



Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups Inc

December 2021 Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with your local Landcare news

KCLG incorporates independent Baranduda and Yackandandah Creek as well as fully-merged Kiewa-Bonegilla, Kergunyah, Gundowring, Dederang Primary School & Upper Kiewa Landcare Groups. KCLG has a volunteer committee of representatives from our Landcare groups and funded Landcare Facilitator and Project Officer positions.



Hello Landcarers,

Welcome to the December edition of the KCLG eNews, the end of the year has rolled around very quickly! We are adding a new feature to our newsletter where we will introduce each of our Committee members over the coming months and from January we will run a feature article on each of our groups. This month we also have a cultural heritage event running and some information on our recent soil carbon project.

A big congratulations to our groups who have received official notification of their successful [Victorian Landcare Grant!](#) This includes three project grants and three support grants within the Kiewa Catchment area.

Finally, from KCLG we wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas. We look forward to keeping you up to date on all the events and projects being undertaken across our region in the new year. If you have something to promote such as an event, planting day or other Landcare related matter, let me know and I'll include it in the next issue.

Shannon Brennan

Facilitator - Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups (KCLG)

What's in this issue:

- Introduction to our Committee
- Update on what's been happening in the Kiewa Valley
- Upcoming events and surveys
- Grants available
- Contact us

Introduction to our Committee

President Rowan Wallace



This month we are introducing our KCLG president, Rowan Wallace. Rowan and her family have lived and farmed their properties at Kergunyah, in the Kiewa Valley for 6 generations, and have a long history of implementing regenerative farming practices going back more than 50 years. Rowan runs Hereford cattle on her portion of the original family property at Kergunyah and has taught in local schools for many years. She has a strong interest in sustainable farming, biodiversity and to encourage and enable the community to care for the environment.

Currently serving as President of the Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups, Rowan joined the Kergunyah Landcare Group in 1996 and has been part of the Network since its inception. Rowan's long-standing knowledge of Landcare and the community in the region is a valuable asset to KCLG.

What's been happening?

Soil Carbon Information Sessions

Last month we held the first of Soil Carbon Information Sessions - three pub sessions and a webinar which were attended by 94 people. The sessions included a lesson on '101-Soil Carbon' from our host speaker David Hardwick from Soil, Land, Food. The sessions generated a lot of interest regarding soil health and the carbon market and have set the scene for our upcoming workshops which will be held on our four demonstration farms in the Kiewa Valley (two dairy properties, one beef and sheep farm):

February 2022 - Workshop and demonstration 1

Introduction to our demonstration sites and soil testing

March 2022 - Workshop and demonstration 2

Looking at the results of soil tests, how to read them, and a look at the techniques being undertaken at the demonstration farms.

April 2022 - Workshop and Information Session 3

Information session on the carbon market and an opportunity to meet the carbon traders (pub session)

May 2022 - Workshop 4

Information Session of Soil Biology

June 2022 - Workshop and demonstration Session 5

Final tour of demonstration farms and an overview of learnings

Dates for these upcoming workshops will be released next month and copy of the webinar recording for anyone who missed can be viewed on YouTube - [Click here](#).



Yackandandah Landcare Working Bee

Last Sunday Yackandandah Landcare held one of their monthly working bees along Yackandandah Creek targeting heavy infestations of blackberry to open access to the river. What a great job done by all the volunteers to open up this beautiful section of the creek!

Yackandandah Landcare holds working bees once a month on a Sunday - check out their Facebook site - [Yackandandah Landcare](#) for more details and how to join in.



Upcoming events and surveys

Cultural Heritage Workshop: Saturday 11th December 9 -11 am

KCLG in partnership with the Duduroa Dhargal First Nations People, [Red-Gum Environmental Consulting](#) and [North East CMA](#) would like to invite you to our free Cultural Heritage Workshop this Saturday December 11th in Kergunyah from 9-11am.

Our special guests for the day will include Uncle Allan Murray (Duduroa Dhargal), who will talk about cultural significance of the region and Damian Wall (Red Gum Environmental Consulting) who will be discussing identifying and working in areas of Cultural Sensitivity – legal obligations, planning and permits.

Please register on the link below or email projects@kclg.org.au to book a spot. Catering provided. This is a Covid safe event and all current Victorian Government rules apply.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/.../cultural-heritage...>

CULTURAL HERITAGE WORKSHOP

Special Guests

Uncle Allan Murray (Duduroa Dhargal)

Damian Wall (Red Gum Environmental)

2688 Kiewa Valley Highway Kergunyah
(Waddingtons at Kergunyah)

Saturday December 11th - 9-11am. Free entry. Catering supplied.

