

CEO UPDATE

Kim Eckert



While the temperatures are dropping, we at KBULG are far from going into hibernation over the forthcoming colder months.

Indeed, the winter months are always an exhilarating time of year, and I am looking forward to interacting with the wonderful Kalgoorlie-Boulder community during our upcoming events, noticeably our Annual Tree Planting Day on Sunday July 30th 2023.

In anticipation of the big day we are busily preparing thousands of local native seedlings to be planted in support of our ongoing commitment to improve Kalgoorlie-Boulder's green spaces in collaboration with our sponsors and the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Our Tree Planting Day is a fun, multi-generational, inspiring community event and we hope to see you there. Keep an eye out for further details on our Facebook page or email us to become a social member and continue to be updated about all our events and activities.

Over the last months we have been busy conceptualizing new projects such as the nature playground for Karlkurla Bushland Park that has progressed to the final design phase.

At the same time we have been out and about participating with stalls at community events, conducting school visits and bush walks, and have successfully held our regular annual events, including our rECONstructed Art Exhibition and Competition 2022 and our annual Clean Up Day 2023 that took place this past Sunday at Mt Charlotte Reservoir.

Since my last update in the 2022 Spring Newsletter KBULG has marked a significant milestone: In March we celebrated our organisation's 50th birthday.

I am truly humbled to have led KBULG from strength to strength as the CEO for over ten years and I am looking forward to many more rewarding projects with the community and collaborations with our partners and sponsors.

Commemorating our 50th anniversary we enjoyed three wonderful events held over March 17th – March 18th, celebrating the dedication and achievements of our staff, volunteers, committee members, sponsors and partners.

This included a Civic Reception by Mayor John Bowler at the Kalgoorlie Town Hall, a tree planting followed by a morning tea at Centennial Park organised by the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, and a mesmerising sundowner within our Community Nursery that provided an opportunity for past and present-day committee members to reflect on KBULG's history and discuss directions for the future.

I would like to wholeheartedly thank everyone who helped in the organisation and implementation of these beautiful events, we greatly appreciate the support of Northern Star – Kalgoorlie Operations and the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder to make the weekend such a success. And a special thank you to everyone who travelled from near and far to be part of our celebrations and made them so very special. We are looking forward to be 'Greening the Goldfields' for another 50 years and continue to be grateful to the community for an enthusiastic uptake of our events and projects.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our committed staff, committee, volunteers, the community and ALL our sponsors.

With the continued passion and input of everyone, KBULG is successfully achieving our vision of "working towards a Better Environment, Better Lifestyle for the people of the Goldfields".

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CELEBRATING 50 Years OF KBULG



Celebratory Sundowner with past and present-day Committee Members



Cake made by Nikki Ulrich

KBULG today is known as the Goldfields largest and most active Community Environmental Organisation, and we are proud and grateful to have become the principal environmental knowledge sharing hub of the Goldfields and driving force behind innovative environmental initiatives.

Many of our community members recognize us from our various projects and activities, noticeably our regularly organized community events, and have visited us and our open community nursery within Karlkurla Bushland Park.

However, not many residents are aware of our organisation's origin and historical events and developments that led to our formation.

The environmental movement in Kalgoorlie-Boulder was firstly initiated by the Goldfields Dust Abatement Committee (GDAC), originally formed in 1973 in response to the severe dust storms which detrimentally affected the community and the Goldfields' environment.

Dust storms were reportedly so intense that residents were left having to shovel dust of their verandas.

The GDAC was successful in achieving the establishment of a 'green belt area' surrounding the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder by devising and fencing off an approximate 3,500 ha of native bushland into six recognized regeneration zones.



**KALGOORLIE-BOULDER URBAN LANDCARE GROUP
THIS TREE WAS PLANTED BY
MAYOR JOHN BOWLER
AND
KIM ECKERT OAM
TO CELEBRATE 50 YRS OF
GREENING THE GOLDFIELDS
18-3-2023**

These regeneration zones serve to block out the dust and remain largely intact to this day. Another environmental group, the Gobble Creek Management Committee, subsequently formed to oversee the health of our only creek system.

