



Annual Impact Report

2024



Erin
Earth

Acknowledgement

The ErinEarth community acknowledges Wiradyuri/Wiradjuri Country and the rich heritage of its First Peoples. We honour the dreaming and abiding relationships with the land – of the four rivers. We give thanks for the wisdom of Wiradyuri/Wiradjuri Elders, Custodians and Knowledge Keepers of each generation, including all First Peoples who call this area home.

ErinEarth is committed to walking beside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in their ongoing cause for justice and fairness in their own land.



Walking Lightly on the Earth

Our Vision

A healed Earth.

Our Purpose

ErinEarth is a community and a living educational resource, inspiring all to live more lightly on our planet through awareness, connection, learning and actions. Through education we bring about meaningful and transformative change. Through engagement with ErinEarth, its gardens, community and programs, people have a sense of awe and wonder, yet understand Earth's crisis and are inspired to adopt sustainable living practices.

Our Values

COMMUNITY



RESPECT



INSPIRATION



SUSTAINABILITY





Co-founders

Quotes taken from the original "Centre" proposal drafted in 1987.

“ Our hope is that ErinEarth will be a place of hospitality, networking, educating and sharing of ideas, beliefs, values and resources concerned with ecological justice. ” *Carmel Wallis phum*

“ ErinEarth is concerned with 'right relationships' within the complex web of connecting human beings with one another and with plants, animals and the elements of land, water and atmosphere that form our Planet Earth. ” *Kaye Bryan phum*

Major Benefactor

“ Despite many challenges, ErinEarth, guided by Pope Francis's Laudato Si' goals, forges ahead with its ministries, drawing our attention to the plight of our planet while also providing spiritual and communal resources for all ages. ” *Margaret Barclay phum, Congregation Leader, Presentation Sisters Wagga Wagga (trustee of The Nagle Fund)*

Board Report

2024 marked seven years of ErinEarth as an independent not-for-profit, an opportunity to reflect on our progress and reaffirm our direction. It was a year of consolidation, as our strategic planning process refined our vision into a clear and purposeful statement: **A Healed Earth.**

Our education programs grew significantly, reaching more students and schools than ever before. A major highlight was the success of our KHS 7A partnership, which inspired the launch of our new "Connect to Nature" programs. Unlike traditional one-off sessions, these immersive experiences encourage deeper, more lasting connections between students and the natural world.

Meanwhile, we expanded community engagement by complementing our well-loved Open Days with monthly workshops, offering new opportunities for learning and advocacy. These initiatives reflect our commitment to responding to the needs of our times, staying true to the example set by our founders in fostering a community for Earth awareness, reconnection, and reflection.

The extension of our garden boundary was the focus of our 2024 infrastructure improvements. This enabled the building of a Stormwater Biofiltration System—a major sustainability project that now serves as a demonstration model during our garden tours. ErinEarth has always believed that our garden is our classroom, and this initiative strengthens our ability to showcase sustainable solutions. This project was made possible through the generous support of local businesses and Rotary clubs, highlighting the power of community collaboration.

Building strong relationships remains at the heart of our work. In 2024, we forged new partnerships while strengthening existing ones. A particularly meaningful connection was established with the Kapooka Indigenous Army Recruits program, deepening our ties with the local Indigenous community and broadening our shared commitment to environmental stewardship.

ErinEarth's true strength lies in its people—our passionate staff and dedicated volunteers. Ranging in age from 13 to 91, our volunteers bring a wealth of skills, from pruning and propagating to policy writing and governance. Contributions from these extraordinary people make ErinEarth an impactful community organisation. We thank our volunteers and are profoundly grateful for their time, energy, and commitment.

We also acknowledge the Nagle Trust Fund, managed by the Presentation Sisters of Wagga Wagga, for their generous financial support. Their legacy, along with that of our founders, remains a guiding light, a lantern of hope for the future.

As we look to 2025, we are poised for growth and impact. With the implementation of our new strategic plan, our focus will be on measuring the effectiveness of our evolving education framework and developing strategic funding priorities to ensure ErinEarth's long-term sustainability.

Together, we look forward to another year of learning and transformation—for our community and for A Healed Earth.

