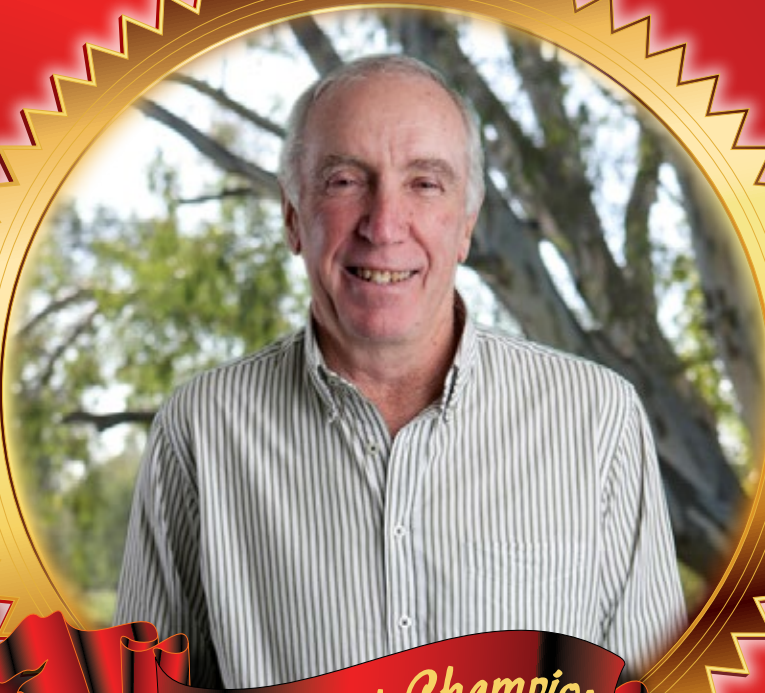


The Life of Angus Macneil



Catchment Champion

Corey Hogan, Rose Webster and
Kali Schneider

Rand 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

The Life of Angus Macneil

Authors: Corey Hogan, Rose Webster & Kali Schneider

Teacher: Tracey Southam

School: Rand 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



CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY



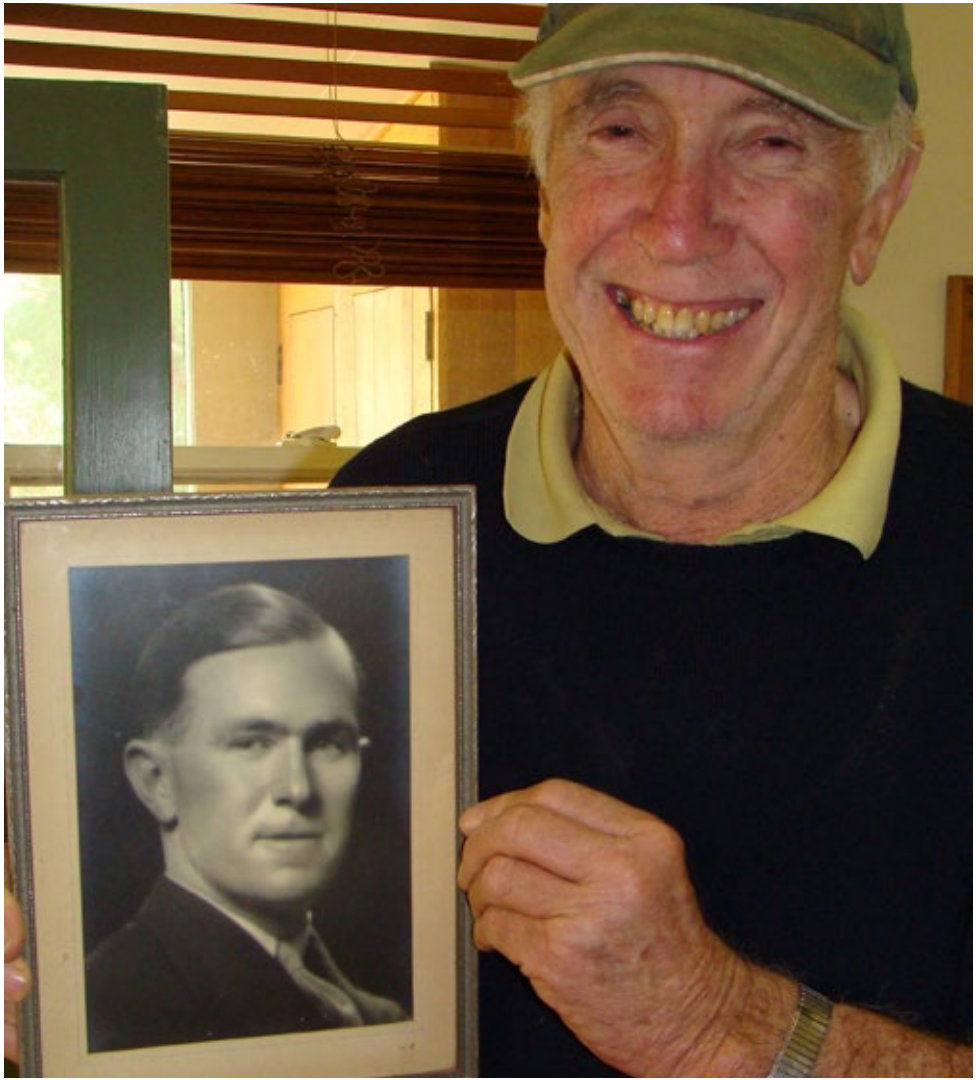
Catchment Management Authority
Murrumbidgee

