



# Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group

## November 2016 Bulletin

### ORCHID SEASON END

Yes, it is not over yet and plenty of orchids (55 species, apparently) flower over November-December months with some most spectacular ones at that. But you know it is over the hump when you go out into the bush and find 5 species instead of 20 or 30 you were finding just a few weeks ago.

Members up North have declared their season over. Luckily, one can go South for an orchid fix for a few more weeks.

It is getting hotter and the flies replace mosquitos but the sun orchids are out: showy blue sun orchids, tiny, hard to find tigers, gentle leopards, bright and cheerful chestnuts, magnificent, striking brown orchids.

Now is the time to search for slipper orchids—what a treat they are with their pomegranate coloured flowers of most peculiar shape. There are caladenia species too that wait until this warmer weather and Christmas leek, of course. Plenty to see yet, in cooler place, at least.



L-R: WANOSCG President Jay Steer with octogenarians - Noel Clark, Jack Eborall, Ross Fox (new addition, welcome to the Octogenarians club, Ross!), Matz Dahlkamp and Noel Hoffmann. Photo by R. Newmann

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General Meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through November, at the BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park

# WANOSCG General Meeting Minutes

## Wednesday, 19th of October 2016

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park

Meeting opened: 07:37 pm

### ATTENDANCE:

Visitors: Katerina Hnedkovska, Lubomir Hnedkovsky, Trish Haynes, Kylie Payne

Welcome to new members: Introduce Jon Warren to new and prospective new members

Number of members present: 46

**APOLOGIES:** Kay Bradfield, Andrew Brown, Stuart Gale, Alison Higgins, Heather Hills, George Kokosinski, Greg van der Vaart, Graeme Walker

**CIRCULATION OF REPORTS:** Attendance book, Treasurer's Report and Conservation Report were circulated to the members.

### 1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Margaret Fox and seconded by Ross Fox that the General Meeting Minutes of 21 September 2016, as published in the October 2016 bulletin are a true and accurate record of that meeting. *Carried.*

#### 1.1 Welcome to Octogenarians:

The meeting began with the President acknowledging the club's octogenarians. He pointed out that the club had been forged on the shoulders of many of these members. Their combined knowledge and wisdom has allowed us to be in the fortunate position that we find ourselves today. The members present gave all our octogenarian members three cheers.

Five octogenarians were able to make it to the meeting and they were photographed with the cake before the special supper in their honour after the meeting.

### 2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**2.1 WANOSCG garment order:** Donna Wajon (DW) explained the items available and advised that she needed to receive orders with payment by 16 December. Members could pay their money into the WANOSCG bank account if more convenient and DW would claim the relevant expense back from Group. Further information would go into the November Bulletin and members were urged to get their orders in early to make DW's task easier.

**2.2 End of Season "get together":** The committee have discussed the pros and cons of having a trip to the south each year and it was felt that this year the end of season function would be close to Perth.

Date: 3 December (to be confirmed)

Time of day: 6 pm to 9 pm to allow just enough time for supper before dark

Venue: Perhaps Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre, 84 Hope Road, Bibra Lake - enquiries being made

Style: BBQ with quiz and slides – members to bring photos on USB stick for presentations

**2.3 WANOSCG's Website (<http://wanoscg.com>)/validated digital images of WA native orchids:** Noel Hoffman has received 70-80 more photographs to add into the validated images. Some aspects of the site are still in progress

**2.4 Orchid ebook:** It was noted that in the email distribution of the October Bulletin reference was made to an ebook by Gary Backhouse, Bill Kosky, Dean Rouse and James Turner relating to a guide to Victorian orchids. This ebook (price \$25 including postage) is available through [www.bushorchids.com](http://www.bushorchids.com) and includes some information on orchid locations together with many validated pictures showing species variations.

John Ewing volunteered to take the order forms with or without the money.



*Prasophyllum* sp. 'striped'.

Photo by D. Gugerl

Rarely seen striped leek orchid was found by Ron Mark. Deb and Mark spent many hours of searching for this beauty and consider it their most exciting find of the year.

**2.5 WANOSCG conducting surveys for local governments:** Jon Warren will provide a report on surveys for local governments for the November Bulletin.

**2.6 Study groups:** There was nothing material to report.

### 3. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

There was nothing new of significance to report

### 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period 1 September 2016 to 30 September 2016

	MTD
Income (operating account)	\$482.40
Expenditure	Nil

It was moved by Tom Burbidge and seconded by Ursula Kosinska that the Treasurer's report for September 2016, be accepted as a true record of the club's finances. *Carried.*

### 5. CORRESPONDENCE 15 September to 19 October 2016

Electronic or hard copies of newsletters and bulletins have been received over the period from: Orchid Society of Western Australia Inc, ANOS Illawarra, ANOS Sydney, ANOS Macarthur, NOSSA. Correspondence covered a wide range of topics.



