



NT
LANDCARE
AWARDS⁰⁹
CATEGORY FINALIST

Land for Wildlife

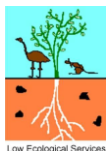
Look after the land you live on

Stimpson's Python feeding on a Red Tree Frog, *Litoria rubella*, at Simpsons Gap.
Photo courtesy Land for Wildlife member, Glen Marshall



NEWSLETTER

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PowerWater



 Northern Territory Government

Alice Springs Municipality | April 2010

Land for Wildlife Update

Hi everyone,

After another good dose of rain I trust everyone's gardens are looking lush with lots of new seedlings popping up – and hopefully not too much Buffel!

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Alyson Wright & Jon Veebrants who have signed up 108 hectares of Iwupataka Aboriginal Land Trust to the scheme.

I have some good news to report. The Alice Springs LfW program is being used as a model on which to base a similar program in Darwin and the top end of the NT. Both programs will assist in achieving the aims of the NT Government's **Territory Eco-link** project, which plans to create a conservation corridor of national and global significance from the desert centre to the north tropical savannahs. More than 2000km of protected area will be linked by coordinating public and private conservation efforts. **Territory Eco-link** aims to link with South Australian initiatives, creating a cross-continent conservation corridor all the way from Arnhem Land to Port Augusta, the Trans-Australia Eco-Link. All your significant work towards habitat restoration is now nationally recognised, and your property is now contributing to this national conservation corridor and landscape scale conservation initiative! Some of you may have read an article in the Centralian Advocate on March 9 about Land for Wildlife/Garden for Wildlife's involvement in the initiative and if you would like more information on **Territory Eco-link** please contact us on lfw@lowecol.com.au or 8955 5222, or visit http://www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks/ecolink/pdf/ecoLink_prospectus.pdf.

I would like to congratulate the following households for their fantastic efforts and participation in the **feral Spotted Turtle-dove program**:

- Julie Taylor caught **3 Spotted-Turtle Doves** in February with her trap that she constructed during our June 2009 Workshop
- Sarah White caught **2 ST Doves** with a trap on loan from Land for Wildlife
- Katya Verbunt and her family caught **4 ST Doves** from her chook yard with a trap on loan from Land for Wildlife
- Jayne McAlister reported to us recently that her family has caught **24 ST Doves** between August and October last year with her backyard trap!
- Mark Russel reported on the 3rd of March that he has trapped and disposed of a phenomenal **32 ST Doves** since our trap-making workshop on the 5th of February 2010!
- Wendy in Gillen caught **30** in *one week* with a home-made trap. She has a big job ahead of her with an incredible amount of Turtle-doves stealing

her chook food – I counted 35 Turtle-doves within 5 minutes of arriving!

Well done everyone! Thank you for all those trapping efforts. All, bar two, properties currently trapping are Garden for Wildlife urban blocks as the ST Doves do not often occur further out of town on rural blocks. However, they are slowly creeping out while the resources are abundant after the rain. Keep your eyes out for them.

For all those of you out there trapping don't forget to report your catch numbers to Land for Wildlife so we can monitor Spotted-Turtle Dove populations. If anyone would like to go on the waiting list for a trap loan please send me an email: lfw@lowecol.com.au.



Congratulations to Land for Wildlife member Mitch Jones who was interviewed by the ABC Rural Report about the



Lesser Stick
Nest Rat
midden he
found in a cave
above his
property. The
story was
broadcast
nationally last
month.

Remember to remove any **Spotted Turtle-dove nests** you see on your property, and discourage them from roosting on your property.

Wildlife News



Orthopteran Overdose?!

