

# CEO UPDATE

*Kim Eckert*

Another Spring has come around and this year we are treated to a truly glorious Goldfields Spring with lush green growth and an abundance of colourful wildflowers. If you can, now is a great time to go out exploring the magnificent Great Western Woodlands, or witness stunning examples of unique Great Western Woodlands vegetation within our beloved Karlkurla Bushland Park.

This brings me to one of KBULG's proudest moments in the history of my tenure as CEO: The recent completion and opening of the new nature playground within Karlkurla Bushland Park in collaboration with the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, and with additional sponsorship support from the WA State Government, Northern Star Resources and Western Power.

We were so happy and grateful that the stars aligned and that, despite logistical challenges due to delays caused by heavy rainfall earlier in the year and technical difficulties, we were able to coincide our annual Tree Planting Day with a community celebration at the - just completed - new nature playground.

The day exceeded all our expectations with more than 600 attendees planting an approximate 3000 plants, officially making it our group's most popular event to date.

I was honoured to be part of an official ceremony late last month where our Premier of Western Australia, the Hon Roger Cook MLA and the Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Glenn Wilson, officially opened the new all-ability, inclusive, playground.



Last weekend myself and the KBULG judging team were extremely privileged to admire the extraordinary efforts demonstrated by members of our community towards implementing innovative and creative sustainable landscaping and gardening techniques as part of our 2024 Sustainable Garden Quest.

We were fortunate to attract a diverse array of entries from residents, community groups and schools, and are very thankful for those dedicated individuals sharing their inspiring ideas in relation to waterwise and sustainable gardening with us.

If you haven't found time over the winter months to make creative use of anything you'd normally toss out - it's not too late and there is still time to start crafting your entry for our rECONstructed Recycled Art Competition held in November.

As usual, we don't impose any rules on the materials that can be used and our theme remains 'Anything goes'.

The rECONstructed Competition is one of our favourite events of the year - especially since we get to mingle with many of our wonderful community members during the Exhibition Opening night at the Museum of the Goldfields.

I'd like to take the time now to thank everyone for their enthusiasm and dedicated participation at our recent community events, and also wish to thank our dedicated staff, committee, wonderful volunteers, the community and our generous sponsors.

We are all doing our bit for a 'Better Environment, Better Lifestyle' for the people of the Goldfields! Enjoy this glorious time of year and thank you for taking the time to read our Spring Newsletter!

Spring Newsletter  
VOLUME 30 | Issue 1

## One of WA's largest regional Nature Playground is right here in Kalgoorlie-Boulder!

**It's finally official - Kalgoorlie-Boulder is host to one of regional WA's largest all-ability nature playground. The completion of the long-anticipated nature playground has been the dream of Kim Eckert since she stepped into the role of KBULG's CEO more than 11 years ago.**

KBULG is extremely grateful for the interest and input from several sponsors who helped us pursue this vision. Supported by Ali Kent MLA who lobbied for the installation of the playground to become an election commitment, a \$600k sponsorship for the project was acquired from the State Government, with an additional \$400k invested by the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. When construction costs escalated exponentially, KBULG's long-term sponsor Northern Star Resources provided an essential 100k sponsorship to enable the playground's completion. We are also grateful to Western Power who sponsored all relevant electrical works. KBULG conceptualised and designed the project with playground supplier Nature Playgrounds who did

an amazing job understanding and realising KBULG's dream and ideas. Eye-catching artwork from local designer Danielle Champion ensures that the playgrounds' toilets are some of the most beautiful toilets you've ever come across. Equipped with a lawn and gas barbecues, the playground provides a great spot to play, meet and share a picnic/ barbecue while relaxing in a beautiful bushland setting.

The playground was officially opened by our Premier of Western Australia, the Hon Roger Cook MLA and the Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Glenn Wilson, on Wednesday, the 28th of August 2024. A plaque was unveiled on the day that captured this very special moment and acknowledged the input of all sponsors that supported KBULG to make the long-envisioned dream become a reality.

The playground reflects one of KBULG's core objectives: To



KBULG Chief Executive Kim Eckert, Member for Kalgoorlie Ali Kent, Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Glenn Wilson and the Premier of Western Australia, the Hon Roger Cook MLA, unveiling a commemorative plaque during the Playground's official opening on the 28th of August 2024.

connect people - and especially the younger generation - with nature and the local environment. Getting acquainted with the natural Goldfields environment through play gets children out into the bushland and it makes KBULG incredibly happy to see more and more children enjoying themselves at the bushland park. The new nature playground complements Karlkurla Bushland Park's status as one of the region's prime destinations to get a taste of the Great Western Woodlands, the unique temperate woodland ecosystem that covers 16 million hectares. Rehabilitated in several phases, Karlkurla Bushland Park is a testament to the determination of the community that restored this former mining land, transforming it into a haven for flora diversity featuring stunning examples of Great Western Woodlands vegetation.



