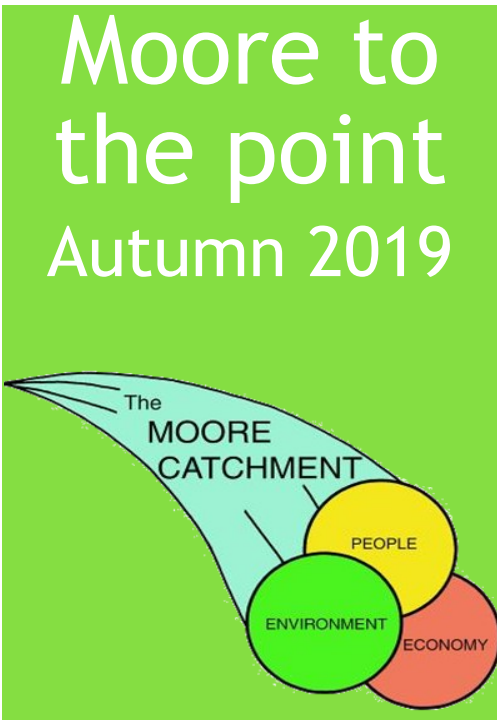




Shire of Moora Australia Day Awards



Conserving the Moore River catchment since 1995

In This Issue

MCC win Australia Day Award for Last Stand

Moore Catchment Council were thrilled to be nominated for ‘Event of the Year’ at the Shire of Moora 2019 Australia Day awards for The Last Stand, and beyond ecstatic when the event was picked as the winner !

Rachel Walmsley MCC’s Community Landcare Coordinator said “Myself and Helen are delighted to accept this award on behalf of MCC and The Last Stand organising committee. The event was an overwhelming success that saw around 400 people from all over Australia come to Moora to enjoy quality speakers and an interactive information display highlighting the Midwest’s natural assets and raising awareness about threats to biodiversity.”



The Last Stand was the brainchild of a group of concerned local citizens who wanted to do something active and useful to raise awareness of the wonders and woes of the Midwest Wheatbelt wildflower country between Calingiri & Carnamah. Rachel said “After tossing a few ideas around, The Last Stand was born as an (ambitious) 5 day event in Moora consisting of a one day seminar featuring wonderful environmental speakers such as Carmen Lawrence, Malcolm French and Eddy Wajon, followed by 4 days of free-to-attend information, art, insects & poetry displays.” The event needed cash funding and oodles of voluntary assistance to help run. LotteryWest, WA NRM Program and private donations supplied enough cash for the equipment needed, and inkind support came from the Shire of Moora for the venue, and all the speakers and helpers who gave their time for free.



Australia Day Award winners

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | New funding partner announced for MCC |
| 3 | Moore farmers conserving natural assets |
| 4 | 7 years of transformation - fixing up a stuffed lake |
| 5 | Gets hands dirty & learning Aboriginal culture |
| 6 | Carnabys - find out what to plant & how to build a nest |
| 7 | Monitoring Carnaby’s and knowledge sharing |

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The Moore MPAC was transformed into an interesting free-to-attend display for 5 days



Committee: l-r Alison Doley, Pam Toster, Fiona Falconer, Lyn Phillips, Peter & Paulina Wittwer, Sarah Mason, Marie Carter & Rachel Walmsley



MCC and Iluka partner to Conserve Carnaby's

Exciting news !! MCC has gained a new funder to financially support Carnaby conservation activities in the Western Moore Catchment and West Midlands area.

Moore Catchment Council along with Iluka Resources Cataby are pleased to announce funding for the following project. "Supporting the community to conserve Carnaby's Black Cockatoo"

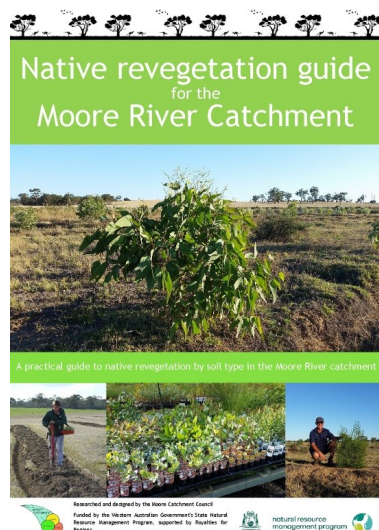
This project aims to raise the Carnaby's population through increasing and protecting breeding and priority forage habitat, and installing and monitoring artificial breeding nests. Community will be engaged through Carnaby monitoring, new interpretative signage, new Carnaby's information booklet and information event. The project will actively engage the local Yued Aboriginal community through information signage design and appointing a Working on Country Yued native seedling planting crew. Time frame: June 2019 - December 2021

