

# The Murrumbidgee Naturalist



**November 2025 - Issue #341**

Journal of the Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Inc.

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## Objectives

To facilitate and promote the knowledge of natural history, and to encourage the preservation and protection of the Australian natural environment, especially that of the Murrumbidgee River Valley



Little Black Cormorants at Rawlings Park  
Janet Hume

## IN THIS ISSUE

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Office Bearers and Subscriptions .....                   | 2  |
| Welcome to November .....                                | 2  |
| Malleefowl Conservation in the Region .....              | 2  |
| Trim Sun Orchids .....                                   | 3  |
| Cowabbie Hill Outing .....                               | 4  |
| Watching over the Malleefowl (training/monitoring) ..... | 5  |
| "The Eagles" Twitchathon Report .....                    | 6  |
| Caper White Butterfly activity in Yenda Reserve .....    | 7  |
| MFN Malleefowl Monitoring - Alleena.....                 | 8  |
| Tootool - Great Southern Bioblitz .....                  | 10 |
| Members' Sightings.....                                  | 11 |
| Coming Events.....                                       | 12 |

## CONTRIBUTIONS

For the December issue by

Wednesday 3 December

To Rowena Whiting

Email: [ericwhiting4@bigpond.com](mailto:ericwhiting4@bigpond.com).

Phone: 6953 2612

**"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished."**

- Lao Tzu

## Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Inc. Office Bearers and Annual Subscriptions

|                        |                 |              |                              |                            |              |
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| <b>Treasurer:</b>      | Glenn Currie    | 0488 563 321 | <b>Website Co-ordinator:</b> | Virginia Tarr 0434 831 031 |              |

**MEETINGS** are held on the second Thursday each month, except January, at the Henry Lawson Room, Leeton Library, Sycamore Street, Leeton at 7pm.

**FIELD TRIPS** NORMALLY TAKE PLACE ON THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND; (Leeton, Griffith, Narrandera areas) AND ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH (Wagga Wagga area)

INTENDING NEW MEMBERS, GUESTS AND VISITORS WELCOME.

### Membership enquiries:

|                   |              |              |                    |                |              |
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**Annual Subscriptions:** Family \$45.00 Adult/Single \$35.00 Journal only/Concession \$25.00

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## Welcome to November

I hope you have all been enjoying nature during October and been able to participate in some of the many activities on offer. You can enjoy reading about some in this issue.

Congratulations to our Twithathon team (Virginia, Neil & Lisa), they recorded 107 birds in the Griffith/Leeton area. Being the only team from the Club, they will receive the full amount (\$500) of the Club's donation to this year's cause; protecting the Far Eastern Curlew at Port Hacking

We have reports on our outing to the Cowabbie Range, our involvement with the annual Malleefowl monitoring, the Great Southern Bio-blitz with events (Tootool & Fivebough) and you can follow the life cycle of the Caper White Butterfly. My thanks to all the contributors.

Don't forget the AGM is this coming Thursday, 13 November, do consider how you can play a part in the running of the club, new ideas are always welcome.

Enjoy your month, **Rowena**.

## Malleefowl Conservation in the Region

Yellow Room, 9 October 2025

We were treated to an interesting talk, with accompanying photos, from Rodney Guest of Rankin's Springs, who is a volunteer for Malleefowl conservation in our region. Rodney reported to us, via Zoom, the activities of the dedicated group of Local Land Services staff, led by David Kellet, and volunteers who work hard each summer to help increase Malleefowl numbers.

After monitoring the activity of the birds on their mounds, the group find and collect fertile eggs to incubate and protect in order to release the newly hatched chicks into their natural environment. Incubating happens under heater lights, as for poultry. Rodney keeps the chicks in a box to dry out and gain strength after hatching, before releasing them at night to give them a safe start. He has gained a lot of detailed knowledge about the stages of embryo development and how to help the chicks hatch.