*Pterostylis insectifera*. Photo by M. Petridis

Date	Sender	Topic
18/10/16	Mary Gray	UBC Neighbourhood Nature Workshop 5 Nov
16/10/16	Mary Gray	UBC meeting on prescribed burn research Wed 19 October
13/10/16	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC)	Greenpage newsletter Oct-Nov 2016 contains an article on dieback
10/10/16	Heather Quinlan DPaW Communications Officer	Re: Terry Dunham postings and Public Information and Corporate Affairs Department of Parks and Wildlife
9/10/10, 16/10/16	Donna Wajon	Polo Shirts, Jackets and Hi Vis Vest Quote and garment order form
4/10/16	Mark Brundrett	Potential new WANOSCG member
4/10/16	CCWA	Get Excited for Spring Eco Fest 2016
30/9/16	CCWA	CCWA Membership due 14 Oct
30/9/16	Noel Clarke	Thank you for kind thoughts on my recent illness.
28/9/16	Marina Karyagina	Terry Dunham postings about C bryceana
28/9/16, 29/9/16	Paul Winthrop, Tim Hodgkins	Conservation help needed to C bryceana in the Stirlings
28/9/16	Jon Warren & replies JW,MP,JS	Membership Geoff and Robyn Foley
23/9/16	Tim Hodgkins	Flynn Drive orchids
26/9/16	Terry Dunham	WANOSCG Sticker and badge
19/9/16	Gail, Christine and Andrew	Re Facebook: Thanks for the update
18/9/16	Tanya Barnett Fwd from: Helena and Aurora Range Advocates Inc	PER - Public Environmental Submissions - for J5 and Bungalbin East Iron Ore proposal
16/9/16 17/9/16	Mary Gray Tim Hodgkins	FW: notification of listing of Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain, effective Friday 16 Sep
18/9/16	Jay Steer	Email to members who had contacted him about Committees Facebook discussions
15/9/16	Eddy Wajon	Meeting with Minister for Road Safety Principal Policy Adviser on rural road safety

### Business arising from Correspondence:

- The Group's membership of CCWA has been renewed entitling us to send a delegate to the CCWA AGM and for our delegate to be entitled to nominate candidates for the CCWA executive committee .

### 6. FIELD TRIPS

Reminder to all members that they should send all correspondence about field trips to the Field trip officer (Margaret) and not to the club's gmail account even if a message about field trips has originated from that account (Margaret has enough to do without having to keep checking the club gmail to see if somebody has messaged her there).



<< This photo was sent in by Bill Gaynor. It is of dugite (*Pseudonaja affinis*) eating a shingleback skink (*Tiliqua rugosa*) from the Kojonup field trip in September. Heather Hills spotted the action and a few of the members were lucky and brave enough to photograph it.

Below: *Caladenia longicauda* subsp. *eminens*. Photo by J. McKenzie



#### 6.1 Report on recent field trips:

- 24 – 26 September Albany and the Stirling Range – this was successful with close to 50 species spotted in flower, including several hybrids, and others in bud.
- 2 – 8/9 October East and north of Kalgoorlie – found *Pterostylis spathulata*, a large fawn rufous greenhood, and a further 13 species of rufous greenhoods and others plus a hybrid.
- 15 – 16 October Boyup Brook/Ruabon

#### 6.2 Upcoming Field trips:

- 5/6 November Ongerup

#### 6.3 Personal Field Trips:

Members are requested to fill out the personal field trip report form on the front table to make the Secretary's job easier and send electronic Orchid Sighting sheets to the Registrar (Ramon Newmann [wanoscg.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg.registrar@gmail.com) or [REDACTED]). If you don't have a copy of the report or sighting sheet then send an email to the Secretary (Pat Richards [REDACTED]) and she will provide you with an electronic copy.

- Eddy Wajon visited Mondurup and Chingarup amongst other places. He found 11 plants of *Thelymitra speciosa*. He also found eight *Caladenia graminifolia* plants along with several other *Caladenias*, including (possibly) four or five plants of *C. bryceana*. In addition, he has seen *Pyrorchis nigricans* flowering in four locations without their having been stimulated by fire, the most significant being on top of Wave Rock.
- Bob Steer indicated that despite the good rains *Thelymitra magnifica* flowering has been poor at the Gooseberry Hill Site (that is known to most club members). He pointed out that there has been significant habitat damage at the site over the past few years and asked members to limit their visits to the site to allow the habitat to recover. *T stellata* flowering was also down at well-known sites with storm damage and a plague of little caterpillars affecting flower quality.
- Justin Brown had found Collie spider orchids, including some hybrids with white spiders.

- Marina Karyagina had found about 20 beard orchids while looking for wandoo sun orchids.
- Carol Royal had found rabbit orchids as well as red beaks flowering without fire.
- Urszula Kokosinska had found *Caladenia flava* and *Microtis media* in the middle of Willagee.
- John Ewing (JE) had enquired after *Caladenia multiclavia* sightings in the database and was told there were only a few very vague locations. He subsequently visited Jerramungup where he found *C multiclavia* and has now updated the location data for this species. He also found *Thelymitra* sp. 'Ongerup' and a Dragon orchid/*Caladenia* cross. JE also queried whether we would get a list of all the orchids not represented in the collection of photographs that Noel Hoffman has put on to the website.
- Erich Volschenk had found an occurrence of *Drakaea elastica*.
- Tom Burbidge indicated that he would forward a list (since received—*ED: not included in the bulletin*) of all the orchids he had seen in various locations in the previous three weeks.

## 7. CONSERVATION

It was moved by Tim Hodgkins (TH) and seconded by Jeanette Wheatley that the conservation report as circulated be accepted. *Carried.*

### 7.1 Discussion on current issues:

- The Kemerton buffer zone has been examined further and TH is keen to get its status upgraded from "proposed reserve" to something more substantial.
- As regards the relocation of *Thelymitra campanulata* at Flynn Drive, about 40 plants seen by the road have been marked to be dug up and relocated to potential sites, including Banksia Grove, Warwick bushland and Marangaroo. (It was noted that some past orchid relocations had failed as a result of animals digging them up.)
- Our submission on the Helena and Aurora Range has to be completed by 31 October. People with relevant information for the submission were requested to forward it to TH within the week.
- There has been a report of a couple of orchids that were out of their natural range at the Hollywood Reserve this season, thought possibly to be the result of a past WANOSCG relocation project.
- Regarding the matter of clearing notices, it is suggested that we be pro-active and send out copies of the clearing regulations to local authorities to draw their attention to the requirements.

