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WILLANDRA LAKES REGION

World Heritage Area

MUNGO NATIONAL PARK



Message from the Executive Officer

Welcome to the first edition of our revamped newsletter. Our aim is to make this a quarterly publication to keep our members better informed on activities within the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area. For this to be successful we need contributions and ideas from those involved and committed to the Willandra Lakes, so I look forward to comments you can make to improve the newsletter.

There's lots of exciting things happening at the moment with the Mungo Youth Project coming up in September, and our recent success in securing grant funding to employ two Indigenous Field Officers over the next four years. They will be responsible for assisting landholders and Parks staff with a range of activities including pest control, conservation fencing, and cultural site protection.

My special thanks to the Elders of the 2 Traditional Tribal Groups of the Willandra Lakes for their support and encouragement. I trust you enjoy this inaugural issue, and I welcome your comments and suggestions

What in the world does World Heritage mean?

World Heritage is the shared heritage of all people on this planet. This UNESCO initiative recognises the Universal Value of the world's unique natural and cultural heritage. It

celebrates the past, how we live today and what we pass on to future generations.

The World Heritage emblem symbolises the focus on both cultural and natural heritage. The symbol consists of a circle, which represents nature, and an inner square representing a form made by humans. The circle and square are linked, which results in a round symbol that stands for the world and is at the same time the symbol of protection.

World Heritage sites are recognised for being unique and worthy of conservation. By putting places like the Willandra on the World Heritage List it ensures that they can continue to be experienced and enjoyed by future generations

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Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Committees

There are three official World Heritage committees responsible for policy and management in the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area.

Two Traditional Tribal Groups (2TTG's) Elders Council: Represent the interests of the traditionally affiliated Indigenous people and provide traditional perspectives on management issues, directions and priorities.

Technical Scientific Advisory Committee (TSAC): This committee gives scientific and technical support and advice to the Community Management Council and the 2TTG's Elders Council.

Community Management Council (CMC): This council is made up of stakeholders (traditional owners, landholders, shire councils & government agencies) and is an essential part of the administrative structure as it guides, implements and reviews plans. It is a link between the communities.

In addition there are other committees and bodies that make significant contributions to Willandra Lakes activities such as the Mungo Joint Management Committee, the Willandra Landholders Protection Group, Dept of Lands, and the Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority.

Our AWHAC & AWHIN Members

The Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) have established a national level World Heritage advisory body, the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee (AWHAC). AWHAC provides advice to EPHC on World Heritage issues of a national and cross-cutting nature, rather than those of a site specific or day to day nature and comprises on representative from each World Heritage property. Our AWHAC member is Michael Ockwell.

Our two Indigenous representatives on the Australian World Heritage Indigenous Network (AWHIN) are Roy Kennedy representing the Ngyiampaa & Marie Mitchell on behalf of the Paakantji. Their first meeting was held in Katoomba where they were able to Network & share ideas with indigenous representatives from other World Heritage areas. From this meeting two indigenous members were chosen to represent the indigenous people on AWHAC.

Up Coming Events

WH Region Elders meeting	31 st July
AWHAC meeting	August
AWHIN meeting	12 th Aug
Joint Management meeting	11 th Sept
Mungo Youth Project	9 th Sept



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James Shevlin & Sally Barnes Visit the Willandra

A visit from James Shevlin, First Assistant Secretary Heritage Division & Sally Barnes, Deputy Director General of Parks & Wildlife Group joined the Willandra Lakes Region Elders who took them on a tour of the Willandra.



Discovery Tour on the Mungo Lunette

Traditional owners & park staff were excited & enthusiastic to be able to show them around the area and share some of their goals & future aspirations for Mungo NP and the wider Willandra Region.



James & Sally at the Footprint site

Discovery Rangers Tanya Charles & Ricky Mitchell started the tour at the Walls of China where James & Sally saw ancient hearths & artefacts. The Elders proudly took the reigns once at the Fossil Footprint site and showed the conservation works done by National Park staff & Traditional Owners.



