BULLETIN August 2012

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Bill Burton

During the July meeting we celebrated Bill Burton's 90th birthday. His actual birthday was in June, Bill having arrived in the world in 1922.

Bill was presented with a framed photo of *Pterostylis* sp. 'northwest' otherwise known as Burton's Rufous Greenhood. Fairly obviously Bill was the discoverer of this species.



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After the war, Bill was offered a job by MacRobertson Millar Airlines in the West and so he 'migrated' over here. After a long stint with MMA Bill moved into education and worked for Technical Education for 10 years before retiring.



When asked about how he started with orchids Bill told us that by then he has met his lifelong friend Sarah Atkinson. They were thinking about things to do together and decided on wildflowers. They thought that the field was a bit too wide, so decided just to focus on orchids. It very quickly became a huge passion for them both. Bill not only spent lots of time searching for flowers but he also grew many at home. He has been a regular contributor to the 'Plant Table' at monthly meetings.

Bill has been a great supporter of club field trips and he has often been the first one to find a

particular species. One of his memorable moments was down near Esperance at Munglinup where he was first on that trip to find *Rhizanthella gardneri* (the Underground Orchid).

When asked if he had any unfulfilled goals for the next decade Bill simply replied 'To stay alive until I am a hundred'. We wish him well in that quest.



KEN HURST PARK **RE-VEGETATION PROJECT**

The Friends of Ken Hurst Park (Bush Forever site 245), in association with the City of Melville, were successful in gaining a \$14,410 DEC Environmental Community Grant in 2011 for re-vegetation of degraded areas, primarily tracks and edges, on both the northern and southern sides of the park which is bisected by the Kewdale-Fremantle railway line.

The first component of the project was to spread topsoil from the 3rd 40 ha instalment of clearing of banksia woodland being undertaken at the adjacent Jandakot Airport for commercial development. With the assistance of DEC officers who are managing the transfer of this topsoil to a variety of sites such as Forrestdale Lake, a total of approximately 300 m³ of topsoil was delivered to strategic placed temporary stockpiles on the northern





and southern sides of Ken Hurst Park. The topsoil on the southern side of Ken Hurst Park was simply tipped over the fence between Ken Hurst Park and Jandakot Airport, while the topsoil on the northern side was delivered to the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council's (SMRC) Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC), adjacent to Ken Hurst Park at the end of Bannister Road.



The Friends of Ken Hurst Park engaged Natural Area Management and Services to rip the areas where the topsoil was to be placed on 16 May 2012 in order to loosen the compacted soil and enhance the success of seed germination from the topsoil and the survival of tubestock planted into the topsoil. A 2.2 m wide tractor was used so that narrow tracks and small degraded areas could be accessed without damaging adjacent vegetation. The tractor pulled a ripping bar with 4 tines set at 0.6 m intervals which ripped the soil to a depth of 300 mm.

The Friends of Ken Hurst Park also engaged Natural Area Management and Services to move the topsoil from the temporary stockpiles on 17 and 18 May 2012 using a 3 m³ front end loader. The front end loader carefully distributed the topsoil over the pre-ripped area, and a 1.5 m wide positrack bobcat supplemented by shovels was used to spread the topsoil uniformly to a depth of 50 – 100 mm.





On a wet, stormy, windy Sunday morning on 10th June 2012, 49 volunteers from the Friends of Ken Hurst Park, the WA Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group, Emerson Stewart Consulting, the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council and the Bullcreek Scout Group planted about 1300 dryland plants in the northern and

southern sides of Ken Hurst Park. Twenty four different species of plants, including Banksia menziessii, Eucalyptus todtiana, Gompholobium confertum and Petrophile linearis, supplied by Natural Area Management and Services as tubestock were planted. Every plant was protected by a plastic tree guard with 4 stakes. After planting 900 plants on the northern side, the volunteers were treated to a sumptuous late morning tea prepared by the Friends of Ken Hurst Park in the RCCC's educational area. Because of the wet, stormy weather, only a small number of volunteers continued planting on the southern side of Ken Hurst Park after the morning tea, but

they managed to plant another 400 plants.

A second round of planting was undertaken on the afternoon of 16th June 2012 focussing on an un-ripped area wetland in on the southern side of Ken Hurst Park which had not received any topsoil. About 600 wetland plants of nine species including *Banksia littoralis*, *Melaleuca lateritia*,



Melaleuca preissiana and Regelia inops, also supplied by Natural Area Management and Services, were planted by 17 volunteers from the Friends of Ken Hurst Park, the WA Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group and Emerson Stewart Consulting in about 3 hours in wet, drizzly conditions. Each planting hole was disturbed to a depth of 300 mm using a narrow spade specially fabricated for the purpose by Ron Bailey from Lesmurdie. This made a significant difference to the soil compaction in areas that were not ripped, and allowed the tubestock and tree guard stakes to be installed much more easily. Following the completion of planting, the volunteers were rewarded with an afternoon tea served on the back of a 4WD.