Many Malleefowl eggs are predated by foxes, so collecting and incubating them directly increases the number of newly hatched chicks. The only protection the chicks have is their camouflage, combined with their habit of sitting still for long periods. During daylight hours, movement from the chick can be fatal due to the sharp eyes of Whistling Kites that are one of many predators. Few chicks survive to adulthood when they can start building mounds of mulch and laying eggs beneath them. Despite this, numbers in our region are thought to be increasing.

Rodney explained an interesting circumstance to us whereby young male birds, perhaps with their first nest, can be so focussed on turning the mulch to regulate the temperature of the mound that they displace the eggs they are trying to incubate. It takes some practice for them to learn how to leave the eggs at the bottom of the mound and work the mulch above them to maintain the correct temperature.

It was inspiring to learn about activities in our region that are helping the Malleefowl. They are the only species of Megapode that lives west of the Great Dividing Range in dry environments with hot summers. The current project of egg incubation is helping them to survive into the future.

Our thanks to Rodney for talking about the work he (and others) are doing and for answering our questions.

**Margaret Strong**

**Photos taken from Rodney's presentation: measuring an egg, recent hatched chick, releasing a chick.**



### Sun Orchids divergence

Margaret Strong has pointed out that the photo of Trim Sun Orchid *Thelymitra peniculata* credited to her wasn't hers, nor her identification. In fact the orchid should be the **Slender Sun Orchid *Thelymitra pauciflora*** both in the text and photo. See Eric's explanation below.

### Trim Sun Orchids

*Thelymitra peniculata* – a new name for you when you read it in last month's report on the Brogden walk. It was for me, but at the time it was passed over as just another of those frequent name changes with orchids. A week later I took the time to find out more.

According to Bower and Medd (Orchids of Central West NSW) *Thelymitra pauciflora* **Slender Sun Orchid** has now been split into a least four different species with *T. peniculata* being one of the new species with the common name of **Trim Sun Orchid**. It is more robust than the newly defined *T. pauciflora*, with a broader linear leaf and darker, richer blue flowers. The notch in the yellow top part of the column is much deeper than in *T. pauciflora*.

Having initially overlooked that fact that the flower illustrated in the report was a pale blue – after all flowers can fade and I noticed nearly all of the Pink Fingers I have seen this season were very pale – I had a closer look at a considerably enlarged photo. The notch was shallow, therefore it was *T. pauciflora*!

**Eric Whiting**

**Photos are of the Slender Sun Orchid *Thelymitra pauciflora* taken at Taleeban Mining Reserve in September 2023.**

Photographers: single flower Rowena Whiting, plant Margaret Strong



## Cowabbie Hill

*'He marched them up the hill*

*And he marched them down again.'*

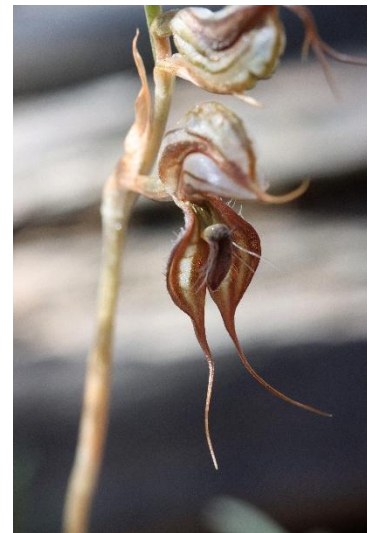
Well we hardly marched, but Geoff Minchin guide us up Cowabbie Hill on his family's property and then down again via the saddle. A nice triangular route through mainly Dwyers Mallee Gum *Eucalyptus dwyeri* / Cypress Pine *Callitris endlicheri* woodland that had plenty of Hill She Oak *Allocasuarina verticillata* trees in it. The size and number of the Sheoak cones was very notable and several of us said they were the outstanding feature of the site. However we were pleased to see several trees with

11 October 2025



fairly recent chewings underneath though we didn't hear or see the birds. Geoff said that Glossy Black Cockatoos regularly nest in Yellow Box trees in the valley below.

