



# Landcare

## JUNE 2010 NEWSLETTER: Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

Visit us on the web at: <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au>

Welcome to the June edition of the Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group newsletter. Your comments, suggestions and contributions are always welcome. Our newsletter is issued on a bi-monthly basis, so please send any items to Belinda by the 31<sup>st</sup> July. Contact details are provided at the end of the newsletter. The next executive meeting will be held on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June** (to be confirmed). For input, please phone our secretary, Tony McAlister on 02 6027 1816.

## UPCOMING AGM: Guest Speaker, Joy Sloan, DPI Fisheries



The AGM will be at the Kergunyah Hall, 7.30pm on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July**. If you would like to nominate for a position, please contact the secretary by Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June. We are very pleased to have Joy Sloan (DPI Fisheries) as our guest speaker. Joy will speak on:

- The Kiewa River as a Premier Fishing River
- The "Angler Diary Program" – what's it all about
- Murray Cod Research (including the use of tracking devices)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Funding Update

Jos McAlister is finalising 2009/2010 revegetation projects in Baranduda, Kancoona, Sandy Creek and Upper Kiewa, and a number of projects have been approved under 2010/2011 funding in Upper Gundowring, Tawonga, Kergunyah and Yackandandah areas.

Expressions of interest are being sought from landholders wanting to reduce stream/gully erosion and/or increase biodiversity on their properties through revegetation. Landcare can provide some assistance towards the cost of fencing and the supply of plants, guards and stakes. Projects must meet criteria in relation to plantings widths (usually 20 metres) and species selections. Plant species lists for Wodonga, mid-Kiewa and Upper Kiewa can be accessed by entering either "mid Kiewa native plant list" (includes Yackandandah area) or "upper Kiewa native plant list" into an internet search engine. For more information, please contact Belinda.

## Looking for bright ideas...



Funding is available to run some Field Days & Workshops over the next 12 months.

What would you like to see offered?

Some suggestions to date have included:

- workshops on biological controls of weeds such as Paterson's Curse,
- seed collection days,
- guide to revegetation, plant what, where, why & how, with visits to reveg sites.

## Sub-Group News & Events:

All welcome to any of the Sub-Group meetings, activities or projects.

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**BARANDUDA:** Next Meeting: **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July**, 7.30pm at the Baranduda Community Centre

Upcoming Activities:



*Plant Ark Tree Day planning: **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July**, 10am–12noon, Barton Drive, Baranduda. Allocation and distribution of trees and shrubs for Plant Ark Day. Volunteers are invited to assist with planning & preparation for National Tree Day.*

*Planet Ark Scool Tree Planting Day: **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July**, 10.00am-12noon, Baranduda Primary School*

*Plant Ark School Tree Planting Day: **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July**, 10.00am-2noon, Frayne College, Baranduda*

*Plant Ark School Tree Planting Day: **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July**, 10.00am-12noon, Trinity College, Baranduda*

*Baranduda Landcare, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Plant Ark Tree Planting: **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August**, 10.00am-1.00pm*

Contact Glen Johnson for further information – 02 6020 8667

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**KERGUNYAH:** 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

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**UPPER KIEWA:** The planting day planned for May 30<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to wet weather. The next planting day will be on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June**, 10.00am-12noon, at Junction Ck., Tawonga Sth., with a BBQ funded by Landcare. Wear waterproof shoes or gumboots, work clothes and gloves. Please bring a salad or sweet to share. For more information contact

Pat Smart – 02 6028 9007, or Kathy Gunn 03 5754 4817

Pat has offered to assist people who are planning revegetation projects in the Upper Kiewa with plant species selections and site considerations.

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**YACKANDANDAH:** Next Meeting: **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June**, 7.30pm at YCEN with Guest speaker

We are really starting to see results from our constant working bees to target weeds. They are diminishing in the areas that we frequent regularly. There is an area where the blackberries and gorse have really started to take off again, as they are in places that are inaccessible with the tow behind spray unit.

A working bee using backpacks will be organised later in the year on the northern side of the creek. Spot spraying has been undertaken and revegetation will begin at our next working bee

*Working Bee at “The Patch of Bush”, **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June**, 10.00am-12noon.*

*Working Bee at “Yackandandah Creek”, **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July**, 10.00am-12noon*

Contact Jos McAlister for more information - 02 6027 1816

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**Landcare always needs members!**

**Please pass this newsletter on to a person who might be interested in joining.**

**Do you need to renew your membership? Check the expiry date on your membership card.**

## “Do it with Dung” Project Update



The main beetle species currently active is *Bubas bison*. This is a shiny black beetle, approximately 13-20mm in length. The male has two horns on the head and a protruding shoulder horn on the mid-section. The female is a similar colour, but does not have any horns. The beetles fly at dusk and dawn, and are expected to be active until early Spring. Look for soil casts around dung pads and holes under pads.



Monitoring in the Kiewa Valley has shown a patchy distribution of this species. Good numbers have been trapped and observed at Yackandandah, Kergunyah, Dederang, Leneva and Upper Gundowring. This species is not established at Tawonga, however we expect this species to become established from our 2009 releases.

