BULLETIN April 2012

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WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2012

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Adopt an Orchid – A review of the first 6 months

As may members would know the Department of Environment and Conservation's (DEC's) monitoring and survey program for threatened and poorly known (priority) flora is prioritised towards threatened flora (species listed under the Western Australian Wildlife Conservation Act 1950).

Less time is available to monitor and survey priority flora species. These species are often known from few locations and may be under threat but require further information to accurately ascertain their conservation status. Some 30 orchid species fit into this category and because many listed populations of these species are based on old Herbarium records from areas that could potentially have been subject to clearing, rising salinity and habitat degradation, they could now be highly threatened.

The Adopt an Orchid project was born out of the West Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group's (WANOSCG) desire to assist DEC in obtaining better and up-to-date population, threat and survey information for priority orchid species. This way, DEC can be more certain of their conservation status,



including threats and necessary recovery actions and can better manage and protect them.

Although the program has been running for just 5 months there have already been some notable achievements:

- There are now 36 participants covering 22 orchid species found over a wide area between Kalbarri and Esperance. The bulk of participants are members of WANOSCG but we now also have a smattering of volunteers from the general public (mostly country) and DEC.
- Seventy populations of priority orchids have been visited and monitored.
- More than 100 flowering plants of Caladenia uliginosa subsp. patulens (P1) were found in an area where just three had been located previously.



 A population of Caladenia startiorum (P2) that had not been seen for many years was relocated and flowering plants found.



- A new population of Caladenia luteola (now declared as rare flora) comprising over 200 flowering plants was found in a shire reserve.
 DEC is currently in the process of seeing if it can be put into the conservation estate.
- (now declared as rare flora) were visited and plants counted and, while one population is threatened by a rising saline water table, it was noted that two other populations were in good health. On the same trip a reserve to the north of the previously known populations was visited and a new population of 14 plants found.
- New populations of Caladenia abbreviata (P3),
 C. cristata (P1), Cyanicula fragrans (P3), Diuris



heberlei (P2) and Paracaleana alcockii (P2) have been located.

Even when new populations have not been located, the information obtained has been invaluable to DEC and will result in positive actions being undertaken to protect and conserve these species.

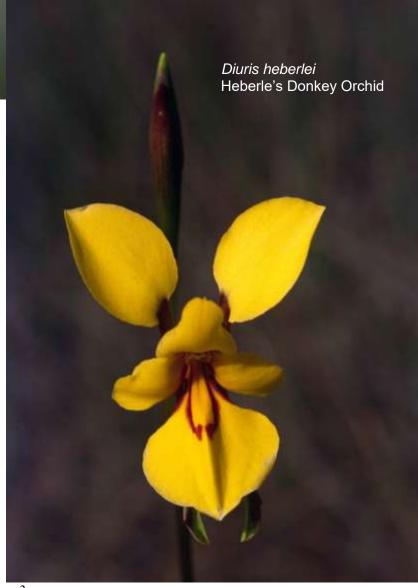
I have just read with interest the latest WANOSCG Bulletin, in particular the reports from 'Adopt an Orchid' volunteers.

In relation to GPS coordinates. I should have explained to all participants that they can be quite inaccurate. This is particularly the case for old Herbarium collections made in pre GPS technology days. The Herbarium generates approximate latitude and Longitude information from the locality information provided for map generation purposes only. It can sometimes be a long way removed from reality if for instance just a town name was provided with the collection and it is unknown just how far and in which direction from the town the orchid was found or the locality is stated as x miles east of somewhere and it is unknown if it was directly east or northeast or

southeast. For old records it is best to just go by the locality information provided on the label (although often scanty) and search any suitable habitat in that area. For more recent collections the GPS info will be more accurate but even then the person may have walked in 100 m and found the orchid and then returned to the car to take a GPS reading.

