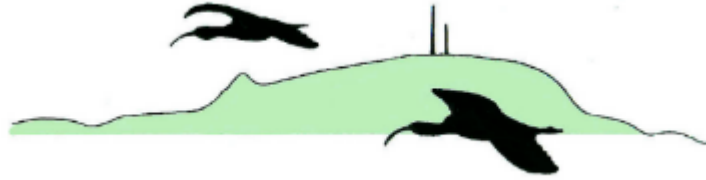


ORANGE FIELD NATURALIST AND CONSERVATION SOCIETY Inc



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2026

Next Talk

Thursday 13 August, 7.30pm

Iberdrola Update on Mullion Creek and Four Mile Creek Wind Farms

at Nguluway Ngurang Seniors Village Hub
North Room

Committee Meeting, 6.30pm

Next Excursion

Sunday 16 August, 9.00 am

Canobolas State Forest exploring proposed locations for wind turbines

Next Excursion

Where: Canobolas State Forest – peaks that are proposed locations for wind turbines.

When: Sunday 16 August, 9.00am

Leader: Col Bower

Grade: 3 - moderate. No formed trails, some uneven surfaces and slopes.

Meeting place: Orange High School Bus Bay to carpool. 4WD or high clearance vehicles required.

Col will lead the excursion to several small geologically interesting peaks to the south of Mt Towac and the SCA. Field Nats visited them in 2024, and they are now proposed locations for wind turbines in the Iberdrola Four Mile Creek Wind Farm. We will investigate the native vegetation and geology of the peaks and drive on trails within the planted pine forests. This excursion follows the Thursday night talk by Iberdrola.

Note: we will not be doing the grade 5 walk down and along the creek that was done in 2024.



*The geology of the first peak we'll visit.
Photo R Stapleton.*

As it will still be winter come prepared for cold weather. Please wear closed walking shoes and suitable clothing. It will be a full day excursion. Bring morning tea, lunch, water, and any essential medications you may need.

Next Talk – Thursday 13 August, 7.30pm.

Iberdrola Update on Mullion Creek and Four Mile Creek Wind Farms

Speakers: Representatives of Iberdrola Australia project team.

An overview and project update on the proposed Mullion Creek and Four Mile Creek Wind Farms will be given. This will include the technical and environmental studies currently underway and progress made to date. The session will also outline the next steps in the planning and assessment process and provide attendees with an opportunity to learn more about the projects and ask questions.

Both proposed wind farms are in state forests, with the Four Mile Creek Farm being in Canobolas State Forest just to the south of the Mt Canobolas State Conservation Area.

To find out more go to the NSW Planning Portal for the detailed Scoping Report or
<https://www.iberdrola.com.au/our-assets/asset-map/development-assets/four-mile-creek-wind-farm>
<https://www.iberdrola.com.au/our-assets/asset-map/development-assets/mullion-creek-wind-farm>



View south from the columnar basalt peak we'll visit. Photo Helmut Berndt.

Last Talk: Thursday 9 July.

Saving Our Species: The Bathurst Purple Copper Butterfly and Searching for the Bathurst Grasslands Earless Dragon

Speaker: Alison Cowie, Senior Threatened Species Officer, Northwest Ecosystems & Threatened Species Team at NSW DCCEEW.

Report by Rosemary Stapleton, photos provided by Alison Cowie.

Alison joined us from Ilford along with five others who took advantage of the talk being online. Alison commenced by acknowledging Country and commented that many of the conservation challenges that we have today reflect the profound changes since European settlement and that understanding this history provides context for the work of protecting and restoring biodiversity.

To begin with Alison gave some background on the Saving our Species Program (SoS) which commenced in 2013. Its intention is to secure threatened species and ecological communities into the future. Since SoS started there has been a 400% increase in the number of species managed on-ground. Her talk highlighted why the Bathurst Grassland Earless Dragon is critically endangered and the Purple Copper Butterfly is endangered. The SoS teams work closely with land managers, like NPWS and LLS, as well as researchers, landowners, communities and First Nations people.

