

better environment – better lifestyle

Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group



Vol. 13 Issue 47

CO-ORDINATOR UPDATE

Welcome to KBULG's new look newsletter! We have changed the format and process in which we deliver our message to you. We are committed to the same aims, goals and objectives but with a newer, fresher feel. We'd love your feedback!

We are already well under way into the planning and implementation of fantastic new projects and activities for 2008. After a very successful 2007, KBULG wrapped up all projects achieving all outcomes and objectives, thanks to our committed staff, committee and valued members.

It's already proving to be a busy year for KBULG, especially at our nursery in Karlkurla Park. Work has progressed at a frenetic pace in the propagation of many new varieties of native plants so that we are ready for our bigger than ever Community Tree Planting day in August. Happily, this is moving along successfully largely thanks to our members who have been attending our Native Plant Group.

Overall all, the staff at KBULG are happy with the progress in the nursery and are bracing ourselves for the cold seasons to come. We would also like to invite everyone to join the Native Plant Group meetings which are held every 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month from 3 – 6pm at our shade house in Karlkurla Park. If you would like any more information regarding these meetings please do not hesitate to contact our office.

I would like to welcome Brodie Holden to KBULG in her role as Administration and Landcare Assistant, Brodie brings many new skills to this role, along with her outgoing personality. If you get the opportunity please drop into the office and say hello.

A special thank you to our number 1 volunteer, Lillian Walters who has dedicated her time and enthusiasm relentlessly. I am amazed at what she has achieved over the past 2 months, her hard work and on-going support has been and continues to be very much appreciated.

Lastly I would like to thank our core sponsors for your ongoing support, we couldn't do it without you!

I look forward to working with you all in the coming year as we continue to focus on a "Better Environment and Better Lifestyle" for the people of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

David Gleeson

Clean Up Australia Day – 2 March 2008

This year we will be cleaning up Karlkurla Park as part of Clean Up Australia Day.

Native Plant Group

Second and Fourth Sundays of each month, 3-6pm

Learn how to propagate local native plants and meet new people

Annual Weed Competition 13 April 2008

Please watch out for more information.

Tidy WA in May – Schools Tidy Day

23 May 2008

Schools Tidy Day is the one day of the year where all school children help to tidy their environment to help for it be a healthier place to be.

Protecting YOUR ZONES!

KBULG continues to work with local Council, Police, DEC and the community through the ORV (Off Road Vehicle) Group with regard to the development of ways to protect our Regeneration Zones. The ORV Group has been meeting regularly with an aim to release a brochure shortly and the implementation of an education and public awareness program, educating the community on the effects ORV's have in these areas, also looking at restriction and enforcement. The police have also been cracking down on unlicensed vehicles driving to and from these zones.

Most of the Regeneration zones were established nearly 30 years ago by the Goldfields Dust Abatement Committee. They are now managed by the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group. The Regeneration Zones create a "green belt" around the city and were established with the intention of reducing major dust problems in Kalgoorlie-Boulder. These Regeneration Zones encompass an area of approximately 3,500 hectares.

All the Regeneration Zones are fenced to prevent damage from stock grazing and vehicle access, however a major problem is vandalism to these fences and the costs involved in fixing them.

KBULG encourages the community to use the zones for passive recreation. Many members of the community are keen to see these areas preserved as they enjoy their walks in the local bush close to their home.

Threats to the Regeneration Zones

Off Road Vehicles in the Regeneration Zones can destroy plants, fencing and ruin animal habitats. Off Road Vehicles are not permitted in the

KBULG's Regeneration Zones. Woodcutting is also a major problem in the Regeneration Zones.

If people continue cutting wood in these areas, the resources will eventually become depleted and there will not be a buffer of vegetation surrounding the city. Woodcutting is not permitted in a 20km radius around Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Rubbish Dumping also continues to be major problem in the Regeneration Zones.

