BULLETIN AUGUST 2008

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W.A. NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP

WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2008

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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 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.
h) To do all such lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

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

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NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday 10th September 2008 at 7.00pm at 168 Onslow Rd Subiaco .

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
The next General Meeting will be Wednesday 20th AUGUST 2008 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

BULLETIN ARTICLES
Please email any Bulletin contributions to John Ewing at Articles for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 1st of the next month

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

20 August General Meeting
17 September General Meeting
15 October General Meeting
19 November General Meeting

PLANNED FIELD TRIPS

AUGUST 24 Sunday to Mt Lesueur on Sunday 24 August to see what ever orchids are blooming. Meet outside the DEC offices in Jurien at 9:30 am. We will be driving in convoy carpooling using DEC vehicles where possible. All vehicles will need to be washed down to prevent the spread of dieback. Please call Eddy Wajon on [redacted] to advise whether you are coming.

AUGUST 28-31 [weekend is 30th & 31st} at Mukinbudin. This trip is to survey rocky outcrops in the surrounding area in conjunction with the local Wildflower Society. There are some cabins available at the Mukinbudin Caravan Park. Book early on 90471103

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7 in the Mullering area. This trip has been cancelled as it has not been possible to make arrangements

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 – Meet at Duidgee Park which is adjacent to the bridge over the Avon river at the western end of the townsite of Toodyay.This trip is to look for Calochilus *stramenicola* ms (Wandoo Beard Orchid H&B Pg 275) as well as other flowers

SEPTEMBER 18-21 {weekend is 20th & 21st} at Dragon Rocks which is near to Hyden.(Check your map book to see location.) This is the second of this season's Wheatbelt Orchid Studies under Mark's leadership. The trip is to survey C *graniticola* (Pingaring Spider Orchid H&B Pg 419). Places to stay are Hyden Caravan Park (98805023), Tressies Caravan Park (98895043), Hyden Motel (98805052). If you are coming before the weekend, contact Mark (mobile below) to find out about meeting points and times. The Saturday meeting point is the corner of Pingaring-Varley Road North and Holland Track at 11am. This location may be well away from the search area so be on time. Mobiles work OK in this area [redacted]

Note from President Christine Lock
This trip is to see a species that is DRF (Declared Rare Flora). On these designated trips it is the protocol of the club that only club members attend. Volunteers can be signed up with a DEC staff member or permission sought from Andrew Brown or as in this trip to Dragon Rocks with Mark Brundrett. All participants are to be registered with the club trip co-ordinator. Interstate ANOS members are classified as WANOSCG members.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 5 in the Boddington area Meet at the Boddington Shire Office at 10am. The trip is to find C sp Quindanning. Advise Ross Fox if you are coming.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26 – meet at the corner of Toodyay Rd and Reen Rd at 10am. This trip is to look for T. *dedmaniarum* (Cinnamon Orchid H&B pg 243)
This orchid has been renamed since H&B was published.
[Editor's note – this name was incorrect in last month's bulletin as was the Bronze Orchid below.]

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 – meet at the corner of Brookton Hwy and Yarra Rd at 10am. This trip is to look for T. *yorkensis* (Bronze Orchid) and for Caledenia *postea* (Dark Tipped Spider Orchid)
If you are coming on any of these trips will you let Ross Fox know as early as possible.

CLUB ITEMS FOR SALE

See last month's bulletin for these items

WANOSCG MEETING MINUTES GENERAL MEETING 16 JULY 2008

Meeting declared open at 8.10 pm

ATTENDANCES:
There were 36 members present, as per the Attendance Book

MINUTES TO THE MEETING: 18 June 2008.
Moved: Tom Blinco, Seconded: Noel Clarke that the minutes as circulated in the Bulletin and amended at the meeting were a true record of the meeting of 18 June 2008. CARRIED

FIELD TRIP REPORT:

1. There will be a trip to Mullering area in search of the *Thelymitra variegata* in September.
2. Munglinup field survey. Members were advised that the Munglinup

Caravan Park does not have fuel or food. Munglinup Roadhouse has fuel and takeaway food. The trip will finish lunch time Sunday (27 July). Late starters for the trip (with their own accommodation) can contact Mark Brundrett to coordinate with the others.