Kathryn Wallace - Chair

The year in review

ErinEarth was
59% volunteer run

1,324

Walk in Visitors

3,545

Volunteer
hours
contributed

Native plant
species in
the garden **181**

Students
engaged

1,148

434 Newsletter
subscribers

School
groups
visited **82**

3,457

Social media followers

Community
organisation
collaborations

56

8

Early Learning Centres/
Community gardens supplied
with our vegetable seedlings

Events

Details

Attendees

Festivals

- Food for Life
- Winter Lantern
- Water for Life

- 265
- 400
- 267

Workshops

- Bunya Bushfood
- Bike Canteen & Cycling Without Age
- Biochar demonstration
- Outdoor Cinema
- Aussie Bird Count
- Tim Forcey "Electrify" Book Q&A

- 30
- 22
- 11
- 12
- 9
- 31



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



Manager's Report

Summer Highlights

- Garden and Leisure Company volunteers return, working their magic in the garden
- Learning all things Bunya pine & nut
- Collaborations with Murrumbidgee Landcare, The Bike Canteen & Cycling Without Age
- Creation of the Kildare Catholic College lunchtime Garden Club

Autumn Highlights

- Duke of Edinburgh student volunteers design the mud pit in the children's play space
- Harvesting of ErinEarth honey
- Army Indigenous Development Program volunteers enhancement of the garden
- 150 years celebration of the Presentation Sisters Wagga Wagga

Stormwater Biofiltration Project – Stage 1

Before



After



Winter Highlights

- Students experiencing a campfire & making damper for their first time
- First working bee for the Stormwater Biofiltration system
- NAIDOC week walk
- Welcome to Country at Winter Lantern Festival from Board member Bernard Higgins
- Participating in National Tree Day
- Garden volunteering taken off site to assist Pro-Patria

Spring Highlights

- Community planting of our Stormwater Biofiltration system
- Being named as recipient of the Wagga Marketplace Community Kickstart Grant
- Energy audit of the house by Tim Forcey
- Opening of Koorringal High School Year 7a's Sustainability Trail
- Arrival of ducklings in the garden
- Christmas party including celebrating our volunteers

Kirsty Cole - Manager

Education

“ErinEarth provides students with a safe space, natural learning environment and a sanctuary to escape from everyday challenges.

Their wellbeing programs have been life changing for many of the students who have visited there.

The staff are dedicated, passionate and enthusiastic about creating change and developing rapport for students with various life adversities.”

*Kate Livio - Teacher
Koorringal High School*

ErinEarth education is deep, rich, creative, playful, and unhurried. It is learning through storytelling and direct experiences in nature, grounded in our purpose.

At ErinEarth we are uniquely placed to provide something that is not available elsewhere

- We offer learners the time and space to develop a sense of connection with, and a sense of place within our garden
- We shift learners' thinking from human-centric to Earth-centric, guiding them toward a more intimate relationship with the Earth

Using our garden as the context we offer programs within the three interrelated elements, with sustainability at the core: Earth Care, Earth Leadership, Earth Wellbeing. Through our programs, we support visionaries, dreamers and changemakers to walk a sustainable, hope-filled pathway.

Scan or click here
to watch
2024 Year 7a project
Koorringal High School



Garden

“Erin Earth is not just a learning space for children and educators; it’s a place to ‘be’.

In a world where opportunities to connect with nature are dwindling, Erin Earth provides a much-needed sanctuary to appreciate the natural world and learn how to protect it.

Working in such an innovative, nature-focused setting has reinvigorated our teaching approach. We value working together to create a world where protecting the environment becomes a natural part of everyday decision-making.”

*Jo Glyde - Teacher
St Luke's Pre-school*

Our garden is our classroom – modeling sustainability, honouring cultural values, and inspiring radical hope to take bold steps toward a better future.

