



October/November 2011 NEWSLETTER:

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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

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



Kiewa Catchment Landcare 2011 AGM

The AGM was held in September, in conjunction with the 25th Anniversary Celebrations. All AGM reports are available upon request. Thanks were extended to the Executive members and Subgroup Representatives for their contribution over the past year. Special thanks were also extended to Tony McAlister, who has served as our Secretary for the past 10 years. A sterling effort! Tony is now hanging up his secretarial hat, and we're fortunate that Jos McAlister has stepped up to fill the position. Congratulations to all of our returning Office Bearers:

Peter Serpell – President, Brian Lane – Vice President and Julie Pearce – Treasurer.



Kiewa Catchment Landcare: Active Service Award recipients

As part of the 25th Anniversary Celebrations held at Kergunyah, Active Service Awards were presented to:

Baranduda

Glenda Datson	5 years
Jenny Davies	5 years
Liz Fuchsen	10 years
Bob Gough	10 years
Ron Herbert	10 years
Glen Johnson	10 years
Tony Marsh	10 years

Yackandandah

Jocelyn McAlister	10 years
Tony McAlister	10 years
Brian Lane	25 years

Kergunyah

Rowan Wallace	15 years
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Upper Kiewa

Wally Mitchell	20 years
Peter Serpell	20 years
Rhonda Serpell	20 years

Congratulations to all of the Award Recipients. What an amazing contribution, representing a combined 180 years of service between 14 people! The Celebrations evening also acknowledged the many individuals who have worked quietly behind the scenes, to help build the success of Landcare in our area over the past 25 years and beyond.

Landcare Equipment hire brochure now available

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group has a range of equipment for hire to assist Landholders with weed and rabbit control, and to maintain and improve soil health. Equipment includes: organic and chemical spray units, wick wiper, rabbit ripper and trailing seed drill. Equipment is available to Landcare members, with rates ranging from \$8.00 per day to \$50.00 per day. Half day rates are also available. Hire fees are used to maintain equipment. Full hire terms and conditions are available in the equipment hire brochure (available with this newsletter) or on our website <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/kiewa> (click on "forms" folder).

The swings and roundabouts of Landcare funding – Victorian Government Announcement

In 2009, Federal government changes to Natural Resource Management funding resulted in the loss of group-based Landcare Co-ordinators across Australia. A number of Landcare co-ordination positions across the North East were no longer funded, including Kiewa's fulltime co-ordinator, Simon Feillafe.

Prior to the 2010 Victorian elections, the Coalition made a commitment to provide \$12 million towards the restoration of locally-based positions should they win government. Last month, the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Ryan Smith announced funding for 60 part-time positions across Victoria until June 2015. Whilst this will not match 2009 funding levels, it is a significant improvement to the current situation.. The Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups Executive is currently formulating an application, in consultation with a number of key stakeholders across the North East. Further details on the "Victorian Local Landcare Facilitators Initiative" can be found at:

<http://www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/funding/victorian-local-landcare-facilitators-initiative-1>

Landcare on Alpine Radio – 96.5FM

If you tune your radios to Alpine Radio around 7.30am on Wednesdays, you can listen to Kiewa Catchment's President, Peter Serpell speak on Landcare, sustainability and water issues. This a great opportunity to connect with the wider community.

Lucyvale Better Beef Group donates funds to Kiewa Catchment for dung beetle research



After running a number of very successful dung beetle projects, the Lucyvale Better Beef Group has decided to call it a day. As part of their wind-up process, the Beef Group has very generously donated over \$6,500.00 to Kiewa Catchment, earmarked for dung beetle research. There is still much to be learnt, particularly in relation to understanding the underlying mechanisms associated with long-term pasture benefits (at least seven years) brought about by dung beetle activity. We look forward to carrying on the pioneering work initiated by the Beef Group.