3. Eurardy Station. Members were reminded to take their own food and plenty of fuel (last supplies at Kalbarri or Northampton). Late starters would need to arrange their own accommodation with the Eurardy Station direct.
4. There will be a field trip to Leseur NP, and Eddy Wajon is coordinating it with the Department of Environment and Conservation regional staff.
5. Mukinbudin trip is on for the last weekend of August. Members planning to go should advise Ross Fox, and make their own accommodation arrangements with the local Caravan Park.
6. Don and Eva Ward will advise on the timing of a trip to find the Wandoo Beard orchid, and this will be published in the Bulletin.
7. Etienne Delannoy reported seeing *Caladenia nobilis*, northern form in mid June, which is very early.
8. Eva Ward reported 25 – 30 Jug Orchids (*Pterostylis recurva)* at Toodyay, and *P. aspera* near the 70km to Perth marker.
9. Wayne Merritt reported the Moora Spider Orchid (*C exilis* subsp. *vanleeuwenii*) flowering profusely around Moora, and the *Diuris brumalis* in flower at Mogumber.
10. Ross Fox advised that that the End of the Year and Christmas function would be in Albany on the first weekend of December. The weekend would be based at the Happy Days Caravan Park.
11. Mark Brundrett provided maps and directions to the meeting point for the Munglinup trip. He asked that those planning on the extended field work (during the working week) should ensure that he had their names and details for the proper planning of the field survey. He also referred to the Dragon Rocks field survey later in the year.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Jandakot Airport: Eddy Wajon reported that the CEO of Jandakot Airport has foreshadowed revised plans covering the proposed redevelopment, which provides for a Jandakot City. There will be a public consultation phase to the planning process, starting in August.
2. Eddy noted that there had been a campaign mounted over the loss of banksia woodland associated with the proposed Fiona Stanley Hospital, and that the Commonwealth was involved.
3. President Christine reported that that there would be no committee meetings in August and September, but that the General Meetings would continue as per the usual times and dates.
4. The Red Dots sent out with the Bulletins had been effective in encouraging people to submit their fees for 2008.
5. Tom Blinco reported on the South Australian venture to collect images of WA orchids, and advised that there was a short list of eight nominated species still requested. Anyone wishing to contribute should contact Tom Blinco direct.

PRESENTATION:
Garry Brockman was then invited to deliver his presentation on nomenclature, "Why are plants named like they are?"

RAFFLE: The raffle, kindly donated by Donna Wajon, was drawn be Garry Brockman, and won by Glenys Blinco.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next general meeting will be held on 20 August 2008

Meeting closed at: 10.05 pm

CD PROJECT FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Members are reminded about the CD of WA orchids being produced by Bob Bates from South Australia. Information about making contributions can be found in last month's bulletin. Any further information can be obtained from Tom Blinco.

[Editor's note – Tom wrote last month's article. I neglected to acknowledge his contribution. Apologies]

ORCHID RESEARCH from Jeff Hardwick (Capel)

The South West Regional College (SWRC) of TAFE and Kings Park and Botanic Gardens Biodiversity Conservation Centre are currently involved in a project for growing native terrestrial orchids for revegetation.
For this project, Kings Park is providing research to the Conservation and Land Management Faculty at the Bunbury TAFE campus for techniques in large scale production of native orchids for revegetation. These orchids will be initially 10-15 common colony forming species from which fungi will be isolated and used to create cultures on white millet that then can be stored and used to inoculate trays of orchid potting media and sown with orchid seeds.
Experiments will also be conducted to find fungal species that can grow a number of orchid species.
Our project proposal seeks to accelerate the rate of native orchid propagation in the South West by presenting and sharing the latest research knowledge and methods to NRM professionals, students, revegetators, community nurseries and orchid hobbyists. This will be achieved through a workshop at the Bunbury TAFE campus that will combine practical techniques and planning for revegetation projects to improve biodiversity in the South West, conducted by a Research Scientist from Kings Park in August 2008.
If any members have collections of orchids and would be willing to donate some parent plants for a collection held at the SWRC of TAFE in Bunbury for training of students in hand pollination, seed collection and fungal isolation, they would be gratefully received.
Please contact Jeff Hardwick email

Jeff is also a member and an orchid enthusiast living on a bush block at Capel.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

From Ross Fox – On the way to Muglinup for the club trip Ross, Margaret and Matz went via Walpole where they found Caladenia *meridionalis* (South Coast Spider Orchid), Pterostylis *rogersii* (Curl-tongued Shell Orchid) and Corybus *recurvus* (Helmet Orchid). Due to rain few other stops were made on the journey to Munglinup, but 6 km before Jerramungup a stop yielded a form of Diuris aff *pulchella* (a form of the Beautiful Donkey Orchid).
(for the Munglinup flowers see the other report)
On the way home they drove via Lake King to see Caladenia *sigmoidia* (Sigmoid Spider Orchid), on to Tarrin Rock where some caladenias were in bud and then onto Hurley Road on Albany Highway. Here there was Caladenia *magniclavata* (Big Clubbed Spider Orchid) already in flower with many others in bud. At 20km north of Willlams a last stop revealed a few Pterostylis *hamiltonii* (Red-veined Shell Orchid) just hanging on. **Ross**

John and Etienne's trip home

Like Ross they came via Lake King and saw the Sigmoid Spider Orchid. They then went further north and after Corrigin turned west towards Brookton. Turning off the main road they went via the North Kweda Nature Reserve. Here they found a large number of a small spider orchid. It was about 10 -15 cm in height with flowers ranging from white, through a creamy yellow-green to a quite bright pink colouring. It was a great finish to an excellent weekend.

Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue (WOR) / WANOSCG / DEC Survey for the Underground Orchid July 2008

This trip was the third in a series of major rare orchid surveys where WANOSCG volunteers made a major contribution to our understanding to knowledge of the size of habitats where orchids occur. It was lead by Mark Brundrett (WOR), Emma Adams (DEC Flora Conservation Officer, Esperance) and Andrew Brown (DEC Species and Communities Branch). On the first two days we carried out preliminary surveys in large blocks of vegetation at locations along a 15 km stretch of the Oldfield River. Survey locations were chosen using high-resolution aerial photography and satellite imagery provided by DEC and CSIRO. We found that vegetation along the Oldfield River was generally in excellent condition (although a large section was recently burnt). The majority of habitats

surveyed were not suitable for underground orchids, but two areas of potential new habitat were discovered. Aerial photos show several more areas within the proposed new reserve that are likely to contain patches of suitable habitat which we plan to survey in the future. DEC is now writing a proposal to include all of the areas we surveyed (currently Unallocated Crown Land) into a nature reserve and this proposal is strongly supported by information obtained during our survey.

Unfortunately rainfall in the Munglinup region was much less than usual earlier this year (100 mm to June), but it certainly rained when we were there. These dry conditions were probably responsible for us finding very few Underground Orchid flowers at the first site we surveyed (over 30 people searching for 2 hours found 1 plant). In contrast the underground orchid was flowering well at a second location where habitat conditions seemed to be better. In total we observed over 25 inflorescences of *Rhizanthella gardneri* at this site. This allowed everyone to see and photograph Underground Orchid flowers, with the largest group containing 6 inflorescences.

We also achieved our principle objective, which was to map the boundaries of known habitats where plants occur for a nature reserve proposal and habitat management plans. On Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning we also visited nearby locations for other wintering flowering orchids, as listed below. Despite the dry conditions, only *Pterostylis allantoidea* failed to flower in a known location this year.

We would like to especially thank the WANOSCG volunteers who attended surveys on weekdays and all who attended on Saturday. This is a major commitment due to the large distances that had to be travelled (Munglinup is over 600 km from Perth). There as an excellent turnout for weekday surveys (group photo 1) and over 30 people on Saturday (group photo 2). We are also very grateful to landowners who provided access on their property. WANOSCG members are reminded that some areas we visited are only accessible with permission of the landowners and visits to rare flora locations require DEC approval.

Orchid List for all locations

Pterostylis brevichila	Shell Orchid (close to *P. aspera*)
Pterostlyis vittata	Greenhood (closed)
Pterostylis setulosa ms	Hairy Stem Snail Orchid (p 349)
Diuris aff pulchella	Donkey orchid (widespread)
Diuris allantoidea	Shy Greenhood (leaves only)
Pterostylis aff nana	South Coastal Snail
Pterostylis rogersii	Curl-Tongue Shell Orchid
Eriochilus scaber ssp. scaber	Pink Bunny Orchid (leaves only)
Caladenia aff. hiemalis	South coast version
Rhizanthella gardneri	Underground Orchid
Corybas limpidus	Crystal Helmet Orchid

The volunteers on this trip. A great time. Thanks Mark, Andy and the other 'professionals'.

NEW ORCHID BOOK

(Editor's note - With apologies to the authors who sent me a lovely picture of the front cover that I have not been able to upload for the bulletin)

A new book by Andrew Brown, Pat Dundas, Kingsley Dixon and Stephen Hopper is about to be released (hopefully next month). It is titled "Orchids of western Australia" and covers all known species (both named and unnamed). The illustrations are paintings by Pat Dundas. The club will negotiate a bulk purchase (price yet to be negotiated, but in the $80-$90 range). Please phone Kim Hanson on [redacted] (best in the evenings) if you are interested in a copy (copies).

	RAFFLE ROSTER 2008	SPEAKER 2008
MARCH	Gerald Stack	Mark Brundrett – The current state of orchid conservation in WA/ the Lotterywest Project
APRIL	Anna De Haan	Ross Fox – Orchiding in Tasmania
MAY	Ross & Margaret Fox	Mark Brundrett – Fungal associations
JUNE	Stuart Harris	Ross Rudeforth – Friends of Kings Park
JULY	Donna Wajon	Gary Brockman – Nomenclature Revisited – keeping up to date
AUGUST	David Lawson	Dr David Roberts – from Kew Gardens – The kitchen Table Botanist
SEPTEMBER	Jack Eborral	
OCTOBER	Kim & Thea Hansen	
NOVEMBER	John Ewing	Photo competition and members slides

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS
August 17&18 Eurardy Station
August 24 – Mt Lesueur
August 30&31 Mukinbudin
September 7 – Mullering Swamp
September 14 - Toodyay
September 20&21 Dragon Rocks
October5 - Boddington
October 26 – Toodyay Rd
November 16 – Brookton Hwy