Certificate Presentation to Elders

Their time finished off with a view of the sunset at Red Top handing certificates of appreciation out to the Elders from the Traditional Tribal Groups.

Discovery Rangers, NPW Staff & Elders from Tumut



On May 18th - 21st Elders, National Park staff and Discovery Rangers from Tumut arrived at Mungo National Park for

Cultural interaction with our Discovery Rangers & networking with Elders and other park staff.



They were given a tour of the Visitor Centre, Walls of China, Foreshore Walk, Joulhi the site were Mungo Man & Lady were found and the Footprint site.



There were some great ideas exchanged on the interpretation for the Drive Tour & Discovery program. Everyone got involved in writing their

ideas down & sharing them amongst the group.

It was a great few days resulting in an invitation from the Tumut group being extended to us to visit their part of the country.



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UPDATES



TSAC/CMC

I am very pleased that Richard Minter & Leanne Mitchell have initiated this Willandra Newsletter and I hope this is the first of many.

So far in 2009 we have had two very effective CMC/TSAC meetings which were well attended and supported and both had very full agendas. I am particularly grateful to Richard and Leanne for their excellent meeting preparations and documentation.

A major focus of CMC/TSAC this year has been the funding bids under the Caring for Country proposals and we are anxiously awaiting the final outcome of those bids. Another major focus has been the concerns and suggestions Professor Jim Bowler has raised about the Willandra and its future. CMC/TSAC has formed a subcommittee to address those concerns. A meeting will be held in Canberra on 7 August involving Professor Bowler and concerned scientists together with relevant government officials to discuss those concerns.

In early April I attended the inaugural meeting of the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee, established to provide advice to government on World Heritage matters and to act as a forum for Australian World Heritage local committee representatives. Finally, I would like to thank the Elder representatives on CMC/TSAC for their dedication to the Willandra management and their determination to achieve their aspirations for this important and unique area.

Michael Ockwell
Chair Willandra WHA CMC/TSAC



National Parks & Wildlife Service

As this is the first newsletter, I will start with a general overview and some key contact details. Future instalments will provide more detail on exciting projects, achievements and snippets of information that would sell newspapers.....

National Parks & Wildlife is part of, the newly restructured, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW). The Lower Darling Area (LDA) office at Buronga houses staff from different parts of this organisation with Parks & Wildlife Group being the majority. In 2009/10 there are 16 full time permanent positions and a pool of Casual Discovery Rangers in the LDA.

The Area manages 5 reserves of which Mungo National Park is the largest in size, workload and resources. All staff have some responsibilities relating to Mungo NP; with some spending almost 100% of their effort on Mungo.

The following are key staff with Mungo responsibilities, their contact details are provided for your reference.

Buronga Office **Switch 03 5021 8900**

Jo Gorman - Area Manager 03 5021 8903

Warren Clark - Exec Officer 03 50218904

Joint Management Advisory Committee

Lars Kogge - Senior Ranger 03 5021 8909

Mungo Joint Management

Claire Wilkinson - Temp Ranger 03 5021 8906

Rita Enke - Acting Senior 03 5021 8926

Ranger - Fire



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Steve Clementson - 03 5021 8917
Senior Field Supervisor
Rocky Robertson - 03 5021 8920
Senior Field Officer - Pests

Mungo National Park 03 5029 7292
Rodney Cromelin - Senior Field Officer
Colin Gibson & Colin Charles - Field Officers
Kanga Kirby - Field Officer - Pests

Some of the projects for the coming months are:
Discovery - recruiting the newly created Discovery Co-ordinator position and continuing to develop and increase the Discovery Tours and activities on the park and also expand into local schools.

Pest Control - weed spraying is continuing with recent rains resulting in a lot of growth. Rabbit warren ripping and fumigation will be in full swing.