Photo: Dung beetle Champion, Chips Boucher, hands over cheque to Belinda Pearce

Community Tree Planting Days at Yackandandah & Tawonga



Over 30 people braved cool and wet conditions to participate in a Community Planting Day and BBQ at Yackandandah Creek. This was a joint project of Yackandandah Landcare and the Yackandandah Folk Festival carbon-offset initiative. A project plaque was unveiled by Councillor Vic Issell and it was great to have the Scouts on board to lend a hand. **Photos: (Left) Some of the participants/organisers gather around the project plaque at Yackandandah Ck (Below) Participants at the Community Planting day at Tawonga**



In September, another band of volunteers helped out with a planting day at Tawonga. Despite the inclement weather, over 450 trees and shrubs were planted. The plantings will link established bushland in the area, creating a wildlife corridor, as well as providing shelter belts for stock and assisting in water and soil conservation in surrounding pastures. Many thanks to all the people that participated in these activities.

Baranduda September activities, Birding with Bernie & 4th Annual Silky Swainsona Survey



Birding with Bernie

An enthusiastic group joined Bernie Datsun to observe bird activity at the stringy bark block and adjacent area at Baranduda. Between 9.00am and 10.30am, 14 birds species were sighted, including the White-throated treecreeper, Striated pardolote and Grey shrike thrush. The full list of bird species spotted and photos from the morning are available at

<http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/baranduda/news/baranduda-landcare-birding-with-bernie>

Silky Swainsona Survey

A group of 8 Baranduda Landcare members including a family of five tackled the steep off track walk on the northern slopes of the range to record the current circumstances for this plant. For the second year in a row, it appears very little if any flowering will occur. A number of plants looked quite healthy. Monitoring included assessment of survival, growth & flowering of 11 recently planted tube stock seedlings (raised by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melb in partnership with DSE) as well as the 38 known 'wild' plants. Photos are available at:

<http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/baranduda/news/baranduda-landcare-silky-swainsona-survey-2011>

September saw the completion of reports and maps for the “*Baranduda Biolinks Protection and Enhancement*” Project which involved pest and plant control and revegetation. It has been a very busy and productive year for Baranduda!

Bring on the buzzzz... Project Update – Submitted by Jill Dawson

This project is a partnership between Upper Kiewa Landcare and Our Native Garden nursery for participants to develop skills in local native plant production and ecosystem development. The project has been running for two months now, and we are all very pleased with it. The volunteers have gained skills and understanding in the propagation of local native plants and are really enjoying their trips out in the bush, meeting the mature plants in their local environment. Every week features a plant that has just come into flower. Most participants come regularly and have worked on many aspects of the plant production process. As we have all had to miss a session or two, and because it has been of such use to participants and benefit to the nursery, the program is going to keep on running throughout 2012. If you would like to join us, please do. Sessions are at Our Native Garden nursery in Tawonga on Mondays, 1.00-4.00pm or Sundays, 9.30am-12.30pm, once a fortnight. Call Jill Dawson 02 6027 1089 or 0418 579 331 or email jilldawson@alpineology.com.au for more details on where and when.

Kergunyah Roadside Wetland Discovery Day & BBQ: Saturday 29th Oct. 10.00am – 1.00pm



Come and learn about the plants and wildlife at the Kergunyah Roadside Wetland. We will have a plant ecologist on board to help identify plant species. Meet at Kergunyah Reserve (about a 1km walk to site). Bring along a folding chair, binoculars & bird ID books (if you have them), camera and please wear long pants/sturdy boots. We will finish with a BBQ lunch at Kergunyah Reserve. For catering purposes, **RSVP** to Belinda, 02 6027 5294, opundo1@optusnet.com.au by **Wed. 26th Oct.**

Yackandandah Produce Swap & Community Meal, Sat. 29th Oct. 11am at Yackandandah Primary School

Gardeners are invited to share their excess vegetables, eggs, fruit or nuts, and add them to the 'pool' as part of the Yackandandah Produce Swap. Everyone will then be invited to draw from the pool what they think is of equal value to what they brought. The organisers will be mobilising volunteers to help pick, dig and pull up any produce on behalf of those who have trouble doing so.

