Highways and Byways Small Grants Program

2026-27 – Grantees Summary

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

28	$120,522	7	$4,304
projects funded	total grants awarded	states	Average grant amount

GRANT LOCATIONS



Note: Locations are approximate.

PROJECT SUMMARY 2026–27

#	Grant partner, location	Project	What's planned
NEW SOUTH WALES			
1	Home Start National Inc. – Quandialla	Quandialla Bush Tucker Garden	Bush tucker garden at the local school bringing students, families and older residents together through art, gardening and Wiradjuri culture.
2	GWYMAC Inc. – Inverell Shire	Native Grass Seed Knowledge and Harvest Workshops	Field workshops on identifying, harvesting and using native grass seed to restore pasture diversity and soil health.
3	Yuluwirri Kids – Coonabarabran Preschool and Long Day Care	Food and Feather Garden	Shaded outdoor learning space where children grow food and care for chickens, with Elders and Landcare sharing knowledge.
4	Y Women Broken Hill Inc. – Broken Hill	Rebuilding Intergenerational Bridges	Courtyard transformed with a bridge, rainwater-fed water feature and native plants as a gathering space for all generations.
5	Wollar Progress Association – Wollar	Upgrading kitchen facilities at Wollar Community Hall	New, more energy-efficient kitchen equipment for the hall, a designated Neighbourhood Safe Place in emergencies.
6	Lifeline Central West Ltd. – Lake Cargelligo	Strengthening Community Support on Country	First Nations-led workshop, guided by the local Aboriginal Land Council, on recognising distress and connecting people to support.
7	Aboriginal Education Team, St Patrick's Primary School – Lochinvar	Regent Honeyeater Garden	Aboriginal educators and students plant habitat for the critically endangered regent honeyeater as part of Look After Country.
8	Forster Neighbourhood Centre Inc. – Forster	Great Lakes Women's Shed Sustainability Project	Safe, inclusive space for women, particularly First Nations women and those facing isolation or economic disadvantage, to connect and build skills.
9	Gari Yala Aboriginal Cultural Fundraising Indigenous Corporation – New Lambton	Cultural bags	Cultural activity packs posted to children in school holidays, with monthly online sessions on Wiradjuri heritage.
VICTORIA			
10	Anakie & District Community Group – Anakie	Connecting Community & Country: Discovering the Brisbane Ranges	Nature-based workshops to reduce isolation and build ecological knowledge and citizen science participation.
11	The Haddon Community Learning Centre Inc. – Haddon	The Haddon CLC Community Garden	Monthly food swap and hands-on workshops on growing food, healthy eating and local food security.
12	Macedon Ranges Wildlife Network – Macedon Ranges	Homes for Wildlife Market and School Education Project	Nesting boxes and education at markets and schools to replace lost tree hollows for native wildlife.
13	Euroa Arboretum Inc. – Euroa and surrounds	Creating a welcoming, functional community space for fire affected communities	Recovery after the January Longwood East fires: habitat repair, nestbox building, volunteer leadership, and mental health first aid and safety training.

#	Grant partner, location	Project	What's planned
14	Attwood House Community Centre – Westmeadows	Vulnerable Children and Carers Learning and Connecting to Country	Twelve months of half-day sessions led by Aunty Jo Russell on culture, Country, traditional plants and cooking.
15	Yarra Valley ECOSS – Wesburn	The Living Herbarium Project	Volunteers trained in plant ID, seed collection and propagation, with signage in English and Woi wurrung guided by Aunty Kim Wandin.
QUEENSLAND			
16	North Burnett Community Service – Mundubbera	Growing Together: Mundubbera Community Garden Cultural Regeneration Project	Expanded community garden connecting First Nations residents, migrant families and seasonal workers, including Tongan and PNG communities.
17	Millmerran Landcare – Millmerran	Building Resilience in Millmerran Community	Workshops pairing cool fire land management with community wellbeing and resilience skills.
18	Friends of the Forest Inc. – Somerset Region	Brisbane River Headwaters Collaborative Community Multi-media Arts Project	Inclusive community arts project connecting people of all ages and abilities with each other and the land.
19	Stanthorpe Rare Wildflower Consortium – Stanthorpe	Eucalypts of the Granite Belt Identification and Management Workshop	One-day theory and field workshop to build eucalypt knowledge and reduce indiscriminate clearing.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA			
20	Blackwood Environment Society Inc. – Bridgetown	Trees for Cockies	Two community planting days with free seedlings to restore habitat for three black cockatoo species.
21	Nannup Garden Village Inc. – Nannup	Grow. Gather. Feast – Seeds for the Future	Seed-saving and propagation workshops and a community seed library to strengthen local food resilience.
22	Manjimup Community Garden – Manjimup	Bringing new life, diversity and inclusiveness into the Manjimup Community Garden	Four raised beds and irrigation to welcome isolated residents, itinerant workers and recent migrants.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA			
23	Hills Environment Centre – Bridgewater	Adelaide Hills Fungi Festival	Hands-on mycology training to grow a network of citizen scientists and fungi conservation knowledge.
24	Port Neill War Memorial Hall Association Inc. – Port Neill	Lighting up and Cooling our Community Hall	Safer, more energy-efficient lights and fans for the hall of an isolated town of 300, a designated Bushfire Safe Precinct.
25	District Council of Orroroo Carrieton – Orroroo	Community Connection to Nature	Tree-lined walking path and nature corridor through the recreation grounds to support gentle exercise for older residents.
TASMANIA			
26	Sorell Council (Nipaluna Nursery) – Sorell	Seeds of the Future: A Youth Cultural Garden & Yarning Circle	Young people aged 12–17 co-design an Indigenous cultural garden and yarning circle with nursery volunteers and a local Elder.
27	Rose Bay High School Landcare Group with Hands On Learning students – Rose Bay	Wallaby Walk: The Landscaping (Stage 2)	Student-led revegetation, signage and seating for a calm walking loop, building landcare skills and links to Palawa culture.

#	Grant partner, location	Project	What's planned
NORTHERN TERRITORY			
28	Friends of Fogg Dam Inc. – Humpty Doo	Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve Roadside Signage Renewal Project	Renewed signage and extended shade structure, with Wulna Traditional Owners consulted on adding cultural information.

As always, we'd love to remind you to please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support the Mary MacKillop Today Highways and Byways Small Grants Program. Simply:

1. Visit the Mary MacKillop Today donation page. Scan the QR code below or go to: www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/donate
2. Select the amount and fill in your details
3. In the 'Your message' box, write: 'Please direct my donation to the Highways and Byways Small Grants Program'

Your generosity helps continue the MSS legacy of connection and service in communities across Australia.

Thank you!