



October/November 2013 NEWSLETTER

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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

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



BIG TREE COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED, *River Red Gum takes the prize*



Many thanks to everyone who entered the competition and to our sponsors, North East Catchment Management Authority and Our Native Garden. We received 51 fantastic entries. The announcements were made at the 30th Anniversary Celebrations of Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups on Saturday 24th August 2013. Congratulations to all of our finalists and winners. Special thanks to Neil McCarthy, CEO of North East Catchment Management Authority who was the competition judge and Bill Tilley MP who assisted with the presentation of prizes.

BEST SCHOOL ENTRY:

Dederang Primary School

BEST REVEGETATION PROJECT:

Jocelyn & Tony McAlister, Bruarong

FAVOURITE TREE:

Joint winners:

Amelia Thorpe - "The Lonely Tree" & Rosalie Creamer - "The Magic Tree"

Runners-up:

Matt Charles-Jones - "Tree Poem" & Jenny Wallace - "The Struggle Trees"



Photos:

Left: Favourite tree joint winner: "The Magic Tree" entered by Rosalie Creamer

Right: Favourite tree joint winner: "The Lonely Tree" entered by Amelia Thorpe.

You can read all the favourite trees entries on the Landcare website.

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

BIGGEST TREE (DEAD):

Winner: **Jenny Wallace**

~850 cm in circumference at 1.3 metres above ground level

Tree location: Kiewa alongside Kiewa Valley Highway

BIGGEST TREE (LIVING):

Winner: **Liz & Ken Fuchsen**

~930cm in circumference at 1.3 metres above ground level

River Red Gum located on Bonegilla floodplains



Photos:

Left: Big Tree Competition winners & finalists. Liz and Ken Fuchsen (front) with the trophy for the biggest living tree.

Right: This mighty River Red Gum located on the Bonegilla floodplains had a circumference of ~930cm and was the competition winner. Lyn Coulston (NECMA Chair) and Neil McCarthy (NECMA CEO) verify the tree's measurements.

Runners-up: (Biggest Living Tree)

James & Cathy Wallace ~900cm, tree location: Kergunyah

Kelvin Barton ~900cm, tree Location: Kiewa

Jim Crebbins ~900cm, tree location: Tawonga Gap (Jumbo Tree)

U3A Bushwalking Club ~900cm (also the Jumbo Tree)

The challenge is now on to see if there is a living tree that has a circumference (at 1.3 metres above ground level) greater than 930cm. Please let Landcare know if you think you have found a challenger!

“INDIGENOUS USE OF FIRE” FORUM: Wednesday 20th November

Keynote speaker: Professor Bill Gammage – author of “*The Biggest Estate on Earth*”.

We are absolutely delighted to announce that Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups in conjunction with North East Catchment Management Authority (Indigenous Liaison) will host a forum on *Indigenous Use of Fire*, to be held on Wednesday 20th November (time and venue to be confirmed). Forum speakers will include: Professor Bill Gammage, Dr Fred Cahir and Dr Beth Gott. This is an amazing opportunity to learn about how Aboriginals used fire to manage and shape the landscape, and how Traditional Knowledge can be applied to current management practices.

About the presenters:



Bill Gammage is an adjunct professor in the Humanities Research Centre at the Australian National University researching Aboriginal land management. Bill's scope is cross-disciplinary, working across fields such as history, anthropology and botany. His book *The Biggest Estate on Earth: How Aborigines made Australia* (2011) has won the 2012 Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History, the 2011 Manning Clark House National Cultural Awards, the 2012 Queensland Literary Award and the 2012 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for non-fiction.



Dr Fred Cahir is a Senior Lecturer and Indigenous Studies Co-ordinator at the University of Ballarat. Fred's thesis *Black Gold: Aboriginal Peoples and Gold in Victoria, 1850-1870* was awarded the prestigious Alan Martin Award (2008) by the Australian Historical Association and Australian National University. Fred's recent publications include; *Black Gold: Aboriginal People on the Goldfields* (2012) which is short-listed for the 2013 Victorian Community History Award and *The Aboriginal story of Burke and Wills* (2013).



Dr Beth Gott is an Honorary Research Fellow at Monash University and is a highly experienced ethnobotanist. Whilst lecturing in America, Beth's worked with an Anthropologist specialising in studies of the Connecticut American Indians. Upon returning to Australia, Beth identified plant material from Victorian archaeological Aboriginal sites, and began her Australian ethnobotanical studies of plant use and management. Beth has established the Aboriginal Gardens at Monash University which showcases plants eaten and used by the first people of south-eastern Australia.