### 7.2 Roadside clearance:

- Eddy Wajon (EW) reported that he had spent considerable time over the past two or three months on the matter of the Jerramungup Shire road clearing. The issue had been reported to the Department of Environment as a potential case of unlawful clearing and EW had forwarded a letter asking for clarification as to whether it was indeed illegal but, as at the date of this meeting, had not received a response.
- EW is continuing to pursue the matter and has had a meeting with the Minister for Local Government who has promised to respond.
- EW has also contacted the following with the expectation that they will report back to the Premier for Western Australia:
  - \* the senior policy adviser to the Minister for Road Safety regarding the roadside clearing guidelines and providing constructive notes
  - \* the Minister for Tourism in relation to the fact that roadside verges can be of interest to tourists as they travel around the state.
- EW also noted that a yellow marker indicating sensitive flora had been removed in the Shire of Kent.



## 8. GROWER'S TABLE

Nothing to report.

## 9. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 9.1 Facebook etiquette and guidelines for use of WANOSCG Facebook page:

- The Facebook page should have a disclaimer to the effect that members' postings do not necessarily reflect the views of the group and that users participate in the site at their own risk.

*Caladenia paludosa* (lutea form), Johnston Rd burn. Photo by M. Karyagi-

- Jay Steer (JS) will draft some suggestions for guidelines and rules for use of the WANOSCG Facebook page together with a disclaimer.
- The Facebook moderator will remove inappropriate postings and inform the poster(s) and the committee. A second instance of inappropriate posting will result in the poster(s) being suspended from the Facebook page and a report sent to the committee. In cases of persistent or serious breaches of Facebook etiquette and guidelines, the committee will ask the Facebook moderator to permanently remove the offenders' access to the Facebook page.
- As regards the publication of orchid locations on Facebook, it is suggested that exact locations not be publicised on the WANOSCG Facebook page, the location of finds may be shared on an interpersonal basis at the discretion of the relevant member. The inclusion of dates and if possible names would be helpful, however.
- Any queries regarding the operation of the Facebook page should be addressed to JS or Paul Winthrop.

## 9.2 Photographic competition

- Members were reminded that the photographic competition will take place at the November general meeting.
- Photographs should be of an Australian native orchid and A4 sized or 8" x 10", taken in the 2016 season.
- Each member can submit up to three entries.

## 9.3 Wispy spider orchids

- It was reported that between Brookton and Narrogin, some wispy spider orchids had been killed by frost.

## 10. PRESENTATION:

Mark Brundrett: "Citizen Science"

Mark gave a very stimulating presentation which addressed four broad areas:

1. Orchid biology and what we need to know
  - Orchid pollination – gathering data
  - Orchid demographics (lifespans, reproduction)
2. Surveys for rare orchids
3. Helping orchids thrive in Perth
  - Translocation and propagation
  - Communication
4. Orchid taxonomy – resolving issues

The presentation was very well received by members and many questions were put to Mark at the conclusion of the presentation.

**RAFFLE DRAW:** Prize donated by Bob Steer. Mark Brundrett drew the raffle and the winning ticket was held by Aly Mollica.

**MEETING CLOSED:** 9:35 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** 7:30 pm Wednesday 16 November 2016, BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.

*Thelymitra petrophila*.  
Photo by M. Petridis



## MONITORING ORCHIDS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESERVES

Just a quick note to keep members informed of what is happening with this activity.

The volunteers have been looking at 8 reserves and have been finding a range of orchids over spring. On most reserves observations this spring have resulted in between 10 and 14 species being noted with the exceptions being the Rifle Range in Kwinana that has only shown a couple of *C. flava* and the Cockburn City's new Aubin Grove reserve where 18 species have been seen so far. Island Point Reserve down Mandurah way showed up the most exciting species with a Priority 1-2 *Caladenia swartziorum* and a sighting of the Declared Rare Flora *Caladenia huegelii*.

The monitoring activity will continue through to July next year to catch the autumn and early winter orchids after which we will assess whether we will continue the activity. The local Governments appear to be very happy with what is happening so far so maybe there is an opportunity to expand in 2017 if other folk in WANOSCG are interested. One idea is that small groups of us monitor some strategic road verges to develop an inventory of those which are important.

**Jon Warren**

## Conservation Officer Report to 2016 November General meeting

### Current projects:

1. Kemerton buffer zone – Graeme Walker to provide up to date listing of species observed on this site. This will add to evidence that the site needs to have a higher level of protection.
2. Flynn Drive, Banksia Grove – 30 plants of *T. campanulata* have been removed, bagged and stored ready for transplantation into suitable habitat in the northern suburbs. The most likely sites are Marangaroo and Warwick bushland. Permission has been received for Marangaroo and is being sought for Warwick from the respective Council authorities. Thanks to Mark Brundrett, Geoff & Robyn Foley, Peter McAvaney for their assistance at this site.
3. Helena & Aurora Range – our submission has been sent to the Mining Company, EPA and various WA State government ministers including the Minister for the Environment.

### Clearing Notices:

I continue to view the clearing notices weekly. In the light of recent events in the Shire of Jerramungup it may assist the conservation of native flora when this activity occurs, if we were to respond to each notice with a letter to the applicant setting out the ways to correctly carry out their proposed work, to minimise the effects. This matter is open for discussion .

### Roadside clearing – Jerramungup Shire:

We continue to support the efforts of Eddy Wajon's attendance at meetings and correspondence about the matter.

### Projects under watch:

- Norwest Energy, Eneabba.
- BAJV Bauxite, Morangup/Avon Valley NP.
- Meelup Regional Reserve – Mountain Bike Trail.
- Warwick Bushland - Hockey Stadium construction now well under way with minimal disturbance to the bushland.

Members with updated information on these projects should contact me ASAP.

**Tim Hodgkins, Conservation Officer**



New members Robyn and Geoff Foley at Flynn Rd site during shirt orchid relocation. Photo by T. Hodgkins

### QUAD BIKE DAMAGE



<<This is one of the sites we are monitoring for *Paracaleana gracilicordata* as part of the ADORP programme. Since last year this site has sustained considerable damage due to vehicles (quad bikes?) driving over the rock outcrop. These orchids survive in what many would consider a fragile environment and it is difficult to ascertain what effect such damage will have on the population long term. Short term there were tire tracks that went through one of the largest colony on this rock directly damaging many plants. Encouragingly there was a group of about 25 plants in bud right next to one of the tire tracks. How much long term damage to the micro environment in which these and other flora exist is yet to be known.

