BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP (INC)

(1974 – 2000)

OCTOBER 2000

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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 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 exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in Western Australian orchids.
f) To affiliate with kindred organisations.
g) To make rules of the Group's domestic affairs.
h) To do all such other lawful things as are incidental to or conductive to the attainment of the above objectives.

Note: *The opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by this group,*

POSTAL ADRESS OF GROUP: PO Box 323
Vic Park 6979

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, 18 October 2000 at 7.00 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Administration Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, 18 October at 8.00 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Administration Office.

GUEST SPEAKER
Don Manners – "Growing native orchids".

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

18 October	General Meeting
21/22 October	Trip to Frankland
15 November	General Meeting
19 November	Trip to Casuarina
2 December	Xmas Party at Kings Park

Note – Xmas party is Saturday 2nd December, not Sunday 3rd December.

ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP FEES
MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE
The Groups financial year commences on 1 February, so all membership fees are now due. *The Group membership fees are as follows:*
Single Membership $20.00 pa.
Family Membership $20.00 pa.
The digit after your name on the address label is the year for which you are financial and is updated to the last meeting. *If you have paid since then please make the allowance.*
Please send fees to The Treasurer, P.O. Box 323, Victoria Park, 6979.

NAME BADGES
Group name badges can be ordered from the Treasurer. The cost is $9.25 each.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS
Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Noel Clarke [redacted] The article submission deadline for the next issue is 1 November 2000. Country members we would love to share your orchid adventures (or misadventures). Many private field trips are undertaken, how about sharing them with the membership via the Bulletin.

SUPPER COST
Each month our supper is generously donated by group members (per list on the back of the Bulletin), while the group supplies the tea, coffee, sugar and milk. To recoup some of the cost of these supplies, a modest fee of 50 cents applies. This can be left on the supper table and will be collected by the Treasurer at the end of the evening.
Also please rinse out your cups when you have finished with them.

WANOSCG ORCHID SIGHTING FORMS
These forms are now available from the Secretary. Steve Phillips is eagerly awaiting your sighting reports.
Please help get our database off and running.

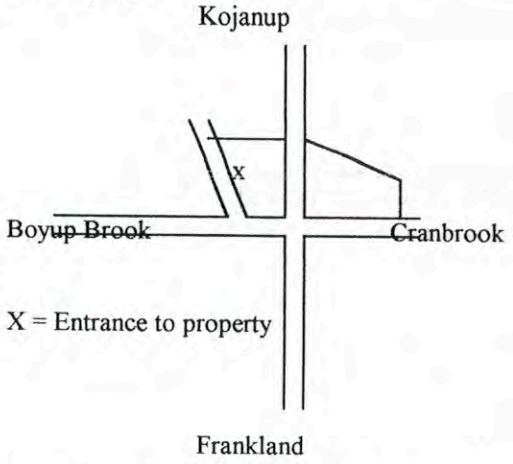
FOR SALE
Rufa Trip Report $10.00.
Caladenia flava Badges $4.00 members, $5.00 non-members.
Name Badges $9.25.
Orchids of WA (2nd Ed) $9.00.
Orchids of SW Australia $45.00.
Orchid Flowering Times $5.00.
Colour guide to Spring Wildflowers by Eddie Wajon $ 18.00 each.
Part 1: Kalbarri & The Goldfields.
Part 2: Perth & The Southwest.
2001 Orchid Calendars (Eddy's) - Large $9.00. 2001 Orchid Calendars (Eddy's) - Small $4.00.
Car Stickers $1.50.
Pat Dundas Cards $8.00.
Bush Survival Kit $4.00.
History of WANOSCG $3.00.

PHOTO BOARD
Photo boards consisting of plastic envelope sheets to take your orchid prints is being provided curtesy of Eddy Wajon. Many of our members use print film. This is a chance for you to show other members your masterpieces. No longer will the slide brigade have it to themselves.

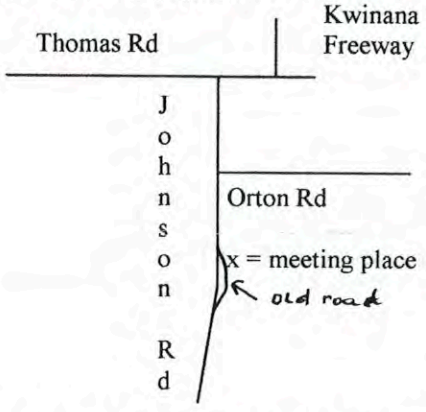
FIELD TRIPS
Please ensure you have sufficient fuel to get you through the field trips.
Please advise the Field Trip Coordinator; phone [redacted] if you intend participating.
The field trips listed are proposed and are subject to change if needed.