Pictured: Upper - male *Bubas bison*, Lower – female *Bubas bison*

## Regent Honeyeaters released in Chiltern-Mt Pilot – Reprint from ABC News



A group of critically endangered Regent Honeyeater birds were released into the wild in North East Victoria as part of a national program to help the species. The Department of Sustainability and Environment says there are fewer than one thousand Regent Honeyeaters left in Australia, and only one hundred in Victoria. Recovery co-ordinator, Dean Ingwersen says that 44 birds were released into the Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park in May. Twenty-five of these birds are wearing radio transmitters that will be used to track the birds. The birds were bred at Taronga Zoo in Sydney, and it is hoped they will breed with wild birds.

All landholders are asked to keep an eye out for Regent Honeyeaters over the coming months and especially look for and record colour leg (both left and right) band combinations. Please notify Glen Johnson as soon as any sightings are made - 02 6020 8667.

## Minimising the risk of *Neospora canium*: controlling wild dogs and foxes

*Neospora canium* has recently been confirmed at a property in the Valley. *Neospora* is a microscopic parasite that is considered a major cause of cattle abortion. The dog (including foxes and wild dogs) has been recognised as a host of the parasite and becomes infected after eating infected foetal calf tissue or afterbirth. The dogs pass parasite eggs in their faeces for several weeks. It is assumed that cows ingest eggs from contaminated pastures. Cows can act as carriers and pass infections onto their calves. There is currently no treatments available, so prevention is vital. (Information source: NSW Agnote DAI-314)

DPI NSW suggests that where practicable, every effort should be made to:

- Prevent contamination of pastures by dog faeces.
- Prevent farm dogs from scavenging aborted fetuses and afterbirth by not letting them wander freely, especially during the calving season.
- Bury, burn or dispose of aborted fetuses, dead calves and afterbirth,
- Control wild dogs and foxes as much as possible

Control of wild dogs is one way of reducing infections risks. If you have stock injuries or losses caused by wild dog attacks, or hear or see wild dogs, please contact the Senior Wild Dog Controllers,

for Mt Beauty, Tawonga, Dederang, Kergunyah & Yackandandah areas, contact **Greg Ivone - 0427 538 708**

for Upper Gundowring, Gundowring and Sandy Ck areas, contact **Maurice Moore - 0429 430 691**

For general information and advice on controlling wild dogs and foxes on your property, contact **Andy Wernet**, Community Engagement Officer at DPI Wodonga – **02 6043 7966**

The NSW Agnote: “*Neospora infection in cattle*” is available at:

[http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/160436/neospora.pdf](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/160436/neospora.pdf)

## Regional achievement & Community Awards – Call for nominations

Presented by Prime in association with The Weekly Times, there are eight categories including:

- Regional Achiever Award
- Community Group of the Year Award
- Environment and Sustainability Award
- Dairy Leadership Award

Nomination criteria and guidelines are available at: [www.awardsaustralia.com](http://www.awardsaustralia.com). Entries close on Wednesday 14th July. If you would like to suggest a Landcare nominee, please phone Bob Gough, 02 6059 2947 or email Bob, [Bobgough@westnet.com.au](mailto:Bobgough@westnet.com.au) before the 15<sup>th</sup> June.

### Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group Contacts:

<b>President</b>	Bob Gough	02 6059 2947	<b>Vice President</b>	Rhonda Serpell	02 6028 9356
<b>Secretary</b>	Tony McAlister	02 6027 1816	<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathy Jelacic	02 6028 9356
<b>Group Contacts:</b>					
<b>Baranduda</b>	Glen Johnson	02 6020 8667	<b>Kiewa-Bonegilla</b>	Mat Ley	02 6027 3262
<b>Upper Kiewa</b>	Pat Smart	02 6028 9007	<b>Kergunyah</b>	Rowan Wallace	02 6027 5227
<b>Leneva</b>	Ken Proctor	02 6024 6964	<b>Yackandandah</b>	Jos McAlister	02 6027 1816
<b>Equipment hire:</b>	Drills and spray units				
<b>Brian Lane</b>	02 6027 1433	<b>Wally Mitchell</b>	03 5754 5265	<b>Rod Mitchell</b>	02 6027 5155
<b>Project Management &amp; Newsletter:</b>	Belinda Pearce	02 6027 5294	<a href="mailto:abanas@bigpond.com">abanas@bigpond.com</a>		

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Incorporating Baranduda, Kiewa-Bonegilla, Kergunyah, Upper Kiewa & Yackandandah Sub-Groups

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 cut postage costs. Better still, consider electronic mail if you have email and you are just renewing your subscription and all your details are the same. Simply forward a cheque to the secretary or contact him if you wish to do it electronically, as your details are already on our database.

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			
SIGNATURE _____		Number of people covered by this membership _____	
Please make cheques payable to: Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups, and post with this form to:			
"The Secretary", 8 Barlow Lane, Bruarong Vic. 3749    email contact: <a href="mailto:mcalistertojo@live.com">mcalistertojo@live.com</a>			