## SUSTAINABLE GARDEN QUEST WINNERS



**Residential (Owner and Tenant combined)**  
**Winner: Katherine Grant**



**Commercial (Business and Industry combined)**  
**Winner: Allison Golsby and Carl Nunan (Allora House)**



**School**  
**Winner: O'Connor Primary School**



**Community Organisation**  
**Winner: Kalgoorlie-Boulder Community Garden**



**Edible Garden**  
**Winner: South Kalgoorlie Primary School**

### Congratulations to the winners of the SUSTAINABLE GARDEN QUEST 2024!

The judges felt privileged to admire a range of beautiful, unique and diverse gardens, and were impressed by the creativity and ingenuity demonstrated by all entrants who showcased innovative waterwise techniques and a passion for sustainability.

# reconstructed

## RECYCLED ART COMPETITION

THEME: \*ANYTHING GOES\*

Celebrating National Recycling Week:  
11th-17th November 2024



### Categories

- 3D Sculpture - \$200 Cash Prize
- 2D Posters, Painting, Collage - \$200 Cash Prize
- Junior Individual (13 & Under) - \$100 Cash Prize
- Primary School Class Entry - \$200 Cash Prize
- High School Class Entry - \$200 Cash Prize
- Community Group - \$200 Cash Prize
- Family Entry - \$200 Cash Prize
- People's Choice Award - \$200 Cash Prize

### ENTRY DETAILS

ENTRY FORMS AND T&C'S AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEBSITE (WWW.KBULG.ORG.AU) OR EMAIL US (ADMIN@KBULG.ORG.AU)

ARTWORK MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE MUSEUM OF THE GOLDFIELDS BETWEEN MONDAY 4TH & SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

EXHIBITION OPENING NIGHT:  
FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER



ADVERTISING FEATURE

www.kbulg.org.au

## CURTIN STUDENT VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



Curtin Student Volunteers at KBULG's 2024 Tree Planting Day.

KBULG is very grateful for its strong, ongoing engagement with a large group of dedicated Curtin student volunteers. Curtin student volunteers from international backgrounds volunteer across the community, proactively building connections while bringing diversity and enthusiasm to many events and projects.

The students supported KBULG's 2024 Tree Planting

Day where they additionally assisted to clean up the area in collaboration with the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Council, and also took part in KBULG's 2024 Clean-Up Kalgoorlie-Boulder Day, at both events representing the largest participating group of volunteers.

Despite being presented with significant challenges taking up university studies in an isolated outback city without a personal support network, while many young students are for the first time residing in a foreign country, these young students successfully manage to undertake their studies and to also frequently volunteer their time in the community.

Through volunteering the

students proactively build connections in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community rather than being isolated and disconnected from their new home community.

Apart from assisting KBULG, causes and events the students have supported over the last year include:

- Food Bank Kalgoorlie (Multiple times a year)
- The Goldfields Children Charity
- Science After Dark (Museum of the Goldfields)
- Volunteering in Esperance assisting with sand dune rehabilitation with the Esperance Volunteer Centre and local nursery
- St Barbara's Miners Memorial Service
- St Barbara's Parade

## MAKE YOUR OWN OUTDOOR MOSQUITO REPELLENT CANDLES

With the warmer months and evenings spent outside coming up, these natural Mosquito Repellent Candles not only protect you from getting bitten by pesky uninvited visitors, but they also look and smell great. And they only take 5 minutes to assemble!

### What you'll need:

- Wide mouth mason jars
- Essential oils such as lavender, peppermint, lime, eucalyptus, lemon as per your desired candle
- Lavender stems, rosemary sprigs and/or eucalyptus stems
- Fresh lemon and lime
- Floating candles
- Tap water

### Lavender/Peppermint Candle

- 10 drops lavender essential oil
- 10 drops peppermint essential oil

### Eucalypt/Lime Candle

- 10 drops eucalyptus essential oil
- 10 drops lime essential oil

### Eucalypt/Peppermint/Lemon Candle

- 10 drops eucalyptus essential oil
- 10 drops peppermint essential oil
- 10 drops lemon essential oil

### Instructions

1. Cut lemon (and/or lime) into thick slices and place 2-3 slices inside each glass jar.
2. Place 2-3 sprigs of greenery (lavender, rosemary or eucalyptus) into each jar.
3. Add essential oils as per your chosen candle composition (see above).
4. Fill the jar with water to the neck of the jar, submerging the citrus slices and sprigs of greenery.
5. Place a floating candle inside the jar.

