



April/May 2013 NEWSLETTER

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

Incorporating Baranduda, Kergunyah-Gundowring, Kiewa-Bonegilla,
Upper Kiewa & Yackandandah

Website: <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/kiewa>



LAUNCH OF "BIG TREE COMPETITION", *The search is on for Kiewa Catchment's biggest tree.*



As part of the 30th Celebrations of the formation of the Farm Trees Group in the Kiewa Valley, we are having a "BIG Tree Competition". The tree needs to be located within the Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups boundary, which extends from Baranduda to Falls Creek and across to Yackandandah (see map on entry form). The tree must also be **native** (indigenous) to our area.

We are looking for the biggest tree by trunk circumference at 1.3 metres above ground level. It could be on a road side, along a creek or river, or on public or private property.

Competition categories include:

- **Biggest Indigenous tree** (*living and dead*)
- **Favourite Indigenous Tree** (*tell us why this tree is special to you*)
- **Best Landcare Revegetation Project** (*1983 to 2013*)
- **Best School entry** (*Biggest & Favourite Tree*)

Entrant photos will be displayed on the Big Tree Comp webpage gallery and the winners will be announced at the 30th Anniversary Celebrations on Saturday 24th August at Kergunyah. In addition to the honour of finding the "Biggest Living Tree", the overall winner will receive a trophy, certificate and a handcrafted woodcarving, made from fossilised Red Gum, estimated to be over 5,000 years old. All category winners will receive a certificate and a prize.

Entry is free, and you can enter as many times as you like. Entries close on **31st July 2013**.

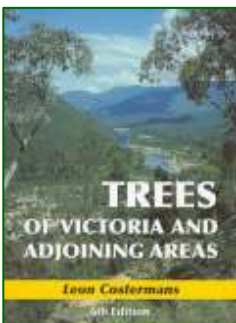
Entry forms and more information is available at:

<http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/kiewa/projects/big-tree-competition>

or by contacting Belinda Peace 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au

Will you find our biggest tree?

DID YOU KNOW? A recent study estimated that if paddock trees continue to be lost at their present rate, big old paddock trees may become a thing of the past within 50 years. The value of paddock trees to our environment, stock, soils and our own wellbeing are many. The future of these majestic giants and cultural heritage icons is in our hands.



MT BIG BEN EUCALYPTUS IDENTIFICATION FIELD TRIP *with Glenda Datson*

Would you like to gain a basic understanding of how to identify our many and varied Eucalyptus species? We are very pleased to have Glenda Datson from Baranduda Landcare Group lead us on a Field Trip to Mt Big Ben. Glenda is an Environmental Horticulturist and has a wealth of knowledge to share. We will also look at vegetation classes and discuss seed collection techniques.

When? **Sunday 5th May, 2.00pm – 5.00pm**. Meet at corner of Mt Big Ben Lane and Dederang/Yackandandah Rd, Glen Creek. Please wear sturdy boots, hat and sunscreen. All participants will receive a copy of Costerman's Field Guide, *Trees of Victoria and Adjoining areas*. Limited places. Bookings essential, please let Belinda know if you would like to attend.



DAUGHTERLESS CARP: –World-first research in pest fish control

Carp are prolific breeders. A single female carp can produce upward of 1.5 million eggs per year. CSIRO has been developing a powerful means of controlling carp, by breeding into a carp population a mechanism that reduces the number of female offspring and so radically reduces carp numbers within a few generations. The idea is to alter the genes of the carp so that they can still reproduce, but the offspring is predominately males. This is the basis for 'daughterless technology'. It is expected that it will be another five to six years to produce fish that can be released.

How can the North East CMA support Landcare into the future? *Have your say...*



The North East CMA would like to include your ideas and knowledge in a Regional Landcare Support Plan that it is currently being developed.

The CMA is undertaking a series of local (kitchen) conversations with Landcare and related group representatives from now until the end of April 2013.

You are invited to book a conversation so that they can learn more about the needs and priorities of your Landcare group/s and local community that surrounds it. They would also like to know what you consider important for the future of your group. Please help the CMA to support Landcare to achieve what it aspires to achieve. For full details on booking a conversation, or contributing your views go to: www.yoursaynecma.com.au.

SUBGROUP NEWS & EVENTS: *Make the most of events & activities – ALL WELCOME*



BARANDUDA LANDCARE GROUP

There is plenty on offer to get involved with over the next couple of months.

We will be **monitoring nest boxes** on **Saturday 13th April & Sunday 19th May**.

1.00pm – 3.00pm Meet at Jamieson Drive Reserve at Baranduda.

On **Wednesday 17th April**, you may like to participate in the **release of captive-bred Regent Honeyeaters** in Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park. Contact Glen for more details.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 15th May** at Frayne College. Baranduda is hosting the **Quarterly Gathering of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network**, 5.30pm for shared dinner and “show and tell”. Meeting: 7.00pm - 9.00pm. Be inspired by the nine Friends/Steward Groups. RSVP to WULN Secretary Jude Moore, 0428 565 195 secretary@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au



KERGUNYAH-GUNDOWRING LANDCARE GROUP

We began construction of the wetlands path at the working bee in March. Many thanks to our local stores and Waddington's for the donations of newspaper and cardboard and to our volunteers on the day. The dry lagoon gave us a great opportunity to spray the rather nasty weed *Phalaris arundinacea* - Reed Canary Grass, which has the potential to become very invasive. We hope you can join us on **Saturday 25th May** at 10.30am, where we will continue work on the path. We will finish with a light lunch. Bookings essential; contact either Rowan or Belinda.



KIEWA-BONEGILLA LANDCARE GROUP

Did you know that Bonegilla has a Native Grassland Reserve that is home to a diverse range of wildflowers and grasses including a number of threatened orchids? We are planning a guided tour of the reserve in Spring, and hope to use this family friendly event as an opportunity to gain community input into the types of activities the community would like to see Landcare offering. If you already have some ideas, please let Pam know. 02 6027 3356 pjdavisjones@hotmail.com



UPPER KIEWA LANDCARE GROUP

Work is continuing at the Rockpool Rd site. The Landmate team with the support of the Landcare Group is continuing weed control works as well as constructing a walking path alongside the river. Alpine shire is also about to commence work on improving the car park area, and the track leading down to the river. A meeting was held with Parks Victoria and other project stakeholders to produce a 2013 works plan. We also had a Landcare display at the Mt Beauty markets which was a great opportunity to gain feedback about current and future works.



YACKANDANDAH LANDCARE GROUP

We had 10 participants at the indigenous weaving workshop at YCEN, and we also enjoyed the company of numerous “drop in” broadcasters from the Community Radio station. Many thanks to Sandy Creek Trees for the donation of *Lomandra longifolia* plants. We are planning to have a Landcare display at the Yackandandah Community Market on **Sunday 21st April, 9.00am to 1.00pm**. If you are able to spare an hour or two to help out, please let Belinda know. We have a range of resources on pest plant and animals, local flora & fauna identification. It is also a great opportunity to engage with the Yackandandah Community.

Blaze Aid: Call for volunteers

BlazeAid is a volunteer-based organisation that works with farmers and families in rural Australia after natural disasters.



Volunteers help rebuild fences that have been damaged or destroyed. Equally important, volunteers help lift the spirits of farming families who are often facing their second or third flood event after years of drought, or devastating losses through bushfires. **MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED**, especially at basecamps in Qld at Gin Gin, Dululu & Biggenden, and at Sorell, Tasmania, and at Bookham & Nimmitabel in NSW. More information is available at: <http://blazeaid.com.au/> or by phoning Blaze Aid founder, Kevin Butler 0418 530 471 between 8.00am & 7.00pm.

Opportunities and assistance for fire-affected properties – Blackberry Action Program

Blackberry Action Program: Assistance for **fire-affected properties** with blackberry & woody weed control – it is not too late to get involved. Project Co-ordinator: Andrew Knowles, phone: 0428 443 477, email: greenakr@bigpond.net.au

Our Native Nursery: Volunteer Opportunities and Eco-tours on offer

There will be volunteering opportunities at Our Native Nursery at Tawonga on Thursday **18th April** and **16th May**, including lunch and a bush trip. Jill is also offering Eco-tours on Saturday **20th April** (gums) and Saturday **18th May** (bush foods). For more info contact Jill, phone 02 6027 1089; 0418 579 331; jilldawson@ournativegarden.com.au

Landcare Calendar: Upcoming Activities, Events and Key dates:

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	RSVP/MORE INFORMATION
Saturday 13 th April 1.00pm – 3.00pm	Community nest box monitoring & installation	Meet at Jamieson Drive Reserve, Baranduda	Glen Johnson 0417 687 842 baranduda@landcarevic.net.au
Wednesday 17 th April 9.30am	Release of threatened captive-bred Regent Honeyeaters	Klotz Track Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park	Glen Johnson baranduda@landcarevic.net.au 0417 687 842
*Wednesday 17 th April 7.30pm *please note date change	Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting	Baranduda Community Centre	Jos McAlister mcalistertojo@live.com 02 6017 1816
Sunday 21 st April 9.00am – 1.00pm	Landcare display at Yackandandah Markets	Yackandandah Markets	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Sunday 5 th May 2.00pm – 5.00pm	Eucalyptus Identification & Seed Collection workshop with Glenda Datson	Meet at corner of Mt. Big Ben Rd and Yack, Dederang Rd. Glen Ck	Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au 0407 227 814
Wednesday 15 th May 5.30pm (shared dinner) 7.00pm–9.00pm (meeting)	Baranduda Landcare is hosting Wodonga Urban Landcare Network's quarterly gathering	Frayne College Baranduda	Jude Moore secretary@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org 0428 565 195.
Sunday 19 th May 1.00pm – 3.00pm	Community nest box monitoring & installation	Meet at Jamieson Drive Reserve, Baranduda	Glen Johnson 0417 687 842 baranduda@landcarevic.net.au
Tuesday 21 st May 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting	To be advised	Jos McAlister 02 6027 1816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Saturday 25 th May 10.30am	Kergunyah Wetlands Working Bee followed by lunch	Park at Kergunyah Reserve, walk to Wetlands	Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au 0407 227 814
Sunday 26 th May 10.00am – 2.30pm	Landcare display at Running Creek Community Market	St Albans Hall Kiewa Valley Hwy Running Creek	Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au 0407 227 814
Tuesday 18 th June 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting	To be advised	Jos McAlister 02 6027 816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Saturday 24 th August	30 th Anniversary Celebrations, Winner of Big Tree Comp. announced	Kergunyah	Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au 0407 227 814

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups Contact List:

President	Peter Serpell	02 6028 9356	Vice President	Rowan Wallace	02 6027 5227
Secretary	Jos McAlister	02 6027 1816	Treasurer	Julie Pearce	02 6027 5286
Baranduda	Glen Johnson	02 6020 8667	Kiewa-Bonegilla	Pam Davis-Jones	02 6027 3356
Upper Kiewa	Alan McDonald	03 5754 1000	Kergunyah-Gundowring	Rowan Wallace	02 6027 5227
Yackandandah	Position vacant	0407 227 814	Nursery Manager	Rhonda Serpell	02 6028 9356
Equipment hire for Landcare members: Spray units (organic/chemical), trailing seed drill, Rabbit ripper, wick wiper					
Brian Lane 02 6027 1433 Organic & chemical spray unit & Wick wiper	Peter Serpell 02 6028 9356 Trailing seed drill	Rod Mitchell 02 6027 5 155 Chemical spray units & Rabbit ripper	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 Landcare BBQ trailer & Tree poppers		
Project Manager, Landcare Facilitator & Newsletter: Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au					

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Incorporating Baranduda, Kiewa-Bonegilla, Kergunyah-Gundowring, Upper Kiewa & Yackandandah subgroups
The Executive Committee has set the subscription at \$15.00 per year. (a family is one membership).
Please consider subscribing for more than one year to reduce postage costs.
Simply forward a cheque to the Membership Secretary, or pay by direct credit.

Bank Account details: *Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups,*

Commonwealth Bank,

BSB: 063-534

Account Number: 000902483

Please include your surname and initials as a reference & email Jos payment date

NAME _____
POSTAL ADDRESS _____
PHYSICAL ADDRESS (If different) _____
TELEPHONE _____ MOBILE _____
EMAIL _____
SUBSCRIPTION: ___ 1 yr \$15.00 ___ 2 yrs \$30.00 ___ 3 yrs \$45.00 ___ Other x \$15.00
SUBGROUP: ___ Barandudua ___ Kiewa-Bonegilla ___ Kergunyah-Gundowring ___ Upper Kiewa ___ Yackandandah
I would like to receive newsletters by: ___ mail ___ e-mail
SIGNATURE _____ Number of people covered by this membership _____
Payment method: (please tick one) Cheque _____ Cash _____ Electronic funds transfer _____
Please make cheques payable to: Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups, and post with this form to: "The Membership Secretary", 8 Barlow Lane, Bruarong Vic. 3749 email: mcalistertojo@live.com

Next Newsletter – June/July, please send any news items/photos to Belinda by 31st May 2013