In 1984 the GDAC and the Gobble Creek Management Committee reformed into KBULG, with KBULG being incorporated as a Community Landcare Group in 1994.

KBULG today operates out of and manages Karlkurla Bushland Park, one of the original six regeneration zones devised by the GDAC.

Continuing on from the GDAC, a core mission of KBULG remains the conservation of intact bushland and the 're-greening' of urban spaces.

Due to widespread deforestation

activities from 1900-1965 the majority of existing vegetation surrounding our city comprises less than 100-year-old regrowth, and for intact ecosystems to flourish it is crucial to ensure its ongoing protection.

At the same time, we focus on developing and implementing projects that share conservation and sustainable living-focussed ideas, while fostering inclusion, skill development and personal well-being for the community.

SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday July 30th
9:00am - 11:00am**

**National
Tree Planting Day
Event**

Join us for a morning of tree planting followed by a sausage sizzle (vegetarian option available).

Location to be released closer to event date.





ADVERTISING FEATURE

www.kbulg.org.au

Get out to warm up

On cooler days it is tempting to stay inside, nestle in our bed (which is perfectly ok) and turn on the heating. Although this can be indeed nice and cosy, we might be missing out on precious opportunities for time outdoors during a truly beautiful time of the year.

The air is clear and crisp and the pesky flies are few. Warm yourself up and take an invigorating walk in Karlkurla Bushland Park. Enjoy the many interpretive signs along the well-marked 4km walk trail and take a picnic and a thermos to Katunga Lookout.

Or maybe organise a nature scavenger hunt for the little explorers in your family.

The benefits of winter exercise are many and being outdoors getting warm means we save on heaters and power bills.



GETTING YOUR AUTUMN AND WINTER VEGETABLES TO GROW

The colder months provide some challenges for both amateur and professional gardeners. Cooler days, morning frost and reduced daylight make successfully growing vegetables indeed a little harder.

But don't be frightened – It is an excellent time of year to grow vegetable and herb seeds that love cooler conditions.

Some considerations to help your cold season planting success:

Sunlight and Frost

Keep in mind the lower path of the sun across the winter sky and the reduced hours of daylight. This will result in an increased amount of shade, in particular in the vicinity of trees or high structures. Position your winter vegetable patch in your sunniest garden section and ensure that it is sheltered from strong winds. Leafy greens and root vegetables generally perform well in partial shade and are a great option to plant in the cooler months. To protect your crop from frost you can use geo fabrics such as hessian as a shield. Some winter vegetables are known to tolerate a little frost and frost can even improve their taste as it triggers certain crops to produce more sugars. After a frost try harvesting hardy crops such as snow pea, parsnip, carrots, broccoli and cauliflower.

Adequate Spacing

In winter it is especially tempting to sow extra seeds in case not all germinate successfully. However, you might end up with a high germination rate, and therefore it is important to thin your seedlings to ensure adequate room to grow and to avoid overcrowding. Rather than sowing all your seeds in one go consider succession planting around every two weeks to allow for a longer growing season with your vegetables maturing at different times.

Moisture and Maintenance

If possible, water your crop in the morning to allow any excess water to dry off and avoid crop being left damp overnight and more prone to diseases. Although evaporation rates are significantly lower during the cooler months, it is important to ensure constant moisture supply. The use of mulch will help to keep soils warm and limit the growth of weeds. Homemade compost will increase natural soil dynamics and improve soil structure while worm juice or diluted seaweed solution will nourish your crop without overfeeding them.

Winter-loving Vegetables and Herbs

You have been asking yourself what crop might be worthwhile to plant over the colder months?