# FLORA CORNER



### Common name:

Goldfields Daisy

### Scientific name:

Olearia muelleri

### Aboriginal Name:

Tjurtu ngurlu (Goldfields)

### Size and Form:

Often observed as compact round shrubs up to 60cm high, while in rare circumstances older plants can reach 1.5m in height.

Flowers: Vivid white with a yellow centre, over 2cm in

diameter. Pale blue and purple colours are occasionally recorded. Flowers are produced anytime from August to January, with local weather conditions significantly affecting timing in low-rainfall areas. Most common flowering from August to October, with scattered flowering after storms at other times.

Leaves: Approximately 10mm long, flat, stiff and slightly viscid (sticky) to reduce leaf moisture loss and assist survival in low-rainfall regions.

Habitats: Wide distribution across Australia, especially in the dry mallee country of WA, SA, NT, Victoria and NSW. In WA it is very common in the Goldfields region and across the Nullarbor. Found in a

variety of habitats, generally sand, loam and clay soil types.

Characteristics: Very hardy species that is able to tolerate very hot and dry conditions. One of the few understorey species that manages to persist in the long-term absence of fire under very arid conditions. This remarkable survival ability facilitates the persistence of the species that like most Asteraceae is typified by short-lived seeds.

Interesting Fact: For Aboriginal people around the Goldfields Region the flowering of the Goldfields Daisy typically signifies the beginning of Spring.

Come and see the range of native plants at the KBULG Community Nursery in Karlkurla Bushland Park. Email [admin@kbulg.org.au](mailto:admin@kbulg.org.au) for directions.



### Southern Pygmy Spiny-tailed Skink

*Egernia depressa*

Appearance: This reptile species can grow to 140mm in length, a relatively large size for a skink. The skink's body is grey-brown with areas of white, and the species has red eyes. It has a short head with a blunt snout, and the fairly short tail has elongated spines that protect the skink from predators, with the spiky tail assisting the species to remain wedged away inside tight cracks.

Diet: The species is predominantly insectivorous and the vast majority of its diet (approximately 80 percent) consists of termites, making them a termite specialist. The skink's conspicuous small

head and pointed snout is typical of animals with a diet primarily made up of small insects. This species also feeds on larvae, centipedes, ants and other insects, with only an estimated 4 percent of the diet being comprised of plant matter.

Habitat: The Southern Pygmy Spiny-tailed Skink has a vast habitat range across Western Australia, having been observed from Kalgoorlie in the South to Newman in the North. They have been recorded along the West Coast and as far East as Laverton. The skink is often found in tight cracks and tree hollows of mallee ecosystems within the Pilbara, Gascoyne, Murchison and Goldfields areas of WA. They have also

been found to occupy rock outcrops.

Behaviour: This wary species typically remains hidden away from predators in fallen timber and tree hollows. Coming across a Southern Pygmy Spiny-Tailed Skink is therefore very special and chances are highest during the warmer parts of the day when the species emerges to bask in the sun and forages for prey. This fascinating skink continues to be spotted within Karlkurla Bushland Park by lucky walkers and fauna enthusiasts.

# ECO-FRIENDLY SPRING CLEANING

With Spring upon us many of us feel like freshening up our house with a good old fashioned spring clean! But instead of spreading chemicals around your home you might want to consider the use of more eco-friendly products.

Simple changes to your cleaning routine effectively reduce your home's exposure to chemicals, at the same time reducing your environmental footprint, while still ensuring your house will be sparkling clean!

1. **Use Reusable Cleaning Tools**  
Single-use products like wipes, paper towels and disposable gloves have a significant waste footprint. Try using reusable microfibre cloths or make cleaning rags out of old clothes that cannot be donated. Make your own disinfectant wipes

out of rags or hand towels, rubbing alcohol, and essential oils. If you can, source reusable, fair trade and certified natural rubber gloves.

