



Upper Goulburn Muster

The Newsletter of the Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee
Vol 6. No 1



May 2005

Community Landcare Support Strategy

The Goulburn Broken Community Landcare Support Strategy was launched at Arcadia on May 25th.

Regional Landcare Coordinator Heather Holder has consulted with Landcare Coordinators, Landcare Groups and other interested people to complete the strategy, which outlines the support structure for Landcare volunteers and support staff for the next 5 years.

In launching the Strategy, the Goulburn Broken CMA's Bill O'Kane noted the Authority's

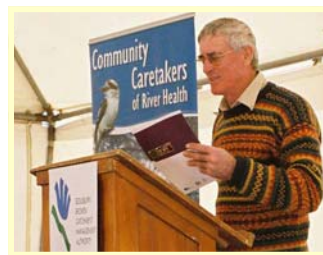
efforts to lessen the pressure on Landcare and applauded the continued efforts of Groups in the region. He congratulated all who had participated in developing the Strategy.

Support for Landcare is a core platform of the State Governments Landcare support program launched in 2002.

The CMA has been proactive in assisting Landcare Groups to employ Landcare Coordinators and Facilitators as part of its

commitment to Landcare in the region.

For more information or a copy of the Strategy contact Heather Holder Ph 5761 1654.



Collier McCracken at the Strategy launch.

CMA Backs Landcare to the Hilt

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority CEO Bill O'Kane has made it very clear that the CMA is 100% behind Landcare.

Launching the Landcare Support Strategy Mr O'Kane touched on the issue of new additional reporting expected of Landcare Groups when applying for some Federal funding. Making the point that Landcare volunteers already spend a great deal of their time on environmental activities and related paperwork ,

Mr O'Kane said that the CMA had refused to place additional unnecessary pressure on Groups that received funding from the National Landcare Program.

The CMA will continue to support Landcare in the Goulburn Broken catchment through its other funding streams such as Natural Heritage Trust and Second Generation Landcare Program.

For funding information call Katie Brown 5797 2001.

Regional Landcare Forum 7th-8th July

This years Regional Landcare Forum will be held in Seymour and is shaping up to be a great success.

Organisers have booked the Seymour Football Club and other sporting facilities and have arranged for a number of different displays from Landcare product and service suppliers.

The Agenda for the two day event will include presentations and workshops and snapshots from the coal face.

Presentations will include biodiversity,

soils, cultural heritage and landscape change, plus a regional bus tour on Friday to sample the landscape and tastes of the Highlands region.

The Forum dinner on Thursday evening promises to be a great night, so all delegates will need to book early to take advantage of the raft of interesting events.

For information and bookings, contact Katie Brown: 5797 2001.

Engaging Katie

Katie Brown has recently joined the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) as Community Program Manager in the upper Goulburn catchment.

Based in Yea, Katie brings a high level of experience in community engagement to the position and will play a key role in the support and growth of community groups and Landcare coordinators within the upper Goulburn region.

Katie is also responsible for fostering closer relationships between the Authority and other agencies, including Local Government, to promote and strengthen integrated programs that will deliver natural resources outcomes in line with the Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy.

Growing up in rural New South Wales Katie developed an early passion for the environment and went on to study Environmental Science at the University of Newcastle NSW, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Environmental Science, and Bachelor of Environmental Science (Honours First Class).p2



REMINDER

Your newsletter is now available in PDF format so all members of your group or organisation can receive it in colour.

If you have not already sent your primary email address please do so now so The Muster can be distributed throughout your membership or staff.

popped@gbcma.vic.gov.au

IN THIS ISSUE

CMA backs Landcare	1
Natural revegetation	2
Art in the Goulburn	3
New education program	4
Direct seeding review	4
National Landcare Awards	5
River Health Conference	6

THE UPPER GOULBURN MUSTER

IS PREPARED FOR THE

UPPER GOULBURN IMPLEMENTATION
COMMITTEE

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FAQ

Get to Know...

Kate Brunt Biodiversity Programs
Officer

Main job:.