They make the land come alive with every step, escorting you down the driveway in waves and clouds. They eat your

vegies, but they feed the birds and lizards. Have patience! Remember the desert operates in 'Boom and Bust' cycles in response to rain. It has rained, plants and animals are 'booming'. If there is no more rain over the next few months and things dry out, the 'bust' will begin and grasshopper populations will subside. So enjoy them while they last! As these grasshoppers mung into your citrus, have a close look at them. You may have already noticed



the incredible variation. And there are crickets and katydids, mantids and stick insects amongst them. Here are a few orthopterans (grasshoppers, crickets and katydids belong to the Orthoptera Order) for you to try and identify:

Grasshoppers



The Leopard Grasshopper

Stropis maculosa

Family: ACRIDIDAE

Striking with its dark spots, the Leopard Grasshopper is commonly seen in a variety of habitats in Alice Springs. They are herbivorous, however the native diet is contrary to the name, they don't eat grass as a first choice. They prefer to feed on *Solanum sp.* but will also readily eat your prized herbs, Caltrop, *Boerhavia coccinea*, citrus leaves, etc before they switch the grasses that are left over. Males of this species are small and generally quite colourful, the females are considerably larger and lack the bright yellow colouration. Juveniles of this species are surprisingly well camouflaged and are green in colour!



Photo:
Holger Woyt



The Toadhopper

Buforania crassa

Family: ACRIDIDAE

Sub-family: CATANTOPINAE

The Toadhopper is a plump Northern Territorian spur-throated grasshopper. Some adult females attain a total length of 10cm with a thorax of around 3.5cm wide! It is generally found on shellite or rocky substrate where it camouflages well against the red rock. The diet consists of numerous plants including; *Maireana sp.*, *Sclerolaena sp.*, *Enchylaena tomatosa* and *Stemodia viscosa*



Spur-throated grasshoppers & locusts

Paekesia Paekesia spp. (left)

Spur throated locust *Austracris guttulosa* (right)

Family: ACRIDIDAE

Sub-family: CATANTOPINAE

(Left: grasshopper, right: locust). There are many species of 'Spur-throated Grasshoppers'. The grasshopper pictured left is very common at the moment, but not in plague proportions, even though it may feel that way! The one pictured on the right is a very large locust. The juveniles are often brightly coloured with yellow and green being very common. Even though there are lots around they rarely become a pest due to the fact that they are single generation breeders,



Slant-faced Grasshoppers

Family: ACRIDIDAE

Sub-family: ACRIDINAE

These grasshoppers are common and contain many species. They can often be distinguished by the angle of their face and antennae (hence the name). The one pictured on the left is the Gaudy Acacia Grasshopper (*Macrolobalia ocellata*). This species is often found on Mulga (*Acacia aneura*) and Witchetty bush (*Acacia kempeana*). Males are small and females are large like most other grasshopper species.

meaning they only breed once a year. The first frost will reduce their numbers significantly.



Gumleaf Grasshopper

Goniaea spp.

Family: ACRIDIDAE

Unlike some of the vividly patterned and coloured grasshoppers, this species of grasshopper relies on its superb camouflage. In Alice Springs we have at least two different species. Both adults and juveniles feed on dry and fresh gum leaves (*Eucalyptus* sp.) and Bloodwood (*Corymbia opaca*). The juveniles, as pictured above, can't fly but the adults can fly considerable distances. (Photographed above in its fifth instar.)



Urnisa

Urnisa guttulosa.

Family: ACRIDIDAE

This grasshopper is one of the most common over a longer time period and, like most grasshoppers, doesn't feed on grass by preference but on herbaceous (broad leafed) plants, including shrubs, until only the grasses are left for food.



