

THE W.A. NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP



MEETINGS... 3rd WEDNESDAY each
month at..

KINGS PARK BOARD ADMINISTRATION CENTRE
Theatrette, KINGS PARK, WEST PERTH.

Official Bulletin
PRICE 40c

APR 1984

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIAN POST
PUBLICATION N^o WBH 1240

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP

OBJECTS OF THE GROUP

- a. To promote interest in and preserve Western Australian indigenous orchids.
- b. To learn the best means of cultivation and do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their natural environment.
- c. To learn their habitats and keep records.
- d. To have field days and learn to recognise the different genera and species.
- e. To hold meetings for the exchanging of knowledge and furthering of interest in Western Australian orchids.
- f. To affiliate with kindred organisations.
- g. To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.
- h. To do all such other lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

YOUR COMMITTEE - 1984

PATRON Sir Crawford Nalder

PRESIDENT Noel Clarke

VICE PRESIDENT Andrew Brown.

SECRETARY Marie Pickersgill

TREASURER Fay Gordon

LIBRARIAN Peter Watson.

FIELD TRIP
CO-ORDINATOR Sid Gibbings

CULTURE/FIELD
REGISTRAR Steve Hopper

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Don Graham

Noel Hoffman

BULLETIN
Fay Gordon
Alison Harrington

NOTE NEW POSTAL ADDRESS:

P.O. BOX 323,
VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6100

GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY - APRIL 18 - 8 p.m. Kings Park Administration Centre,
Fraser Rd, Kings Park.

TOPIC- Stephen Hopper - Identifying trees and shrubs of the
Metro area.

Supper after, 300 per head.

Display table - bring along your pots.

Raffle as usual.

COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY - MAY 2 - 8 p.m. at [REDACTED]

GENERAL MEETING NOTES - March Meeting

It was decided to make up a supper roster for the rest of 1984 - anyone wishing to volunteer to provide the supper goodies, please contact any Committee member. The supper has been provided by various committee members for the past two years and all of those people are to be commended for their efforts.

FIELD TRIPS

Please note if you wish to go to Eneabba on 18/19 August, would you please book accommodation early - contact Sid if in doubt about places to stay.

Raffle was won by Jo Lodge and Jo and Harry are no doubt still smacking their lips over the home-made jams etc donated by Marie.

Display Table - Epilochilus dilatatus in early bud, Pterostylis mutons in leaf, Caladenia filamentosa var ? tubers. No voting this month so put in your pots next month everyone.

As 1984 is our 10th Anniversary year, Nancy Clarke baked and iced a magnificent birthday cake which was cut by Jean Long - as a foundation member - and eaten with obvious enjoyment by all present. Our thanks to Nancy for the lovely thought.

The meeting was followed by a fantastic audio/visual session by Bert Wells. A brief report is elsewhere, but those members who attended must all agree with me that it was absolutely breath-taking. Thanks Bert and Babs.

RHIZANTHELLA BREAKTHROUGH

Dr Jack Warcup of S. Aust has germinated - and flowered a Rhizanthella gardnerii - in 15 months from seed. It was grown with a pot of Melaleuca uncinata. He incorporated the mycorrhizal fungus with the seed at time of planting. This is a remarkable achievement and certainly gives us hope for propagation of our native orchids in the future.

Wanted: Dr Warcup is requesting donations of Drahea tubers - preferably before the flowering season - for some work he is doing in this area. Please contact Dr Stephen Hopper for further details.

Stephen Deards from N.S.W. has also requested tubers from W.A. - any type. He will swap for N.S.W. tubers. Contact secretary for details or write direct to [REDACTED]
NSW [REDACTED]

ATLAS REPORTS

A good response from contributors. Some 300-400 atlas sheets have been presented. Next printing soon, so keep filling out sheets.

LIBRARY

A great deal of sorting and re-cataloguing has been going on, and a full list of slides required will be printed soon. If you have spare slides, put them aside and you are welcome to donate them to the library at any time.

FEES - STICKERS - BADGES

Fees - no due \$10 per bulletin posted.

Car Stickers - \$7 each.

Badges - Approx 14.

PLEASE NOTE

Warren Stoutamire has had an article published in S.W.A.N.S. - Bulletin of Dept of Fisheries and Wildlife. Apparently it is very interesting.

THAT BOOK!!

Latest publication date May. Money and orders by end of April, please.

Please make cheques payable to W.A.N.O.S.C.G. as cheques made to me personally are costing me F.I.D. and B.A.D. tax.

SPECIAL NOTE

A special meeting for any interested members will be held at Noel Clarkes on Monday 16th April to discuss proposals to be put re research into effect of fires on orchid and wildflower conservation. The proposal is to be submitted to the proposed new Flora and Fauna Management Department.