*Biodiversity
Projects
Coordinator*

Where: *Benalla*

**How did you get
involved with**

NRM: *Always been*

*interested NRM from a young age growing
up on a farm – I wanted to be a Park Ranger
like Kate Raison on A Country Practice.*

Favourite colour. *Red*

Favourite food:. *Does not matter what it is
as long as someone else has cooked it and
someone else is doing the dishes.*

Reading at the moment: *Wedding
Magazines*

Do you have a pet and what is its name:

*Flash – German Shorthaired Pointer and
Hannah - Beagle*

Hobbies. *Netball, Basketball and Snow
Skiing*

Ever been overseas: *Yes*

Where: *Parts of Asia and some Pacific
Islands*

What is your favourite destination: *Ho*

Chi Minh City and the Cook Islands

**Have you observed environmental
issues we could learn from;** *Yes –
everyday, there is so much to learn*

**If you had the chance what would you do
to make a difference:.** *Increase the
understanding of the general public.*

Where will you holiday this year? *Skiing
in NZ.*



Bush Returns Program Expands

The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) has extended the new Bush Returns program, to all of the Goulburn Broken catchment.

The program offers landholders ongoing payments to manage large areas of land for regrowth and natural regeneration, particularly land that is largely unimproved.

Landowners across the catchment will now be able to apply for a special grant to return some of their land to its natural state.

A pilot program in the Heartlands area around Violet Town and Euroa has been successful with 160ha of land being funded for a returned to natural regeneration.

Program manager, Carla Miles, says that she is more than happy with progress so far and

believes that the Bush Returns program will be the catalyst to encourage landholders in sustainable land management.

"We have come up with an idea that is so easy for land holders to be a part of and the response so far has been excellent," she said.

Applications for the current roll out of Bush Returns are available on the web at www.gbcma.vic.gov.au. or call 5797 2001.



Trees regenerate naturally if protected.

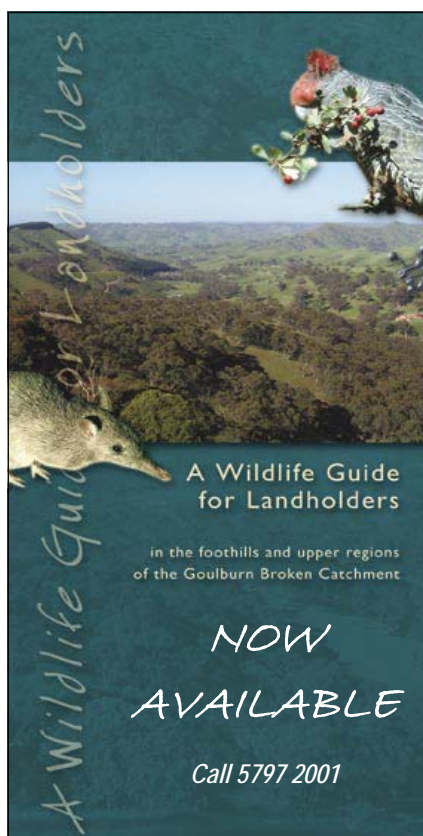
Engaging Katie from P1.

Using this knowledge, Katie travelled through remote outback Australia studying waterbird populations, fossil pollen records and aquatic insect life, followed by an Honours degree in the effects of riparian vegetation clearing on aquatic stream fauna.

After a three year appointment as Land & Water Resource Manager supporting Landcare and Waterwatch on King Island,

and implementing the King Island Natural Resource Management Strategy, Katie has most recently worked as the Waterwatch Coordinator with the Northern Adelaide and Barossa Catchment Board.

Katie's interests include tennis and with her partner Ian she plans to settle in Glenburn and become a part of the community.



Paddock TREES



*Information brochure available on saving the
grand sentinels of farm paddocks across the
country.*

*Paddock trees are disappearing fast due to
clearing for subdivision and natural
attrition.*

*For your information brochure please contact
the CMA on*

5797 2001

Art from the Heart of the Goulburn

The Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee will sponsor the Tallarook Art Society (TarTs) Exhibition again in 2005.

Last years inaugural exhibition netted four award winning paintings that are now 'on tour' throughout the upper Goulburn catchment.

The theme for this years art show will be *Spirit of Place* aimed to highlight the natural beauty, diversity and spirituality of the Upper Goulburn catchment region.

Other sponsors include the Shires of Mansfield, Mitchell and Murrindindi, which cover some of the most remarkable country in Victoria, from the alps to the granite hills and the riverine region of the Goulburn River.

The organising committee will invite select professionals to submit works and will encourage participation by local school students.

Artworks procured from the Tarts Exhibition in 2004 are now on show in Mansfield, Yea, Alexandra and Seymour.

This years exhibition will take place at the Mechanics Institute in Tallarook on October 14th—15th -16th 2005 and further information can be obtained from Libby Webster, Ph 5793 8390.



