Back row left to right: Ashton, Paul, Trey and Shane  
Front row left to right: Tasmine and Belynda (Landscape manager)

# FENCING

1. Truck - Every 2 weeks a B Double arrives from Sydney with panels, posts, caps, and joiners for fence construction.
2. Painting - The panels are separated and sent off to our painting area for painting and drying, using a formula developed by Huntlee with UV protection. While this is happening, the crew will pre assemble posts ready for erection on the estate.
3. Each Panel weighs 30 kilograms and is constructed in a sandwich configuration with steel inserts for rigidity.
4. Next the others in the crew will check the schedule and go to the next lot and mark out the fence and the post holes. A machine called a utility locator is then used to ensure none of the posts intersect electrical or plumbing underground.
5. Once the holes are dug using our “Kanga” the posts are cemented into the ground.
6. 24-36 hours later the panels, now painted can be inserted with joiners and caps to complete the fence.



## THE CREW

Manager - Mark Brown.....	5 years
Dylan.....	3.5 years
Les.....	2.5 years
Mitch.....	2 years
Brody.....	1.2 years
Caitlan.....	1.5 years



# PROJECTS

The projects Team apart from Brad, can be supplemented from all the crews as needed. Certain projects like the new expanded Dog Run were completed this year.

Other areas include rural fencing, an acquired skill, manufacturing animal houses for the NSW conservation department, to be used in the conserved area to study and re locate the fauna in the district.

Building and refurbishing the picnic tables that have been there since 2014 with the sun having taken its toll.

Things like removing large trees or in some cases relocating them is all in a day's work for Brad.

Anything that needs doing can be done is the motto of Brad and his helpers.



# TRAINING

HAL was established in 2014 to provide work, skill development and higher-level career opportunities for local disadvantaged people including indigenous Australians, youth, long term unemployed, mature age workers and those with a disability. HAL employ candidates who are directly sourced from these target groups and give them the support they need to ensure they are job ready and equipped to build on their position in the job market. To reach our goals all employees of the Academy will undertake training to ensure their long-term personal development and employability.

## COURSES

1. **Mandatory**  
Aimed at work preparedness.
2. **Competencies**  
22 basic skills competencies are available for work at the academy in everything from power tools to Chainsaws.
3. **Skill sets**  
Including shorter courses for horticulture, construction and chemical handling.
4. **Certificate course**  
Can be longer and include traineeships and up to 2-year courses where major accreditation is obtained.
5. **Licenses & tickets**  
Organized for the likes of trucks, forklifts, bobcats working at heights, etc.
6. **Employment skills**  
Including resume writing basic computer, interview skills.

All the above is the commitment of HAL to improving the life of the community in our local area.

**SKILLS  
TALENT  
TRAINING  
COMPETENCE  
EXPERTISE**

# RETURN & EARN

**REMEMBER:** Containers that are not included in the Scheme and, therefore, do not qualify for a refund are:

- plain milk or milk substitute containers
- flavoured milk containers of 1 litre or more
- pure fruit or vegetable juice containers of 1 litre or more
- glass containers for wine and spirits
- casks (plastic bladders in boxes) for wine and casks for water of 1 litre or more
- sachets for wine of 250 millilitres or more
- containers for cordials, or concentrated fruit and vegetable juices
- registered health tonics

All bags of containers must be counted.

If you have not counted them, we are happy for you to do so on our counting bench and we can supply the bags to put them in ready for packing into the container.

## CLOSURE DATES:

*December 19th is the last day for drop off of your containers with Return & Earn reopening on Monday 6th January 2020.*



## WHAT DO 1 BILLION CONTAINERS LOOK LIKE?

Over 1 Billion containers have been returned through NSW Return and Earn, and an entire year in, that is an enormous effort across the board. Every one of the 1 Billion containers that have been collected have been prevented from entering the litter stream or landfill. Well done NSW, it's an awesome achievement.

The 1 billionth container was returned at 5.50pm on Sunday 2nd December, and the figures speak for themselves:

- Eligible drink containers collected and recycled: up by 69 per cent
- Eligible drink container litter volume: down 44 per cent
- NSW total litter volume: down 48 per cent since 2013
- Drink containers being processed each week: 26 million
- Most drink containers processed in a day: 5.6 million on Sunday November 11


If you laid out the containers end

to end, they could reach 146,000 km in distance -that's enough to:

- Travel from Sydney to Wagga Wagga 384 times
- Take 99 return trips between Sydney and Brisbane
- Go from Sydney to Rome 9 times
- Travel the perimeter of Australia 4 times
- Sail the Sydney to Hobart 124 times
- Ride the Tour de France 41 times
- or fly 37% of the way to The Moon

The recycling of 1 Billion containers is equivalent to:

- 106 Million Gigajoules in energy saved
- 8 Million tonnes of CO2 removed from the atmosphere
- Planting 12 Million trees
- Taking 2.1 Million cars off the road
- Saving 27 Million months of household energy use.

Today is #WalkToWork day. If you're heading to work by foot, it's a good opportunity to grab a container or two on the way. Just pop them in your bag for a refund later, and you've done your bit for the environment.    
#LifeWithoutLitter #Recycle #Recycling



Wishing all our wonderful customers and suppliers a **Merry Christmas**. Thank you for your support in 2019



We look forward to working with you all again in 2020.