



BULLETIN
of the
**Western Australian Native Orchid
Study and Conservation Group (Inc.)**
MARCH 1988

OFFICE BEARERS 1988

Telephone

PATRON	Mrs. J. Holmes a' Court
PRESIDENT	Kingsley Dixon [REDACTED]
VICE PRESIDENT	Beryl Yates [REDACTED]
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Bevan Buirchell [REDACTED]
SECRETARY	Stephen Van Leeuwen [REDACTED]
TREASURER	Lionel Johnston [REDACTED]
FIELD TRIP CO-ORDINATOR	Sid Gibbings [REDACTED]
EDITOR	Ray Stapledon [REDACTED]
LIBRARIAN	Wayne Merritt [REDACTED]
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	John Tonkinson [REDACTED]
	Denis Burdinat [REDACTED]
	Chris French [REDACTED]
	Ian Greeve [REDACTED]

POSTAL ADDRESS OF GROUP:

P.O. Box 323
Victoria Park 6100
W.A.

NOTE:

Opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by the Group

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & 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.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 20th April, 1988 at 7.00 pm.
King's Park Administration Centre.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 16th March, 1988 at 8.00 pm.
King's Park Administration Centre.

GUEST SPEAKER - Bert Wells - Audio Visual approx. 20 mins

BULLETIN: Contributions wanted for Bulletin editions.
Copy deadline 1st of the month.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1987

1987 began with a late New Year's Party in February at Kingsley and Lionel's place. Although not as well patronised as previous Xmas Parties, it was never the less a most enjoyable beginning to the new orchid season.

Monthly meetings beginning in March, were well attended with an average of approximately forty members participating. The topics covered by this years key note speakers touched on many areas concerned with native orchids. Although the first few speakers were concerned with conservation issues it was important that the group remain in contact with those issues that directly related to orchids e.g. - National Park Management, Forest Management and burning policies, and Conservation Council activities. In the later months of the year some excellent talks were given on the native orchids of the Eastern States, Italy and on the rare and endangered orchids of W.A.

All field trips organised by the committee were extremely popular and in spite of losing the odd car, enjoyed by everyone. Field trips are an opportunity to meet other members of the group, to learn more about orchid biology and distribution plus of course to take that perfect snap shot. The highlights of the field trips would include, the finding (by accident) of the minute *Prasophyllum nigricans*; visiting the area renowned for *Pterostylis angusta* and *rogersii*; the expedition to search for the extremely rare *Caladenia cristata*; the multitude of orchids seen on the two visits to the Margaret River area and last but not least, the incredible number of country members and "Locals" who turned up for the Walpole weekend in October. In spite of the "poor" season in the inland regions there were still many orchids to be seen flowering in the coastal and southern regions.

Many thanks must go to those members who organised and ran the Group's display at the King's Park Wildflower Show. Being the one time when the Group can contact the general public at large it was encouraging to see such a high standard display. Many compliments were received from local, interstate and international visitors. The role of the display is to educate the public on the variety of orchids that grow in their state and to make them aware of the plight of many of the habitats in which they grow. Next year I would like to see a greater participation by members of the Group and not have to depend upon a few people like Beryl Yates to man/woman the display for the entire five days.

The Group has taken on a higher profile with regard to conservation of orchids and their habitats. Following a talk by Colma Keating from the Conservation Council, the Group is now a corresponding member of that Council. The issue of preserving *Diuris purdiei* was raised with the Minister for Conservation and the Environment but unfortunately without much success. Further action should be planned to conserve the habitat of this rare donkey orchid. The destructive effects upon the orchids by CALM's spring burning activities was aired publicly. The Executive Director of CALM and the Minister stated publicly to the effect that "saving people's lives was more important than conserving our native flora." This is another issue of contention that the Group must represent responsibly.

WILDFLOWER SOCIETY TRIP Hyden 4, 5, 6 November, 1988. LWE Kingsley Dixon is planning a trip with this group. Members of our group are invited to come along.

Wildflower group is seeking an 'extinct' spec. Orchid group could expect 'Rufa' group.

KING'S PARK DISPLAY. This year will be held from 22 to 30 September, 1988.

SUMMER BURNS: Members are asked to notify the committee of summer burn sites. Bring reports to meeting.

FIELD TRIPS: Offers from country members to guide/host field trips in their local areas would be appreciated.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Suggestions for guest speakers - Contact Kingsley.

GNANGARA MOUND: SURVEY OF ORCHIDACEA. Sub Committee to be formed. Details at general meeting.

LAST FIELD TRIP FOR THE YEAR - MARGARET RIVER 14 - 15 November, 1987. Our accommodation was luxurious, at Peppermint Brook Chalets, \$45 a night, sleep 6, all found except linen and food, even T.V.

I must say, Sid Gibbings our field trip co-ordinator, does an excellent job despite the handicaps, like not knowing who is coming till they get there. Perhaps, we should all make an effort this year to co-operate and help ensure a hassle free trip. This includes a leader, not just being nominated, but there! Lecture over, on with the trip.

