



## MOORA ENTERS 2025 TIDY TOWNS SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AWARDS

The Shire of Moora is proud to announce that our town has been entered into Keep Australia Beautiful WA's Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards.

These long-running state-wide awards celebrate and recognise regional and remote communities that demonstrate effective litter and environmental action, positive community engagement, heritage and youth initiatives, and social outcomes. They showcase the outstanding efforts of local communities working together to protect, enhance, and promote their environments and community life.

For 2025, the Shire of Moora has submitted an application featuring 24 different projects across the award categories. These projects highlight the breadth of work in Moora — from sustainability and beautification initiatives to heritage preservation, youth engagement, and programs that strengthen community well-being.

The categories for this year's awards include:

- General Appearance
- Community Action and Wellbeing
- Environmental sustainability
- Litter action
- Waste Management
- Community Containers for Change
- Heritage and Culture
- Environmental Education

These awards not only acknowledge Moora's achievements but also provide an opportunity to showcase the great work of our community groups, volunteers, and Shire projects on a state platform. Recognition at this level can raise our profile and inspire even more community engagement.

The judges will be visiting Moora in mid-September, and we look forward to sharing our community's story.

Over the next few pages, you can explore the wonderful projects entered under each category. These initiatives showcase the creativity, hard work, and community spirit that make Moora such a special place. Thank you and congratulations to all involved — your efforts are helping to create a more sustainable, vibrant, and connected community for us all.



# LITTER PREVENTION & WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Litter Prevention & Waste Management category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards recognises initiatives that focus on reducing litter, encouraging recycling, and minimising waste in regional and remote communities. This category celebrates practical actions that tackle local litter problems, promote responsible waste practices, and engage the community in creating cleaner, healthier environments. Projects might include recycling programs, community clean-up campaigns, education initiatives, or innovative approaches to waste reduction. By highlighting these efforts, the awards encourage towns to take pride in their public spaces, reduce environmental impact, and set positive examples for sustainable living.

## YUED ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RANGER PROGRAM

The Yued Aboriginal Corporation's Ranger Program, launched in Moora in 2024, is an inspiring initiative that combines cultural stewardship, environmental sustainability, and community leadership. Funded through the WA Aboriginal Ranger Program, with \$1.576 million over two years, the project provides employment and training opportunities for local Yued people while caring for Boodja (Country). The program blends traditional ecological knowledge with modern landcare practices, empowering Rangers to protect and restore the local environment while strengthening cultural connections to Country.

Rangers are undertaking accredited training, including a Certificate II in Ecosystem and Conservation Management through Central Regional TAFE in Moora, alongside hands-on skills in conservation, seed collection, revegetation, pest management, drone mapping, and environmental monitoring. Practical projects have already seen the Yued Rangers involved in revegetation and seed collection linked to carbon-farming initiatives, supported by partnerships with organisations such as Nativ Carbon and Woodside Energy.

Locally, the Rangers have been actively improving and restoring important cultural and environmental sites. They have carried out clean-ups at Walebing Reserve and the old Moora Reserve, removing waste, tackling weeds, and rehabilitating degraded areas. Importantly, any bottles and cans collected during these clean-ups were directed into the Containers for Change program, ensuring that waste was diverted from landfill while generating funds that could be returned to support community initiatives.

The Yued Ranger Program not only delivers direct environmental outcomes such as cleaner reserves, restored habitats, and increased biodiversity, but also contributes to community capacity building through skills training, employment, and youth engagement. By bringing together cultural knowledge, scientific expertise, and community action, the Yued Aboriginal Corporation's Ranger Program is a leading example of how indigenous-led conservation can deliver lasting environmental and social benefits for Moora and the broader Wheatbelt.





# GENERAL APPEARANCE

The General Appearance category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards recognises projects that improve the visual appeal and presentation of towns and communities. This includes efforts such as landscaping, town beautification, maintenance of public spaces, and the creative use of design to enhance streetscapes and community facilities. The category celebrates the pride communities take in creating welcoming, attractive, and well-maintained environments that reflect local character and encourage community spirit. By recognising these initiatives, the awards highlight the value of presenting towns in their best light, fostering civic pride, and leaving a positive impression on both residents and visitors.

## MOORA PLAYGROUP & BOWLING CLUB COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE

The Moora Playgroup & Bowling Club Community Play Space project has successfully transformed an unused bowling green into a vibrant playground and bike skills park, thanks to the generous support of local businesses, community donations, and volunteer efforts. Their donations of materials, labour, and funding helped bring the project to life just in time.

This beautifully transformed space now features a delightful assortment of themed playground items designed to spark imagination and joy in children. Families can look forward to play structures such as a café cubby, a bus stop, and a fuel/EV-charging station - each crafted with charm and safety in mind. Completing the imaginative layout is a miniature little town bike track, equipped with a roundabout, zebra crossing, and traffic signs, encouraging children to develop cycling confidence and road-awareness in a fun, controlled environment.

