

BULLETIN OCTOBER 2009

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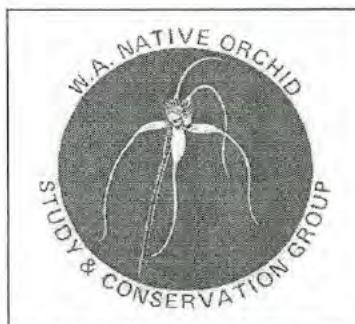
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OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

- 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 20TH October 2009 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 20th October 2009 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to John Ewing at or

Articles for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 1st of the next month.

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PLANNED FIELD TRIPS

Dec 5-6th Christmas Weekend – Denmark

Meet at layby on Muir Hwy just past the hospital in Mt. Barker at 11am on Saturday. We will be staying in Denmark overnight with a BBQ to be held at Jeff and Wendy Spencer's, on Sat evening, bring own chairs etc. Caravan parks in Denmark - Rivermouth-Ph 98481262. Riverbend-Ph 98481107. Ocean Beach-Ph 98481105.

WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 16th September, 2009

Meeting at: BGPA Boardroom. Wednesday 16th Sep 2009. Commencing 8 pm

ATTENDANCE: 40 members present, 4 apologies, 4 visitors as per Attendance book.

MEETING CHAIRED BY EDDY WAJON

RAFFLE: Kindly donated by Jay Steer

PREVIOUS MINUTES TO THE MEETING:

Moved: R Fox and Seconded K Hansen
That the minutes as distributed are a true and correct record of the General Meeting of 19th Aug 2009.

FIELD TRIPS: Ross outlined the trips as printed in the Bulletin with one amendment.

- There has been a change to the start of the Field Trip this coming Sunday. New start time is 9:30am at the service station past the El Caballo resort on Gt Eastern Highway. To visit a burn at Wundowie, Meenaar Reserve, Wallaby Hill Reserve and Doodenanning Rd, and if there is time Wambyn Reserve.
- It is confirmed that the Xmas event will be in Denmark – meeting on Saturday Dec 5th on the Muir Highway past the hospital in Mount Barker. Jeff Spencer will host a BBQ that evening at 2 Ridley Place, Denmark. Every one is to bring chairs and meat.

Forthcoming trips:

- September 20th Northam/York
- September 26-28th Jerramungup
- October 4th Jarrahdale
- October 10-11th Frankland

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

21 October General Meeting

18 November General Meeting

- October 18th Edison Mills Road/Brookton Highway
- December 5-6th Xmas gathering in Denmark

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Dr Peter Bernhart and Dr Ritha Meier of the St Louis University USA, will be the speakers at the next General Meeting.
2. Rica Erickson passed away at the age of 101 recently. An acknowledgement of her contribution to native orchids will be placed in the next Bulletin. KH will gather the information for the acknowledgement.
3. Abyssinia Rock has been fire-bombed by DEC. Wayne Merritt will look into making a submission to DEC requesting that rock outcrops be exempt from proscribed burnings.
4. Mark Brundrett has done some translocations of *Caladenia williamsiae* (Weame Res), *C. graniticola* (Dragon Rocks) and *C. melanema* Lake Altham). He has been hand watering the seedlings. DEC has put up fences around *C. melanema* to protect them from grazing
5. Garry Brockman and Margaret Petriedis have found new populations of *C. melanema*. The additional 1000 plants boosts the known numbers to more than 3000.
6. Eddy Wajon reported on the inspection of 10 ha of the 167 ha of Banksia woodland at Jandakot Airport that is proposed to be cleared. Approximately 160 *Caladenia huegelii* were seen of which 120 were in the area to be cleared compared to a total of 40 previously known or acknowledged in the whole of the 167 ha proposed to be cleared. In addition, there are at least another 21 orchid species present in the area to be cleared. A submission on the Additional Information supplied by Jandakot is due by Friday 2 October 2009.

7. Eddy Wajon reported that the South Metro Connect Team designing the Roe Highway extension is inviting any WANOSCG member to participate in searches for *C. huegelii* and *Drakea elastica* on several occasions in October. Anyone interested in joining in should contact Eddy.
8. Eddy Wajon noted that the Shire of Woodanilling had not yet responded to the WANOSCG letter outlining a series of agreed actions.
9. Eddy Wajon noted that there had not been any reply from the Premier, Minister for Environment, Chair of EPA or Director General of DEC regarding the actions of the Shire of Toodyay and DEC in preparing and approving an offset proposal for road clearing before a flora survey of the vegetation to be cleared had been undertaken. The Minister for Local Government replied and said it was a matter for the Minister for the Environment.

