

Serving the Moore River catchment since 1995

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Issue 31 Spring/Summer 2013/14

Welcome to the Moore Catchment Council's (MCC) 31st *Moore to the Point* newsletter. Its been a difficult few months because of funding issues, but the end of the year has brought some cheer with MCC gaining new projects through a couple of funding programs. Happy New Year ! editor *Rachel Walmsley*

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New projects secures MCCs future for now

The Moore Catchment Council's future is secure for the time being thanks to a number of grant applications which have been successful. These include 3 projects successful through the State NRM office's Community Grants scheme, and 2 through NACC's Coastal Devolved Grants program.

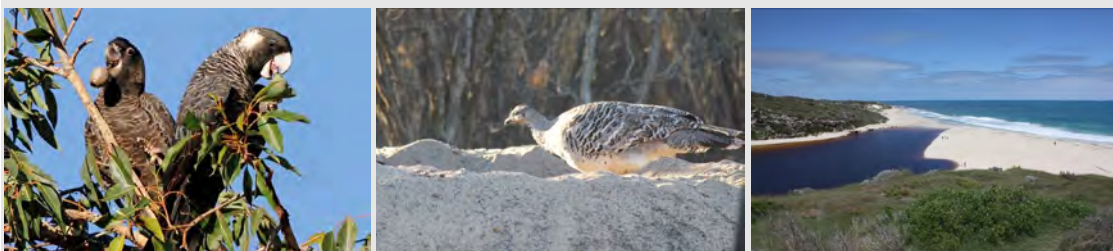
Hot on the heels of the MCC's current project to plant feed species for the iconic but endangered Carnaby's Black Cockatoo in and around Moora, MCC has been granted a new Carnaby's project by the State NRM Office called *Planting feed species for the endangered Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris) in the Northern Swan Coastal Plain Important Bird Area*. This project will focus on the area between Gingin and Guilderton. More details of this project on page 2.

Also funded through the State NRM Office is a project called *Reconnecting fragmented Malleefowl (Leipoa ocellata) habitat near Maya, WA* which will help create and connect native habitat suitable for Malleefowl, a Vulnerable listed native bird species, on a property near Maya. This project will also feature community events to increase awareness of Malleefowl.

Another State NRM Office project funded is based in Moora and called *Conservation of Candy's Bush Reserve through Traditional & ecological knowledge sharing*. This project will be Stage 2 of a long term project to protect and promote Candy's Bush reserve as a natural asset for all to enjoy.

Perimeter fencing to keep out vehicles and revegetation was part of Stage 1 which has now been completed. This next stage will include creation of a walk trail through the 8ha bush reserve, direction and interpretative signage, and a booklet guide featuring flora and fauna of the bush from Aboriginal and ecological perspectives.

Two additional successful grants through the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC) Coastal Devolved Grants program will involve an organised Turquoise coast bus tour, and a project to create interpretative signage for Guilderton. The first project will lead on from the well received bus tour organised by MCC in May 2012 as part of NACC's coastal program. This second tour will see coastal group members and community from Green Head, Jurien, Cervantes and Lancelin being transported to Ledge Point and Guilderton to see rehabilitation projects and network with other coastal conservation volunteers. The second project funded will fill a gap in the information available for visitors to Guilderton's estuary mouth. Interpretative signage will be developed to explain the estuary's natural processes, ecology, and Aboriginal significance.



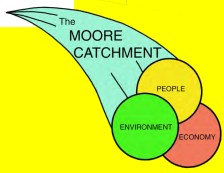
Carnaby's photo by Keith Lightbody
Malleefowl photo by Peter Waterhouse

Above: Winners ! Carnaby's and Malleefowl to get more native habitat, and Guilderton's estuary to have interpretive signage

MCC will continue looking for further funding to ensure NRM projects are ongoing in the Moore region. At present MCC has enough funding to continue activities until mid/late 2014. The MCC's future became uncertain in August 2013 when NACC ceased funding the Northern Agricultural Region's sub regional NRM groups, which included MCC, to fund NRM officers and deliver their programs. NACC will now operate using in-house NRM officers.



Information correct at time of printing. While every attempt is made to present accurate information on events, dates etc no responsibility is taken for the accuracy of the information.



