

# LAND OF CREEKS AND BILLABONGS



Aaron Heritage, Rohan Jepson,  
Cordelia Clarke and Abby Holt

Holbrook 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/](http://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](http://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](http://www.envirostories.com.au)**

## *Hume Bank*

At Hume Bank, community is something we know a lot about, we're a bank for locals and believe money should be kept locally. That's why we are proud to support Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. By working together, we are able to give back to the community and help build a stronger future for generations to come.

**[www.humebank.com.au](http://www.humebank.com.au)**

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**School:** Holbrook 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 PeekKdesigns education program.





Holbrook is the largest town in the Greater Hume Shire and is located 60km north-east of Albury on the fringe of the south-west slopes. It is a hilly area before the country flattens out.

Holbrook has a population of 1267 people.

In 1858, Holbrook was called Ten Mile Creek, but in 1875 it was renamed Germanton because there was many people living there from Germany. When World War One started it was changed to Holbrook after Lieutenant Norman Holbrook. Lieutenant Holbrook was awarded the first Victoria Cross Medal and he skippered the original HMAS B11.





In 1995 the Royal Australian Navy donated the fin of the HMAS Otway to the town of Holbrook. Over time funds and donations allowed the rest of the submarine to come to Holbrook and now it is a huge tourist attraction. The submarine is found in the main street of Holbrook.



The Wool Pack Inn Hotel was built in 1839 and was owned and ran by John Mitten. In 1895 tragedy struck, flames took over the building leaving only a few bricks. Luckily the hotel was rebuilt later that year. The Wool Pack Inn museum is now open inside the same building and attracts visitors to Holbrook.



The local Indigenous people to Holbrook are the Wiradjuri. The Wiradjuri people are one of the biggest Aboriginal nations in New South Wales, and they call the Macquarie, Lachlan and Murrumbidgee rivers home.

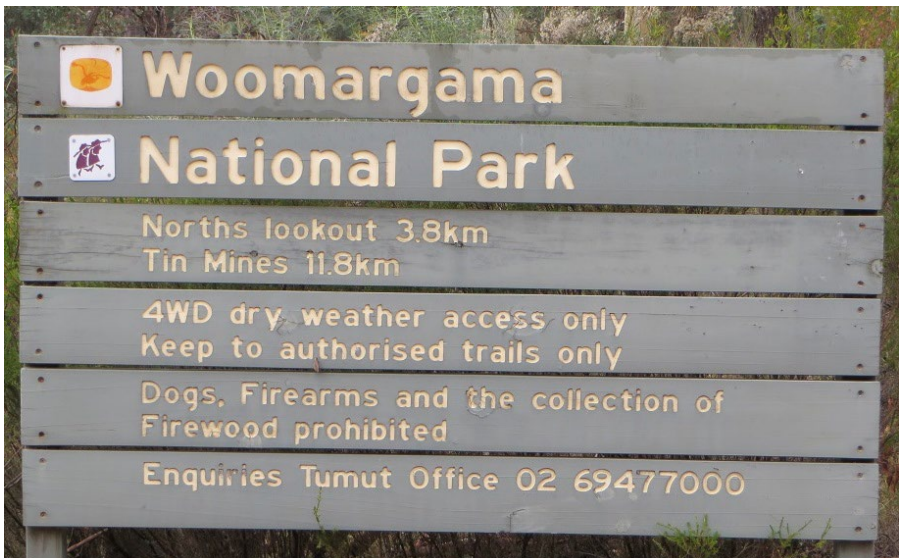
The Wiradjuri people have lived on this land for more than 40,000 years. Their animal totem is the goanna. The Wiradjuri people fished from canoes and hunted with spears and nets for ducks, kangaroos, goannas, snakes and emus. They would travel to trade for items they couldn't get from their country, and to perform ceremonies.





