Rockpool Rd Project In the news

250 plants for Rockpool restoration project

PLANTING TOGETHER:
The upper Kiewa Landcare
group gathered at
Rockpool Road on Sunday
to continue the extensive
revegetation project it
has been involved with
for several years. L – R,
back, Roger Pollard, Barb
Mason, Peter Stokle,
project manager Belinda
Pearce, Upper Klewa
Landcare president Alan
McDonald and David
Marshall-Irving; front,
Dianne Passman, Jarrod
and Jemima Paine,
Helen Howley and Russ
Bellingham.



UPPER Kiewa Landcare were busy at the Rockpool area of the East Kiewa River on two weeks ago establishing around 250 plants as part of the Rockpool restoration project.

Landcare facilitator and project manager Belinda Pearce said that they were concentrating on the area downstream of the carpark which has recently been cleared of willows and other woody weeds by the North East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA).

"NECMA has cleared areas on both sides of the river between the Rockpool carpark and the Damms Rd bridge, and we have been planting grasses and shrubs into this area to protect the exposed soil," she said.

"NECMA's Janette
Curry has completed
the initial work of
restoring the riverbank
and has turned over the
ongoing maintenance to
Landcare."

Landcare."

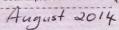
The group is very happy with the progress of the restoration.

"The Landmate team from Beechworth Correctional Centre has done a great job finishing the walking path from the carpark to the rock pools, and they have also erected some seats along the way," Ms Pearce said.

"It is very pleasing to see so many people making use of the area.

making use of the area.

"Also the fishermen are very happy because their access to the stream has been improved."



Many hands make light work

Mt Beauty sites get makeover by large band of volunteers and government groups

A BEAUTIFICATION project is adding to the natural approper of two cross seasons.

Packs Victoria ranger, Kevin Congrill, soul the aids of the congular propert in to restore the Rockposts and Mermoid Branch areas on the East Rayus Rover to the hepstiffsi syver sode, postioarea is was in the past.

The project is a joint part, norship between the Upper Kiewa London group. Parks Voitoria, the Deand Environment, Alpine Shire Council and AGL En-

Work to be done exchalent cleaning black-beyone and words in proposal alashing and moving leading single property of purposal street, preasing stacks, preasing whiche tools, generalization and grassion, replanationaries of madisorito, questioning transfer and property of madisorito, questioning the property of the pr

The first stage, which a occured on the Mermain leach area is hoped to be completed by the cod of this

such a good cell-up and to see so much excellent work actioned." Mr Courtell said.

There will be east work ing hors were the samester and Mr Congrelf ergod les oal people who wast to be pout of this great project to connect Parks Victoria Mr Remain suffice on 375 atol 3, or the Upper Kiew Landsare group at www northwest Randsarevite are melapper kiews.



SEASTIFFIEMS MT READITY Landcare volunturer beigs with the beautification of the Memorial Blanch area and the numby floridypoids area near the Shouley, Prem left hister brailing, Link floresess, John Stopes, left housing and Paul L Halling (John Losevings, Billinkel Bostlock, Michael Pursethouse, Paul Gray, Ohio Voyeress, Suzzai Sedinghaw, Troph Crees, Wendig Graftem, Carris McChessian Enter Statem und Alan McChessian.

More than just a normal barbecue

Landcare sub-group celebrates at restored Kiewa site

UPPER Kiewa Landcare sub-group had every reason to celebrate when members gathered for their Christmas barbecue last Wednesday.

The barbecue took place at the site of the group's biggest and most recent project – the area adjoining the East Kiewa River at the end of Rockpool Road.

Started about 12 months ago, the project is a team effort by Landcare, Parks Victoria, AGL, the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) and Alpine Shire Council, aiming at returning the area to a state where it will once again be a popular recreational spot as it was in the 1950s.

Upper Kiewa Landcare subgroup president, Alan McDonald, said the first task had been to spray and slash the blackberries and other weeds which had engulfed the area.

"It was just too large an expanse to consider dealing with all of it, so we decided to concentrate on three areas: the trail river crossing where the carpark will be, Mermaid Beach and Rockpool," he said.

"We have had several working bees where the volunteers



ROCKPOOL PROJECT: Attending the Landcare Christmas barbecue are (from left, standing) Belinda Pearce and Klewa Catchment Landcare Groups president Peter Serpell, and (seated) Upper Klewa Landcare sub-group president Alan McDonald and project manager Ian Howley. PHOTO: Alex Cra

came and worked at the weeds and at replanting, and we had a lot of help from Landmate, the gang from Beechworth Correctional Facility, who came and did a lot of the heavier work.

"A fence and lines of rocks have been put in place to confine cars to the carpark, and eventually vehicle access to the area will be closed off

Mr McDonald said some people may not be happy with this at first, but they needed to understand there is no funding available for the maintenance of the roads, which are in an almost impassable condition.

"We plan eventually to revegetate with new plantings where the current vehicular tracks are," he said.

A riverside walking track has been constructed leading from the carpark upstream to the rockpool swimming area, and a gap in the fence has been left to allow access by pedestrians, prams, horses and bicycles

Parks Victoria's Kevin Cosgriff said maintenance of the area was a huge challenge for the organisation because there was so much to be done.

"It's tremendous to see such strong and active community support of this project," he

Landcare is planning further working bees next year to improve the area, and would welcome new volunteers.

For more information phone Mr McDonald on 5754 1000.

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