



February/March 2012 NEWSLETTER

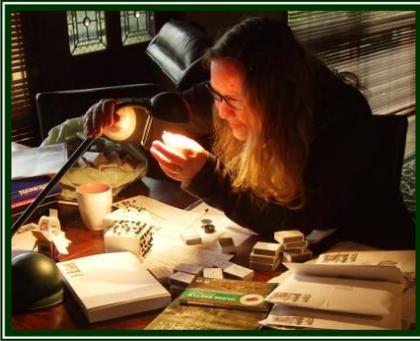
Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups

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

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



Local Landcare Facilitator appointed: Kiewa Catchment & Upper Ovens Valley Groups



Belinda Pearce has been appointed to the Local Landcare Facilitator position for Kiewa Catchment and Upper Ovens Valley Landcare Groups. The position is for 20 hours per week and is funded until June 2015. Belinda has worked for Kiewa Catchment for a number of years and has managed numerous projects involving dung beetles, earthworms and revegetation, as well as compiling the bi-monthly newsletter. Belinda's core operating days are Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday (with a high degree of flexibility). The position will involve supporting groups in developing locally relevant projects and activities. Belinda's contact details: email: belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au mobile: 0407 227 814

Photo: Belinda identifying dung beetles trapped and sent in by farmers

Offer of subsidised Chemical Users & 1080 endorsement courses



The Agricultural Chemical User Permit (ACUP) system was introduced in August 1996 to restrict the use of high-risk chemicals to people trained in safe chemical use. An ACUP is a 10-year permit that authorises the holder to purchase and use 'restricted use' chemicals for private use. To use baiting products which contain 1080 (eg FOXOFF), you must also have the 1080 endorsement.

The **Regional Landcare Facilitator (RLF) Project** has funding available for Landcare members to undertake the Chemical Users Course and 1080 endorsement module. The RLF project is offering a \$250 subsidy for the full training program. The cost to participants would be **\$150** (usual price \$400.00). The subsidy is only available to participants who complete the 1080 module. For those who already have the Chemical Users permit, the cost of the 1080 module would be **\$75** (\$125 subsidy). **A limited amount of funding is available until 30th June 2012, allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.** The Chemical Users Course runs over two days, and the 1080 module is a four-hour course. We need a minimum of six participants, per training event. Please let Belinda know if you are interested in attending a course, or if you're able to get a group together in your area.

2013 Revegetation Works – We need to know what you would like to do NOW!

We are currently preparing our funding application for 2013 revegetation works. The application is due February 24th, so if you are considering either fencing or plantings (or both), we would like to hear from you NOW!

To be eligible, activities must meet at least **ONE** of the following criteria:

- *increased biodiversity
- *protection of older trees
- *erosion control – gully stabilisation
- *fencing off water ways and wet areas

The areas must be at least **20 metres** wide, or **10 metres** either side of banks/gullies. If approved, Landcare will provide:

- a **\$3.50** per metre fencing subsidy
- Native plants: Trees, shrubs & grasses – at least 50% of plants should be understorey, eg shrubs and grasses

The Landholder agrees to:

- Prepare and maintain sites (site preparation/maintenance includes weed control)
- Erect fences (if applicable) and plant trees (planting generally occurs in Winter)

If you are interested in undertaking a project in 2013, please contact Belinda Pearce to arrange a site visit.



Before and after pictures of a local Revegetation project.

Plantings provide:

- *shade & shelter for stock,
- *habitat for wildlife,
- *bank stabilisation,
- *erosion control
- *increased soil moisture in pastures
- *increases in beneficial insects

Photos: Maurie Smith

SUBGROUP NEWS & EVENTS: *Make the most of events happening in our Catchment- ALL WELCOME!*



Baranduda: Our first meeting for 2012 commences **7.30pm sharp** (committee 7.15) Wed 15th Feb at the Baranduda Community Centre. This is our biannual general meeting. All positions: Pres, Sec and committee (4 to 6) possible are up for election. Fear not, as we have existing personnel keen to continue but **welcome/encourage** new people joining (any/all positions). On the night, we'll review & discuss our annual calendar of events, overview works programs, update on grant applications & other Landcare opportunities. **The key part of the evening will be a special community screening of "Queen of the Sun"**. This wonderfully inspiring film delivers a poignant conservation message outlining causes for the global commercial bee industry collapse. It also outlines practical organic bee keeping solutions and sustainable living ideas that we can locally adopt to help biodiversity conservation and sustain (human) communities. This is both a chilling and heart-warming environmental documentary "not to be missed". Everyone is encouraged to attend.



Kergunyah-Gundowring: You are invited to a presentation by freshwater crayfish specialists, Dr Susan Lawler, (Head of Environmental Management & Ecology, La Trobe University) & Geoff Edney, (Science Co-ordinator, Tallangatta Secondary) on **Friday 17th Feb, 7.30pm** at the **Kergunyah Hall**. You will have the opportunity to view a live, rarely-seen "swamp yabby" & learn about freshwater crayfish ecology. The evening will include a brief planning session. Items include: proposed bus trip to Wangaratta Landcare wetland project, funding update, temporary access track, wetland flora & fauna assessment & developing a management plan. The evening will conclude with a light supper. Members, non-members, families are all welcome. *Photo: Kergunyah Wetland, October 2011*



Upper Kiewa: We had a very well-attended meeting in late January, with representation from Parks Vic, DSE and Alpine shire. Parks and DSE have sprayed blackberry, broom and St John's wort before Christmas. The Landmate team have been booked to assist in cleaning up woody weeds in February, and we expect to have a community working bee in March to build on their work (stay-tuned for the date!). You are also invited to the next Landcare/Friends of the Gully working bee to be held **10.00am, Sunday 26th Feb** at the **Junction Ck Gully** (opposite Parks Victoria Office), weather permitting.