**Bill Gaynor**



## FIELD TRIP 15th of OCTOBER

***In search of the mystical beard orchid (Calochilus sp) and hammers (Drakea), whatever we could find but hopefully D. confluens***

On morning of 15 October the group of about 18 members met at the Ruabon Nature Reserve south of Bunbury at 10AM. Driving south from Perth there were heavy intermittent and somewhat ominous down-pours. However, at the site the weather was kind, as it remained throughout the two days.

A couple of members on the field trip (Graeme and Jim) were locals who were to give us some special insights over the two days. Also accompanying were Victorian members Colin and Mischa Rowan.

The Ruabon NR turned out to have a range of orchids including beautiful hybrids of *Caladenia huegelii*, *C. speciosa* hybrid, *C. chapmanii*, ducks, hammers, plants of *Thelymitra* species in bud and some gone over (E.g. *T. vulgaris*), snail orchids, and *C. flava*. However the beard orchids residing at Ruabon eluded the search team on the day. The local swamp level was apparently at a recent high level due to rains and that is where *C. paludosa* and snails (to keep Kevin interested) were found.

We then travelled to a spot of Graeme had previously scouted out on Williamson-Banksia Rd where we were shown an extremely photogenic group of crab-lipped spider orchids. There were a number of other *Caladenia* species.

Next was Camp creek gully road where David L had spotted beard orchids in the past. This time none were found with the exception of some possible chewed buds. The beards in bud can look a bit like sun orchids so there could have been a mix.

The last spot was another of Graeme's, south of Donnybrook. Several species of *Caladenia* were found here. At the various places we stopped *C. flava* were ubiquitous, however the range of flower colour was sensational at this spot, including a number of flowers that were pure yellow. The idea of additional spots was brought up but most members were tired and hungry so we called it a day.

In Donnybrook there was an excellent Indian restaurant directly opposite the Motel. And apparently, well at least according to Iain M, a great hamburger at the local inn.

David and John returned to Camp Creek Gully to camp for the night. They found 3 species the group had not spotted earlier.



L-R: *Caladenia flava*, *C. speciosa* x *C. paludosa* hybrid, *Paracaleana hortiorum*. Top: *Calochilus* sp. 'Boyup Brook'.

Photos by B. Gaynor

This included several plants of *C. multiclavia* and *C. attingens* which greeted them following morning upon awakening.

Day 2 started off at Sandhill Reserve just outside of Donnybrook. There was plenty of white sand to be found but the presence of ducks, hammers and beards eluded us. Purple enamels (*Elythranthera brunonis*) were numerous along with *C. flava* and a couple of spider species. We next headed out to McAlinden Rd, some diverting through a wet area (4wd), the others more directly.

At McAlinden Rd *Calochilus* sp. 'Boyup Brook' were found! Some still in bud, some in bud, flower and pollinated. We also found a number of ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita* and *P. hortiorum*) and hammers (*Drakaea gracilis* and *D. livida*). This was the last stop of the trip and members headed separate ways with various searches in mind. However a couple of things stick out in my mind. The first that was often heard was the distant voice of David announcing from somewhere ahead of the group "I have found ----". The other was Justin spotting ducks on the side of the road from a moving car.

Thanks to Margaret and Kevin for the idea of a beard search, locals Graeme and Jim/Marium for sharing their particular knowledge and everyone who participated for the spotting and comradery.

**Bill Gaynor**



*Thelymitra crinita* (albino form).  
Photo by G. Walker

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS —SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP

### 29th October 2016 - Porongurup Area

Finally, the season is warming up, however, this also results in drying conditions when the *Thelymitra* orchids come into their own as the *Caladenia* recede into the background, their seed pods being somewhat less conspicuous than their flowers. Thus, we now search in damp creek lines and swampy land.

We headed towards the Porongurup National Park. Our first stop beside the road was very overgrown and wet, but known for its populations of *Prasophyllum* species. A number of *Thelymitra flexuosa* (Twisted Sun), *Diuris longifolia* (Purple Pansy) and *Caladenia flava* subsp. *flava* (Cowslip) were sighted, but not one *Prasophyllum*.

At our second spot, the soil was dryer and the sun was shining between the scudding clouds overhead. The larger *Thelymitra* flowers were open however, the shorter statured species in the shade of vegetation were hardly open. Here we sighted *Thelymitra paludosa* (Plain Sun), *Thely. cornicina* (Lilac Sun), *Thely. crinita* (Blue Lady), *Thely. macrophylla* (Scented Sun), *Thely. benthamiana* (Leopard Orchid), *Lyperanthus serratus* (Rattle Beak), *Elythranthera brunonis* (Purple Enamel), *Ely. emarginata* (Pink Enamel) and *Cal. lobata* (Butterfly). Increasingly strong winds made photography a challenge.

The third stop was cold and windy resulting in most *Thelymitra* flowers tightly closed. We added *Thely. vulgaris* (Slender Sun), *Cal. barbarossa* (Common Dragon), *Microtis media* subsp. *media* (Common Mignonette), *Disa bracteata* (South African), *Cal. pectinata* (King Spider) and *Cal. brownii* (Karri Spider) to our list. There were many *Caladenia longicauda* complex plants in seed. Lunch was enjoyed in the lee of the cars whilst keen eyes kept watch over the rain clouds steadily marching towards us.