Fire Management - establishing an above ground fire water supply at Numbucca Tank. Working co-operatively with neighbours in fire management planning for the Garmpang mallee block and pre planning for prescribed burning for 2009-2011

Visitor Management - take up all opportunities to obtain funding for an enhancement to the Mungo Visitors Centre.

Flora/Fauna research & monitoring - writing and crunching results of the various biodiversity research projects. Monitoring of vegetation in the Acacia exclosures.

More works and details will be described in the next newsletter. Feel free to contact me or any of the staff listed to discuss any aspects of our work.

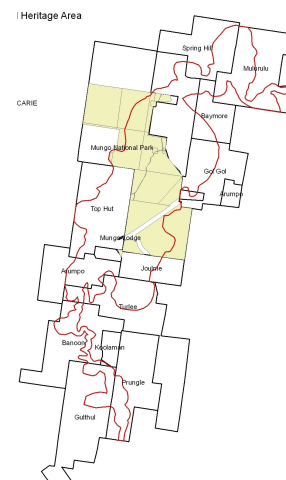
Jo Gorman
Area Manager NP&W



Willandra Landholders Protection Group

Richard Mintern EO was successful in receiving funding for two purposes through the World Heritage Property Management Program. \$70 000 was received for rabbit control. At a landholder meeting with the EO it was decided to rip rabbits on the four northern properties of the WHA, Gol Gol, Baymore, Springhill and Mulurulu. Another \$70 00 was also received for renewing Individual Property Plans. This funding will be used to review each IPP, identify and record completed actions. There will be a workshop with each landholder to discuss new initiatives and actions that need to be taken to protect world heritage values. The new IPP's will reflect changes in climate, technology and property management. It will also provide a practical framework for action at the property level for protection of the WHA and other values.

Ros Griffith & Des Wakefield (pictured)



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Joint Management

This newsletter was a long time coming and I would like to congratulate Leanne and Richard for making it happen. I see that this newsletter will be a very important tool for all people from the Willandra to stay in touch. Everyone with news should consider writing a short report and handing to Leanne for inclusion in the next issue.

The most important news at this point in time is the employment of a discovery coordinator with interviews to take place on Monday 3rd August 2009. It will certainly ease some of the pressure.

Recently, Steve Millington and I gave a power point presentation to the National Parks Foundation in Sydney, seeking funding for a new Discovery vehicle. It went very well so fingers crossed we may hear some good news in the not too distant future.

July school holidays were very busy for our Discovery Rangers. They not only gave tours but worked with ARC linkage at the same period as our school holiday program.

We had our second NAIDOC day at Mungo and entertained a crowd of over 130 people. Discovery Rangers gave tours had a free day BBQ's and ran out of meats and bread but hopefully we learn from this.

The Tumut mob came to visit Mungo NP and we entertained them for 4 days at the Park and workshopped the interpretation. It was a success story that was repeated by all involved and there maybe a follow up trip to Tumut by the Mungo mob.

The Discovery program was conducted with minimal complaints and that in itself was a great effort.

Thanks to all Discovery Rangers, Tanya Charles coordinator and Ricky Mitchell.

To plan and arrange these events really takes time. I would like to personally thank Leanne Mitchell for her professional contribution to the preparations on the whiteboard. Claire Wilkinson the Ranger is also a quiet achiever behind a lot of this.

Thanks also to our admin Lisa Mitchell, Area manager Jo Gorman, Publicity Officer Marie Mitchell, my wife Margaret who is very understanding and cooks a mean scone.

I know that I will miss some people out but looking forward to the continuation of this newsletter and with support from all can only make this more rewarding for all concerned and the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area .

Elders Council



The Willandra Elders play an important role in decision making out at Mungo particularly regarding the Cultural values and maintaining their involvement in day to day work. They participate in work on monitoring sites and any research that's being done out in the field. They supervise the Discovery Rangers in field work as part of the Elders role in mentoring young workers. They are also responsible for approving any funding being sought for their own



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traditional workers to be employed working on their own country.