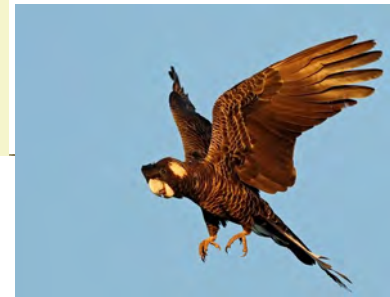
Plant feed species for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo are endemic to WA but are rapidly in decline. Estimates put total population to be below 60,000.

The Northern Swan Coastal Plain Important Bird Area (IBA) supports up to 15,000 Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo in the non-breeding season and a small number of breeding pairs. The birds are attracted to this area because of the presence of feed species in remnant vegetation containing *Banksia* heath and woodland, scattered marri (*Corymbia callophylla*) and tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*) trees and *Pinus* spp.

This area of foraging habitat has, however, been greatly reduced as a result of clearing, mainly for agricultural and residential development purposes.

We need your help to plant 12,500 feed species plants for the endangered Carnaby's



Photos above: courtesy of Keith Lightbody



- Do you live anywhere on the above map between Guilderton and Gingin?? (southern extent is Gingin Shire boundary)
- Would you like some **free** trees and bushes to plant in 2014 for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo? See page 3 for species available.

If **yes** - then contact Rachel at the Moore Catchment Council to register your interest:

9653 1355

0409 296 264



mcc.nrmo@bigpond.com

- MCC can also provide \$\$\$\$ for fencing off the revegetated areas















This Moore Catchment Council project is being funded through the State NRM Office



Carnaby's feed species for Gingin to Guilderton region

(H) = High priority
(M) = Medium priority

<p><i>Banksia attenuate</i> Slender Banksia (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>0.4-1.5(-3) m high. Fl. white-cream/yellow/pink. May to Sep. White, grey or yellow sand, sandy loam, granitic soils, laterite.</p> </div>	<p><i>Banksia ilicifolia</i> Holly Banksia (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Erect tree or shrub, to 12 m high, with epicormic buds. Fl. red/orange/yellow/cream. Jan to Dec. White or grey sand, black sandy loam, limestone, granite, quartz. Consolidated dunes or low-lying flats.</p> </div>	<p><i>Banksia littoralis</i> Swamp Banksia (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Tree or shrub, 1.5-12 m high, with epicormic buds. Fl. yellow/orange-yellow. Mar to Aug. Grey or black peaty sand. Low-lying, seasonally damp areas, along watercourses</p> </div>	<p><i>Banksia menziesii</i> Firewood Banksia (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Tree or shrub, 1.3-7 m high, usually arising from lignotuber or epicormic buds. Fl. pink/red/yellow, Feb to Oct. White, grey or yellow sand.</p> </div>	<p><i>Banksia nivea</i> Honeypot Dryandra (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Shrub, 0.15-1.5 m high. Fl. cream-yellow-orange-pink/red-brown, Apr or Jul to Nov. Sandy soils, gravel, laterite, granite</p> </div>	<p><i>Banksia prionotes</i> Acorn Banksia (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Non-lignotuberous tree or shrub, to 10 m high. Fl. cream & orange, Feb to Aug. White or grey/yellow sand, sandy loam, brown clay, laterite, granite. Sandplains, sand dunes, undulating slopes</p> </div>
<p><i>Corymbia calophylla</i> Marri (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Tree (mallee, rarely), to 40(-60) m high, bark rough, tessellated. Fl. white/pink, Dec or Jan to May. Red-brown clay loam, orange-brown sandy clay, gravel, grey sand over limestone, granite, laterite. Flats, hills, slopes, breakaways, wetlands, fringing salt marches, beside drainage lines</p> </div>	<p><i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i> Tuart (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Tree, 10-40 m high, bark rough, box-type. Fl. white, Jan to Apr. Sand over limestone. Coastal plains.</p> </div>	<p><i>Hakea lissocarpha</i> Honeybush (M)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Erect to sprawling, pungent, lignotuberous shrub, 0.4-1.5(-3) m high. Fl. white-cream/yellow/pink, May to Sep. White, grey or yellow sand, sandy loam, granitic soils, laterite.</p> </div>	<p><i>Hakea prostrata</i> Harsh Hakea (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Erect to spreading or prostrate, non-lignotuberous shrub, 1-3 m high. Fl. white-cream, Jul to Oct. Sandy soils, often over laterite, loam, gravel. Hillslopes, granite outcrops, coastal dunes</p> </div>	<p><i>Hakea trifurcata</i> Two leafed Hakea (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Rounded or open, non-lignotuberous shrub, 1.5-3 m high, to 3.5 m wide. Fl. white/cream-pink, Apr to Oct. White, grey/brown sand over limestone or laterite, loam, gravel.</p> </div>	<p><i>Hakea undulata</i> Wavy Leafed Hakea (H)</p>  <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;"> <p>Erect, often straggly, non-lignotuberous shrub, 1-2 m high. Fl. white, Jul to Oct. White or grey sand, clay, loam, gravel, laterite</p> </div>