The lack of winter rains meant that the conditions were noticeably dry with few flowers out. We did spot a number of *Arthropodium minus*, Small Vanilla Lilies and a few Clustered Everlastings. Also Rowena did spot a Greenhood orchid *Pterostylis lingua* Large-tongue Rustyhood and a Beard Orchid *Calochilus* sp. most likely *C. robertsonii*. Having to carefully pick her way along the animal tracks with plenty of fallen timber (she is steadily gaining her mobility), she had the payoff for spotting both species. I have to add here that Geoff did a marvellous job of picking the easiest route and even shifting some of the more difficult timber.



A range of bush birds were heard while we walked, but few were clearly seen. Rufous Whistlers, newly arrived back from their annual migration, were easily recognized. Weebills and Yellow Thornbills were present. We also heard wrens but didn't see them to identify the species.

We were back to the cars about midday. The way down from the saddle was in full sun, so we opted to find a shady spot for lunch. A track into the woodland near the London Tank fitted the bill nicely,

Many thanks to Geoff for the invitation and guidance. Let's hope it is not another 25 years (and not such a dry one) for another visit.

**Eric Whiting & Margaret Strong**

**Top: Nella, Geoff and Eric in discussion, Above: Sheoak cones aplenty (left), Large-tongue Rustyhood (right) Below: View across property (left), Close up Vanilla Lily flower (right). Images by Rowena Whiting**



## Watching Over the Malleefowl – West Wyalong Volunteers Take to the Bush

While West Wyalong bustled with the *Hearts of Gold Festival* celebrations, a smaller and quieter group of volunteers headed out into the mallee scrub, hoping for a glimpse of one of Australia's most fascinating native birds — the endangered **Malleefowl**.

Since 2015, NSW annual Malleefowl Mound Monitoring Training has equipped over **70 volunteers** how to locate and record Malleefowl mounds using a smartphone app.

**Mound activity is a key measure of the species' health — the more active mounds, the stronger the population.**

More than **750 mounds across NSW** are monitored each year, contributing to over 4,000 sites nationwide through the National Malleefowl Database — one of Australia's largest single-species monitoring programs. By collecting consistent data across regions, scientists can track trends and guide conservation actions to protect this unique ground-dwelling bird.

***It was great to see so many volunteers, staff from various Local Land Services regions and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service volunteering their time to support the NSW Malleefowl Recovery Group with this year's annual monitoring program.***



**Malleefowl – photo by Mark Leary**

NSWMRG would like to thank all those who were able to attend our training and monitoring in West Wyalong 11 & 12<sup>th</sup> October. 24 people took part with lots of new faces and many regulars. The morning training session was excellent with Graeme providing a really informative presentation on all aspects of the beloved Malleefowl - followed by in-field training near West Wyalong.

Graeme Tonkin (National Training & Database Manager) and Jess Keem (NSW and Vic Ecologist) from the National Malleefowl Recovery team were there on Saturday and provided so much advice and years of experience.

Members who had already been trained headed out into the field on Saturday morning to monitor and check activity status of many mounds - the day finished with the groups AGM and dinner at the Colonial Motor Inn

Sunday morning teams headed out with their monitoring kits and maps detailing the mounds that needed monitoring - all were back by lunchtime and then headed home. Just over 100 mounds were monitored with another 50+ to be monitored in different locations in the next few weeks.

This year's training and monitoring were proudly delivered by the **NSW Malleefowl Recovery Group Inc**, with support from **Riverina Local Land Services**, **DCCEEW's Saving our Species Program**, and the **National Malleefowl Recovery Group**.

**Libby McIntyre** - Coordinator  
NSW Malleefowl Recovery Group

### **From Murrumbidgee Landcare news**

**[Citizen Science: Australian Pollinator Week](#)** (Australian Pollinator Count) 8 to 16 November  
Taking part is quick and easy. You simply need to observe some flowers for 2 minutes, record the pollinators you see and register your results. If you are a beginner, you can start by reviewing the Learner Guide, or watching the Learner Guide video.