Careless rubbish dumping pollutes the area and can introduce weeds from garden clippings which can invade the Regeneration Zones and out-compete local flora. Rubbish can also act as traps to Native fauna and sometimes food which can not be digested.

PLEASE think of others and do not litter in the Regeneration Zones.

The Regeneration Zones are a valuable asset for the community of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and should be looked after by the community as a whole.



Free Trees for Street Planting

Free trees for street planting can be obtained from Kalgoorlie-Boulder City Council.

The trees are native to the Goldfields region and can be planted on your verge.

Get your free trees and help Green the Goldfields, and add to the beauty of our City.

Contact Carol Smith at the Council on 9021 9680.

2008 is Year of the Frog!

AFTER thriving for over 360 million years, up to half of the world's approximately 6000 known amphibian species could become extinct in our lifetime.

While habitat destruction is the major threat, the most immediate cause is a parasite fungus

called amphibian chytrid - a disease that is deadly to hundreds of amphibian species.

You can do something to help by supporting or donating money to Wildlife Conservation Action which supports

research, rescue and breeding programs, and conservation in the wild.

For further information please go to Perth Zoos website

www.perthzoo.wa.gov.au

“Yes we have Frogs in the Goldfields”

There are many different species of frogs that occur in the Goldfields region, many of these are burrowing frogs that spend most of their lives underground. After wet events they emerge, lay eggs, tadpoles develop rapidly, and then they head back underground again.

Given our weather, the frogs must spend a lot of time underground. There are records of frogs staying underground for as long as seven years.

Common Name: Goldfields Bull Frog / Wilmshire Frog

Scientific Name: (Neobatrachus wilsmorei)

Size and Form: A medium to large-sized robust frog. The back is brown with five distinct narrow yellow stripes: a vertebral stripe plus two lines at each side that meet near the shoulder thus forming a "W" on the back (W as in wilsmorei).

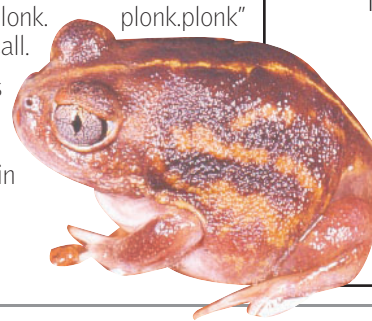
Distribution: This frog is found in the Goldfields near Kalgoorlie, but also extends to near Kalbarri and north to Carnarvon on the coast.

Habitat: Areas that flood seasonally in summer.

Breeding: Breeding occurs in claypans and other shallow areas on warm evenings after summer rains and thunderstorms.

Call: Described as "plonk, plonk" Each note a distinctive call.

Eggs and Tadpoles: Eggs laid amongst vegetation. Tadpoles similar to other Neobatrachus but attain larger sizes.



communicate – educate – participate

Junior Landcare 2007 Class of the year

OVER 90 classes entered last years' *Junior Landcare Class of the Year Award*. After much consideration and deliberation the award went to **Mrs Smiths' Year 4 class from St Mary's Primary School**, with a special achievement award going to **Mrs Davies' Pre-Primary Class at Kalgoorlie Primary School**.

The students were provided with a Junior Landcare Activities Poster with various tasks they could complete to help the environment of Kalgoorlie-Boulder throughout the year.

A major component of Junior Landcare is being involved in caring for the local environment, while undertaking tasks and activities to improve the environment and encouraging others to do likewise.

Activities our classes were involved in were tree planting, implementing recycling in their school, participating in Waste Free Wednesday and looking at the whole of class/school approach to looking after and caring for our local environment.

Mrs Smiths' class were the outright winners because of their contribution to the environment throughout the

year. These classes are proof that even our little ones can be actively involved in learning about our environment, and forming an ongoing commitment to its preservation.

We would like to thank our major sponsor of our Junior Landcare Programme, **Barrick Kanowna**.