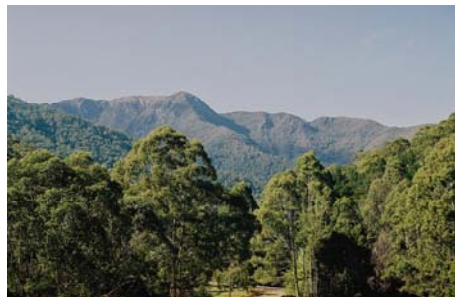
Exotic vegetation control at Mirimbah

A program to control exotic stream side vegetation on the Delatite River has been in progress since February.

The joint project between the Goulburn Broken CMA and Mt Buller/Mt Stirling Resort management has poisoned sycamore, cedar and willow infestations on the river bank for 1km upstream and 3km downstream of the Mt Stirling Bridge at Mirimbah.

Exotic trees have grown out of control along the stretch of the Delatite River for many years and have all but choked out indigenous native vegetation in some places. The removal process will allow the return of

indigenous species, which will in time make considerable improvements to water quality and biodiversity in this very important stretch of river abutting the Mount Buller Alpine Resort.



View of Mount Buller from the works area.

PUBLIC LECTURE

Do you have a personal history with the Goulburn River?

Hear Stephanie Lavau of Melbourne University deliver the first stage of her PhD project titled

"At home in the Australian Landscape: A history of the domestication of the Goulburn River".

Thursday August 11, 2005,

6.00—7.00pm. Hotel Australia, Shepparton.

Bookings through Kate Faram (03) 5823 6600 or email

kfaram@unimelb.edu.au

Limited spaces, light refreshments (drinks at bar prices).

The Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee has assisted in formalising access to the King Parrot Creek at King Lake West, where constant foot traffic had created a rough, eroded path to the waters edge.

Litter was also a constant problem and with assistance from Murrindindi Shire the site now has formal steps and recycling bins to improve the environmental amenity of the area.

It is intended that later this year, a native revegetation program will be implemented to landscape the creek access path and bench seats will be installed to improve community amenity in the area.

REGIONAL LANDCARE FORUM

July 7th and 8th

Seymour Football Club

Tallarook St, Seymour.

See, hear and be a part of the ongoing work that Landcare is doing
in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

To book call

Katie Brown : 5797 2001 or Mob 0400 197 299

Two days of discussion, learning, teaching, and networking with other Landcarers

Trade exhibits!
Forum Dinner!
Discussion!
Presentations!
Networking!

Cluster could share resources

Katie Brown from the Goulburn CMA has recently completed a funding application that aims to provide funds for the Murrindindi cluster schools to participate in sustainable environmental learning.

Working with the Cluster Coordinator at Yea High School, Katie says that if successful the scheme will assist primary and secondary schools in the Murrindindi Shire to form a learning network that will provide progressive natural resource education from Grade 3 through to Year 8. The program aims to



Students participating in the Salt Week water tests, Buxton 2003.

provide an exciting and unique opportunity to strategically share resources, interact and exchange knowledge between schools, students, staff, grades and curricula.

This form of learning and the cumulative nature of the program will help reinforce ecological awareness amongst students and help to shape attitudes for future landowners, rural land managers and citizens.

Called "*Working towards a Sustainable Future*" (WTSF) the program will engage primary and secondary students and local environmental education organisations in developing a theme based curriculum linked resource, with technical assistance from non-school partners.

This is a highly innovative program which will have long lasting implications for the way we teach environmental studies in pre tertiary institutions.

The program also allows for ongoing professional development for teachers who will be involved in developing resources throughout the process. It will also provide for a teacher resource pack that will be available throughout the State.

The program is funded by the Australian Government's *Australian School Innovation in Science, Technology & Mathematics* program.

For further information contact Katie brown in Yea on 5797 2001.

Direct drilling review

The Goulburn Broken CMA has recently conducted a review of the direct seeding process to determine its value as a revegetation tool and assess current direct seeding practices.

The review has identified a number of impediments to this method of revegetation and has provided recommendations to improve the success rate.

Good results have been found in lighter soils and where weed management preparation has been done pre the seeding process. It was also found that direct seeding can be successful in Autumn in sandy or gravel soils, and that heavy soils are more likely to be productive if seeding is not attempted when the ground is extremely wet.

Further information and a copy of the report can be obtained from Kate Brunt at the CMA office in Benalla. Ph 5761 1693.



Direct seeder at Heartlands field day.



We pay YOU to increase tree cover on your property!

The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA) offers landholders ongoing payments to manage land for natural regeneration of native vegetation.