The site has been fully fenced to ensure a secure and welcoming environment, giving Moora Playgroup a much-needed safe place for children to explore, learn, and connect. This setting doesn't just support play - it fosters learning, independence, and community belonging.

Moreover, the revitalised venue offers new opportunities for the Moora Bowling Club. With the upgraded facilities, the club can now hire out its venue for events - including children's birthday parties, family gatherings, or other community-focused activities - providing extra value and versatility for the club and the wider community.

As the official opening approaches in the coming weeks, this community-driven project stands as a shining example of what can be accomplished when neighbours, businesses, and local groups unite toward a shared vision. The Moora Playgroup now has a secure, imaginative, and inclusive space for families - one that promises countless smiling faces, stronger bonds, and memories in the making.





# MOORA RSL STREET BANNERS & WAR MEMORIAL UPGRADE PROJECT

The Moora RSL, in partnership with the Shire of Moora and with support from a Department of Veterans' Affairs grant, has undertaken a significant project to honour local service men and women while preserving community heritage for future generations.

As part of this initiative, street banners were designed and installed along the main streets of Moora. Each banner proudly showcases the faces and names of locals who have served in all aspects of defence, from past generations through to more recent service. Families are invited to contribute images and stories, ensuring the project continues to grow as a living tribute to service and sacrifice. These banners not only beautify the town's streetscape but also spark pride, reflection, and education within the community.

Alongside the banners, the War Memorial itself has been carefully upgraded, ensuring it will stand strong for years to come. This restoration protects a vital piece of Moora's history, providing a dignified and enduring place of remembrance for commemorative events and daily reflection.

Together, the banners and memorial upgrade honour the contributions of Moora's veterans, past and present, while enhancing the town's visual appeal and strengthening community identity. This project demonstrates how respect for history, partnership, and civic pride can combine to create a lasting legacy for the whole community.



## COMMUNITY ACTION AND WELLBEING

The Community Action & Wellbeing category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards celebrates initiatives that bring people together, strengthen community spirit, and improve health and social connection. This includes programs that encourage volunteerism, support vulnerable groups, and promote physical and mental wellbeing. The category recognises the power of community-led action to create inclusive, resilient towns where people feel connected and proud to belong.



# MOORA MEN'S SHED

The Moora Men's Shed has become a powerhouse of creativity, sustainability, and community connection through its wide-ranging Upcycling Projects. With the combined efforts of its members — many of whom live with disabilities — the Shed has developed a thriving workshop where almost anything old or unwanted is given a new life and a fresh purpose.

The Men's Shed takes in donations from across the community, from old work materials to furniture and even natural items like pinecones, and transforms them into something new, useful, and beautiful. Reclaimed timber and metal are used to make benches, tables, and practical pieces of furniture, while offcuts are turned into decorative items or small community projects. The group has even created unique signage for Moora's War Camp areas, preserving history and heritage while ensuring resources are not wasted. Furniture that might otherwise end up in landfill is refurbished, repaired, and resold, giving families affordable access to quality items and providing the Shed with a sustainable source of income.

Creativity flourishes at the Moora Men's Shed, with members making toys for children, decorations for Christmas from pinecones, and one-of-a-kind handmade items that embody the value of resourcefulness. The guiding principle is simple: anything that can be reused can be turned into someone else's treasure. Every project, large or small, reflects this philosophy, turning waste into opportunity and demonstrating the importance of reuse and recycling in a tangible and inspiring way.

Just as importantly, the Upcycling Project provides a place of purpose, learning, and social connection for its members. Skills are shared, confidence is built, and friendships are strengthened as men work side by side, teaching and learning from one another. For many, the Shed is more than just a workshop — it is a safe and supportive space where everyone's contribution matters and where creativity and camaraderie thrive. The funds raised from the sale of upcycled items are put straight back into the Shed, supporting its ongoing projects and ensuring its sustainability for years to come.

The Moora Men's Shed Upcycling Project is a shining example of how recycling and resourcefulness can bring people together, reduce waste, and give back to the community. It stands as a model of innovation and inclusion, showing that with imagination and teamwork, there is no such thing as waste — only the chance to create something new and meaningful.





# HAY BALES AND GREEN SHOOTS PROJECT 2025

The Hay Bales and Green Shoots Project was one of Moora's most significant cultural and community events in 2025. Delivered in partnership with the Perth Symphony Orchestra, the Green Shoots program ran for nine months and engaged more than six hundred local participants across schools and community groups. Through workshops, mentoring and rehearsals, the program fostered creativity, confidence and connection, culminating in the Hay Bales Concert on 29 March 2025. This large-scale outdoor event attracted over eight hundred people, showcasing both professional musicians and local performers, and celebrating Moora's cultural spirit.