In relation to orchid measurements. Descriptions will always be based on Herbarium specimens available and there will always be some plants in the wild that are larger or smaller. Base identification on a combination of characters, not just size. Our orchids also have an annoying habit of freely hybridising producing larger or smaller flowers as a consequence. Of course there can also sometimes be several closely related orchids growing together and care must be taken that the correct species is being counted. Not always as easy as it sounds.

I will try to and get out with some of the participants this year and join them for a day.



Obviously I cannot do it with everyone but if some volunteers are having problems in locating species or are having problems in identifying them I am happy to lend a hand from time to time.

Finally, just a reminder for any outstanding reports from last year to be sent to Kim or me ASAP.

I would like to personally thank all participants for their enthusiasm and the tremendous effort that they have put into the project. With a bit of luck 2012 will be another bumper year for these rare orchids and, as participants become more familiar with their identification, habitat and flowering times, more new populations will be found.

Andrew Brown March 2012

SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2011

In 2011 we had 10 field trips led by various club members on weekends and week days. Statistics include a total of 101 attendances plus two visitors. The 101 attendances translated into:

- 1 member who participated in all 10 field trips,
- 2 members who participated in 6 field trips,
- 2 members who participated in 4 field trips,
- 6 members who participated in 3 field trips,
- 8 members who participated in 2 field trips and

38 members who participated in 1 field trip, the majority of these being on the 2 day weekend and the 5 day extended field trip.

The Southern Rivers Group began the year in the first week of April, a later start to the season due to the dry conditions. After the initial flush of Praecoxanthus and Eriochilus a photo night in June filled the lull and kept interest and enthusiasm going before the height of the season on the south coast. Trevor outlined the extended 5 day field trip and the "Adopt an Orchid" Project was outlined.

Elizabeth Edmunds from "Project Dieback" presented a most enlightening introduction to Dieback. What it is, how it moves across the landscape, protectable areas and of course how we can minimise our impact on the spread of Dieback through thorough cleaning and sterilisation using 70% mentholated spirits. Theory was put into practise on the field trip near Mandalay Beach.

Trevor and Jean led an outstanding exploration field trip between Jerramungup, Ravensthorpe, Hopetoun and Lake King. An extravaganza of orchids was found. From all accounts this was a



most successful trip both in the range of orchids found and small group dynamics. Not a field trip goes by without mention as to how well run this field trip was. Well done Trevor and Jean, plus all the field trip report writers.

A new format was introduced to manage the large numbers of participants on the annual Christmas field trip. Two groups travelling at staged times over the same route increased the safety of the convoy procedure on narrow highways and gravel roads, but still had a major impact on each site visited. Old club sites became "new" sites for many members. In was very pleasing indeed to note the number of different orchids found in a wide range of habitats. The second day also introduced new methods to spread large numbers of people over vast areas searching for orchids and then moving small groups on to the next site with everyone still seeing the full range of orchids flowering at each site.

2011 came to a close with a number of small group field trips to locate the last of the orchids. Small localised bushfires were also doing their bit to open up new orchid sites for 2012.

Branch Convenor - Anna de Haan



WANOSCG Award

The criterion for this award is that the person should have advanced the aims of, and made an outstanding contribution to, WANOSCG - namely the study and conservation of Western Australian native orchids. These contributions will usually have been made over an extended period of time. The recipient must be a financial Member of WANOSCG.

Each year nominations shall be submitted by Members to the President by the close of the November General Meeting. Nominations shall describe the reasons, with examples, for the nomination and shall be no more than two pages long.

A selection panel, consisting of the President and 2 non-Committee Members, will assess nominations for the Award and will make a recommendation to the Committee, who will then decide who is to receive the Award at the February Committee meeting.

None of the members of the selection panel shall be nominators or nominees of the Award. The issuing of the Award will be at the discretion of the Committee and may not necessarily be made each year.

The Award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in the year following the nomination.

WANOSCG <u>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</u> MINUTES Wednesday, March 21st 2012

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.