Photo: A. Chapman

Blistered Pyrgomorph/Blistered Grasshopper

Monistria pustulifera

Family: PYRGOMORPHIDAE

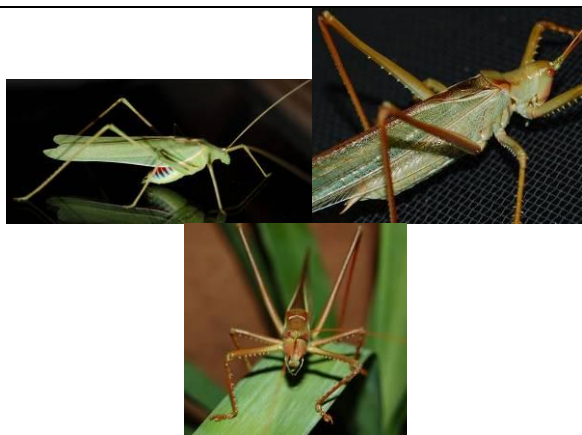
This colourful grasshopper is often found feeding on *Eremophila* spp. and some other strongly scented plants. Occasionally they can defoliate plants but most of the plants will regrow new leaves within a few months. Once the female has mated she will deposit her eggs into sandy substrate covered with a foam plug to prevent the eggs from drying out. Pictured on the top right is a pair; male is smaller and mounted on the larger female. The strong colours are a clear indicator to predators that they do not taste good and to leave them alone.



Grasshopper Nymphs

The grasshoppers pictured above are in the 'nymph' phase, or 'instar', of their lives. They have not yet fully developed, and do not have wings. These nymphs may look completely different to the adults (e.g. these nymphs pictured are likely to change colour, or some insects, such as various species of katydid, will have a nymph phase that mimics an ant or other insect) and will develop wings.

Katydids



Family: TETTIGONIIDAE

Katydids are more closely related to crickets than grasshoppers and can be distinguished from grasshoppers by their very long antennae which exceed the body length. Grasshopper antennae tend to be short and thick. There are many different species in Alice Springs, some of which are predatory and some eat leaves, flowers, bark, and seeds. They are mostly active at night – you will hear them calling amongst the crickets. The sound is made by rubbing the hind angles



Superb katydid

You may be lucky enough to see the Superb Katydid, *Alectoria superba*. This spectacular species is relatively uncommon and there are both yellow and green colour morphs. The function of the disc-shaped crest at the back of the head is unknown, though perhaps for protection. Some animals have been seen this year but not as many as last year. The juveniles and adults prefer to feed on flowering trees such as *Acacia* spp. and *Eucalypt* spp.. Eggs are laid on the bark of trees/shrubs, the eggs themselves are camouflaged with chewed bark to ensure that they are not easily seen. It may take a few years for eggs

of their front wings. This process is called stridulation. Nymphs often look very different to adults, often mimicking other insects to avoid predators. Adults are frequently green, camouflaging in foliage. Common species to Alice are the Bush Katyids, *Elephantodeta* spp.(herbivorous) and *Terpandrus* spp.(carnivorous).

to hatch depending on climatic conditions!

Crickets



Raspy cricket - nymph

Hadrogyllacris sp.

Family: GRYLLACRIDIDAE

Raspy crickets are a nocturnal predatory cricket, and therefore have sharp mouth parts. In Alice Springs there are a few different species; some are not winged whilst others have very well developed wings.

Females of all species have a distinct ovipositor (sword like egg laying organ at the end of their abdomen).



Mole cricket

G. coarctata and *G. monanka* are the only species found in the NT.

Family: GRYLLOTALPIDAE

Mole crickets spend most of their lives underground in extensive tunnel systems and are nocturnal. They have shovel-like forearms for burrowing and swimming, and are omnivorous feeding on worms, larvae, grass and roots.



Spider Cricket

Endacusta sp.

Family: GRYLLIDAE

Often confused with real cave crickets this species is associated with caves and hollow spaces. Mainly active at night these omnivores can jump a considerable distance with their giant back legs.

There are 5 species of Cave Cricket in the NT. They can be found on rock faces, under the bark of trees or in caves.

Some useful web sites for looking up grasshoppers:

http://www.brisbaneinsects.com/brisbane_grasshoppers/index.html

http://www.pbase.com/larena/grasshoppers_crickets

<http://lifeunseen.com/index12.php>

These classifications are preliminary, and if anyone has any further information/corrections please let us know!



Fungi: Keep your eyes out for this spectacular little fungus about 1 or 2 cm in diameter and height. The "Earth Star" fungus, *Geastrum* species (similar to *pectinatum*), has hyphae (roots) which absorb nutrients in the soil litter and detritus around the base of trees. The little bellows (endoperidium) which is propped up on the star shaped rays (exoperidium) releases spores via the hole in the centre when rain drops or wind blown litter strikes the bellows and puffs out the spores. If you touch them, spores will squirt out in a dark cloud!