A defining feature of the concert was the use of hay bales as an arena with BYO seating, an environmentally sustainable and innovative choice that reflected the town's agricultural heritage. By using natural materials instead of plastic or hired seating, the concert reduced its environmental footprint, with the hay returned to local farms for reuse after the event. Waste was managed responsibly with Containers for Change bins placed throughout the venue, further reinforcing Moora's commitment to sustainability.

The event was a true community collaboration. The Moora Primary School P&C ran the bar, raising valuable funds for local children's programs, while the Moora Lions Club operated food vans, ensuring catering remained local and profits circulated back into the community. Together, these contributions highlighted the strength of Moora's volunteer base and the importance of grassroots involvement in making large events successful.

The project delivered wide-ranging benefits for the town. Socially, it reduced isolation, boosted wellbeing and created a strong sense of community pride. Environmentally, it demonstrated how natural and reusable materials can be incorporated into major events without compromising comfort or atmosphere. Economically, it provided a boost for local businesses, attracted more than twenty percent of its audience from outside the region, and generated funds that will continue to support community initiatives long after the music faded.

Community feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with almost every respondent describing the concert as uplifting and transformative. The majority of locals expressed their desire to see the event repeated, recognising the project as both a cultural highlight and a model for sustainable event delivery. The Hay Bales and Green Shoots Project has firmly positioned Moora as a leader in creating events that bring people together, celebrate creativity, and protect the environment, leaving behind a legacy of pride, inspiration and resilience for years to come.





# MOORA PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE 2025 EVENTS

The Moora Performing Arts Centre (MPAC) plays a central role in our community, and throughout 2025 it will continue to host a vibrant calendar of events that not only bring people together but also provide meaningful opportunities for local clubs and community groups to volunteer and raise funds. Over the past year, MPAC has successfully delivered a diverse program, including Beccy Cole, Keith Potger, Conrad Sewell, Kids Ballet, Murder Mystery Dinner, and upcoming Comedy Night and Lucy Durack.

For each of these events, community groups were invited to run the bar and kitchen services, with all profits going directly back to their clubs to support activities, equipment, and community programs. In addition, volunteers from local sporting and service clubs have played a key role in welcoming patrons and assisting with event logistics, ensuring every performance runs smoothly.

Sustainability is also woven into the project through the Containers for Change initiative, where bottles and cans collected at events are allocated to a community group of choice, adding an environmental benefit alongside the financial support. This model creates an ongoing cycle of cultural celebration, community ownership, and practical fundraising. By showcasing major productions and regional talent, while directly engaging clubs in operational roles, the Moora Performing Arts Centre has become a true community hub—strengthening pride, connection, and sustainability in line with the Tidy Towns Awards vision.





# MOORA MEN'S SHED BICYCLE UPCYCLING PROJECT

The Moora Men's Shed Bicycle Upcycling Project is a shining example of how a grassroots initiative can combine environmental care, social inclusion, and community spirit to create lasting impact. Led by Joshua Murray, Brett Wyatt, and a dedicated group of men, the project takes unwanted bicycles donated by the community and transforms them into affordable, reliable transport options. Refurbished bikes are sold for just \$25 for children's bikes and \$30 for adults, making cycling accessible for local families while ensuring the Shed can continue to fund its mechanics' workshop and broader activities.

What makes the project unique is its commitment to zero waste. Bikes that cannot be restored are stripped for parts, which are stored for future repairs, keeping valuable materials in use and diverting significant amounts from landfill. This culture of re-use and resourcefulness demonstrates the Shed's strong commitment to sustainability and the circular economy.

But the project is about more than just recycling — it is also about people. For many members, including those living with disabilities, the workshop offers purpose, pride, and a place of belonging. As Brett explains, "It gives us something to do, and I love teaching the other men how to fix up the bikes. Now they all know how to do it, and we enjoy it every Tuesday and Thursday." The program has become a hub of learning and camaraderie, where confidence grows, friendships flourish, and members support each other. The Shed has even adapted its rules to allow female carers to participate alongside members, reflecting its belief that inclusivity is at the heart of everything they do: "That's the whole essence of a Men's Shed, is to care for men."

The wider community also benefits directly. Families have access to low-cost transport, locals can bring in bikes for affordable repairs, and disability support workers like Carolyn Jorissen from Essential Personnel involve clients of all ages and abilities in upcycling activities, ensuring everyone has a chance to contribute. In this way, the project is not only reducing waste but also building community resilience and inclusion.

Through this initiative, the Moora Men's Shed demonstrates how creativity, care, and collaboration can turn discarded bikes into opportunities for learning, connection, and sustainability. It is a project that embodies the values of the Keep Australia Beautiful Tidy Towns Awards — showing that small regional communities can lead the way in environmental action and social innovation.





