

Paphyllus

# BULLETIN

OF THE WESTERN  
AUSTRALIAN NATIVE  
ORCHID STUDY &  
CONSERVATION GROUP  
(INC) (1974 - 2005)



L. fimbriata

Registered by Australia Post Publication No WBH 1240

**APRIL 2005**

**Patron: Dr Steve Hopper**

## OFFICE BEARERS

President: Mike Harper

Vice President: Noel Clarke

Vice President: Christine Lock

Secretary: Gerald Stack

Treasurer: Matz Dahlkamp

Field Trip Co-ordinator: Ross Fox

Conservation Officer: Eddy Wajon

Supper Co-ordinator: Donna Wajon

Conservation Council Representatives: Eddy Wajon, Mike Harper

Committee: Ross Fox:

Margaret Fox:

Ian Greeve:

John Ewing:

Editor: Tom Blinco

Registrar: Chris French:

Librarian: Bill Burton

Auditor: Ross Wilton

## 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 habits and keep records.
- d) To have field days and learn to recognize the different genera and species.
- e) To hold meetings for the exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in W.A. orchids.
- f) To affiliate with kindred organizations.
- g) To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.

*Note: The opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by this Group.*

**POSTAL ADDRESS: PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979**

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**WEB ADDRESS:**

**WEB MASTER Don Ward email:**

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 20 April 2005 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

## NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 April 2005 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park. A speaker is to be advised – bring your slides.

## MARCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Despite low attendance at this year's AGM all Committee positions were successfully filled.

With the prospect of a heavy business schedule ahead, President Mike Harper wished to not again occupy that position but he still accepted nomination, even though he expects to miss some meetings.

Christine Lock is the new Vice President, Ian Greeve was again re-elected to the Committee, John Ewing is a new Committee member, and Ross Fox is the new Field Trip Co-ordinator.

Thank you all Office Bearers.



## MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Group's financial year commences on 1 February and fees are now due.

Annual fees are \$25.00 for singles and families. New membership joining fee is \$10.00 and if joining after 30 June membership fee is adjusted prorata. Please send fees to The Treasurer, P.O. Box 323, Victoria Park, 6979.

***The digit after your name on the address label is the year for which you are financial. Please make due allowance in time for updating to occur.***

Prompt payment will ease the effort for the Secretary, Treasurer and Editor, and importantly, enable the benefit of bulk postage costs.

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

18 May - General meeting

**Sunday 29 May - Field trip Corrigin area**

15 June - General meeting

20 July - General meeting

**Sunday 24 July Field trip - Cataby area**

**Sat/Sunday 13/14 August - Field trip**

**Kalbarri area**

17 August - General meeting

**Sat/Sun 20/21 August - Field trip Perenjori area**

**Sunday 4 September - Field trip Brookton area/Weam Reserve**

21 September - General meeting

**Sat-Mon 24/26 September (Long weekend) - Field trip Bridgetown area**

19 October - General meeting

**Sat/Sunday 29/30 October - Field trip Augusta/Scott River**

16 November - General meeting

## FIELD TRIPS

If you are prepared to lead a field trip, or if you wish to see a particular orchid, your offers or suggestions are welcome. Please contact Ross Fox, the Field Trip Co-ordinator

The first field trip for this year will be on Sunday 29th May to the Corrigin area to see *Rhizanthella gardneri*. Meet at the corner of the Brookton - Corrigin and Wickepin - Corrigin Roads, approximately 12km west of Corrigin, at 10.00am. Please advise Ross Fox

if you are attending or if you change your mind.

Further details of later field trips will be advised in future editions. All proposed field trips are subject to change.

## FIELD TRIP PROCEDURES

Please remember these important rules -

1. ***Advise the Trip Leader if you are attending so that you can be advised of any change to arrangements.***
2. During the field trip keep the following vehicle in sight. If it falls behind then slow down or wait until it catches up. Not every one drives at the same speed, or there may be a problem.
3. When you turn, slow down or stop at the turning point until you are sure that the following vehicle is going to also turn.
4. Please ensure that you have sufficient fuel to get you through the field trip.
5. Accommodation for weekend trips is your own responsibility.

## BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Please send to Tom Blinco at [redacted] or phone [redacted]. Contributions from country members are especially welcome. The deadline for the next issue is 1 May 2005.

## FOR SALE (Contact the Treasurer)

Personal name badges \$10.00 each  
Group wineglasses \$7.50 each.  
Orchids of WA (2nd Ed) \$9.00.  
Orchids of SW Australia \$45.00.  
Pat Dundas Cards \$10.00 (pack of four)  
History of WANOSCG \$3.00.  
Rufa Trip Report \$10.00  
Car Stickers \$1.50.

Caladenia flava Badges \$4.00 members, \$5.00 non-members.

Colour Guide to Spring Wildflowers by Eddy Wajon - \$18.00 each.

Part 1: Kalbarri & The Goldfields

Part 2: Perth & The Southwest.

Part 3: Esperance & The Wheatbelt

Club Polo Tee-shirts, 100% cotton with embroidered club logo, varying sizes, surplus after orders have been met. Cost is \$25.00 each. Please contact Donna Wajon.



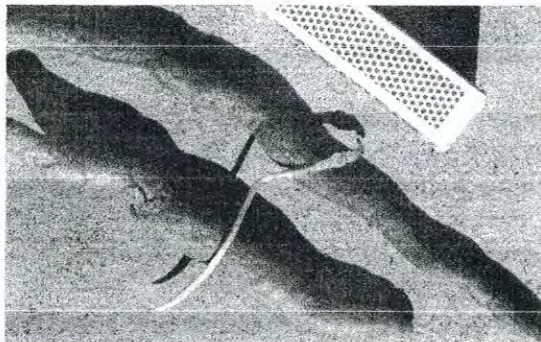
### MARCH MEETING SPEAKER

The speaker at the March meeting was Bill Burton, and he has kindly provided his draft notes and some photographs, as follows -

#### *Cryptostylis ovata* R.Br, it's Tubers & Rhizomes ---- W.H.Burton.

The cultivation of orchids in pots gives the grower a view of orchids that the non-grower does not see. Terrestrial orchids have developed underground structures that vary in many ways. These variations are probably intended to assist the species to exploit their particular habitats.

Some time ago I read a research paper<sup>1</sup> that, in part, describes the clonal behaviour of *Diuris longifolia* and *Cryptostylis ovata*. Both have similarities, but also major differences. *Diuris longifolia* is currently grouped in a sub-group of the genus known as the *Corymbosa* complex. This complex embraces the *Diuris* species that have "extended" tubers. The term "extended" is used here to describe orchid tubers that are nominally ovoid but can develop to a length that is exceedingly greater than their diameter. This term is similarly applied to the "extended" ovoid tubers of *Cryptostylis ovata*.



comparison between a matchbox and "extended" tubers plus juvenile plant (ignore shadows from flash photography)

During my experience in the pot culture of three species in the *Corymbosa* complex I became familiar with their ability to grow vegetative clones known as "daughter"<sup>2</sup> plants from mature "extended" tubers, commonly known as "parent" tubers as described by Dr Kingsley Dixon<sup>3</sup>. Due to the

handling of the plants during re-potting of these species, the "extended" tubers easily separate from their parent plant. This separation results in the sprouting of many juvenile "daughter" plants. The sprouting can occur from the proximal or the distal end of long tubers, but not simultaneously unless the tuber is divided into two portions. These immature plants may then take three to four years to develop the capacity to flower.

Parent plants that have lost large tubers by separation may also be sufficiently affected to inhibit flowering. Although these problems exist for these species when undergoing pot culture, they are hardy species and with an appreciation of the problems, they can be grown in garden pots 25 to 30cm in diameter for many seasons.