## “The Eagles” report on their Twitchathon

Our twitchathon group, 'The Eagles' of 3, Neil Palframan, Lisa Parks and I started our Champagne, 8 hr drive, at the Whitton Stock Route/ Burley Griffin Rd checking the Yenda Cemetery and dam. We moved onto Brogden track and dam where we profited from a good number of small birds including the Restless Flycatcher.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle



After a short morning tea at the partly filled dam with a variety of woodland birds visitng, we travelled to Spring Hill car park where we were disappointed not seeing a treecreeper, but were lucky to hear and then Neil saw the Crested Bellbird fly to it's nest. It was well camouflaged in a forked Eucalyptus branch. It took awhile for Lisa and me to focus on the nest. She had a beautiful song when moving to and fro from the nest. Lisa saw fleetingly the Peregrine Falcon racing out of sight before we could see it to identify it.

We travelled via Miami road to Fivebough Wetlands and walked the circular track. We were disappointed not seeing the Brolgas but collected a further good number of waterbirds. Time was getting away on us and hunger, so we raced to Gogelderie Weir for lunch.

We were entertained by a couple of Sacred Kingfishers with their calls swooping down for tip bits and one Sulphur-crested Cockatoo watching us and we were her.

We then raced to Campbell's Wetlands just in time to see the Baillon's Crake, Black Swans and other waterbirds we had already ticked off.

We had a good run with the weather being in our favour and even though our time was up, Neil took me to where the 2 Australian Spotted Crakes reside; we waited a good while for them to show themselves. After that I was birded - out.....but still we had to go home and tick off the 107 birds we had found over a well earned cuppa. We nominated the Crested Bellbird as our top find and we dipped out on Noisy Miners.

### Virginia Tarr

Their birdlist should be available on eBird.

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## Caper White Butterfly activity in the Yenda Flora and Fauna Reserve

On 27<sup>th</sup> September, several people visited the reserve to check on the seasonal progress of the Caper White butterflies which breed on the Warrior Bushes there during their **annual migration** across NSW. About two dozen butterflies were spotted, that mainly hovered around the second Warrior Bush located about fifty metres directly behind the familiar one on the fence line on **Schwab Street**.



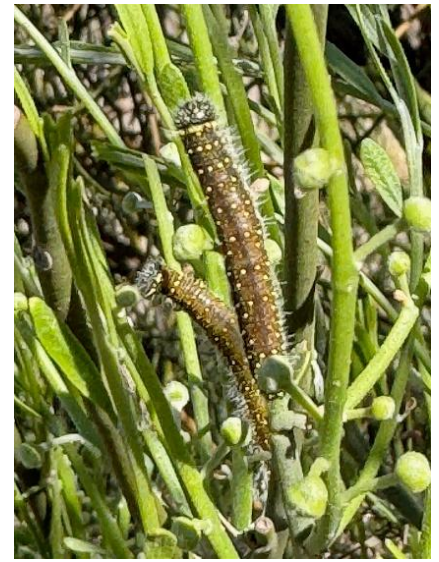
This **second Warrior bush** is taller with a wider canopy than the one on the fence line, making it difficult to see whether any tiny eggs had been laid there. No eggs were visible on the fence line bush either, that was dotted with them at the same time last year. Among our group of enthusiasts, we commented that the butterflies were definitely hanging around and not just cruising past. We thought that cool night time temperatures could have been a factor in the delay of egg laying.

Two weeks later, in mid-October, Margrit Martin reported **large numbers of eggs** on the second bush. Shortly after that we saw **many caterpillars**, being Caper Whites in their larval stage, and several pupae in varying stages of development. There were a few pupae well into their metamorphosis high up on the bush, indicating that there had indeed been eggs laid by the end of September and that we hadn't seen them or the tiny caterpillars.

Continued activity can be expected throughout November, or longer, as fresh eggs are still being laid by the recently arrived female adults. **Eggs** take between four days, to seven days or more in cooler temperatures

to hatch. They are cream coloured when first laid, turning orange when ready to hatch. The tiny **larvae** eat the egg-shells first, then start on the small leaves and the green covering of the branchlets that will be their entire diet for the next three to five weeks. They **change colour** from orange to greenish brown as soon as they start eating the plant on which they have hatched. The larvae are **hairy** and **poison** droplets may be seen at the ends of the hairs, which they have produced from **glucosinolates** in the Warrior bush food. This is why they feed in the daytime without being predated on.