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Angus Macneil was born in Corowa and has lived in Rand all of his life. Angus's family has lived on a farm for 81 years. His father came to Rand from Melbourne when he was 27. He had a disease where he had to live in a hot and dry place to cure it.





Angus's dad wanted to be a farmer when he was little so Rand was the perfect place to start. When he was older Angus decided to follow in his father's footsteps and become a farmer too. His father also inspired him to become an environmentalist and encourage people to look after the land.

Angus went to Geelong Grammar. Before Angus went to boarding school he spent two years at Burndale Primary School where he rode a bike for seven kilometres to get there and only had one teacher.



Geelong Grammar School

Angus is now married to his wife Gail and has been for 37 years. He has two daughters, Georgie (31) and Kate (29). Kate is a primary school teacher and Georgie is an event planner. Angus also has a sister, Katherine, who is 2 years older than him.





Angus sowing through canola stubble.

Angus is still on the farm and has two men working for him. He also has two loyal dogs who help him work the farm.

His farm is 2600 hectares and he has Merino sheep and goats. Angus also has crops but he doesn't burn off because it loses too much carbon. He leaves stubble there and plants into it. The crop then benefits from the carbon still in the ground and it helps maintain soil moisture.

Burning off can be bad for the environment because of the carbon it releases. Like Angus, everyone can leave the stubble in the ground and plant into it. Your crop will grow better and you will help the environment.

