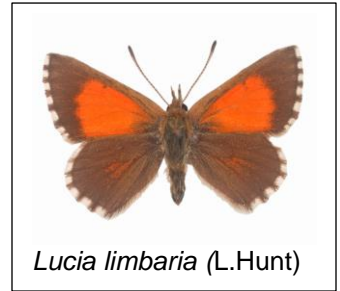


Friends of the Chequered Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) Butterfly

c/- Butterfly Conservation of SA Inc
ABN 88 179 165 805

Telephone 0407 972 149
c/-SA Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000
info@butterflyconservationsa.net.au



Lucia limbaria (L.Hunt)

Update 3: March 2019

The Friends of the Chequered Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) Butterfly have been very busy visiting Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi Park 16 and other places investigating the presence of the Chequered Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) butterflies, the butterfly host plant *Oxalis perennans* and the obligate ant *Iridomyrmex rufoniger*.

Frequent visits to Pakapakanthi and the use of a monitoring program on our iPad Mini tablet or our smartphones using Collector for ArcGIS, as this can occur with multiple users, have enabled multiple sightings of our targets to be documented. The 3 main aspects we are collecting data on are:

- Host plant *Oxalis perennans* – presence/absence due to ‘browsing’ by the butterfly larvae;
- Obligate ant *Iridomyrmex rufoniger* – presence/absence and proximity of the ant nest;
- Flight of adult Chequered Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) butterflies.

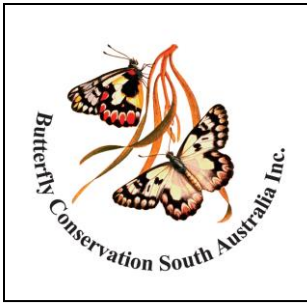
Mid February, following and during some significant heatwave events, we were able to see butterfly larvae browsing the host plants, great images and video of the ants marshalling the caterpillars and constantly checking the fresh CCB eggs. The images and video of male and female butterflies, caterpillars and the obligate ant *Iridomyrmex rufoniger* have been taken by volunteer photographer Greg Coote. (Greg has a Flickr site: [flickr.com/photos/glcoote](https://www.flickr.com/photos/glcoote) where you can view selected images.)

The City of Adelaide, which provided a grant to undertake the monitoring work, has been contacted seeking an opportunity to present a synopsis of our work, and provide information and recommendations for management of the grassland area

A presentation was made to the BCSA Public Talk on March 5th, showcasing the activities of the Friends group and the amazing behaviour of the caterpillars and the obligate ant.

The group is seeking information about sightings of Chequered Copper butterflies in other regions of South Australia and we will develop a program to visit these sights in October/November 2019 when next Summer flights commence. Any persons who would like to volunteer for these activities are most welcome and the only requirement is that you are a financial member of BCSA.

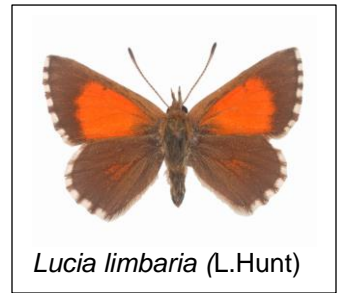
Gerry Butler
Convenor, Friends of the Chequered Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) Butterfly
6/3/19



Friends of the Chequered Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) Butterfly

c/- Butterfly Conservation of SA Inc
ABN 88 179 165 805

Telephone 0407 972 149
c/-SA Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000
info@butterflyconservationsa.net.au



Lucia limbaria (L.Hunt)

Selected images (Photographer Greg Coote (GC)):



Above: *Iridomyrmex rufoniger* sipping honeydew on caterpillar showing browsed *Oxalis perennans* 24 February 2019 (GC); CCB being shepherded by ants on the ground 24 February 2019 (GC)



Above: Flowering *Oxalis perennans* (GC); Fresh eggs on *Oxalis perennans* 18 December 2018 (GC)



Above: fresh male CCB 18 December 2018 (GC) and tatty female 29 December 2018 (GC)