

## Committee Member Profile

KBULG profiles one committee member in each issue of Landcare News. This issue we profile our new KBULG Committee Chairperson Bill Mason.

### 1. What do you do?

Business Development Manager for Curtin University's Centre for the Management of Arid Environments. CMAE investigates rangeland and 'arid zone' issues such as grazing management, ecology, enterprise diversification and animal production.



### 2. What are your hobbies?

Being a dad to a five year old!! In May I was re-elected as a City Councillor for a second four-year term – so Council meetings, committees and briefings keep me busy - it's been a great opportunity to help create solutions to local issues.

### 3. How long have you been in Kalgoorlie-Boulder?

Since 1994 – I was Manager of the Goldfields Arts Centre for three years and then worked for the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission for the next five years (including a great year 'at home' looking after a new baby).

### 4. What do you enjoy about being involved with KBULG?

It's good to be part of an effective 'grass roots' group that unites community members and industry representatives 'making a real difference' to the quality of the local environment.

## Introducing the New KBULG Committee



KBULG had its Annual General Meeting on Friday the 25th July and among other agenda items a new Executive Management Committee was elected. The new team consists of:

#### Chairperson

Bill Mason Councillor - City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder  
Centre for Management of Arid Environments

#### Deputy Chairperson

Sequoia Eagles WMC Resources

#### Secretary

Hugh Gallagher Chamber of Commerce and Industry

#### Treasurer

Rod Botica Water Corporation

KBULG would like to welcome those mentioned and we look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

A big thank you to all the outgoing executives for their contribution over the last year. These include: Anthony Whiteaker - Chairman, Brad Gordon - Deputy Chairperson, and Edith Heiberg - Treasurer. Your assistance, as with the other committee members during 2002/2003, has been greatly appreciated.

## BEWARE! SNAKES ARE OUT

As the weather warms up, out come the snakes and reptiles. There are about 27 types of snakes in the Goldfields. 19 of these belong to the front-fanged family of venomous snakes; however, only 6 species are considered dangerous to humans.

The most common dangerous snake in the Goldfields is the Gwardar or Western Brown snake. The Gwardar (*pictured*) is a dangerously venomous snake that can be hard to identify due to its variation in colour. Its favourite food is the common house mouse and therefore is often encountered in residential areas.



Other Goldfields snakes include the Mulga Snake or King Brown, Spotted Mulga Snake, Yellow Faced Whip Snake, and the Desert Death Adder. These snakes are more commonly seen in the bush as they largely feed on mammals and other reptiles. The Dugite is closely related to the Gwardar (both are Brown snakes) however it is not as common as the Gwardar in the Goldfields.

### SNAKE SENSE

The most effective method of maintaining a snake free yard is to have a spring clean up. Remove all rubbish and debris, especially stacked timber, tin and long grass. Ensure you are not attracting mice, as you will also attract snakes - as mentioned mice are the favourite food of the Gwardar.

When walking in the bush make sure you are wearing trousers, long sleeve shirt and boots and look where you are walking and putting your hands. If you do see a snake, do not panic! Just keep clear and allow it to move away. Call one of the registered '*Snake Busters*' below and they will assist in the removal of the snake from your property. Do not attempt to kill the snake as they can move and strike very quickly.

#### Volunteer Snake Busters:

Bruce Budrey Kambalda Tel: 9027 1909, 0403 733 871  
Joe Jarvis Kalgoorlie Tel: 9091 2220, 0407 418 388

A great resource on snakes is available at:

[www.members.iinet.net.au/~bush/](http://www.members.iinet.net.au/~bush/) This is Brian Bush's web page. Brian is an expert in this field and his site is full of information on snakes and other reptiles. Entertaining read.

*Resources: Information provided by Department of Conservation & Land Management. and Snakes Harmful and Harmless (see web page above). Written by Joe Jarvis.*

## 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](http://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](mailto:kbulg@emerge.net.au) and we will put you on the emailing list.