The dragon is in the data deficient management stream of the SoS program. This is because relatively little is known of their ecology, distribution and threats. Alison told us how until 2019 all Grassland Earless Dragons were thought to be one species. At that time Dr Jane

Melville and others did morphological and genetic work and found there were in fact four distinct species. One around Melbourne with others at Canberra, Cooma and Bathurst. The Bathurst Grassland Earless Dragon was named *Tympanocryptis mccartneyi* after one of the local naturalists, Uncle Ian McCartney, who had sent two specimens to the Australian Museum in 1966. The story of this research is amazing, with only three specimens of the species known. You can read about it on the [Museum website](#).



Bathurst grassland earless dragon
(Gavin Waters/DCCEEW)

Details of the species and the challenges were outlined by Alison. The dragon's name is self-explanatory – it is earless and lives in grassland, however not just any grassland habitat. It requires natural temperate grassland with some grass cover but not too much as it forages and basks in the sun in open patches. Other important habitat features are embedded rocks and cracking clay soils as well as Wolf Spider burrows where it shelters. This gives a good idea of how small they are with a maximum adult head and body length of around 7 cm, and a maximum overall length of 16 cm. The open patches also allow them to prey on crickets, beetles and other invertebrates. Click on this [link](#) for more details.



Image: Matt Clancy

A dragon in a Wolf Spider burrow.

As Bathurst was one of the earliest locations for European settlement Alison's comment on the impact of this settlement applies very much to the dragon. It is endemic to the Bathurst area and has a highly restricted area of occupancy. Since this time 99.5% of natural grassland habitat has been destroyed or altered. Its habitat has become highly fragmented and degraded, weeds have invaded and introduced foxes and cats are a direct threat to the dragon. Let's hope it is just lost and not the first reptile species on mainland Australia to be declared extinct.

Research and surveys are needed to work out the best approach to management and are a key part of the dragon's SoS program. The Grassland Earless Dragon Alliance have been funded to do regular transect surveys and searches in suitable habitat. Artificial burrows, made of PVC piping with a rough interior, and tiles are placed on transects. Wolf Spider burrows can also be inspected with an endoscope.

Community engagement and awareness raising, particularly for farmers, is also a key part of the management plan. A 2025 media campaign resulted in over 40 potential sightings, but they were all of the Jacky Dragon. While some farmers are concerned about their future use of their land if dragons are found there the '[Farming for Dragons](#)' brochure outlines how to do dragon-friendly farming and land management. It emphasises that if dragons are found on someone's land, this means they are doing a perfect job of managing habitat and don't need to alter their practices.



Image: George Madani

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What can we do? Alison encouraged members to spread the word about the dragon, promote sympathetic land use and report any sightings at savingourspecies@environment.nsw.gov.au.

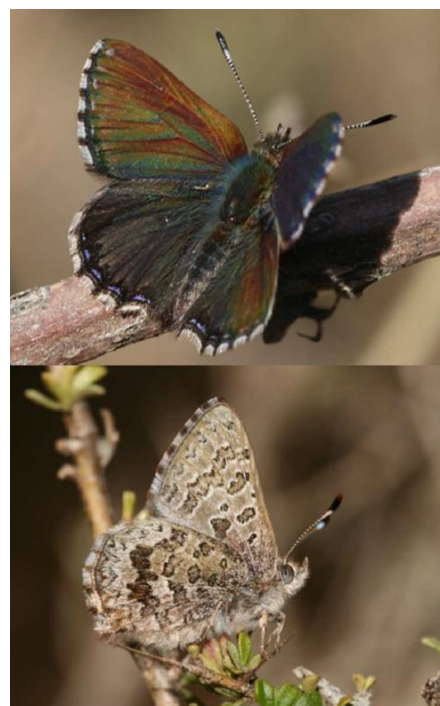
One question asked of Alison was on the use of drones to identify suitable habitat, which might

be a possibility but could not be done over private land.

What we heard from Alison about the [Purple Copper Butterfly](#) was just as intriguing but for different reasons. It has an unusual life cycle and is in the site-managed SoS management stream. This means critical threats can be managed within known habitats and locations.

