



June/July 2015 NEWSLETTER

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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

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



Victorian Government Landcare Facilitation program funded for a further four years!



We are delighted that the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water, Lisa Neville has committed \$3.2 million to fund Victoria's 68 Landcare facilitator positions for another four years. The Minister stated; *"Local volunteers know what needs to be done to get the best outcome for their region. We are supporting facilitators to empower locals to act for their environment. A healthy environment provides the best quality of life for our communities. Landcare facilitators support local groups, projects and initiatives across the state to preserve the environment"*.

Photo: Hon Lisa Neville, Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water



This is fantastic news, and we wish to extend a huge measure of thanks to the many people who worked behind the scenes to make this funding a reality. The Victorian Landcare Council (VLC) played an instrumental role in securing this positive outcome. The VLC was established in 2008 to present the interests of Landcare to governments and agencies. It is a voluntary organisation comprised of Landcare representatives from across the State. Rowan Wallace is our Kiewa Catchment representative. For more information about VLC and their great work go to: <http://www.vlc.org.au/>

Vale Joan Kirner – A "Land Care" Legend! (abridged version from "The Conversation" by Andrew Campbell)



<http://theconversation.com/joan-kirner-united-farmers-and-conservationists-to-care-for-the-land-42746>

In the views of many, Joan Kirner's most enduring legacy will be Australia's landcare movement, beginning in Victoria and spreading nationally. In 1985, Joan's new department of Conservation, Forests and Lands brought together five separate agencies (the Forests Commission, National Parks, Fisheries and Wildlife, Lands, and the Soil Conservation Authority) that had overlapping roles but very different institutional cultures. It required considerable skill to get this new department working cohesively

The new department needed to work across private and public lands to tackle issues at a large scale (such as erosion, salinity, pests and weeds), and they needed to involve the community. From prior experience in soil conservation, senior officials knew that individual landholders and local communities need to "own the problem" and be involved in designing and implementing solutions to ensure lasting environmental improvement.

Senior soil conservation staff designed a new program in late 1985 to support voluntary neighbourhood groups to tackle land degradation problems, which they proposed to call Total Land Care. When the Minister saw the acronym, she stated that she definitely did not want to be known as "the Minister for TLC!", so it became Land Care, soon shortened to LandCare. The pioneering Victorian program was born, and the first group was launched at Winjallock in 1986.

Crucially, Joan understood that the new program needed bipartisan support. Joan invited Heather Mitchell, then President of the Victorian Farmers' Federation to co-Chair the program. This formidable duo emphasised the partnership at the heart of LandCare. The number of groups grew rapidly, building on the network of Farm Tree Groups and soil conservation groups across the state. Within five years, LandCare involved more than one third of farming families — an extraordinary achievement on a relatively modest budget. *Photo: Joan Kirner speaking at Beechworth in the 1990's*

Rabbit numbers on the rise: *The Glovebox Management Guide from Pest Smart*



We are receiving reports of increasing numbers of rabbits across the Catchment. Rabbits "breed like rabbits" and a single pair can increase in 18 months to 184 individuals! So, what can you do to control rabbits? The *"Glovebox Guide for Managing Rabbits"* outlines best practice management tools and strategies, including Poison baiting, Warren ripping, Fencing, Fumigation, Shooting, trapping & ferreting, Aversion techniques & Biological control. You can download a copy at: <http://www.pestsmart.org.au/pestsmart-glovebox-guide-for-managing-rabbits/>

Copies of the guide are also available from McDonald Meats in Mt Beauty or the Dederang Store. If you would like a copy posted out to you, please contact Belinda, Phone: 0407 227 814, email: belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au.

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

BARANDUDA: *Willow piles are going up in smoke (from Baranduda Landcare Facebook page)*



Willow piles are going up in smoke, willow regrowth has been sprayed and a widened Creek frontage is taking shape! Thanks to a fantastic partnership between a local landholder, Parklands Albury Wodonga, the Australian Government's Green Army Programme, City of Wodonga, NECMA and Baranduda Landcare – a widened area of Middle Creek waterfrontage will be available for our 16th Annual Planet Ark Community Tree Planting day (mark 26th July in your diary now!).

KERGUNYAH/GUNDOWRING: *Turtle Workshop – We've changed the date... AGAIN!!! ***FRIDAY 10th JULY****



Due to a clash with a major turtle event in South Australia, the Turtles workshop has been moved to Friday 10th July. We will kick off at 7.30pm at the Kergunyah Hall. This will be an opportunity to learn about the biology of freshwater turtles, identification, threats and how to enhance and protect their habitat.

Graeme from "Turtles Australia" will also bring along some live specimens and talk about the research work this voluntary organisation is undertaking. We will conclude with a light supper. This is a family friendly event. **ALL WELCOME** – Bookings essential, Phone: 0407 227 814, email: belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au

UPPER KIEWA: *Work continues at Mt Beauty Project sites – Rockpool Road and Junction Creek Gully*



The Junction Gully is now home to a collection of new tree ferns in a range of sizes, compliments of funding support from Alpine Shire. John Gibbons has been instrumental in obtaining funding, and organising the delivery of the plants. Friends of the gully (pictured left) volunteers set to work to placing the ferns in the gully and the Landmate team finished the job several days later.

The Green Army is now working in the Gully undertaking hand removal of weeds and some spraying. The current Green Army will finish their program on the 3rd July. Landcare will have a "Thank-you" BBQ on the 1st July at Rock Pool Rd Project site. There is potential for another Green Army team to undertake work in the Upper Kiewa area in the future. Watch this space...

