

CULCAIRN – OUR TOWN



Eden Feagaiga, Marcus Simmons,
Mataya Barber and Clinton Scott

Culcairn Public School



Creative Catchment Kids

Creative Catchment Kids is an initiative of Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. It aims to improve engagement between our funding partners and school students by providing opportunities for positive and authentic ventures that encourage students to develop creative solutions to agriculture and natural resource management issues.

www.wirraminna.org/creative-catchment-kids/

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

Enviro-Stories

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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School: Culcairn Public School

Our Community

In 2016, students involved in the Creative Catchment Kids program researched and wrote stories about their local community and how local individuals, couples, businesses or industries have made a difference. The program was generously funded by Murray Local Land Services, the Australian government's National Landcare Programme and Hume Bank.

Creative Catchment Kids - Our Community is part of Enviro-Stories, a Peekdesigns education program.





Culcairn is a friendly welcoming town. Its location resulted from the extension of the railway line from Wagga Wagga to Albury. The Honorary James Balfour was credited with founding Culcairn. Culcairn's name comes from the birthplace of James Balfour's mother, Kiltearn, the name of a shire in Scotland. Culcairn was the name of a large property in the shire of Kiltearn.



Our school, Culcairn Public School, was built as a request from Mr. James Balfour, owner of Culcairn Station. James Balfour made the request for the school to be built in 1882. Our beautiful school was originally a Central School, but changed to a Primary School in 1978 when Billabong High School was built. Our school motto is 'Whatever You Do, Do It Well'.



The Culcairn district is mainly a farming community. The major income for farmers is through sheep, beef cattle and cereal crops including wheat, barley and canola.

Culcairn is very lucky to have a number of emergency services located in the town. There is a fire brigade, police station, State Emergency Service (SES) headquarters and a local hospital.



Billabong Creek runs through Culcairn. The Billabong Creek is the longest creek in the Southern Hemisphere. It starts in Mane's Range, north of the township of Billabong. It flows for around 400 kilometres to the Edward River near Moulamein. Billabong Creek has flooded many times including 2010. The Billabong used to have a swimming area which is now known as Jubilee Park.



Culcairn has many recreational facilities and clubs. The largest clubs are the football/netball club and the bowling club with a large membership in each. There is also a cricket club, tennis club, golf club and pony club located in the town. People from all around the Riverina and state travel to the area to use the wonderful facilities.

The post office was originally part of the railway station in 1880. They then moved to the telephone exchange in 1891. The post office was moved to its current location in 1909.





An important part of Culcairn is the railway. It was originally built to assist travel from Albury to Sydney and was built in 1880. It took over 15 hours to travel from Culcairn to Sydney. It takes about half that today. The railway transports humans, livestock and cargo. In 1882 the historic stationmaster's residence was built. The stationmaster played an important role in looking after this busy station.



Wirradjuri people roamed between the areas of the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers and often visited Culcairn in the Autumn. Here they would head to Tumut to trade with coastal tribes. Trading was common and a way to obtain things they did not have. These included weapons, skins, clothing, shells, baskets and tools.



The Culcairn Hotel was built in 1891. There were more things added to the hotel in 1910 including the second storey which was again extended in 1914. In its prime there were between 70 and 104 bedrooms mainly for rail travellers. Today the hotel is a meeting place for many locals.



Hume and Hovell were the first Europeans to come through Culcairn in 1824 on their trek from Appin to Corio Bay.

Major Mitchell also came through the area. He named the creek between Henty and Culcairn – Majors Creek.

Culcairn is a fantastic place to live. You can do different things and learn lots. It is a great place to grow up. It is a wonderful community and there is some amazing things to see and do.





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2016 Year 5/6, Culcairn Public School

Congratulations!

Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre and the Creative Catchment Kids Program won the National 2016 Yates Junior Landcare Team Award.

