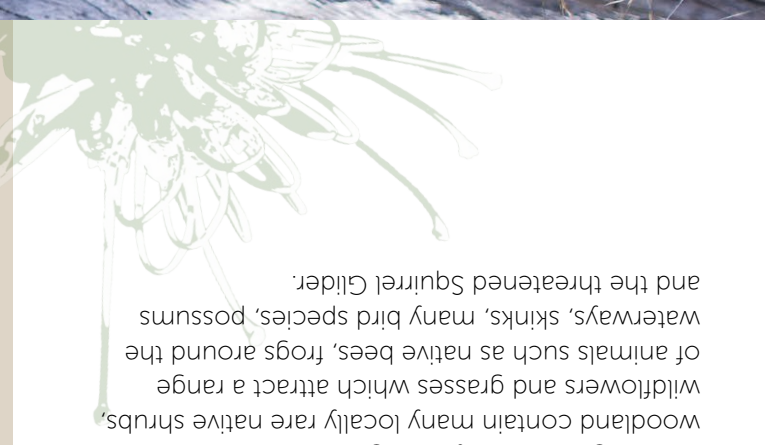


Our work is aimed at restoring the original plant communities and habitats of the Burrumbuttock district to help visitors understand the local ecology, and the changes that have occurred since European settlement.



Established in 1995, Wirraminna is set on an old stock reserve and public watering place. As you walk around the 4 hectare park, you will pass a large dam, wetlands, natural woodland and native garden beds. These features offer a great diversity of native plants and wildlife habitat found in Box-Gum Grassy Woodlands.

Developed and maintained by local volunteers, Wirraminna presents a model for local Landcare projects that aim to restore native vegetation and wetlands on farms to redress problems of declining biodiversity. The gardens and natural woodland contain many locally rare native shrubs, wildflowers and grasses which attract a range of animals such as native bees, frogs around the waterways, skinks, many bird species, possums and the threatened Squirrel Glider.

Wirraminna's Journey



Discover Wirraminna

Wirraminna offers a diversity of opportunities for visitors to enjoy and learn about our natural environment.

Biodiversity

Restoring Box-Gum Grassy Woodland provides habitat for a diverse range of birds and animals.

Cultural Recognition

Recognising Wiradjuri culture through the planting of a themed garden bed.

Education

Providing a place for students and the general public to learn about native habitat for wildlife.

Tourism

Self-guided walks, bird watching, photography and art for local, regional and international visitors. BBQ, picnic and toilet facilities provided.

Discovery Centre

Home to native fish aquaria, Southern Corroree Frog enclosure and environmental education resources.

Volunteering

'Friends of Wirraminna' contribute to the maintenance and development of Wirraminna through volunteer activities.

Social Benefits

Wirraminna generates community pride, health and well-being and is a venue for regional events.

Environmental Education

Wirraminna provides an engaging learning environment and its education outreach program connects school students with natural resource management across the Murray-Darling Basin.

Creative Catchment Kids

An environmental literacy program for primary and secondary schools.

Visits to Wirraminna

Regional schools can visit Wirraminna for learning activities using the resources in the park.

In-school Support

Schools receive support in the use of resources and delivery of environmental education services at Wirraminna, as well as curriculum support and classroom connections with the local environment.

Southern Corroree Frog Program

The Corroree Frog display enables visitors to experience a connection to this critically endangered species.



Our Supporters

Wirraminna is run by a small group of volunteers. We are grateful to all our supporters for the help they give us.