All the tubestock were lightly watered after sowing using a water trailer supplied by the City of Melville. Following the sowing, the area also received soaking rains. This, combined with a contract to water the plants at least monthly between October 2012 and April 2013, plus the pre-ripping of the soil, is expected to result in a high plant survival rate and very good germination of the seed contained in the topsoil spread over the planted areas. Hopefully this will allow the area to recover from several years of drought and decades of human disturbance.

Eddy Wajon Convenor Friends of Ken Hurst Park



This year WANOSCG **Photo Competition** theme is: **Pterostylis**

Please submit 3 photos of *Pterostylis* species - Size 6" X 4" (15.24 cm x 10.16 cm)

Photos have to be taken in 2012 season only.

The competition will take place at November General Meeting.

Happy "shooting"!



SURVEY

People who would like to participate in Caladenia huegelii survey in Banjup and possibly other species surveys in the late September/ early October please contact Eddy Wajon on

WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, 18th July 2012

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings

Park.

Meeting opened: 7:40 PM

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

ATTENDANCE: 37 members present

4 apologies 4 visitors

RAFFLE: Kindly donated by lan

McLean

1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

There were no amendments:

The General Meeting Minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting of 16 May 2012. Moved: Gary McDonald and Seconded Ross Fox and carried

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

As the President had not had time to fully go through the previous minutes it was decided that any business arising from the last meeting would be held over to the next meeting.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

This was circulated to members and showed that income was \$3498.85 and an expenditure of \$358.34 giving a balance at the end of the period of \$516.45. With the 3 Term Deposits there is a balance of \$70,086.81.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Alison Harrington: 2 letters: one re photos of earlier times of the club and the second re Syd Gibbings photo collection taken on earlier field trips. This letter was sent to Jay Steer.

5. FIELD TRIP REPORT:

Personal Field Trip Reports

Margaret Petridis: At Northcliffe they saw Helmet Orchids, *Corybas recurvus*. Also seen was *Cyrtostylis robusta* (Mosquito Orchid) and *Cyrtostylis huegelii* (Midge Orchid).

Noel Hoffman: Went to Dongara to look at the donkey orchid that was thought to be Diuris brumalis but when he looked at it and took photos it seemed to be a new species. This was confirmed by Andrew Brown and Chris French whom he saw later. It has been given a location and has pale green stems unlike *Diuris brumalis*.

Ross Fox: At Sullivan Rock there was nothing but at 20 km from Williams they saw *Pterostylis hamiltonii* (Red-veined Shell Orchid). At Yilliminning Rock there was *Pterostylis sanguinea* (Dark Banded Greenhood) and *Pterostylis hamiltonii* (Red-veined Shell Orchid).

Other People: Qualen Rd: *Pterostylis hamiltonii* (Red-veined Shell Orchid).

Kalbarri: At the Loop *Pterostylis* sp. 'hairy' (Hairy Snail Orchid), *Caladenia* species, *Pheladenia deformis* (Blue Fairy Orchid).

Narrogin: lots of snail orchids and *Pterostylis hamiltonii* (Red-veined Shell Orchid).

Urszula Kokosinska: *Prasophyllum fimbria* (Fringed Leek Orchids) in buds and some *Prasophyllum parvifolium* (Autumn Leek Orchid) in flower N of Greenwood coast Rd.

6. CONSERVATION REPORT:

Eddy Wajon reported on the Fraser Road site that Stockland is going to develop.

1) He said that the rubbish had been cleared and that Stockland is now watching the site to see that it is kept cleared as there is a most significant site of *Caladenia huegelii*. There will be a meeting in early August for a survey in September. There has been a grant of \$14000 for revegetating Ken Hurst Park. Topsoil has been spread out 50 – 100 mm thick over 9 different areas which took two days. Mark Brundrett said that there were some other nearby sites that DEC would like us to look at.

- 2) There are 2000 plants to be propagated. Planting is in an orchid triangle. They will need watering over the hot summer months of December to March.
- 3) The WA Naturalists Club building at Bold Park needs to be pulled down. A new building incorporating Natural History Organisations is 5 years away. A Secure Loan Library might be built. The Community is to stay involved.

The digging up of Orchids: John Ewing read a statement re the *Thelymitra* apiculata excursion. This proposal will be put into the Bulletin. Noel Hoffman suggested that an article should be put

into the newspapers. Eddy Wajon suggested that we send a letter to the editor of *The West Australian* re this matter

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

1 President's Award: This was presented to Noel Hoffman as the current holder of the award.

2 Gary Backhouse CD on Caladenias of Australia: John Ewing said that these were to be collected from him after the meeting.

3 Mark Brundrett's Book: Mark had brought in a couple of the parts of his book for members to look at after the meeting. These were the parts on *Diuris* and *Pterostylis* species.