Please register via eventbrite link or email projects@kclg.org.au

For further information call Charles Daaboul on 0493 268 085



Upper Kiewa Landcare Saturday Working Bees

Upper Kiewa Landcare in Mount Beauty holds working bees most Saturday mornings to undertake various activities such as weed control, planting, tracking clearing and maintenance of a number of Landcare sites around the town. If interested in joining these bees please contact John Gibbons on **0407 520 542** or email at warrawongnatives@bigpond.com to obtain information on weekly site locations, times and activities being undertaken.



Invasive Species Council - Deer Survey for North-East Victoria

The Invasive Species Council is a non-government organisation that seeks to keep Australia safe from weeds and feral animals. They know people are concerned about the impact of feral deer on the Victorian community and environment and would like to hear from you to learn about your views and your experiences with feral deer.

Your contribution will be used to better understand community attitudes about, and the impacts of, feral deer.

This will assist the Invasive Species Council to more effectively engage with the Victorian government and the community to achieve effective control of feral deer.

Click here to access the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/feraldeer>

Survey closes Friday 17th December.



People Power - Watching out for Platypus



Are you interested in platypus and learning more about them? The Australian Platypus Conservancy (APC) has established Platypus Group Watch which is a great way for citizen scientists to contribute to tracking the status of local platypus populations. Platypus Group Watch relies on small teams of observers, armed with binoculars and stationed in pairs at points distributed along a section of a river, creek or lake. The results provide an interesting snapshot of platypus numbers and can be used to help measure whether the number of animals active in the monitoring area changes over time.

Groups interested in developing a Platypus Group Watch monitoring program in their own area are encouraged to contact the APC for a free information kit containing data sheets, along with advice about how to get started - [Click here](#).

Victorian Volunteering Awards 2021 now open

Volunteering Victoria has announced the 2021 award nominations. **Applications close on 14th January 2022.**

The Awards recognise and celebrate the impact volunteers, volunteer leaders and volunteer programs have in building resilient communities, services and connections across the State. The Volunteering Awards 2021 are a combination of the Premier's Volunteer Champions Awards and the Volunteering Victoria State Awards.

There are seven categories open to direct nomination. For information and how to nominate [click here](#).



Grants out now

**Future Drought Fund:Drought Resilient Soils and Landscapes
Program**

The Australian Government is inviting applicants under the Drought Resilient Soils and Landscapes Grants Program. The objective of the program is to trial and demonstrate how scaling of particular practices to improve management of natural capital can build drought resilience.

The government are looking for projects that address all of the following:

- targeted at improving the drought resilience of agriculture
- involve trial and demonstration of practices to improve management of natural capital in ways that directly support drought resilience
- focused on achieving and measuring impacts at scale, particularly landscape scale
- provide case studies to support scaling out of successful practices through robust monitoring, measurement and communication of project impacts
- are valued between \$500,000 and \$1 million
- can be delivered over April 2022 to June 2024

[Learn more.](#) **Closing date 11th January 2022.**

Environment Restoration Fund – Priority Species Grants

Grant applications are now open for the Australian Government Environment Restoration Fund Threatened Species Strategy Action Plan Priority Species Grants (e.g. Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot). This grant program provides funding to undertake activities that will protect, enhance, rehabilitate, recover and/or restore priority species and their habitats, supporting on-ground activities that will assist efforts to improve the trajectories of priority species.

Grants between \$50,000 to \$250,000 grants are available. Applications close **13 December 2021** and projects must be completed by the 31st March 2023. [Learn more.](#)

Climate Ready Community Hume Grants

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Hume Region is delivering a Community Mini-grants Program to support community-led climate change activities and action in the Hume region. If you're part of a community group in north east Victoria that is passionate about climate change adaptation and want to make a difference in your local community apply now.

Grants are available up to \$10,000 and close at 5pm **17 December 2021.**

[Learn more](#)

Indigo Shire Community Sustainability Council Grants 21/22

The aim of the Indigo Shire Community Sustainability grants program is to provide community groups within the shire an opportunity to implement sustainability initiatives. For example, community organisations can request funding for projects or events that demonstrate climate change mitigation or adaptation, reduce water consumption or improve water quality, reduce waste generation, support biodiversity conservation; and/or raise awareness or build capacity in climate change mitigation or adaptation, energy efficiency, water conservation, waste reduction, and biodiversity conservation.

The total funding pool for the 2021-2022 round of the Community Sustainability Grant is \$20,000. If you are interested in applying, please visit the [Community Sustainability Grant webpage](#) to download a copy of the Grant Guidelines.

Applications close 5 pm on **Wednesday 15th December, 2021.**

If you or your group are interested in any of these grant opportunities please don't hesitate to contact KCLG to discuss your project idea.

Contact Us

To find out more about Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups please:

[Join our group on Facebook](#)

Join or [renew your membership here](#)

[Subscribe to our newsletter here](#)

Contact us:

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Shannon Brennan

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