# MOORA-MILING PASTURE IMPROVEMENT GROUP FERAL ANIMAL CONTROL

The Moora-Miling Pasture Improvement Group (MMPIG) organised a highly successful community-run feral animal control program around Miling, aimed at reducing the impact of invasive species on local farms, bushland, and native wildlife. Conducted in February, the initiative brought together 17 volunteer teams who participated in a coordinated community shoot targeting foxes, feral cats, and rabbits.

In just one weekend, participants were able to eliminate 381 foxes, 32 feral cats, and 96 rabbits, significantly reducing the pressure these predators place on livestock, crops, and native species. Foxes and feral cats in particular are well-documented threats to biodiversity, preying heavily on native birds, reptiles, and small mammals, while rabbits cause widespread land degradation through overgrazing and soil erosion.

This project not only delivered immediate environmental outcomes but also highlighted the importance of community-led collaboration in tackling invasive species. By working together, landholders and community members achieved results that contribute to healthier landscapes, stronger agricultural productivity, and improved protection of native wildlife. The initiative reflects the Shire's commitment to environmental sustainability, demonstrating how local action can deliver practical benefits for farming, biodiversity, and community wellbeing.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Environmental Sustainability category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards recognises projects that demonstrate a commitment to protecting and enhancing the natural environment through sustainable practices. This can include initiatives such as energy efficiency programs, renewable energy projects, water conservation measures, biodiversity protection, and reducing the overall environmental footprint of the community.

The category celebrates innovative and practical approaches that not only preserve local ecosystems but also inspire greater awareness, education, and long-term action. By recognising these efforts, the awards highlight the importance of communities working together to create a healthier, more resilient environment for future generations.



# CARNABY COCKATOO CONSERVATION & BIG CARNABY SCULPTURE PROJECT

The Kerkhoff Carnaby Group, together with the Moore Catchment Council and the Shire of Moora, has undertaken a landmark initiative to celebrate and protect one of the Wheatbelt's most iconic endangered species – the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. Through extensive fundraising efforts, the group successfully raised \$480,000 to create an 11.5-metre-tall Big Carnaby sculpture, which will stand as both a tourism drawcard for Moora and a powerful symbol of environmental conservation. The sculpture will increase awareness of the challenges facing Carnaby's Cockatoos, whose habitats and breeding grounds are under threat, while providing a unique attraction that strengthens Moora's identity as a destination for both cultural tourism and environmental education.

Beyond the striking sculpture, the Kerkhoff Carnaby Group, working alongside the Moore Catchment Council, has actively advanced conservation efforts on the ground. This year, they partnered with the Carnaby Crusaders, a youth-led initiative, to install six new nesting stations in the region. The Moore Catchment Council continues to play a vital role by regularly checking these nests to ensure the birds are surviving and to collect important research data. This monitoring not only supports scientific understanding but also ensures ongoing protection for Carnaby's Cockatoos.

The project also inspires the next generation. Young community members are given the chance to take part in monitoring activities, learning first-hand about conservation. For example, Isla, a local student, had been eager to help check Carnaby nests and recently joined a monitoring visit. Together with volunteers, she inspected four artificial nests – discovering three with Carnaby chicks and one with Corellas. She learned about the different ages of the chicks and the challenges of Corellas competing for nest sites. Isla's excitement at finding feathers to take to school for show-and-tell highlights how these experiences spark curiosity and build awareness from a young age.

This dual focus on awareness and action ensures that the project delivers both symbolic and practical outcomes. The Big Carnaby sculpture not only attracts visitors and celebrates local identity, but also amplifies the message of conservation, while nest monitoring and education activities create tangible environmental benefits. Together, these efforts demonstrate Moora's commitment to sustainability, youth engagement, and biodiversity protection, aligning strongly with the values of the Tidy Towns Awards.





# SALMON GUM SEED HARVESTING & PROCESSING

In July, following severe weather at Warwick Park farm on Riley Road, a large Salmon Gum tree fell, presenting a unique opportunity for environmental stewardship and sustainability. Rather than allowing the fallen tree to go to waste, the owner contacted the Moore Catchment Council (MCC), working alongside Yued Elder Fred Mogridge and other community members, they acted quickly to harvest the tree's seeds. This initiative turned an unexpected event into a practical conservation project that directly supports biodiversity and local land care efforts.

Over days of dedicated work, the team collected and processed an extraordinary volume of seed – the equivalent of six wool bales full. These seeds are now being sent to the Minegnew Tree Nursery, where they will be propagated and grown into young Salmon Gum trees over the coming year. Once established, these seedlings will be planted in local Landcare projects, including revegetation at the gravel pit site, helping restore habitat, improve soil health, and support local biodiversity.

Since then, Wally Kerkhoff from the Kerkhoff Carnaby Group has also salvaged natural hollows from the fallen tree. These hollows will be repurposed as Carnaby's Black Cockatoo nesting boxes, providing vital breeding opportunities for this endangered species and ensuring that the loss of the old tree continues to deliver long-term ecological benefits.