Our major supporters include:

- Greater Hume Shire Council
- Murray Local Land Services
- Hume Bank
- Murray-Darling Basin Authority
- Office of Environment and Heritage
- Albury/Wodonga Australian Native Plants Society

WIRRAMINNA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE

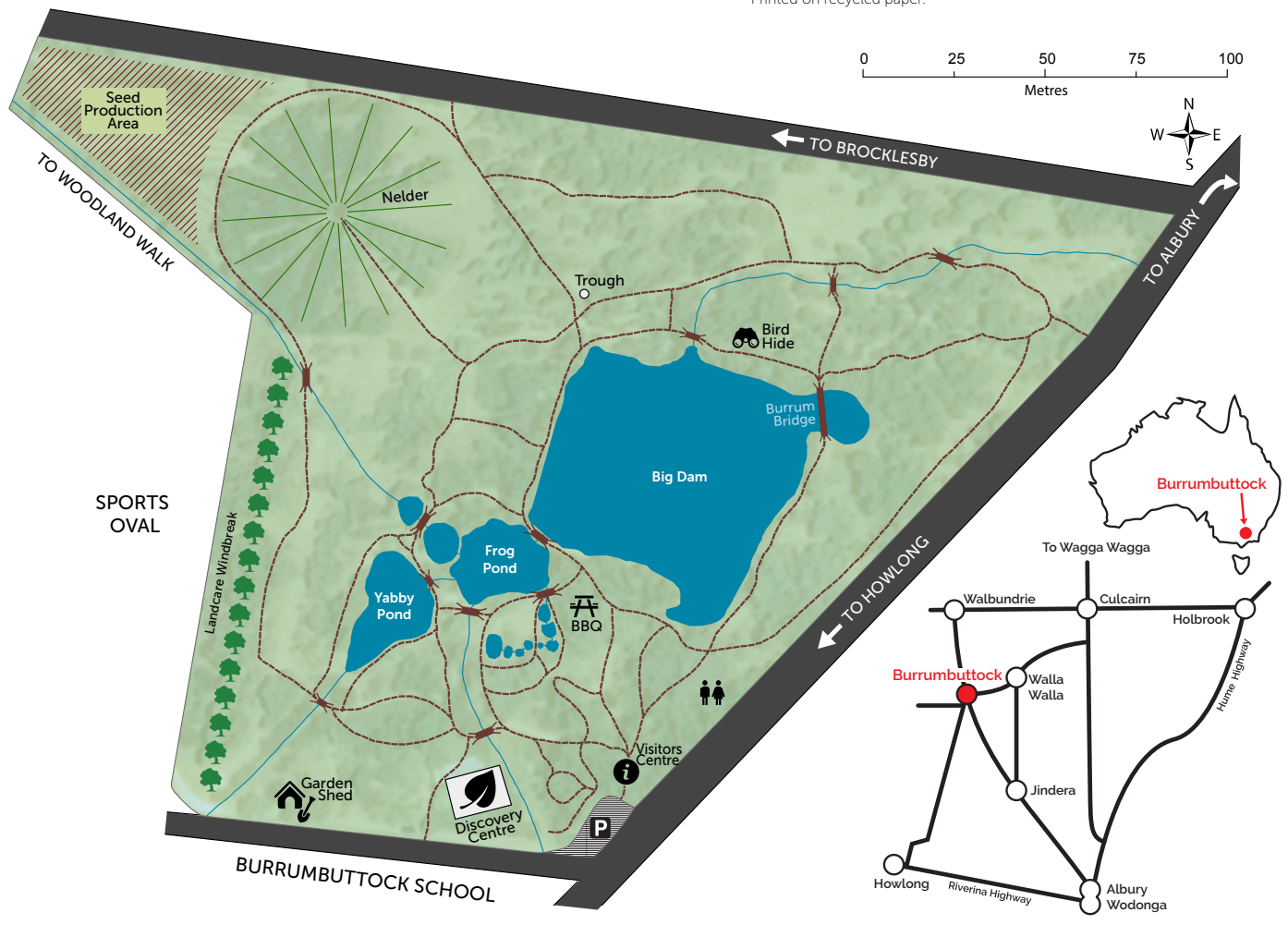


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WIRRAMINNA BURRUMBUTTOCK

A place of discovery and learning about our woodland environment.





Our Feature Gardens

Indjimarra showcases native plants used by the Wiradjuri people. These include plants for food, fibre, medicines, tools, weapons, utensils, fire making and spiritual values. Smell the Chocolate Lilies, run your fingers through the Grass Trees leaves and admire the colourful Quandong fruits if they are ripe.