FIELD TRIP 21/22 OCTOBER TO FRANKLAND
The Frankland caravan park is a small park with only 9 sites, phone (08) 98552354.
Cilla Stack's friends Doug & Yvonne Wilkie own a bush block 21 km north of Frankland bounded by the Kojonup-Frankland Rd and the Boyup Brook-Cranbrook Rd, Entrance off Boyup Brook-Cranbrook Rd, that they are kindly allowing us to use for camping for the weekend. Travellers Atlas map 17 page 87 D3 refers. Facilities include a shd with a

wood stove, pots and pans and a bush shower. There is wood for fires but the hollow logs are not to be burned. There are several orchids on the block.
Meet at the Frankland Caravan Park at 10 a.m. on 21st October. Members camping at Wilkie's place leave your caravan or trailer on the block enroute.
Bring your BBQ requirements for the Saturday night BBQ at Eve & Jim's place. Eve & Jim are putting on an audio-visual show on Saturday night.



FIELD TRIP 19TH NOVEMBER TO CASUARINA
Meet at 10 a.m. on Sunday 19th November at the northern end of the parking area in Johnson Rd approx 1k south of Orton Rd. We hope to see *Cryptostylis ovata, Elythranthera emarginata & Prasophyllum drummondii.*



VARIOUS FIELD TRIPS SEPTEMBER 9 to 14 by NOEL CLARKE
A German couple visiting W.A. for the second year in a row wanted to see some specific orchids. To satisfy their requirements we did a few one day trips to Dunsborough, Harvey, Dale and the York Rd.
In the Dunsborough area we saw *Caladenia caesarea* ssp *maritima, longicauda* ssp *clavicola, flava* ssp *flava, viridescens* and *chapmanii, Diuris* aff *amplissima* pg 398, *T antennifera.* Unfortunately the Margaret River spider *C citrina was in bud.*
I tried three locations for *T. villosa* but they were in bud at Mt Observation and Warradale Rd. The Quaylen Rd site was inaccessible with a tree across the road just past Gunapin Ridge Rd. Here someone had tried to get round the tree and bogged.
In Honeymoon Rd, Harvey we found *C uliginosa* ssp *patulens* and *D* aff *magnifica* pg 395.
Warradale Rd we found *C longicauda* ssp *longicauda, pendens* ssp *talbotii* and *macrostylis* and *Cyanicula deformis.*
In the Greenmount National Park we found *D* aff *magnifica* pg 433.

FIELD TRIP REPORT – ENEABBA
On 18th and 19th August Glenys and I were able to take a quick visit to Eneabba, doing so on the basis of the favourable report at our August meeting about the orchids in the area of the Western Flora caravan park.
Deciding that time was short; we didn't stop for orchiding purposes enroute and arrived at the park about lunchtime. Within the park we soon saw *Diuris tinkerii* in abundance, *Caladenia flava* ssp *flava* and *C longicauda* ssp *borealis. Pterostylis sanguine*a was just hanging on, and there was a *C crebra* was in bud.
After lunch we set off for some summer burn areas with mud map provided by Allan Tinker. At our first stop at a grove of casuarinas off Beekeeper Road (which was in the opposite direction to the arrows on the map due to it being written upside down?), we found *C flava* ssp *flava* and what I thought was *C longicauda* ssp albella.
Having then turned the map the right way up, we headed off in Beekeeper Road to the west side of Brand Highway, but the first burnt area found was still very difficult to penetrate and we only saw *Cy deformis* and *C hirta* ssp *hirta* on the fringes. Proceeding further, we managed to get through some very sandy patches in the road before arriving at where we thought we should be. As often happens, we stopped almost right on top of an orchid and Glenys had to be careful when getting out of the car to avoid stepping on an excellent specimen of *C crebra.*
Walking to the crest of a nearby hill, we could see the path of the fire in that area. The natural bush was quite dense and even in the burnt area it was still easiest to progress on the "kangaroo highway", which I normally try to avoid as I'm very good at picking up ticks. We had been told that there were plenty of *Pyrochis nigricans* to be found, and there