This funding is extra important for MCC to help the group continue its good work in light of failing to secure any funding through the 2018 State NRM Program. This was overwhelmingly disappointing considering MCC's excellent track record with delivering State NRM projects.



If you want plant natives for Carnaby's then let MCC know. We have FREE seedlings available for 2019 and 2020.

New Moore resource to help landowners plant natives



Thinking of doing a native revegetation project in the Moore River catchment region? Did you know it takes 12 months to plan a successful revegetation project? Don't know where to start?

This new booklet could be for you! Simple hints and tips to get your native revegetation project off to a flying start. Inside the booklet are helpful planning tips, tools and ideas for native species to suit your soil type and location.

What are you waiting for.....download today (or come and get a printed copy from the office) and get planning, get planting! Thanks to Western Australian Government's State Natural Resource Management Program, supported by Royalties for Regions for funding

Download here:

<http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Moore-revegetation-guide.pdf>



Vale Alison Doley



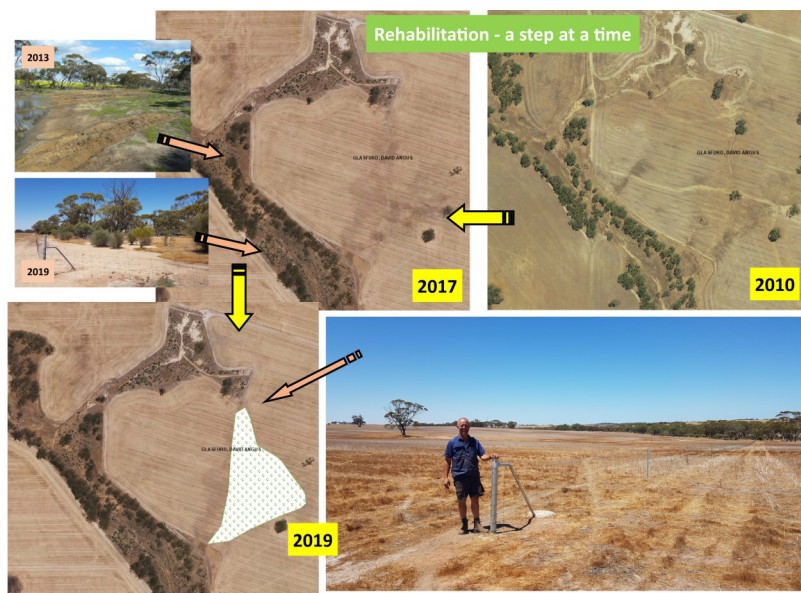
Sad news in the catchment as Alison Doley, a long time supporter of the Moore Catchment Council, passed away on 20th February 2019. Alison farmed at "Koobabbie", Coorow and was a long term champion of landcare and native ecology especially with her love of Carnaby's Black Cockatoos. Alison was honoured in 2017 with a AM in the Australia Day Honours for significant service to conservation and the environment in Western Australia through revegetation and catchment recovery initiatives. Around 165ha of the property was revegetated with local provenance native species between 2007 and 2011. Much of the bush is protected under covenants. She was also a member, founding member and president to several conservation and recovery committees, trusts and panels.

Last year, Alison was an integral part of The Last Stand organising committee which helped raise awareness of native biodiversity in the Midwest wheatbelt. We'd meet every month for 6 months plotting how we were going to make the event work. Alison was particularly passionate about the demise of roadside native vegetation especially the Buntine-Marchagee road which she has been monitoring for years and kept notes of native species that had disappeared and weeds which had taken over. In fact, in an effort to keep weeds at bay on the roadside, Alison and good friend Fiona Falconer would go out hand weeding 'pesky' Love grass and also present to the Coorow Shire Council in an effort to raise awareness of poor environmental practices decimating the ecology of the area. Thank you Alison for your contributions to environmental conservation in this region. You will be missed. RIP

