



BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

November 1993

OFFICE BEARERSPHONE

PATRON	Mrs. J Holmes a'Court
PRESIDENT	Joan Biddle
VICE PRESIDENT	Andrew Brown
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	John Eaton
SECRETARY	Noel Clarke
TREASURER	Chris French
FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR	Nye Evans
EDITOR	Marie French
LIBRARIAN	Ian Greeve
AUDITOR	Glynn Reed
COMMITTEE	Bill Burton
	Steve Phillips
	Jean Long
	Wayne Merritt

OBJECTIVES 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 environments.
- 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 exchange 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 objectives.

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

POSTAL ADDRESS
OF GROUP

PO Box 323
Victoria Park 6100

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING - Wednesday, 17 November, 1993 at 7.00pm, Kings Park Board Administration Centre.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday, 17 November 1993 at 8.00pm, Kings Park Board Administration Centre.

TOPIC FOR GENERAL MEETING

Dr. Kingsley Dixon will be talking upon the orchids of the Kimberlies.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Marie French [REDACTED]

The article submission deadline for the next issue of the Bulletin is 1st March, 1994.

ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP FEES - RED SPOTS.

Does your Bulletin have a red spot? If so, you are currently an unfinancial member of WANOSCG. 1993 Membership Fees are now due!

The group membership fees for 1993 as follows:

Single Membership	\$20.00 pa
Family Membership	\$20.00 pa
Junior Membership	\$ 2.00 pa

NEW MEMBERS

The committee and members would like to welcome the following new members to the group:

Ms Margaret Owen [REDACTED]
Paul Majewski [REDACTED]

We hope you have a long and rewarding association with the group.

FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS

As the A.G.M. will be upon us soon and it will be time for a new committee, I would like to advise that I will not be nominating for the position of Field Trip Coordinator.

I should like to convey my thanks to those members who have assisted me over the last three years by

providing locations and leading field trips, it certainly has made my job easier!

My final thanks to all those members who fronted up for the various outings. I now look forward to being "Tail end Charlie"

November 17 General Meeting.

November 27 (Saturday)

Christmas Party. Andrew Brown's home.
Further details below.

December 11/12

This will be the final field trip for 1993 and once again we will be back in the Walpole area. There have been several burns in the area and amongst other orchids will be searching for *Microtis globula*.

The meeting place will be outside the Walpole Motel/Pub at 11 am on Saturday.

Accommodation is available at the Walpole Motel (098 401023) or the Coalmine Beach Caravan Park (098 401026)

Nye Evans

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: MARCH 1994

The 1994 A.G.M. heralds the 20th year of W.A.N.O.S.C.G. Inc. The first general meeting was held on the 1st July 1974 in the film room of the Dept. of Agriculture, Jarrah Rd, Sth Perth.

Your committee has discovered that some time in the past a "Constitution" appeared without being registered. The difference between the two constitutions is the list of office bearers. Your committee has decided to revert to the registered constitution.

The Corporate Affairs act requires the A.G.M. to be held within three months of the end of the financial year (February for our Group), so the next A.G.M. will be held in March 1994.

The office bearers required for 1994 are:-

- (a) A Patron
- (b) A President
- (c) Two Vice-Presidents
- (d) A Treasurer
- (e) A Secretary
- (f) A Management Committee consisting of (b) to (e) plus Registrar (Ex-Officio) and four members.
- (g) Immediate past President Ex-Officio member of the committee
- (h) A Registrar
- (i) A Culture Registrar
- (j) A Librarian

- (k) An Assistant Librarian
- (l) An Auditor

The above list means that a committee of 10 members is required.

Two glaring omissions from the above list are the positions of Editor and Field Trip Coordinator. The first Editor was also the Assistant Librarian in March 1979. The first Field Trip Leader was an ex-officio member in April 1980.

Your committee has discussed the problem and decided the positions could be filled either by elected committee members or in an ex-officio capacity.

At least 3 members of your present committee will not be standing for re-election.

I recommend all members freely discuss the March 1994 A.G.M. during your informal talks at the November meeting and the Xmas Party.

