



KALGOORLIE-BOULDER LANDCARE NEWS



Better Environment
Better Lifestyle

Autumn Newsletter - March 2004 Volume 10 Issue 37

This Newsletter is produced quarterly by the **Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group (KBULG)**.
Contact the **Landcare Office** on phone: **9091 6233**, email: **kbulg@emerge.net.au**,
Web site: www.kalgoorlie.com/kbulg or **Lotteries House**, corner Wilson & MacDonald Streets, Kalgoorlie.

What's inside...	
Nasty Weeds	Recycling
Karlkurla Park Trail Upgrade	Out & About in Karlkurla Park
Waterwise Lawns	Local Bird Watch
Coming Events	Local Flora Profile
Committee Member Profile	Formation of Native Plant Group

JUNIOR LANDCARE 2003 CLASS OF THE YEAR

The Landcare Class of the Year for 2003 was Mrs Lestar's Year 4 class at North Kalgoorlie Primary.



The students put in an awesome effort throughout the year and were involved in heaps of landcare activities.

To name just a few, these included: Initiating a school composting program; tree planting at Gribble Creek; bushwalking in Karlkurla Park; participating in the Schools Drawing Competition; and completing recycling projects, then forwarding the proceeds to Cambodian children.

The students and teachers received a landcare calico bag packed full of goodies from KBULG's sponsors, and the "Landcare Class of the Year" Shield for their efforts.

Thanks to all the other classes who took part in the Junior Landcare Program in 2003 — for all doing your bit to promote landcare in Kalgoorlie Boulder.

KBULG will be presenting the shield again this year, so we encourage all classes to get involved to become the Best Landcare Class for 2004!

Introducing Joanne Gray

Joanne Gray is KBULG's new Landcare officer.

Joanne has moved to Kalgoorlie with her husband from a rural property in Gidgegannup, approximately an hour from Perth.

Joanne jumped at the chance to work for KBULG, as it is such a unique Landcare group. KBULG offered the chance of continuing with environmental education, whilst protecting, conserving and managing land effectively.



KBULG is undergoing change, with membership to KBULG being offered for the first time. Joanne said "It is a group that does so much work, in and for the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community, it seems only right that the community be encouraged to become members and have a say in the directions KBULG goes."

She is looking forward to continuing the Junior Landcare program, now in its 9th year, as she loves working with primary school children. "They are like sponges, they absorb all the information you can give them and still want more, they are fantastic" Joanne said.

KBULG co-ordinates lots of great projects. "Come in and meet me & see how you can be involved."

KBULG wants YOU!

Everyone now has the opportunity to become members of the Kalgoorlie Boulder Urban Landcare Group.

Have your say in the projects we do around the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area, participate in our events, have fun & help the environment at the same time!

Members have the opportunity to 'have your say', become committee members, participate in KBULG exclusive events and receive discounts on plants and KBULG merchandise. We will also keep you up to date on Landcare activities and how you can be involved.

So, become involved in this award winning community group. Just fill in the membership form on page 3 and get it to us, by mail, email, on foot, however you like, just make sure we receive it! We look forward to meeting you.

KBULG - Better environment, better lifestyle communicate, educate, participate



Western Power



Stop CALTROPS Now!

The February rain has been great for our gardens and bushland, but unfortunately rain also brings weeds in abundance.

One weed, which has come up in alarming proportions around Kalgoorlie-Boulder, is **Caltrop**.



Caltrop Flower

Caltrop needs temperatures above 30 degrees to germinate and moisture, hence the rapid germination after our recent rainfall.

The weed takes only 3 weeks to flower after germination and 10 days later can produce fruits. If conditions remain moist, it will continue to seed indefinitely, so it is important that the weeds are removed as soon as they come up. For small areas of the weed, they can be hand pulled using gloves and a small shovel and placed in a plastic bag in the bin. For larger infestations a herbicide may be used such as 'Round Up' but check with your local hardware store and read the safety instructions carefully.

We all need to make a special effort over the next few months to remove any plants we see in our yards, on road verges and around schools, parks etc.



The nasty prickles can puncture bike tyres and lodge in shoes and are a problem for adults, children and pets.

Seed

KBULG has produced a free full colour pamphlet about the Common Weeds of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the best ways to remove them. These are available from the Landcare Office.

KBULG VOLUNTEERS

Have you ever been a KBULG Volunteer? Joanne would like to hear from anyone who has helped.

Would you like to Volunteer for this amazing group? Joanne would like to hear from you as well.

Please contact the Landcare Office.