From an environmental sustainability perspective, this project demonstrates the power of resourcefulness and community action. It reduces waste by ensuring valuable seed and hollows are put to use, enhances ecological restoration through large-scale seedling production, and strengthens cultural and community collaboration between MCC and Yued people. By combining traditional knowledge, scientific practice, and local initiative, the Salmon Gum seed project provides lasting environmental benefits and a strong example of how regional communities can respond to environmental challenges with resilience and creativity.





# MOORE CATCHMENT COUNCIL REVEGETATION PROGRAM

Over the past 12 months, the Moore Catchment Council (MCC), under the leadership of Rachel Walmsley and Helen Watkins, has coordinated an extensive revegetation program that is transforming the Moora landscape. With supervision and cultural guidance provided by local Yued Elder Fred Mogridge, who has proudly overseen these efforts on behalf of the Yued people for the past three years, the program reflects a strong partnership between environmental science, community landcare, and traditional knowledge. Working closely with local landholders, MCC has delivered revegetation projects across a number of farms and sites including Hamilton's Lake Rehabilitation, Mallory, Glasfurds, Greg Riley, Prices Road, Jeremy Lefroy, Colvin, and Namban. In addition, significant work has been undertaken at the old Shire gravel pit and the surrounds of the Moora Airstrip, areas that had been degraded but now have the opportunity to be restored into thriving native ecosystems.

In total, the program has seen the planting of approximately 90,000 native seedlings across 90 hectares of land. These plantings are designed to stabilise soils, improve water quality, and restore critical habitat for native wildlife, including threatened species such as the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. Beyond the environmental gains, the program is also building climate resilience through large-scale tree planting that contributes to carbon sequestration, creates windbreaks, and improves the productivity of adjacent farmland. Importantly, the work has been carried out in close collaboration with farmers, volunteers, and community members, fostering shared ownership of sustainability outcomes and reinforcing Moora's reputation as a leader in landcare innovation. By linking cultural supervision, strong community engagement, and scientific best practice, the Moore Catchment Council's revegetation program delivers lasting benefits for the local environment, farming landscapes, and future generations.





# HERITAGE & CULTURE

The Heritage & Culture category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards celebrates initiatives that preserve, share, and promote local history, cultural diversity, and traditions. This includes projects that protect heritage places, celebrate cultural identity, and encourage community pride through storytelling, arts, and events. By recognising these efforts, the awards highlight the importance of valuing the past while strengthening cultural connections for the future.

## MOORA MUSEUM FLOORING UPGRADE

The Shire of Moora has demonstrated its commitment to preserving and promoting local heritage by providing a \$10,000 funding contribution to the Moora Historical Society for critical upgrades to the Moora Museum. This funding enabled the installation of a new floor throughout the facility, ensuring the safe and secure display of historical artefacts, photographs, and records well into the future.

The Moora Museum plays an important role in safeguarding the town's rich history, telling the stories of its people, industries, and cultural development. By maintaining and improving the building infrastructure, the Shire has supported the Historical Society's efforts to create a space where residents, visitors, and future generations can connect with the region's past.

The new flooring not only enhances the functionality and safety of the museum but also ensures that heritage collections are housed in a stable environment that reduces risks of deterioration. This investment reflects the Shire's recognition of the importance of local heritage as part of Moora's cultural identity and its commitment to making history accessible to the community.

Through this project, the Shire of Moora is actively strengthening the preservation of heritage and supporting cultural continuity, ensuring that the Moora Museum remains a valuable asset for education, tourism, and community pride.





# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The Environmental Education category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards recognises initiatives that raise awareness and build knowledge about caring for the environment. This includes school programs, community workshops, awareness campaigns, and hands-on learning projects that encourage people of all ages to adopt more sustainable practices. By celebrating these efforts, the awards highlight the power of education in inspiring long-term environmental responsibility and positive change.

## ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL MOORA – TRIP TO THE TIP

As part of their ongoing commitment to sustainability, the Environmental Ministry at St Joseph's School Moora takes on the important role of managing the school's recycling efforts. Their job is to ensure that all empty recyclable containers are placed in the correct bins, rinsed properly, and bagged up when ready for collection. This hands-on responsibility not only keeps the school grounds tidy but also teaches students the value of teamwork, organisation, and environmental care.

Earlier in the year, the group had the chance to see the next stage of the recycling journey when they took a road trip to the Moora Waste & Recycling Facility to drop off all the items collected through the school's Containers for Change program. Guided by Mr Brett and with special thanks to Lisa Marshall for hosting the visit, the students experienced firsthand how the containers they carefully collect at school are processed and prepared for recycling.