2. **Buy Greener Products or Make Your Own**  
Look for eco-friendly products with mainly natural ingredients

in recycled or biodegradable packaging. Mix up your own cleaning solutions out of a wide suitable array of ingredients, including lemon and vinegar, rubbing alcohol, essential oils and other scented ingredients based on your preferences. Lemons with

their antiseptic and antibacterial properties do exceptionally well at green cleaning.  
Buy a selection of pump and spray bottles and your spring cleaning will be taken to another level!



A community celebration at the new Karlkurla Nature Playground

KBULG's Annual Tree Planting Day, hosted on Sunday, July 28th 2024 in conjunction with National Tree Planting Day, was indeed a tad extra-special this year as it coincided with the opening of the highly anticipated nature playground at Karlkurla Bushland Park.

More than 600 community members planted approximately 3000 native plant seedlings from KBULG's community nursery around the playground area, giving the community the opportunity to feel part of the completion of the playground, and evoke a sense of connectedness to the new hub of the bushland park. With so many families having participated in the

inspiring community morning, grown-ups and children alike will be able to witness the growth of their planted seedlings during playground visits over the coming months. Exceeding all of KBULG's hopes and expectations, the morning was filled with hard

work, laughter and children exploring the playground's wooden climbing beams, play fort and flying fox, archaeology sandpit, river feature and balance boardwalks. We were fortunate to again be joined by the team from the Keep Australia Beautiful WA Council who organised a 2-minute litter challenge, which resulted in the collection and removal of 752 litter items from the bushland surrounding the new playground by community members. We would like to sincerely thank all the tree-planting volunteers for their hard work and enthusiasm about the new community space, and we would also like to thank our sponsors whose loyal support enables us to continue the implementation of such rewarding and inspiring community events.



## DIY SUSTAINABLE HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS

Halloween is such a fun night of the year and Kalgoorlie-Boulder certainly knows a bit about putting up some absolutely mind-blowing house decorations! If you are keen to participate in this year's array of Halloween Houses why not try something different and make your own decorations to save money, show off your creativity, and do your bit for the planet? Below are just a couple of ideas to get you started.

### Compostable Orange Pumpkin Lanterns

This year, instead - or on top of - carving out a pumpkin carve out some oranges, add some tea candles, and enjoy the look and smell of these very cute decorative and compostable lanterns. All you need are oranges, tea candles and a kitchen knife.



### Upcycled Fence Board Decorations

Do you have any leftover fence boards? Or any type of leftover wood such as deck boards or even wood pallets that you can cut into shape? All you need is some paint and paintbrush and some cloth if you fancy a DIY mummy.



## REFRESH YOUR GARDEN IN SPRING

Spring is a wonderful time to revive your garden and witness your plants experience a burst of new growth and flowers. If you are eager to get outside and help your garden to flourish but don't know where to start here are a few pointers to get you started:

### Trim and Prune:

Pruning and dividing/transplanting plants allows you to tidy up and re-structure your garden while creating some space for new plants and allowing for better airflow. Remove spent crops and tackle weeds before they have a chance to seed.

It's easier to pull weeds when they are young because the roots are shallow. Use a spade to remove the entire weed as it can regrow even if just a small part of its root remains in the soil.

### Add Organic Matter and Mulch:

All Goldfields soils typically benefit from a decent dose of compost and/or manure to re-introduce soil microbes and to provide nutrition to your plants.

Mulch plays a vital role in keeping your soil healthy and moist while reducing evaporation. It acts a bit like sunscreen for your garden, protecting the bugs and beneficial microbes that live in the soil.

Mulch made from large pieces is more effective at allowing water through and retaining it in the soil. Spread a layer of 8-10 cm thickness over your garden beds.



Eremophila racemosa, one of the many Eremophila species that are perfect for brightening up your Garden this Spring.

### Get Ready to Plant!

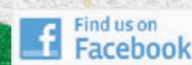
Help your seedlings along with a dose of kelp fertiliser that at the same time boosts your soil's microbiology.

If you're concerned that temperature and sunlight conditions aren't ideal for seedling

establishment yet, keep them protected in pots or trays placed in warm spots until seedlings have grown strong enough to be transplanted.

Remember to label your seedling trays to not lose track of your plantings.

Contact KBULG P: 0418 935 498  
E: [admin@kbulg.org.au](mailto:admin@kbulg.org.au) F: [www.facebook.com/KBULG1](https://www.facebook.com/KBULG1)  
W: [www.kbulg.org.au](http://www.kbulg.org.au)



## CELEBRATING WATTLES

On the 1st of September we celebrated National Wattle Day. While the Golden Wattle was officially proclaimed Australia's national floral emblem in 1988, wattles have held deep cultural and traditional use significance for Indigenous Australians for much longer.