In 1964 a female butterfly was collected near Bathurst and recognised as an undescribed species. It was rediscovered in 1977 and described as the new species *Paralucia spinifera* in 1978. While it is known locally as the Bathurst Copper Butterfly, and is the logo for the local council, it is not found there. The butterfly is found at a few dozen sites in the Central Tablelands and is restricted to elevations above 850m, in areas such as at Yetholme, Lithgow, and Rydal with a disjunct population near Oberon.

Its common names relate to the shimmering iridescence of its upper wings which are purple, copper, blue, green, black and brown. These colours can be seen when it basks in the sun with wings open. This beautiful colouring has resulted in collecting being a serious threat and, in some places, resulted in declines in the local populations. Its under wings provide camouflage when it is at rest as they are patterned a dull grey, brown and black. It is tiny with a wingspan of up to 20mm.



Purple Copper Butterfly. Images Martin Purvis - <https://www.purvision.com/>.

Open eucalypt woodland with the host plant native blackthorn, *Bursaria spinosa* subsp. *lasiophylla*, is the preferred habitat. The butterfly larvae feed on Bursaria leaves. *Anonychomyrma itinerans*, a species of ant, must also be present as they attend the larvae. Heavy frosts and/or occasional snow and 3 –4 hours exposure to sunlight are also characteristics of the butterfly's habitat. Occasional cool burning also improves habitat condition, in part as it removes lichen that grows on the Bursaria which otherwise inhibits the movement of larvae across the host plant.

The life cycle of the butterfly is fascinating and is an example of obligate symbiosis. This is where the butterfly needs the Bursaria and the attendant ant to complete its life cycle, but they do not need the butterfly.

- Mid-August – early December. The flying season when the butterflies emerge from pupa and mate. The females lay eggs on the host plant singly or in batches of 2-5, which hatch in 14-17 days. The peak of the flying season is September and October.
- November – March. As soon as the larvae emerge from the eggs the ants immediately attend them and protect them from insect predators. Up to the third instar (developmental stage) the larvae stay above ground on the host plant. After the third instar the larvae develop a gland that provides sugary honey dew to the attendant ants. The larvae become nocturnal and are shepherded underground and housed in the ant's nests at the base of the host plant each night. Before dawn each day the ants guide the larvae out to feed on the leaves of the Bursaria. Each larva lives for 6-8 weeks before pupating.
- March – August. Pupation of the larvae within the ant's nests under the host plant.

The Purple Copper Butterfly was listed as an endangered species in 1996 because it has a restricted range and there is a continuing decline in the quality of its habitat and the fragmentation of that habitat. Weed incursion and less frequent fires have created less open habitat. Pigs are also a significant threat and, in some sites, it is thought that use of pesticides nearby has caused population declines. The good news is that many of these threats can be managed in partnership with land managers and local Landcare groups.

Alison outlined the regular monitoring of populations that is done (image below), including nocturnal counts of larvae. Windy and cloudy weather are avoided. Next year a trial to test the effect of ecological cool burns on larvae abundance will be done on ten plots. It will also monitor the capacity of the Bursaria to recover.



Image: Dumie Dissanayake

Monitoring the Purple Copper Butterfly and its habitat.

Ways we can become a friend of the butterfly are to share what we have learnt and promote sympathetic land use. The Fact Sheet, [Counting Coppers](#), gives tips on searching for and identifying them. Alison recommended using apps like iNaturalist or the Atlas of Living Australia to report any sightings, or otherwise reporting sightings directly to savingourspecies@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Alison's passion for her dream job of being in a funded program to do on ground conservation was obvious throughout her talk. I'm sure the Field Nats excursion in September 2027 will be to see the Purple Copper Butterfly. The interest from some members will have them heading to photograph the butterfly this Spring. Alison was thanked by all for her informative presentation and encouragement for us all to become friends of the 'coppers'. Lisa, who joined online, spoke for us all by saying in the chat, 'Thank you so much Alison and all the SOS teams'. We also thank Tony for organising all the IT to allow us to hear about these two unique threatened species. If you wish to see Alison's presentation and hear a recording of her talk go to the [Orange Field Nats website](#).