Keep on top of that **Buffel Grass!** I know it's difficult, and thriving on all this rain at the moment, but it is as Des Nelson stated in the Alice Springs News on 1/4/2010 : "All you need is dedication and that four letter word, WORK"! If spraying is your control method of choice make sure you do it while the grass is green and lush! Putting in the effort now saves a load more of that four-letter word later!!

Masked Woodswallow



Land for Wildlife News, Alice Springs, February 2010

Masked Woodswallows

Masked Woodswallows are arriving in town! They are migrating north and have stopped in Alice Springs to feed, along with the permanent resident Black-Faced Woodswallows, on all the grasshoppers and other insects. Masked Woodswallows are also capable of feeding on the wing high in the sky. You will see them easily along the Ross River Highway as they are feeding on

grasshopper road kill on the road. Please be mindful of them if you are planning a trip out that way.

Masked Woodswallows can be easily mistaken for Black-Faced Woodswallows (which can be seen year-round in Alice). The names can make things confusing, however Masked Woodswallows have an entirely dark face extending below the bill and up to the forehead (pictured above is a female with grey 'mask', the male has an almost black 'mask'), whereas Black-Faced Woodswallows have a 'Zoro'-style eye-mask, with the black only present directly around the bill and eyes (the bird's little face, as opposed to a large portion of the head). The Masked Woodswallows are steel grey in body colour while Black-Faced are dark grey-brown. Pictured below: Black-Faced Woodswallows argue over a grasshopper.



Black-Faced Woodswallow

Photo courtesy Bob Gosford

The rain may have affected your block in many positive ways, with new growth greening your gardens and remnant vegetation areas, but it may also have provoked **soil erosion**. If you have any concerns or queries about erosion on your property please contact us and we can arrange a visit to help you with management solutions. The soil is the building block for all the rest, so if it is unhealthy, you will have troubles somewhere down the line, and it is

much cheaper and easier to fix these problems in their early stages. 8955 5222, lfw@lowecol.com.au.

The Power and Water Corporation **Melaleuca Awards** for Environmental Excellence are now open for nominations in 2010. The Awards recognise and reward Territorians doing the right thing by the environment. Visit the website for more information:

http://www.powerwater.com.au/environment/melaleuca_awards/

A Special Visitor to the Poo Ponds: Banded Stilt (*Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*)



The rain has brought us many marvellous things, and amongst those things is a very special visitor to the Sewage Treatment Ponds, the Banded Stilt. This rare wader has come to the poo ponds - a favourite hang-out for many water birds - and the adjacent flooded wetlands to take advantage of the abundance of food now available after the recent rainfall. Sixteen Banded Stilts in total have been spotted in amongst flocks of Red-necked Avocets and Black-Winged Stilts (of which there are plenty at the poo ponds).

Banded Stilts are plump waders about 35-43cm, and have long pink-orange legs, black wings and, during breeding season, a white head and body with a broad chestnut band across the chest and extending down the belly. Immature stilts lack the chestnut band, and wings are brown and legs dull pink. Adult males and females look similar. The Black-winged Stilt is very similar in appearance to the Banded Stilt, but



lacks the chestnut band.

Banded Stilts are native to Australia, with dispersive behaviour (movements are often in response to availability of feeding and breeding habitat). Populations may move to the coast when the arid inland is dry, returning to breed after rain or flooding. Banded Stilts feed in salt lakes, wading in shallow water picking and probing or swimming often some distance from the shore. They will feed, generally during the day, on crustaceans, molluscs, insects, vegetation, seeds and roots in the water and muds.



Chicks in 'crèche', supervised by a few adults.
All photographs courtesy Clive Minton.
Photographs not taken in Alice Springs.

