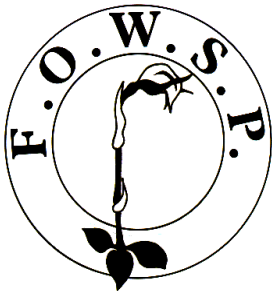


# Friends of Warrandyte State Park



## Newsletter

Website: [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au)

Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) Inc. PO Box 220 Warrandyte 3113  
ABN 94170156655/Incorporation No. A0024890C

### Editor's Corner

**In typical** spring fashion, our weather has been bouncing between summer and winter. The soil is quite dry so anyone who has been tempted to plant will need to be careful with follow up watering.

Our front page smile is brought to us by one of the youngest FOWSPians, Rhen.

FOWSP taggers have kept busy and a few of their projects are featured on p. 2 thanks to Don and Gray.

Interesting Frogland plants are featured on p. 3 and 7. The area is looking great thanks to the constant attention of Marie and many others.

Page 4 features a brief review of a new book ***Dragonflies and Damselflies of Victoria and Tasmania*** sure to be popular with many of us.

We celebrate birthdays with some stalwart FOWSPians on p. 8. and a take a brief look at some of my spring quarry on p.9.

Spring has delivered a visual feast. Enjoy. *Linda*



Rhen a newbie running the FOWSP trailer on Sat 4 Oct. Proud parents are Daniel and Marae. Never too young to help out at the FOWSP market trailer.

Photo Lyndy Gilbert

### Notice to all FOWSP members:

The AGM will be held on **Sunday 10 November 2019**, 5:00 pm at the Folly.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive annual reports and select the Committee of Management. All positions will be declared open. Nomination forms are available through the secretary.

This year retired ranger Steve Anderson (who assisted with the original Frogland fence in 1992 and more recently worked at Uluru) will talk to us with the title:

#### **Ranging across the years.**

The meeting will be followed by BYO drinks and nibbles and a BYO everything BBQ. A great chance to relax with Friends. See you there!

**Deadline for December edition newsletter is**

**Friday 22 November 2019**

contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan [editor@fowsp.org.au](mailto:editor@fowsp.org.au)  
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113



**Story of three TAGs**



**On 26 September** David, Barrie and Gray (photo left) were hard at it (literally, as under the wood chips there was still solid Lilydale limestone) on Pound Bend Road restoring a former car park with our local provenance trees.

Why, I asked, were they planting in Lilydale limestone?

Gray reveals the story of the Lilydale limestone: Many years ago there was a walk for people with disabilities (or whatever they are called now, in political correctness speech.) There was a small car park so that wheelchair users could park at the beginning of the special walk, and this little car park was paved with crushed

Lilydale limestone. Many years of compaction by parked cars has turned this formerly loose material into a hardened stratum.

Some time ago the car park was closed with large pieces of fallen timber which are still in place, and sporadic efforts were made to re-establish vegetation by direct seeding. Recently Ranger Col had the bright idea of spreading this area with the fertile soil dug out of culverts within the park during regular maintenance. This he did, and then he capped it with a layer of mulch; thus preparing the site for FOWSP's Taggers to plant the site with tube-stock selected by Josh.

Each planting hole was dug through the strata of mulch, transported soil, and limestone, into the weathered sedimentary rock beneath; as this deepest stratum is the most likely to support our plants during long dry periods.



**October 3rd at Walert Creek** Barrie, Brian and Bruce (right above) bravely boosting (re-establishing) *Lomandra* ( sorry doesn't start with B) in an area where Parks contractor Ant has killed the weeds. A magpie (left above) was gratefully catching the grubs as they were revealed.



**Lastly on 24 October** near Frogland, Gray pointed out a lush patch of thistles and other weeds just outside the Frogland fence (left). Linda R. greatly appreciated Robin and later Gray helping tackle these removing many tall flowering thistles, cape weed, bridle creeper and also some of the *Galium* and *fumaria* which was hiding even more young thistles. Once the weeds were removed we could see a population of volunteer *Cynoglossum australe* Australian hounds-tongue growing.. See photos p.9.



**Frogland in October  
Linda Rogan**

After the very successful launch of the interpretive signs in Frogland and the Pollinator garden, I feel like kicking back and enjoying the life in Frogland. I'd like to share some of the interesting plants that I admired this month.