Noel Clarke

The following article appeared in the Native Orchid Society of South Australia (Inc) Journal in August 1993. As photography of our Native orchids has been the subject of two photography competition, you may appreciate the chance to read Bob Edges's and Tim Newberry's notes on the art of photographing native orchids. The NOSSA group has kindly allowed us to reproduce it for you in our Bulletin. Our sincerest thanks to them.

MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY

By Bob Edge

Tim Newberry, in his talk on native orchid photography at our May meeting this year, gave the following advice regarding equipment:-

1. The camera; a simple mechanical single lens is quite sufficient.
2. Extension tubes between lens and camera provide the best means of close up photography. A macro lens does a good job, but is expensive and not really necessary. Dioptre lenses can be added to the front of the camera lens, but they add glass to the lens system and reduce image sharpness; their only advantage is that exposure is not changed.
3. Lighting: A second hand standard flash is all that is needed; this would have a guide number of 14 to 20 for 100, ISO film. If back lighting is desired, a coupled flash for fill in lighting may be necessary.

Or a piece of crumpled and then straightened aluminium foil can be used as a reflector to the flash. Lighting with two flash units can achieve very effective modelling of the subject. Ring flash is considered by some to be too flat; it can be quick to use and is satisfactory for purely technical photographs. Some modelling can be achieved by shading a part of the ring.

4. A tripod is an extremely useful accessory. It must be capable of suspending the camera between its legs. With it, you can set up the camera where you want it, and then view the resulting image at leisure, noting the effect of different apertures and considering the balance and composition of the picture. Once the camera is firmly set in place, your hands are free to hold reflectors, flash gear or whatever else is necessary.

When extension tubes are used between the lens and camera, the amount of light reaching the film is reduced, and the effective aperture is calculated according to the formula:-

$$\text{Eff Ap} = \text{Nominated Aperture} \times \frac{F + E}{F}$$

Where: F = Focal Length of Lens
E = Length of Extension Tube

eg. If Our Nominated Aperture is f 16
Focal Length of Lens is 55 mm
Extension Tube is 19 mm

$$\text{Eff Ap} = 16 \times \frac{55 + 19}{55} = 21.5 \text{ Use } f 22$$

Often, natural light will be insufficient to satisfactorily light the subject in close up photography and flash will be necessary. The formula used for calculating flash to subject distance is:-

$$\frac{\text{Flash Guide Number}}{\text{Effective Aperture}}$$

The guide number for the flash gun can be obtained by making a simple calculation using information from the table on the flash gun itself. From the table you may find that, for example, with a film speed of 100 ISO (most orchid photographers seem to use this speed), at 2.5 metres you need an aperture of f 8.

By multiplying a 2.5 by 8, you will obtain, hopefully, 20. This will be the guide number of your flash gun for a film of 100 ISO rating.

In an earlier example, we calculated an aperture of f 22 when we used a 55 mm lens with a 19 mm extension tube.

The flash distance will be:-

$$D \text{ (Flash to Subject Distance)} = \frac{\text{Guide Number}}{\text{Effective Aperture}}$$

$$= \frac{20}{22} = 0.91 \text{ metres} = 91 \text{ cm}$$

Because of the absence of any reflecting surfaces around an orchid in the scrub, calculations such as the above can lead to under exposure. Flash guide numbers are designed for indoor photography where there are a lot of reflecting surfaces such as walls, ceilings, furniture etc. Bush and field settings offer very little in the way of reflecting surfaces and therefore the photographer should halve the calculated distance - ie in the above example, flash distance will be 46 cm and not 91 cm.

For your own comfort in the above, I would suggest taking a series of photographs with the flash:-

1. At the actual calculated flash to subject distance.
2. At the calculated distance divided by 1.4.
3. At the calculated distance multiplied by 1.4.

Photograph number 2 will give twice the exposure of photograph number 1 while photograph number 3 will give half the exposure of number 1.

You will find that you have to halve the flash to subject distance, - that is use four times the calculated exposure.

In my photography, I use two flash units: the primary flash, guide number 20, provides front lighting and the secondary flash, guide number 14 is used for partial back lighting. Both flashes are placed at the same distance from the subject.

With flash photography of small subjects, dark backgrounds are produced. Photographic judges do not like black backgrounds. Some clearly identifiable background is essential, even if it is dark.