The **Wildflower Bed** contains wildflowers and shrubs which, once widespread in the area, are now only occasionally found on roadsides.

The **Art and Craft Bed** features plants with unusual bark, leaves, flowers or fruits. These include Banksias, Hakeas, Eucalypts, Grevilleas and Wollemi pines.

Several gardens contain non-local native plants such as *Eremophila*, *Correa*, *Melaleuca*, *Grevillea* and *Thryptomene*. Acacias are featured in the **Wattle Gardens** and generally throughout the park. A range of ornamental Eucalypts, She Oaks, Callitris pines and trees suitable for **agroforestry** are also grown.



Nest boxes provide homes for wildlife.

Homes for Wildlife

Wirraminna has lots of large old trees which provide important habitat for wildlife. As well as shedding lots of branches and leaf litter, these old trees often contain hollows. Many birds, bats, lizards, possums and gliders make their homes in these hollows.

Not only are old trees scarce in our landscape, but so are the middle-aged ones which will become the old hollow-bearing trees for future generations. Nest boxes in a range of sizes provide homes for wildlife while the woodlands regenerate. Other wildlife homes are provided by stumps, logs, and fallen branches - this messy stuff is vital habitat.

Riparian habitats, the wet areas around the edges of ponds and streams, are also important areas for wildlife. They provide shelter and food for both land and water animals.

Fallen leaf litter and logs are important wildlife habitat.

Saving Our Woodlands

Box-Gum Grassy Woodland once covered much of the Burrumbuttock district. Over time, it has been cleared and now only tiny remnants remain on roadsides, along railway lines and in some farm paddocks. The volunteers at Wirraminna are gradually reintroducing shrubs and ground cover species to the remnant woodland. This regeneration is occurring around the dam bank.

Wirraminna is also restoring eight hectares of adjacent public land. This paddock has some remnant trees and a scattering of native grasses in the weedy pasture that reflects its grazing history. In 2013, the area was planted with clumps of trees and shrubs and fenced plots are used for trialling grassland restoration techniques. A network of mown pathways allows local residents to walk, exercise dogs and enjoy the birdlife.



A Chorus of Birds

The most obvious group of native animals that you can see in Wirraminna are the birds, with over 150 different kinds spotted in the area.

In the summer, Dollarbird's return to nest in their favourite tree hollow and are often seen swooping over the main dam, while ducks, herons and other water birds feed by the water's edge.

In winter, robins can be seen in the more densely wooded areas - look out for a flash of red. Superb Fairy-wrens and Red-browed Finches now call Wirraminna home after many years of revegetation. The melodious call of the Grey Shrike-thrush can often be heard as they follow volunteers working in the gardens.



From Grasses to Trees...

Wirraminna contains a mix of planted gardens and natural grassy woodland habitat. A remnant stand of White Box, Yellow Box and Blakely's Red Gum with a grassy understorey persists around the dam.

Bush regeneration practices are being used to replace weeds with native shrubs and ground cover species. These understorey plants, now declining in the wild, are also featured in the wildflower garden bed. The vibrant green and gold of the many wattles are important understorey shrubs and provide excellent habitat for insects, birds, possums and gliders.

The disappearance of understorey plants from roadsides and farms has prompted Wirraminna to establish a seed production area. This area provides bulk seeds for revegetation work and preserves the local plant gene pool.



Fur, Fins and Scales

Wirraminna is home to lots of other wildlife. Lizards make their homes under logs and in the leaf litter, yabbies burrow in mud and frogs make foam egg masses in the reedbeds. Micro-bats flutter through the woodland, feasting on thousands of flying insects every night.

Keep a lookout for Swamp Wallabies which might be resting during the heat of the day and echidnas poking about. Possums and Squirrel Gliders emerge from their hollows at night to feed.

The rough, loose bark on the old trees, and the plentiful leaf litter, shelter numerous spiders, beetles and occasionally tiny scorpions. Native bees are often busy around the flowering shrubs and wildflowers in warm weather.



Southern Corroboree Frogs are critically endangered.

