



VIC EVENT:

LANDSCAPE RESTORATION & ENTOMOLOGY EXPO

OCT 2025



Group photo

On 4 October, 10 attendees participated in the Landscape Restoration and Entomology Expo field day.

Karl and Brigitta Kny have been intensively planting and regenerating their property, “Kolara,” since 1987, developing sections variously for farm forestry and mixed-species plantings to create structural diversity suitable for wildlife and native grassy ecosystems. The property is located on the boundary of three Aboriginal nations and on the boundary of the Goldfields and Central Victorian Upland bioregions.

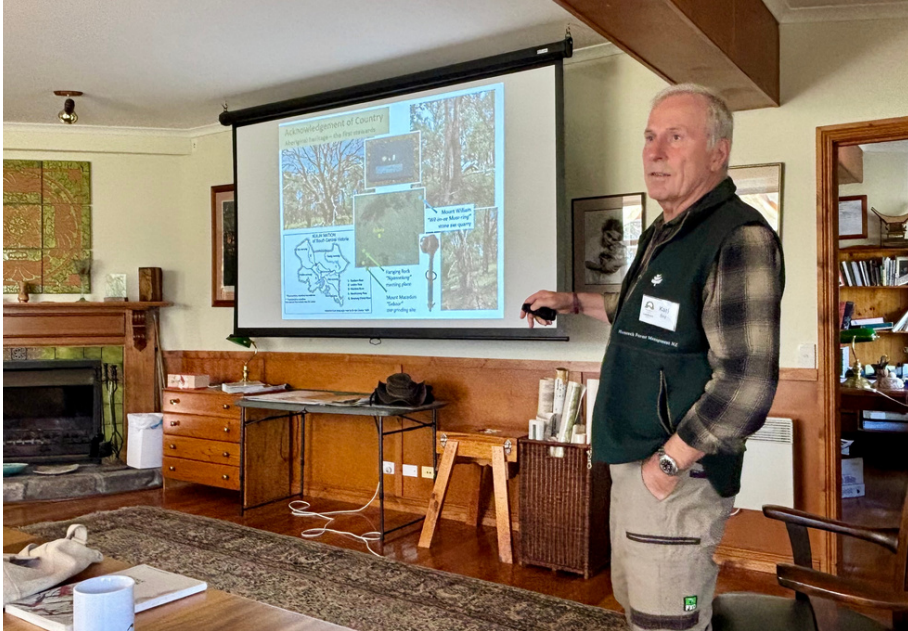
Their approach has been “half for humanity and half for the rest of life,” and they have followed the principles of Stephen Murphy’s *Recreating the Country*. They have actively engaged with many organisations and research institutions to foster a two-way learning environment.

As a result, they have excellent monitoring of changes that have occurred, through permanent plots and vegetation surveys conducted by Dr Paul Foreman at Bluedevil Consulting; BirdLife Australia surveys, which have recorded 103 species on the site (up from an estimated 10 when they first arrived); studies by Lindy Lumsden of the bat population; and many others. This work has enabled Brigitta to produce a comprehensive book of the species that occur on the property.

The amount of woody biomass and litter in the forested parts of the property was notable.

Other cleared areas enable fire protection and maintenance of meadows of diverse native species.

Karl noted that they are moving towards a working forest in the European model, which would enable the ongoing development of diversity while producing useful amounts of specialty timbers and thinning products.



Host Karl Kny providing a property overview



Karl Kny showing rip lines for revegetation



Restoration of creeks and biolinks



Zoltan, Karl, Jo, Rod and Rob in a biodiversity planting

The National Insect Expo (insectexpo.com.au) in Woodend is in its fourth year and attracted more than 50 presenters, representing enthusiasts, artists, and professionals working in applied entomology.

Highlights included the live insects on display, the ‘Bugs for Bugs’ biocontrol and educational materials available for biosecurity education (such as those by ‘Bugs and Beads’), and macrophotography by Cristy Froehlich.



David Grant and a kangaroo grazing exclusion plot