Alison expresses her thanks to the Orange Field Naturalists for their hospitality and interest in her presentation.

**Last Excursion: Sunday 12 July.
Bumberry section of Goobang NP.**

Leader and report by Rosemary Stapleton.

After a wet, windy night with severe weather warnings being issued it was a chilly 5 degrees at the bus bay. Despite this eight of us were keen to explore the Bumberry section of Goobang National Park. We welcomed Rick Long, a geologist who is new to Orange and on his first Field Nats excursion. Dick Medd led our convoy of three vehicles. An unexpected roadside stop was east of Manildra to look at a native Clematis vine, *Clematis microphylla*, growing on a boundary fence. Compared to the showy garden species its flowers were small, but the profusion of these delicate flowers made up for it.



Clematis microphylla. Photo R Stapleton.

After a stop in Manildra, we soon reached the roadside pull off location which was again strewn with litter.... Much too much to collect and tidy up. With the approval of NPWS, we were able to pass through the locked gate and head down the Staircase Fire Trail. Our first quick stop was to look at plants of *Acacia mollifolia*, with its soft grey foliage.



Acacia mollifolia. Photo Tony Caine.

Dick shared that it was special as it is endemic to the Central Western Slopes. Our first orchids spotted were tiny flowers of the Dwarf

Greenhood, *Diplodinium nanum*. We continued to see its rosettes in the other places we explored.

Further down the trail we stopped in an area cleared for a powerline. After a short safety briefing, including to avoid walking near the fox bait stations, we headed into the Callitris and Ironbark forest to look at the understory shrubs. Species coming into flower were *Acacia gladiiformis* (Sword-leaved Wattle), *Melichrus erubescens* (Ruby Urn Heath) and *Leucopogon attenuatus*. In one patch pollinated spikes of three orchid species were found (Midge, Tiny Greenhood and Parsons Bands). Dick and Rick went to explore some of the Devonian sandstone and siltstone blocks that had been bulldozed away from under the powerlines. The origin of a large black termite mound was debated. Why was it black when all the surrounding soil was orange? One suggestion was that the termites had collected burnt material from a fire that had occurred many years ago to warm the mound; black being heat absorbing.



Penny Todman, Dick Medd and Rosemary Stapleton at the termite mound, with Tony Caine in the background. Photo Helmut Berndt.

As we gathered back at the vehicles, we were surprised to see someone walking up the track. Serendipity was at play as Penny called out 'Hello Will, how are you?' It turned out that Penny and Tony had helped plant trees with Will near Canowindra a few months ago. Will has a keen interest in plants and was invited to join us for the remainder of the excursion. Luckily, there was a spare seat with Dick so as we drove to the intersection with the Circuit Trail species of interest were pointed out to Will. Discussion was of the Eucalypts including the differences between Rossi and Red Box as well as the impact of fire and subsequent regeneration of thick Callitris and Allocasuarina.

After turning onto the Circuit Trail, we came to a quick stop as Dick spotted three Glossy Black Cockatoos that we had disturbed. Later three were spotted to the south of the trail which may have been the same group or three more. While wandering among the shrubs here there were chewings from them under some of the *Allocasuarina* 'trees'.



A distant Glossy Black. Photo Tony Caine.

Before lunch we wandered down the trail or into the shrubs that were scattered among the clumps of Porcupine Grass (*Triodia scariosa*). This Spinifex is near the eastern margin of its range and was quite a surprise for some who hadn't been to Bumberry before.

The highlight was the flowering *Hakea decurrens*, much taller and heathier shrubs than usually found. Other species just starting to flower were *Acacia lanigera* and *Grevillea floribunda*. Isopogons were scattered among the Porcupine Grass.



Hakea decurrens with fresh flowers and warty, woody seed pods. Photo Rosemary Stapleton.

Flowering Eucalypts had attracted White-naped and Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters. Striated Pardalotes were heard. Tony made an unusual

find when he accidentally moved a stone beside the trail. It was a gecko in a small burrow with just its head and striped tail showing; either torpid because of the cold or just asleep.