**Mature larvae** are 3.5mm long before they pupate and are capable of eating entire branchlets. The **metamorphosis** of the **pupa** to an **adult** takes twenty days, which is said to be quick compared to other species.

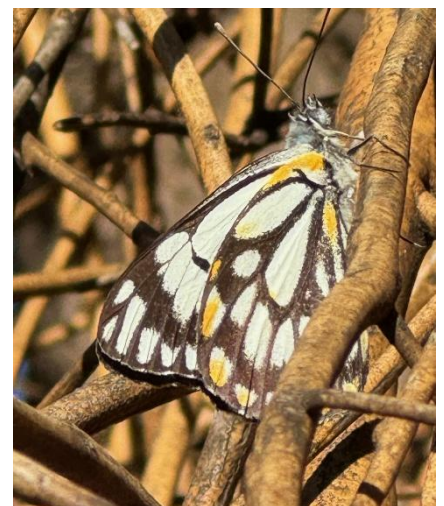


Above: Caper White eggs (left), larva (right),  
Below: new pupa (left), pupa (right, Bottom: adult butterfly).

The bushes are covered in **flower buds**, which will open to provide nectar for the **newly emerged adults** that will hang around to find a **mating partner** before migrating southwest towards South Australia. Hopefully the females will find Warrior Bushes, or others similar, to lay their mature eggs on. Adults feeding on **nectar** from the plant they emerge on are probably the main **pollinators** for all those flower buds, helping to prolong the survival of their larval food plant.



The caterpillars can only eat plants in the Capparis Family and **Capparis anomola** (Warrior Bush) is the only species that grows naturally in southern Australia. Garden plants of other species of that Family may also be discovered by **gravid females** that will eventually need to lay their eggs. All other plants are thought to be **toxic** to the caterpillars. Adults can take nectar from any other plants on their journey, for example Senna species that are still flowering.



Despite their restricted diet, **Belenois java** (Caper White Butterflies), migrate each Spring and Summer from Java in Indonesia, through several generations, down through Qld, NSW and Vic to western areas of SA. It's not known that any butterflies from Australia fly back to Java to breed the next season's migrants, so it's presumed that not all individuals leave their homeland.

This **amazing migration event** by these beautiful, delicate creatures can be reliably witnessed each year at Yenda, where we have so far discovered **four Warrior Bushes** in the Reserve. The additional two bushes are young plants a short distance west from the second bush, next to a huge Wilga. The movement of butterflies will indicate the spot. Whether that will mean four times the butterfly activity there in future is yet to be discovered!

### Margaret Strong

References: 1. Butterflies of Australia: their identification, biology and distribution by Michael Braby. Canberra, CSIRO, 2000.

2. SA Butterflies and Moths <<https://sabutterflies.org.au>>

3. The Complete Field Guide to Butterflies of Australia by Michael F Braby. Canberra, CSIRO, 2016. Available in local Libraries

We had a terrific weekend.



Approaching a malleefowl mound

Lyall Zweck, Paul Walker, Glenn Currie, Lloyd McKenzie and I, (with Margrit Martin at home, on standby), made our way to a private property at Alleena. Alleena is 20km south of West Wyalong. The property, which adjoins South West Woodland Nature Reserve - Buddigower, has a long history of harvesting Broombush *Melaleuca uncinata* for brush fencing and Green Mallee *Eucalyptus viridis* & Blue Mallee *E. polybractea* for eucalyptus oil.



Green Mallee fruits & leaves / flowers

The Mallee and Mallee-Broombush dominated woodland and shrubland in the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion has a conservation status as a Critically Endangered Ecological Community (Ed. see link below). In 2024 the NSW government changed the land use classification of the Mallee and Mallee-Broombush as Category 2 - sensitive regulated land. Under this classification land clearing is not permitted. This has prevented further harvesting on properties like Alleena. Steph Cooke MLA has been working with the landholders to change the classification on the basis that the Mallee and Broombush has been sustainably coppiced in NSW since the 1930's. (for further information see link below Ed.)