Breeding *only* takes place on small islands in arid **inland salt lakes**, and only after rain and flooding when food availability is high. Well known nesting sites are Lake Eyre and Lake Callabonna in W.A. The nest is an inverted cone-shaped scrape on the ground, and 3-4 eggs are usually laid. When chicks hatch they are shuffled off to 'crèches' (chicks are clustered together on the water and supervised by 10-15 adults), while the remaining adults focus on making another round of bubs! This will invariably happen until the water in the salt lakes dries up and food runs out, often resulting in hundreds of perishing chicks. However not much is known about their breeding habits. It is known that they breed once every 7 – 10 years when conditions are appropriate, and when this occurs the breeding colonies are closely monitored. The reason for this is Silver Gulls (Seagulls) predate on young Banded Stilts and eggs, and can wipe out the entire juvenile population. If this is allowed to happen, and one breeding event fails, it may be another decade until the next event – and by then many Banded Stilts will be very old birds. If the second breeding event fails, the species could face extinction! So while this bird is listed as 'Least Concern' on the IUCN Red List with fluctuating populations of thousands in the country, you can see how vulnerable they could instantly become if Seagulls were not monitored and managed and allowed to feast during these extraordinary breeding events!

Workshops

Erosion Workshop!

Land for Wildlife will soon be holding an Erosion Workshop. After all this rain, run-off along driveways and paths may be causing soil erosion on your block, so if you would like to learn more about identifying soil erosion, its causes, rehabilitation and prevention, stay tuned! The workshop will be hosted by Soil Conservation Officer, Col Stanton, and will take place on two Land for Wildlife properties. More details to come.

If you have minor or extensive erosion on your block and would be interested in having a part of the workshop take place on your property please contact me on 8955 5222/ lfw@lowecol.com.au.

Gardening

Geof Miers Garden Solutions Nursery are conducting some fantastic **Gardening Workshops** over the next few months. See 'Dates to remember' for more details.

Milkwood Permaculture Course

Interested in arid permaculture? There is a fantastic course coming to Alice Springs in April! See the below links for information and the attached poster! Bookings are essential for the course to go ahead, so be sure to enrol now!

More info:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?ref=logo#/event.php?eid=261209086444&ref=mf>
<http://milkwoodpermaculture.com.au/courses/details/11-alice-autumn-pdc>

Letters to the Editor

An update from Botanist Boyd Wright who sampled from seedbanks on Ilparpa properties last November to look at the effects of the presence and removal of Buffel grass on native seedbanks:

Hi Ilse

hows things? Everything is great out at HB (Haasts Bluff), thanks! The people are well, my job's awesome and the country is looking great.

Re. the buffel project, no way am I anywhere near the analysis phase. Still have to get in and find the seeds from all the dirt I collected. That's gonna take months. I also want to put soil from each of the sites in germination trays and put them in the Desert Park nursery, if they have space. It's very difficult to pick up daisy seeds using the flotation seed extraction method, so I want to try to germinate too. Plus, I'm thinking of doing another round of

Land for Wildlife News, Alice Springs, February 2010

sampling on the sites now that we've have some rain. It will be nice to have a pre- and post- rain comparison of the veg and seed bank. I'll keep you posted on how it's all going. If any one wishes to participate in seed work please let me know. I'll certainly send some pics of the germination experiment, and I'll keep you posted when I need some vollies. Ok mate, hope you've had a good past few months, how was the light in Broome? Cheers
Boyd

Would anyone like to help Boyd out with some seed work?
Let me know: 8955 5222/ lfw@lowecol.com.au

In response to a Larapinta Garden for Wildlife resident reporting St Dove trappings:

Hey Mark,
Well done. The data is useful to get in as soon as available so our running table is realistic.
Hopefully the fall off in numbers is a reflection of the efforts various people are putting in. It would be encouraging to think so.

Do you still hear many in the neighborhood? I wonder if that might be a useful additional assessment tool that would expand peoples knowledge and skills and keep people interested and give us useful data?

Enjoy the long weekend.

Cheers,

Bill

Hi Bill

I've always had a group of 10 or so Spotted Turtle-doves sitting in a gum eyeing off the chicken food - there is only one there now but mainly Peaceful Doves and Crested Pigeons.