Moore farmers conserving natural assets

Roundhill

Long term landcare vision is the key !! Been out signing off a bushcare project with a farmer east of Moora. Kristin has fenced off a 33ha rocky ridge consisting of salmon gum, york gum, hakea recurva and preissii, and jam wattle. Historically grazed, it hasn't been grazed for around 30 years so is infilling quite nicely with hakea and jam recruits. Even though historic grazing pressures happened over a short time wiping out vegetation, the road to recovery is long - the fencing off from unregulated stock grazing is the first crucial step. We looked at a new project site which is at stage 1 - grazed ridge with a dotting of crappy looking remnants of the same species and no regeneration. In 30 years will look the same. Need to start today to reap the benefits for future generations to enjoy ! Thanks to the National Landcare Program for funding this latest fence.



Moora

Rehabilitation a step at a time. Was out checking on a new fence for a native revegetation project east of Moora. The farmer, David Glasfurd, has been doing little reveg projects here and there with MCC for the past 10 years. This latest one shows the progression from unfenced mostly degraded creek-line, to fencing off and revegetating creekline with lots of understory in 2013, and now fencing off a chunk of paddock which is persistently boggy and unproductive but will make an excellent connection to the existing and new native vegetation corridor. When asked why he was giving up ok-ish cropping land for trees, David said that he didn't mind especially after seeing how good all his other revegetation projects have gone over the years, plus even though the paddock is now chopped up and harder to work, he'll get over it ! We say good on him ! To be planted this winter - watch this space for progress :) Thanks to the National Landcare Program for funding.

Gillingarra

Had a nice morning in January showing someone round some reveg sites at Gillingarra and Moora. So pleased with the progress at the State NRM funded Gillingarra Carnaby habitat site - excellent growth of the Hakeas, Grevilleas, Marri and Banksias on the better soil and good growth of the more salt tolerant species on the harder site. Just shows that having a go even on the crappiest of sites will reap rewards. Go natives !!!



Namban

Spent a (hot!!!) February morning out at Namban with cattle farmer Liam. He bought the property a couple of years ago and has been planning lots of landcare project including fencing off his section of the Moore River. The 1st stage is done thanks to funding from the WA NRM Program. The protected section will be revegetated next winter. Good job Liam.



Making a difference a year at a time

Wow ! What a difference 7 years make. This lake west of Moora is on its way to be rehabilitated from a degraded - flogged-by-sheep-dusty-hell-hole to something a lot more stable and creation of new habitat for native critters. Its taken a change in ownership, different management practices and some landcare know-how. What do they say?? - best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, 2nd best time 7 years ago, 3rd best time this winter !!



In the 1st photo, the lake was still being used for grazing and so hardly any plants are growing around the edge. It was a wind blown hell especially in summer.

2nd photo: Change of ownership was around 2014. The present owners destocked and stabilised the paddock through cropping. They have been working on the lake fringe rehabilitation ever since. A bit of planting here and there, then a trial of NyPa grass in 2015, a few more natives poked in then in winter 2018.

3rd photo: MCC used funding through the National Landcare Program to rip and mound 2/3 of the lake fringe and plant 12,000 native trees and shrubs (if you look in the lake picture close ups, you can see the rip lines. More infill will happen in 2019 and we'll see where we go from there based on establishment success.

Wow !! What a difference in 7 years

Bush views, winners and new Chair for MCC

MCC held their AGM in Moora 9th November. We had a trip to look at some local revegetation sites, then back to Moora. The AGM saw Reg Beale step down as chair after many years and Tony White elected. We had a few new committee members come aboard too - thanks Will Easton and Christine Smith.

Also had presentations from Bruce Ivers and Jill Wilson.

And presentations from NACC to Wally Kerkhof and MCC-winners of the NAR community group award.



MCC - winners of the 'NAR Outstanding community group' award

Wally Kerkhof was inducted onto the NAR Landcare Hall of Fame

Viewing a recent revegetation project



Getting hands dirty and learning Aboriginal culture

Lancelin school has been bush tucker ! Marissa Verma from Bindi Bindi Dreaming and Mark Tucek from Tucker Bush visited Lancelin school in March to share Aboriginal culture and also establish a bush tucker garden. It was a great day and the kids had a blast. Thanks to the State NRM Program for funding this project.