Depth of field is a major problem in close up photography. Judges are harsh on even slightly out of focus parts of an orchid plant. If you want really top class photographs, you must make sure that your orchid is wholly in focus.

An out of focus, but visible background enhances the photograph.

A few comments about composition:-

1. Get down to the level of the subject unless there is a good photographic reason for not doing so. Most pictures of low growing plants will be better for being taken at their level.
2. Fill the frame with what you want to show. In vertical format a 35 mm frame is 36 mm high; try to make your image about 33 mm high.
3. Avoid "horizons" halfway up the frame; these are usually very distracting.
4. Gardening. A previewing facility on your camera allows you to see what your camera will see at the f-stop you have chosen. By using this facility, you will be able to see extraneous, undesirable twigs, leaves etc. which will intrude into the picture. These can be removed so that they do not detract from the composition of your photograph. The preview facility will give you a very good idea of how sharp your subject will be and how your background will appear. Without such previewing, distractions are often not seen until you get your photograph back after processing.

A METHOD OF ENSURING YOUR 35 MM FRAME IS FILLED WITH YOUR SUBJECT

The size of the 35 mm frame is 36 mm x 24 mm. Most orchids will be photographed in vertical format and a good aim is to make the subject to take up about 33 mm of the frame. I tend to use a metal tape to measure the height of the orchid or part of it that I want to include in my photograph. Let us say the height of the orchid is 100 mm; if we want the image to be 33 mm in height on the film, the magnification will be:-

$$M = \frac{\text{Image Size}}{\text{Subject Size}} = \frac{33}{100} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Another formula for calculating magnification is:-

$$M = \frac{\text{Length of Extension Tubes}}{\text{Focal Length of Lens}}$$

So we can say:-

$$M = \frac{\text{Extension Tube (E)}}{\text{F.L. of Lens}} = \frac{\text{Image}}{\text{Subject}}$$

If we know the focal length of the camera's lens (say 55 mm), the size of the image on film (33 mm) and the size of the subject (100 mm), we can calculate the length of extension which will be required:-

$$\frac{E}{55} = \frac{33}{100} = E = \frac{55 \times 33}{100} = 18.2 \text{ (mm)}$$

Common Extension Tube lengths are 9, 19, and 28 mm. Select the 19 mm length. You can of course select the tube by trial and error but the above procedure should save you time.

Thanks again to NOSSA for allowing us to reproduce this article.

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Once again the Silly Season is upon us and once again it is time for the annual Christmas Party. This year the event is being staged at Andrew and Jane's place in Bibra Lake...look for the address in the General Business section of the Minutes below (just making sure you read them!)

This year's event promises to be in keeping with the season, ie, silly. Please come dressed, decked out, or attired as your favourite orchid. You may decide to be a purple enamel orchid, sun orchid, spider orchid etc. Use your imagination and get dressed up (or down, whatever the case may be) and join in the fun, silliness etc!!!

NOTE: This is a BBQ or you can bring your own alcohol

The event will be a B.Y.O. affair, this means B.Y.O meat, chairs, tables, grog and salads. *Cutlery +*

Club to supply Salads & brass. Bring a dessert.

Now for those who couldn't find the address in the Minutes (or were too lazy to look!) here it is:

Address: [REDACTED]

Time : Arrive 5 pm, eat 7.30 pm.

Attire : Come as your favourite orchid

B.Y.O : Everything, including kitchen sink (it will help with the washing up!) better yet, buy paper plates!

MINUTES OF W.A.N.O.S.C.G. GENERAL MEETING- 20 October 1993

Meeting commenced 2015.

PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

As per the Attendance Book.

MINUTES

Moved Phillips/Burton "that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 15 September 1993 be accepted." Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING

Bill Burton spoke on T. Shirts. Eight more orders required.

CORRESPONDENCE

Inward. As Tabled

Noel Clarke advised members that rescue dig area full of prickly moses.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As circulated.

Chris French spoke about Pterostylis rufa trip.

FIELD TRIPS

As per the Bulletin. Three members going on the Pallinup River trip.

PLANT TABLE

Owners talked about their plants tabled. There was a good display and variety.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Noel Clarke thanked helpers at the King's Park Show. 24 books were sold.