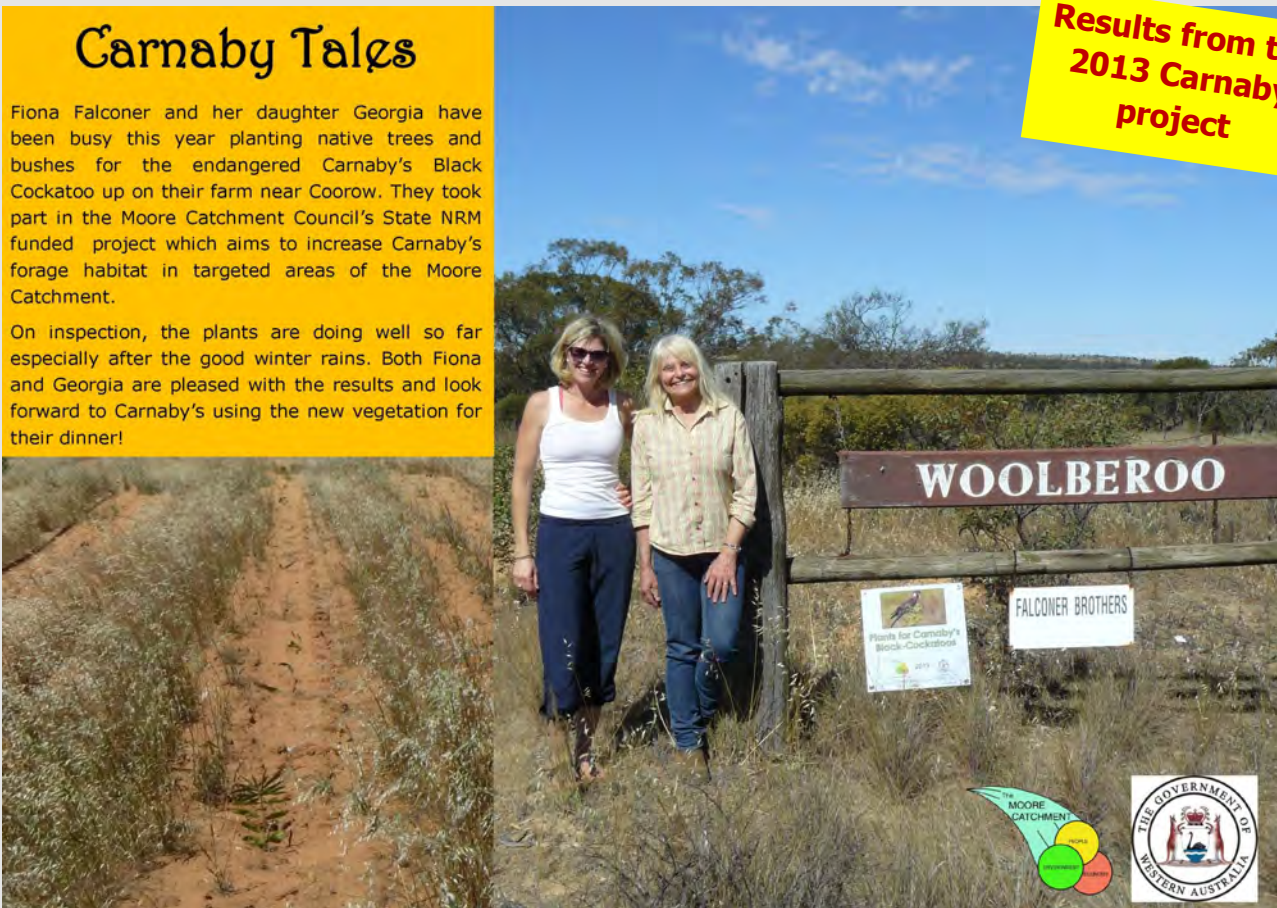
Info courtesy of DPAW's Florabase

Carnaby Tales

Fiona Falconer and her daughter Georgia have been busy this year planting native trees and bushes for the endangered Carnaby's Black Cockatoo up on their farm near Coorow. They took part in the Moore Catchment Council's State NRM funded project which aims to increase Carnaby's forage habitat in targeted areas of the Moore Catchment.