Perhaps a sleeping gecko. Photo Tony Caine.

After a relaxed chat over lunch, we drove back to the carpark after a brief look (and smell) of a *Prostanthera* or Mint Bush. Leaving the cars and the national park we crossed the busy road to wander down the old road to the north. Leaves of many different spring flowering orchids were found, some with tiny flower spikes emerging. The rocks along the northern embankment were covered in mosses and tiny *Fossombronina* liverworts were thriving in the wet.

Dick was keen to walk down to a better specimen of *A. mollifolia*. Along the way Andy spotted several flower spikes of *Bunochilus stenosepalus*, the Narrow-sepal Leafy Greenhood.



The Narrow-sepal Leafy Greenhood with its characteristic long spreading stem leaves. Photo John Zimmer.

Further on Dick found a garden of *Acianthus collinus*, the Inland Mosquito-orchid. Not just one or two scattered flower spikes among many leaves but lots. Rick also found them flowering on the southern embankment.



Andy Hart capturing the Mosquito-orchid forest of flowers. Watching on are Tony Caine, Will Johnson, John Zimmer and Dick Medd, with Rick Long in the background. Photo R Stapleton.

Nearby Tony and Penny's eyes were attracted to the sun highlighting the rich red of young female *Allocasuarina* flowers. It was good to compare it to an adjacent male plant. Earlier in the day many of the *Allocasuarina* appeared to be male plants with their unusual stamens giving the shrubs a dark orange tinge.



*The tiny female flowers of *Allocasuarina* which, when pollinated, will be the cones that the Glossy Blacks feed on. Photo Tony Caine.*

By this stage it was getting much colder so most headed back to cross the road. Dick, Will and Helmut couldn't resist checking on one final plant; a solitary bush of Pale Wedge Pea (*Gompholobium huegelii*). So, despite not being

able to drive the planned route we had filled the day with the delights of the bush and stayed out longer than anticipated.

Will Johnson, said when joining Field Nats 'I was very lucky to walk into your group yesterday in Goobang NP, and thank you for inviting me to join in, I learnt so much being around you all.'

Note: After seeing the photos on WhatsApp Netta headed out to Bumberry to see the Leafy Greenhood. It was a new species sighting for her and she said it was 'so exciting to find it'.

OFNCS Committee News

We welcome new members Will Johnson, from Cargo, who bumped into us on the Bumberry excursion. Also, Netta Holmes Lee, from Larras Lee, who joined us on the May excursion to Neville SF. And welcome to Cassandra Zinga.

Nigel and Rosemary are once again working with Central Tablelands Local Land Services on events for Biodiversity Month in September. Field Nats are doing two spotlighting nights. On Wednesday 16 September the spotlighting will be for active walkers at Clifton Grove Reserve. On Friday 18 September the walk will be in the Botanic Gardens. Details and registration will be released by the LLS next week.

On 10 July 2026, the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee made a Preliminary Determination to support a proposal to **list the Mount Canobolas velvet worm *Cephalofovea pavimenta* as a CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SPECIES** in Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Act. Visit their [website](#) to see the reasons for this listing.



Mt Canobolas Velvet Worm. Photo R Stapleton.

It is good news that it has been recognised as being at such a risk of extinction but bad news that another unique species is under such threat.

Once again, it highlights how exceptional the mountain is.

Dr Richard Medd and James Douch, a PhD student at Macquarie Uni, made the application to have it listed. We understand the surveys some of us helped Dick with in 2023 provided some of the evidence in their application.

The Scientific Committee welcomes feedback from the public and OFNCS has written in support of the listing. The submission noted that *'The Society's visits to, and participation in surveys on, Gaanha bula Mt Canobolas fully support the Scientific Committees identification of threats to the Mt Canobolas Velvet Worm'*. The threats members had noted were the impact of fire, feral pigs, weed invasion, and disturbance by increased visitations by tourists. It also noted the potential for fragmentation of habitat if developments such as the proposed mountain bike track go ahead and the impact of climate change and a drier environment.

You can make a submission by emailing scientific.committee@environment.nsw.gov.au Submissions close 2 October 2026.

