

Friend to all - Dorothy Ambrose



Catchment Champion

Jye Nelson, Olivia Rolls, Nykia Butler
& Blake Pavey
Corowa South Public School



Creative Catchment Kids

Creative Catchment Kids is an initiative of the Murray Darling Association and Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. It aims to improve engagement between the Murray Catchment Management Authority and school students by providing opportunities for positive and authentic ventures that encourage students to develop creative solutions to natural resource management issues. www.murray.cma.nsw.gov.au/creative-catchment-kids.html

Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre

The Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre is located in Burrumbuttock, north of Albury in southern NSW. Since 1995, the centre, which is adjacent to Burrumbuttock Public School, has provided opportunities for discovery and learning about the natural environment, the ecology of the local woodlands and the beauty of native plants. www.wirraminna.org

Murray Darling Association

The Murray Darling Association has membership of over 100 Local Government councils in the Murray-Darling Basin, as well as community groups, businesses and individuals with an interest in ensuring that the Basin continues as a valuable asset for all Australians. Since 1950, the Association has initiated various school and community education programs on managing the Basin's land and water resources. www.mda.asn.au



Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by PeeKdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area. www.envirostories.com.au

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Teacher: Karen Kissell

School: Corowa South Public School

Catchment Champions

In 2013, students involved in the Creative Catchment Kids program researched and wrote stories about 'Catchment Champions', people who have made important contributions to managing natural resources in their local community. The program was generously funded by the Murray and Murrumbidgee catchment management authorities.

The Catchment Champions books are part of the Enviro-Stories Education Program.



**Catchment Management
Authority**
Murray



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FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



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Murrumbidgee

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Dorothy Ambrose

Dorothy is a retired community member. She moved to Corowa in 1948 where her four children Adrian, Gayle, Digby and Rodney were born.

Her interests include tennis and mah-jong. Her favourite birds include the Crimson Rosella and Wedge-tailed Eagle.





Her favourite flora include pine trees and gum trees. Dorothy has worked with calves, cats, magpies, a Crested Pigeon and many other animals.

Dorothy has planted trees and helped animals in places such as Coreen, Chiltern and Barooga.





Family history

Dorothy was born in 1928 and was raised 22 kilometres out of Lake Cargelligo. She went to Yelkin Primary School. Dorothy moved to Melbourne and started work at a knitting mill. Her husband “Jock” Ambrose came from Hamilton, Scotland.



Children's education

Dorothy's children went to our school, Corowa South Public School, for their primary education. Following in the environmental footsteps of their mother, Dorothy's children planted pine trees in our school grounds.



Relationship with the environment

Dorothy Ambrose moved to her beautiful house in River Street in 1949 and named it 'Toad Hall'. She got the idea and the inspiration from the book *The Wind in the Willows*, by Kenneth Graham.



History of the Murray

In the 1970's the Murray's high flood level affected River Street, until the creation of Dartmouth Dam in 1979. The Murray Darling Basin Authority is in control of water release which affects the Murray River.

Inspiration

Dorothy Ambrose was inspired to work with the environment to give back what had been taken away.



One of her many experiences was protesting against a group of people wanting to grow tobacco at Morris Park.



Environmental opportunities

There are many opportunities in the local area and Dorothy Ambrose became involved in the Landcare group and environmental workshops. She has shared her environmental voice with lots of children and adults' all around the area.



Community award

In 2011 Dorothy won the Murray Catchment Management Authorities Millewa inspiration Award along with environmental enthusiasts, Marion Skehan, Faye Brookes and Anne Kingston. They planted trees on the sewerage pond where the brolgas used to nest.



Plans for the future

Although Dorothy isn't as busy as in previous years, she is still passionate about the environment. Dorothy will still care for the environment for many years to come.



Thank you

Thank you Dorothy for your time, wisdom and cooperation. We have enjoyed your visit to our school. We would also like to acknowledge Pauline Green for her environmental work in our community.



Jye Nelson, Olivia Rolls, Dorothy Ambrose,
Nykia Butler and Blake Pavey

2013 Year 5/6, Corowa South Public School

The 2012 and 2013 Creative
Catchment Kids writing
program was showcased
at the Seventh World
Environmental Education
Congress, held in Morocco
during June 2013.



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