Over to Mt Barker for one last stop in quite dry bush. A beautiful display of *Cal. lobata* and *Cal. ferruginea* (Rusty Spider) were enjoyed by all. Unfortunately, the many *Thely. benthamiana* had decided it was just too wet and cold to stay open. Their flowers had closed some hours ago. After another successful day watching the orchid season unfold, it was time to head home.

**Anna de Haan**

## KARONIE TRIP 2ND – 9TH OCTOBER



This trip was organised by Kevin Uhe to look mainly for species of rufous greenhoods in the more arid country east of Kalgoorlie and north of the Great Eastern Highway.

Ten enthusiastic members met at lunch time in Southern Cross on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and headed north to the magnificent Helena and Aurora Range. On the way we made a random stop north of Koolyanobbing and found *Pterostylis spathulata*, *P. sp.* 'dainty green' and *P. sp.* 'greasy'. We camped near a rocky hillside for 2 nights and added *P. sp.* 'straight tops' and *Thelymitra petrophila* to our list after exploring a few areas in the range.

We headed south to Duladgin Rock and found a lovely pink sun orchid hybrid, *Thelymitra antennifera* x *T. petrophila*. At Karalee Dam we added *Pterostylis ciliata* and *Microtis eremaea* to our finds, and at Caroling Rocks added *Pterostylis roensis* and *Microtis graniticola*. Iain McLean had a problem with a flat battery in his camper, so he headed into Coolgardie and then Kalgoorlie to sort it out. The rest of us camped near Boondi Rock and the following morning we found *Microtis eremicola* and lots of *Thelymitra petrophila* on the rock before heading into Coolgardie for showers and supplies.

Iain re-joined us at Kalgoorlie and we then headed east along the Trans Australia railway access road to Karonie, where we met up with Andrew and Rob and set up camp near Cardunia Rock. On the rock and in other locations we found a small rufous greenhood, *P. aff. spathulata* which was like a large dainty brown and were excited when Ian G found a specimen of *P. sp.* 'large fawn' on a rocky hillside south of Karonie. Iain M staked a tyre on the track and was helped by Ian Greeve and others to change it and get mobile again.

After stopping in Kalgoorlie for more showers and supplies, we headed north to Menzies and west to Hospital Rocks. George and Linda's car broke down and Ian G towed it to our camping spot near the main rock and a tow truck was called from Kalgoorlie. At Hospital Rocks we added *P. sp.* 'green flowers' and *P. sp.* 'dainty brown' before heading further west to the Die Hardy Range. A couple of other stops on the way at rocks yielded *P. sp.* 'green flowers' as well. An un-named species, *P. sp.* 'laterite' was found at the Die Hardy Range.

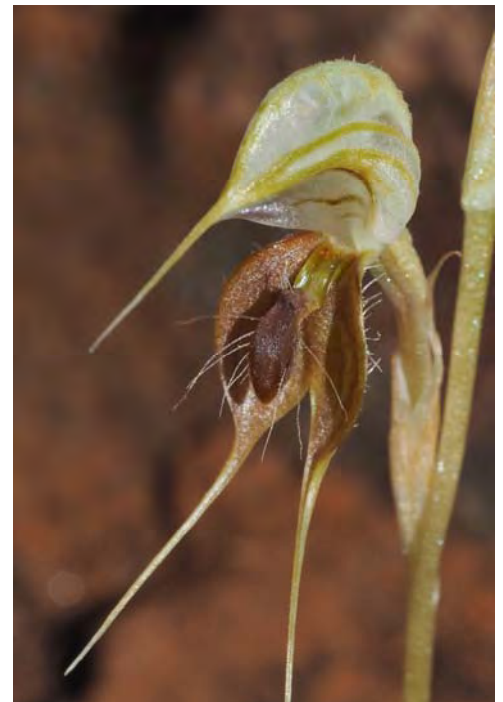
Our luck with good weather ran out in the Die Hardy Range when rain set in. It made the road quite slippery, so care had to be taken on the way south. We decided it definitely was not camping weather, so most of us decided to stay in Southern Cross at the caravan park that night.

We enjoyed a meal at a local hotel and a bonus shower opportunity. The next morning dawned with clear sunny skies so we headed east of Yellowdine to find the Slender rufous greenhood, *Pterostylis macrosceles*. After that we headed to Half way rocks, north of Southern Cross and added *P. insectifera* to our tally. It was then time to head home.

We concluded the field trip with a tally of 13 species of rufous greenhoods and 10 other orchid species in flower. It was a very successful and enjoyable trip. Thank you to all who joined us and helped to make it a memorable adventure.

**Margaret Petridis**

*Pterostylis ciliata* (top) and *Pt. sp.* 'large fawn' (right). Photos by M. Petridis





Last year Andrew Brown gave a presentation on his favourite granite rocks and orchids they support. It sparked a lot of interest. This year he took a group of WANOSCG members on an extended orchid field trip to some of the Eastern and then Northern granite rocks. In this bulletin we publish members' accounts of the last three days of the trip. For days 1—5 refer to September and October issues.

### Day 6 - 1st of September 2016

Andrew's Eastern Granites Trip had well and truly become a Mudfest, with signs of "Road Closed (Find Another Campsite)" splattered throughout the Great Western Woodlands. After splitting up to different overnight stops

on Wednesday night (rumour has it that David even entered a caravan park), Andrew's band of 6 vehicles returned to Swan Lagoon Nature Reserve.

It was a wonderful night with very little rain, though the gravel roads into the Reserve had suffered a torrential downpour earlier that evening and had become very treacherous. So plans changed again and we decided to ask the others to meet us at Swan Lagoon at 10.30 Thursday morning after coming up via the highway.

Thursday morning dawned more on the sunny side and we went hunting for elusive *Pterostylis brevichila*. Found several not far from camp and after photos of these and more sigmoids, we packed up. Russell had erected his tent (in the dark) next to a bee hive in a tree and was soothed by sounds of buzzing all night. He had also inadvertently kept several specimens of *P. brevichila* warm!

