



August/September 2015 NEWSLETTER

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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

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

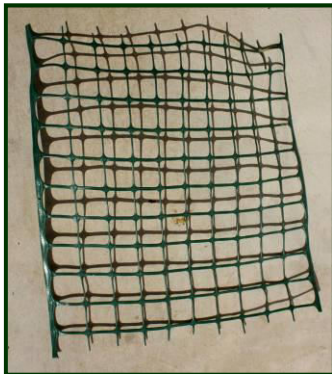


Kergunyah Turtles Workshop a great Family night: – *Protecting Turtle nests*



We had a great Turtle's night with Dylan, Jeremy & Graham from Turtles Australia. Over 50 people attended and the live specimens were a hit with both the kids and adults. What did we learn? With a family tree that is 300 million years old, turtles have roamed the earth virtually unchanged since the time of the dinosaurs. Freshwater turtles play a critical role in the environment as they help control aquatic vegetation, serve as scavengers and help maintain rivers and lakes in a healthy condition. Unfortunately, the broad-shelled turtle is listed as "endangered" in Victoria.

Protecting turtle nests is one practical way of supporting turtle populations. Over 90% of turtle nests are predated by foxes or other animals, this level of predation is unsustainable. You can help prevent this loss by protecting any nests you become aware of.



You will require a piece of mesh about 500mm square with 50mm openings, such as plastic trellis. Chicken wire will also do the job or other types of metal grids.

To protect the nest simply place the mesh over the nest, peg it firmly down at the corners and let nature take its course.

Depending on the species it will take between two months and one year for the eggs to hatch.



When the hatchlings have emerged, you will see a small hole where the turtles have dug their way out. The mesh and pegs can be removed for reuse.

The easiest way to identify a turtle nest is to observe the turtle laying her eggs. ("How to" taken from Turtles Australia web page).

Photos Turtle protection gear & set-up.

Farmers reducing fox numbers in Dederang and Kergunyah



The extinction or endangerment of native wildlife is a national disaster. Foxes significantly contribute, alongside other vertebrate pest species and the impact of man, to the extinction pressures. Serious economic damage results from fox predation on farm livestock including lambs, calves & poultry. With a typical fox density about 4 foxes per 400 hectare (1000 acres), each fox will

eat about 400 grams a night. Overall, about a third of this diet is from farm livestock, a third from pest vertebrates like rabbits and mice, and a third from wildlife. However, foxes are opportunistic and if lambs are available they will make up 100% of their diet. Effective fox control has been shown to reduce the extinction pressure and to allow population recovery. The most effective approach is when communities work together and use a variety of control methods. *Information Source:* <http://www.animalcontrol.com.au/foxes.htm>



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



'Tis the season to be planting...

Chilled out! (From Baranduda Landcare Facebook Page)

A huge thanks and well done to the 50 adults and kids that survived winter rain, blizzards, a boggy track and a rising Middle Creek tide to successfully plant and guard over 1500 native trees and shrubs – all part of Baranduda Landcare's 16th Annual Tree Day celebration. Special thanks to Baranduda Community Church, Baranduda Landcare and other local attendees plus City of Wodonga staff Andrew, Scott and Darren, plus chief cook Jenny Marsh. **Photos: Participants at Baranduda's 16th Planet Ark Annual Tree Day**





Above: Planting near Cherry Tree Ck - Kergunyah

Above Left: Planting day at Sandy Ck with Green Army Graduates



Above: Potting up natives at Student Environment Day



Above: Green Army Landcare Thank-you BBQ lunch at Rockpool Rd



But wait, there's more...

Can you help with some planting on Sunday 30th August?

Where? Near 149 Mullagong Road, Upper Gundowring – Look for Landcare signs

When? Sunday 30th August at 10.00am with BBQ lunch

What to bring? Gloves & sturdy shoes, we will postpone if it is POURING rain

For catering purposes please RSVP to Belinda by Friday 28th August via text, phone or email – 0407 227 817 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au Left: Blue Gum from 2014 Upper Gundowring Planting



Agvet Chemical Users Course at Mt Beauty – Subsidised places on offer: – Save \$300!

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.

Saturday 7th & Saturday 14th November, 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: \$350.00. Cost to Landcare members *ONLY \$50.00*****

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".

Get involved with the "Aussie Backyard Bird Count" - 19th to 25th October 2015



Celebrate National Bird Week 2015 by taking part in the biggest citizen science project to hit Aussie shores!

To get involved all you need is 20 minutes, your 'green patch' of choice, and some keen eyesight (or binoculars!) And it doesn't matter if you're a novice or an expert—we'll be there to help you out along the way.

Simply record the birds you know and look up those you don't on our Aussie Bird Count app (updated version available for download in September) or our website. <http://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>

Farm App Reviews – Smartphone Apps for Smart Farmers v2 out now...



Ag Excellence Alliance works with South Australian broad-acre grain and livestock farmers to improve their profitability and sustainability. They have released a review of 'Smartphone Apps for Smart Farmers v2' (2014). The review aims to help identify which apps might do what's needed, and at what price. To download the review go to:

<http://agex.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Smartphone-Apps-for-Smart-Farmers-v21.pdf>

Landcare Calendar: Upcoming Activities, Events and Key dates:

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	RSVP/MORE INFORMATION
Wednesday 19 th August 7.30pm	Kiewa Exec Meeting	Belinda Pearce's Kergunyah	Jos McAlister – Secretary 02 6027 1816 mcalistertojo@live.com
Saturday 29 th August 11.30am – 1.45pm	Victorian Landcare Council AGM with Guest Speakers from Birdlife Australia & Norman Wettenhall Foundation	The Green Building 60 Leicester St., Carlton	RSVP by Saturday 22 nd August Kaye Rodden – Executive Secretary nidgee@reachnet.com.au
Sunday 30 th August 10.00am	Community Planting Day with BBQ lunch	Bruce & Elissa's Upper Gundowring	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Wednesday 2 nd Sept. 9.00am – 5.00pm Dinner (optional)	Celebrate Soil Symposium Host of Guest speakers	Charles Sturt Uni Thurgoona Main Lecture Theatre	RSVP by Wednesday 26 th August Register online at: http://tinyurl.com/soilssymposium2015
Wednesday 15 th Sept. 7.30pm	Kiewa Exec Meeting	To be advised	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au
Saturday 7 th & 14 th November 9.00am – 5.00pm	Agvet Chemical Users Course Subsidised places for Landcare members	Mt Beauty Neighbourhood Centre	Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au

Keep up-to-date with Natural Resource Management events & 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 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 – Oct/Nov, please send any news items/photos to Belinda by 30th September