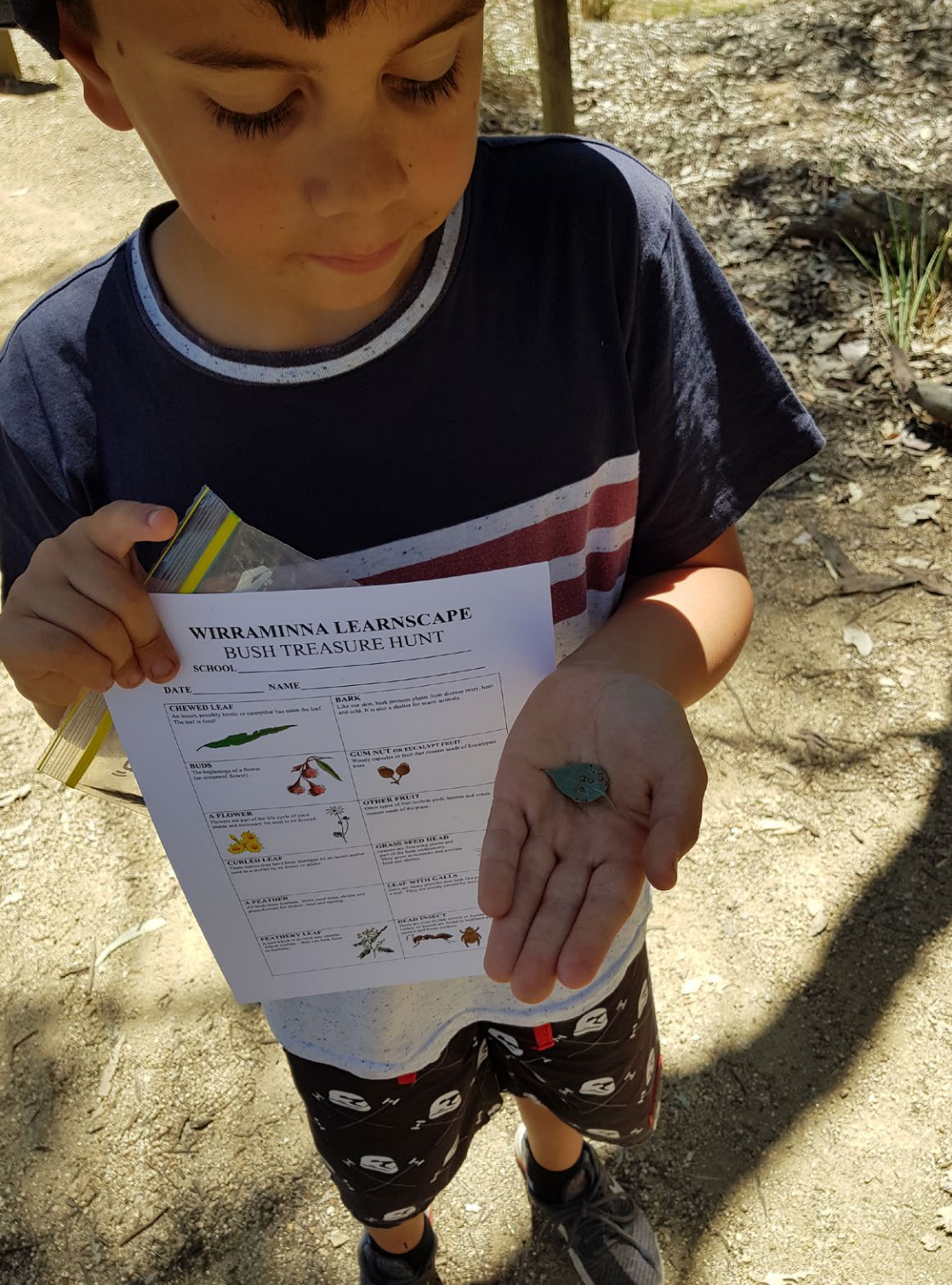


A journey through Wirraminna...