Xmas Party to be held at Andrew Brown's home, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Party theme: represent your favourite orchid. Party commences at 5 pm, eat at 7.30 pm. BYO meat, drink, table, chairs and fighting gear.

A hand made woollen rug was presented by John and Phill Emery as a special raffle prize. Tickets to be sold at the October and November meeting and drawn at the Xmas Party. Tickets \$1.00

Marie French moved a vote of congratulations to Ryan Phillips for winning the Harry Butler Award presented by the Gould League.

Gerhard Saueracker advised that the area in Malaga visited by the group is still okay.

Steve Phillips spoke on the Bridgetown area. It would appear that the area has about a 12 month reprieve from logging. He found *Caladenia 'christineae'* in the area.

Bill Burton advised that the tuber bank has no support. It was suggested plant sales at meetings be considered.

Chris French distributed film to the winners of photo competition.

Raffle presented by Jean Long was won by Aileen McKay.

A delightful supper was provided by Jean Long.

John Arends spoke on his cultivation methods. His home made sheoak mulch could bear copying.

Meeting closed at 2150.

FOR SALE

ORCHIDS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA... 2ND ED.

WANOSCG's second publication of the cultivation and natural history of WA native orchids is now available with 14 pages of **COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS**.

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 native orchids 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 W.A. orchids.

5 IN 1 SURVIVAL AID

In order to encourage safety awareness in the bush on field trips, the group has purchased 50 "Survival Aids". These are basically a whistle and compass combination but also incorporate a small signalling mirror, a fire starter flint, a nylon lanyard (to hang it around your neck) and a water proof match container. In addition, the compass has a luminous dial. The survival aid has been purchased below normal retail prices and is being offered to group members at cost for \$6.00 (plus \$2.00 for postage).

THELYMITRA APICULATA BADGES

The badge features *Thelymitra apiculata*, a beautiful orchid, the status of which is not declared rare and endangered, but is under the scrutiny of CALM. The badges cost \$4.00 (plus \$1.00 postage and packaging). Three quarters of the badges have been sold so far, so if you have not bought one yet, you are in danger of missing out.

INCIDENTS FROM THE BUSH.

I was going to refrain from placing this little story in the Bulletin to allow me and my knight in shining armour to save a bit of face. I am, however, struggling to complete a page, so sorry Ron, I am going to relate this incident.

The French and Jackson families have two males who are driven (mad!?!) by their quest to see every *Pterostylis aff. rufa* that is in WA. This is no mean feat as many of you will have heard from the "rufa" weary travellers who spent a fortnight trying to achieve the same goal. Fortunately (and this is quite a subjective judgement depending upon which Jackson or French you happen to be talking to) there were some "rufa" that were polite enough not to flower until last weekend... So of course, we just had to go out on the quest for these orchiding holy grails!! Naturally, Mr. Jackson and Mr. French were still in the camping mode after their *P. aff. rufa* trip, so tenting, even for the one night, was the go.

We did find many rufa and it was a worthwhile trip, or at least I thought it was until I went to put up our double Lie-low. Then I wondered. Half way through this exercise, Ron, (who was travelling with the Jacksons and who likes a good rufa) decided to help me.. in fact, he took over the pumping up. When we thought there was enough air in the Lie-low, I put in the plug and sat down on it. Instantaneously I heard a loud hissing, obviously air was escaping from somewhere. After a thorough investigation we found the problem, an unlocked plug. We quickly solved the problem then Ron and I resumed pumping. Eventually again we had the mattress up to a comfortable air level and sealed it. Again we found air was leaking..so we pumped for the third time and shoved the 2 offending plugs in again, but harder this time. This time we were sure we had the mattress's measure, but about 15 minutes later I decided I would check the mattress anyway and guess what?!!! This time Chris came to our rescue and discovered the third, unfilled plug hole...

Yes there were two rather red-faced, well exercised people in our camp that night.

SUPPER ROSTER		RAFFLE ROSTER	
November	Nancy Clarke	November	John Arends

WANOSCG
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PO Box 323
 Victoria Park 6100

SURFACE

MAIL

POSTAGE
 PAID
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Forthcoming Field Trips

Walpole - Dec 11 & 12

Whiteman Park - Dec 5 - Details given at next General meeting
 or phone Dave Bright on [REDACTED]