*Hibbertia porcata* (right) with its bright yellow flowers is always eye-catching. This species was once included with *H. pedunculata*. It has been in Frogland for several years now so hopefully is drought hardy.



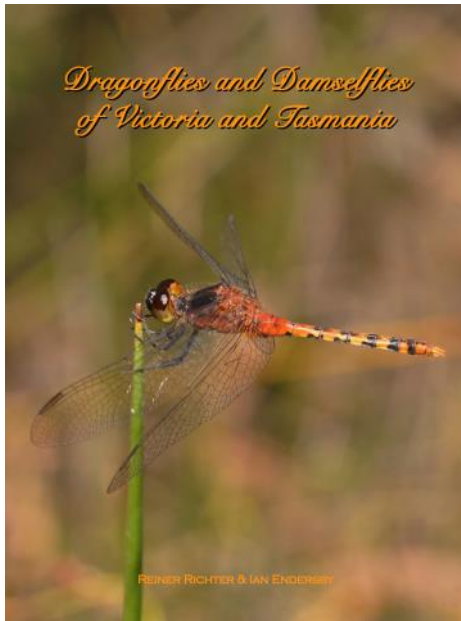
*Grevillea rosmarinifolia* (left) has been a bit difficult to establish in Frogland but this plant appears to be doing well and is showing off its delicate flowers. Perhaps it is getting a little more sunshine than some others we have planted.



This blue flowered speedwell (above and right) is a recent addition in the sunny west side of Frogland. According to Vicflora both species *derwentiana* and *perfoliata* are now included in the genus *Veronica*.



A plant added in October is this rather delicate appearing annual, spoon cudweed *Stuartina muelleri* is a member of the Asteraceae family with tiny flowers nearly lost in woolly flower heads. It is locally rare and we are hoping that it will establish as a self-seeding plant just as our Australian carrot *Daucus glochidiatus* is doing.



### Exciting new book available!

***Dragonflies and Damselflies of Victoria and Tasmania*** by Reiner Richter and Ian Endersby

It's always exciting to get a new book on insects where beautiful photos are matched with excellent information on how to look for key features for identification. This publication has a double page spread for every species of Odonata found in Victoria. It also covers every species found in Tasmania (with 5 endemic species). Additional notes indicate if the species is found elsewhere in Australia or overseas. For each of the 26 damselflies and the 55 dragonflies there is an image of a male and a female on one page. On the facing page there is information about behaviour and habitat.

Maps show records where each species has been recorded and graphs showing when adults are known to fly.

Additional images may show teneral (newly emerged) adults where colours and patterns may be paler. For some there are images of mating pairs or parts of the adults where the significant point of identification has been highlighted. In other cases perching behaviour or the nymph stage are shown.

*Peter Marriott*

*This book will soon be in the FOWSP library and will also available for purchase through the entsocvic.org.au website and also through FNCV.*

## Manningham City Council Environment Seminars



**The Environment Seminars are held on the first Wednesday of the month.**

Many of the seminars will be complemented with field trips to allow broader education on the topics. Bookings are not required for the evening seminars; however, bookings are essential for the field trips. Due to the popularity of field trips, bookings are limited to two field trips per person for the series. Attendance is required for the corresponding seminar to be eligible to attend and keep your booking for field trips.

**Seminar Venue:** River View Room, The Grand Hotel, Warrandyte

**Time:** Please arrive at 7.20pm for a 7.30pm start

**Enquiries:** 9840 9326

**Wednesday 4 December The dark side of night lighting** Hosted by Alicia Dimovski, Phd student, Department of Ecology, Environment and Evolution, La Trobe University. Alicia will describe how artificial light from housing and street lights is impacting our native mammals. She has been working between the Bundoora and Bendigo regions to explore the impacts of artificial light on health and behaviour in a range of marsupials including the tammar wallaby, fat-tailed dunnart and sugar glider. Throughout her research Alicia has been working with the lighting industry to find a solution to this problem by testing "wildlife-friendly" amber LED lighting that allows humans to see at night but reduces the impact on our native animals. In this seminar Alicia will discuss both the effects of light pollution on mammals and suggest some changes we can all make to help our native wildlife thrive in our urban areas.