The trip was a fantastic learning opportunity, showing students how their actions at school connect directly to larger sustainability systems in the community. It was also a moment of celebration: so far this term, the students have collected 1,057 containers, raising \$105.70 for the school's P&F Association. This achievement highlights not only the environmental impact of reducing waste but also the positive financial contribution recycling can make to support school programs and initiatives.

The "Trip to the Tip" gave students a deeper appreciation of the recycling process and reinforced the message that small, everyday actions can add up to a big difference. It also encouraged them to continue leading by example, inspiring their peers and families to stay committed to waste reduction and sustainability in Moora.





# ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL MOORA

In 2025, St Joseph's School Moora has placed a strong emphasis on sustainability, environmental education, and community involvement, creating opportunities for students and residents alike to engage in meaningful recycling and environmental initiatives. A central feature of this focus is the school's new Community Recycling Hub, which welcomes contributions not only from students and families but from the wider Moora community. This hub provides a space where everyday items such as ring pulls and plastic bottle tops can be collected and repurposed, ensuring materials are diverted from landfill and given a valuable second life.

The project is about much more than just recycling — it connects environmental action with social good. All ring pulls and bottle tops collected through the hub are donated to the Lions Australia Spinal Cord Fellowship (LASCF), which raises funds to support StepAhead Australia in their search for an effective therapy for chronic spinal cord injury. This partnership allows the children of St Joseph's, along with the broader community, to see how their small daily actions can contribute to life-changing medical research and support for people living with traumatic spinal injuries.

Students are also given the opportunity to learn about the recycling journey from start to finish. Bottle tops collected at the hub are transported to Claw Environmental in Perth, where they are cleaned, heated, and processed into tiny granules the size of rice grains. These granules then become the raw material for new products, demonstrating the concept of the circular economy in action. By engaging in this process, children gain firsthand knowledge of how recycling works, what materials can be reused, and how their actions can help shape a sustainable future.

Beyond the Recycling Hub, St Joseph's students are also building their skills and awareness through the school's garden program, which gives them hands-on experience in caring for the environment. Soon to be home to chickens, the garden teaches students to take responsibility for dividing up food waste from the canteen into scraps suitable for the worms and the chooks, turning waste into valuable resources. The worm farm produces a nutrient-rich liquid fertiliser affectionately named "Worm Juice Liquid Boost," which has already been bottled and sold at a recent pop-up community kitchen alongside vegetables the students themselves have grown. This initiative shows students the full cycle of sustainability — from reducing food waste, to producing compost and fertiliser, to growing healthy produce, and finally sharing it with the community.

Through these combined efforts, St Joseph's School Moora is embedding sustainability into everyday life, fostering responsibility, empathy, and an understanding of how local actions contribute to global change. The school's programs involve the whole community, spreading awareness about recycling, waste reduction, and food sustainability in ways that are fun, practical, and inclusive.





# GARDINER STREET ARTS COLLECTIVE PERMACULTURE WORKSHOP

The Gardiner Street Arts Collective, in partnership with Permaculture West, hosted an engaging and practical Permaculture Workshop to empower the Moora community with tools and knowledge to reduce waste, save money, and live more sustainably. The event was part of a wider Wheatbelt initiative involving community gardens and Landcare groups, designed to deliver fun, relevant, and interactive learning experiences that connect people to practical environmental solutions.

The day's program highlighted household waste reduction and sustainable living. Participants reflected on their own waste habits, explored local and international success stories, and developed personalised household waste strategies guided by permaculture principles. The morning featured a three-hour indoor workshop, while the afternoon offered a hands-on outdoor composting session, where participants learned which composting methods best suited their homes.

The workshop was supported by the Waste Authority, who provided giveaways and incentives to encourage long-term waste reduction practices. True to the theme, the event was waste-free, with sustainable refreshments provided and participants invited to bring food to share for lunch.

Importantly, ongoing support was offered after the workshop, ensuring that participants could embed their new skills and strategies into everyday life. By combining education, practical demonstrations, and community connection, the Gardiner Street Arts Collective's Permaculture Workshop has inspired Moora residents to adopt achievable steps towards waste reduction and environmental care.

# MCC LANDCARE EDUCATION DISPLAY & NATIVE PLANT GIVEAWAY

The Moore Catchment Council (MCC) showcases its commitment to environmental education and community engagement through an annual Landcare Education Display and Native Plant Giveaway at the Moora Show. This initiative provided an accessible and engaging platform for residents of all ages to learn more about local environmental issues, sustainable land management, and the importance of native biodiversity.

The education display features practical information on topics such as revegetation, soil health, weed control, waste reduction, and water conservation. Interactive materials and visual displays encourage visitors to reflect on how landcare practices could be applied in their own homes, farms, and community spaces.

As part of the display, MCC also conducts a native seedling giveaway, with a variety of local species available for community members to take home and plant. This simple but effective activity empowers residents to directly contribute to biodiversity enhancement, soil stabilisation, and habitat creation in their own backyards and properties.

