

Members of the Broken Goulburn Implementation Committee

Neil Devanny

Neil has been a resident in the Gooram Valley near Euroa for about 40 years. He is a semi retired secondary school teacher and runs a mixed grazing farm in the valley. Neil has been involved in Landcare for the past 20 years and is the founding Chairperson of The Granite Creeks Project, a network of six local Landcare groups. He is the current chairperson of the Gooram Valley Landcare group, Strathbogrie Shire Land Management Advisory Committee and a member of the Gecko Landcare Network. Neil sees his love of teaching, farming, community and intense interest in environmental issues as a perfect combination to make a positive contribution to the IC.



Bill Wells

Bill is a cattle producer from Boho South (Strathbogrie Tableland). He has a wide background of Natural Resource Management with 27 years in the Upper Murray. He has served on the Murray CMC for two terms, on the Murray Board for one term, on the Regional Native Vegetation Committee and National Parks and Wildlife Service Advisory Committee. Bill and wife Judy have been involved in Landcare type work for most of their lives and had an input into restarting a group in Strathbogrie Tableland. Bill's interests on the IC include working with local government, helping to provide good governance, duty of care and ensuring our dwindling water reserves e.g. groundwater-surface water is managed sustainably for the environment, stock and domestic.



David Dore

Chair

David runs a mixed farming business near Benalla. He is an active member of Landcare. David has been part of the IC for more than five years and is keen to see the GB CMA continue to work with community organisations and farmers to reshape their businesses in the light of climate change, a rapidly changing business environment and the bounds of regional sustainability. Originally a forest scientist, most recently he has been working for the National Program for Sustainable Irrigation and a community foundation for rural development. David is interested in pasture cropping and other approaches to improve soil health and sequester soil carbon and revegetating the landscape.



Craig Madden

Craig is a farmer in Avenel with a mixed cropping and grazing enterprise. Craig is committed to and passionate about sustainable resource management. He has been involved in developing strategic plans for salinity, water quality, biodiversity, Landcare and the overall Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy as a past Board member of the GB CMA. Craig is currently the Chair of the Goulburn Murray Water Regional Groundwater Services Committee.



Heather Ingpen

Heather has lived at Ancona, near Mansfield for 30 years, on the family prime lamb and beef cattle property. Heather has been an active member of the Ancona Valley Landcare group since 1989, holding executive positions and co-ordinating tree propagation and planting projects, and weed, fox and rabbit eradication programs. She is keen to ensure that farming and rural communities continue to be viable and sustainable and that land use practices can adapt to our changing climate and reduced water availability. Heather is also a member of the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network.



David Scott

David is a farmer and Educator from Mansfield. He has been actively involved in his local community for many years having held executive positions in many community bodies, including being a foundation member of the Upper Broken Land management group. While relatively new to catchment management, he is keen to create a greater awareness of it within his community. In particular, he is committed to moving towards sustainable land management practices. Given the apparent change in weather patterns he sees this is a challenge for us all, particularly key decision makers.



Chris Doyle

Chris is a property manager and agricultural contractor from Tallarook. Chris has been involved with the GB CMA since its inception as a community representative on the former Upper Goulburn IC. He was previously a member of the Upper Goulburn Waterways Authority. Chris's agricultural experience covers both dryland and irrigated agriculture in Tasmania, New Zealand and the Western District in Victoria. He believes that agriculture and land use in general must co-exist in harmony with the environment, however for this to reach its full potential there needs to be appropriate dialogue and engagement with the catchment community. Chris believes that to this end, the BGIC plays an important role.



Sally Abbott Smith

Sally is a grazer in Glenburn and has been part of the IC of the GB CMA for five years. Sally has been involved with Landcare for 10 years and is currently Chair of the Year River Catchment Landcare group and 3717 Watch Inc. She is the Cheviot Ward Councillor for Murrindindi Shire and is on the Yea Wetlands Committee of Management and the Murrindindi Environment Advisory Committee. Sally is passionate about improving the Upper Goulburn Catchment's land and water resources and values the opportunity to engage with the community on environmental best practice, on-ground enhancement and sustainability of the catchment.



Rita Seethaler

Rita is involved in running The Urban Transport Institute and TreeSmart Australia, a carbon-offsetting scheme for farm forestry from her home office in Taggerty. Rita works part-time for the Murrindindi Shire as environment strategy officer. Rita is an adjunct lecturer at Monash University, Dept of Civil Engineering, teaching a post-graduate course in Project and Policy Evaluation that she designed to familiarise civil engineers with assessment methods of environmental, economic and social impacts. Rita has a Masters in Economics and a PhD, in which she combined methods of transport engineering with social psychology and communication strategies to promote pro-environmental behaviour change. Rita is a founding member of the Murrindindi Climate Network Inc. and Acheron Valley Watch Inc. and uses her expertise to promote pro-environmental behaviour change in land management practices and lifestyle choices in the wider community.



Margaret Hatton

Marg is a beef farmer from Kilmore. She is the current Chair of the Mitchell Shire Environment Committee and the Sunday Creek/Sugarloaf Subcatchments Inc. and is a member of Landcare. Marg supports community input into natural resource management programs and the continued strengthening of partnerships between local government, Landcare, DPI, DSE and other associated agencies, environmental groups and industry.



Contact Us For more information, or to contact your local BGIC Member, please contact 5736 0100 or email chrisb@gbcma.vic.gov.au.