**Wednesday 5 Feb 2020 The Tiny Flamboyance of the Peacock Spiders by Joseph Schubert** While the Australian peacock spiders are only the length of a grain of rice, they are some of the most charismatic and colourful spiders that the world has to offer. The males perform elaborate courtship displays, boasting their brilliant colours to impress females (hence the name 'peacock' spiders). At least 70 species have been discovered in the past 10 years, and there are likely still some which are yet to be discovered. Peacock spider scientist Joseph Schubert will discuss his research on this group of native Australian spiders, outlining their fascinating biology and behaviour.

**Field Trip: Saturday February 8 2020 10:00 am to 12 noon The Tiny Flamboyance of the Peacock Spiders**

On the following Saturday, take a walk through a reserve with Joseph and learn about habitat requirements for insects and arachnids and macro invertebrate lifeforms. Discover the important role these lifeforms contribute to woodland and forest health. You must pre-book this field trip and attend the seminar.

Location: The meeting place will be revealed to you at the seminar



FOWSP COMMITTEE 2019			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
<b>Artur Muchow</b>	<b>0415 383328</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Nursery Manager</b>	<b>Josh Revell</b>
			<b>Nursery Phone</b>	<b>0408 317 327</b>
			<b>email nursery@fowsp.org.au</b>	
<b>Lynda Gilbert</b>	<b>9844 0106</b>	<b>Treasurer and Membership</b>	<b>Park Office</b>	<b>03 8427 2132</b>
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<b>Gray Ardern</b>	<b>0418 190261</b>		<b>Market Trailer Jan Falconer</b>	
			<b>9844 1226 or 0419 872 096</b>	
			<b>email trailer@fowsp.org.au</b>	
<b>Lisa Jenkins</b>	<b>0431 840 415</b>		<b>Manningham Council Rep</b>	
	<b>lisajenkins@stanfordalumni.org</b>		<b>Cathy Willis</b>	<b>0427 660 651</b>
<b>Carolyn Noel</b>	<b>0409 901441</b>		<b>Webmaster</b>	
			<b>Jason Patton</b>	<b>0402 121838</b>
			<b>jason@parau.com</b>	
<b>Kelvin Watkins</b>	<b>0488 039 774</b>		Website: <a href="http://www.fowsp.org.au">www.fowsp.org.au</a>	
<b>Jeff Cranston</b>	<b>0418 396 647</b>		FOWSP general enquiry number 1300 764 422	
	<b>legality@bigpond.com</b>			

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of FOWSP

**Newsletter Team this month:** Linda Rogan, Gloria Moore, Lisa Jenkins

**Next Committee Meeting**  
**Date:** Tuesday 12 November 2019  
**Venue:** Education Centre, Pound Bend  
**Time:** 19:30 pm sharp

<b>TAGS</b> (Thursday activity groups)						
<b>TAGS meet at the nursery at 9.00 am for a 9.15 am departure. Please remember to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather, and please bring your own filled water bottle.</b>						
<b>Contact number: 0408 317 327</b>						
<b>Thurs</b>	14 Nov 2019	9:00-12:00	Walert Creek	Maintenance	Moderate	FOWSP
<b>Thurs</b>	28 Nov 2019	9:00-12:00	Nilja, Alexander Rd	weeding	Moderate	FOWSP
<b>Difficulty ratings:</b>						
<b>Easy:</b> Even terrain, some light lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Few tripping hazards.						
<b>Moderate:</b> Uneven terrain, light to heavy lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Tripping hazards present.						
<b>Difficult:</b> Steep terrain, light to heavy lifting, working in over-grown areas and lots of bending. Many tripping hazards and slippery surfaces present.						
Check the website for any changes at <a href="http://fowsp.org.au/activities.php">http://fowsp.org.au/activities.php</a>						
<b><u>Please note TAGS and activities will be cancelled on Total Fire Ban days or when weather conditions are deemed hazardous.</u></b>						

## FOWSP THURSDAY PROGRAM

We meet for propagation and other nursery activities every Thursday morning at 9.30 am at the Warrandyte State Park depot, Pound Bend Road, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10), unless otherwise stated below. Propagation takes place from 9.30 am to 12.30 midday.