A big thank you also goes out to all participating classes for your contribution to the Junior Landcare Programme in 2007. We hope to see you all working hard for the environment this year and participating in our Junior Landcare Programme.



GOLDFIELDS TEACHERS CAN REGISTER YOUR CLASS NOW!

Junior Landcare Drawing Competition 2007 - Results

All primary classes in the Goldfields were invited to submit entries into our recent poster competition. Students were asked to draw a picture of bush land surrounding their home, school or the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Students were also asked to include anything which may be harmful to that bush land area.

The standard of entries was amazing this year, the judges finding it very difficult to narrow down the winners. The overall winning drawing was by William Watson from St Mary's Primary. William won a flight for 2 people over the Superpit.

Congratulations to all of the following students:

EAST KALGOORLIE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Ethan Hollan Year 3 Mrs Bridge
Rhianna Pau Year 4 Mrs Bridge
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
William Watson Year 4 Mrs Smith
Gabby Inglis Year 4 Mrs Smith



Thank you to our prize sponsors **GAS - Goldfields Air Services** for donating the major prize of a flight for 2 people over the Superpit and to **Orana Cinemas Kalgoorlie** for giving us heaps of passes for other prize categories.

attention kids

Look out for next week's Kalgoorlie Miner Kids' Club (Friday) Celebrate

“YEAR OF THE FROG” with a colour-in competition.

WIN great gift packs from Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group

Carbon Offset Car Loan Buy any car you want... ..and we'll make it green.



Plus... when you take out a personal loan from us before 30 June United will donate \$25 to the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group.



United will arrange to plant enough trees to offset the average carbon emissions that your car will make in its first year. Minimum loan \$15,000, term up to 7 years, for cars less than 10 months old. Comparison rate available from any United branch. Fees, charges, terms, conditions and normal lending criteria apply. United Credit Union Ltd ABN 92 087 651 910 AFSL 237560.



This year's Caltrop Weed Competition is being held on

SUNDAY 13th April 2008

in the Centennial Park Carpark.

So now is the time to get out there and practice picking the weeds!

There will be cash prizes and a barbecue after the final weigh-in.

For more information keep a look out in the Kalgoorlie Miner, or contact us on 9091 6233, or via email at landcare@kbulg.org.au

KBULG's Annual Caltrop Weed competition will be held on Sunday 15th April 2008. Now is the time to start pulling out caltrop and practicing for our up-coming competition!

Caltrop is an introduced species, found throughout Western Australia. It will start to germinate rapidly now after the summer rains. Caltrop is a low spreading plant that has small yellow flowers, producing a burr with sharp spines.

Here are a few tips!

1. Find fresh caltrops. To find your fresh caltrops you can look practically everywhere! This includes your front and back yard, along local streets and back lanes, even in your friends backyards if they let you!

2. Gather your equipment. This includes collection bags, gloves (essential), weeding fork, shovel etc.

3. Remove caltrops.

When removing the weeds make sure you collect all the seeds and prickles, you don't want to leave any behind! If you are pulling them out by hand it's best to do this after it has rained or after they have been watered. This makes it soil around the plant softer. Hold the plant at the base of it's stem to ensure it doesn't snap off when you are pulling it out. If you are using a weeding fork or shovel then dig deep into the ground to remove the weed roots and all.

4. Bag & contain caltrops.

All caltrops must be bagged so they cannot escape. We recommend double bagging with a poly-weave/synthetic bag and a garbage bag over the top.

Keep practising and help eradicate this weed from our streets! There will be cash rewards and prizes at our weed competition on the 15 April! Stay tuned for further details.



CLEAN THE GOLDFIELDS

Sunday 2nd March

Karlkurla Park (Riverina Drive Entrance)

8am to 12 noon

8am registration at KBULG's Shadehouse

SAUSAGE SIZZLE at 12 noon Please bring hats, gloves & sunscreen

For more information contact KBULG on 9091 6233 landcare@kbulg.org.au