By combining education with action, the MCC display at the Moora Show inspire the community to embrace sustainability and provided them with the tools to get started. The initiative highlights the practical role every individual can play in protecting and improving the local environment while fostering stronger awareness of landcare values in the Wheatbelt.





# MOORE CATCHMENT COUNCIL OWL WORKSHOP & SUNDOWNER

The Moore Catchment Council (MCC), in partnership with the Moora Men's Shed, WA Birds of Prey Centre, and Simon Cherriman of The Re-Cyc-Ology Project, hosted a highly engaging and interactive Owl Workshop and Sundowner event in March 2025. This unique initiative combined hands-on learning, wildlife conservation education, and community participation, inspiring residents to better understand and care for local birdlife.

The day began with workshops at Moora's two primary schools, where students were introduced to live owls and other birds of prey. Children had the rare chance to see and hold birds such as the Tawny Frogmouth, Boobook, Barn Owl, and the magnificent Masked Owl, sparking excitement and environmental curiosity among the next generation.

In the afternoon, a nest box construction workshop was held at the Moora Men's Shed, where participants—including a group of men supported by disability carers—helped build four nest boxes of varying entrance sizes to suit different species (from small mammals to lorikeets, owls, cockatoos, and possums). One box was installed near the Men's Shed, while the others were placed on local properties for ongoing monitoring.

The evening sundowner featured a sausage sizzle cooked by the Lions Club, live owl encounters, and a film screening of *Night Calling*, a documentary on the WA Masked Owl and the first "Owl Friendly" community in Margaret River. Presentations also highlighted the devastating impact of second-generation rodenticides on owls and other wildlife, encouraging residents to make informed and sustainable choices about pest control.

Thanks to funding support from the State Natural Resource Management Program WA, the Community Bank Bindoon, Moora Miling Pasture Improvement Group, this project was able to blend education, cultural awareness, practical conservation, and community fun into a single event. The smiles on participants' faces—and the new owl boxes installed—show the lasting value of this initiative in raising awareness and building pride in Moora's unique environment.





# MOORE CATCHMENT COUNCIL COMMUNITY BUS TOUR OF REVEGETATION PROJECTS

The Moore Catchment Council (MCC) hosted a Community Bus Tour to showcase the scale and impact of local revegetation projects across the Shire of Moora. Designed to educate and inspire, the tour gave participants the opportunity to see first-hand how landcare initiatives are restoring landscapes, improving biodiversity, and building climate resilience in the Wheatbelt.

The whistle-stop tour included five diverse sites: the Hamilton's Lake rehabilitation project west of Moora, a sand pit revegetation site, the Mt Yule gum repopulation project, a Walebing road realignment revegetation project, and a nine-year-old waterlogged degraded site east of Moora. At each stop, participants heard from passionate local voices, including landowners Jim and Lyn Hamilton on their lake rehabilitation work, Yued Elder Fred Mogridge who shared cultural stories of the land, and Diana Adams who reflected on the Walebing project and her farm's long history of revegetation.

The event highlighted the message that anyone can make a start in landcare—and every action contributes to a healthier landscape. As participants saw, projects big and small have real impact and bring long-term rewards for landowners, biodiversity, and the wider community.

The day was made possible thanks to funding from the State Natural Resource Management Program WA, with logistics supported by the Moora Men's Shed, who kindly provided the bus, and volunteer driver Duncan. The tour not only educated but also inspired, leaving participants with the clear message: "Just start somewhere and make a difference—you'll be rewarded."





# COMMUNITY CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

The Community Containers for Change category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards celebrates local initiatives that encourage recycling and reduce waste through Western Australia's container deposit scheme. This category recognises community groups, schools, volunteers, and organisations that actively promote and participate in the collection and refund of eligible drink containers. By turning what was once waste into a valuable resource, these projects not only help to keep public spaces clean but also raise important funds to support local programs and causes. The category highlights the power of community action in driving recycling, reducing litter, and creating lasting environmental and social benefits.

## MOORE CATCHMENT COUNCIL COMMUNITY BUS TOUR OF REVEGETATION PROJECTS

The Recycle Moore program in Moora provides the community with an accessible and practical way to recycle drink containers through the Containers for Change scheme, helping to reduce landfill waste, conserve resources, and support local causes. The facility, located at Lot 1 Airstrip Road, Moora, accepts all eligible drink containers and provides a 10¢ refund per item. Residents can either claim the refund themselves or donate it to a nominated community group or charity, creating both environmental and social benefits.

To further encourage responsible recycling and make the program more convenient for residents across the region, three new "Drop & Go" bins have recently been installed in Moora town, Miling, and Watheroo. These unmanned collection points provide an easy option for households to deposit their containers at any time, making recycling more accessible for smaller communities and reducing the likelihood of containers being disposed of in general waste.

