



BULLETIN

*OF THE*

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID  
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP  
(INC)

**March 1990**



# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP

## OFFICE BEARERS 1989

Patron	Mrs J Holmes a'Court
President	Denis Burdinat
Vice President	Noel Clarke
Secretary	Joni Eaton
Treasurer	Chris French
Field Trip Coordinator	Ian Greeve
Editor	Kerry Pickles
Librarian	Eric Swarts
Committee	John Eaton
	Sid Gibbings
	Peter Gee

Postal Address of Group      PO Box 323  
Victoria Park 6100

## OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

- To promote interest in and preserve Western Australian indigenous orchids.
- To learn the best means of cultivation and do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their environments.
- To learn their habitats and keep records.
- To have field days and learn to recognize the different genera and species.
- To hold meetings for the exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in Western Australian orchids.
- To affiliate with kindred organisations.
- To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.
- To do all such other lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

NOTE: The opinions expressed by contributors to this bulletin are not specifically endorsed by the group.



#### **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, 21st March, 1990 at 7.00 pm at the Kings Park Board Administration Centre.

#### **NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday, 21st March, 1990 at 8.00 pm at the Kings Park Board Administration Centre.

During the evening Kingsley Dixon will give a tour of the glasshouses in Kings Park.

Also during the meeting there will be a slideshow of orchids which may be expected to be seen on forthcoming field trips.

#### **BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS**

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Kerry Pickles. The article submission deadline for the next issue of the Bulletin is 6th April 1990.

#### **THANK YOU**

We are grateful for the friendship and help extended to us by the members of W.A.N.O.S.C.G. during our stay in W.A. If at any time any members of the group should be contemplating a trip to Victoria they should not hesitate to contact us and we will endeavour to make their trip as rewarding as ours.

George & Thelma Spice

## **ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP FEES.**

### **1990 MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE!**

The group membership fees remain unchanged for 1990 as follows:

Single Membership	\$15.00 p.a.
Family Membership	\$15.00 p.a.
Junior Membership	\$2.00 p.a.

The fees remain unchanged from 1989 despite the increased production costs for the Bulletin. These costs are currently slightly in excess of the anticipated income from 1990 membership fees.



## 1990 FIELD TRIPS

DATE	DETAILS
Sat. 5th May	COLLIE AREA. Day trip to find <u>C.aphylla</u> .
Sunday 17th June	MOGUMBER - Day trip for <u>Thelymitra apiculata</u> .
Sunday 24th June	BUNBURY - Day trip for <u>Pterostylis rogersii</u> and <u>P.angusta</u> .
JULY	Open for members suggestions.
AUGUST	
Sat. 18th	BINDOON - Julimar area, <u>Caladenia ixiodes</u> and other early flowering orchids.
Sun. 19th	AUSTRALIND, YARLOOP - <u>Corybas</u> , <u>T.spiralis</u> , etc.
Mid August	Possibly a week trip to KALBARRI if enough members are interested.
SEPTEMBER	
* MT. JACKSON trip has been requested for 3 or 4 days early September. Anyone interested in leading the trip please contact Ian Greeve.	
8/9th Sept.	There are two proposed weekend trips for this date. a) BUSSELTON area - staying at a caravan park. b) MARCHAGEE/MOORA - staying on private property.
	We need to know before the June meeting, numbers of interested members, to decide which trip (or both) will go ahead. Please keep these trips in mind as both are in excellent orchid areas.
* Sat. 15th Sept.	SULLIVAN ROCK - day trip, local orchids.
22/23 Sept.	MOODIARRUP/ARTHUR RIVER. Guests of Wendy and Michael Cusack on their farming property 'Capercup'. Not to be missed.
29/30 Sep. 1 OCT.	Long weekend. MT. BARKER, always an excellent orchid region.
6/7 OCTOBER	A weekend travelling by horse drawn caravans searching for orchids.
* Sun. 14th OCTOBER	CANNING VALE - <u>Diuris purdeii</u> and other swamp orchids.
* Sun. 18th NOVEMBER	WALYUNGA/LAKE LESCHENAULTIA - <u>T.benthamiana</u> , <u>T.fusco lutea</u> and later flowering <u>Caladenia</u> .
* 24/25 NOVEMBER	A possible weekend in the Waychinnicup area.
15th DECEMBER	XMAS PARTY.
* These excursions do not have a Trip Leader at present. Please feel free to volunteer - contact Field Trip Coordinator.	



## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

WALPOLE 20/21 October 1989

We arrived at the appointed meeting place half an hour late due to a stop on the way where we found Thelymitra macmillanii, and spent time photographing them. However everyone was enjoying their lunch so we didn't feel too guilty. Bill and Gloria Jackson were to be our trip guides, and our first stop was to find Caladenia lobata. There were several plants found, as well as Lyperanthus serratus, Pterostylis plumosa and a Caladenia huegii sp??

At a granite outcrop near Walpole we found lots of orchids including Calochilus robertsonii and lots of Thelymitras in bud. This area kept us busy for the rest of the afternoon, after which we travelled to Coalmine Caravan Park to set up camp. The camping area was lovely, lots of shade, barbecues etc., though I do believe the night before they had been washed out by rain. Today, however, the weather was fine, as it was for all the weekend. That night after everyone had had their barbecues, we all went to Bills's where George Spice showed us his slides of orchids from Victoria. Thanks George for some lovely slides. Back at camp everyone went to bed early after a long day.

Next morning, everyone was up early as our first jaunt for the day was nearby to find Paracaleana nigrita, of which there were plenty, including double headers. On the road out of Walpole Bill showed us some stands of Prasophyllum regium and down a sandy track we found lots of Drakea glyptoden, D. thymniphila, Paracaleana, and other orchids.

Lunch was eaten at Mandalay in between photographing Caladenia interjasens and many other orchids in the burnt area. Next stop - North Walpole Road in a burn. There were some beautiful orchids here including Lyperanthus forrestii in flower. Further down the road we came to an area where Drakea micrantha grew. Another small colony was found nearby which was very pleasing as it's quite a rare orchid. Caladenia hamiltonii (the pink spider orchid) was then found in a swampy area and it was at this point that we had to leave the groups unfortunately. Everyone else stayed on and I'm sure found lots more orchids. Thanks Bill & Gloria, once again, for a super weekend.

### ORCHID LIST

Caladenia flava  
C. marginata  
C. sericea  
C. gemmata  
C. gertrudii  
C. interjasens  
C. longiclavata  
C. huegii  
C. latifolia  
C. nana  
C. hamiltonii  
C. lobata  
Thelymitra flexuosa  
T. nuda  
T. pauciflora  
T. antennifera  
T. fuscolutea in bud  
T. mucida in bud

T. canaliculata in seed  
Elythranthera brunonis  
E. emarginata  
Paracaleana nigrita  
Pterostylis plumosa  
P. barbata  
P. nana  
P. vittata  
Cryptostylis in bud  
Calochilus robertsonii  
Lyperanthus serratus  
L. nigricans  
L. forrestii  
Microtis atrata

M. alba  
M. rara  
Diuris longifolia  
Leptoceras menziesii  
D. laxiflora  
Prasophyllum fimbria  
P. giganteum  
P. hyans  
P. regium  
Drakea thymniphila  
D. glyptoden  
D. micrantha



## CONSERVATION CONTINUES.

Over the Xmas and New Year break there have been a few developments in the *Diuris purdiei* saga.

1. The court action against the Minister did not get off the ground because the Minister has not made any decision about the fate of the rare plants. In fact, the lack of a decision is allowing the development to go ahead without the appropriate protection afforded these plants under the Rare Flora Act.