Saturday, after rising to the Mallee dawn chorus, we formed 2 teams - Paul & Lloyd + Sarah & Lyall in the morning and Lyall, Lloyd & Paul + Sarah & Glenn in the afternoon. Our survey area included woodland structure of tall trees with an open to mid-dense shrub layer and groundcover to open shrubland - especially in the Broombush and Mallee harvesting sites where the height of the plants varied from 50 - 150cm. There were few patches of very dense mallee that I have come across on previous surveys where the Mallee Stranglevine *Cassytha melantha* lived up to its name and was impenetrable..... enter at your own risk! This made accessing the mounds relatively easy. There were no active mounds located Saturday. Lyall and Lloyd returned to Wagga Wagga at the end of the day. Glenn, Paul and I camped the night onsite.

With 2 teams, we completed 29 surveys Saturday, leaving 13 to complete Sunday. Margrit Martin had volunteered to attend Sunday, however we decided her attendance was not necessary. We planned to complete the final surveys Sunday morning with just 1 team as many of the mounds are close to the tracks. Paul gained his stripes with the tech as he had not been able to attend the training earlier in October which allowed me to be the 'spare wheel' where I set about stopping, photographing and interrupting conversation with, "Hey! Look at this!" "What's this plant Paul?" "Stop the car Glenn, there's a Butterbush!" The fellas were very accommodating, Paul forthcoming with species id, and we were glad to have interrupted our transit to the next site as the Butterbush was in fact a yellow fruiting Quandong *Santalum acuminata*- see photo. Plantnet reports this as a rare variant.



Of course we were looking out for the birds, however they were scarce during the day. Highlights were a pair of Red-capped Robins, the Western Gerygone and a Mistletoe Bird which came to feed in the Box mistletoe right above where I was having breakfast. I was surprised to not see any raptors. Many of the birds were identified by their call, there were honeyeaters however no calls that I could be confident to list.

We identified an Emu scat – see photo. We saw a Shingleback, several skinks and a gecko. We saw an occasional Swamp Wallaby but heard them several times and saw Eastern Grey Kangaroos.

Unfortunately, there were no active mounds. We left the property after lunch, keen to do more monitoring for the elusive active mound & birds.

**Sarah Danckert**

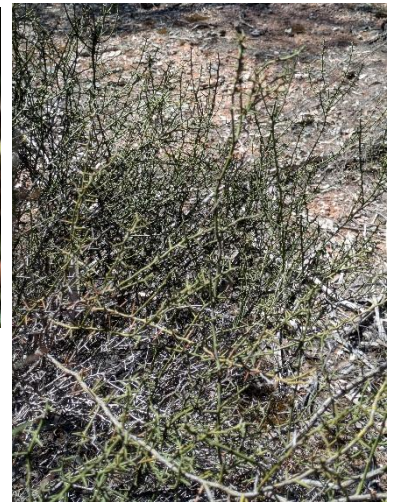
<https://threatenedspecies.bionet.nsw.gov.au/profile?id=20149>

<https://www.stephcooke.com.au/coppicing>



## Alleena Flora List compiled by Paul Walker

- Acacia flexifolia
- Acacia lineata
- Calytrix tetragona
- Cassya melantha
- Daviesia genistifolia
- Dodonaea viscosa ssp. cuneata
- Eucalyptus sp (poss. viridis; and other mallee form spp one or more species extensively cultivated for oil extraction)
- Eucalyptus microcarpa
- Eucalyptus sideroxylon
- Goodenia ovata
- Melaleuca uncinata – This sp. extensively cultivated for cropping
- Melaleuca lanceolata
- Myoporum montanum
- Olearia tenuifolia
- Prostanthera aspathaloides
- Pultenaea largiflorens
- Santalum acuminatum
- Westringia sp (poss. eremicola)



Top: Broom Bitter-pea *Daviesia genistifolia*  
 Above: Twiggy Bush-pea *Pultenaea largiflorens*  
 Far left: *Goodenia ovata* Hop Goodenia  
 Left: *Olearia tenuifolia* Thin-leaf Daisy-bush  
 Photos by Sarah Danckert

## Tootool revisited for the Great Southern Bioblitz

25 October 2025

An enthusiastic gathering of Citizen scientists of all ages (at the Tootool wetlands on Bullenbung Creek) came to be part of the Great Southern Bioblitz on Saturday 25 October 2025.