After the group re-grouped, plan F was executed. As several people had made plans to visit Esperance at the end of the trip, they opted to stay south while the rest of us (9 vehicles) would head north to warmer climes. Our tearful farewell was held at Kumarl corner on the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway where Janette awarded the previous day's Rock Star award (aka 'muddy puddle medallion') to Gary for showing us his wonderful burn area at Truslov. Trish presented Margaret with a lucky horseshoe as we were so lucky to have her (not that she'd need it in the wet), and Andrew (who subsequently received several embalming fluids) was presented with his star award and thanked for his incredible organisation of the Eastern Granites Trip that was just not to be that far east - this year!

The Northerners' next stop that included lunch was off the Highway at a wonderful area named Stennet Rock. There were no new orchid finds apart from some interesting mutations of donkey orchids and a three headed snail. I, however, being more of a fauna person, was ecstatic. Russell found a Common Scaly Foot (lizard), a Green and Golden Bellfrog, (*Litoria auria* – very similar to our motorbike frog, moorei) and one of the hawk moths. Then Peter McCauley came upon a large southern carpet python that posed beautifully for extensive photography. (These went very well with the 'real' spider and snail shots I'd taken the night before!). There were also many bush birds at this site including Rufous Whistlers, Fantails and what sounded like White-breasted Robins, though too far east for their normal range. Shame I couldn't actually see them.

We stopped with plenty of day light just south of Depot Rock to make camp and dry out tents. Although close to the highway, it



Field trip co-leaders: M. Petridis and A. Brown

was a lovely site among Goldfields Blackbutts and the campfire was, as usual, very inviting on a clear, though cold night. Perfect for star trails!

Gary awarded the Rock Star Award to Peter for finding the python which I thought rather novel for the Society, but it was definitely the highlight of the day for many of us.



**Ann Storrie**



Umm, some people would rather photograph those other spiders and snails, not to mention frogs. L-R: snail, bell frog, huntsman spider. All photos for Day 6 are by Ann Storrie.

Below: Caroling Rock, *Caladenia mesocera*. Photos by T. Newmann



### Day 7 - 2nd of September 2016

Our reduced number now head towards Coolgardie to refuel and gather party supplies. Tonight will be our last night together.

We first stop at Waraloo Rock, where there are *Diuris hazeliae* and many photographic puddles on the rocks, before we lunch at Caroling Rock.

It is beautiful at Caroling rocks, the pink everlastings are a wonderful contrast against the yellow of the Acacias. I find *Caladenia mesocera* and mistakenly call it *attingens*. And because of my wonderful recollection of Latin names, later around the fire, Andrew

gives me the award for that day!

On to the breakaway north of Southern Cross we go. Margaret has seen *Caladenia paradoxa* here. There are *Caladenia incensum*, *C. dimidia*, *C. microchila* but no *C. paradoxa*.

We make camp at a nameless rock off Echo Valley Rd.

It's party night and we enjoy our last night together, reflecting on yet another wonderful trip, albeit somewhat altered.

**Trish Newmann**

### Day 8 - 3rd of September 2016

On our last day of 2016 granites trip we woke up to beautiful sunshine and after quick breakfast and pack up everyone went up the rocks to further explore the area. The bush around granites had beautiful *Caladenia roei* and



*Pterostylis* sp. 'inland' hiding in the mosses.

On the western side *Caladenia dimidia* and *Caladenia radialis* were in full bloom. Soon we found some hybrids of the above. The sun orchids and china orchids were still in bud. We also found *Ericksonella saccharata* and *Caladenia pachychila*.

The view from the top was amazing. The green wheat on the horizon and mostly white and yellow wildflowers were everywhere. At 9am we were back on the road driving through Mukinbudin towards Datjoin Well and Rock Reserve. Here millions of pink and white everlastings were waiting for us. Between them on the side of the granite outcrop were hiding little gems. *Caladenia incensum* x *roei* hybrids were the most photographed orchids. Some of us had a little rest in the shade of amazing granite rocks before going back on the main road.

At noon our convoy was passing Beacon turning north towards Emu Proof Fence. Our search in hot sun was rewarded when *Caladenia incrassata* was found.

That was our last official stop for the trip and after lunch the final Rock Star Awards were given out to Trish Newman and Russell Thomas. We all were sad to say "Good bye" but extremely happy to see such array of different orchids and be able to participate in such amazing expedition.

Thank you Andrew for all hard work, fantastic guidance and sharing your knowledge with us.

**Urszula Kokosinska**



Photos in this section are by U. Kokosinska although the above group photo must have been taken by George as Urszula is in the photo (first left).

Below: *Caladenia incensa* x *C. roei* hybrid, *C. roei*.



### An 'Eminent' Day to Remember

On the 25<sup>th</sup> September returning to the South Coast from a magical five days with specialists in the fields of Hakeas, Grevilleas and Dryandras in the Fitzgerald, Ravensthorpe, Lake King, Newdegate and Kulin areas, I came across a magical sight of thousands of large white orchids flowering on the swampy roadside a little north of Cranbrook. As the day had been long and the sun was edging the horizon I didn't make a request of my travelling companion to stop, as there was still a hundred kilometres to go and driving in the darkness through the forest was not an option. I quietly decided to return the next day. What a day that became!

At 9:00am from the corner of Woogenellup Rd into Carbarup Rd there were the most magnificent singles and clumps of *Caladenia longicauda subsp. eminens* (Stark White Spider Orchid) to stop and inspect. It must have been the slowest anyone has every travelled that road. Every few metres there were a new clump of flowers to check. They were in swampy conditions, along the road verge, under Wandoo trees, amongst heavy bush, on gravelly slopes and amongst weeds, nothing could stop their enthusiasm for bursting forth with their beauty. No doubt, the ceaseless rain and cool (sometimes freezing) weather we have endured here for most of this year, has been appreciated, at least by these orchids. By midday Cranbrook was still a way ahead and rain was looming. I had in mind a couple of patches along the Cranbrook-Frankland Road that I was interested in checking out as well. Needless to say I didn't get to those flowering along the roadside north of Cranbrook after all – no real need having spent the previous three hours in "eminens" heaven.