No prior experience necessary -  
There is always someone available to show you the ropes.

### **NURSERY OPENING HOURS**

The nursery is open for plant sales every Thursday.

9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

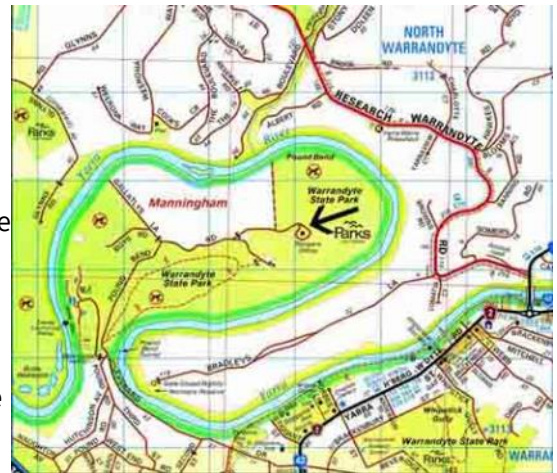
the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 2pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) **April to November only**.

No Saturday openings December, January, February nor March.

**Closed Christmas and New Years days.**

**Also closed to customers and volunteers on days of severe weather and on Total Fire Ban Days**

**Prices:** Members \$2.00      Non-members \$2.50



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## FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks



This series of nature walks will explore various sections of the natural areas of Manningham. Each walk is paced to allow participants to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of the area.

Bookings are essential as places are limited. Bookings will open two months before the walk date.

The meeting point for each nature walk will be provided at the time of your booking. All walk durations are approximate.

Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather including a hat and sturdy footwear. Bring a water bottle and snack.

### **Thursday 28 November 2019 9.30am to 12.30pm Westerfolds nature walk**

Stroll around Westerfolds Park mostly on made paths, taking in the magnificent River Red Gums, views across the river, and some grassland treasures

**Distance:** 5 km      **Time:** 3 hours      **Rating:** Easy to Moderate

#### **Ratings:**

**Easy** – Flat or undulating well formed tracks/paths with low tripping hazards.

**Moderate** – May include some moderately steep or narrow sections or have higher tripping hazards.

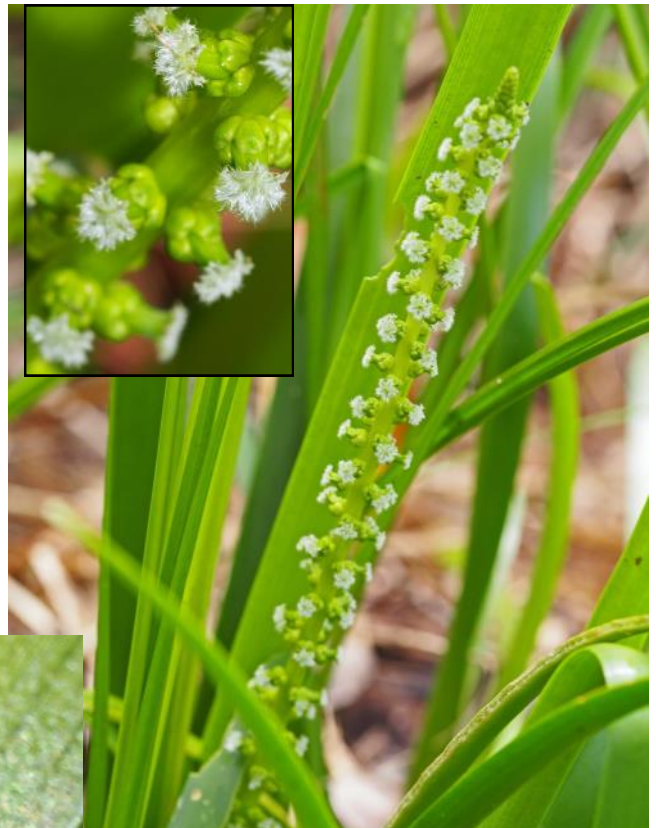
**Difficult** – Includes steep and/or narrow sections, slippery sections, or high tripping hazards.

**Bookings can be made online and are essential as places are limited. Bookings open 2 months before the walk date.** [www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks](http://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks)

The meeting place will be provided at the time of booking.

