



Landcare

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER:

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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



Kiewa AGM – Changes to executive positions

The July AGM saw a number of changes to the Kiewa Executive. We would like to sincerely thank Bob Gough for his steadfast leadership and dedication as President for the past six years. We also wish to express our gratitude to Kathy Jelicic, who has been our Treasurer for a mighty 10 years. This has been an extraordinary commitment, and we have benefited greatly from Kathy's command of all things financial. Congratulations are extended to our new office bearers, Peter Serpell (President), Brian Lane (Vice President) and Julie Pearce (Treasurer) on their appointments. Many thanks are also extended to all of the Office bearers and Subgroup representatives for their valuable contributions.

Next Executive Meeting: Tuesday 17th August, 7.30pm at Peter & Rhonda Serpell's, Running Ck.

Please forward any agenda items to: Tony McAlister (contact details are at end of newsletter)

Kiewa River – “Premier Fishing River” – Funding opportunities

As part of the Victorian Government's *Moving Forward* action plan for growth in Provincial Victoria, recreational fishing has been recognised as a major social and economic contributor to local economies. The Kiewa River has been recently named as one of three “Premier Fishing Rivers” in Victoria. The Department of Primary Industries “Recreational Fishing Grants Program” provides small and large grants (\$5,000, & up to \$100,000) for one or more of four project areas:



- Recreational fishing access and facilities
- Recreational fisheries' sustainability and habitat improvement
- Recreational fisheries-related education, information and training
- Recreational fisheries research

The small grants funding can be used to implement or upgrade existing recreational fishing facilities, and can include activities such as directional and information signage, fence-styles/gates to gain or improve access to fishing locations, access paths, stairs & walkways, fishing workshops and events.

This could be a potential Landcare project, particularly at bridge crossing points. If you would be interested in putting together a project proposal, please let Belinda know. More information about the grants can be accessed by entering “DPI Recreational Fishing Grants Program” into your internet search engine.

Baranduda “Bush Guardians” application success

Congratulations to Baranduda Landcare Group on their successful “Bush Guardians” funding application. Funds will be used to facilitate blackberry (and other woody weeds) control in the Baranduda Parkland Estate



Nest Box Monitoring Update – Threatened species found

We would like to welcome the 1st Baranduda Scout Venturers Group's Thomas Bowran and Andrew Hilditch, who are among a group seeking to obtain their Queens Scout Environmental Badge. They have recently completed monitoring of 43 Baranduda Landcare nest boxes. Results have included first time records (for Chapple Lane) of Tuans (Brush-tail Phascogale – Baranduda Landcare Group logo symbol) plus another threatened species: Squirrel Glider. A fantastic outcome.

Subgroup News & Events: All welcome to any of the subgroup meetings, activities or projects.



BARANDUDA: Sun 1st Aug: Forty hardy participants endured rain and cold winds to mark our 11th Annual Planet Ark Community Tree Day – this year a cooperative event with Wodonga Council.

Approx 800 natives were planted with stakes and guards. Photo album link: <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/baranduda/album/revegetation/planet-ark-11>.

Baranduda Landcare also arranged plantings for all three Baranduda Schools with over 350 students planting over 2000 natives.

Meeting: Wednesday 8th Sept, 7.30pm at the Baranduda Community Centre.

Spring bird walk/survey with Bernie Datson: Sunday 12th September, 8.30am – 10.30am, meet at Baranduda Community Centre car park.

Bush Walk – Threatened Flora Silky Swainson Pea, 3rd Annual Baranduda Parklands & Regional Park Survey: Sunday 19th September, 10.00am, meet at Baranduda Community Centre car park.

7th Annual Birdscaping your Garden Open Day – Water wise, bird attracting native garden walks: Sunday 18th October, 1.30pm, Meeting place details to be confirmed.