September OFNCS Activities

Thursday 10 September Talk – Biocultural restoration: addressing linked declines of ecosystems and Aboriginal cultural values to create uniquely Australian ways of caring for Country.

Speaker: Associate Professor Emilie Ens. Emilie leads the Cross-cultural Ecology, Education and Restoration Group at Macquarie University, Sydney, and is an OFNCS member.

Sunday 13 September Excursion – Mandagery Nature Reserve and Mingham Springs. Leader Dick Medd.

OFNCS visited these sites in August last year, but it was too early for the shrubs and orchids to be flowering. More should be out as this visit is a month later.

H5 Bird Flu

It is pleasing to hear that Orange City Council staff have made plans on how to deal with Bird Flu if, and when, it arrives here. I understand council staff are checking wetlands regularly each week. Some of our members and people we work with will be involved in the response as NSW State Coordination Centre for H5 bird flu

is located at DPIRD, Orange Agricultural Institute. They will help with the statewide surveillance and response operation.

If you see any dead or sick birds or animals showing [signs of bird flu](#) remember

- **Do not touch them.**
- **Avoid** contact.
- **Record** what you see.
- **Report** it to the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888**

If you call you will be told what to do. You might be asked to wait until someone comes to assess the situation or if there is no-one locally you will be asked just to leave the birds where they are.

FalconCam News

Report and photo from Cilla Kinross.

After a rather slow and hesitant start, our peregrine male (Gimbir) who arrived on the scene in August last year after the loss of our resident male of nine years, Xavier, has finally started courtship behaviour. This involves an increase in pair-bonding (bowing to and circling around each other), gift bringing (providing the female with prey gifts), scraping the gravel to make a bowl and, of course, mating (currently twice a day). He has also been helping Diamond (the resident female since 2015) chase away sulphur-crested cockatoos, who often descend on the tower in large, rather menacing flocks!

We hope for eggs by mid to late August, hatching by early October. Keep up to date at [FalconCam Project](#), Orange. Our live cams have chats peopled by friendly falcon aficionados from all over the world.



A rather unusual picture of Diamond (female, left) and Gimbir (male, right) sharing the box at night. She usually shoves him out! See how small he seems!

Dates for your Diary

Spring Creek Quarterly Bird Survey - Thursday 6 August. Meet on Lone Pine Ave, at the gates of the reservoir at 9am.

Bird Walks at Orange Botanic Gardens are held on **the first Sunday of each month**. The Friends of the Gardens lead the walk and talk. They start at 8.30 and last around an hour. BYO binoculars if you have some, comfortable walking shoes, and appropriate weather gear. On average, you'll see around 30 birds local to our area. No need to book; just turn up. It's free, informative and a lovely way to spend a Sunday morning. Meet at the Botanic Room.

Central Tablelands Landcare are running two short workshops that fit well with Biodiversity Month. They will be held at the ELF on Leeds Parade. Booking is via Humanitix.

Introduction to Sustainable Gardening
Monday 7 September 10.30-12pm
Creating a Nature Enhancing Garden
Monday 7 September 1 – 2.30 pm.

2026 Cowra Bird Survey Dates: 14 – 18 October when the updated Bird Routes of Cowra will be launched. Surveyors are asked to be at a get together on the Friday night to meet their survey team and get site instructions and maps. Contact **Jayden Gunn** for more information or to register for the surveying at jayden.gunn@birdlife.org.au

Aussie Bird Count – 19-25 October 2026.

Dubbo Field Nats will be visiting Borenore Caves on 25 October. If you would like to join them, you need to register at their website <https://www.dubbofieldnats.org.au/> or you can email trip leader Robert Quinan directly at quinanr@tpg.com.au

Sightings around Orange

If you see anything interesting, please email orangefieldnats@gmail.com or post it on Facebook.

Plants

Flowers of **Slaty Helmet Orchids**, *Corysanthes incurva*, were found last weekend. Marita and Patrick found a lone patch in the Curumbenya section of Goobang NP and Netta saw some in Killonbutta NR. They were also found by Cowra surveyors at sites in the Koorawatha hills.