Bush Tucker & Medicine



Common Name: Mallee Rice-flower

Scientific Name: *Pimelea microcephala*

Use: Fruit can be eaten but do not chew the seed.



Bark of roots infused and drunk for chest complaints, twisted into cords & tied around the body to relieve pain. Bark can also be plaited & put around neck to cure colds.

The Darug and Gundungurra language groups are working with the DECC on a number of co-management projects, funded by NSW Treasury that include: training for Indigenous guides, creating a bush tucker garden, development and distribution of education resources to local schools, ongoing site survey work and women & mens camps.

The Central Coast Hunter Range Co-management Committee and National Parks and Wildlife Service organised a fantastic event to celebrate the declaration of Mount Yengo, , excluded from the recent Wilderness declaration of over 119,600 hectares because it's a place of important cultural significance to Aboriginal groups around the region, as an Aboriginal Place in April 2009. Mt Yengo Aboriginal Place, NSW's largest Aboriginal Place, covers 1,700 ha in Yengo National Park and has special significance to Wonnarua, Awakabu, Worimi and Darkinjung traditional owners and their descendents.

News from the Greater Blue Mountains WHA

Our World Heritage partners in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area are also doing great things. Here's some news from their Executive Officer Jacqueline Reid.

Following the success of the Ganguddy Living Country Culture Camp in October 2008, the 6 language groups of the Greater Blue Mountains are planning the next Living Country Culture Camp (to be held in conjunction with an Indigenous Celebration week at Jenolan Caves) from Friday 22 to Sunday 24 November 2009, to which you are invited. Go to www.livingcountry.com.au for more information and to register.

For more information about the co-management projects of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, go to <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/protectedareas/CoMgmtGBMWHA.htm> to read the Connections newsletters.

Jacqueline Reid
Executive Officer
Greater Blue Mountains



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Willandra Personality Profile

Name: Quentin Clark

D.O.B: 20/11/1998

Star Sign: Scorpio

What do you like about Mungo? Meeting people, doing tours plus working.

What is your favourite bush tucker? Dry Kangaroo Curry & Johnny Cakes.

Favourite Bush Animal & Why? Lions & Dinosaurs. Because Longnecks are very big.

Do you have any hobbies? Yes Golf & Bowling. Love going to the house of golf and smashing a few golf balls.

What school do you go to? Ranfurly Primary School.

What pets do you own? Goanna, rabbits, birds and 1 dog.

What is your favourite colour? Red, Green & Blue

Who is your favourite singer? George Jones, Johnny Cash & Slim Dusty.

Favourite singer around the camp fire at Mungo? Uncle Ray, Uncle Roy, Colin Charles & Michael Westaway: he makes me laugh.

What do you want to be when you grow up? A Ranger at Mungo National Park.

Tune Into

ABC Sundays at 1.30pm: Indigenous program
Message Stick

SBS Mondays at 6.00pm: Living Black

SBS Thursdays at 6.50pm: Australia's Heritage:
National Treasures

Prime Saturday 5th September at 5pm: Guide to
the Good Life

If you have any shows that you would like added
for the next issue give me a call on the number
below.

Kids Corner

Play dough Recipe

What You Need:

1 cup flour, 1/2 cup cooking salt, 1 cup water, 1
tablespoon of cream of tartar, 1 tablespoon of
cooking oil, food colouring

Activity:

Mix the flour, water, salt and cream of tartar in
a saucepan over medium heat until thick. Allow
the mixture to cool and then add the oil and
knead well over a floured cutting board or
similar. Divide this blob evenly into as many
colours as you'd like to make. Add food colouring
to each ball until it is just the colour your child
is looking for. That's it! Allow the children to let
their imaginations take them away.

To make this Newsletter more useful we would like
your feedback on what you like or could be improved
so we can meet your needs. We can be contacted at
the address below.

Leanne Mitchell, Editor

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