*Cryptostylis ovata*, however, does not respond as well to cultivation in such garden pots. This is due, I assume, to the difficulty of accommodating their extremely large underground structure in the relatively small volume of soil available to them in garden pots. In their natural habitat their extended tubers function within about 5 to 20cm of the surface and a mature plant may have 4 to 5 extended tubers, any of which may be about 35cm long.

When I first collected specimens of *Cryptostylis ovata* for pot cultivation I had little knowledge of the unusual nature of its underground structure and failed to find any rhizomes. Later, having read the research paper mentioned earlier, I decided to make a study of the underground structure of specimens of the species *in situ* to obtain more knowledge of this extraordinary orchid and achieve better cultivation outcomes.

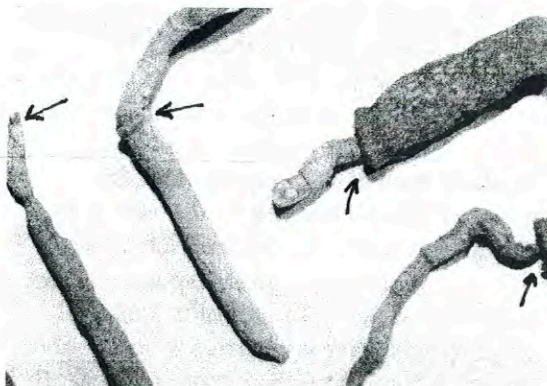
A study such as this requires careful removal of the soil and segregation layer by layer into surface litter, organic rich topsoil and the tuber-bearing zone. The plant must be supported as excavation proceeds and until the soil and the litter is returned to its original sequence. It then requires damping down, as in re-potting, to consolidate the soil. It sounds simple, but as these plants more often than not, grow in colonies and their tubers and rhizomes and the roots of cohort plants can overlay each other to such an extent that disconnections and fractures can occur.



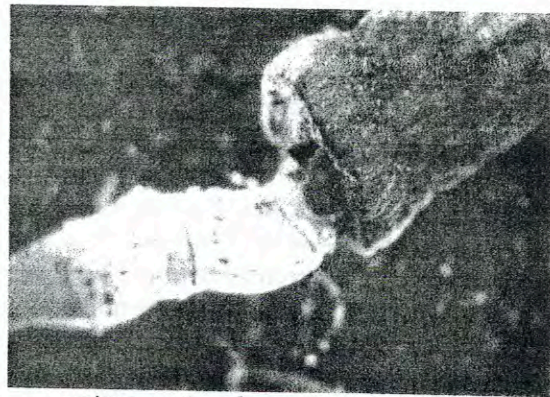
Fortunately such orchid fragments, if re-interred when filling back, have a fair chance of re-growth.

The results of the study were –

- 1) Each of the 18 rhizomes found originated from the scarred end of a portion of mature “extended” tuber. The opposite end of each portion could be either the proximal or distal end of the tuber from which the rhizome originated.
- 2) No evidence of the parent plant from which the portions originated was apparent and no rhizomes were found growing from parent plants to daughter plants
- 3) Each rhizome progressed to the vicinity of the surface where it developed into a new juvenile plant.
- 4) The size of rhizomes ranged from 2 to 4 mm diameter and from 120 to 200mm in length.
- 5) The number of “extended” tubers per plant ranged from 1 to 5.
- 6) The size of “extended” tubers ranged from 3 to 8mm diameter and from 10 to 320mm in length, the longer ones, comprised of up to 4 segments, differentiated by a narrowing of the diameter. These segments may represent annual growth, as *Cryptostylis ovata* plants do not appear to have a clearly defined dormant phase<sup>4</sup>. They do not appear to sacrifice “parent” tubers in favour of “replacement”<sup>5</sup> tubers on an annual basis.



four rhizome/tuber junctions



microscopic enlargement of a junction

*Cryptostylis ovata* poses many unanswered questions that may extend to other species within the genus

- 1) How and why does a rhizome grow from an intermediate point of a portion of an “extended” tuber rather than from the proximal or distal end of the portion?
- 2) Do “extended” tuber replacements occur? If so, how often, and on what basis?
- 3) What is the significance of the segmentation of larger “extended” tubers?
- 4) Does *Cryptostylis ovata* have a dormant phase, as with other terrestrial orchids? If so, what is its nature?