On inspection, the plants are doing well so far especially after the good winter rains. Both Fiona and Georgia are pleased with the results and look forward to Carnaby's using the new vegetation for their dinner!

Results from the 2013 Carnaby project



Heavenly Hectares 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 i.e. summer, and perennial pastures – get on-farm pasture all year round.

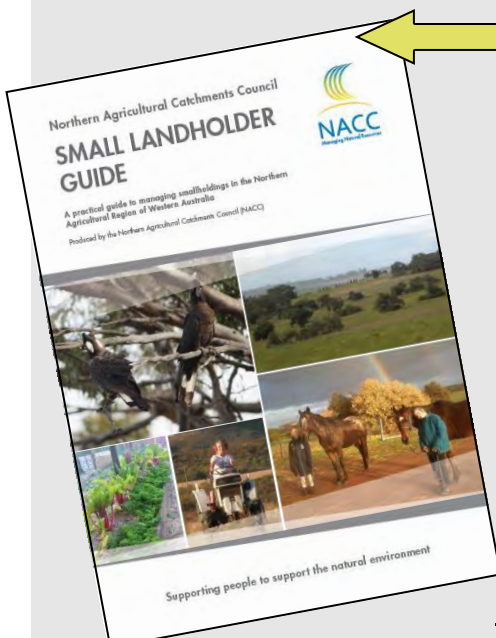
The 3 hour session ended with a giveaway of fertiliser measuring jugs, a dieback kit and 3 copies of The West Australian Garden Guide. Rachel says "Huge thanks to the financial sponsors that made today possible, to everyone who came along, and to Chris for his informative and lively presentation. Everyone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



Above: Chris talks about sustainable living

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

MCC videoed this event to help share the fabulous information Chris provided. We will post the link on YouTube and email members when it is ready. For more info on this please phone the office 9653 1355.

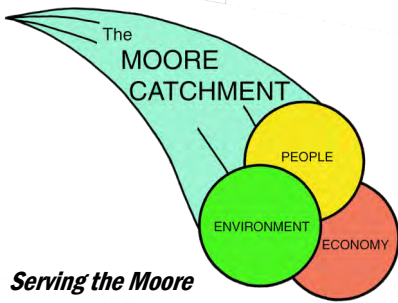


This *Small Landholder Guide* has been compiled for managers and prospective managers of small holdings in the Northern Agricultural Region (NAR) of Western Australia. This practical *Guide* is intended to assist people who manage a block of land that is between 2.5 acres (1 ha) and 500 acres (200 ha) in area.

Included in this *Guide* are a number of technical chapters and case studies. The series of technical chapters contain background and technical information on a range of different topics including Planning, Soils, Water, Livestock, Agricultural Plants and the Environment. This information has been compiled specifically for this region. Each chapter contains a summary (Fast Facts box) and also a short list of relevant references (Follow Up box). Many of these references are available online. Also included is a series of six case studies from this region.

Find out more info and download the online copy on the link below, or to obtain the full hard copy contact Stanley.Yokwe@nacc.com.au .

http://www.nacc.com.au/content.aspx?page=Small_Landholder_Guide



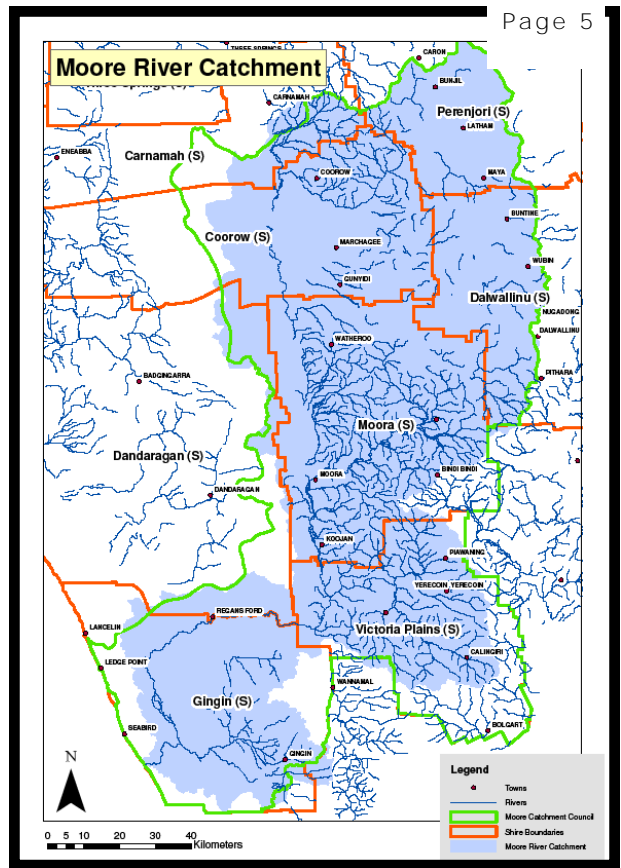
Serving the Moore River catchment since 1995