Early Winter is the perfect time to grow these vegetables and herbs:

- Broccoli
- Cabbage
- Carrot
- Cauliflowers
- Endive
- Kohl Rabi
- Leek
- Lettuce
- Onions
- Parsley
- Parsnip
- Silverbeet
- Snow pea
- Spinach
- Swede
- Turnip

REPORT ON CLEAN UP DAY

This year's Clean Up Kalgoorlie-Boulder Day was held at Mt Charlotte Reservoir and, originally scheduled for its regular March date, had to be postponed to last weekend - Sunday May 21st, due to necessary remediation works undertaken by the Water Corporation.

One of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's most prominent landmarks and associated with great historical significance, Mt Charlotte's bushland is unfortunately subjected to an ongoing influx of litter that blows onto the site from the Goldfields Highway. The morning was a great success with nearly 40 volunteers joining the clean-up effort, before being rewarded with a free sausage sizzle.

It was great to see so many families participate with their young children already well aware of the importance of picking up rubbish rather than walking past it. KBULG would like to thank the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's green team for all their support on the day and during the lead-up to the event, while we are also very grateful for the free provision of skip bins by Cleanaway.

We would also like to thank our sponsors Northern Star, the Kalgoorlie Miner, the Water Corporation, the Rotary Clubs of Kalgoorlie and Boulder, the Department of Water

and Environmental Regulation, and Bunnings Warehouse.

The ongoing support from these organisations enables us to plan and implement rewarding events such as our annual Clean-Up Day, benefiting both the environment and the community spirit.



Recycle & Create for your Home and Garden

Winter is the time to do a stocktake and repurpose items into new creations for your home and garden. This might also inspire you to create an entry for KBULG's reCONstructed Art Exhibition and Competition in November and/or make your garden stand out at our Sustainable Garden Competition in September.

Recycled art can loosely be described as art that uses materials that are usually discarded, making functional and aesthetic use of what we would, in other contexts, define as waste. There is no rule as to what types of materials can be used – let your imagination flow!

Plastic Bottle Jewellery Stand

What you will need: 4 plastic bottles (2 x 2 litre, 1 x 1 litre, 1 x 600ml), Utility knife, Scissors, 30cm-long piece of rod, Nuts and washers

- Cut the bottoms of the bottles with the utility knife to make trays, then trim them with the scissors so they look neater.
- Drill holes that are the same size as your threaded rod in the centre of each tray.
- Slide each tray on to the rod, and space them out evenly. Secure each tray with the washers and nuts. Use the base of the 2-litre bottle as the base of the stand, you just need to turn it upside down. To make the stand even prettier, add a detail such as a glass bead to the top nut.



Rainbow Tyre Planters

Just cover solid the bottoms of recycled tyres and paint them in enchanting different colours. By doing so, you will get some beautiful, super durable and cost-efficient planters for amazing garden renovations.

FLORA CORNER



Common name: Mulla Mulla

Scientific name: *Ptilotus exaltatus*

Family: Amaranthaceae

Aboriginal Name: Ula-Ula (Central Australia)

Size and Form: Upright annual, to 0.5-1m high; upon germination initially forms

a flat rosette which later produces stout and erect branched flowering stems which are up to 10mm thick.

Flowers: Large purple spikes on long stems, flowers are conical lengthening to cylindrical to 20mm long and are densely hairy and strikingly attractive.

Leaves: Bright green, spear shaped, fleshy leaves up to 20mm long and 70mm wide.

Habitat: Widespread and abundant after good spring/winter rains. Grows on limestone or rocky loams, gravelly and sandy plains and ridges.

Gardening Tips: Propagate from seed without any pre-treatment and plant as a summer annual in late spring. Plants grow best with full sun exposure and good drainage.

Come and see the range of native plants at the KBULG Community Nursery in Karlkurla Bushland Park open Monday to Friday 8.00am to 12.00 noon. Email admin@kbulg.org.au for directions.

