



September/October 2014 NEWSLETTER

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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

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



Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups AGM at Baranduda



Australian
Deer
Association

Bob Gough gave a very informative AGM presentation on deer behaviour, outlining his involvement with the Australian Deer Association, and the Hunter Education Program which promotes responsible hunting. There is an opportunity for Landholders to connect with hunters to assist with deer control. Bob also outlined non-lethal methods to deter deer. For more information contact Bob at bobgough308@gmail.com, 0400 629 796

Over 30 people attended the AGM. Thanks were extended to all of the members who have contributed to the many and varied achievements across the Catchment over the past twelve months. Special thanks were given to our sub-group representatives and our dedicated Executive team. Executive positions for 2014/15 are:

President:	Peter Serpell	Vice-President:	Rowan Wallace
Treasurer:	Julie Pearce	Secretary:	Jos McAlister

Funding success: "Listening to our Elders, recording the Environmental History of the Kiewa Valley"

Working in Dairy Communities
Small Grants Program 2014

GARDINER
FOUNDATION

We have received \$4000.00 from the Gardiner Foundation to begin collating the environmental history of the Kiewa Valley. The focus will be on recording the memories of older Landholders. The aim is to capture how our flora and fauna (fish, frogs, crayfish, birds, native animals & vegetation) has changed over time, and also record pest plant and animal activity, waterway changes, natural disasters and Indigenous heritage. Landholder memories will be compiled into a document that will be available online and launched at our 2015 AGM.

We are also looking to include photographs, paintings, maps, news articles and memorabilia that portray our natural environment and how it has changed over time. If you have items to contribute, or would like to be part of the interviews, please contact either Rowan Wallace, Rhonda Serpell or Belinda Pearce (Contact details on page 4 of newsletter).

Funding success: "Mt Beauty Streamside Reserve connections to Rock Pools restoration"



Upper Kiewa Landcare Group was successful in obtaining a \$10,000 "Communities for Nature" grant from the Victorian Government.

Funds will be used to:

- * continue weed control work along the Kiewa East River
- * support community and Landmate team working bees (BBQs & Equipment)
- * install interpretive signage on the Mermaid Beach - Rockpools walking track

The project continues to go from strength to strength, and has benefited from the collaborative efforts of Parks Victoria, Department of Environment & Primary Industries, NE Catchment Management Authority, the Landmate team & Alpine shire.

AgVet Chemical Users Course at Mt Beauty – Subsidised places for Landcare Members

This Nationally Accredited two-day course is a must for Land managers and Landcare volunteers who use chemicals. Learn how to minimise risks associated with chemical use and ensure chemicals are used as per manufacturer's specifications.



NATIONALLY RECOGNISED
TRAINING

Saturday 18th & Saturday 25th October, 9.00am to 5.00pm

Mt Beauty Neighbourhood Centre – 1 Tennis Court Ave. Mt Beauty

You will need to bring your lunch on both days

Full cost: \$320.00. Cost to Landcare members *ONLY \$20.00*****

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL – LIMITED PLACES

To book your place, contact Belinda – belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au 0407 227 814

The course subsidy is provided by funding from the State Government's "Victorian Landcare Grants".

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

BARANDUDA: *"Wildlife to benefit from Tree Planting Efforts" City Life article excerpt – City of Wodonga newsletter*



Baranduda Landcare (BLCare) celebrated its 15th annual Community National Planet Ark Tree Planting Day on July 27. This year's focus was a key wildlife corridor that forms part of the Wodonga Retained Environment Network (WREN) reserve system in the Leneva Baranduda Growth Area.

The works complete the corridor plantings first commenced in 2012 and are part of BLCare's ongoing partnership with Wodonga Council. More than 70

participants made short work of planting nearly 30 species of almost 1500 native trees, shrubs and ground covers into the 4.4 ha reserve. *"We recognise the value of helping establish viable, resilient wildlife corridor reserves now, before the inevitable pressures that will accompany the urban expansion planned for the area,"* BLCare secretary Glen Johnson said.

All plants were staked and guarded and sprayed with a kangaroo deterrent to maximise survival and help protect against browsing in the early establishment period. Go to the BLCare website: northeast.landcarevic.net.au/Baranduda to view a film celebrating BLCare's 15 years of Planet Ark Revegetation Programs. **Photo: People Power at Baranduda's Planet Ark Day!**

KERGUNYAH/GUNDOWRING: *Advanced notice – Turtle Field Day & Information Session- Feb 2015*



We will be hosting a Turtle Field Day and Information session in association with volunteers from Turtles Australia. This will be an opportunity to learn about the biology of freshwater turtles, identification and how to enhance and protect their habitat.

Stay tuned for further details in our next newsletter.