PRESENTATION BY: Lesley Wall – on conservation work by the Perth Zoo.

RAFFLE DRAW: Drawn by Lesley Wall, and collected by Bill Burton.

GROWERS TABLE

- Bill Burton :-
 - *Diuris drummondii*
 - *Prasophyllum macrostachyum*
 - *Pterostylis* sp. "short sepals"
- Mark Brundrett
 - *Caladenia arenicola*
 - *Caladenia roei*, seedlings

NEXT GENERAL MEETING DATE: 8.00 pm
Wednesday October 21st 2009

MEETING CLOSED at 9:35pm

OCTOGENARIAN CELEBRATION

October is the month when our club honours our members who are 80 years old (or more). Like racehorses that all have the 'same birthday', this is their birthday celebration. We hope you will be present to share in the congratulations and the cake.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP AUGUST 15TH ALBANY: EMU POINT

Our second trip was thwarted by the weather yet again. This time the opposite extreme of sheeting rain, wind and hail.

Six club members and seven prospective members congregated at Emu Point to search for orchids along the main cycle way. Hail stones larger than the *Corybus* flowers did not totally stop our search for these tiny flowers. *Caladenia latifolia* (Pink fairy orchid) (in bud) and *Cyrtostylis huegelii* (Midge orchid) were plentiful along the wet, windy and cold cycle way.

Along Emu Point Road we stopped between showers to find many *Diuris*, (but which one?) *Pterostylis*'s *nana* (again which one?), *vittata* (Banded greenhoods) and *recurva* (Jug orchid) as well as *Prasophyllum parvifolium* (Autumn leek orchid) and *Caladenia cairnsiana* (Zebra orchid).

As the rain did not let up, we assembled at the Albany Herbarium for an informal meeting over lunch.

SEPTEMBER 6TH ALBANY, COSY CORNER AND HUNWICK ROAD

Our planned trip due east towards Bremer Bay was again thwarted by storms along the south coast. A change of plans saw three members meet again at Emu Point, this time following another cycle way and foot tracks through the bush.

Many *Caladenia pectinata* (King spider orchid) and *Lyperanthus serratus* (Rattle beaks) as well as one *Pterostylis* sp 'crowded' (Crowded greenhood) were found. We returned to the main cycle way to find *Caladenia latifolia* (Pink fairy) in full boom and only the odd *Cyrtostylis huegelii* (Midge orchid) still in flower.

Along Emu Point Road *C. fuscolutescens*, (Ochre spider orchid), *C. pectinata* (King spider orchid), *C. cairnsiana* (Zebra orchid) and *C. reptans* subsp. *reptans* (Little pink fairy orchid), *Pt. sp* 'limestone' (Limestone snail orchid), *Pheladenia deformis* (Blue fairy orchid) and many *Diuris* orchids that we did not identify. As the weather was clearing we proceeded to Cosy Corner for lunch. Along the Bibbulmun Track we found *Pt. barbarta* (Bird orchid), *Drakaea thynniphila* (Narrow lipped hammer orchid) and *Paracaleana nigrata* (Flying duck orchid).

Our final stop was at a hot summer burn off Hunwick Road (edge of the Redmond Forest). *Eriochilus scaber* subsp. *scaber* (Pink bunny orchid) and *E. tenuis* (Slender bunny orchid) were prolific and while *Prasophyllum gracillimum* (Slender leek orchid) were numerous, very few were flowering.

By the end of the trip the sun was out and we were dry but wind blown.

SEPTEMBER 13TH Millers Point: 2nd Attempt

Sheeting rain and gale force winds along the Albany coast as well as cold temperatures on Saturday could only mean another wet and cold Sunday club trip. A snatch rope, chicken wire, chain and spade were our insurance against inclement weather.