Karlkurla Park—Trail Upgrade

The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, KBULG's major sponsor, has upgraded the paths in Karlkurla Park. The 4 km loop walk trail that weaves through the Park has been sealed.

Karlkurla Park is a lovely place to go for a walk just before sunset. The lookout gives excellent views of the surrounding bushland. You are welcome to take a picnic and sit at one of the picnic tables placed every 200m along the trail but please take your rubbish home with you.

Read the Newsletter on the WEB

Did you know that the newsletter is available on the KBULG web site? Go to www.kalgoorlie.com/kbulg and view the latest newsletter plus all the previous editions.

We can also email the newsletter to you if you wish. Just email us at kbulg@emerge.net.au and we will put you on the emailing list.

WATERWISE LAWNS

- * Good management of lawn areas will result in significant reductions in water use.
- * The most water efficient way to manage a lawn is to give it just enough to survive over the hot months. Only water when grass shows signs of stress. This shows up as a loss of the bright colour and slight wilting.
- * Light applications of fertiliser every three mows or three months will enhance the appearance of your lawn.
- * If you are frugal with your water you can be frugal with fertiliser; the recommended rates of application shown on the bags should be regarded as the absolute maximum.
- * Fertilisers, which have some animal, manure content help to maintain the organic matter level of the soil.
- * All fertilisers should be applied immediately before a watering.
- * Set mowers so that 10mm – 15 mm length of lawn leaf is remaining. This amount of leaf will shade the soil surface and reduces evaporation.
- * Only top dress to even out bumps and hollows and then only use special top-up dressing mixes, which contain organic matter.
- * A deep watering up to 20 mm (dependant on soil type and depth) twice a week for summer is far more beneficial than quick water every day. (That's about 30- 40 minutes of watering)

Remember the water restrictions still apply and you can only water once on your 2 allocated days during the evenings or early morning, during the permitted times. The use of sprinklers for watering lawns and gardens is not permitted in the daytime between 9:00am to 6:00pm.

Last digit of your house number:	Your 2 sprinkler days are:	
1	Wednesday	Saturday
2	Thursday	Sunday
3	Friday	Monday
4	Saturday	Tuesday
5	Sunday	Wednesday
6	Monday	Thursday
7	Tuesday	Friday
8	Wednesday	Saturday
9	Thursday	Sunday
0	Friday	Monday

COMING EVENTS!

CleanUp Australia Day—Sunday 7th March

Goldfields Environment Month—June

Arbor Day—Friday 11th June

Community Tree Planting Day—Sat 3rd July

KBULG COMMITTEE MEMBER

KBULG profiles one committee member in each issue of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Landcare News. This issue we will profile our Treasurer, Rod Botica, from the Water Corporation.



1. WHAT DO YOU DO?

Customer Accounts Services and Customer Relationship Team Leader with the Water Corporation. I am responsible for providing a friendly, professional and efficient customer service for all water related business. In addition I promote advisory services and waterwise education to residential customers, business, mining, community groups and schools. We have a well trained and friendly team of 4 here in Kalgoorlie/Boulder to deliver these services to the wider Goldfields Region.

2. WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES?

I enjoy my family, reading, meditation, Reiki Healing, walking, being active in the community and doing community service work assisting in healing, welfare and the environment.

3. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN KALGOORLIE?

I have lived here for 16 years and I have been a member with KBULG for 10 years.

4. WHY DO YOU ENJOY BEING INVOLVED IN KBULG?

KBULG is a positive influence in promoting awareness and spreading knowledge of the local environment within the Community, Business, Mining and Government Sectors. I enjoy the working partnerships formed with the many professional and environmentally minded people who volunteer their service to deliver an improved environment and calling them my friends. I appreciate and enjoy the positive "can do" attitudes of members and I am proud of the many impressive achievements of KBULG over many years of community service. Together we have made a huge difference in making the local environment better.

Formation of Native Plant Group

KBULG is seeking expressions of interested from people interested in propagating and/or growing plants native to the Kalgoorlie region.

The aim of the group would be to increase the number and variety of local native plants grown in local gardens.

No experience or qualifications are necessary, however participants should have a keen interest for growing local native plants, and be willing to experiment with propagation techniques and share the knowledge gained.

It is hoped that we may be able to encourage participation from groups and individuals already experienced and involved with propagating and growing native plants to speak and/or run workshops to teach participants.

Expressions of interest should be forwarded to Joanne Gray at the KBULG Landcare Office in Lotteries House.

Mail: PO Box 10381, Kalgoorlie, WA, 6433.

Ph: (08) 9091 6233 Email: kbulg@emerge.net.au

KBULG Membership Application

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....POSTCODE:.....