Meeting opened: 7:35 pm

ATTENDANCE: 34 members present 7 apologies 3 visitors

The meeting was chaired by Eddy Wajon who was standing in as President in the absence of John Ewing

1. PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Amendments: - None

The Annual General Meeting Minutes as distributed are a true and correct record of the meeting of March 16th 2011.

Moved Jay Steer Seconded Matz Dahlkamp and carried

2. Presidents Report

- 2.1. Eddy Wajon read out the Presidents report as written by John Ewing.
- 2.2. Jay Steer moved a vote of support for the Presidents thank-you for the work that Christine Lock had done as the past President. Seconded by Donna Wajon and carried.
- 2.3. Eddy Wajon moved to thank Matz Dahlkamp, who was standing down as Treasurer, for the work she had done for the Group over the years. Seconded Ramón Newmann, and carried.

3. Treasurer's Report

- 3.1. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Matz Dahlkamp
- 3.2. Matz reported that it was becoming more difficult to get Insurance coverage for the Group and that the premiums had risen significantly (approx. \$1200 compared to approx. \$600 in previous years)
- 3.3. Matz stated that she personally hoped that the Group would keep the annual fees as they are and if necessary that they by subsidised by the Group's funds, and that she hoped that the Group would keep on doing well and would keep looking for orchids.
- 3.4. The net asset position of the Group is approx. \$65,000, which is held in investment, cash and cheque accounts.
- 3.5. Eddy Wajon reported that the Committee had decided to publish the Bulletin without limiting the number of pages due to postage. Hardcopies will be published in Black and White, to control the costs, and it is available as a full colour electronic version for members who elect to receive it by email. It is hoped that more members will move to electronic version of the Bulletin. Members who had not paid their annual subscription to the Group will not be receiving copies of the Bulletin.
- 3.6. Margaret Petridis noted that other clubs in the eastern states charge members extra for hard copies of their newsletters.
- 3.7. Don Ward noted that in the future the Bulletin could be published as a PDF document on the web page and the access to it could be restricted to members only.

4. 5 Year Plan

- 4.1. Eddy Wajon reported that 3 sets of comments had been received from Member of the 5 year plan as circulated by John Ewing including a question on what is a Lucid Key.
- 4.2. A Lucid Key is an electronic way to identify orchids. Kevin Tilley has developed one for other species. It is identification by elimination, and measures various attributes. A big data base is required of observations of known samples.
- 4.3. The 5 year Plan needs the member's involvement in order to be effective.
- 4.4. Suggestions are welcome on what the Group should do with its funds.
- 4.5. The Adopt-an-Orchid program is running well and will not be changed by the 5 Year Plan.
- 4.6. Member's comments on the 5 Year Plan are welcome for the next Committee meeting.

- 4.7. Eddy asked members to show if they supported the 5 Year Plan by raising their hands by way of a straw-poll. A clear majority of Members indicated their support.
- 4.8. Margaret Petridis stated that she would support a Kimberley Field Trip over a Group trip to the eastern states; however in the past Andrew Brown had indicated that it would be complicate, dangerous and expensive.

5. WANOSCG Award

- 5.1. As reported in the Bulletin, the Committee has agreed to present an annual WANOSCG Award and to initiate it at this AGM. The procedures for the Award are in the Bulletin; however the Committee decided at the last Committee meeting to select the inaugural award winner and present the award at the 2012 AGM.
- 5.2. The 2012 Award will be presented to Don Ward for his work over the years on the Group's web page.
- 5.3. As the President is currently away, Eddy Wajon moved that the Award be signed by the immediate Past President, Christine Lock. Seconded Ramón Newmann and carried.
- 5.4. Christine Lock presented the Award and expressed her thanks on behalf of the Group for the great job that Don Ward does in getting the field trip photos on to the web site within a day of the trips. Big thanks was also given for the fact that Don not only manages the web site but also pays the fees for the web page server.
- 5.5. Don Ward thanked everyone for the totally unexpected Award. He said that he enjoyed doing it. Last year a lot of interest was generated by having a web site providing information on the Group. A lot of dialogue on orchids can be generated and addressed through a web site.