Contact Glen Johnson for further information – 02 6020 8667 <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/baranduda/events>



KERGUNYAH: 4WD Native Vegetation Discovery Day: – October, details to follow in the next newsletter

If you would like to see the Kergunyah group meet on a regular basis, please contact either:

Rowan Wallace – 02 6027 5227, or Noelene Wallace – 02 6027 5322



UPPER KIEWA:

Planting Day: Sunday 8th August, 10am start, 789 Mountain Creek Road, Tawonga
Free BBQ lunch and bring something extra to share

RSVP to Pat Smart 02 6028 9007

Please bring boots, gloves, cold drinks, planting tools if you have them

Planting Day: Date/time to be advised at Jeff & Libby Robinson's

Upper Kiewa Annual General Meeting: Sunday 17th October, 12pm

336 Mullagong Road, Upper Gundowring (Pat Smart's place). Free BBQ lunch and

bring something extra to share. We are seeking nominations for Upper Kiewa President & Secretary as both Pat Smart and Judith Samways will be stepping down in October. If you're interested, please give Pat Smart a call on 02 6028 9007.



YACKANDANDAH: Yackandandah Subgroup did its bit for National Tree Day by planting trees on the Yack. Ck. We are waiting confirmation on an "Orchid walk" with the International Students Rural weekend on Saturday 11th Sep.

Meeting: Tuesday 10th August, 7.30pm at YCEN with Rebecca Damm, Project Officer Kiewa Catchment from NE Catchment Management Authority. Rebecca will provide an overview of the work undertaken and plans for the Yackandandah Ck. This talk will tie in with the talk by Emma Nilsson in October on the Waterwatch program being undertaken on Yack. Ck. Speakers usually present for about 20 minutes with the opportunity for audience questions. Supper will be provided, please RSVP to Jos.

Working Bee at "Yackandandah Creek": Sunday 29th August, 10.00am -12noon

Working Bee at "The Patch of Bush": Sunday 26th September, 10.00am -12noon

Meeting: Tuesday 12th October, 7.30pm at YCEN. Emma Nilsson a Community Liaison/Waterwatch Facilitator with NE CMA and Bernadette Cudars, Waterwatch Volunteer for Yack Creek will discuss the Waterwatch program and the Yack Creek. They will provide results from the monitoring and information on the future direction of the Yack Creek project.

Contact Jos McAlister for further information, or to RSVP if you are attending the next meeting – 02 6027 1816

Planning your Farm Revegetation: PLANNING = PREPAREDNESS

Know more about your land, create a valuable information resource for you and your Landcare group, be ready to grab opportunities.

Most grant applications now require a high level of site detail including maps and agreements. This means that for the Landcare Group to apply for funding, they need all the site details before the short application process begins. There is currently little support that allows the Landcare Coordinator to go out and work out the site details.

The *Landscape Scale Biodiversity Conservation project* helps landholders build vegetation management into their farm plan – which could include works that might be eligible for funding at various times. This project will provide training and assistance in using mapping and planning tools to enable landholders to develop long-term farm vegetation plans.

This project and others use E-farmer, an internet based system that provides a mapping and planning tool that enables groups and individuals to prepare their projects in advance. Landholders can update their information at any time that suits. Once your proposed works are on E-farmer, you can submit your sites for consideration for funding, either by the Landcare Group, CMA or other programs.

If you have already used E-farmer, a short refresher session will show you how to build your farm vegetation plan. If you have not, training can be provided to show you how to create your farm plan using E-farmer.

For more information or expressions of interest please contact:

Klaus Boelke: 0428 444190, Simon Feillafe: 0417 655 462 or Geoff McKernan: 0429 928 654

Email: necma@necma.vic.gov.au or go to www.necma.vic.gov.au

“Community Action Grant” Earthworm Project funding successful



Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group was successful in securing a “Community Action Grant – Sustainable Farming” to establish five nursery sites for the deep-burrowing earthworm *Aporrectodea longa* (The long worm). *A.longa* is approximately 90-170mm in length, and 4–9mm in diameter. There are currently no known sub-soil earthworms in south-eastern Australian pastures, so once established, this earthworm will provide substantial benefits to soil fertility, through more efficient nutrient cycling, water infiltration & improvements to sub-soil structure.

This earthworm will be sourced from Northern Tasmania, and five trial sites will be established in various soil types across the North East. If you would like to receive the quarterly Earthworm Project newsletter, please let Belinda know (02 6027 5294 or abanas@bigpond.com). Recipients of the Dung Beetle newsletter will automatically be placed on the earthworm newsletter mailing list.

