



For immediate release  
13<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**A GREEN INJECTION FOR MANNERING PARK TIDY TOWNS**

Manning Park is known for its pristine gardens and community spaces thanks to the hard work of a group of dedicated volunteers. Now, thanks to a recent grant from Wallarah 2, the entry to the coastal suburb is soon to get even greener.

Manning Park Tidy Towns was established more than five years ago with a mission to beautify the town and the community hall and establish new gardens and vegetation in what was once heavy industrial sites.

Through the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation, Manning Park Tidy Towns has been able to purchase 25 new crepe myrtle shrubs for its town entry, providing an opportunity for the group to continue to beautify the area from its scarred industrial history.

Since July 2015 the volunteer group has clocked up over 1600 volunteer hours with primary tasks including cleaning graffiti from common areas, picking up and removing rubbish, mowing lawns throughout the area and managing common garden spaces.

Ian Carr, President of the Tidy Towns group in Manning Park said, "As we are tucked away in the northern end of the Central Coast we are often forgotten about, but we are certainly proud of our beautiful town and enjoy seeing our residents take pride in their area.

"Our group benefits the environment by regenerating old areas that have been affected by past industry activities and the improvements to our town entry have had a considerable impact on the community and the visitors to our town.

"We've established impressive Manning Park entry gardens complete with a stone entry wall and solar lighting and these new shrubs will form an important part of the work we are undertaking on the entry footpath," said Ian.

Peter Smith, Environment and Community Manager of the Wallarah 2 Coal Project said, "Manning Park is a gorgeous little town at the southern end of Lake Macquarie, surrounded by water, picturesque landscape and industrial areas.

"The Tidy Towns group do a fantastic job and have made massive improvements over the past few years and we are delighted to have contributed by allowing them to continue their important work in this community.

"Manning Park Tidy Towns group is a perfect example of individuals coming together to volunteer their time to add value and benefit the wider community.

**-MORE-**



## Wallarrah 2 COAL PROJECT

### **-MORE-**

“It is people like this who make a real difference to the sense of community in a town, increasing pride in the beauty of the local area and also decreasing the levels of rubbish that end up in waterways and environmental areas.

“The group’s graffiti program is also an impressive community initiative with the volunteers aiming to remove any graffiti within 24 hours, deterring youth from further graffiti activity,” added Peter.

**A total of nine grants were awarded to community initiatives that benefit the Wyong region as part of the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation 2016 grant process. For further information, please visit [www.wallarrah.com.au](http://www.wallarrah.com.au).**



Some of the hardworking volunteers from the Mannering Park Tidy Towns group.

### **-ENDS-**

**For more information, interviews and photo opportunities:  
Peter Smith – Environment & Community Manager  
Wallarrah 2 Coal Project  
Ph: 4352 7500**