The Community Meal will be utilising the recently built wood-fired oven at the Yackandandah Primary School. The oven will be fired and ready for the roasting of meats, vegetables, breads, pizzas and cakes from 11am onwards. Community members are invited to bring along anything oven-ready for the volunteers to cook, to be served and eaten with the company of all those in attendance.

For more information, or to arrange for a volunteer harvest, contact Chris McGorlick on 1300 365 003, or via cmcgorlick@indigoshire.vic.gov.au

Funding opportunities and assistance for fire-affected properties

Recycling for Recovery: Assistance with revegetation and erosion control.

Project Co-ordinator: Stephen Routledge, phone: 03 5728 6603, 0467 224 124, email: rout@netc.net.au

Blackberry Action Program: Assistance with blackberry & woody weed control

Project Co-ordinator: Andrew Knowles, phone: 0428 443 477, email: greenakr@bigpond.net.au

Landcare Calendar: Upcoming Activities, Events and Key dates:

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	RSVP/MORE INFORMATION
Sundays: 9.30am-12.30pm Mondays: 1.00pm-4.00pm (fortnightly)	"Bring on the Buzzzz" Plant propagation & bush ecosystems program	"Our Native Garden" Nursery, Tawonga	Jill Dawson 02 6027 1089 jilldawson@alpineology.com.au
Saturday 29 th October 10.00am – 1.00pm	Kergunyah Roadside Wetland Discovery Day & BBQ	Meet at Kergunyah Reserve	Belinda Pearce opundo1@optusnet.com.au 02 6027 5294
Friday 18 th November 6.00pm	Baranduda Xmas Breakup Bring chairs, drinks, nibbles, salad, to share. Meat & vegie burgers supplied	Jamieson Drive Reserve Baranduda	RSVP 16th Nov. Glen Johnson baranduda@landcarevic.net.au 02 6020 8667
Tuesday 15 th November 7.30pm	Kiewa Executive Meeting	To be advised	Jos McAlister mcalistertojo@live.com 02 6027 1816

Newsletter distribution: Have you changed your email address? Would you like to receive your newsletter by email and help us save on printing & postage? Please let Jos know your details: email Jos at: mcalistertojo@live.com

Do you need to renew your membership? Have you paid your membership subscription online?

Please check the expiry date on your membership card. If you choose to pay your membership renewal by direct credit, could you please email Jos with the date of your payment and any changes to your membership details;

mcalistertojo@live.com

This will ensure that our membership database is kept up to date.

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group Contact List:

President	Peter Serpell	02 6028 9356	Vice President	Brian Lane	02 6027 1433
Secretary	Jos McAlister	02 6027 1816	Treasurer	Julie Pearce	02 6027 5286
Subgroup contacts:					
Baranduda	Glen Johnson	02 6020 8667	Kiewa-Bonegilla	Mat Ley	02 6027 3262
Upper Kiewa	Alan McDonald	03 5754 1000	Kergunyah	Rowan Wallace	02 6027 5227
Yackandandah	Jos McAlister	02 6027 1816			
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 5155 Chemical spray unit & Rabbit ripper	Wally Mitchell 03 5754 5265 Chemical spray unit		
Project Management & Newsletter: Belinda Pearce 02 6027 5294 opundo1@optusnet.com.au					

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Incorporating Baranduda, Kiewa-Bonegilla, Kergunyah, 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 direct credit. If paying by direct credit, could you please email Jos: mcalistertojo@live.com the date your payment was made.

Bank Account details: *Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups,
 Commonwealth Bank,
 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: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> 2yrs \$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/> 3yrs \$45.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Other x \$15.00	
SUBGROUP: <input type="checkbox"/> Barandudua <input type="checkbox"/> Kiewa-Bonegilla <input type="checkbox"/> Kergunyah <input type="checkbox"/> Upper Kiewa <input type="checkbox"/> 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	

Next Newsletter – December/January, please send any news items to Belinda by 30th November 2011