

# Kellie Noske: Lady of the Land



Jack Driscoll, Rosie Yates, Royce Hunter,  
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Yerong Creek Public School



## *Creative Catchment Kids*

**Creative Catchment Kids** is an initiative of the Murray Darling Association and Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. It aims to improve engagement between the Local Land Services and school students by providing opportunities for positive and authentic ventures that encourage students to develop creative solutions to agriculture and natural resource management issues.

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## *Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre*

The Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre is located in Burrumbuttock, north of Albury in southern NSW. Since 1995, the centre, which is adjacent to Burrumbuttock Public School, has provided opportunities for discovery and learning about the natural environment, the ecology of the local woodlands and the beauty of native plants. [www.wirraminna.org](http://www.wirraminna.org)

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## *Murray Darling Association*

The Murray Darling Association has membership of over 100 Local Government councils in the Murray-Darling Basin, as well as community groups, businesses and individuals with an interest in ensuring that the Basin continues as a valuable asset for all Australians. Since 1950, the Association has initiated various school and community education programs on managing the Basin's land and water resources. [www.mda.asn.au](http://www.mda.asn.au)

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Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by PeeKdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area. [www.envirostories.com.au](http://www.envirostories.com.au)

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## *Local Land Heroes*

In 2014, students involved in the **Creative Catchment Kids** program researched and wrote stories about 'Local Land Heroes' - people, businesses or industries who contribute to productive agriculture and healthy environments along the Murray and Murrumbidgee rivers. The program was generously funded by Murray Local Land Services and Riverina Local Land Services.

Local Land Heroes acknowledges the United Nations  
2014 International Year of Family Farming.  
[www.fao.org/family-farming-2014/en/](http://www.fao.org/family-farming-2014/en/)



Local Land Heroes is part of Enviro-Stories, a Peekdesigns education program.



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Kellie was born in Shepparton, Victoria on the 15th of August 1969. She grew up on a small dairy farm with her mother Heather, father Merv, her older sister Leisa and her twin sister Stacey.

Kellie went to school at Katunga South with six other students. She rode her bike to school which was a ride of 2km on a rural road.



Kellie lives on her property “Glen Ayr”, with her husband Lester, and two daughters Katherine and Stephanie. On her farm she runs cattle and sheep. She has 80 beef cattle, 1000 ewes for fat lamb production and 45 dairy heifers on agistment. Her family also has five horses called: Missy, Thomas, Mr. Whippy, Reggie and Bristol.



For the past two and a half years, Kellie has combined managing her 2500 acre property with a full time university degree studying primary teaching and parenting her two teenage girls while her husband has pursued a change of career. She found the task challenging at times, but helpful neighbours and caring friends helped her through the rough patches.



In 1993, Kellie moved to Glen Ayr. Originally Glen Ayr had 1500 acres and now the property has 2500 acres. Normally, the farm only gets 1 out of 100 twin calves, this year they got 5 out of 100 twins. Kellie says it's because the cattle are on lucerne.





Kellie and her poddy calves: Bambi, Billy and Sadie (not pictured)

Kellie owns three dogs Niki, Dookie and Snoopy. Kellie has 30 chooks (she used to have 100), two bulls Boris and Charlie, and three poddy calves Bambi, Billy and Sadie. She has sheep and the occasional poddy lamb. She also has lots of cattle that she breeds and sells.







Lester's grandfather bought the property 'Glen Ayr' in 1925. The property was passed down through the generations to Lester. As Kellie grew up on a dairy farm, she was happy living there. Growing up on a dairy farm involved dealing with the day to day challenges and activities. She realises now there are just as many challenges on a stock and crop property.



Kellie worked for the Commonwealth Bank for nine years when she was younger. Kellie is now studying at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga to become a teacher. She is currently in her third year and has one more year to go. When she has completed her course she would like to combine teaching and farming.



This is the original house on 'Glen Ayr'.

'Glen Ayr' is just on the outskirts of Yerong Creek. Kellie enjoys farming because she gets to work with animals and spends a lot of time outside. She also enjoys working on a farm because she can ride her horses and work with Lester. Fortunately, her two daughters are also looking at careers in agriculture as well.





Overall Kellie enjoys the life that she lives on her farm. Having helpful neighbours when Lester went and trained to be a pilot really helped Kellie when times were more challenging than others. We enjoyed interviewing her and would like to thank her for letting us come to her farm. From the Year 6 class at Yerong Creek Public School, we say thank you.





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Local Land  
Services  
Murray



Local Land  
Services  
Riverina



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