certainly were. Also seen were *Pras* fimbria, *Pras hians*, *C crebra*, *C longicauda ssp borealis*, *C vulgata*, and a single *Diuris*.
Our next stop was at a winter-wet area along the railway line, seen on a previous visit to this area. As with that occasion, there were large numbers of *C footeana* and *Cy deformis*.
On arrival back at the park we were too late for Allan's evening guided tour for park guests, but we did attend his exposure of the plant life of the park viewed through a microscope. This finale to the park tour is now held in a nearby old homestead and the microscope view is projected onto a TV screen. The result is marvellous and a number of plants were explored in depth.
Next morning we were able to join a 4WD orchid tour with Allan and some Queensland visitors. Allan wanted to check on some buds seen a couple of weeks previously, and to get to these places we needed to drive through some very soft sand and firebreaks in low ratio. The smoke of the summer fires seemed to have had an effect, as even in some places where there had not been any burn, orchids were numerous, particularly in damp areas. Seen were *C footeana* (and perhaps hybrids), *C hirta* ssp *hirta (*also one plant with yellow tips rather than brown), *C hirta ssp rosea* growing with *hirta* (well, Allan and I both reckon it was both species), *C longicauda ssp borealis, C crebra, Cy deformis, Py nigricans, T antennifera, D* aff *laxiflora, Pras hians*, and in one place not affected by fire and out of the path of the smoke, a lone *L menziesii*. The wildflowers, although not quite at their peak, were also magnificent, with endless wattle, smokebush and a *scholtzia* that from a distance looks to us much like geraldton wax.
This tour had started out to be for two hours but it turned out to be closer to five, and we were later than we wanted to be when we started for home. However, we did have time for a planned stop at Hill River where we saw *C denticulata, C flava* ssp *flava, C hirta* ssp *hirta, Cy deformis, Pt sanguinea* and a *C longicauda* type hybrid. We stopped briefly at Cataby but couldn't see any *T variegata*, and it was dark on arrival home - for me, time to get ready for the Brookton Highway field trip next day!
Tom Blinco

FIELD TRIP 3RD SEPTEMBER TO MILLS RD by CILLA STACK

10.00am Father's Day, 3rd September saw a good turn out of cars meet at the corner of Mills Road and Foxley Place in the lateritic soil of the Darling Scarp in Gosnells. WANOSG members and a few visitors first spread into nearby unburnt jarrah bush finding an encouraging display of early flowering spring wildflowers, the orchids found were as follows: plenty of single flowering and low growing *Cyanicula gemmata* (blue chinas), some spent *Diuris*, possibly *brumalis* (winter donkey), a scattering of *Elythranthera brunonis* (purple enamels) in bud only, *Lyperanthus serratus* (rattle beaks), *Pterostylis barbata* (bird), *P. recurva* (jug/recurved shell), *P. sanguinea* (dark banded greenhood) both spent and fresh, *Thelymitra crinita* (blue lady) in bud only in the overcast conditions.
We next walked a short distance up the scarp to a patch burnt in summer fires near Cohuna finding the following orchids in an improved showing: *Caladenia arrecta* (reaching spider), *C. flava* subsp. *flava* (cowslip), a very fine *C. longiclavata* (clubbed spider), *C. macrostylis* (leaping spider), a few *C. reptans* subsp. *reptans* (little pink fairy), many *Cyanicula deformis* (blue beard/blue fairy), a beautiful display of *C. gemmata* (blue chinas) everywhere, some with multiple flowerheads, a few *C. sericea* (silky blue), *Pterostylis barbata* (bird), *P. recurva* (jug/recurved shell) almost open, *P. sanguinea* (dark banded greenhood), we found some much debated *Prasophyllum* concluded to be *macrotys* although this is at odds with the distribution map, and some others, possibly *P.* aff. *elatum* (crowded leek) or *P. elatum* (tall leek) none tallying too well with the book.
With rain clouds looming around lunchtime members decided on a last stop lower down the escarpment. On a challenging site with a steep descent for those with unreliable knees, we saw a few *Cyanicula gemmata* (blue chinas), *Diuris* aff. *recurva* (dainty donkey), *D. drummondii* (tall donkey), and a *Thelymitra antennifera* (vanilla/ lemon-scented sun) which was closed in the overcast conditions. Once renowned for its spring wildflowers, the lower edge of the scarp now sadly features a heavy infestation of weeds.

