



# Junction Creek Landcare Project

2009 to 2019

**How it Started:** In 2009 a meeting between Upper Kiewa Landcare Subgroup and concerned residents from the surrounding area of the Junction Creek Gully was held to co-ordinate a clean-up and maintain the area. Geoff Graham was appointed the first co-ordinator. The clean-up was significant as the Gully had been treated as a dumping ground for a number of years. The rubbish included old car bodies, parts of old farm machinery and household waste. Added to that was a significant weed problem which included black-berry, privet and many invasive garden plants.



**What's Been Done:** Landcare, local residents, Landmate teams from Beechworth Correctional Centre and the Alpine Shire have all been involved in cleaning up the Gully and maintaining it since then. Alpine Shire provides rubbish removal and some tree/weed control work and plants.

In 2012 Geoff Graham resigned to retire away from the area (we are deeply appreciative of the work he did in getting this project started) and in 2013 an Upper Kiewa Landcare and Friends of the Gully working group was formed with John Gibbons as co-ordinator. A major project since then has been the planting of 17 tree-ferns in 2015 and a further 12 in 2016 and track re-alignment, weed control and the establishment of a new track to the Tree-fern Glen higher up the Junction Creek.



The Gully tracks provide wonderful shady walks for locals and tourists and a protected environment for children to walk and to learn about the bush and environment, particularly the local wombat population and the many bird species who call the Gully home.

**What Do We Need To Do:** Keeping the tracks clear of weeds is the biggest job facing the friends of the Gully. This means constant vigilance to remove blackberries and many other invasive weeds and to provide new plantings of shrubs and trees native to the area. The Gully is a lovely place to work with its shady paths and Junction Creek tinkling beside the track.

**Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Contact John on 0407520542**