Photo: Eastern long-necked turtle (*Chelodina longicollis*) which is found in our area

KIEWA/BONEGILLA: *Bonegilla Native Grasslands Reserve guided Walk with Glen Johnson – Sunday 12th October*



You are invited to a BBQ and guided walk at the Bonegilla Native Grasslands Reserve on **Sunday 12th October**. We are delighted to have long-term Landcare member and DEPI Senior Biodiversity Officer, Glen Johnson lead us on our walk.

The site is home to a range of native grasses and wildflowers and is subject to regular ecological burns. **Meet on site at 12.30pm** (Murray Valley Highway – Bonegilla – look out for Landcare signs) **for BBQ lunch**. Places are limited to 20 participants. For catering purposes please RSVP by Friday 10th October to either:

Pam Davis-Jones 02 6027 3356 pjdavisjones@hotmail.com or

Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au

UPPER KIEWA: *Successful Community Planet Ark Planting Day at Rockpool Rd Project site*



We had wonderful weather and a willing band of volunteers at our community Planet Ark planting day in late July. Plantings focused on the area downstream of the Rockpool Rd. car park. This area had been cleared of willows and other weeds by the North East Catchment Management Authority. Extra-large tree guards were used to protect plants from deer.

The subgroup has also had numerous meetings with project partners to plan the roll out of the Communities for Nature Grant funding (\$10,000). Barb has been busy researching the history of the area as part of the interpretive signage planned for the riverside walking track.

YACKANDANDAH: *Landmate team lends a hand in Yackandandah and surrounds*



The Landmate team (Beechworth Correctional Centre) helped with planting out a wet area at a property in Bruarong. They also removed old tree guards at the Allans Flat dredge hole and undertook general "tidy up" works on the Yackandandah Creek walking track near the Yackandandah Sports Complex.

We are very appreciative of having access to the team which has done a huge amount of work across the Kiewa Catchment.

Photo: Landmate team getting ready to plant a wet area at Bruarong

Landcare participates in Student Environment Day at the Cube Wodonga



Students from the North East had an opportunity to learn more about the environment at the Student Environment Day. Our activity focused on learning the difference between “exotics” and “natives” when talking about plants and animals. Students enjoyed potting up “native” plants that were indigenous to our area, and played a “Who am I?” game featuring local woodland birds.

Many thanks to Bob, Sue and Rowan for helping out on the day. We had excellent written feedback from the teachers including the following comment “*This activity should be retained as an integral part of any future Student Environment Day*”.

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups Special Meeting: “Removal of Auditor” motion



The following resolution will be put forward at the Special Meeting to be held at Tangambalanga Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 21st October.

“Commencing from the 2012-2013 Financial Year – the Association will not undertake a financial audit if the annual income is below \$250,000”

Background Information: Kiewa Catchment Landcare accounts are audited each year at a cost of \$2000. Paul Lappin from Johnsons MME has advised that as our income is below \$250,000 we are not legally obliged to submit to an audit. Our Network is incorporated

under the Farm Tree and Landcare Association and comes under their rules. They have confirmed that end of year reporting by the Treasurer is sufficient to satisfy legal requirements.

Full financial reports are submitted to monthly committee meetings and detailed financial reports are submitted for specific projects. The AGM format each year would remain the same and the reports for the financial year would still be submitted for all members information and discussion.

Given recent cuts to Landcare funding and the ever-tightening fiscal environment, ongoing audit costs are a significant impost (\$10,000 over a five year period). The Committee unanimously believe that the removal of the audit requirement will assist in maintaining the Group’s financial viability. Thanks to everyone who has already returned proxy forms. We encourage all members to either attend the meeting or submit a proxy vote. Proxy forms can be obtained from Belinda.

Landcare Membership System – Online component provides new options



Letters were recently sent to all members outlining the new online membership system and providing members with their **user name** and **password**. We would like to stress that we still have the paper-based system in place. The online system is an additional option providing enhanced payment methods including PayPal and credit card. Your memberships are important as they provide funding bodies with an indication of the level of local interest in Landcare. Memberships also assist us meet

our insurance costs. Thanks to all of the people who renewed their memberships in response to the mail-out. We also welcome three new members! We look forward to the continual strengthening of our membership base.

Landcare Calendar: Upcoming Activities, Events and Key dates:

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	RSVP/MORE INFORMATION
Sunday 12 th October 12.30pm – 2.30pm	Bonegilla Grasslands Walk & BBQ with Glen Johnson	Bonegilla Grasslands Murray Valley Highway Bonegilla	For catering purposes RSVP by Friday 10 th October Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Saturday 18 th & 25 th October 9.00am – 5.00pm	AgVet Chemical Users Course – Subsidised places for Landcare Members	Mt Beauty Neighbourhood Centre 1 Tennis Court Ave	Bookings Essential – Limited Places Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Tuesday 21 st October 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Special Meeting	Tangambalanga Community Centre	Jos McAlister 02 6027 1816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Tuesday 18 th Nov. 7.30pm	Kiewa Catchment Exec Meeting	To be advised	Jos McAlister 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 & chemical spray unit & 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 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 – November/December, please send any news items/photos to Belinda by 31st October