Thanks to Tuck Bush for the photos

New funding available

State NRM Community Stewardship Grants



natural resource
management program



These grants support community-based projects that serve to protect and restore the local environment. They are a component of the State NRM Program, an initiative of the Western Australian Government and support the Western Australian Natural Resource Management Framework 2018. Grants close 10th June.

Applications are now invited for:

- Community Stewardship Grants - Small. These community stewardship grants are valued between \$1,000 and \$35,000.
- Community Stewardship Grants - Large. These community stewardship grants are for projects between \$35,001 and \$450,000.

Eligible projects:

- ✓ **Regenerative agriculture** Regenerative agriculture is a holistic approach to farming that seeks to use natural techniques to regenerate soil health and increase biodiversity. Regenerative agriculture aims to restore landscape scale function and deliver sustainable production through functional nutrient cycling and enhanced ecosystem resilience.
- ✓ **Coastal and marine protection.** Fencing, revegetation etc
- ✓ **Natural asset protection and enhancement.** Bush fencing, creek fencing and revegetation etc
- ✓ **Training, information sharing and learning.** Landcare and ecology workshops etc

MCC will be applying for funding. Do you have a project that fits within the program? Then let us know asap. Projects will be for 2019 onwards.

Carnaby conservation resources

Booklet for Shire of Gingin residents

Finally finished !! New Carnaby resource for Shire of Gingin landholders and community. Helpful short info booklet on Carnabys - IDing them, what they get up to, what they eat, their threats, and most important - what YOU can do to help their survival. Download here or view the photos. PS Any Landholders in the Shire of Gingin wish to carry out some planting with native species, or want to fence off and protect bush, let MCC know - we have FREE seedlings to allocate this year plus planning new projects for 2020 onwards. Rachel 0409 296 264



Carnaby's Black Cockatoos (*Calyptrorhynchus latirostris*) are found only in Western Australia and are an iconic species of the State. Unfortunately this bird species is **threatened with extinction** with estimates of between 11,000 and 60,000 left in the wild. In Aboriginal Noongar culture, the 'ngoolark' is a sacred **Totem bird** and they refer to Carnaby's as a 'harbinger of rain'.

What do they look like?

Carnaby's Black Cockatoos are large, raucous black cockatoos with white patches on their cheeks and white bands on their tails. They have strong short bills designed to cope with the hard nuts and seeds that form their diet.

Males have **red eye rings** and black bills whereas **females have grey eye rings** and a lighter grey or bone-coloured bills.

Where do they live?

Carnaby's Black Cockatoos are only found in **southwest Australia** - from the Murchison River across to Esperance and inland to Coorow and Lake Cronin.

The **Shire of Gingin** is a **significant location** for Carnaby's as a large part of the Shire contains Banksia heath and woodland, scattered Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), and Tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*) (wetter southern parts), which is all **priority forage** and roosting habitat. They don't naturally breed in the Shire, they head inland to breed in the tall Eucalypt woodlands during winter.



Designed by Moore Catchment Council
Funded by State Natural Resource Management Program

natural resource management program



Link to full booklet here:

<http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Carnabys-Gingin-shire-info-flyer.pdf>



Video on nesting log construction

Constructing artificial nesting logs for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo instructional videos. Wally Kerkhof has been making Carnaby nests in Moora for nearly 40 years. This video documents how he does it - A fallen tree, and a lot of love and dedication (with a little help from his friends!).

40 min video with Wally commentary

<https://youtu.be/xsC5jJ2Hagg>

12 min instructional video

<https://youtu.be/xq0rvUJJsLH4>



Constructing artificial nesting logs for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo.

Written nest building guide here:

<http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/pubs/20160720%20-%20Artificial%20Nest%20guide.pdf>



Carnaby monitoring and knowledge sharing

An important part of our Carnaby projects is monitoring. We monitor a large number of the artificial nesting logs that are in and around Moora. The 2018 season was a long breeding season once again with multiple sittings in many of the logs. Carnaby's come to Moora around early August to breed (traditionally) in the old Salmon Gums and Wandoo. The artificial nesting logs have helped fill the gap of suitable nesting hollows. They are much in demand and are very successful in breeding Carnaby's. The Carnaby's remain here until late Summer and then return to the westerly forage grounds until the next breeding season.