FAUNA CORNER

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*

Description: Tiny colourful bird distinguished by white eyebrows with a yellow spot in front of the eye, olive-grey backs and a white stripe in the wing. Males and females have similar plumage with young birds being noticeably paler, especially on the crown and face.

Distribution: The Striated Pardalote occurs throughout most of Australia, with the exception of the most arid areas. It is commonly spotted in Karlkurla Bushland Park. Like other species of pardalotes, it is found only in Australia.

Habitat: Striated Pardalotes can adapt to almost any habitat with trees or shrubs,

but prefer eucalypt forests and woodlands.

Diet & Feeding Behaviour: Striated Pardalotes forage for food in the foliage of tree tops and are sometimes also observed close to the ground in low shrubs. Their diet includes a wide variety of insects and insect larvae and birds are often spotted feeding together in small groups.

Breeding: Over the breeding season pairs or small groups of up to six birds are formed. Nests are built close to the ground, often in tree hollows or tunnels. Females and males both incubate and raise the offspring. Other group members may also assist with the feeding.



VOLUNTEER WITH KBULG!

Have you ever considered **volunteering** your time to help other organisations?

KBULG is just one of the organisations that **welcome volunteers** not just at major events but also at our **Community Nursery in Karlkurla Bushland Park**. If you have a few hours to spare and are interested in developing skills in propagating and caring for our local, native plants, get in touch: admin@kbulg.org.au

GET THRIFTING

In the need of a warm jumper or jacket? Consider shopping second hand in our local Op shops.

What are the benefits other than saving money? It takes around 10,000 litres of water to make 1 outfit – a T-shirt and a pair of jeans. Can you imagine how much water and energy is used for producing the 80 billion pieces of clothes that are manufactured globally

every year? Not to mention the pollution and child labour associated with clothes production.

The average Australian buys approximately 15kg of new clothes per year, while roughly 260,000 tonnes or 10kg of clothing items per person reaches landfill every year.

Currently only 7,000 tonnes of textiles are recycled in Australia per year while Australia's reuse charities are the biggest network diverting

clothing from landfill and currently extend the life of \$527m worth of preloved clothes. Shopping second hand will save you money, make your wardrobe unique, and the planet will thank you for relying less on the fast fashion industry.



How to REDUCE YOUR FOOD WASTE workshops

In April 2023 the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder commenced a new initiative to encourage residents to undertake organic recycling through organising quarterly educational workshops and by introducing a rebate scheme for the purchase of worm farms and compost bins.

Recyclable food and garden waste account for nearly half of household waste destined for landfill every year.

Worms decompose foods like fruit, vegetables and garden leaves and are beneficial to the environment. Composting our food scraps and organic garden waste that

otherwise would unnecessarily end up in landfill can:

- Enhance soil quality and garden vitality by releasing nutrient-rich soil
- Control plant diseases and pests, reducing or eliminating the need for

chemical fertilisers and manures, and allowing you to save money

- Help soils retain moisture, requiring less watering

During the first round of 1-hour workshops residents learnt from the renowned Peg Davies, familiar to many from 'Gardening Australia'.

Peg has been inspiring people to "rethink waste" for most of her life and provided residents with guidance on how to get the maximum benefits from worm farms, compost bins, or bokashi bins, as well as offering her insider knowledge on cutting down on food waste. The workshops were a full success and enthusiastically taken up by the community.



Find out more about this new program supporting household organic recycling, the resident rebate scheme and upcoming educational workshops at: www.ckb.wa.gov.au/residents/waste-recycling/household-organic-recycling.aspx

TRACK YOUR HOUSEHOLD

WASTE

Doing a simple waste audit and tracking your weekly household rubbish can help reduce your amount of landfill and non-organic recycling. A waste audit simply entails the recording of your outgoing waste.