Attendees learnt how to use iNaturalist to record species, when internet reception was available!

Over the weekend Murrumbidgee Landcare's Great Southern Bioblitz 600 observations of 299 species were recorded by 49 individuals and identified by 126 experts over four locations including Fivebough, Tootool, Marrambidya and Junee.

The expertise available was excellent with Darcy from Birdlife Australia, vet Janet on lizards (with her pet bluetongue) and Tina with plant identification and most particularly Eastern Riverina Landcare's Sandra for her friendly and efficient running of the morning.

Some of the highlights included the sighting of:

- 2025 bird of the year, the Tawny Frogmouth (photo below) with its young well camouflaged in a fork of a eucalypt
- a Sacred Kingfisher
- four Kookaburras in the same tree crown.
- Chocolate Lilies in flower
- a large orange (boletes) mushroom (photo is of underside).



Several grass species, bindweed, eutaxia, chocolate lilies & nardoo along the creek bed featured among the plants (Thanks Tina).



We only saw one body of water in part of the creek. The rest of the creek was rather dry, except for regions of creek bed. Several discarded mussel shells were also found beside the creek.

At one point a hare made a quick getaway into the crop on the south side of the wetlands.

Congratulations must go to the members of the Milbruling and District Landcare group who attended and shared their stories of:

- how they worked
- what they did years ago to protect the Crown Land area from erosion.

The results of their efforts were there for all to see.

Unfortunately for our Bioblitz we didn't spot the snake from Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists' visit in early August 2024.

David Dunn

# MEMBERS' SIGHTINGS

These sightings are from members' observations. Please check with the relevant person before quoting any record.

|  |   |          |                     |
|--|---|----------|---------------------|
| <b>Turquoise Parrot</b> [1]              | Jack's Creek, Cocoparra Nat Park        | 06/10/25 | G Currie & M Martin |
| <b>Superb Parrot</b> [8]                 | Rawlings Park, Lake Albert, Wagga Wagga | 22/10/25 | M & J Hume          |
| <b>Crested Bellbird</b> [1]              | Brogden Track, Binya State Forest       | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team     |
| <b>Speckled Warbler</b> [1]              | Binya State Forest                      | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team     |
| <b>White-browed Babbler</b> [3]          | Binya State Forest                      | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team     |
| <b>Restless Flycatcher</b> [1]           | Spring Hill Track, Cocoparra Nat Park   | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team     |
| <b>Southern Whiteface</b> [2]            | Fivebough Wetlands, Leeton              | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team     |
| <b>Baillion's Crake</b> [1]              | Campbell's Wetlands, Griffith           | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team     |
| <b>Spotted Crake</b> [2]                 | Campbell's Wetlands, Griffith           | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team     |
| <b>Superb Parrot</b> [10]<br>Flying over | Malebo Pl, Wagga Wagga                  | 28/10/25 | Janet Hume          |
| <b>Western Gerygone</b> [3]              | Trewalla, Book Book                     | 31/10/25 | Birds on farms      |
| <b>Superb Parrot</b> [4]                 | Trewalla, Book Book                     | 31/10/25 | Birds on farms      |

## Sightings of interest

|   |                                       |          |                 |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| <b>White-fronted Chat</b> [1]   | Spring Hill Track, Cocoparra Nat Park | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team |
| <b>Bar-shouldered Dove</b> [2]  | Binya State Forest                    | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team |
| <b>Horsfield Bronze Cuckoo</b> [1]  | Binya State Forest                    | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team |
| <b>White-bellied Sea-Eagle</b> [2]  | Campbell's Wetlands, Griffith         | 25/10/25 | Twichathon Team |
| <b>White-winged Triller</b> [2]   | Yabtree West, Mundarlo                | 30/10/25 | Birds on farms  |
| <b>White-throated Gerygone</b>  | Yabtree West, Mundarlo                | 30/10/25 | Birds on farms  |
| <b>Oriental Dollarbird</b> [3]<br>Being harassed by Sulphur-crested Cockatoos | Yabtree West, Mundarlo                | 30/10/25 | Birds on farms  |
| <b>Satin Flycatcher</b> [1]   | Trewalla, Book Book                   | 31/10/25 | Birds on farms  |
| <b>Cockateil</b> [10]<br>2 adults and 8 juvenile                              | Trewalla, Book Book                   | 31/10/25 | Birds on farms  |
| <b>Wedge-tailed Eagle</b> [1]<br>Chick on nest                                | Trewalla, Book Book                   | 31/10/25 | Birds on farms  |

