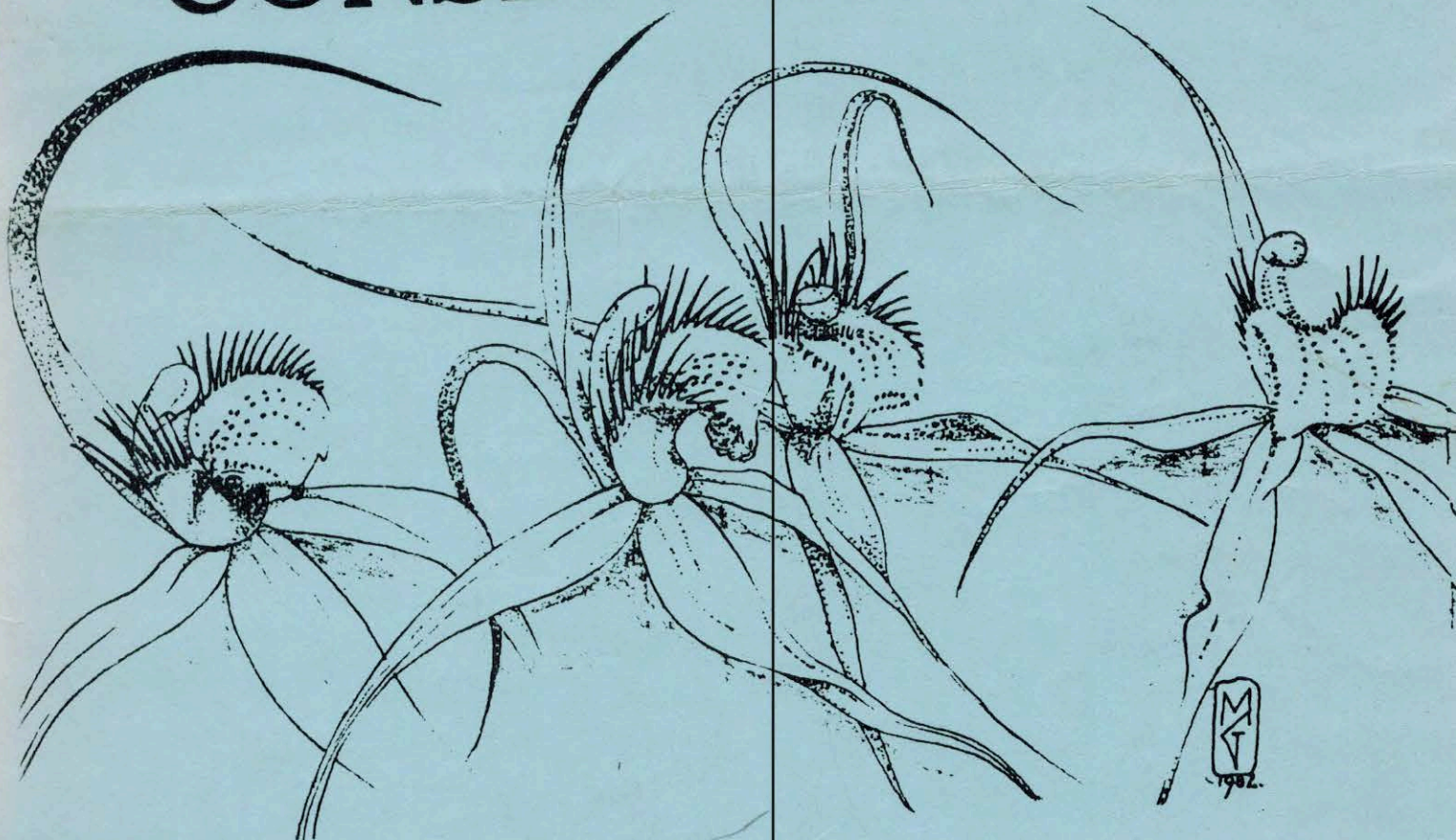


# THE W.A. NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP



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

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

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 21 - 8 p.m. - at Theatrette, Kings Park Administration Board, Fraser Road, Kings Park, West Perth.

Active, committed Committee Members are essential for the functioning of a club such as ours, so think about standing this year.

Noel Clarke is retiring as President, and Marie Pickersgill as Secretary to enable them to fulfil other commitments they have taken on in 1985. Other Committee positions will also be vacant. Supper and raffle as usual.

## OCTOBER MEETING

It was with great pleasure that we welcomed Bob Bates from N.O.S.S.A. to present our October topic. After spending 10 weeks in Western Australia, Bob spoke glowingly of the quality and quantity of our South West Orchids and asked us to be fully appreciative of how special they are and to do all we can to preserve as many habitats as possible.