The Frankland Road having in previous years been white with orchids, appeared to be forgotten along the section that I surveyed in the rain. I walked around a couple of reserves but was disappointed with the results, very few *Caladenias*, but *C. polychroma* (Joseph's) in creamy green, yellow and red, *C. falcata* (Forest Mantis) and possibly *C. straminichila* (sp. Moodiarrup), *C. flava subsp. flava* (Cowslip) and a *C. macrostylis* (Leaping Spider Orchid) were seen. Also observed were a few *Diuris* sp. and a fading *Pterostylis recurva* (Jug Orchid).

With sodden clothes and muddy car I drove up my driveway at 5pm in the cold, ceaseless drizzle with thanks to it for the wonderful flowers I had seen. An 'eminent' day indeed!

**Juliet McKenzie**



### BUSH SAFETY

Most of us would have heard about travails of an Esperance couple Jeremy and Marama Sim who got stranded in the bush for 10 days due to car troubles. Their story had a happy ending. However, there are some interesting lessons to be learnt from it.

It appears that the campers did a few things right (and that is probably why this story had a happy ending):

- They left a mud map of where they were going (and this is where friends found them, eventually)
- They had supplies of water that lasted them 10 days (although they did run out of food)
- Most importantly, they stayed with the vehicle, even when they heard on the radio that police suspended the search
- They tried to attract attention of rescuers by lighting fires (which in itself is not without risk)

They did not, however, had any other means of communicating their location. Despite of rescue aircraft passing over them, they were not spotted. This shows how hard it is to see a person or even a vehicle in the bush.

Carrying either a satellite phone (hired for a trip) or a personal locator beacon (also sometimes referred to as EPIRB) would have saved everyone a lot of trouble and heartache.

**Marina Karyagina**



## NEW ORCHID NAMINGS

In the latest edition of the Australian Orchid Review David Jones and Chris French have published a further paper naming five new rufa species.

All have been placed in *Oligochaetochilus*, a genus not recognised by the WA Herbarium. They will therefore not be officially recognised under those names here. In order for the WA Herbarium to list the species names they will need to be formally placed in *Pterostylis*. In the meantime they may be recognised under phrase names where they are available.

*O. eramaeus* is a new rufa that is not mentioned in current publications, nor does it have a phrase name in the WA Herbarium Flora Base. This species is found in the Damboring to Mollerin area growing around salt lakes. It is a member of the *P. spathulata* complex and is named from the Greek *eremos* which means desert in reference to the semi arid habitat it is found in.

*O. trypherus* is the name given to *Pterostylis* sp 'dainty brown'. This rufa is widespread between Wubin and Balladonia and is

common on banded ironstone hills, breakaways and adjoining shrublands. It can also be found more rarely on granite rocks. It has been named from the Greek *trypheros* meaning dainty. This is in relation to the dainty appearance of the flowers.

*O. virens* is the name for *Pterostylis* sp 'green flowers' which a number of members were lucky enough to see on the recent Karonie trip at Johnson Rocks in good numbers. This rufa is found west of Menzies down to Peak Charles. It is named from the Latin *virens* which means green which is in relation to the green flowers. It is a member of the *P. spathulata* complex.

*O. fuliginosus* is another rufa that is not mentioned in any recent publications or has a phrase name in the WA Herbarium Flora Base. This rufa is very much restricted to the Peak Charles area and is a member of the *spathulata* complex. It is named from the Latin *fuliginosus* which mean sooty, dark grey which relates to the flower colour.

*O. xerampelinus* is yet another rufa that is not mentioned in any orchid publications or has a phrase name in the WA Herbarium Flora Base. It is apparently restricted to the 50 Mile Rock north of Norseman and some members of the Group were lucky enough to stumble on it in early October having mistaken it for a larger version of dainty brown. It is similar to that orchid but has larger, darker flowers among other differences. It is named from the Latin *xerampelinus* which means red with a strong mixture of brown. This is in relation to the colour of the synsepalum (or joined sepals).

I am sure there will be further papers to name more of these unique orchids. On the recent Karonie trip an unnamed rufa was found in the Karonie area in reasonable numbers and given the arid nature in which many of these grow it is not unreasonable to expect there maybe other rufa out there waiting to be found.

**Kevin Uhe**



Top: *Pterostylis* sp. 'green flowers'. Photo By K. Uhe

Right: Many rufa species grow in arid country. Photo by M. Petridis

## POEM FOR EMER

Juliet McKenzie wrote this poem (she calls it a little ditty) for one of her granddaughters, Emer. It is quite timely, given recent incidents of road verge clearings.

*What do you See Now  
The black ribbon with shoulders high  
Leads our vehicles beneath a blue sky  
With a vision uninterrupted  
But an environment corrupted  
With the verge neatly vamped  
And the gravel firmly tamped.  
Wait! Doesn't verge mean border  
To keep a path's edges in order  
With flower-bed or greenery  
To make a pleasant scenery?  
As water from a pipe we gush  
Each day, like ants we rush  
To make another dollar for the kitty  
Scant thought for the verge – What a pity*

*The coloured palette once seen,  
Red, orange, pink and green,  
Purple, yellow, cream and blue,  
There was something of every hue  
To delight the passer-by before,  
Who could stop and to memory store  
That vision of colour, shape and form  
forever  
The wonder of nature, so clever.  
Now the passer-by has to seek  
A distant rock, reserve or creek,  
Their hope to find some species of nature  
Which has been left to grow and mature;  
A native lizard, snake, bird or bee  
A native flower, orchid or tree.*

**Juliet McKenzie**



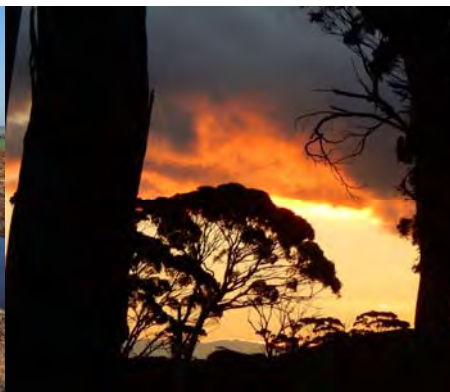
Top: Road verge full of colour. Photo by J. McKenzie

Below: Helena and Aurora Range. Photo by M. Petridis.