Please note that nature walks will be cancelled on a day of Total Fire Ban or extreme weather warning as Parks Victoria will close all local parks.

**What can be found in a waterless pond in Frogland?  
Linda Rogan**



Many things! On this particular day, I noted a very healthy clump of ***Rumex bidens* mud dock** (above left) which is locally rare and significant in the Melbourne area. Its underground stem was used as food by Aborigines.

Fluffy white flowers of ***Triglochin water ribbons*** on tall spikes.

Meanwhile a skilled hunter captured its prey on the plant's strap-like leaves. A good look at the eyes and I recognised this as a **jumping spider or salticid** and with the help of iNaturalist it has been ID'ed as *Helpis* species. All found without getting my feet wet.



**FOWSP MARKET TRAILER**

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 5 October 2019  
***Diane and John Baird, Jeff Cranston, Sybille Ims,  
Christine Andell, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook***



Special thanks to ***Kelvin Watkins*** who transported the market trailer.

The Warrandyte market is held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm at Stiggants Reserve. Volunteers are rostered in pairs to (man/woman) the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour.

If you are interested in being on the market roster  
**please contact Jan Falconer 0419 872 096 email [trailer@fowsp.org.au](mailto:trailer@fowsp.org.au)**  
*First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.*

**Next market dates are:** Saturdays, 2 November, 7 December 2019 and 1 February 2020



### More birthdays

Many happy returns to Kay on her birthday. It is lovely to have her amongst our regular volunteer crew

And also to Gray, who fortunately was weeding and “gently” guiding Taggers near the nursery, and didn’t need to be called twice for morning tea. He was able to do justice to the unusual watermelon cake which Lyndy had created in his honour.



Will Lyndy never run out of new ideas for birthday cakes and morning teas? We all hope not as her efforts are greatly appreciated by all.





**Cynoglossum australe Australian hounds-tongue** as mentioned on p. 2 and shown in photos here. This is a native plant which I was pleased to see growing where we removed the weeds outside the Frogland fence but we will need to keep a watch that they don't become too prevalent within Frogland.  
*Linda R*



**Questing for *Amegilla Asaropoda* in Noccundra**

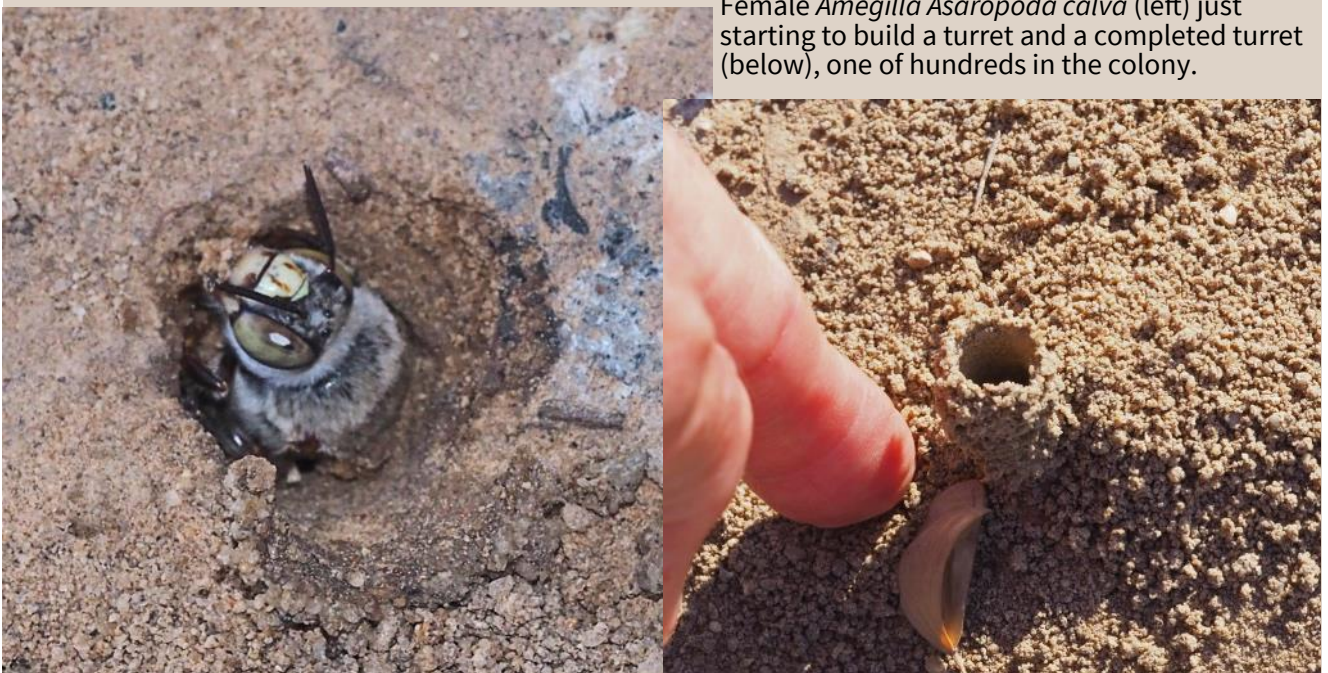
Sounds great doesn't it? I especially like hearing our GPS say "Continue on the Warri Warri gate-Nockatunga Road". At least I did until we had a flat tyre at Warri Warri gate after the very rough rocky road through Sturt National Park.