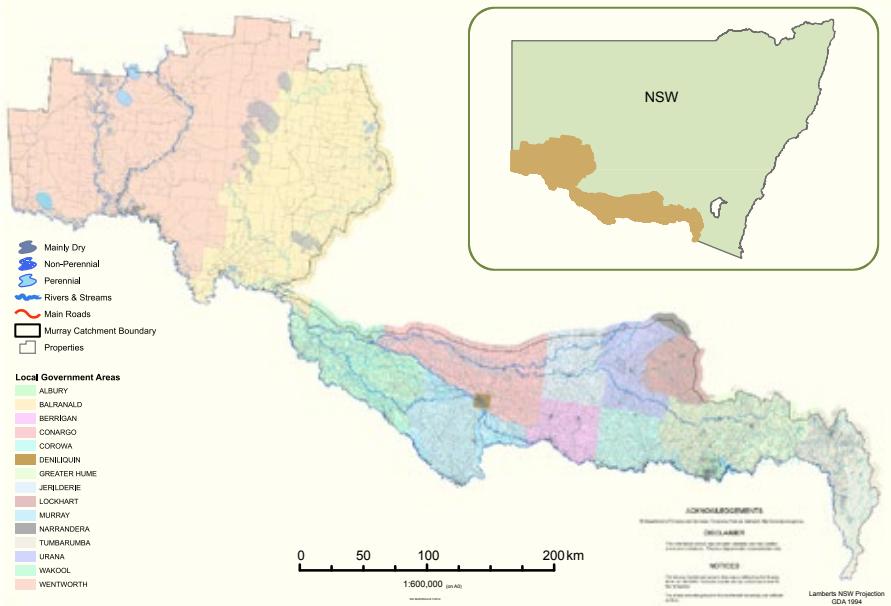


Angus is a Board Member for the Murray CMA (Catchment Management Authority). He helps make important decisions and decide what to do to help with the environmental state of local areas. The area he covers is mainly land, soil and climate change.



The Murray CMA was formed in 2003 by the NSW Government to help communities in the Murray catchment manage their natural resources. The Murray CMA has 5 board members, including Angus, that make important decisions for our local environment. The CMA works with farmers, schools, local government and local community groups. Community groups are very important to the local area and the CMA is thankful for the generous people who volunteer their time to help when a working bee is arranged.