6. ELECTIONS

Christine Lock was nominated as the Returning Officer and no Scrutineer was required for the Committee elections.

	Nomination	Nominator	Seconder
President	John Ewing	Donna Wajon	Wayne Merritt
Vice President	Jay Steer	Donna Wajon	Sarah Atkinson
Secretary	Tom Burbidge	Donna Wajon	Kim Hanson
Treasurer	Kim Hanson	Thea Hanson	lain McLean
Field Trip Coordinator	lan McLean	Debbie Proudfoot	Margaret Petridis
Committee Member#1	Margaret Petridis	Eddy Wajon	Thea Hanson
Committee Member#2	Ramon Newmann	Donna Wajon	Bert Lynden
Registrar	Christine Lock	Donna Wajon	Tom Burbidge
Auditor	Phil Bunney	Christine Lock	Matz Dahlkamp
Supper Coordinator	Donna Wajon	Sarah Atkinson	Eva Smith
Librarian	Jay Steer	Matz Dahlkamp	Urszula Kokosinska
Conservation Officer	John Ewing	Eddy Wajon	Matz Dahlkamp
Editor	Urszula Kokosinska	Debbie Proudfoot	Matz Dahlkamp

A Patron is still required for 2012. The Committee will discuss at the next Committee meeting who should be nominated and they will be asked to confirm if they will accept before being put to the vote of the Members. Potential nominees discussed at the AGM were Steve Hopper, Andrew Brown, and Noel Hoffman. Noel suggested that the Group should not go past the nomination of someone of the standing of Steve Hopper.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to Urszula Kokosinska at

or call on .

Articles for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 5th of May 2012.

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WANOSCG <u>GENERAL</u> MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, 21st March 2012

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park. Meeting opened: 8:39 pm

CIRCULATION OF REPORTS: Attendance Book and Treasurers Report were circulated to the members

ATTENDANCE:

34 members present 7 apologies 3 visitors

RAFFLE: Kindly donated by Ramón Newmann

7. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES Amendments:

Margaret Petridis: Clause 6.3: the location of the – *Caladenia cristata* was at Pingerrega Reserve and not at Damboring.

The General Meeting Minutes as amended above are a true and correct record of the meeting of 16th November 2011.

Moved: Jay Steer and Seconded Kevin Uhe and carried

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

None

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- 1. None that require any attention.
- 2. Bert Lynden asked why we do not register emails as correspondence. Eddy Wajon replied that emails should be treated as formal correspondence and noted accordingly and will be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

10. FIELD TRIP REPORT:

- 10.1. The Sep Field trip reported in the Bulletin should read 29th September to 1st October and not to the 31st of September. This trip is also likely to be moved as the original intention of having a joint trip with Wildflower Society may not work. Eddy Wajon to advice.
- 10.2. Margaret Petridis suggested that the Group should target the burnt out areas of the SW. However Christine Lock reported that many of the burnt out areas around Northcliffe are locked by DEC and would require permission to access.
- 10.3. Wayne Merritt reported a Fire at Beekeeper Rd near Eneabba

- 10.4. Donna Wajon reported a fire at Bold Park
- 10.5. Urszula Kokosinska reported elbow orchids in January at Serpentine; however a 4 wheel drive vehicles had driven through the area potentially destroying some of the specimens.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Eddy Wajon reported that there is time for anyone to apply for a DEC Community Environmental Grant – e.g. to support local reserves. Donna Wajon put forwards Candy's Reserve as a possibility.