Seeking Hosts for International Rural Weekend Break

La Trobe University is seeking local people to host international students for the weekend of Friday 10th September to Sunday 12th September. Each year students from overseas come to study at La Trobe University campuses. Students from the Bundoora Campus, Melbourne often ask to learn about rural and family life in Australia. Many are interested in the environment and farms. To give these metropolitan students an opportunity to widen their understanding the International Student Office runs a *Weekend Break* program – about 20 students come up to Albury-Wodonga and stay with local people in their homes, sharing in their weekend activities. Students who have visited for a weekend in the past have often said that they learned a lot and, for some, their stay with local families was their best experience during their time in Australia. The weekend’s itinerary is:

- Friday 10th September, 6.00pm at La Trobe, Albury-Wodonga campus *Get-to-know-you Dinner* for students and hosts. Hosts will be introduced to their student(s) and will take them home for the weekend. Students join in with normal family activities. They are likely to be interested in cooking, sport, collecting wood, photo albums and family life.
- Saturday, possible Landcare orchid walk (to be confirmed). Often hosts join up with others to do an activity or share a meal.
- Sunday, 12th September about 2.00pm (time to be confirmed), host takes the student(s) to either Albury Railway Station, or Yackandandah Post Office for bus pick up, to return to Melbourne by train.

This is an opportunity to make international contacts and to share Australian culture and rural life with young people from other cultures. The International students are university students from overseas countries studying at La Trobe’s Bundoora campus, Melbourne. They are all over 18 years and many will be older postgraduates. To register as a host or to ask for further information please contact Clare Cunnington, Co-ordinator: International Student Support Services, La Trobe University, Albury-Wodonga Campus. Phone: 0260 249774, Mobile 0417 386 515 or email iso.aw@latrobe.edu.au



Landcare always needs members!
 Please pass this newsletter on to a person who might be interested in joining.

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group Contact List:

President	Peter Serpell	02 6028 9356	Vice President	Brian Lane	02 6027 1433
Secretary	Tony McAlister	02 6027 1816	Treasurer	Julie Pearce	02 6027 5286
Group Contacts:					
Baranduda	Glen Johnson	02 6020 8667	Kiewa-Bonegilla	Mat Ley	02 6027 3262
Upper Kiewa	Pat Smart	02 6028 9007	Kergunyah	Rowan Wallace	02 6027 5227
Leneva	Ken Proctor	02 6024 6964	Yackandandah	Jos McAlister	02 6027 1816
Equipment hire: Drills and spray units					
Brian Lane	02 6027 1433	Peter Serpell	02 6028 9356	Rod Mitchell	02 6027 5155
Project Management & Newsletter: Belinda Pearce 02 6027 5294 abanas@bigpond.com					

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Do you need to renew your membership? Please check the expiry date on your membership card.

Incorporating Baranduda, Kiewa-Bonegilla, Kergunyah, Leneva, Upper Kiewa & Yackandandah subgroups

The executive Committee has set the subscription at \$15.00 per year. (a family is one membership).

Consider subscribing for more than one year to reduce postage costs. Better still, consider electronic mail if you are renewing your subscription (and your details are the same). Simply forward a cheque to the Membership Secretary, or pay by direct credit.

Direct Credit: Bank Account details: Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups,
 Commonwealth Bank Wodonga

BSB: 063-534

Account Number: 902483

Please include your surname and initials as a reference

NAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS (if different) _____

TELEPHONE _____ MOBILE _____ EMAIL _____

SUBSCRIPTION: ___ 1 yr \$15.00 ___ 2yrs \$30.00 ___ 3yrs \$45.00 ___ Other x \$15.00

SUBGROUP: ___ Barandudua ___ Leneva ___ Kiewa-Bonegilla ___ Kergunyah ___ Upper Kiewa ___ Yackandandah

SIGNATURE _____ Number of people covered by this membership _____

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

If you have any items for inclusion in our next newsletter, please send to Belinda by 30th September.