<sup>1</sup> *Population Ecology of Terrestrial Orchids*. T.C.E.Wells and J.H.Willhems © 1991 SPB Academic Publishing, The Hague, The Netherlands.

Dixon.K. 1991 *Seeder Clonal Concepts in Western Australian Orchids* Pp 111-123.

<sup>2</sup> Dixon.K. 1991. Pp 115.

<sup>3</sup> Dixon.K. 1991. Pp 115.

<sup>4</sup> David.L.Jones. *Native Orchids of Australia*. Section 21, Pp221. 1988 Reed Books Pty Ltd, 2 Aquatic Drive Frenches Forrest, N.S.W.

<sup>5</sup> Dixon.K. 1991. Pp 115

#### PTEROSTYLIS AFF PICTA

David Jones has described a well-known new species in the December 2004 issue of The Orchadian. He referred to the illustration on page 372 of H & B. and has named it *Oligochaetochilus frenchii*.

Noel Clarke



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## THE PATH OF PROGRESS

As year 2004 came to an end there was doubt about the future of several *Caladenia huegelii* sites due to the path of progress.

Eddy Wajon's report in the March BULLETIN provided information about the extension of Roe Highway (Stage 7) Project.

Further update about other sites is as follows.

Sand Mining in Fraser Road Jandakot  
(Previous report from Jeff and Wendy Spencer appeared in the October 2004 BULLETIN).

Recent advice from Jeff Spencer is that in a letter to the Wetland Conservation Society dated 8 October 2004 the then Minister directed (inter-alia) that Main Roads should secure the Fraser Road land for preservation of the *C huegelii* population. This would be in mitigation and offset for the loss of about 74 *C huegelii* by the Roe 7 Project.

The sand mining has since been stopped, and negotiations are said to be still in progress (but sadly nearby roadside has become a rubbish dumping ground).

Beckley Bushland, Leeming  
This bushland area is, or mostly was, at the junction of Kwinana Freeway and South Street in Leeming, now to be a car park for the future Murdoch train station on the New Metro Rail line from Perth to Mandurah.

Many objections were lodged, but all except 0.8ha of this 4ha area was cleared with little notice in mid March. Originally only one plant of *C huegelii* was registered in this bushland, but in a prior survey in which Eddy Wajon played a large part, 23 plants were found. Of these, 20 remained untouched. There were 26 other species of orchids, but the number of survivors is unknown.

The three remaining plants of *C huegelii* were relocated to the remaining bushland, but in such a small area isolated within a car park, freeway, and railway environment, the future survival of all the remaining species would seem to be doubtful.

Other locations  
I have been advised that natural bush well known for orchids, including *Caladenia huegelii*, at the corner of Ranford Road and Wright Roads in the City of Armadale, has been destroyed for housing.

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## SUMMER 2005/2006 BURN SITES

Jeff Spencer has provided a list of summer fires, collated from media reports and actual sightings, and I have added some others.

### late Autumn 2004

Success - Thompson's Lake Reserve (mid east side, with a long walk to get to it).

### November

Baldivis - Stakehill Swamp, Jarvis Road  
Fitzgerald National Park

### December

Cheadanup (west of Munglinup)

Munglinup near town.