Twichathon Team = 'The Eagles': Neil Palframan, Virginia Tarr and Lisa Parker (new member)

Compiled by Janet Hume

From left: Rawlings Park Little Black Cormorant, Little Pied Cormorant, Trewalla Cockatiel by Janet Hume



# \*\*\*\* COMING EVENTS \*\*\*\*

Please note all outings are subject to weather conditions.

Please register with the nominated person so you can be contacted if there is a change in arrangements.

Registering also means that the leader is better able to plan activities.

**13 November Thursday**    **Annual General Meeting and Monthly Meeting** in the Yellow Room at the **Leeton Library**, Sycamore St., Leeton commencing at 7pm.

Topic: **Photos of MFN's Year** –

Please send any photos you would like to show to MFN's email below.

Bring along Show and Tell

Email: [murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com](mailto:murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com)

**13-17 November**    **Malleefowl Mound Monitoring at Yathong**

For more information see Page 8.

Contact Sarah Danckert 0427 276 306 [murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com](mailto:murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com)

**22 November Saturday**    **Small urban patches of Leeton & Yanco - explore, identify, share.**



**Amesbury Common, Leeton** Join Jo Roberts and Jason Richardson at to explore this small pocket of remnant woodland just 2km from the centre of town.

**Meet & park: 8:30am** Muscat St near the corner of Blakely St.

**Register** with Jason [bassling@gmail.com](mailto:bassling@gmail.com), phone 02 6953 7197.

After morning tea we'll move onto

**Chris Dalitz at The Yanco Powerhouse Museum, 13 Binya Street, Yanco**

**Time** approx 10:30 - 11am

Survey the birds and identify the habitat for suggestions as to how this 4ha space could be improved for nature.

Stay for lunch and explore the museum.

**Bring** morning tea, water, lunch and a chair; binos & knowledge.

Toilets only at The Powerhouse.

**Contact** Sarah Danckert for more information 0427 276 306

[murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com](mailto:murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com)



**3 December Wednesday**    **Copy for the December newsletter is due. Please send to Rowena.**

Email: [ericwhiting4@bigpond.com](mailto:ericwhiting4@bigpond.com) Phone: 0429 726 120.

**4 December Thursday**    **Committee Meeting held at 7pm by Zoom**

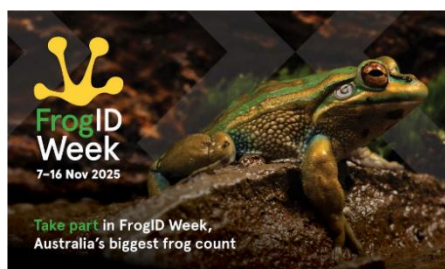
All members are welcome to attend and submit agenda items

Email: [murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com](mailto:murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com)

**13 December Saturday**    **End of year outing**  
**Narrandera Food Garden has been suggested – please inform the committee of any alternatives.** [murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com](mailto:murrumbidgeefieldnaturalists@gmail.com)

## Other Event

**FrogID Week is from Friday 7 November to Sunday 16 November 2025**



The Australian Museum will be holding their eighth FrogID Week event. It is Australia's biggest frog count. Held annually, it's when anyone with a smartphone can help record frog calls through the free FrogID app, and help better understand frogs and environmental health around the country. From croaks and barks, to whistles and bleats, every frog species makes a unique sound.

<https://www.frogid.net.au/>