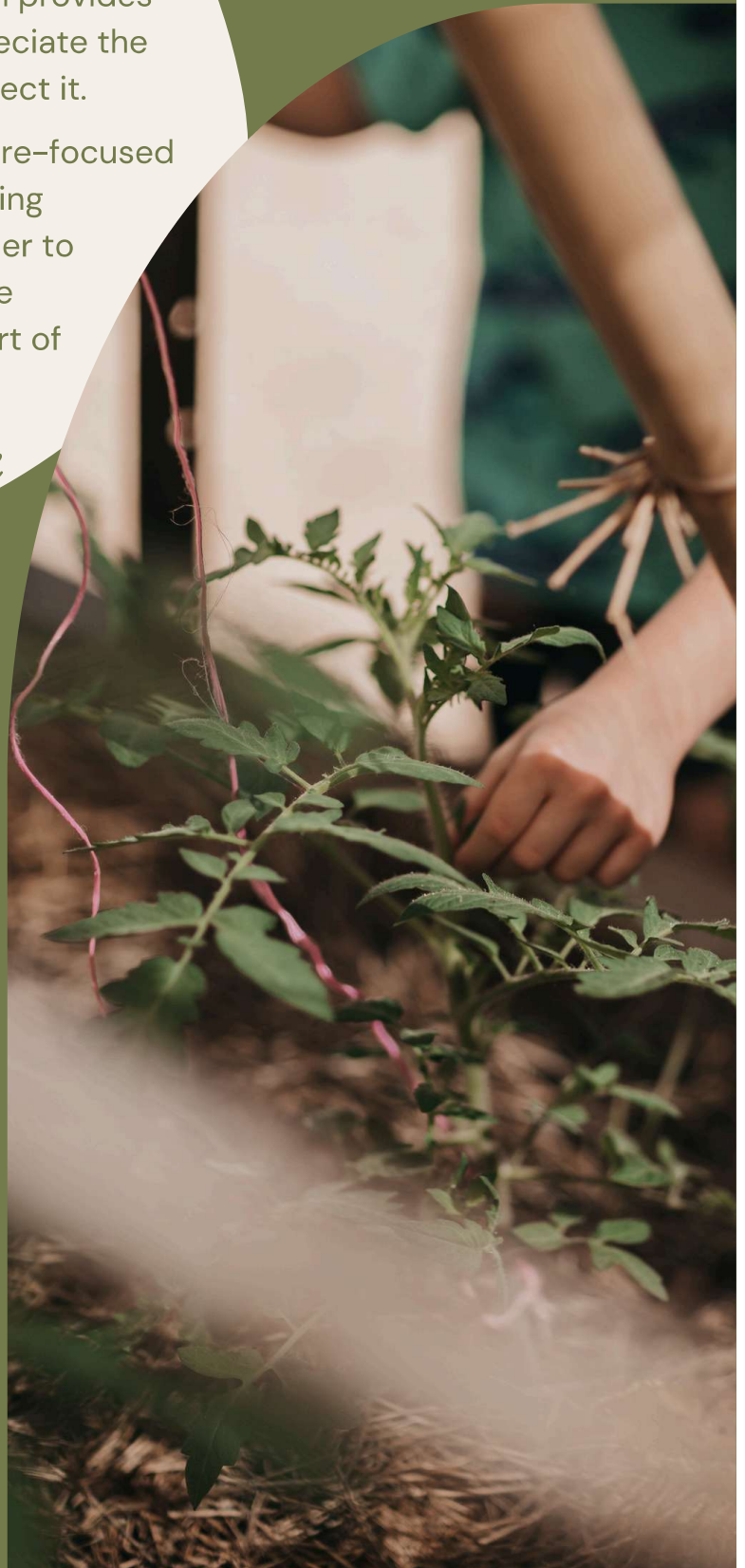
ErinEarth is a living story of renewal, demonstrating that restoration and rejuvenation are possible, that a diversity of plants and animals will return to a place and thrive when given care.

Our half-hectare site showcases a waterwise native plant garden and organic fruit and vegetable growing. It offers opportunities for nature connection, reflection, nature play and exploration.

We provide sustainability inspiration for the Wagga Wagga community, demonstrating through hands-on learning how to grow your own food, use water and energy wisely, and value biodiversity.



*Scan or click [here](#) to
watch 2023 NSW
Environmental Citizen
of the Year video*



Finances

1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash \$362,301

REVENUES

Total Income \$426,291

Funding Summary

\$392,717	\$8,393
Grants	Programs
\$17,953	\$7,228
Donations	Investment

LIABILITIES

Current Payables \$13,749

EXPENSES

Administration \$12,287

Employment \$324,228

Grant \$6,214

Repairs & Maintenance \$22,271

Other \$42,444

Figures extracted from ErinEarth Limited 2024 Financial Statements. Gift Fund audited by John L Bush & Campbell, dated 16 April 2025.

In-kind Support

WS WAGGA SURVEYORS



City of Wagga Wagga

creative outdoors & more

coateshire

Rotary



Riverina Water

KotzurKanvas

COMMINSHENDRIKS

ProWay Livestock Equipment

Quinn's Tree Care



“It’s wonderful to be part of a group of people who just simply enjoy being out in the open in the garden and doing things together. It is another family for me.

We’re doing important things to showcase the sustainability of our Earth. The garden shows what can be done and is also an educational tool ... adults and children can learn more about the environment and how to care for it.

The garden and the people have helped develop a sense of wonder. Come along and try it, for anyone interested, and see how you enjoy it.”

Lyn Nash -Volunteer

DONATE

The ErinEarth Gift Fund is a public fund, donations are tax deductible. Donations made are used solely for working towards achieving the objectives of ErinEarth.

Click [here](#)
to donate

How you can Help

VOLUNTEER

We would be excited to hear from you if you’re interested in getting involved.