Bob then proceeded to compare W.A. Orchids with South Australian Orchids and the differences and similarities were fascinating. It was a smorgasbord of Orchids and an excellent way to wind up the years program. Our sincere thanks to Bob and we look forward to eventually seeing his revision of *Prasophyllum*. Come back soon.

Trip reported on the continuing success he is having with fungal extraction and identification. He asked for as much seed as possible. With the project there will result in an oversupply of tubers so all members are asked to prepare pots and potting mix in anticipation.

Following on from that point, Kingsley Dixon proposed a cultivation sub group be formed as tubers will now be continuously and readily available. Those interested are asked to contact Kingsley.

## MEMBERS NEWS

Fay Gordon is having a wonderful time in Europe.

Pat Dundas is deservedly enjoying good sales with her beautiful packs of cards. Those interstate members who would like some should send \$6.50 (includes postage) to Pat at [REDACTED]

Alex George has recently been in W.A. and whilst he was here Kangaroo Press launched his two new books "Banksias" and "An Introduction to the Proteaceae of W.A." These are beautiful publications and a worthwhile addition to any library.

Steve Hopper is in Canberra for three months doing research on the physiology of *Eucalyptus*.



## FIELD TRIPS

Caladenia Lavandulacea - The Myth? A gang of 16 men, women and children straggled into Bullfinch from overnight stops at Bullfinch, Southern Cross and Perth. We all met outside the Bullfinch Hotel and yes, Andy and Steve were the last to arrive even though they had camped overnight at the Hotel.

I made a leisurely trip both to Southern Cross and Bullfinch and was rewarded with sightings at all locations. The best areas were between Merridin and Southern Cross and also 15 kilometres north of Southern Cross on the Bullfinch road.

Caladenia filamentosa in many sizes and colours was in abundance at all locations. I did not see C. patersonii var. longicauda east of Haines Hill.

My best location was 15 kilometres north of Southern Cross. There I found 500 plus C. filamentosa and a small blue Caladema species which is soon to be named. Also in this area were C. saccharata, C. roei, Thelymitra nuda, Pterostylis nana and P. rufa.

John Tonkinson ably led us from Bullfinch to our campsite near Mount Jackson. On the way, we found C. filamentosa, C. roei, C. doutchae, C. species (blue), P. nana, P. rufa, T. nuda and Prasophyllum nacrostachyum var. ringens.

The more venturesome, or less tired of the party then took off to climb one of the ridges to look for the mythical orchid C. lavandulacea. Lightheartedly we climbed past C. filamentosa, C. roei, C. doutchae, C. barbarossa, C. sigmoidea, C. species (blue), T. nuda, P. rufa, P. nana (epiphytically Ed "lithophytically" growing out of a rock face). Here were all of the ingredients postulated to form C. lavandulacea. Like the Scarlet Pimpernel, we are still seeking it.

Undeterred, some members went to another hill with similar results.

After a refreshing nights entertainment, a sleep, most of the party set off to climb Mount Jackson. Once again there were plenty of orchids but no sign of "The Orchid".

The party then broke up, with the wage slaves heading back home and the lucky holiday makers staying behind to feast their eyes on the native vegetation, and continue the search.

Noel Clarke

Caladenia triangularis. It was a large gathering of Bob Bates, Alison, plus Catherine, which attended this field trip in September. It was a beautiful day, one of the first for the season.

After much travelling up and down the track where C. triangularis is found out of Clackline, Alison eventually went back to the first spot they stopped and three superb flowers were found. We just hadn't looked hard enough the first time. C. patersonii were plentiful but only two plants of C. flava were found nearby. Healthy pollinated plants of Pterostylis recurva were plentiful and there were a few Divris longifolia and C. filamentosa var. denticulata.



## FIELD TRIPS (Continued)

At some of the other stops we made the orchid range was the same or less except at one stop we found what appeared to be a hybrid between C. patersonii and C. dilatata. No C. dilatata were found in the vicinity however.

Returning to Clackline, the Laterite Hill, prior to descending to the Brick Factory, had a large number of C. multiclavia amongst the wandoo. Some buds of what appeared to be Calochilus robertsonii were also found and many seed pods of Pt. recurva.

Turning south into Inkpen Road from the Northam to Perth road a burn on the western side about 1 kilometre in produced many Caladenia gemmata var. lutea, a few C. gemmata var. gemma and quite a number of C. flava.

