



Kinglake Ranges Foundation

One of the satisfying aspects about working for the Kinglake Ranges Foundation is becoming aware of the great initiatives and energy of many volunteers out there in our communities. To me they represent the positive outlook and the hope that is the foundation of our rebuilding and recovery process in the fire affected areas of the Shire. In the last week I was able to visit the Kinglake Ranges Men's Shed and take a tour of renovations that have been occurring there with assistance from KRF grants. The guys at the Shed are nearing the end of their efforts to complete rooms that will be used for various activities such as model making, computers and community meeting venues.

I was also able to take part in the first stage of activities at the Kinglake Children's Centre. No time has been wasted in getting started on their "Let's Nurture Nature" program which successfully obtained a grant in Round 3 from KRF. On Friday morning enthusiastically supported by corporate volunteers from ANZ, Landcare Co-ordinator Chris Cobern, Kinglake Landcarer's and parents Anna Bunbury and Tim Connell and of course backed up by some of the little people from the Centre, a number of seedlings were planted. As they become established, these plants will provide a wind break, play area and sensory experience for the children.



The end of July saw the closing of Round 4 Expressions of Interest. The KRF Board will be making decisions on submissions that will proceed to full applications over the next couple of weeks.

Assisted groups in Round 3 were; Kinglake Ranges Blue Light Events, Flowerdale Men's Shed (Murrindindi Men's Shed Choir Project), Kinglake West Primary School (Bus and Trailer Shelter), Toolangi Castella District Community House (exercise equipment, tools for the Toolangi Men's Shed), Kinglake Ranges Children's Centre (Let's Nurture Nature Project), Kinglake Primary School (Let's Get Gardening Project), Foggy Mountain Inc. (Bluegrass Festival), Rotary Club of Kinglake Ranges (Street beautification) and the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network (Stony Creek Biodiversity Project).

The total amount allocated to Round 3 Projects is \$74,168.

Previous rounds; 1 and 2 (2013/14), saw the following groups obtain assistance;

Flowerdale Community House (Youth Music Program), Firefoxes Australia (monthly dinners), Rivers and Ranges Community Leadership Program, Kinglake Ranges Tennis Club (Social Tennis), Kinglake Ranges Men's Shed (Toilet block, Lounge Room and Project Rooms), Kinglake Ranges Arts (Workshops), Kinglake West C.F.A. (family fun and information day), Rotary Club of Kinglake Ranges (Bluegrass Festival, Art Show Equipment and Produce Market), Whittlesea Township Community House ("In to the Light" Project), Kinglake Middle Primary School (Father/Son, Mother/Daughter evenings), Kinglake Trust Reserve (Pony Club Spectator Shelters), Kinglake Scouts (Wildlife Project), Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House (Capacity Building Project), Allwood Neighbourhood House (Stitch Witches).

Round 1 and 2 projects shared a total of \$160,761 in grant money allocated.

As can be gathered from the groups and projects listed, the range of projects and people able to be supported through the work of the Kinglake Ranges Foundation is quite diverse. The directors of the KRF Board are volunteers themselves and are committed to their role in providing support to communities of the Kinglake Ranges where projects meet the requirements of the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund. The KRF Trust began with VBAF funding of \$1,000,000 which is to be expended over a ten year period.

For more information go to the Foundation website at www.krfoundation.org.au or call Steve Joblin, Development Officer, on 5786 1361.