Goldfields Tan Wattle (*Acacia hemiteles*) in bloom at Karlkurla Bushland Park.

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

**SPRING FESTIVAL**  
Sunday, October 27

**RECONSTRUCTED ART COMPETITION**  
ENTRIES DUE  
November 4  
to November 9  
OPENING NIGHT  
Friday, November 15  
5.30pm – 7.00pm

## ADOPT YOUR TREE

Over the last year the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder has planted approximately 800 street trees and has initiated an 'Adopt a Tree Program' for the community.

Under the program the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder has been calling for interested residents, businesses, schools and community groups to come forward, to suggest suitable planting areas, and to provide a helping hand with the

establishment of the newly planted trees.

Any interested individuals can apply for one or multiple trees to be planted for free as long as suggested verges are deemed appropriate for planting. Interested parties collaborate with the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder to care for newly planted and existing trees, and will importantly contribute to the greening of the City.

With the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder providing ongoing advice and tree maintenance support



such as pruning and fertilising, the program has been found to be very successful as the probability of street tree seedlings to prosper is significantly higher when they receive extra care from residents.

Find out more and submit your expression of interest to adopt you tree at <https://www.ckb.wa.gov.au/residents/environment/adopt-a-tree-program.aspx>

## SAVE WATER @ HOME WHILE YOU ARE AWAY

We always try to save water at home but tend to forget about implementing water-saving strategies when we are heading off for a well-deserved break. Consider these water-saving hacks before you take off on your next holiday:

### Check your Irrigation System

Make sure your irrigation system is working properly and set to water only when required. If rain is forecast and your trip is short, consider turning your retic off while you're away.

### Check for leaks

Do a quick sense check for leaks around the house. A small leak can waste thousands of litres of water if it's not fixed. The Water Corporation's



handy leak detection tool can help you get on top of it before you go.

### Turn off water appliances

You don't need to turn the water off to the entire house when going on holiday, but you can turn off any water-using appliances, such as your dishwasher and washing machine. And while you're there, switch them off at the wall to save electricity too!

## Timing is everything...

Plan your Vegetable/Fruit/Herb Planting this Spring

Now is a great time for planting as your plants will have the chance to establish themselves before the onset of extremely hot days. Start your seedlings off in warm, protected areas of your garden. Timing is crucial and below is your guide for planting and harvesting:



Variety	Plant Seedlings	Harvest Time	Growing Notes
ASIAN GREENS	Sept – Oct	10 – 14 weeks	Harvest before the arrival of extreme summer heat.
BASIL	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	8 – 12 weeks	Towards the end of summer plants will produce seeds.
BEANS	Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb at the latest	10 – 14 weeks	Can be replaced with another batch in mid-summer.
BEETROOT	Aug, Sept, Oct,	10 – 14 weeks Nov at the latest	Plant early Spring and harvest towards the end of the year.
CAPSICUM	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	10 – 14 weeks	Red fruit should be produced around Feb/ March.
CUCUMBER	Early Sept – Early Oct	10 – 12 weeks	Pick fruit regularly to promote additional fruiting.
EGGPLANT	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	16 – 18 weeks	Trim when dormant in Winter.
PUMPKIN	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	16 – 18 weeks	Should be ready for harvest in early autumn.
ROCKET	Early Sept – Early Oct	8 – 12 weeks	Harvest before hot weather when it will become bitter and seed.
ROCKMELON	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	16 – 18 weeks	Fruits will ripen in the hot weather.
SWEET CORN	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	12 – 16 weeks	Generally ready for harvesting 2-3 weeks after flowering.
SWEET POTATO	Sept, Oct, Nov	20+ weeks	Harvest in early winter when the leaves start to yellow and die.
TOMATO	Early Oct – Early Nov	12 – 16 weeks	Possibility to choose quick-ripening varieties.
WATERMELON	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	12 – 16 weeks	Will ripen in the hot weather.
ZUCCHINI	Late Sept, Oct, Early Nov	10 – 14 weeks	Pick fruit regularly to promote additional fruiting.

Find more valuable help and waterwise advice from the Water Corporation at: <https://www.watercorporation.com.au/Help-and-advice/Waterwise>



KBULG  
SCHEME ID  
C10285533

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

WHICH CONTAINERS CAN YOU  
CASH-IN?

✓ Eligible Containers



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

WHICH CONTAINERS YOU CAN  
NOT CASH-IN?

✗ 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.

Thank you to our valued sponsors



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation



## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