*A place of discovery and learning about
our local woodland environment*



Wirraminna Environmental
Education Centre



On a bush treasure hunt

A journey through Wirraminna... A place of discovery and learning about our local woodland environment

Prepared by: Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre

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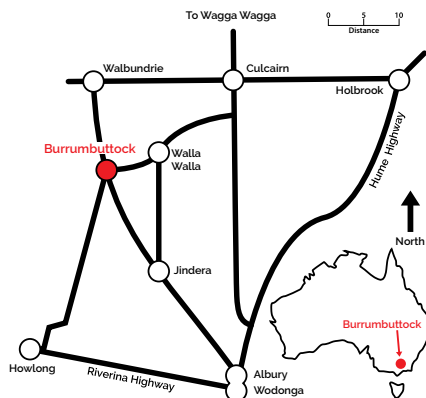


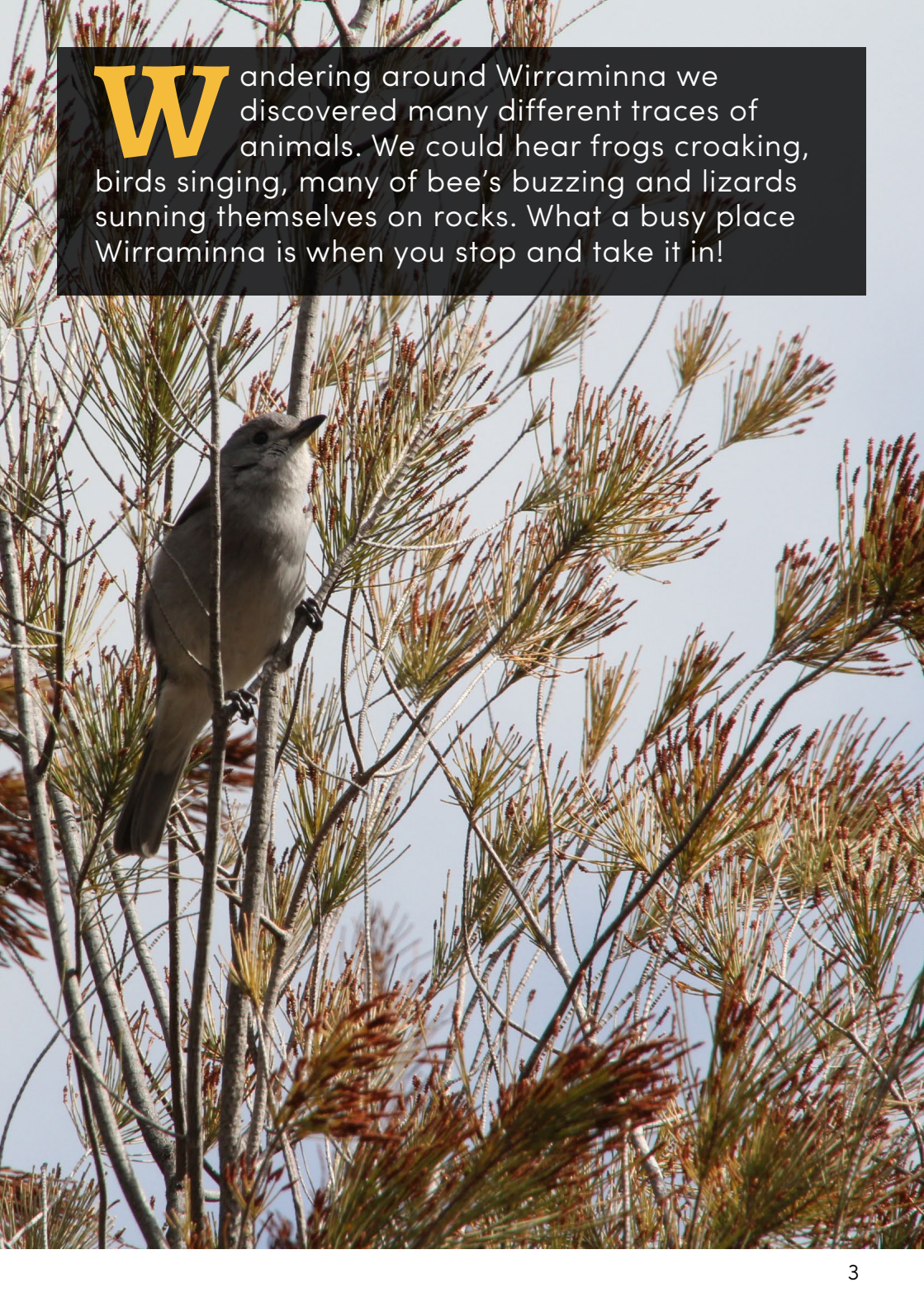
Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre is located in the town of Burrumbuttock, north of Albury in southern NSW.