This is the second round of funding under the trial program and all private landholders within the Goulburn Broken Catchment are eligible.

Sites should preferably be large (e.g. paddock scale), unimproved, and have scattered trees to provide a seed source.

Don't miss this great opportunity.

Contact the GBCMA at Benalla Ph 5761 1691 or Yea Ph 57972001, or visit www.gbcma.vic.gov.au to obtain an information kit, including an expression of interest form.

Return forms ASAP as oversubscription may result in later registrations missing out.



Upper Goulburn Landcare Awards 2005

Applications are open for the

Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee Landcare Award for excellence

AND

The Hubert Miller Perpetual Trophy.

Application forms are enclosed with the Newsletter
and also available by emailing

popped@gbcma.vic.gov.au

Weed control

It will rain eventually and that will be the catalyst for perennial weeds to start their regeneration process.

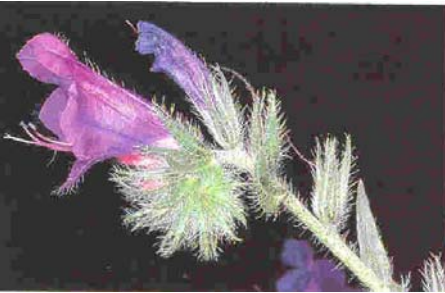
All local newsletters at this time of year are advising on the means to start treating new weed infestations and perennial growth before the various species get a foothold on your property.

Paterson's Curse and Cape Weed will start growing after the first Autumn (or early winter) rains so landowners should be ready to manage them before they re-establish.

Contact your local Landcare Coordinator on the best method to combat weeds in your area.

Janet Hagen— 0427 524 473
 Bridget Clarke— 0409 362 714
 Bertram Lobert— 5790 8606
 Peter Mitchell— 0409 515 630
 Geoff Boyes— 0428 166 775
 Peter Heywood— 0414 716 016 (DPI)

Some chemical funding may be available for weed control in your Landcare region.



Flowerhead of mature Patersons Curse

Community Grants

The Community Salinity Grants program will be calling for expressions of interest for funding community projects in the next few months.

Successful applications in the South West Goulburn catchment have funded salinity awareness tours throughout the region, the last of the series being held on Saturday May 28th.

Community Salinity Grants are available to groups, schools, shires and other community driven organisations to focus attention on salinity in the Goulburn Broken catchment.

Call Poppe Davis 5797 2001

Community meetings will be held in June to discuss Waterway issues in the upper Goulburn, Howqua and mid Goulburn catchments.

Please note the following dates and participate in the discussion.

Howqua Rv:

Date: Friday 10th June 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Venue: Camp Howqua, Howqua river Road

Jamieson Rv and Lower Goulburn Rv:

Date: Friday 17th June 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Venue: Mechanics Institute hall next to Jamieson general store

Upper Goulburn Rv:

Date: 20th June 11.00am to 1.00pm

Venue: RSL Hall Woods point

Catering: light lunch.

RSVP Chris Burnett on Ph.5797 2001

Snapshots from near and far

White Fella Black Fella

"Earlier on, we thought the RCS' were simple recipe books for earth repair, and that was the end of the exercise. Out of this we have realised the need to deal with the dynamic of complex social issues. We can now look at how to link to the original context of how Indigenous people care for the land."

John Young, Wimmera CEO's statement at the Community Engagement Think Tank November 2004

Landcare Council.

The Hon Warren Truss, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has announced the appointment of Roberta (Bobbie) Brazil as the new Chair of the Australian Landcare Council (ALC). Bobbie has been a member of the ALC since 2000 and is currently the Chair of Land & Water Australia and a board member of the Condamine Alliance regional NRM body in Qld. Congratulations on your new role Bobbie. For further information please see media release at www.affa.gov.au/ministers/truss/releases/home_wt_releases.html

Horticulture NRM initiative

HAL is a key strategic marketing and research partner to the Horticulture sector and a partner of the Horticulture for Tomorrow program (please see website at www.horticulturefortomorrow.com.au). HAL is currently seeking **expressions of interest** for participation in the Horticulture NRM Initiative for regional pilot groups. The **closing date is 17th June 2005**. For further information on the pilots, criteria for expressions of interest and application details, please contact Alison Turnbull at HAL Ph: 02 8295-2300.

Plastic Fantastic

Australians have reduced their plastic bag usage by 1 billion bags in the past year. There are still 5.5 billion used throughout the country every year, but we have to be pleased with an initial reduction of near 20%.