PHONE:..... FAX:.....

EMAIL:.....

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (please tick one):

Gold Membership includes KBULG Shirt & Cap

\$10 - Basic Individual

\$40 - Gold

\$5 - Basic Child (under 16)

\$30 - Gold

\$25 - Basic Family

\$100 - Gold

(Above prices include GST)

Projects you are interested in being involved with:

Community Tree Planting Days

Junior Landcare

Regeneration Zones

Recycling

Busy bees on weekends

Bushwalks

Gardening with native plants

Displays and promotions

Other (please specify).....

.....

Ph:.....I'm interested in volunteering. (Please call me on the above phone number)

PLEASE FILL IN & SEND CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER TO:

KALGOORLIE-BOULDER URBAN LANDCARE GROUP.

PO Box 10381, Kalgoorlie WA 6430



LOCAL FLORA PROFILE



This quarter we will review a goldfields indigenous plant, suitable for a waterwise garden in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

The information below is reproduced from KBULG produced materials.

Both the Goldfields Waterwise Plants Poster & the Native Plant Guide are available from the KBULG office, along with a variety of other informative pamphlets.

Common Name: Slender Fuchsia

Scientific Name: *Eremophila decipiens subsp. decipiens ms*

Size and Form: Low many-branched shrub, 0.3 - 1.5m high and 1 - 2m wide.

Flowers: Red orange tubular flowers, 30mm long with protruding stamens; on long, curved flower stalks.

Fruits: Fruits are round and dry, 5 - 8mm in diameter.

Leaves: Flat with pointed tips. 10mm to 40mm long

Habitat: Red or yellow sand, granite, laterite or clay soils on undulating plains, claypans, salt lakes and screes.

Interesting Facts: Decipiens means misleading.

Flowers are much enjoyed by honeyeaters.

RECYCLING

Say NO to Plastic Bags!

- * 6.9 billion plastic bags are used in Australia every year.
- * If they were tied together, they would circle the globe 42 and a half times.
- * If these 6.9 billion plastic bags were made into a single plastic sheet, it would cover 2,300 square kilometres. Each side of the plastic sheet would be 48 km long.
- * The sheet of plastic would be large enough to cover the bulk of the city of Melbourne.

(Source: Cleanup Australia website Feb 2004 www.cleanup.com.au)

REFUSE & REDUCE

- * When shopping, take reuseable bags with you such as calico, go-green or string bags, or try a basket or box. Keep them in the car so they're handy.
- * If you must use plastic bags, reuse them several times and then remember to place them in the special recycling bins inside either Coles or Woolworths. Don't just throw them away.

KBULG has calico shopping bags for sale from \$4. Available at the Landcare Office.

DOGS – OUT & ABOUT IN KARLKURLA PARK

'Delphi' dog has enjoyed many walks, with her owners, in Karlkurla Park since moving to Kalgoorlie.

She is always on the lead and has a small lightweight pouch attached to her lead that holds her tidy bags and her owners keys.



Karlkurla Park is a great place to exercise and walk your dog but please remember a few things when walking up there with your four legged friends.

- * Dogs must ALWAYS be on a lead in the park.
 - * Have a dog tidy bag with you to clean up after your dog – you can be fined \$200 for not cleaning up.
 - * Don't let your dogs drink from the water troughs in the park – these are for native animals only.
 - * Please discourage barking as it scares the native animals.
- If everyone follows these few simple rules the park can be enjoyed by everyone.

LOCAL BIRD WATCH

Common Name: Grey Butcherbird

Scientific Name: *Cracticus torquatus*

Other names: Break-of-day Bird

Description: Predominantly black and white. White throat distinguishes it from the Pied Butcherbird. Juveniles dull brown with a buff front. Prominently hooked upper mandible.

Size: 280-320mm

Diet: Feeds on insects, small mammals and occasionally nestlings.

Occurrence: Sedentary and territorial. Occasionally seen in the urban area, but more often in surrounding woodland and scrub. Prefers denser vegetation cover than the Pied Butcherbird.

Local Status: Moderately common species, usually single or occasionally in pairs.

Source: Goldfields Naturalist Club (1995) Common Birds of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

To find out more about other birds in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, the Goldfields Naturalist Clubs book, Common Birds of Kalgoorlie-Boulder is available from the Landcare Office for \$12.



For more details on any of the articles in this newsletter or to find out more about the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group call or visit the Landcare Office located in Lotteries House (Corner Wilson and MacDonald Streets, Kalgoorlie).

Phone: 9091 6233 or 0418 935 498 Web: www.kalgoorlie.com/kbulg Email: kbulg@emerge.net.au