Established in 1995, Wirraminna is set on an old stock reserve and public watering place.


Developed and maintained by local volunteers, Wirraminna presents a model for local Landcare projects that aim to restore native vegetation and wetlands on farms. Wirraminna is home to gardens and natural woodlands that contain many locally rare native shrubs, grasses and wildflowers.

In 2018–2019, several school children visited the centre undertaking workshops based around Landcare and biodiversity themes. This is their journey...



A small, greyish-brown bird is perched on a thin branch of a tree. The tree has long, thin, reddish-brown pine needles. The background is a clear blue sky. The bird is facing right and looking slightly upwards.

Wandering around Wirraminna we discovered many different traces of animals. We could hear frogs croaking, birds singing, many of bee's buzzing and lizards sunning themselves on rocks. What a busy place Wirraminna is when you stop and take it in!



Investigating the park, we found out about the history of the place. The big dam was built in 1901 by Chinese labourers as a town water supply. Since, 1995 the whole place has undergone a massive makeover. It went from a dump to the inspiring place it is today. The old Yellow box tree at the front near the Visitors Centre is over 150 years old! Imagine the stories it would tell.

YELLOW BOX

(*Eucalyptus melliodora*)

An important tree, on good, well drained soil, with an excellent nectar for insects and honeyeaters.

Revegetation of the park has been happening for over 20 years. The big old trees were always here but everything else has been planted by volunteers and school students or by natural regeneration. This has created the perfect habitat for lots of native animals.



Restoring Wirraminna has been done by a group of volunteers that maintain the park. The volunteers have been collecting seed from around Burrumbuttock and propagating the seed to plant at Wirraminna. The seed production area right up the back of the park has many different local plants that now provide seeds for the future.



Animals are monitored regularly at Wirraminna. Each week, many nest boxes are checked for life. There are resident Squirrel gliders, bats, frogs, Brush-tailed and Ring-tailed possums. During the day when they are sleeping, using a pole camera, we can quietly check on them and record what we see. Sampling of the dams shows us what is living in the water. Many different types of macro-invertebrates, fish and turtles have all been found!



Many wetland plants like sedges and rushes have been planted along the drains at Wirraminna. This has helped erosion from the run-off from the hills at the back of Wirraminna. The plants help slow the water down as the water rushes by. The plants root systems also hold the soil together.



Indigenous culture at Wirraminna is recognised mostly by the Indjimarra garden. The traditional owners, the Wiradjuri people, say that Indjimarra means respect. You will find all different plants here that were traditionally used for food, fibres, tools, weapons, utensils, fire making and spiritual beliefs.