Sunday brought out the sun with calm conditions. 5 members headed due east to the Pallinup River Bridge on the South Coast Highway. *C. vulgata* (Common spider orchid), *C. barbarossa* (Common dragon orchid), *C. polychroma* (Joseph's spider orchid), *C. falcata* (Fringed mantis orchid), *C. Longicauda* subsp *eminens* (Stark white spider orchid) and *C. flava* subsp. *flava* (Cowslip orchid) as well as *Pheladenia deformis* (Blue fairy), *Pt vittata* (Banded greenhood), *Pt recurva* (Jug orchid). Also in bud was *Pt leptochila* (Ravensthorpe rufous greenhood) and a hybrid *C x enigma* (*C. barbarossa* and *C. longicauda* subsp *eminens* were found over a wide area in dampish soil. Things were looking up. Over the last 6 km on the dirt road into Millers Point our recovery gear was collecting dust!!!! What a difference 100 odd km makes. There we found colonies of hundreds of *Corybus*. A few *Corybus limpidis* (Crystal helmet orchid) were still in flower. Also found were flowers similar to *C. latifolia*, but they have a white dorsal sepal, a noticeably paler coloration, and a uniformly smaller flower. There were many of them and they stood in contrast to the usual robust bright pink larger flowering *C. latifolia*. Another interesting species was a very small snail orchid which was consistently in size less than 5cm high. Other finds included *Pt vittata* (Banded greenhood), *C. barbarossa* (Common dragon orchid), *C. splendens* (Splendid spider orchid) and *Cyanicula aperta* (Western tiny blue orchid). The views are stunning over the Beaufort Inlet and out to Wray Bay/ Southern Ocean. As we completed the circuit *C. brevisura* (Short-sepalled spider orchid) was found by an eagle eyed enthusiast. A warm spot alongside the inlet was the perfect spot for lunch.

Onto Cape Riche for a 4km circuit walk over Mt Melville to the Eyre River, Southern Ocean, Shed Beach and back to the cars. On the way up Mt Melville new finds for the day included *Diuris laxifolia*, (Bee orchid), *D. corymbosa* (Common donkey orchid), *Elythranthera brunonis* (Purple enamel orchid), *Thelymitra flexuosa* (Twisted sun orchid), and *T. antennifera* (Vanilla sun orchid),

Finally at the edge of the sea on limestone sandy soils *C. longicauda* subsp. *australora* (Southern white spider orchid) was found. A foot track brought us back to the cars. We rolled back into Albany and Denmark as the sun was setting. A day of beautiful coastlines, many orchids and warm, sunny weather.

CLUB TRIP - BROOKTON

6th September

Club members met at the Brookton Railway Station and we were introduced to Judy Williams, the lady after whom the *Caladenia williamsiae* was named. Judy then guided the 18 or so vehicles out to the Weam Reserve area where we were to view the orchid. Due to the fragile nature of the orchid only small groups of members were taken into the viewing area at a time while the rest explored the general area whilst waiting their turn. Numbers of orchids in the general area were good and we sighted: *C. reptans* subsp *reptans* (Little Pink Fairy), *Ericksonella saccharata* (Sugar Orchid), *C. flava* subsp *flava* (Cowslip Orchid), *C. cairnsiana* (Zebra Orchid), *D. sp* 'Three Springs' (Dainty Donkey Orchid), *Pterostylis sargentii* (Frog Greenhood), *Pterostylis recurva* (Jug Orchid), *Pterostylis sanguinea* (Dark Banded Greenhood) *Cyanicula deformis* (Blue Fairy Orchid) and of course the *C. williamsiae* (Williams Spider Orchid) in the viewing area. Thanks are extended to those members who used their 4x4 vehicles to ferry the other members into the viewing area.

We then were led to Pingeculling Reserve where we saw: *C. falcata* (Green Spider Orchid), a *C. discoidea* (Dancing Spider Orchid), a *C. cairnsiana* (Zebra Orchid), *D. recurva* *Pterostylis. sargentii* (Frog Greenhood) and a *Paracalena sp* (Duck Orchid). After much discussion the exact name of the *Paracalena* was left unresolved. There were also *Ericksonella saccharata* (Sugar Orchid) in the area.

Our next destination was 9 Acre Rock where we saw *Prasophyllum gracile* (Little Laughing Leek Orchid), *C. xantha* (Primrose Spider Orchid), *Pheladenia deformis* (Blue Fairy Orchid), *T. antennifera* (Lemon-scented Sun Orchid) and a very late *Pterostylis aspera* (Brown-veined Shell Orchid).

Thanks are extended to our field Trip Coordinator Ross Fox for another successful day that I'm sure was enjoyed by all attendees.

Gary McDonald

JERRAMUNGUP CLUB TRIP – Sept 26-28

A number of club members were able to make the trip to Jerramungup on Friday so there were stories swapped about what was found 'on the way down'. A *Caladenia luteola* (Yellow spider orchid) was in bud and *Caladenia melanema* (Ballerina orchid) were seen by some, as well as many other things.

Saturday morning saw the Friday arrivals take a quick trip to Fitzgerald River where a huge number of *C. multiclavia* (Lazy spider orchid) were an immediate interest. In places there were so many it was hard not to tread on them. Amongst many other things was *C. microchila* (Western wispy spider orchid) and a bewildering array of hybrids of *C. cairnsiana* (Zebra orchid).