But the quest was a success and led to three days observing two separate nesting congregations of bees. These bees are the same genus as our beloved blue-banded bees and even more closely related to the so-called teddy-bear bees *Amegilla Asaropoda bombiformis* which are also known in Victoria but I have only photographed in other states.

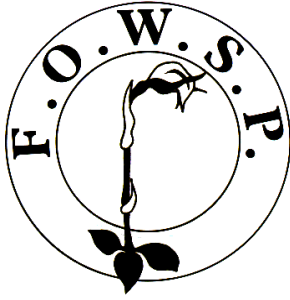
Although these bees are smaller than the renowned Dawson's burrowing bee in WA, I find observing large nesting colonies of these cousins of the blue banded bee, fascinating. I have yet to see such a thing in Victoria. Perhaps the time will yet come when someone will be able to direct me to a nesting colony of this genus of bees locally or better yet, I might stumble upon one by myself.

*Linda Rogan*

Female *Amegilla Asaropoda calva* (left) just starting to build a turret and a completed turret (below), one of hundreds in the colony.







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**Noccundra bees *Amegilla Asaropoda calva***

This is a mating pair of the special bees I travelled to see in September-October. P.10. It is always great to see mating pairs as it is the best way to be sure I am photographing both males and females.

Observing these bees and having scientist Remko Leijs of SA Museum identify them to species level gave me a great feeling of satisfaction.

It has been three years since they last emerged at this location. See also p. 9.

*Linda R.*

**November 2019 Vol. 37 no. 9**

***Are you receiving your Newsletter by email?*** If so watch for the message below which will appear on the email along with the link to the Newsletter when your membership subs are due within the next 70 days\*\*\*

Please note that, according to our records, your Membership is due to expire on (relevant date). Please click on the link below to renew your Membership.

Of-course, if this matter has been attended to recently, please disregard.

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE**

**FOWSP Membership Renewal Form**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Telephone no. ....

Email .....

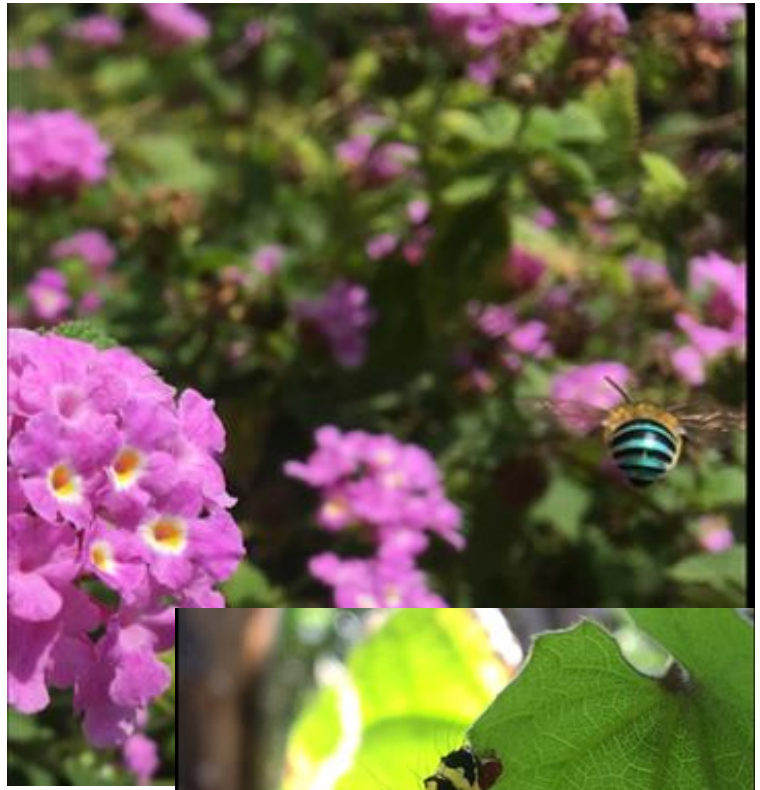
Membership (family) \$30  
Concession \$15