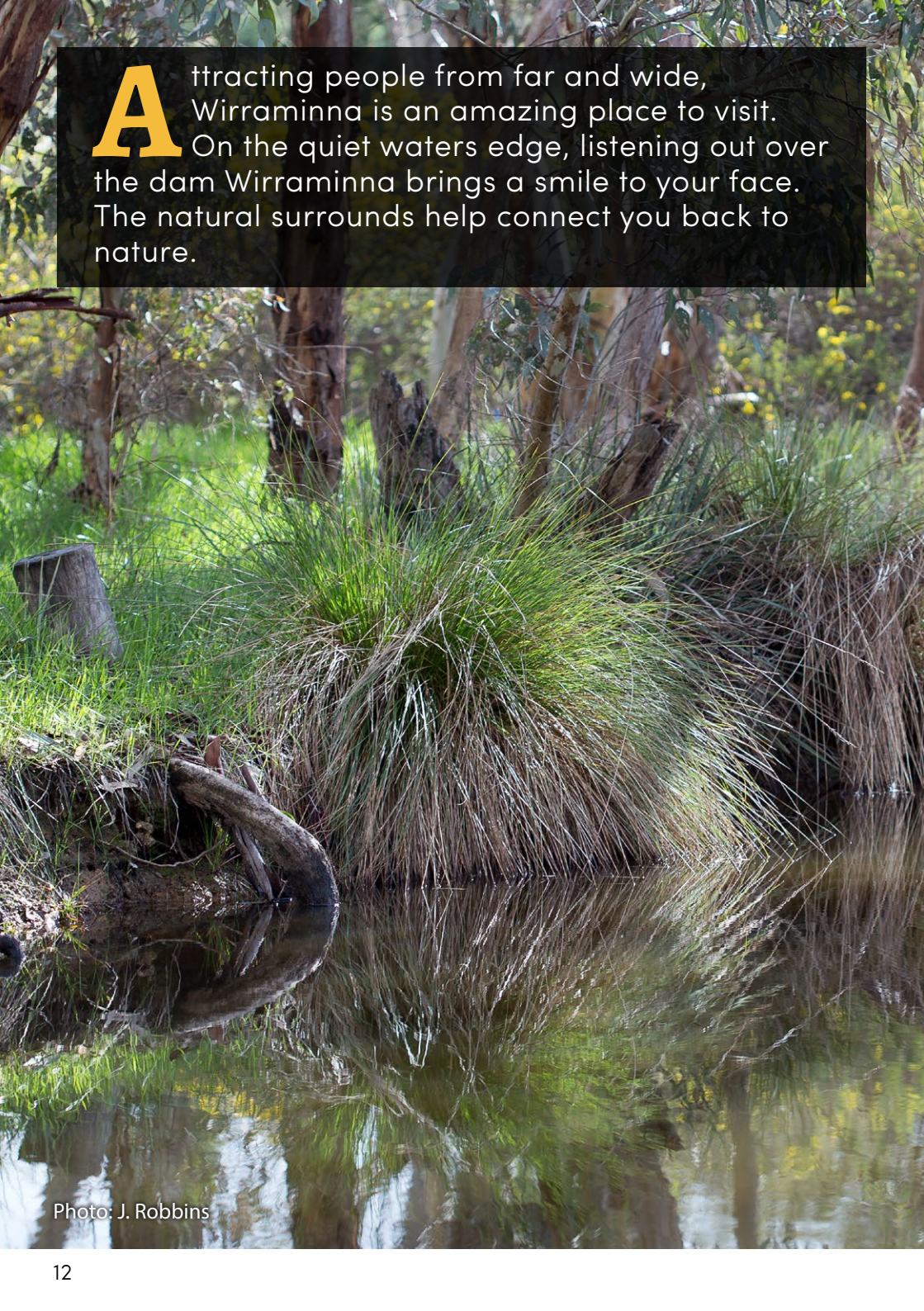
Nests, nuts and flowers are all part of the Bush Treasure Hunt. Treasure can be found at Wirraminna, but it isn't gold or diamonds! Wirraminna's treasure is for animals, it's things they need to survive. We found some treasure including twigs, bark, feathers, perfect leaves and insect cases!



Naturally at Wirraminna, you will find all our local native plants and animals. Sometimes pests that are introduced can be found. Weeds are still a huge problem at Wirraminna but are being dealt with all the time. Pest animals are few and far, but foxes and cats have been sighted on rare occasions. Managing these animals at Wirraminna has been hard, but working with the local community to eradicate them has helped.



Photo: D. Panther

A photograph of a riverbank with tall, green and brown grasses growing along the edge. The grasses are reflected in the calm water. In the background, there are trees with green leaves and some yellow flowers. A dark, curved log lies on the bank in the foreground. A black rectangular box with white text is overlaid on the top left of the image.

A ttracting people from far and wide, Wirraminna is an amazing place to visit. On the quiet waters edge, listening out over the dam Wirraminna brings a smile to your face. The natural surrounds help connect you back to nature.

Photo: J. Robbins



Monitoring nest boxes



We love Wirraminna!

Come and see... you will too!