2. The Canning City Council in November voted to rezone the Canning Vale area back to "special rural" and have informed the Developer that he is not allowed to develop beyond that category. The Canning City Council is also taking legal action against the Minister for Planning and the Department of Urban Planning in the same way as the people of Helena Valley. That is that the original rezoning was deemed a "minor" change to the urban planning scheme and as such only required the signature of the Minister when it should have been considered a "major" change requiring the permission of the both Houses of Parliament. The Canning City Council seems determined to protect this area not only because of the rare orchids but also to protect the underground water area and to avoid the potential hazards due to the proximity of the Jandakot Airport.

3. There have been a number of articles in the press recently pushing the commitment of the Developer to the environment and showing how generous they have been by donating so much money (\$70,000) for research. When you take into account that the research does not consider the protection of the species in its natural habitat in Canning Vale and is aimed at allowing the area to be totally developed one questions their so called "commitment to the environment". Margaret Collins and myself calculated how much free time we have contributed to conserving and propagating orchids, including a number of rare ones, and came up with a monetary value pretty close to that put forward by the developer.

4. These articles have all been backed up by statements from CALM personnel who seem to have taken on a new role as PR people for the developers. Recent statements in the West Australian (Feb 16th) gave the impression that it was easy to propagate *Diuris purdiei* and that there were "thousands of *Diuris purdiei* seedlings" at Kings Park. The previous work on the propagation of *Diuris purdiei* was totally misrepresented and I can not see how anyone can base a conservation on a propagation programme that has a decreasing success rate which stands at less than 1% after 3 years. I am puzzled why the Kings Park Board and Dr Kingsley Dixon allowed the propagation work to be misrepresented.

5. The Developers have discovered the way around the weak link in the conservation chain - CALM - and are now setting up a foundation to fund future research projects similar to that on *Diuris purdiei*. The Developers have recognised that if they offer "thirty pieces of silver" to the money starved research wing of CALM then they will be able to get the okay for their developments. CALM will rue the day they ever accepted the first pieces of silver for the control of the Rare Flora Act.

6. Finally, in the light of the change of Leadership of the Labour party and the fact that Dr Carmen Lawrence has been quoted as saying she will "put greater value on the environment when considering developments", I have written to her requesting a review of the Canning Vale situation and an appointment to discuss this problem with her.

Bevan Buirchell



## **FOR SALE**

### **ORCHIDS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA .. 2ND EDITION.**

WANOSCG's second publication on the cultivation and natural history of WA native orchids is now available with 14 pages of COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS. This is the only book on orchids of WA in print at present.

**THE BOOK IS PRICED AT....**

\$9.00 (plus \$2.00 postage) for WANOSCG members.

OR \$12.00 (plus \$2.00 postage) for non-members.

### **PAT DUNDAS NATIVE ORCHID CARDS.**

Packs of 6 blank cards and envelopes featuring different WA native orchids from watercolours by Pat Dundas are available from WANOSCG. These are excellent value at a price of \$8.00. They would make a superb gift or would be the perfect way to contact friends or relatives while highlighting the colour and beauty of our own WA native orchids.

### **WANOSCG STICKERS.**

Don't get lost on the next field trip (or if you do, take some others with you).

Purchase a WANOSCG sticker for your car window. The stickers are 150mm square, green on white, making them visible from a distance.

They are priced to clear at only \$0.50.

### **WANOSCG NAME BADGES.**

Be proud of your own name! Tell everybody at group meetings and field trips who you are! Buy a WANOSCG name badge embossed with your name and wear it proudly. These are available for \$6.50 (cost price).

All of the above items are available from

**WANOSCG INC.**

**PO BOX 323**

**VICTORIA PARK, WA, 6100.**

from Chris French, telephone [REDACTED] or they can be ordered/purchased at the next group meeting.



SUPPER ROSTER 1990

March	Joan Greeve
April	?
May	?

RAFFLE ROSTER 1990

March	Noel Clarke
April	?
May	?

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DR S D HOPPER

Forthcoming Field Trips :

5th May: Collie