2005—2006 National Landcare Awards

Nominations for the National Landcare Awards are now open with Awards being offered in 10 categories.

Called the "Determination, Perseverance Rewards" the national Landcare Awards are open to individuals, farmers, school students, Landcare Groups, Community Groups, Local Governments Indigenous Communities and more.

Nominations close on July 1 2005

For more information call Landcare Australia 1800 151 105 or go to www.landcareaustralia.com.au

While you are on the web check out the Landcare Gateway website www.landcare.net.au

International River Health Conference

The Goulburn Broken CMA is sponsoring selected schools from across the catchment to participate in this year's International River Health Conference, to be held at Mildura in October

The Conference encourages students from years 5 to 11 to be a part of an International Forum of "kids teaching kids" in an environment where they feel comfortable performing in front of their peers.

Conference organisers, Firestarter Communications run by Aaron Wood, have prepared a fabulous schedule of events for the delegates who will come from all over Australia and overseas. It is anticipated that as many as 500 students will converge on the Murray River at Mildura for the three day event.

A touring coach will collect between 30 and 45 students and teachers from selected points throughout the Goulburn Broken catchment. Schools have already been

asked to submit expressions of interest and show their commitment to natural resource management to go into the selection process for sponsorship.



Indigenous dancers 2003

The Conference is held every two years and provides students with enormous insight into environmental conditions in Australia and overseas, and provides teachers with environmental education tools for ongoing curriculum development.

Contact Poppe Davis 5761 1540 or visit www.riverhealth.com.au

The IC explained

A brochure outlining the role and Charter of the Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee has been drafted and will be available for distribution in June.

The document explains what the Implementation Committee does and the parameters of its scope of operation and decision making. There are three Implementation Committees in the Goulburn Broken catchment, each with responsibility for implementing the Regional Catchment Strategy - the blueprint for natural resource management in the Goulburn Broken catchment.

Implementation Committee members are appointed for a three year tenure.

To obtain a copy of the brochure please call 5797 2001

Has your Group had a change of Executive members recently? Please let us know so you don't miss out on all the catchment and funding news.

Call 5797 2001 or email chrisb@ghcma.vic.gov.au

Don't forget to nominate a Landcare Committee Legend for the

Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee Landcare Award for Excellence.

Nominations close June 30th.

Salt Week Success

More than 15 Salt Week sessions were conducted in the Upper Goulburn catchment during May.

Participating schools included Pyalong, Seymour East, Merrijig, St Patricks Kilmore, and Mansfield Primary Schools.

Students were treated to an interactive presentation on how a river can become salinised and the effects of salinity on the land.

Samples were brought to school for salinity testing and the results were placed on the Salt Watch website, where children from all over Victoria will have the opportunity to see where salt concentrations are across the State.

Trees on Farms

Rowan Reid, national convener of the Australian Master TreeGrower Program and Senior Lecturer in Forestry and Agroforestry at the University of Melbourne, together with local coordinators, John Woodley and Ann Jelinek invite farmers and other landholders to participate in the Alexandra region Master TreeGrower Program.

The 8 day program is spread over several months, starting on Saturday 25 June 2005 at Taggerty. It covers all aspects of farm forestry, including establishment and management of multipurpose farm forestry and revegetation plantings, markets for tree products, tree growth and measurements, silvicultural treatments, monitoring forest values and environmental benefits. Field visits and special guest presenters with a variety of experiences, will look at opportunities and approaches to integrating trees into rural landscapes for profit and conservation.

Rowan Reid explains that "this Australia-wide program has already been successfully completed by over 1200 participants in 63 regional locations. Participants have gained

valuable skills in tree establishment, management and marketing to help them generate revenue from their plantations as well as improving farm sustainability."

According to John Woodley, who has established 40ha of timber trees on his Taggerty property, "the Master TreeGrower Program has great potential to help farmers diversify and contribute to developing a large resource of smaller woodlots on farms that are managed for high quality timber. These farm tree plantations could provide a valuable resource to help sustain the local sawmills and all of the infrastructure and jobs that go with a productive timber industry," he said.

The program has been made possible with generous support from Plantations North East, FFORNE Hardwood Cooperative, The University of Melbourne, the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and small local businesses: TUTI Tree Farms, Farm Forestry Services and EcoViews.

For further information and bookings, contact Ann Jelinek on 57747510 or email: ecoviews@lexicon.net.

Remember your newsletter is now available in PDF format so all your members can access the news and information.