URGENT REQUEST

As you all know, the bulletin is our life-line, but there has been a sad lack of material to publish and we desperately need more articles, letters, etc to print. Because we are so desperate, we've started a new section - Why I joined the Orchid Group.

WARNING- IF YOU DON'T PUT PEN TO PAPER - WE'LL REPEAT THIS PAGE OF TWADDLE NEXT MONTH.

WHY I JOINED THE ORCHID GROUP

1. Friends were always out looking for orchids - I joined so I could see them occasionally.
2. Got sick of all those long names - thought I'd better learn what they were.
3. Field trips sounded such fun.
4. After newspaper pictures of posteriors in the air, grotting around for the underground orchid, thought it looked like fun, fame and fortune - how wrong I was!
5. Love the supper.
6. Always wanted to emulate Scott of the Antarctic so wet weather gear is just my scene.
7. Always thought I was mad. It's nice to meet someone madder - and I have.
8. Love paddling in puddles, falling in rabbit holes and meeting snakes.
9. Need the exercise.
10. Love the company.
11. Might learn something.
12. Where else can I enjoy 5 star accommodation for nothing.
13. Thought it would be a cheap way of buying THAT BOOK!

P.S. I am interested in orchids!

BERT WELLS AUDIO VISUAL called "LET'S GO WILD".

Bert and Babs were asked in 1980 to prepare the show by the Australian Photographic Society for the convention in Hobart in late 1983. Bert and Babs have been full-time free lance wildlife photographers over the past eight years. The Group was treated to a marvellous selection of slides illustrating Bert's photographic techniques and many of his best wildlife photographs. Of special interest to the group were several photographs of orchids and their pollinators. Thynnid wasps visiting flowers of Cryptostylis ovata, Caladenia barbarossa and Drakaea elastica were featured.

Bert's attempts to get good quality photographs involve very thorough research on the subjects and a lot of time in the field setting up his equipment.

JANUARY FIELD TRIP

Orchids flowering the middle of January?

Well they were in 1980 - I was assured. What a good excuse to go to Busselton.

110° in the water bag but the Cascades (Pemberton) were a little cooler - 109°. Orchids?? Well we thought we'd found one, but one what? Out came cameras, up went rear ends and click, click, photos for Andy to identify. Three steps further on and - you guessed it - full flower, not an orchid.

C. corynephora had been and gone long since. Obviously Jan 1980 was wetter and cooler than 1984.

However all was not lost. On the way back Fay went fishing. You should have seen the style. We all had trout for tea.

COOKING CORNER

Marie's Spinach Pie - 'a la Orchid Club

Line spring form tin with short pastry and allow sufficient for top.

Filling:- Chop bunch of spinach and 1 onion.
4 oz cheese - grated
1 egg
1 cup rice - half cooked
½ cup peanut oil

Put pastry on top and cook in moderate oven 20 - 30 mins.

ABSOLUTE NECESSITIES FOR FIELD TRIPS

1. Lots of food - especially if Andy is coming.
2. Coffee - gallons and gallons - and cups to drink it from.
3. Wet gear - jacket, pants, boots - preferably in very bright colours.
4. Aerogard
5. About 2 tonnes of camera gear.
6. Sense of direction - especially for Sid.
7. Sense of humour - for when everyone laughs at your problems.
8. Ability to laugh at other people's problems.
9. Atlas sheets, pen, map, wide knowledge of trees, shrubs, sedges, etc, etc.
10. Theodolite - for measuring height of trees etc for recording on atlas sheets.
11. Lots of maps - the place you want is always on the other map.
12. Spare can of petrol.
13. Spare windscreen
14. Spare set of keys for the car.
15. Magnifying glass - those orchids get smaller as you grow older.
16. Andy - to identify unfamiliar orchids.
17. THAT BOOK for reference - I think it's a figment of our imagination.
18. Assorted headgear - be prepared for all eventualities.
19. Collecting bottles for orchids, insects, etc, etc, etc.
20. Groundsheet - for lying on when photographing.
21. Oh, yet - films - and orchids.
22. LARGE vehicle to hold all above.

P.S. Don't forget to set the alarm to get up in time.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1983.CREDITS

Bal Brought forward	436.65
Raffle Proceeds	105.20
Supper proceeds	46.89
Membership fees	453.00
Sale of Badges	9.00
Sale of Books	165.00
Sale of Teatowel and spoons	35.20
Donations	26.30
Bank Interest	26.16
Field trips - costs	686.80
TOTAL DEPOSITS	1553.55
BAL. BRT FORWARD	436.65
<u>TOTAL CREDITS</u>	<u>\$1990.20</u>

DEBITS

Raffle Costs	7.48
Supper costs	5.50
Bulletin costs	420.86
Affiliation fees	42.50
General/stationery	179.13
Donations	30.00
Rent-Post Box	18.50
Prizes -competitions	11.78
Field Trips -costs	722.62
Federal Govt Tax	4.75
TOTAL DEBITS	1443.12
BANK BALANCE	547.08
	<u>\$1990.30</u>

I have examined the statement of accounts for the period 1.2.83 to 31.1.84 and found them to be a true and accurate account.