The whole group set off for a reserve to the south of Jerramungup where *C. bryceana* subsp *bryceana* (Dwarf spider orchid) was found. Moving further east, the next site yield some beautiful specimens of *Thelymitra speciosa* (Eastern Queen of Sheba). Another move allowed us to find *T. psammophila* (Sandplain Sun Orchid). The final two sites in the Borden area yield a wide range of 'white spiders'. They were (as far as anyone could tell *C. eminens* (Stark white spider orchid) and *C. redacta* (Tangled white spider orchid).

Sunday morning saw us set off to the south again and what was scheduled to be a 'short stop' turned into a long one. A massive array of 'red spiders' provoked much debate as to whether they were *C. filifera* (Blood spider orchid), *C. pulchra* (Slender spider orchid) and/or something else. Many other 'white spiders' were there plus a huge number of hybrids.

We then moved further south to the Pallinup River area and again another vast array of flowers. There were some more 'bryceanas' discovered by the eagle eyed Lyn Alcock and Tom Blinco, huge numbers of *C. barbarossa* (Common dragon orchid), including a lutea (yellow form) specimen and a number of *C. enigma* (the hybrid of the dragon orchid with a white spider). Another highlight was the *Pterostylis leptochila* (Ravensthorpe rufous greenhood) which while mostly still only in bud, did have the good grace to have a couple of plants in full flower.

From here we moved on to Miller's Point and found most of the species mentioned in the article above.

Monday saw the group move north of Jerramungup and once again the site yielded an amazing array of flowers. This site was remarkable for its hybrids with *C. suffusa* (the

hybrid between *C. hirta* subsp *rosea* (Pink candy orchid) and *C. longicauda* (White spider orchid) was absolutely stunning. Many other hybrids of *C. polychroma* (Joseph's spider orchid) had also produced beautiful variations. From here people made their way home after a superb weekend.

VISITORS

The club has enjoyed the annual return from Arizona USA of Ray and Cynthia Grant, the extended stay of Colin and Mischa Rowan from Victoria and a 'new' visitor from Queensland, in the person of David James. While David has been to WA before, this was the first time he had been on club trips as a member. He has proved to be another 'eagle eye' finding quite a number of specimens, much to the appreciation of others (especially the editor). I'm sure he will be back again soon.

CONSERVATION ISSUES

Eddy Wajon's nomination

Eddy has reached the final of the WA Environment Awards. Below is the letter he received about the final.

Dear Eddy

I would like to inform and congratulate you on being selected as a finalist in the Biodiversity Conservation Category of the 2009 Western Australian Environment Awards.

We received more than 100 high quality and competitive submissions from across the State this year and the judges had a difficult time selecting finalists. Your selection as a finalist in these awards is a fantastic achievement and reflects your commitment to protecting WA's unique environment.

I would like to invite you and your colleagues to the awards presentation evening at the Hyatt Regency Perth on Friday 27 November 2009 where this year's winners will be announced. The dinner will provide an opportunity for everyone involved in the awards to celebrate the outstanding achievements of all nominees, finalists and winners.

Tickets are \$90 per person and can be purchased by completing the attached booking form and posting or emailing back to me. Tickets need to be purchased by Monday 9 November.

Congratulations on your achievement in these prestigious awards and I hope you will be able to join us at the awards dinner.

Yours sincerely

Mitzi Vance

A/Marketing Manager

We know how good Eddy is and now we hope others will further recognise his contributions.

	Raffle Roster	Welcomer	SPEAKERS 2009
MAR	Gerald Stack		Mark Brundrett – Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project
APR	Glenys Salter	Tom Burbridge	Ramon Newmann – How I started orchids
MAY	Etienne Delannoy	John Ewing	Tony Lock – WANOSCG data base
JUNE	Noel Clarke	Tom Blinco	Eddy Wajon – flowers of the Pilbara
JULY	Tom Blinco	John Ewing	Etienne Delannoy
AUG	Louise Little	John Ewing	Ian Colquhoun, Chair of the Dieback Working Group 'Phytophthora Dieback – Could you be spreading it?
SEPT	Jay Steer	John Ewing	Lesley Wall – Perth Zoo
OCT	David Lawson		John Dell - DEC
NOV	Gary McDonald		Photo competition and members slides

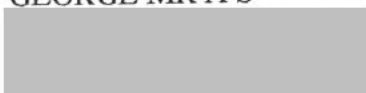
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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS
DECEMBER 5-6TH DENMARK