Cascades (NW of Esperance) - 2 fires

Jacup

Kau Rock Nature Reserve

Barkers Inlet Nature Reserve, east of Farrells Road

Cape Le Grand National Park

Near Cape Arid National Park

Waychinicup NP/Mt Many Peaks Nature Reserve

Badgebup

Harrismith-Kukerin area

Bullsbrook, area bordered by Avon River,

Taylor, Smith and Wilson Roads

Coorow - coast side of Brand Hwy

Chittering - Valley View and Julimar Roads

Dale area - Gleneagles to Sullivan Rock

Wanneroo - Pinnaroo Park

### January

Lake Muir, and four other small fires in area  
Mt Manypeaks Nature Reserve

Walpole - within 1.5km of Treetop Walk,  
section of Bibbulman Track closed

Parmelia - Challenger Ave, near Tuart Ridge

Wanneroo - Banksia Grove

Yanchep/Carabooda (National Park)

along Wanneroo and Yanchep Beach Roads

Karragullen/Pickering Brook/Mundaring -  
large fire, extensively reported

Whiteman Park - east of Lord Street

Chapman - cnr of NW Coastal Highway and  
Chapman Valley Road

### February

Kelmscott/Martin foothills

Jandakot - Fraser Road, north-west of the  
*C huegelii* site

Guilderton - Woodbridge Estate

Forrestdale-Wright Road, Nicholson Rd end

Leeming - Fern Leaf Court

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**MINUTES of GENERAL MEETING  
16 MARCH 2005**

**OPENED:** meeting opened at 8.37 pm

**APOLOGIES:** Phil Bunney, John and Jonni Eaton, Kaye Bell

**ATTENDANCE BOOK:** Circulated with the Treasurer's report and the list of correspondence current today. Nineteen members attended.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING  
17 November 2004.**

Distributed with the Bulletin. Moved R Tatum seconded T. Blinco that these are a true record of the meeting. **AGREED**

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE  
MINUTES:** Nil

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Correspondence has been attended by committee.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Treasurer's report for the previous months has been tabled and matters dealt with by Committee.

**FIELD TRIP REPORT:** Nil

**PLANT TABLE:** Nil

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

1. Bill Burton advised that Trevor Walley had been referred to Andrew Batty for growing bush orchids.
2. Ian Greeve raised the use of Citizen Band radios on trips and the Group will try to use them on field trips. The Group has two AM band units and will continue with them until they are unserviceable. Members were recommended to buy FM band units if they were to buy a CB radio.
3. Eddy Wajon called for a minute's silence for the loss of the South Street site and others.
4. Noel Clarke suggested a trip round Walpole in late April/early May

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Bill Burton gave a good talk illustrated with slides on *Cryptostylis ovata* and its growth practices.

**RAFFLE DRAW:** The raffle, donated by Tom Blinco, was won by Bill Burton

**SUPPER:** Was provided by Donna Wajon.

**RAFFLE TONIGHT:** Donated by Tom Blinco, with thanks to them for their support.

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**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next general meeting will be held on 20 April 2005

**Meeting closed 9.50 pm**  
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**I'M FINE THANK YOU**

There is nothing the matter with me,  
I'm as healthy as can be.  
I have arthritis in my knees  
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.  
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin,  
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet,  
Or I wouldn't be able to be on the street,  
Sleep is denied me night after night,  
But every morning I find I'm all right.  
My memory is failing, my head's in a spin,  
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

How do I know that (my youth is all spent)?  
Well, my "Get up and go" has got up and  
went.  
But I really don't mind when I think with a  
grin,  
Of all the grand places my "Get up" has bin.

Old age is golden I've heard it said  
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed,  
With my ears in the drawer, my teeth in a  
cup,  
My eyes on the table – until I wake up,  
Ere sleep overtakes me, I say to myself,  
"Is there anything else I could lay on the  
shelf?"

I get up each morning and dust off my wits  
And pick up the paper and read the "Obits".  
If my name is still missing I know I'm not  
dead,  
So I have a good breakfast and go back to  
bed.