Photo: Rockpool Rd planning meeting 27/1/2012



Yackandandah: We are planning to have a Landcare display and BBQ at the Yackandandah Community Markets, Sunday 19th February, 10.00am – 1.00pm. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the BBQ and display, so if you can spare an hour or two, Belinda would be very pleased to hear from you, phone, 02 6027 5294 or 0407 227 814

The Group will continue to work with Yackandandah Folk Festival's carbon offset initiative in 2012. We have earmarked the "Planet Ark Tree Day", Sunday 29th July as our planting day. Members are also encouraged to consider taking advantage of the subsidised chemical users and 1080 courses. Foxes cause enormous damage to both our native wildlife and livestock. If there is enough interest (min. 6 people), a course can be held in Yackandandah

Photo: 2011 Community Planting Day at Yack Ck. as part of Yack. Folk Festival carbon-offsets program

"Good Neighbour Program" – Neighbours working together across private & public land



Through the Good Neighbour Program, the Victorian government aims to cooperate with other landholders to control weeds and pests on the boundary between public and private land. Pest plants and animals have a significant impact on Victoria's natural environment and biodiversity, as well as affecting the productivity of the land. Weeds and pests do not recognise the boundary between private and public land, so addressing this challenge requires a cooperative approach.

If you have concerns about pest plants and/or animals on public land adjoining your property, contact DSE on 136 186 and ask for your regional Good Neighbour Program Coordinator.

Website: <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/plants-and-animals/invasive-species/good-neighbour-program>

Wetlands are Wonderful Photo competition - (Edited version of NE NRM Enews item)



During February, ABC Goulburn Murray will encourage people to contribute images of a wetland in the region that is important to them. Entries will be published on the ABC website (and cross-promoted on the CMA website). ABC and the CMA will award binoculars and a wetlands 'pack' to the competition winner. Given that 90% of our region's 2,000 wetlands are within or are bounded by private land, we encourage as many people to capture a moment at their favourite wetland.

Opportunity to gain skills in native plant identification and propagation with Jill Dawson



The feedback from *Bring on the buzzzz* program last year highlighted that people really enjoy being out in the bush with someone who knows it. This school term starting Wed Feb 1, we have "About our bush ecosystems" program that covers the same topics as in the *Buzz* program. If you missed it last year, you can catch it this time.

Please call Jill 0418 579 331 or email jilldawson@alpineology.com.au for more information.

If you can spare some time to share the work at the nursery, we could really do with a hand or two to pot up the seedlings ASAP. Join us in the lovely shade under the enormous oak tree and in sight of Mt Bogong for a spot of potting up, sowing seed, weeding, processing cuttings and other odd jobs. For each hour of work, the nursery donates 10 plants to a project of your choice. Also, *community things happen through word-of-mouth so please spread the word.*

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 |
|--|--|---|--|
| Wednesday 15 th February 7.30pm (Committee 7.15pm) | Baranduda Landcare AGM & Film "Queen of the Sun" | Baranduda Community Centre | Glen Johnson baranduda@landcarevic.net.au 02 6020 8667 |
| Friday 17 th February 7.15pm for 7.30pm start | Kergunyah Wetlands Project Crayfish presentation & Wetland Project Planning | Kergunyah Hall | Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au 0407 227 814 |
| Sunday 19 th February (to be confirmed) 10.00am – 1.00pm | Yackandandah Landcare Landcare Display & BBQ Yackandandah Market | Yackandandah | Belinda Pearce belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au 0407 227 814 |
| Tuesday 21 st February 7.30pm | Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting | Peter & Rhonda Serpell's Running Creek | Jos McAlister mcalistertojo@live.com 02 6027 1816 |
| Sunday 26 th February 10.00am – 12.00ish (Weather permitting) | Upper Kiewa Landcare & Friends of the Gully Working Bee | Junction Ck Gully Tawonga | Alan McDonald 03 5754 1000 |
| Tuesday 28 th March 7.30pm | Kiewa Catchment Executive Meeting | Belinda Pearce Kergunyah | Jos McAlister mcalistertojo@live.com 02 6027 1816 |

Newsletter distribution:

Have you changed your email address? Please let us know.

Would you like to receive your newsletter by email and help us save on printing & postage?

Have you paid your membership subscription online?

Please email Jos with the date of your payment and any changes to your membership details; mcalistertojo@live.com.

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-Gundowring | 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 units & Rabbit ripper | Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 BBQ trailer available for Landcare Group activities | | |
| Project Management, Local facilitator & Newsletter: Belinda Pearce 0407 227 184 belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au | | | | | |

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Incorporating Baranduda, Kiewa-Bonegilla, Kergunyah-Gundowring, 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, please email Jos: mcalistertojo@live.com with your payment date.

Bank Account details: *Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups,*

Commonwealth Bank, BSB: 063-534 Account Number: 902483

Please include your surname and initials as a reference & email Jos payment date

| | |
|--|--------------|
| 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 | |
| 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 _____ | |
| 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 – April/May, please send any news items to Belinda by 30th March 2012