FIELD TRIP 17TH SEPTEMBER TO TUTANNING RESERVE by BETTY & DON CARTER.

Despite arriving at Brookton Sports Ground 15 minutes before the 10 a.m. start we found 13 cars already assembled, and, horror of horrors, we were last! Further more, with Don fully occupied with the camera; it was left to me (an avowed common name orchidist) to write this report.
The day was bright and sunny, ideal for hunting. Tutanning Reserve was rather dry and while orchids were not all abundant, the

variety was quite pleasing. The highlight was finding Caladenia *multiclavia* (our first lazy orchid). Others found were *Caladenia pulchra, saccharata, longicauda* ssp *redacta, falcata, hirta* ssp *hirta* and *rosea, roei,* and *flava* ssp *flava, Spiculaea ciliata* in bud, *Diuris porrifolia, Prasophyllum gracile, Pyrochis nigricans* with no fire, *Pterostylis recurva* and *Thelymitra antennifera.* The *C pulchra* was thought by some to be *C filifera* – quite an interesting debate ensued. Personally I enjoyed it as being "a pretty red spider orchid"!!

The lunch spot was light on for orchids, *Pyrites nigricans* flowering without a fire was the main find. Was it the warm weather, the shady trees or the opportunity to chat about the Games that encouraged a rather too long lunch break? A sharp blast on the horn would have had us moving more quickly to a roadside spot on the Perth side of Brookton (rubbish tip) where some early bird had located an abundance of superb *Caladenia falcata* including a few excellent albino specimens. These were a great treat – pity the promised Dragon orchid proved to be a chewed up *C falcata.* The *Diuris porrifolia & Caladenia saccharata* found here were both in excellent condition.

With the convoy straggling along like "Brown's Cows" (why, oh why can't all cars keep up a reasonable pace & distance?) we moved to Warradale Rd & were richly rewarded. Orchids found here were *Caladenia uliginosa* ssp *candicans, longicauda* ssp *longicauda* and several hybrids of these two, *macrostylis, magniclavata* and *pendens* ssp *talbotii, Cyanicula deformis, Microtis atrata, Diuris laxiflora* and *porrifolia and* profuse *Thelymitra antennifera.*

Overall a great day – many thanks to those who assisted me with the Latin names. "Tall white spiders" – a common entry in my logbook – will never look quite right again.

FIELD TRIP SEPTEMBER 3-4 TO YALLINGUP by BETH & RON KINSEY

The main object of this trip was to find *C caesarea* ssp *maritima.* Success this time with thanks to Dave Parker, Noel Clarke & Garry Brockman for giving us various directions. We also found *C viridescens, chapmanii* and *procera, Diuris* aff *corymbosa* pg 391 and many other common orchids.

FIELD TRIP SEPTEMBER 9 – 12 TO FRANK HANN NATIONAL PARK by BETH & RON KINSEY

The quest this time was for *C voigtii & sigmoidea* and aided by vital clues provided by Noel Clarke we found good numbers. The roads were definitely not for the faint hearted out to the *C voigtii* site.

The Ravensthorpe area was disappointing owing to the low rainfall, but most areas yielded good numbers of orchids on our way home.

Varieties sighted on this trip were *D porrifolia, D laxiflora, D* aff *corymbosa, C longicauda x falcata, C hirta* ssp *rosea, C roei, C pendens* ssp *pendens, C microchila, C attingens* ssp *gracillima, C longicauda* ssp *crassa & eminens, C saccharata, C flava, C filifera, C polychroma, C denticulata, C doutchiae, C discoidea, C footeana, C xantha, C dimidia? Pt mutica, Pt nana, Pt recurva, Pt sargentii,* and *Drakonorchis mesocera.*

TALK BY NOEL HOFFMAN

Noel's early days were spent at Tambellup. His parents moved to Bullfinch to try farming, but with the dry spell and the depression they eventually walked off the property, as did many country people in those days. Noel's mother got a teaching job at Toolibin, his father worked for the Main Roads Dept., as a grader driver, i.e. puling a log behind a tractor. Noel occasionally went with him and it was then he first took notice of those funny flowers, orchids. The family moved to Albany, but he didn't follow up the orchids.

When he began teaching he started taking the school kids on bush walks. In those days there was very little literature available, and what there was consisted mostly of descriptions. In the mid-1920's Ron Oliver, a headmaster at Albany started taking photos of orchids.