Slaty Helmet Orchid. Photo Marita Sydes.

Things with Wings

On 8 July, while checking the tracks for the Bumberry excursion, Dick and Rosemary disturbed three Glossy Black Cockatoos on the Circuit Trail. They were probably feeding on the Allocasuarina as fresh chewings were found. Details have been reported to NPWS. Were they the same group that were seen on the excursion?

Also, on 8 July Dick and Rosemary watched a **Spotted Harrier** quartering the roadside at Gavins Lane just east of Cudal. When entering this as an incidental record on Birddata Rosemary noticed she had seen a Spotted Harrier there on 15 February 2009, as well as a Black Falcon.

Andy Hart emailed and said '*I try to appreciate even the most common little living things all around me. I enjoyed watching a few of these **Yellow-rumped Thornbills** (below) chitter and bounce around the paddock behind my house*' at Shiralee on 20 July.



Col Bower wonders if birds are nesting earlier this year after seeing a **Magpie** carrying a twig from his backyard for nest building and **Crested Pigeons** already sitting on a nest in a tall shrub in the south end of Somerset Park near Burrendong Way on 24 July. He said the Pigeons have nested in the same shrub previously.

Other Creatures



Andy wondered what this creature (above) was when he noticed it on The Springs walking track on 14 June. Entomologist Dr Murray Fletcher confirmed it was a millipede and sent it to Bob Mesibov in Tasmania. Bob confirmed it as a millipede in the order *Polydesmida: Paradoxosomatidae: Australiosomatinae: Australiosomatini*. It is a Keeled Millipede. Murray said 'No hope of getting to genus (if a described genus) without examining adult male genitalia.' Another ID challenge.

Creatures of the Month are the Bathurst Grassland Earless Dragon and the Purple Copper Butterfly.

Committee Member of the Month

Jenny Pratten, Publicity.

- What was your first memory of a nature experience?
Finding old banksia flowers on the ground and rubbing them back to the velvet inside.
- Who inspired you to become involved in nature?
My late father, Chris Pratten, taking me out in nature often. In fact, I think it's in my brother's and my genes.
- What specific aspect of nature are you most interested in?
It's simple beauty - the bark of a tree, the leaves of a eucalyptus, the detail of a flower not to mention the beauty of birds and their intelligence.
- What is your favourite bit of bush/ natural place you like to visit?
Mingham Springs is a magical place.



Jenny said 'Love the huge leaves'. Taken on Gaanha bula by Sarah Lyons.

- What was your most memorable Field Nats talk or excursion?
Camping trip to Nangar (in the 70s?) - my dad and I froze! More recently, Warren Sommerville's talk was so interesting, and I had fond memories of looking at his fossils at his orchard as a kid.
- What is your favourite song about nature and who is it by?
Love music and singing but I never know the words so I can't answer this.
- If there's one thing you could change for nature's benefit, what would it be?
Human greed and the fact we think we can destroy the planet that gives us life.

Feedback – Saying that my favourite piece of music about nature was The Planets, by Holst, prompted member Malcom Stacey to relate a memory he had of a concert to celebrate the 50th birthday of The Dish on 31 October 2011. The Planets was the introduction and as it was played the Dish slowly rotated down. How fabulous would it have been to be there sitting out under the stars in such a setting?



The Dish as a spectacular back drop to the fund raising concert. Image Credit: T. Crawshaw, CSIRO.



*It wasn't as cold as it looks at lunch time on the Bumbery excursion.
Back row: Rick Long, Will Johnson, Andy Hart, Tony Caine and Dick Medd (and the Landy).
Front row: Helmut Berndt, John Zimmer and Penny Todman. Photo Rosemary Stapleton.*

To join please pay by **EFT to:** BSB 802 129 Account 100014678 OFN & Cons Soc Inc

Please identify payments with your name and send confirmation of the payment to orangefieldnats@gmail.com. You can also pay by cash at a meeting or at Orange Credit Union.

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Orange Field Naturalist & Conservation Society acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land, including the people of the Wiradjuri Nation. We recognise their continuing connection to lands and waters. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging.

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