



"Cloud" - a wild female koala

'The Two Mountains Koala Trail'

A project of the
Lal Lal Catchment and Upper Williamsons Landcare Groups

NEWSLETTER No. 5 April 2015

Aim of the Koala Trail Project: *To create a landscape between Mts Warrenheip and Buninyong where koalas can migrate in relative safety and comfort, with the goodwill and support of the local community.*

Not too late to order trees

Koalas prefer Manna Gums, Swamp Gums, and Red Gums as their main source of food, so please consider planting more of these species in spare corners of your property.

Plant around dams where possible – as koalas need access to an open source of water in hot weather over 39°C

Plant along road verges where possible – when a koala gets a fright they head for the nearest tree. Its best if the tree is on the same side of the road as the koala. Contact one of the names below if interested.

Friends of Mt Buninyong is a small group of local residents who aim to preserve the natural features of the mountain as far as it is possible. Contact David Turley (see below) for details and help them in their efforts. The group are a sub-group of the Upper Williamsons Creek Landcare Group.

2015 Plantings

Two properties near the 2014 plantings are planning to put in koala-friendly trees this winter. They are being assisted by the Lal Lal Catchment Landcare Group with expertise and funding.

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40 properties between Mts Buninyong and Warrenheip have sprayed and mulched gorse this summer, reducing the area covered in this weed by around 82hectares. In addition the railway easements have been sprayed/mulched (thanks to V-Line and VicTrack) and roadsides sprayed (Moorabool Shire Council).

2014 Plantings

The trees planted on the property of Linda Grant, Glenanes Road, Dunnstown, have done well with over 80% survival and the trees up to one metre in height. Whilst currently protected by an electric fence, it is planned to remove the fence and allow grazing between the trees when they are 4- 5 years of age.

Send in your photos to Roger MacRaidl at rmacraidl@yahoo.com.au. Maybe its young trees you have planted, weeds cleared, or a visiting koala.



Near Bacchus Marsh – This young koala was perched in a small tree and spotted by Andrew Matthews whilst out checking for weeds on his property.

Change of Facilitator

Max Coster retired on 30 April 2015 and a new facilitator will take up duties within two weeks

The Steering Committee wishes to acknowledge support from the following organisations – Janine Duffy, Echidna Walkabout - for technical advice on koalas; Central Highlands Water – aerial maps, trees and guards; Warrenheip Primary School and St Brendans Catholic School – newsletters; Moorabool Shire Council community grant, DEPI Communities for Nature Grant up to date with progress of this exciting project on the [Moorabool Landcare Network website](#)