Newsletter by email (tick box)

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or renew on the website [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au) with the option of direct deposit payment.



**Email photo bonus page**

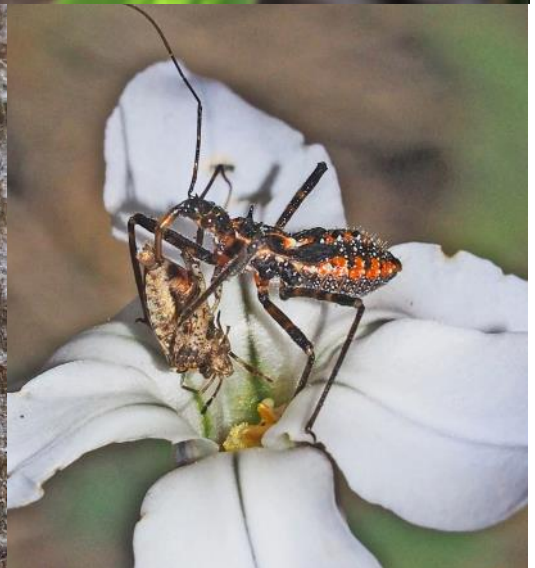
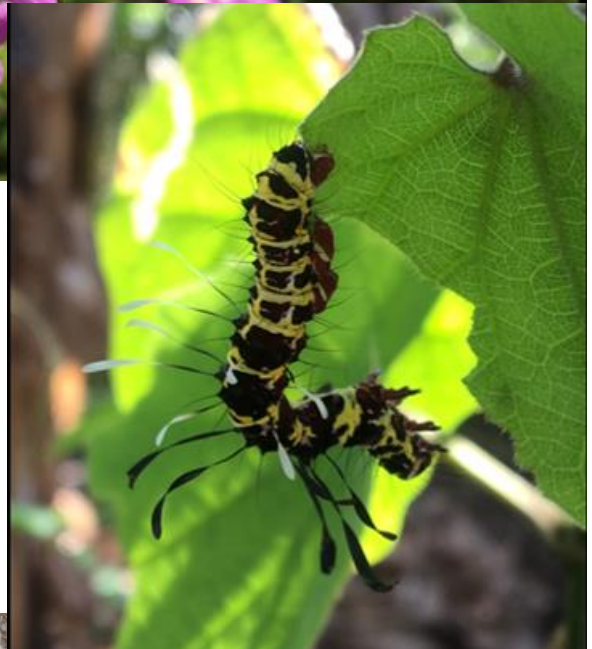


Annette is pleased to share these three photos from a recent holiday in Bali. She really enjoyed watching the wasps (above) tending their young and eventually capping each cell in order for the larvae to complete their metamorphosis.

The blue banded bee photographed in flight (above right) is much more brilliant than our local ones. Good catch! Lastly this fancy caterpillar (right) is certainly eye-catching.

It was a thrill for Linda returning home to observe the resin bees mating on a hot afternoon in October (below left).

Also photographed is a young assassin bug feeding on a shield bug (below right) in Linda's garden.



**Your photos can appear on this page (subject to space available) if you email them as follows:  
[editor@fowsp.org.au](mailto:editor@fowsp.org.au)**





*Hylaeus elegans* on  
ornamental *Callistemon*  
Along the streets of  
Thargomindah Queensland  
Photo Linda Rogan