We met at 11 am. at Rotary Park, quite a good crowd. Mr. Greg Bussell agreed to lead us.

First Stop Cosy Corner track.

Caladenia flava	Thelymitra fuscolutea fuscolutea
" filamentosa Sp.	Diuris longifolia
" Sp. Page 114	" dead

Second Stop Just past Augusta Town

Caladenia Sp. Page 123	Microtis unifolia
" Sp. " 114	Diuris longifolia
" (Albany Spider)(pg	

Third Stop Rubbish tip Augusta quite a job finding a way into this swamp, three cheers for our local leader.

Caladenia flava	Thelymitra cucullata (Wow!)
" Sp. Page 65	" crinita
" marginata	Microtis alba
" Sp. page 69	Microtis orbicularis
Diuris emarginata	Phrasophyllum macrostachyum
Elythranthera emarginata	

Many thanks Greg - a wonderful day.

15 November - Led by another enthusiastic local willing to share his knowledge with us - Mr. Rob. Barnett.

First Stop Rockbora Rd. burn

Caladenia Sp. page 114	Thelymitra crinita
" huegelii (red)	" fuscolutea
" marginata	fuscolutea
" menziesi	Phrasophyllum regium
Elythranthera emarginata	" brownii
	(IN bud)
	Microtis unifolia

Second Stop before Carter Rd.

Cryptostylis ovata on roadside (heaps in flower)
Thelymitra nuda
Dead Drakea and Cal. dilatata

Third Stop off Caves Rd. 2 k's past Grace Town turn to swamp

Diuris setacea
Thelymitra cucullata
Elythranthera emarginata

Fourth Stop back out to Edge of Caves Rd.

Thelymitra villosa
" fuscolutea fuscolutea

Many thanks to Greg and Rob for a wonderful weekend, and thanks
Sid. Beryl Yates.

CREDIT: Ref. Brown & Hoffman, Orchids of W.A., Page Nos

FIELD TRIP PROGRAMME

4 and 5 June - RHIZANTHELLA GARDNERI
(Underground Orchid)

19 June, Reagan's Ford - Thelymitra APICULATA
(Cleopatra's Needles)

JULY - Gngangara Mound

20 and 21 August - Kalbarri

27 and 28 August - Leeman- Northern Heathland Orchids

EARLY SEPTEMBER - Gngangara Mound

24 - 26 September - Ravensthorpe - South Coast Orchids

15 OCTOBER - Ranford Rd. Area - Diuris
Purdiei

22 and 23 October - Frankland River Area.

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

Rod Peakall
School of Biological Sciences
Macquarie University MSW 2109
Ph (02) 805 8227

Date 192.88

Dear WANOSCG Members,

I am happy to report that my Ph D project on the 'genetic Systems of Australian Terrestrial Orchids's is now completed. I have enclosed a copy of the thesis summary along with a reprint of a recent paper for your library. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed in some way to the successful completion of this project. I especially wish to thank the following members who kindly shared valuable details of orchid locations and cooperated in other ways. Andrew Brown, Kingsley Dixon, Pat Dundas, Ross and Myra Hamilton, Ron Heberle, Stephen Hopper, Wayne Merrit, David Parker, John Tonkinson Stephen van Leeuwin and Beryl Yates.

My wife and I have now moved to Sydney where I have commenced a 3 year research fellowship in the School of Biology at Macquarie University. You will be pleased to know that I am continuing to work on the "Breeding Genetic of some Australian Orchids". I am collaborating with Professor Andrew Beattie who has recently taken up a position here from the USA. He is interested in ant pollination and in line with his interests my research will be continuing to focus on ant pollination systems. We plan to work on *Leporella fimbriata* in West Victoria in autumn and *Microtis* in spring but will be moving on to other species in subsequent seasons.

Believe it or not Sydney has a good number of orchid species in the suburbs with some 30 species of orchid known to flower in this part of Sydney. On the ecological reserve on the edge of the campus here, *Dipodium punctatum*, *Cryptostylis erecta* and *C. subulata* are in late flower and some *Pterostylis* are now in bud. *Chiloglottis reflexa* and *Calecna major* are in flower at another site nearby. Wishing you all the best of luck in 1988 and many thanks once again.
With regards (Sgd.) R. Peakall

SUPPER ROSTER 1988

March N. CLARKE

April K. PICKLES

May M. FRENCH

RAFFLE ROSTER 1988

March J. ADDISON

April H. LODGE

May Ken JONES

Red Paskell
School of Biological Sciences
Macquarie University NSW 2109
Ph (02) 809 8227
Date 1st. 88

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41 GARDNER ST.,
COMO, 6152

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With regards (Sgd.) R. Paskell

Next Field Trip

April 30th - Pinjarra

Meet 10.00 am. Exchange Hotel just over the bridge (left)

C. Aphilla