Moore Catchment Council

The Moore Catchment Council is *your* local natural resource management (landcare) group

Natural resources are the land, the water, the soil, the air, and the plants and animals in our natural environment. Natural resources are necessary for our survival and enable us to produce the foods and materials we use in our daily lives.

We all have an impact on our natural environment, and so we have a responsibility to manage and protect our natural resources in a sustainable way for the future.



The Moore Catchment is a sub region of the Northern Agricultural Region and extends from Coorow and Latham in the North, down to Guilderton and as far east as Bolgart.

The Moore River catchment covers 1.38 million hectares and includes the Shires of Gingin, Dandaragan, Coorow, Victoria Plains, Moora, Dalwallinu, Carnamah and Perenjori.

MCC can assist you by

- ◇ Helping you to plan NRM activities on your property including native revegetation, fencing, productive perennial pastures, saltland management, and planting machinery/contractors
- ◇ Providing advice on managing feral pests including foxes, rabbits, and weeds
- ◇ Providing advice on native species suitable for your property and where to purchase, plus other species (fodder) suitable for your soil
- ◇ Water and soil testing
- ◇ Facilitating technical advisors for specialised activities and advice
- ◇ Applying for grants to carry out larger projects

MCC offers the above as fee for service



Enquire today !

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www.moorecatchment.org.au
<https://www.facebook.com/moore.catchmentcouncil>

Your Local NRM Officer is:
Rachel Walmsley
mcc.nrmo@bigpond.com
 Mobile: 0409 296 264



The MCC aims to improve and maintain the health of the whole Moore River Catchment

North Guilderton Dune project update

The North Guilderton Coastal Restoration project is making steady progress. This project aims to help reduce impacts caused by humans driving vehicles over the dunes north of Guilderton. Rather than using one/two tracks to navigate over the dunes, drivers have created dozens of tracks which is causing huge erosion problems and damaging the fragile dune ecology. The main objective of this project is to reduce the number of tracks available to dune drivers by encouraging them to use one good track.

Funding through NACC's Caring For Our Country Coastal program has allowed MCC to implement on-ground works to help

reduce these problems in conjunction with Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPAW), Guilderton Community Association, Shire of Gingin, Department of Parks & Wildlife, Yued Group, & South West Aboriginal Land & Sea Council.

The plans have finally been approved by all stakeholders so now the next stages can begin which will involve DPAW fencing sections of the dune track and directional signage being designed and installed. Crushed limestone will also be placed in the worst sections to stop vehicles becoming bogged on the soft sand.

Additionally, a 1.6km walk trail across the dunes will be formalised to encourage visitors to appreciate the dunes on-foot. Signage at the start of the trail will help direct walkers.

This project will finish in June 2014 but there will be further stages to be completed, subject to future funding, including additional fencing and more signage.



Below: Some of the Guilderton dune's colourful native flora
 l-r *Scaevola crassifolia* (Thick leafed fanflower), *Carpobrotus virescens* (coastal pigface), *Calothamnus quadrifidus* (One-sided bottle-brush), & *Santalum acuminatum* (Quandong)



Above: Map shows dune track (red) that will be fenced and stabilized, and signage locations
Below: A 1.6km walking trail (yellow) will be created with directional signage at the start near the jetty





An eagle eyed (or should that be Black Cockie eyed??) Julia White spotted this article in Parrots - an international magazine for the Parrot enthusiast.



They'd picked up a media release from MCC's 2013 Carnaby's Black Cockatoo feed species project and put it in their magazine. Its brilliant to see that this project has attracted international recognition !! Plus, good spotting Julia.