Emily Pelloe produced a book in 1930. This book was mostly descriptions, with some illustrations. It contained some 140 species. Noel's copy came from Cockatoo Island, sent there by the Education Dept, an area with no orchids.

Rica Erickson followed with her publication, once again mostly descriptions but with more pictures and drawings.

The problem with working from descriptions is the positive identification of the subject. Authors have been known to get it wrong. For example two orchids described as *C radialis & C bicolor* are both *C radialis.*

In the 1950s the authority on Western Australian orchids was Alex George. In 1971, in Nuytsia, Alex produced a checklist of W.A. orchids. He described the new species *C corynephora, crebra, graminifolia & wanosa* and *Pterostylis angusta.*

Nichols produced a very detailed hand painted book which is now very rare and worth more than $700.
While working in Albany Ron Oliver suggested producing a book with colour plates. The advantage of this is positive identification; the disadvantage is that photos do not indicate size unless a scale is incorporated.
When Noel came to Perth he joined WANOSCG and met Andy Brown. They produced a book along the lines of the George 1971 revision. The aim was to match a picture to each orchid. Some of the species in the first H & B turned out to be hybrids so the second edition was produced followed by the second edition with supplement. Each edition increased the number of species and corrected errors and improved photos. The measurements used were laboriously obtained, with the kind permission of the head of the W.A. Herbarium, by measuring all the herbarium specimens.
Andrew Brown got a job at CALM. When an orchid was involved he was usually called on to provide expertise. He became a field officer and was called on to participate in many field trips, a lucky man to gain employment in his field of interest.
Botanists come in two groups, the expanders & the lumpers. Anyone can describe an orchid; the problem is to get the description recognised. Even among botanists there are differences of opinions.
Noel tabled his orchid books for members to look at.

WANOSCG – MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 20th SEPTEMBER 2000

Meeting commenced 8.10 PM.
President Mike Harper advised the meeting that unfinancial members were not permitted to speak or vote on any motion.

ATTENDANCE

38 members, three visitors and four apologies as per attendance book.

NEW MEMBERS - Nil.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Due to insufficient space in the BULLETIN for the minutes of the last meeting to be printed, as is normal practice, the minutes were read by the Secretary.
Moved D.Smith/D.Wajon that the minutes of the August meeting be confirmed. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

As per correspondence list.

Matters arising

1. No further information received re petition for *C. sp. aff. venusta* in Victoria.
2. Scilla Stack and Eddy Wajon requested assistance for survey of Underwood Ave bushland. Bill Burton will try to arrange date, but there were no other volunteers.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report was circulated. No queries were raised.

FIELD TRIPS

Field Trip Co-ordinator thanked those who attended the Jitarning field trip, and Noel Clarke and Stewart Harris for leading.
Advice was given on arrangements for Peaceful Bay and Frankland field trips and indication of numbers attending the former was sought.
Donna and Eddy Wajon reported on a recent visit to Esperance area, also Ken Hurst Park in Leeming where orchids not expected to be seen there had been found.
Phillip Sindle reported on three locations around the Mandurah area.
Christine Lock reported on visits to Wireless Hill and Armadale.
Robin Moyle reported on a population of *P. nigrita* in Mundaring.

PLANT TABLE

Bill Burton displayed *M. obicularis* and a Thelymitra similar to the old *T. carnea.*
Del Hayward displayed *C. arenicola.*

GENERAL BUSINESS

Meeting was advised of Committee enquiries into purchase of a computer for Registrar, and of permission obtained by Del Hayward to dig on private land at Kelmscott.

GUEST SPEAKER

The guest speaker was Noel Hoffman, with a very interesting discussion about his early years learning about orchids and the difficulties then presented in identifying orchids. Noel was presented with a copy of Noel Clarke's history of the Group, in appreciation.

The supper was donated by Scilla Stack.
The raffle was donated by Wendy Spencer and was won by Don Smith.
A photo board was provided by Beth and Ron Kinsey.
Meeting closed 9.20pm.

	SUPPER ROSTER	RAFFLE ROSTER	SPEAKER
MARCH			
APRIL			
MAY			
JUNE			
JULY			
AUGUST			
SEPTEMBER			
OCTOBER		Sarah Atkinson	Don Manners
NOVEMBER		V & G Brockman	

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS
21/22 October - Frankland
19 November - Casuarina