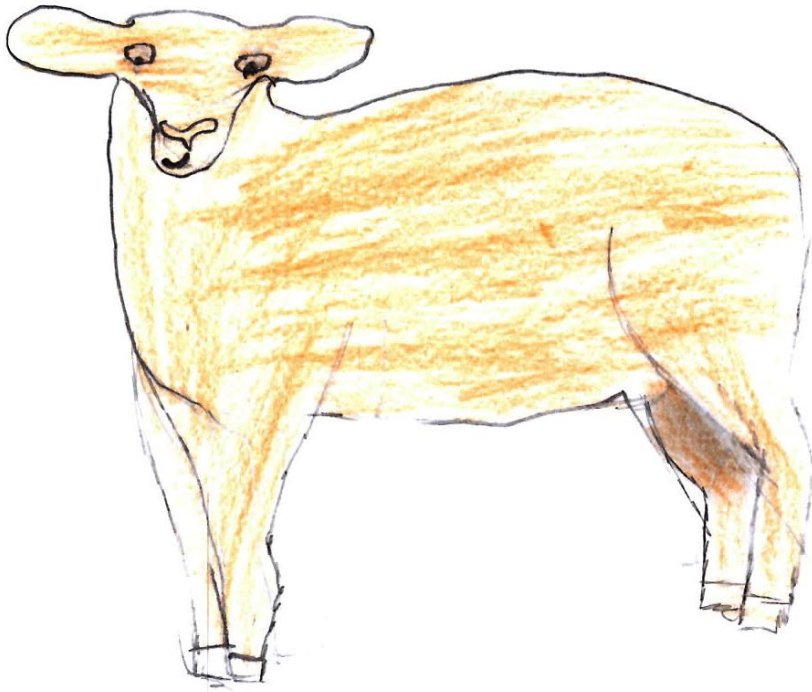
Holbrook Landcare Network is a community network which is based in Holbrook. It was established in 1989. Holbrook Landcare Network is a group that gives support and information to our community on farming and the environment. They help farmers manage their land.

Woomargama National Park is the largest protected area west of the Great Dividing Range. The park is home to a large amount of endangered species both plants and animals. Phantom wattle is found in the park. Woomargama National Park is located to the south-east of Holbrook.





There are many types of birds around Holbrook, some are endangered and threatened species, like the Turquoise and Swift parrots. The Squirrel glider, also a threatened species, is quite common around Holbrook.

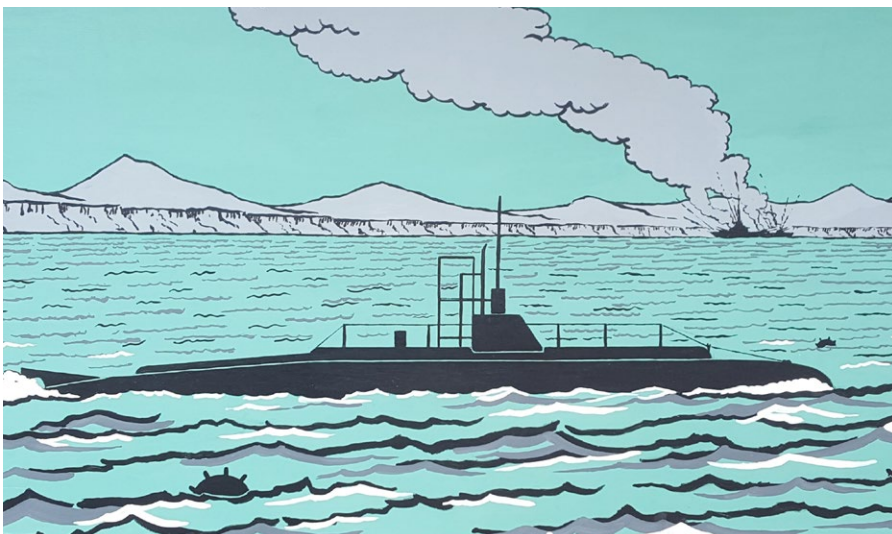


Holbrook is located in a high rainfall zone with mostly mixed farming. Some of the farms you can find around Holbrook have sheep for lamb and wool, cattle for beef, wheat and other grains sowed for crops and pasture. Some farms around Holbrook are organic. Organic farms don't use any chemicals.



The dung beetles around Holbrook are tunnellers. They eat all the bacteria and fungi off the dung. They then bury the dung and make a hole in the middle of it to lay their egg. Dung beetles clean the paddocks, stop the flies breeding and spread the dung around the land to help plants and other things grow.

People live in Holbrook because of the small town feel but it also has many services. Many people visit Holbrook because of the tourist attraction, the submarine. There are many services, schools and sporting groups. Employment is very high and there are very nice and lovely people. It is a small town with a big heart. There are a lot of businesses in Holbrook such as IGA, bakery, Landmark and much more.



*Holbrook is an inspiring town filled with amazing people. We are so privileged and happy to live in this fantastic town!*



*Land of creeks and billabongs*







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2016 Year 6, Holbrook Public School

## Congratulations!

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