*Reprinted with permission from EPI-GRAM –  
Epiphytic Cacti & Hoya Society of Australia Inc.,  
Vol 14 No 17.*



**Audit Report Year 1.2.04 - 31.1.05**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>2003/04</b>		<b>2004/05</b>		<b>PAYMENTS</b>		<b>2003/04</b>		<b>2004/05</b>		<b>STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 1.2.04 - 31.1.05</b>		<b>2003/4</b>		<b>2004/5</b>	
Bank Balance as at 1.2.2004		1 182.53		1 047.54		Bank Charges		69.60		71.60		<b>INVESTMENTS</b>					
						Bulletin: copying		968.00		855.00		Term Deposit:					
Membership Fees		1 905.00		1 865.00		: postages		483.40		413.20		Opening Balance		\$6,826.41		\$7 190.17	
Raffle Proceeds		292.00		286.00		General postages		---		47.20		Interest received		363.76		294.57	
Supper		178.45		137.70		Insurance (Public Risk)		336.82		486.75		Withdrawal (tfr to current a/c)		---		1 000.00	
Nomination fees		40.00		20.00		Stationery		---		164.45		TOTAL		\$7 190.17		\$6 484.74	
Donations		35.00		120.00		Conservation Council		75.00		50.00		Represented by Bank West Accounts					
Interest received		2.23		0.61		iiNet Limited		400.00		320.00		Cheque Account		1 047.54		1 231.50	
Refund: Editor's Advance		---		200.00		Pat Dundas Cards		---		248.65		Term Deposit		7 190.17		6 484.74	
: Postages		---		5.20		Catering		---		356.40		TOTAL		\$8 237.71		\$7 716.24	
: Miscellaneous		35.00		---		Orchid Badges		---		1 068.96							
Orchid Badges		---		1.50		Embroidered Garments		---		200.00							
Embroidered garments		---		1 295.00		Editor's Advance		---		112.84		<b>SUMMARY OF BALANCES</b>					
WANOSCG History 1974-1979		---		15.00		West Australian (death notices)		---		55.00		Balance 31st January		\$1 182.53		\$1 047.54	
Car stickers		13.70		7.50		P.O.Box renewal		52.00		10.00		plus: Receipts		4 924.88		5 144.01	
Orchids of S.W.Australia		130.00		45.00		Appeal lodgement		---		100.00		sub-total		\$6 107.41		\$6 191.55	
Orchid Flowering Times		5.00		15.00		Donation: Friends of Porongurup		---		---							
Orchids of West Australia		9.00		18.00		Aust. Orchid Research books		260.00		---		less Payments		5 059.87		4 960.05	
Pat Dundas Cards		---		112.50		Club Equipment		66.00		---							
Aust. Orchid Research		262.00		---		Dept. of Land: Research Fee		19.40		---		Bank Balance		\$1 047.54		\$1 231.50	
Sale of Club Camera		565.00		---		Club Donation to Orchid Research		200.00		---							
Name tags		50.00		---		Kings Park: Hire Room		297.00		---							
Club Wine Glasses		292.50		---		Name Badges		120.00		---							
Members' contribution				---		Refund		35.00		---							
to Xmas function		1 110.00		---		Committee Costs		96.15		---							
TOTAL RECEIPTS		4 924.88		4 144.01		WANOSCG Wine Glasses		266.20		---							
transfer from Term Deposit				1 000.00		Xmas Function		1 315.30		---							
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4 924.88</b>		<b>\$5 144.01</b>		<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>\$5 059.87</b>		<b>\$4 960.05</b>							

**AUDIT REPORT**

11 February 2005

I have examined the books and vouchers for the Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group Inc for the year ended 31 January 2005.  
In my opinion the attached Statement of Receipts and Payments gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society.

(Signed) R. Wilton  
R. Wilton FCPA  
Hon Auditor

	<b>SUPPER ROSTER 2005</b>	<b>RAFFLE ROSTER 2005</b>	<b>SPEAKER 2005</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	Donna Wajon	Tom Blinco	Bill Burton
<b>APRIL</b>	Noel Clarke	Christine Lock	TBA or slides
<b>MAY</b>	Margaret Fox	Gerald Stack	
<b>JUNE</b>	Matz Dahlkamp	Sarah Atkinson	
<b>JULY</b>			
<b>AUGUST</b>			
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			

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#### **FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

Sunday 29 May - Corrigin