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Heavenly Hectares workshop inspires local small landholders

“How do I manage weeds on my property” and “Where do I get a soil test done” were just two of the many questions asked at the Heavenly Hectares workshop in Gingin on Saturday 23rd November.

The Moore Catchment Council organised the event in partnership with The Forever Project, Avongro and Northern Agricultural Catchments Council with funding through the Federal Caring For Our Country initiative, DAFWA, and The Natural Disaster Resilience Program. Rachel Walmsley of MCC said “Chris Ferreira from The Forever Project is well known on the sustainable living circuit and he delivered an entertaining and fast paced introduction to creating sustainable rural properties. I’ve worked with him before and witnessed his enthusiast style so I knew he wouldn’t disappoint.”

The day was very much an interactive event with participants being encouraged to ask their burning questions. Topics included fire safety – Chris suggests to think of a fire break as more like an emergency fire access track and also to plant fire retardant species, water harvesting – use water where it falls, fertiliser management – use more efficiently, property planning – everyone should get an aerial plan of their property, water and soil testing – get a proper soil/water test done at the worst time of year ie summer, and perennial pastures – get on-farm pasture all year round.

The 3 hour session ended with a giveaway of fertiliser measuring jugs, a dieback kit and 3 copies of The West Australian Garden Guide. Rachel says “Huge thanks to the financial sponsors that made today possible, to everyone who came along, and to Chris for his informative and lively presentation. Everyone went away inspired with new ideas and projects to make their properties more sustainable.”



Photo: L-R Chris Ferreira, Rachel Walmsley, with book winners Peter Rimmer, Helen Harvey, and Adriaan du Toit



The Moore Catchment Council promotes Natural Resource Management in the Moore River Catchment