Proceeding to "The Lakes" at the junction of the Northam and York roads 1 kilometre east we turned south on a gravel road and amongst Sheoaks in very sandy soil found early specimens of Paracaleana nigrita and Drakea elastica. Bob of course had to find a hybrid between D. elastica and probably one of the new species. There were many C. flava and Leporella fimbria leaves but no flowers.

## KINGS PARK WILD FLOWER DISPLAY

Thanks go to Kingsley Dixon for the work he put into establishing and then dismantling this display and to Andrew Brown and Bob Bates for assisting Alison in collecting cut specimens. About 40 specimens were arranged and labelled in front of a board displaying the photographs and distribution maps compiled for 1983's display. The stand was not manned this year but from the level of interest shown by the public it may be advisable, for club promotion, to do so in 1985.

Pat Dundas had a small section adjoining where she displayed her beautiful cards, and had them for sale.

Orchids were very well represented at this year's display as Kingsley had a large feature titled "Conservation of Native Orchids" which featured the work Trip Ramsay is doing this year.

Fisheries and Wildlife also had a Rare Flora display which featured orchids.

This is a very worthwhile means of exposing Orchids and W.A.N.O.S.C.G. to the public and it is recommended it be continued. The cut display certainly increased the level of interest shown by the public but it is felt by Kings Park that potted specimens would be even more worthwhile.

## SNAIL CAKES

Guaranteed 100% effective for a number of weeks!! - See next page for ingredients and method.



### SNAIL CAKES (Continued)

3 parts cement  
3 parts bran  
1 part plaster of paris or lime  
1 part methadahyde

Mix to stiff paste with water. Spread evenly on base of wood or plastic. Mark into 1" squares. When thoroughly dry, cut into squares and distribute well apart throughout the garden. (Thank you Darling Downs Group Newsletter.)

### PROPOSED TOUR TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA

July or August 1985 will see a group travelling to Papua New Guinea to view orchids in their native habitat. Contact Ron Wheeldon, 227 Mt Keira Road, Mt Keira, 2500. Phone (042) 287 851 if you are interested.

### BULLETIN EDITOR

Alison Harrington will be unable to continue editing the Bulletin in 1985. Could someone please offer before they are coerced into the job!

### THE BEGINNING OF THE NATIVE ORCHID STUDY GROUP IN W.A.

At the World Orchid Conference held in Sydney during September 1969, the Western Australian exhibit of native terrestrials which won the gold medal for state exhibits, caused so much interest that I was determined to have a native orchid society in this state. I mentioned this in many places and was offered help by Bill Murdock who was one of the founders on the Australian Native Orchid Society, and by officials of the W.A. Horticultural Council who offered the Council's help in promoting a native orchid society. Following talks with Sir Crawford Nalder and other members of the Orchid Society of W.A. I decided to call a meeting of interested persons and notified as many as I could.

This meeting was held at my residence at [redacted] on Friday, 29th March 1974 and there were 38 people in attendance. It was resolved to form a group within the Orchid Society of W.A. as provided in its constitution and the aims and objects of the group were worked out and accepted. I was appointed Chairman, the late Mr Lal Sheppard was appointed Secretary-Treasurer. (Mrs Dot Landeo was appointed Treasurer within a short time.) The name was "The W.A. Native Orchid Study Group".

The Committee, comprising of Mrs Jean Long, Hon Sir Crawford Nalder, Messrs Harry Goodchild, Roy Brown, Ken Adcock and Reg Lander met on 3rd May 1974 and the next general meeting was held on 17th May 1974. I gave a monthly report of the group's activities to the general meetings of the Orchid Society of W.A. (Inc). Sir Crawford Nalder made the arrangements for the use of the theatre at the Agricultural Department for our



THE BEGINNING OF THE NATIVE ORCHID STUDY GROUP IN W.A. (Continued)

monthly meetings. Sir Crawford was approached and agreed to be patron of the group. After a short time the name of the group was changed to "The W.A. Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group", the words "and Conservation" being added because conservation was part of our objective.

In 1976 the group decided to stand on its own and drew up its own constitution and rules. We applied for and were approved as an incorporated body. We then affiliated with The Orchid Society of W.A. (Inc) and The W.A. Horticultural Council Inc. The correct name of the group is "The W.A. Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group (Inc)".

Herb Foote  
[REDACTED]

C H R I S T M A S      P A R T Y

PETE WATSON'S  
[REDACTED]

7P.M. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

B.B.Q.

B.Y.O. MEAT & DRINKS

B.Y.O. SALADS & SWEETS TO GO ON CENTRAL TABLE

ALL WELCOME