12. Conservation Report

- 12.1. The City of Cockburn cleaned up an area after letter was sent in regarding rubbish being left
- 12.2. Kalbarri National Park damage to orchids by a bulldozer has been reported
- 12.3. Weam Reserve damage by a DEC vehicle has been reported
- 12.4. Emu Point Development some changes that have been made to the proposed development
- 12.5. Bayonet Hill is potentially under development. Any submissions by WANOSCG would best be from the Southern Rivers Branch as they would reflect local interests.
- 12.6. Stirling Ranges Queen of Sheba have been reported at Formbys Rd on the bank, and they are in danger of being damage by graders

13. PRESENTATION

Russell Barrett, who lives in the Kimberley and has just returned from a 4 month trip to Peru, presented "Orchids of the Kimberley Region of WA" by Russell Barrett, Matt Barrett and Kingsley Dixon.

14. GROWERS TABLE

No plants were displayed

15. RAFFLE DRAW

Drawn by Russell Barrett – the winner of the raffle: Noel Hoffman

MEETING CLOSED: 10:10 pm NEXT MEETING: 7:30 pm Wednesday, 18th April 2012

ORCHIDS OF NORTH-EASTERN POLAND

Last year in June together with George we went to north-eastern Poland visiting Białowieski National Park and some smaller nature reserves.

The Park established in 1932 is one of the oldest nature reserves and known for its virgin



forest with wonderful fauna and flora but most of all for being the home of European bison. The Bialowieski National Park is on the UNESCO list of World Biosphere Reserves and on the UNESCO list of World Heritage. We were lucky to see there 2 different kinds of orchids.





Later on two more species were found in one of the smaller reserves north-east to Bialowieza. The same as here in Australia we saw orchids just on the verge of the track. Unfortunately for us the mosquitoes were plentiful and ticks were looking for us too so we had to cut our search short. Here are some of the photos – Hope you will enjoy looking at them as much as we looking for plants and taking photos.





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

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 10th May at 7.30 pm

THE FEES FOR 2012 ARE DUE NOW!

All members are reminded that annual subscriptions are now due. The annual single or family membership fee is \$30. Payment can be made in person to the Treasurer or by mail with cheques made out to WANOSCG and sent to:

WANOSCG PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979

Or 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 advise Kim Hanson our Treasurer by email that you have done so. Please note that if the fees aren't paid by the end of May you will be a nonfinancial member and will not receive the Bulletin anymore.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING April 18th at <u>7.30</u> pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

2012 General Meetings		
April 18 th	August 15 th	
May 16 th	September19th	
June 20 th	October 17 th	
July 18 th	November 21 st	

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.
- 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.

	Raffle Roster	SPEAKERS 2012	
MAR	Ramon Newmann	Russell Barrett – Kimberly Orchids	
APRIL	Ross & Margaret Fox	Eddy Wajon, Stuart Harris – ADORP progress	
MAY	Urszula & George Kokosinski	David Deeley, Graeme Bowden (Species Orchid Society) – Orchid propagation (to be confirmed)	
JUNE		John Ewing – Orchids of Italy	
JULY		Margaret Collins – Lucid Key	
AUG		Mary Gray – Conservation of urban bushland and the threats to our wildflowers, especially orchids.	
SEPT		ADORP progress	
ОСТ		Jay Steer – Gibbons slides from WANOSCG Library collection.	
NOV		Photo Competition	

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2012 FIELD TRIPS

Date	Place	Targeted species/Notes
29 th April	Pinjarra/Waroona area	Leafless Orchid
Late May	•	
2 nd June	North of Perth	Thelymitra apiculata
1 st July		
29 th September	Busselton , Whicher Scarp	Joint field trip with the Murdoch Branch of the
-1 st October	and Ironstone formation	Wildflower Society.
	Wyalkatchem	
	Boddington/Quindanning	To explore 10-20 Nature Reserves with group split
To be advised		into parties of 4-6 to explore each reserve.
	Narrogin/Williams	·

Please note:

- Field trip leaders are to be appointed for each separate field trip.
- The last person to arrive at meeting point of orchid field trip will write the trip report.