Mountain Tussock grass natural regeneration at Rockpool Rd

It has been very pleasing to see the high level of natural regeneration at the Rockpool Rd site following the removal of blackberry and other woody weeds.

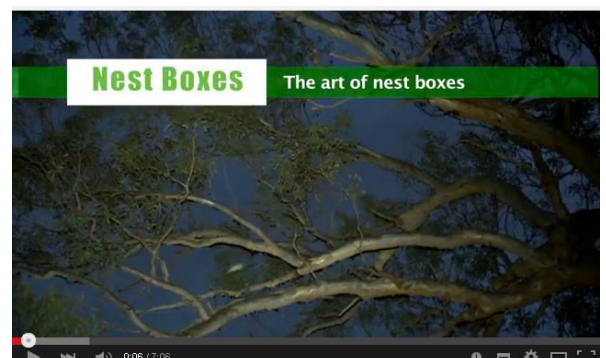
The Landmate team had done a remarkable job clearing the blackberry. The picture on the left is of an area that was completely covered with blackberries. The team sprayed the blackberries, and when they had died off, cut and placed them in piles (the brown strips in the photo). These piles are naturally degenerating. The cleared area is now covered with Mountain Tussock Grass (the green in the foreground of the photo). What a great result!

New Nest Boxes film featuring Baranduda Landcare

This is the latest video in a series of videos produced by the Regional Landcare Facilitator – Kelly Behrens. This seven minute film is a wonderful educational resource and provides practical information on the importance of hollows, nest box placement, the species that use nest boxes, the importance of landscape connectivity and biodiversity, and monitoring techniques.

You can view this film and others at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/northeastcma>



Native Plant Suppliers Contacts in our area

We have had several enquiries asking us where people can source native plants that our indigenous to area. The following list of contacts may be of assistance (in alphabetical order).

Nursery	Where	Phone	Website
Jayfields Nursery	25km north of Holbrook	02 6036 7235	https://www.jayfieldsnursery.com/
Our Native Garden	Wodonga Waste Transfer Station 29 Kane Rd. Wodonga	0418 597 331	http://ournativegarden.com.au/
Park Lane Nursery	95 Park Lane, Wangaratta	03 5721 6955	http://www.parklanenursery.com.au/
Sandy Creek Trees	416 Gap Flat Rd, Allans Flat	02 6027 1497	http://sandycreektrees.com.au/

The other question we are often asked is *“How do I know what plants are Indigenous to my area?”*

There are plant lists available from the following site:

<http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/r/f/resources/native-plant-lists>

For Kiewa Catchment, look for the list that matches most closely to your area:

- Mid Kiewa native plant list
- Upper Ovens – Upper Kiewa native plant list
- Wodonga area native plant list

Second automated reel purchased for Landcare Spray Unit



Photo: Spray Gun donated by Flower Macklan to go with our second automated reel

We were fortunate to receive funding through the Victorian Landcare Grants program to purchase a second automated reel with 100 metres of hose. This will be fitted by our volunteers to the spray unit over the coming months.

We would like to thank Flower Macklan for donating a quality spray hand gun. Landcare is committed to helping Landholders control weeds, and it is encouraging to have the help of local businesses in achieving this aim.

Landcare Calendar: Upcoming Activities, Events and Key dates:

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	RSVP/MORE INFORMATION
Wednesday 1 st July	Landcare Green Army Thank-you BBQ	Rockpool Rd Project Site Mt Beauty	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Friday 10 th July 7.30pm	Turtle Information Session	Kergunyah Hall	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Wednesday 15 th July 7.30pm	Kiewa Exec Meeting	Brian Lane's	Jos McAlister – Secretary 02 6027 1816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Sunday 26 th July	National Planet Ark Tree Day	Baranduda/Middle Ck.	Contact Baranduda Landcare Glen Johnson baranduda@landcarevic.net.au
Thursday 6 th August	Student Environment Day Volunteers welcome!	The Cube Wodonga	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Wednesday 19 th August 7.30pm	Kiewa Exec Meeting	To be advised	Jos McAlister – Secretary 02 6027 1816 mcalistertojo@live.com

Keep up-to-date with Natural Resource Management events and news from across the North East: –
Simply send an email to: news@necma.vic.gov.au with the subject *“SUBSCRIBE”*

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 spray unit with Quik Spray & Wick wiper	Peter Serpell 02 6028 9356 Trailing seed drill & chemical spray unit	Rod Mitchell 02 6027 5 155 Chemical spray unit & Rabbit ripper	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 BBQ trailer & Tree poppers		
Project Manager, Landcare Facilitator & Newsletter: Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au					

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL: – Choose what option suits you best...

Join or renew online at: <http://kiewacatchmentlandcare.org.au> (online system accepts PayPal & Credit Card payments)

Our subgroups are: Baranduda, Kiewa-Bonegilla, Kergunyah-Gundowring, Upper Kiewa and Yackandandah

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.

CHEQUE PAYMENTS

Simply forward a cheque made out to “Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups” and your membership form to the Membership Secretary, Jos McAlister, 8 Barlow Lane, Bruarong 3749.

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups, Commonwealth Bank BSB: 063-534 Account Number: 000902483

Please include your surname as a reference on transfers and email Jos your payment date and membership form mcalistertojo@live.com. (We need all your details so that we can process your membership).

KIEWA CATCHMENT LANDCARE MEMBERSHIP FORM – NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

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

Next Newsletter – Aug/Sep, please send any news items/photos to Belinda by 31st July