By expanding access through both the main facility and the Drop & Go bins, Recycle Moore has strengthened its role as a key sustainability initiative in the Shire. The program not only diverts thousands of containers from landfill but also raises awareness about the importance of recycling, supports the circular economy by enabling the recovery of valuable materials, and generates ongoing fundraising opportunities for local community groups through donations of refunds.

This initiative highlights the Shire of Moora's proactive approach to waste reduction, community engagement, and environmental leadership, making it a strong contributor to the Tidy Towns ethos of sustainability and shared community responsibility.





# WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Waste Management category in the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards recognises projects and initiatives that reduce waste, improve recycling, and encourage more responsible resource use. This can include programs that promote reuse and repair, introduce innovative recycling solutions, or raise awareness about reducing what goes to landfill. By celebrating these efforts, the awards highlight the importance of smart waste practices in protecting the environment, reducing costs, and fostering pride in cleaner, more sustainable communities.

## BATTERY RECYCLING POINTS MOORA

The Shire of Moora has introduced dedicated battery recycling points to improve waste management practices and reduce the environmental risks associated with hazardous waste. New battery disposal bins have been installed at both the Shire Administration Office and the Moora Rubbish Tip, providing the community with free and accessible drop-off points. These collection bins ensure that batteries are safely diverted from general waste streams, where they can otherwise cause environmental harm through the release of toxic chemicals into soil and groundwater.

The initiative encourages residents to safely dispose of household and small rechargeable batteries, as well as mobile phones, reducing the risk of fires in waste facilities and supporting the recovery of valuable metals for reuse. At present, the service accepts batteries weighing 5kg or less, including:

- Alkaline batteries
- Easily removable laptop and mobile phone batteries (lithium-ion)
- All button cell batteries
- Power tool batteries
- E-bike and e-scooter batteries under 5kg
- NiMH batteries
- Mobile phones

By making recycling convenient and free for residents, the Shire of Moora is promoting responsible disposal habits while protecting the local environment. This project represents a small but significant step in advancing environmental sustainability and aligns with the Tidy Towns philosophy of reducing waste, recycling responsibly, and encouraging community-wide participation in sustainable practices.





# MOORA WASTE & RECYCLING FACILITY – RECYCLE MOORE

The Moora Waste & Recycling Facility, operated by Recycle Moore, has become a vital hub for sustainability and environmental responsibility in the Wheatbelt community. Serving as both a practical recycling centre and a strong advocate for waste reduction, the facility works closely with households, schools, sporting clubs, and community groups to ensure a wide range of materials are diverted from landfill. One of its most significant contributions is through the operation of a large Containers for Change facility, which provides residents with a convenient way to return eligible beverage containers for a refund. This program not only reduces litter but also offers valuable fundraising opportunities for schools and clubs. Recycle Moore also supports the social fabric of Moora by supplying bins and recycling services to most major local events, including the Moora Races, Moora Mavericks Football Club games, school activities at St Joseph's Primary School, and gatherings hosted by the town's Darts, Golf, and Bowls clubs. These efforts ensure that community events are run sustainably and that waste management is approached with responsibility and care.

In addition to its role in community engagement, the Moora Waste & Recycling Facility provides extensive recycling services that cater to both household and agricultural needs. The site operates as a general recycling drop-off point where residents can responsibly dispose of everyday recyclable materials, and it also runs a registered DrumMUSTER program. Through this initiative, old agricultural chemical drums are carefully inspected for cleanliness, shredded onsite, and then sent away to be manufactured into new products, offering farmers and landholders a safe and reliable disposal option that contributes to the circular economy. Another valuable service offered at the facility is mattress recycling, with residents able to drop off old mattresses free of charge. These are then collected by a third-party contractor, who ensures that the materials are recycled rather than being sent to landfill. The facility also accepts used car batteries, preventing hazardous substances from entering the environment, and contributes to resource recovery by stripping valuable metals such as brass, copper, and aluminium, which are then forwarded to SIMS Metal for recycling.

Through this wide range of services, Recycle Moore demonstrates a strong commitment to both environmental protection and community well-being. By making recycling accessible, affordable, and practical, the facility empowers the people of Moora to take an active role in reducing waste and protecting their environment. The centre's leadership in supporting local events, promoting fundraising opportunities through container recycling, and offering specialised programs for items such as chemical drums, mattresses, and car batteries highlights its importance not just as a waste facility, but as a cornerstone of Moora's community life. The environmental and social benefits are significant: fewer items are sent to landfill, valuable resources are reused, and the community is united in a shared mission of sustainability. The Moora Waste & Recycling Facility embodies the values of the Keep Australia Beautiful Tidy Towns Awards by showing how a small regional town can lead by example in waste reduction, recycling innovation, and community engagement, ensuring that Moora remains a cleaner and greener place for future generations.