So I am happy with the result.

Thanks for the workshop

Mark

Thanks Mark,

Well done and now we just need to get a few more neighbors doing the same thing. Hope you enjoyed the rain last night and had a good Easter break.

Cheers,

Bill

Garden for Wildlife Eastside members Sue and Ellie Ripley sent this photograph to us (pictured top left).

"We have spotted this Juvenile Perentie (I think that's what it is?) in our yard 3 times over the last month. It drinks from our pond and hides out in the yard".

Hi Sue & Ellie,

That's great news! Thanks for the photos. It is indeed a juvenile Perentie (Sue reported it was about 40-45cm long), *Varanus giganteus*. That's a great indicator that you

have suitable habitat for reptiles - and with all the bugs around after the rains I'm sure it's fattening up!

Bill & Ilse



Ed- Young Perenties will eat lizards, insects and small mammals, adults will feed on snakes, rabbits, birds, eggs and small marsupials such as wallabies. Perenties overpower their prey, catching it in open pursuit, bringing it down and then shaking it to death. Once the winter cold kicks in these giant lizards will take take to their burrows, so enjoy them while they are visible!

Send us some pics! lfw@lowecol.com.au

Announcements

New Growth – new photos – what is it?

With all the plant and insect growth from the good rains early in January there are many photo opportunities around. Send us your best shots of your best plant growth or animal life and we'll publish them in coming newsletters. If you have trouble identifying plants or animals in your yard, take a digital photo and email us it to us and we'll try to identify it for you. Photos also provide a good record of what your place looked like and putting them into an album (digital or paper) to record changes over time is a very useful tool to help assess how your wildlife gardening is going.

Rainwater Tank Rebate NT

The Territory Government is encouraging households to become water conscious with the introduction of the Territory-wide Rainwater Tank Rebate. All Territorians now have an incentive to purchase and connect a rainwater tank to their homes and help take the strain off the Territory's natural water resources. The rebate will reduce up front costs for the purchase and installation of the rainwater tank and associated guttering, which can save the average household water and money. Community

groups and not-for-profit organisations are also eligible to apply for the rebate after purchasing and installing a rainwater tank to their dwellings. Utilising a rainwater tank is good for the environment and encourages households to take responsibility for their own non essential use of water. For more information visit <http://www.greeningnt.nt.gov.au>.

DesertSMART COOLmob & Waterwise Rebates

DesertSMART COOLmob is a network of sustainable households in Alice Springs supported by the Arid Lands Environment Centre.

You maybe aware that due to the overwhelming success of the NRETAS Waterwise rebate scheme, the program had run out of funds. This was mainly due to many people taking advantage of the rebate on water efficient washing machines and toilets. COOLmob has been informed that "NRETAS have received approved additional budget to continue the rebate scheme made effective immediately." Customers who have made purchases since the middle of January can directly contact Tanya Howard at NRETAS (tanya.howard@nt.gov.au or 89519209), as they may be able to honour the rebate on a case-by-case basis. UPCOMING CHANGES TO THE SCHEME To keep you informed, the Scheme is currently under review for 2010/11. There are some changes that are likely to come into effect by 1st July 2010, this includes:

- Remove tap timers and hose trigger nozzles from the scheme
- Increase eligible washing machines to 4.5 star or higher WELS rating
- Addition of a rebate for specialist garden consultations on how to water gardens more efficiently

DesertSMART COOLmob have been actively encouraging the Minister for Environment (Karl Hampton) and NRETAS to put additional funding into this program for 2010. We are really pleased to see that our requests have been heard. The rebate scheme has a positive and direct impact on water efficiency and savings for the Alice Springs community. We encourage COOLmob members to make the most of it!

Regards

Roger Chapman and Robbie Henderson
Project Managers, Desert Smart COOLmob
Ph: (08) 8952 0299 Fax: (08) 8953 2988

<http://dka.coolmob.org> <<http://dka.coolmob.org/>>

Wild NT - Short Film Competition

"Biodiversity is life, your life is biodiversity and biodiversity is you."

The Environment Centre NT has launched 'Wild NT' – a short film competition celebrating the **2010 International Year of Biodiversity**.

Judged by a group of respected film industry professionals and Territory identities, the winners will be announced and winning entries will be screened at the George Brown

Botanic Gardens on June 5th and 6th 2010, as part of the Top End Sustainable Living Festival programme.

Wild NT aims to encourage students, teachers and the wider community to reflect on the subject of biodiversity, or the 'web of life'. Here in the Northern Territory our biodiversity is world-class. We are fortunate to be living in awe-inspiring landscapes and to be sharing our home with many unique plants and animals. The challenge we are putting out to budding film-makers is this: can you showcase an aspect of the Territory's biodiversity and help people to discover and understand why it is important and how we are all connected with it?

Film-makers are encouraged to focus on themes such as:

- Celebration of the Northern Territory's unique biodiversity
- The direct connection to and relationship with biodiversity held by people
- The consequences of biodiversity loss and the importance of biodiversity for sustaining our quality of life in the Northern Territory
- Threats to the health and existence of the Northern Territory's biodiversity
- Local initiatives that support and conserve biodiversity – and the benefits that we all share as a result of these conservation efforts

Films should educate, inspire and motivate Territorians to take action to safeguard our biodiversity. They should weave a link between people, plants or animals, and place. The competition is open to all and there are two categories for submissions – Schools and Open.

The winning films from each category will receive cash prizes of \$2000 and runner up films will receive prizes of \$1000 each.

Film Length: - 3 – 5mins

Desirable Film Format: DVD Pal / 16:9 Widescreen

Deadline for entries : 17th May 2010

For further details or to request an application form with terms and conditions contact:

Melanie Bradley E: policy@ecnt.org T: 8981 1984
3/98 Woods Street Darwin NT 0810

Can you help the 'Kangaroo Sanctuary'?

The 'baby kangaroo rescue centre' is currently building a wildlife park, with the goal of establishing a kangaroo education centre and hospital for Central Australia. The centre requires about 50 rolls of chainmesh valued at \$150 per 20metre roll. The centre is seeking sponsors(donations) of a roll of chainmesh for \$150, or spare fencing anyone wants to get rid of. All sponsors will get acknowledgment of their contribution in the visitor centre and receive 2years free entry for 2 people. Please donate to Chris 'Brolga' Barnes on 0407 718 409 or brolga72@hotmail.com/PO Box 4921, Alice Springs NT 0871.

Calendar

April 4 -17 – Milkwood Permaculture Course. Bookings/Info phone Kirsten (02) 6373 7763. (Poster below)

Saturday 10th – 18th April – Heritage Week commemorating the 150th Anniversary of John McDouall Stuart's first expedition to Central Australia. Go to www.jmsthealice.com.au.

Monday 12th April - Constitutional and Legal Senate Inquiry into the National Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2010 – Darwin

Wednesday 14th April – 'Waders, Flyways & Flagging'. Desert Park Zookeeper Peter Collins delivers a talk on migratory shorebirds. Filed Naturalist Club, Olive Pink Botanic Gardens, 7:30pm

Wednesday 5th May – Australian Plants Society meeting, 7:30pm at Olive Pink Botanic Gardens. Members night featuring slides of a wide variety of plants selected by members.

Wednesday 12th May – 'Landscape Ecology in Antarctic Dry Valleys'. A talk by Ashley Sparrow of CSIRO. Field naturalists Club, Olive Pink Botanic Gardens, 7:30pm.

Monday 17th May - Wild NT Film Competition closes

Take care,
Ilse & Bill
Land for Wildlife Coordinators



Processionary caterpillars at the doorstep!

"The Northern Territory Government through the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport is pleased to sponsor Land for Wildlife. This publication may not represent the views of the Northern Territory Government."

This newsletter has been produced by
Ilse Pickerd and Bill Low, *LfW* coordinators, W.A. Low
Ecological Services,
Contact Ilse on 89555222 or lfw@lowecol.com.au