J.N. Hodge.

REPORT OF J. POLAKOV

DIURIS LONGIFOLIA - Fay Gordon

Diuris - from the Greek 'dis' meaning two, 'oura' meaning tail.

longifolia - from the Latin 'longi' meaning long, 'foliatus' meaning leaves.

There are over forty species in this genera, all of which are found in Australia. Several species are endemic to Western Australia.

Diuris longifolia is usually a sturdy, tall plant with two or three long, narrow leaves with one often longer than the rest. The flowers - usually from 2 to 5 - are fairly large, yellow with brown to purplish brown markings.

The two ear-like petals which give the plant it's common name (Donkey Orchid) grow on long 'claws' flanking the dorsal sepal and are similar in colour to it.

The dorsal sepal, roughly semi-circular forming into a point, is usually brownish yellow while the lateral sepals are green, channelled and pointed. They cross in the mature flower but remain parallel in the more immature flower.

The labellum is yellow at the base in all three lobes, fusing to a reddish brown towards the tip. The centre lobe has raised centre line, giving almost a semi-folded effect.

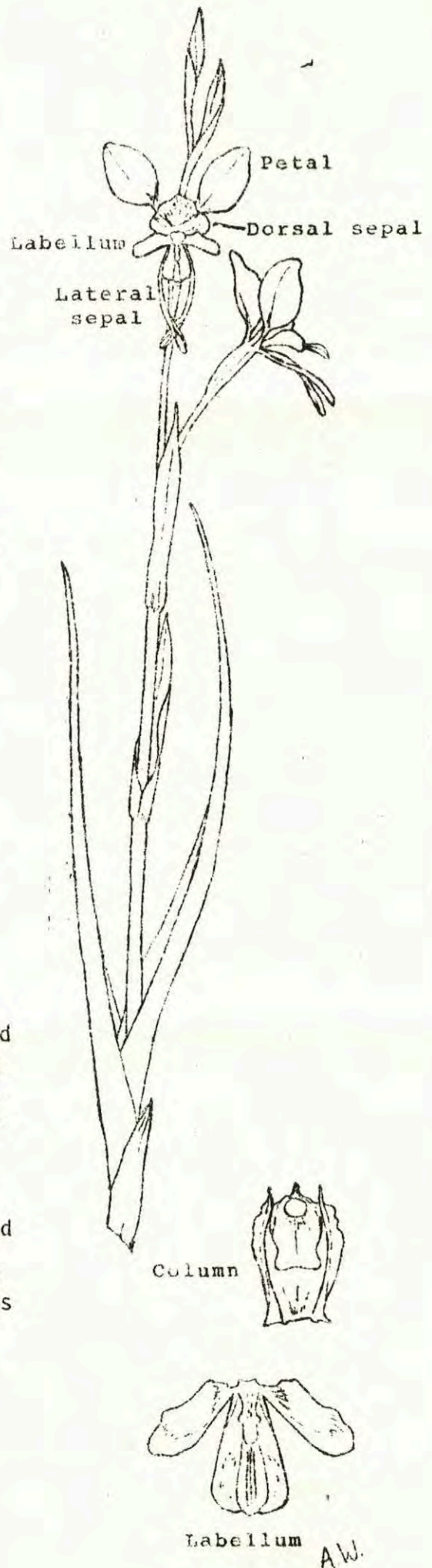
The side lobes of the labellum are about equal in length to the centre lobe, yellow at the base with brownish tips.

The anther of the short column is not pointed

The root system consists of oblong tubers up to 5 cm long and seems to tolerate more disturbance than other genera, hence it is relatively easy to grow in cultivation.

The Common Donkey Orchid is common in many varied habitats throughout the South West (and also in all states except Queensland and the Northern Territory) and seems to thrive even on the edge of golf course fairways and among the litter of garbage dumps, where less tolerant genera will not survive.

Flowering time in the S.W. of Western Australia is from July to September.



1911, July 11 - 12

General notes on the day's work.

July 11 - 12

July 12 - 13

July 13 - 14

July 14 - 15

July 15 - 16

July 16 - 17

July 17 - 18

July 18 - 19

July 19 - 20

July 20 - 21

July 21 - 22

July 22 - 23

July 23 - 24

July 24 - 25

July 25 - 26

July 26 - 27

July 27 - 28

July 28 - 29

July 29 - 30

July 30 - 31

August 1 - 2

August 2 - 3

August 3 - 4

August 4 - 5

August 5 - 6

August 6 - 7

August 7 - 8

August 8 - 9

DISTRIBUTION MAP

Diuris longifolia

◊ var. *longifolia*

X var. large flowers