Some of the ways you can help are:

- Joining us on Thursday mornings (9am-12noon) for gardening, general maintenance, and other garden projects,
- Assisting with festivals, workshops, or administrative tasks,
- Sharing your skills and expertise as a consultant or collaborating on special projects,
- Serving as a Director on our Board.

We warmly welcome people of all voices, cultures, nationalities, abilities, and age groups to join our community of volunteers.

GIFTS IN WILL

The life you have lived can benefit your local community and the world you leave behind.

Leaving a gift to ErinEarth in your will is a promise to future generations that will enable them to experience the awe and wonder of our planet and enable us to continue our vital education for years to come.

The official gift in wills program will launch in 2025.

erinearth.org.au



Enquiries

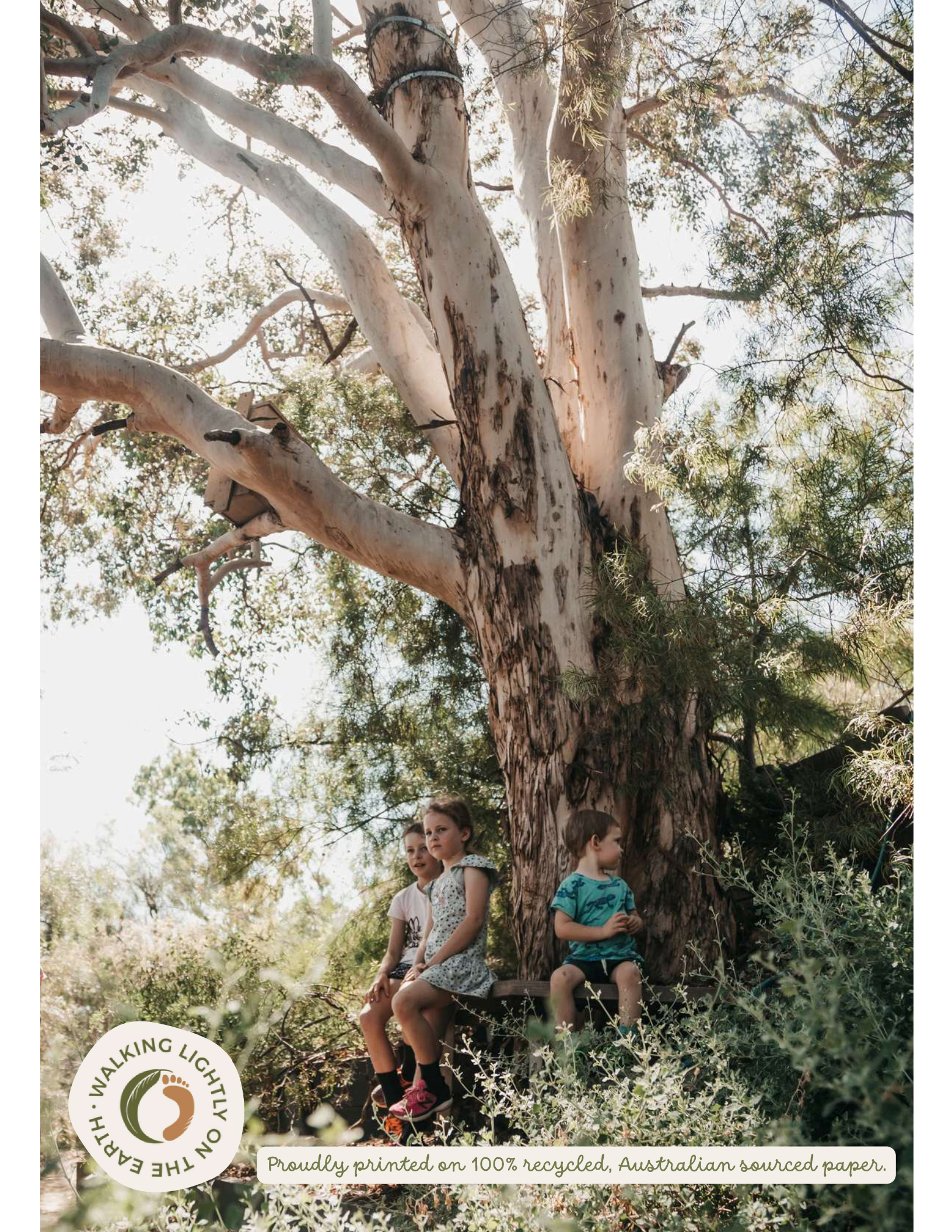
admin@erinearth.org.au
02 6925 7150



1 Kildare Street
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

ABN 89 448 876 418





Proudly printed on 100% recycled, Australian sourced paper.