This includes three main categories of waste you are likely to be dealing with: Recyclable (organic), Recyclable (non-organic) and Non-recyclable (Landfill). For a successful waste audit we recommend:

- Use the checklist below for at least a week to get an accurate overview of your household waste composition
- To avoid a smelly bin dive record your items as you throw them away and write them down straight away so you don't forget.
- If you have multiple bins in the house, consider keeping a list for each of them

Type of Waste	
Recyclable (organic)	
Whole Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Food Scraps	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Paper and Cardboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Recyclable (non-organic)	
Plastic (bottles / containers)	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Aluminium (cans, trays and foil)	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Milk cartons (LPB)	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Non-Recyclable	
Snack wrappers (chips, lollies and ice-cream)	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Juice cartons (UHT/Tetra-Paks)	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Plastic bags, Zip-lock bags & Cling wrap	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
Whole Packaged Unopened Food	<input type="checkbox"/> Count
General Rubbish	<input type="checkbox"/> Count

After the Audit

Whatever your waste audit outcome might be – try to implement small realistic changes and after a while conduct another audit to see how you can further improve. Any small change you make will truly make a difference, and is a step towards living an eco-friendlier lifestyle.

Some tips for success:

- If you got plenty of recyclable organic waste and don't yet have a home composting system this might be a great time to get one
- If the audit reveals a large amount of plastic or paper this can be a great prompt to rethink packaging you bring home from the shops and find alternatives such as buying in bulk
- Try to get your household members and visitors on-board with the idea of reducing waste

Cultural Arts with Hannans Primary School



KBULG is honoured to be part of a Cultural Community Art Project with students from Hannans Primary School.

The project is facilitated in partnership with the school, Evolution Mining and Edie & Danny Ulrich.

Students have the opportunity to learn about local native plants and their habitats and traditional uses.

Getting acquainted with natives such as mulga and saltbush students were also treated to tastings of honey ants and quandong jam.

This innovative collaborative community project, aimed at raising young students' awareness of local environmental and cultural heritage, is a hit with



the youngsters and we hope that it will set a best practice example and provide an inspiration for many classroom projects to come.



UPCOMING EVENTS...

- WA DAY AT THE MUSEUM OF THE GOLDFIELDS – June 5**
- TREE PLANTING DAY – July 30**
- SUSTAINABLE GARDEN COMPETITION – Entries due September 6**
- RECONSTRUCTED ART COMPETITION – Entries due October 30 to November 4**



KBULG SCHEME ID C10285533

HELP KBULG BY DONATING YOUR CONTAINERS OR THE FUNDS RAISED BY RETURNING YOUR CONTAINERS.

WHICH CONTAINERS CAN YOU CASH-IN?

WHICH CONTAINERS YOU CAN NOT CASH-IN?

✓ Eligible Containers



Most glass, plastic, aluminium, steel and paper based cartons between 150ml and 3L.

✗ Ineligible Containers



Containers not commonly found in litter, including all plain milk, flavoured milks, 1L and above, pure juice drinks, wine and spirit bottles, cordials.



Time to renew your membership!

Join Kalgoorlie-Boulder's leading community environment group . . .

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone: _____

To receive KBULG news the environmentally friendly way, please provide us with your email address

Email: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: (tick one)

☐ Business \$100

☐ Financial Membership* \$10

☐ Social Membership (free) (Individual, junior or family)

Number of Adults: _____ Children: _____

*Financial Membership entitles you to have voting privileges and 10% off KBULG purchases.

If you volunteer with KBULG, here are some of the projects you can be involved in:

- Community Tree Planting Days
- Regeneration Zones
- Recycling Clean Up Days
- Bushwalks
- Gardening with Native Plants
- Flora and Fauna

☐ I am interested in volunteering (please tick)

Comments: _____

SUPPORT KBULG BY BECOMING A FINANCIAL MEMBER AND GET 10% OFF ALL PLANT PURCHASES

RETURN TO: KALGOORLIE-BOULDER URBAN LANDCARE GROUP
PO Box 8133, Hannans WA 6433
Phone: 0418935498
Email: admin@kbulg.org.au

Thank you to our valued sponsors



Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation