



June/July 2013 NEWSLETTER

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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

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



LANDMATE PROGRAM FUNDING TO BE CUT: *Please ACT NOW to reverse this decision*

Landmate crews are small groups of prisoners under the supervision of an experienced Industry Officer, who undertake environmental related works on private and public land. The program is coordinated by Department of Sustainability and Environment (now DEPI). In addition to providing environmental works, this program provides the prisoners the opportunity to make a positive contribution back to the local community, whilst also enabling prisoners to learn new skills and develop and/or maintain a work ethic that will assist with their reintegration back into society upon release.

We have received advice that this immensely worthwhile program will cease to operate as of 30th June 2013, due to funding cuts by the Victorian Government. We urge Landcare members and supporters to voice their concerns about these cuts. People Power can make a difference. How can you help...?

You can lobby our elected MPs, write letters to the editor or ring your local radio station.

We need to take action if we want to ensure that this highly beneficial program is to continue.



Minister for Corrections:

The Hon. Edward O'Donohue MP, 03 8684 1101 edward.o'donohue@parliament.vic.gov.au

Ministers for Department of Environment & Primary Industries:

The Hon. Peter Walsh MP, 03 5032 3154 peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Hon. Ryan Smith MP, 03 9637 8890 ryan.smith@parliament.vic.gov.au

State Member for Benambra:

The Hon. Bill Tilley MP, 02 6024 4488 bill.tilley@parliament.vic.gov.au

State Member for Benalla and Parliamentary Secretary for Primary Industries

The Hon. Bill Sykes MP, 03 5762 1000 bill.sykes@parliament.vic.gov.au

SAVE THE DATE: 24/8/2013, 30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS & AGM



Planning is well underway to celebrate the formation of the Farm Tree & Land Protection Group in the Kiewa Valley on the 24th August 1983. We are keen to have as many of our founding fathers (and mothers) at this event to be held at the Kergunyah Hall. We will have a memorabilia display, so if you have any old photos or other items, it would be great if you could bring these along.

We will also be holding our AGM and announcing the winners of our BIG tree competition. It is sure to be a great event and we look forward to seeing as many people as possible.

BIG TREE COMPETITION: *It's not just about the SIZE...*



A BIG THANK-YOU to all the people who have entered our BIG Tree Competition. We have received some very impressive entries, but so far, we haven't received any entries for the "Favourite Tree", "Schools" or "Best Revegetation Project" categories. We have some fabulous prizes on offer, thanks to North East Catchment Management Authority and Our Native Garden.

My favourite tree is a gum planted by my parents in our front yard in the 1950's. It features in many family photographs. In the 70's my brother installed a tractor seat on the lopped main trunk. As a child, I spent many happy hours sitting on that tractor seat, observing birds & critters (as well as spying on the Neighbours). Over the years the limbs supported many types of swings, ladders and Tarzan ropes. What fun!

What's your favourite tree? We'd love to hear your story.

Entry is free and you can enter as many times as you like.

For more information and an entry form, please go to:

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

or contact: Belinda Peace 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au

Photo of "My Favourite Tree" taken in mid-60's

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



Photo: Rob Fenton, National Environment Centre

BARANDUDA:

A warm invitation is extended to attend an evening with Rob Fenton from the National Environment Centre on Tuesday 2nd July, 7.30pm at Baranduda Community Centre.

Rob will speak on the topic, "*Food production systems in uncertainty*" which is about developing robust food production systems, back yard and commercial scale in the face of the great uncertainties of climate change, peak oil and peak phosphorus. He will talk about farm scaping, agro-ecosystems, soil ecology & energy flows in food systems based on practical approaches used at the National Environmental Centre farm.

This meeting will also progress the planning and organisation for Baranduda's Landcare's 14th Annual Planet Ark School Tree Planting days. Stay tuned for details.



Photo: Constructing the paper, cardboard & woodchip low impact path at the Kergunyah Wetlands

KERGUNYAH-GUNDOWRING:

We had a great day finishing off our low-impact walking track at the Kergunyah Wetlands. The track now extends from the road to the Red Gum on the edge of the lagoon. It was fantastic to see a couple of new faces who proved to be very willing workers. We were also delighted to have local bird experts, Bernie & Glenda Datson on board. In the space of a couple of hours Bernie observed or heard over 50 different species. It is amazing what you can find when you look and listen. We also gave the Drone a spin and hope to do quarterly flights over the Wetlands to record and monitor seasonal changes. Now that the path is complete, we plan to undertake seasonal fauna and flora monitoring. Our next event will be in Spring. Further details to come.



KIEWA-BONEGILLA:

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

Photo by Tony Marsh taken at Bonegilla Grasslands – Tiny Star



UPPER KIEWA:

The transformation of the Rock Pool Rd area continues. A meeting was held with Parks Victoria and Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) in May to plan on-going works. This project would not have proceeded as well as it has without the mighty contribution of the Landmate team. This is a prime example of how important this program is, and why it not only should continue, but receive increased funding. The Rock Pool Rd project was recently featured on the front page of the *Kiewa Valley Observer* as well as featuring in an article in *The Age* in autumn.

We are planning a **Community Working Bee and Planting Day** on Sunday 28th July (Planet Ark Tree Day) from **1.00pm to 3.30pm**. This is a family-friendly event, and we hope you can join us, even if it is for an hour or so, or simply to check out the great work that already has been done. Photo: Planning meeting with Parks & DEPI held in May



YACKANDANDAH:

We had a lovely, albeit brisk morning at the Yackandandah markets. Many thanks to Clare & Pam for assisting with the Landcare display. It was a great opportunity to catch up with some of the locals and promote Landcare to the locals and visitors to the area. The Yack Folk Festival and Landcare partnership in 2012 has been recognised with a second plaque being placed at Yackandandah Creek. Many thanks to Matthew Charles-Jones for organising this. Many of last years planting did not survive the incredibly harsh summer, so this year we will focus on cleaning up the area and replacing the plants that did not survive. Details of this event will be circulated via email closer to the date. Photo by Matthew Charles-Jones of new plaque

LANDCARE DISPLAY AT KIEWA VALLEY MARKETS AT RUNNING CREEK



Thanks to everyone who visited the Landcare Display at the annual Markets at Running Creek. We had a range of items to distribute, including bio-degradable corn starch pens, dung beetle caps, Seasonal planting guides, Fox & Wild Dog DVDS, Weed identification booklets and the amazing flora and fauna brochures put out by DEPI (formerly DSE). Many thanks to Peter & Tina for all their help on the day. The dung beetle box proved to be a big hit with the kids!

PUBLIC GOES WILD FOR PEST ANIMAL APP: – Excerpt from Media Release, 9th May 2013



The new 'Field Guide to Pest Animals of Australia' App, is proving very popular since its release in late April, with over 2500 downloads in just two weeks.

The App is the first of its kind in Australia, with feral animal species descriptions, photo galleries, maps, animal calls, footprints, droppings and control techniques. People who download the App can also use it to access PestSmart Toolkits of information about feral animals, the [FeralScan website](http://FeralScan.website) where you can map where you have seen feral animals and record control activities undertaken, plus the www.feral.org.au website containing a wealth of feral animals information, making the App a handy tool for connecting users to other resources.

Once the App is downloaded, you can access species profile information whether you are in mobile phone reception or not. The App is compatible with iPhone, iPad and iPod devices. An Android version will be developed in the near future.

AUTUMN & WINTER DUNG BEETLES ON THE MOVE AGAIN!

After a couple of slow years, it appears the autumn/winter beetle *Bubas bison* is back again. Look out for piles of soil next to, or on top of dung pads (usually older dung pads). The other great news is that we have several reports of the summer/autumn beetle, *Geotrupes spiniger* catches, particularly in Lucyvale, where they were released in large numbers. For the first time, (that I know of), we had trappings of *Onthophagus binodis* in the Kiewa Valley. We are also very pleased to read in the MLA Feedback magazine that the Spring active beetles imported from France are progressing well. Fingers crossed that these introductions will be a success. Well done to MLA and CSIRO for funding/supporting these imports.

Landcare Calendar: Upcoming Activities, Events and Key dates:

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	RSVP/MORE INFORMATION
Tuesday 18 th June 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting	Peter & Rhonda's Running Creek	Jos McAlister 02 6027 1816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Tuesday 2 nd July 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Baranduda Landcare Meeting with Rob Felton	Baranduda Community Centre	Glen Johnson 0418 501 936 baranduda@landcarevic.net.au
Saturday 20 th July 1.30- 3.00pm	Tree sorting 14 th Annual Baranduda Planet Ark Tree Days	Barton Drive Baranduda	Glen Johnson 0418 501 936 baranduda@landcarevic.net.au
Tuesday 16 th July 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting	To be advised	Jos McAlister 02 6027 816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Sunday 21 st July 1.30pm – 4.00pm (to be confirmed)	Working Bee & Planting Day along Yackandandah Ck.	Meet at Yack Sports Centre Car Park	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Wed 24 th to 26 th July	Baranduda 14 th Annual Planet Ark School Tree Planting Days	Frayne College Baranduda Primary Trinity College	Glen Johnson baranduda@landcarevic.net.au 0418 501 936
Sunday 28 th July 9.45am – 2.00pm	Baranduda 14 th Annual Planet Ark Community Tree Day	Baranduda Boulevard Middle Creek Bridge	Glen Johnson baranduda@landcarevic.net.au 0418 501 936
Sunday 28 th July 1.00pm – 3.30pm	Rock Pool Rd Working Bee	Meet at the new Rock Pool Rd car park	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 Alan McDonald 03 5754 1000
Saturday 24 th August	30 th Anniversary Celebrations, Winner of Big Tree Comp. announced	Kergunyah	Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au

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 Electronic Funds Transfer.

Bank Account details:

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups, Commonwealth Bank

BSB: 063-534

Account Number: 000902483

****Please include your surname as a reference & email Jos your payment date**** mcalistertojo@live.com

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 – August/September, please send any news items/photos to Belinda by 31st July 2013