Tree decline - what's happening ?

Recently a number of concerned residents contacted MCC to report dead and dying trees along the railway line which runs alongside the Bindoon-Moora road to Moora and then the Midlands road north. MCC went out to investigate and yes indeed hundreds of trees - mostly York Gums appear to have suffered from something during the last couple of months. This has been reported to Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) in Jurien Bay and they are looking into the matter.

From talking to residents further north, affected trees have been noticed all the way up the railway line to Coorow and beyond. Particular noticeably sick trees can be seen around the Wheatbin/Bindoon-Moora road intersections, through Moora, and around Coomberdale. The loss of so many trees along this rail reserve will be devastating to both native ecology and to locals and visitors who enjoy this area's tree landscape.

If anyone who has noticed this and would like to pass on their concerns, please phone DPaW in Jurien on 9652 1911 and speak to Steve Buitenhuis, Nature Conservation Coordinator, or email on Steven.Buitenhuis@DPaW.wa.gov.au



Above: Just a couple of the affected trees noticed along the railway line between Gillingarra and Coorow

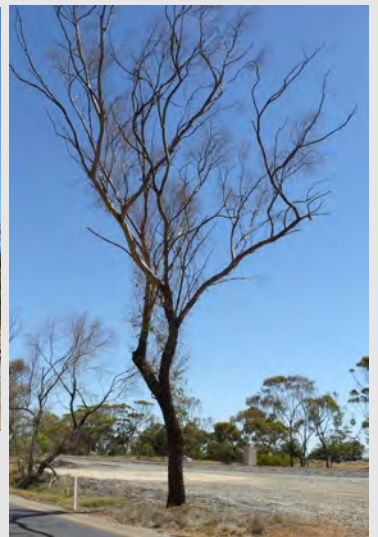


Photo prize won at MCC's Annual General Meeting

MCC held their AGM in Moora on October 4th. Attendance was not high but there were enough people to vote through the constitutional changes which included having less committee members. Previously there have been 16 committee members (2 from each Shire) but this was deemed as far too many. The new constitution states between 7 and 10 committee members.

An interim committee was also elected to attend to the business of the MCC until the new constitution has been approved by Department of Commerce. This committee will call a special meeting in the New Year to elect a new committee under the new guidelines.

After the formalities of the meeting, presentations were given by Shane Love, Moore MP and a director of NACC, and John Holley, director of the State NRM Office. Shane talked about the new programs NACC will be offering, and funding opportunities available to MCC and residents of the Northern Agricultural Region.

John Holley talked about the future of State and Federal NRM funding. The future of NRM groups such as MCC is in jeopardy because funding for the environment has fallen off the agenda of both governments. The knock-on from this will be the lack of on-ground NRM projects happening here in the Moore Catchment and the loss of local experienced NRM officers who help coordinate these projects.

To finish off the day and to highlight the recent Carnaby's project, MCC decided to have a fun quiz ! Rachel developed 10 multi choice questions to test the participants on their Carnaby knowledge. Up for grabs for the winner was a framed Carnaby's Black Cockatoo photo taken by renowned local nature photographer Keith Lightbody. Linda Johnson from Guilderton was the winner - congratulations !



Above: Linda Johnson (in yellow) was presented with her prize by Shane Love, Moore MP, Helen Watkins, MCC Executive Officer, and John Holley, State NRM Office Director.

Have a go at the quiz:
<http://www.onlinequizcreator.com/great-carnaby-s-black-cockatoo-quiz/quiz-1203>

WE NEED YOU



Moore Catchment Council needs **new committee members** to help take the group into 2014 and beyond.

If you have a passion/concern/interest/for landcare, coastcare, sustainable farming, and native flora and fauna in the Moore Catchment - then join us ! Phone Helen on 9653 1355 for more details.

Upcoming events

- ★ 2nd March, **Clean up Aus day**, Ledge Point call Rachel 9653 1355
- ★ 21st March **Turquoise bus trip (prelim date)**, Guilderton call Rachel 9653 1355

**Moore
Catchment
Council**

*protecting the natural resources
in the Moore River Catchment*



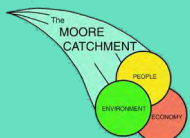
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Type **Moore Catchment Council** and **like** to have regular info on your feed :)



CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY

All photos within this publication have been taken by Rachel Walmsley, unless indicated otherwise