The 2018 breeding season was again an overall success in the nesting logs. All nests were occupied although a couple did have pigeons and corellas which stopped Carnaby's from using them. A few twins were born and it was noted that more males were born than females—again.

The breeding season was hindered by using (unknown to us) herbicide/pesticide sprayed radish seed for supplementary feeding which has killed a few birds (babies/parents). The seed has now been destroyed and farmers will be asked for spray history on receipt of further seed.

33 log nests were monitored and a 74% success rate was recorded by the end of the season (lower than last year due to the spray issue!)



How many birds can you count in this picture? Hint: More than 100 !



April Great Cocky Count

MCC coordinated the count west of Moora at a known roost site. Last year there wasn't a bird to be found (most probably due to a nearby fire) but this year it was Cocky Chaos !

Always a challenge to count them as they flock over but the observers agreed on **357**

Knowledge sharing

28th Nov Had an excellent afternoon introducing the Kerkhof Carnaby Group to volunteers at Kaarakin Cockatoo Conservation Centre who came up to Moora. We had a lot of chat and swapped knowledge followed by learning how Wally makes his nest logs and checking some nests with the camera.



The day ended at Wally's with a feeding of the 100 or so Carnaby's who popped over for dinner. What a sight!!!



Instagram people behold!!! Just started a MCC Instagram account. To follow us...Search for @moorecatchmentcouncil for the page and if you want to join in post to #moorecatchmentcouncil



Instagram

You need a Needle Tree

Hakea preissii - the Needle Tree (Noongar name Tanjinn). A prickly small tree native to WA and plenty in the Moore catchment. As the name suggests, the leaves are like needles so not a tree to fall into ! Not universally loved by landowners because of its prickly nature but when it flowers, it looks magnificent. Birds and insects love it and you should too :)



A bit Moore

A bit Moore

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo artificial nest log construction workshop



Wally Kerkhof has been observing and rehabilitating Carnaby's Black Cockatoo for 50 years, and constructing artificial nesting logs from fallen trees for nearly 40 years. He has helped increase the breeding population around Moora from a dozen pairs in the 1980's to over 90 pairs today

Join Moore Catchment Council, Wally Kerkhof & Kerkhof Carnaby Group for a day of

Carnaby knowledge sharing & hands-on outdoor activity to learn how to build and locate artificial nesting logs made from wood

Learn why and how Wally cares for the Carnabys around Moora - bring your questions!

Learn about plants benefit Carnabys - both native & non-native, plus those plants which can harm them

When: Fri 30th August 2019

Where: 246 McKinley Street, Moora (corner of McKinley St & Robert Rd)

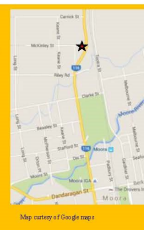
Time: 9:30am - 4pm approx. Catering provided (subject of dietary requirements)

RSVP: Rachel 9653 1355 / 0409 296 264 or

mcc.nrmo@bigpond.com

FREE !! But limited spots available

- This is a hands on day involving power tools & machinery outside in a workshop environment, please wear appropriate clothing, closed shoes, and bring gloves and safety glasses. Bring note pad/pen.



This Moore Catchment Council project is being funded through the WA Natural Resource Management Program



natural resource management program



The Kerkhof Carnaby Group in Moora is run by volunteers and aims to help coordinate activities which conserve Carnaby's in the Moora area

www.moorecatchment.org.au

MCC funders



natural resource management program



ILUKA



SHIRE OF MOORA
GINGIN



MOORA - MILNG PASTURE IMPROVEMENT GROUP



Australian Government

National Landcare Programme



Perenjori
Embrace Opportunity



MLA
MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA



NACC
Managing Natural Resources



Moore Catchment Council



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Helen Watkins

Executive Officer
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* **Winner** Fairfax Community Group, WA Landcare Awards 2017

* **Winner** NAR Outstanding Community Group, NACC Awards 2018

* Finalists & Semi Finalists in WA Regional Achievement and Community Awards 2014, 2015, 2016 & 2017

Support Moore local landcare..... Donate
<http://www.moorecatchment.org.au/get-involved/donations-and-sponsorship/>

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