****STAY TUNED FOR FURTHER DETAILS – YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER TO ATTEND THIS EVENT ****



BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR BORROWING

Landcare has several copies of Bill's multi-award winning book, *The Biggest Estate on Earth – How Aborigines made Australia* available for borrowing.

Bill's thought provoking and meticulously researched book has been described as “essential reading for all Australians”.

If you would like to borrow a copy, please contact Belinda;

Email: belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au , Phone: 0407 227 814

SPRING WILDFLOWER TOUR – Mount Big Ben, Sunday 10th November

You are invited to experience our beautiful wildflowers and learn more about their ecology. This is a combined event with Albury Wodonga Field Naturalists. Our guide will be environmental horticulturalist Glenda Datson.

When: Sunday 10th November

Meeting points & times:

1. Acacia Car Park, Wodonga at 9.30am
2. Corner of Dederang Rd and Mt Big Ben Lane, Glen Creek at 10.15am

What to wear: Hat, sunscreen, sturdy shoes

What to bring: Picnic lunch & drink, camera, notebook, (chair or rug if desired)

All participants will receive a copy of the North East Wildflower brochure. The unsealed road to the top of Big Ben is accessible by two-wheel drive vehicles. We will stop at various points along the way and have lunch at the top.

This event is suitable for all fitness levels

Please let Belinda know if you would like to attend, and please indicate if you have a spare seat in your car that you are willing to share, or if you would like to get a ride with other participants.

Email: belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au , Phone: 0407 227 814

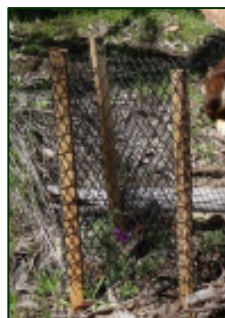
SUBGROUP NEWS & EVENTS: *Make the most of events & activities ~ ALL WELCOME ~*

BARANDUDA: Coal Seam Gas Film night & 2013 Swainsona sericea survey



Baranduda Landcare hosted a “Coal Seam Gas” film night in conjunction with Wodonga Albury Towards Climate Health (WATCH) in September to highlight the issues of CSG mining. Over 25 people attended and the films demonstrated the potentially devastating environmental and social impacts of coal seam gas and coal mining, and also the incredible power of people acting as a community.

**Photos: Left - Participants at the Coal Seam Gas film night
Below – The threatened Silky Swainson-pea in flower**



Threatened species: Silky Swainson-pea, *Swainsona sericea* 2013 survey report by Glen Johnson

Three new sites were established and recorded for new plants found and generally plants were in good condition with a reasonable number of plants in flower this year.

Five of eight of the 2012 plantings (with special *Swainsona* inoculant) were still alive. Browsing and grazing is still an issue - hence the ongoing need for protection of plants.

UPPER KIEWA: Revegetation Trials at Bohuns Lane, Upper Gundowring



Work has commenced on revegetation trials at Upper Gundowring. The aim is to demonstrate best practice techniques in three traditionally “difficult” areas.

1. Areas prone to flooding
2. Under established trees and
3. Steep dry banks

The project is being overseen by ecologist, Jill Dawson and is funded by the Victorian Landcare Grants program.

KIEWA CATCHMENT NURSERY UPDATE – *Upcoming working bee*



We will be having a “potting up” working bee at the Landcare Nursery at Running Creek towards the end of the year. We will transfer plants from the small hiko trays to forestry tubes for planting out in 2014.

This is an opportunity to learn more about plant species indigenous to the Kiewa Catchment.

Details of the working bee will be sent out via email.

Landcare Calendar: Upcoming Activities, Events and Key dates:

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	RSVP/MORE INFORMATION
Tuesday 15 th October 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting	Tangambalanga Community Centre 25 Kiewa East Rd.	Jos McAlister 02 6027 816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Sunday 10 th November 9.30am Wodonga 10.15am Glen Creek	Mount Big Ben Wildflower tour with Glenda Datson	Mount Big Ben Access from Dederang Rd, Glen Creek	Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcare.vic.net.au 0407 227 814
Tuesday 19 th November 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting	To be advised	Jos McAlister 02 6027 816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Wednesday 20 th November 1.30pm – 5.00pm	Indigenous Use of Fire forum with Professor Bill Gammage	To be advised	Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcare.vic.net.au 0407 227 814
To be advised	“Potting up” working bee	Landcare Nursery Running Creek	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcare.vic.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 – December/January, please send any news items/photos to Belinda by 30th November