

# HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS

HEALING THE LAND, HEALING OURSELVES, TOGETHER



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## 2023 SMALL GRANTS

Each year Highways and Byways provides small grants to community organisations for projects that address disadvantage and exclusion within towns and communities, especially in rural and regional Australia.

This year our program theme is '*Healing and Growing Together*' in recognition of the environmental and social challenges that rural and regional communities have endured over the last few years. Drought, bushfires and floods ravaged parts of the country, resulting in the loss of life and property, significant impacts on species and the destruction of vast tracts of land and habitat. The Covid19 pandemic also affected our very way of living. Long periods of isolation and restrictions on movement, education and trade affected all segments of the population, but none more so than our most vulnerable communities.

We were therefore keen to support projects that encourage environmental and ecological restoration and rehabilitation, and projects that bring communities back

together, to reconnect and to reduce isolation and loneliness. We wanted to support opportunities for people to collaborate and form new partnerships, where they could develop new skills and obtain new knowledge that would allow them to manage their land and environs sustainably into the future. We wanted to encourage and support the emergence of new leaders. We also wanted to foster Indigenous identity and cultural connections, through collaboration and connection, between people and with Country.

We are delighted to announce the 20 recipients of our 2023 Small Grants program. As you will read overleaf, these projects stretch the depth and breadth of the nation and represent a diverse range of activity that will not only care for land, waters and country, but also for the people who inhabit them.

Our grants would not be possible without the support of our donors – and we thank them for their continued generosity.



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## QUEENSLAND

**1. Creative Country Association Inc, "Mental Health through Art", Murgon, QLD (Waka Waka Country), \$3,111**

Monthly art classes led by visual artist Angela Pude for all local residents to enhance individual well-being and encourage community cohesion.

**2. Wildhorse FM, "Wildhorse Wellness Project", Yarraman, QLD (Waka Waka Country), \$4,000**

A wellness program embedded into the day-to-day broadcasting of the Wildhorse FM to address issues of community loneliness, isolation and mental health.

**3. Roman Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba, "Growing the Future: Sustainable Vegetable Garden Learning Resource", Goondiwindi, QLD (Bigambul Country), \$2,120**

A sustainable garden and gardening program at St Mary's High School in Goondiwindi, involving students in garden planning and management.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

**4. Container of Dreams, "Native Beehive Making Workshop", Drake, NSW (Bundjalung Country), \$3,865**

A community workshop to construct insulated hives for native stingless bees to be installed across the region.

**5. Coraki CWA Preschool, "Healing the Land", Coraki, NSW (Bundjalung Country), \$4,000**

Development of a bush Tucker garden to reintroduce flora and fauna into the kindergarten's playground after its premises were inundated by flood waters in 2022.

**6. RiverSmart Australia, "Connecting Warren Indigenous Families to their Environmental & Cultural Heritage", Warren, NSW (Wayliwan Country), \$3,330**

Tours of the Macquarie Marshes/Maliyanga for local Indigenous families to learn about their environmental and cultural significance.

**7. Warrabinga Native Title Claimants Aboriginal Corporation, "Warrabinga Wiradjuri Indigenous Cultural Expo", Mudgee, NSW (Wiradjuri Country), \$4,000**

An Indigenous Cultural Sustainability Expo to promote awareness of Indigenous culture and land management practices.

**8. Wambuul Permaculture, "Building a Regenerative Culture in the Central West", Bathurst, NSW (Wiradjuri Country), \$2,700**

Quarterly events to connect permaculture practitioners and share knowledge on current practices.

**9. Pejar Local Aboriginal Land Council, "Women's Healing", Goulburn, NSW (Gundungurra Country), \$4,000**

A two-day workshop for Indigenous women focused on women's issues and healing to promote well-being and enhanced mental health.

**10. Brungle/Tumut Local Aboriginal Land Council, "Tree Identification & Seed Collecting", Tumut, NSW (Wiradjuri Country), \$4,000**

Workshops for the local Indigenous community to identify and record trees and species of cultural significance, and to collect seeds for propagation.

## VICTORIA

**11. Baranduda Landcare, "Fostering Community Relationships & Skills Around Grassland Restoration", Baranduda, VIC (Jaitmatang Country), \$4,000**

A field day and workshop to promote the restoration of native grasslands in the Baranduda and Wodonga regions.

**12. Trust for Nature, "Itjumatj Woka, Itjumatj Wala, Itjumatj Yenbena/Healthy Country, Healthy Water, Healthy People", Wangaratta, VIC (Bangerang Country), \$4,000**

Collaboration with the Bangerang people to maintain culturally significant trees across the Wangaratta region.

**13. St Kilian's Parish, "St Kilian's Parish Community Garden", Bendigo, VIC (Dja Dja Wurrung/Taungurung Country), \$3,270**

Development of a Community Garden at St Kilian's parish.

**14. Woodend Bee Friendly Society, "Swarm Monitoring Project", Woodend, VIC (Woiworung/ Djadjawurung Country), \$3,000**

Research to identify the extent to which swarms of the European honeybee are posing an ecological and nuisance hazard through their occupation of tree hollows/cavities which would otherwise be used by native animals and birds.

**15. Kirrae Health Service Inc, "Art, Wellbeing, Healing Room", Purnim, VIC (Gunditjimara Country), \$4,000**

Development of an art, well-being and healing room and delivery of an art program for the local Indigenous community.

## TASMANIA

**16. Seymour Community Action Group Inc, "Seymour Wetland & Conservation Area Restoration Project", Bicheno, TAS (Paredarerme Country), \$4,000**

Development of a management plan for 54ha recently added to the Seymour Conservation Area, and working bees and workshops to collect seeds and propagate tube stock to be re-introduced to the site.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**17. Katanning's Piesse Park Community Inc, "Piesse Park Activity Trail", Katanning, WA, (Wiilman/Goreng/ Kaniyang Country), \$3,070**

Development of an activity trail and extension of a wildlife corridor across Piesse Park.

**18. Kulungah Myah Family Centre Inc, "Collaborative Art Workshop for Youth", Kardinya, WA (Wajuk Country), \$1,650**

A youth-focused art workshop led by Aboriginal artist Julianne Wade to promote an awareness and appreciation of the local Noongar culture.

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

**19. Wellspring Community Inc, "Care for Creation - Listening to First Nations & Celtic Voices - A Wellspring and Iona Listening Pilgrimage", Alice Springs, NT (Arrernte Country), \$3,950**

A pilgrimage to engage Alice Springs locals, Indigenous people and local Christian and contemplative communities in conversations about the spiritual roots of caring for creation.

**20. Thamarrurr Development Corporation, "Wadeye Mens Shed Landcare Project", Wadeye, NT (Murrinhpatha Country), \$4,000**

A Landcare program for disengaged Indigenous youth, who have been assigned to the Thamarrurr Men's Shed by the courts.

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