Murray Catchment Management Authority, 2013

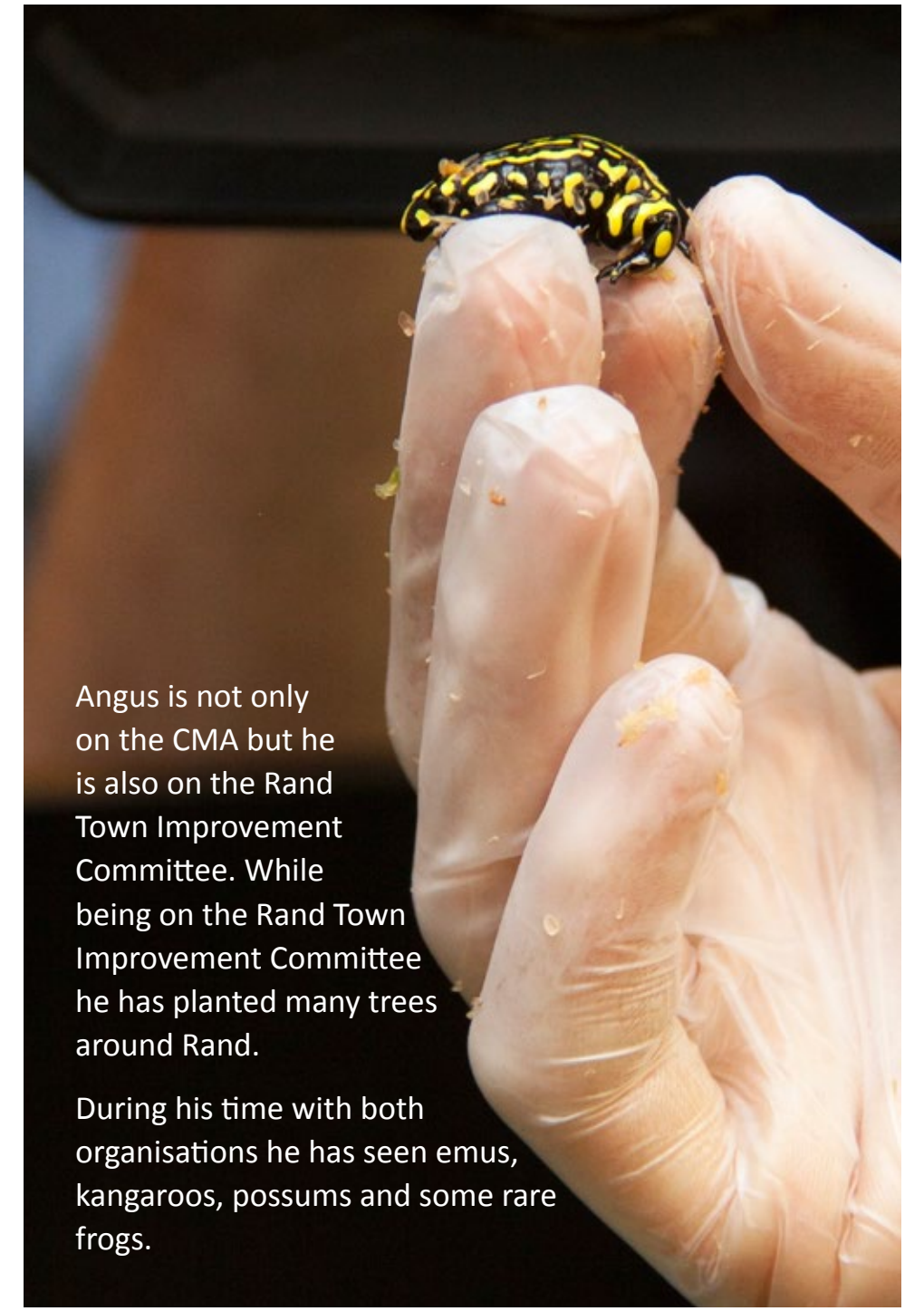


CATCHMENT STATISTICS

Catchment Area: 7,774,020 hectares
 Murray River: 1,889 km
 Darling River: 374 km
 Wakool River: 396 km
 Edward River: 402 km
 Billabong Creek: 675 km
 Great Darling Anabranch: 363 km

DISCLAIMER
 The above statistics have not been validated and may contain errors and omissions.

OFFICE LOCATIONS					
Office	Postal Address	Street Address	Post Code	Phone	Fax
Albury	PO Box 797	421 Swift Street	2640	(02) 6051 2200	(02) 6051 2222
Barham	PO Box 240	Shed 1, 47 Moulamein Road	2732	(03) 5453 1320	(03) 5453 3148
Buronga	PO Box 363	32 Enterprise Way	2739	(03) 5021 9460	(03) 5021 1308
Deniliquin	PO Box 835	315 Victoria Street	2710	(03) 5880 1400	(03) 5880 1444
Tumbarumba	PO Box 345	Cnr Bridge/Winton Street	2653	(02) 6948 9124	(02) 6948 2865

A close-up photograph of a person's hands wearing white nitrile gloves. The hands are holding a small, black beetle with bright yellow spots and stripes. The beetle is positioned on the tips of the person's fingers. The background is dark and out of focus.

Angus is not only on the CMA but he is also on the Rand Town Improvement Committee. While being on the Rand Town Improvement Committee he has planted many trees around Rand.

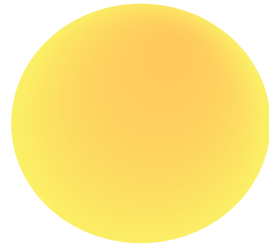
During his time with both organisations he has seen emus, kangaroos, possums and some rare frogs.



Angus joined the Murray CMA to encourage people to care more about the environment. He joined in 2006 and is still a member. The biggest thing Angus is most proud of, in regards to the environment, is planting the trees around Rand, the railway line and encouraging people not to burn stubble.



Some sunlight that hits the Earth's surface is reflected



Carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere hold the reflected heat

Angus's board portfolio at the CMA is land, soil and climate change. Climate change occurs when too many greenhouse gases go into the air. They trap heat in the atmosphere and can affect weather patterns. The land part of his portfolio is where he looks after all land and soil and tries to prevent them from getting damaged.

He works hard to help ensure that Rand has a healthy environment for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you Angus for coming to our interviews, sharing your life, letting us take your photo and participating in our project.

Thank you!



Rose Webster, Corey Hogan, Angus Macneil & Kali Schneider

2013 Year 6, Rand 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.



Catchment Management Authority Murray



CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY



Catchment Management Authority Murrumbidgee