

# Sterling News

Edition No.1 Summer 2012

## A Big Welcome From Sterling!

On behalf of Sterling Group Services, we'd like to extend a warm welcome to all readers in this first edition of our on-line Sterling customer newsletter.

We're very excited to be able to provide our customers with this publication and hope that by doing so, we'll be able to provide an insight into Sterling's happenings and operations .

Released on a seasonal basis, we hope you enjoy our first edition and look forward to receiving your feedback and support.

### Summer Gardening Tip

- Watch out for Aphids on rose bushes. Spray with Eco Oil and Eco Rose to control insects, black spot and powdery mildew.
- Wait until spring blossoms have finished before trimming spring flowering trees and shrubs. The new growth will produce next year's blossom.
- Enjoy your time in the garden, be sun smart, wear appropriate clothing, and always wash your hands after handling compost, soil or chemicals.

## Sterling Opportunity Realised At Queenswood School For Girls

It's back to school for the Sterling Group who has recently acquired the prestigious grounds maintenance contract for the Queenswood School for Girls.

Located in Mosman, Sydney, the school's 800 students will be privy to Sterling's services at the Main School Campus, the Junior School Campus and the Arts School Campus.

Commencing in September, the contract will primarily involve landscape maintenance work, which will assist in ensuring the school is looking its optimum all year round. Included in these works will be garden maintenance and design, mowing and edging, weed control, fertilising, pest and disease control, annual garden displays and litter and debris collection.



Sterling's latest victory will sit comfortably alongside their extensive portfolio of works for educational institutions, which already includes Ascham School, North Sydney's Shore School, Newington College, St Patrick's College Strathfield, PLC Croydon, Roseville Ladies College and St Aloysius College.

## It's A Shore Thing!

Since 1999, Sterling has been maintaining the grounds and gardens of North Sydney's Shore School – one of the countries most prestigious private schools.

Overseeing both sites is Ian George. Employed by Sterling for the past 22 years, Ian's experience and fine eye for detail has seen the School win numerous awards for the excellent standard of its gardens, rose gardens and bent lawns.

Not to be outdone however, head curator of the school's sports grounds and Sterling employee, Luke Carrabot, has also been putting in the hard yards as he maintains the School's immaculate looking sporting grounds. Looking after seven sporting fields, for a variety of sporting codes, earlier this year Luke received recognition from the School for the outstanding and consistent quality of the ground's surface and turf wickets pitches.



## Sterling Moves Into Campbelltown Sports Stadium

Our dedicated turf services team has secured the turf maintenance contract for the iconic Campbelltown Sports Stadium.

Located in South Western Sydney, the sporting complex holds fixtures for NRL, the New South Wales Cup, A League Soccer and a host of local and grass roots Rugby Union, Rugby League and Soccer games.

Andrew Molloy has been appointed Head Curator for the project. Having been at Sterling for five years, Andrew has extensive experience in green keeping and in maintaining sports fields.

We look forward to monitoring Andrew's progress on TV.

## 'Sugar Hit' Best Medicine For Trees

Even though Australia's drought conditions may be over, tens of thousands of established trees are still at risk of premature death, with studies showing that water can take months if not years to permeate to a trees root system.



Steve Jones (Operations Manager / Arborist for Citywide's Stonnington and Port Phillip tree contracts) has recently devised an innovative solution to 'fast track' enzyme activity.

Armed with the knowledge of recent studies showing the introduction of carbohydrates directly into the soil can lead to an increase root mass, Steve has been applying sugar solutions in the form of molasses directly into the root systems, via Citywide's AirRaider machine.

Essentially, the addition of the Carbohydrate with water adds a food source to help promote reactivation of the soil ecology, which enables the release of essential nutrients.

"Carbohydrates are initially synthesized in plants from a complex series of reactions involving photosynthesis. They provide energy through the plants metabolism pathways and cycles, supply carbon for synthesis of other compounds, and form structural components in cells and tissues. Simply speaking, this process helps trees to eat again," said Steve.

For further information on improving the health of your trees, contact Citywide on (03) 9261 5000.