A West Australian company Polaris Metals, a subsidiary of Mineral Resources, has four leases in the area of the Helena and Aurora Range conservation park. Unfortunately, the conservation park status does not disallow mining or exploration activities. The company applied to extract iron ore in two locations which cover approximately 4 km of the 45 km range. WANOSCG made a submission opposing mining in the area - see page 7.



Below: WA outback. Photos by U. Kokosinska and T. Newmann



### PHOTO COMPETITION RULES

*For those new members who are not familiar with the WANOSCG photo competition, this is how it is run:*

- Bring up to three of your printed photos to the November meeting. The idea is that people do not know whose photo they are voting for so please do not show or discuss your photos and do not have any identifying signs on the photo (e.g. copyright statement containing your name). You can have your surname written on the back of the photo though
- When asked, place your photos on the table (again, you have to be a bit surreptitious about it)
- You will be given three dots for voting
- The voting process consists of everyone wandering around looking at the photographs and placing their dot (s) on those ones they like the most
- It is OK to vote for your own photo, if you think it is the best in the room. However, if everyone thinks their photo is the best, and uses their voting dots on their own photos, then we will not have much of the competition, will we?
- The photo with the most dots wins! Then we learn the name of the winner - this is usually a person with the biggest smile
- There is no prize, but your name will be immortalised on the club's Photo Competition board and you get to keep it for a year. Also, envy and perhaps adulation (but mostly envy) from the rest of us is a reward in itself
- Good luck!

The WANOSCG 2016 photo competition will be an open competition. That is, any photograph taken in 2016 that contains one or more Western Australian native orchids is eligible.

The maximum size of entries is 8" x 10" or A4. No framing please - frames are not allowed.

**Only financial members are eligible for the photo competition so ensure you paid your 2016 membership!**

### GARMENT ORDER

WANOSCG garment order forms and a flyer were circulated via email on the 16<sup>th</sup> October.

Should you want to order a garment you need to place your order with Donna Wajon either at the 16<sup>th</sup> November meeting or by mailing completed order forms to: Donna Wajon, 16 Eckersley Heights, Winthrop, WA 6150. All orders are to be received **no later than, DEC. 16, 2016.**

Garments will not be ordered unless they are paid for in advance.

You can either pay Donna or the Treasurer at the November meeting or pay by electronic transfer to the club's account: Payment can be Cash, Cheque (payable to: WANOSCG), or electronic transfer: Bank name: Bankwest; Account name: WANOSCG; BSB: 306044; Account Number: 5492468; description: Garment. If paying electronically send an email of your receipt of transfer with the words "Garment Order" to the club's email account (wanoscg@gmail.com).

If you are not able to pick up your garment arrange for somebody to pick up your garment for you. If your order needs to be mailed to you, please include your Address and add Postage on the order form as follows: \$12 for one garment, \$15 for two garments, or \$18 for three garments.

Garments will be available for collection at the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017 meeting.

Donna will have a sample size range at the November meeting for members to try on.



*Microtis eremaea*,  
Karonie field trip.  
Photo by M. Petridis



*Caladenia radialis*. Photo by U. Kokosinska

#### COPYRIGHT

All articles and images appearing in the Bulletin remain the property of WANOSCG or the original owner. WANOSCG is happy for any of the articles, items or images to be used by another orchid society for a non-profit purpose providing the society acknowledges the source and the author.



Above: Shirt orchids (*Thelymitra campanulata*) rescued from the Flynn Rd site by WANOSCG members Tim Hodgkins, Mark Brundrett, Geoff & Robyn Foley and Peter McAvaney are ready for storage. Photo by T. Hodgkins

#### THANK YOU TO ALL BULLETIN CONTRIBUTORS

This is the last bulletin issue for the year.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the bulletin with their articles and photos, sometimes on a very short notice .

Huge thank you goes to Andrew Brown for his educational material.

To Tim Hodgkins for Conservation report which is now a regular feature.

The biggest thank you is to bulletin's most regular contributors: Margaret Petridis, Anna de Haan and Kevin Uhe.

Apologies I cannot name all the contributors - I will need a few more pages. Please keep your contributions coming. Pen an article over the season break and sort out your photos. Bulletin will need heaps of new material next year.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 1st of March 2017

Please email any Bulletin contributions to Marina at [wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com)

#### MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2016

All members are reminded that annual subscriptions are now **OVERDUE**. The annual single or family membership fee is **\$30**. Payment can be made :

- to the Treasurer in person
- by mail with cheques made out to WANOSCG and sent to: WANOSCG PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979
- by electronic transfer to the club's bank account:  
BSB: 306044 Bank name: Bankwest  
Account number: 5492468

If you choose to send money electronically please identify what the payment is for (eg "Annual Fees" and send a copy of your receipt of electronic transfer with your name on it to the club's email account ([wanoscg@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg@gmail.com))

**2016 membership fees are now OVERDUE. If you have not paid, your bulletin subscription will cease.**

2016	ROSTERS		SPEAKERS 2016
	Raffle	Supper	
NOV	Marina Karyagina	Marina Karyagina	Photo competition, Members photos