4 Orchid Conference: There were flyers for this on the table if members wanted to look at one after the meeting. Tour on 12 September will start at 9:00 am and end at 3:00 pm. A list will be produced.

8. GROWERS TABLE

Mark Brundrett: Pterostylis rogersii (Curled-tongue Shell Orchid) + Pterostylis sanguinea (Dark Banded Greenhood)

David Deely: Caladenia sp + 2 Eastern States species of Pterostylis sp.

Graham Bowden: Caladenia arenicola (Carousel Spider Orchid)

9. PRESENTATION

David Deely gave an interesting talk on Orchid Conservation and Propagation.

10. RAFFLE DRAW

Drawn by David Deely – the winner being Clive Pegler

MEETING CLOSED: 10:00 pm NEXT MEETING: 7:30 pm

Wednesday 15 August 2012





STATEMENT TO THE MEETING

After the recent field trip to see *Thelymitra apiculata* (Cleopatra's Needles) someone revisited one of the sites immediately after the field trip. That person/s dug up a number of the plants. This was a new and previously unknown site. Photographs of the diggings taken by a club member who returned within 2 days of the field trip have been viewed by DEC. The photos suggest the person/s had limited knowledge about orchids and/or how to excavate them.

The Committee would like to hear from anyone who was on the trip who may help with investigating this issue. Digging up orchids is illegal and attracts significant fines. This group has in its title that it is a conservation group, and is strongly concerned about this incident.

John Ewing



SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP FIELD TRIP REPORT

William Bay and Ocean Beach Saturday 7th July 2012

On a sunny but wintry morning, eleven members and three young visitors all dressed in their very best dark clothes met beside a burn off the South Coast Highway.

Having just recorded out wettest June on record, the burn had a lot of surface water with very few orchid leaves. Further up the slope the granite rock was a carpet of red *Utricularia menziesii* (Bladderworts), whilst hundreds of *Eriochilus pulchellus* (Granite Bunnies) had gone to seed. Many *Pyrorchis nigricans* (Red Beaks) leaves were found.

At our first site in the William Bay National Park many *Cyrtostylis robusta* (Large Gnat Orchid), *Cyrtostylis huegelii* (Midge Orchid), *Pterostylis* sp. 'coastal' (Costal Banded Greenhood),

Prasophyllum sp. 'early' (Scented Autumn Leek Orchid) were found as were Caladenia, Corybas and Pyrorchis leaves. An old nearby burn did not contain any orchid flowers let alone leaves.

Rain sent us for cover in our cars for lunch. Heavy continuous rain made the decision to go home early easy for some. Some time later the remaining members set out in light drizzle which soon cleared as we searched for *Caladenia meridionalis* (South Coast Spider). Not a leaf was sighted, whilst at the same time last year several flowers were seen. In a few weeks time we will be back. Nearer Ocean Beach a patch of *Pterostylis rogersii* (Curled-tongue Shell Orchid) and *Corybas recurvus* (Helmet Orchid) were identified.

We returned home as the temperature dropped and many more heavy passing showers made orchid hunting less than enjoyable.

Anna de Haan





Yesterday we went for a drive up Indian Ocean Drive and saw the Kalbarri Shell, about 50 plants flowering or in bud which was good considering the state of the bush after the fire earlier this year. We called into Moora on the way back and saw the first Moora Spider flowering for the season.



Williams – Narrogin Field Trip Report Saturday 21st July

A group of about 15 members visited the Williams / Narrogin area on the 21st July. It was a cool clear day and lovely weather for orchiding. Our main target was Shell Orchids.

First stop and meeting place was 20km north of Williams on the side of Albany Highway. Here the group found many clumps of *Pterostylis hamiltonii* (Redveined Shell Orchids). Some had finished flowering but many were still in good condition.



Second stop was the Williams Nature Reserve. Here we found several species of Greenhoods – Pterostylis vittata (Banded Greenhood), Pterostylis sanguinea (Dark Banded Greenhood) and Pterostylis concava (Cupped Banded Greenhood), Pterostylis sargentii (Frog Greenhood), Snails – Pterostylis dilatata (Robust Snail Orchid), Pterostylis sp. 'hairy' (Hairy-stemmed Snail Orchid), and had debate over whether one was Pterostylis sp. 'slender' (Slender Snail Orchid, all in flower and some Pterostylis recurva (Jug Orchids) in buds.







Third stop was on the Williams Narrogin Rd. Here we found Banded Greenhoods, Hairy-stemmed Snails and Jug Orchids buds.

Our lunchtime spot was at Yilliminning Rock. Several Banded Greenhoods were found at the base next to the picnic area and also leaves of Caladenia species. The rock has a steep climb to the top with views of the surrounding areas. Of interest at the top were pale coloured shells, Snails and two limp, dehydrated Thelymitra antennifera (Lemon-scented Sun Orchids). There were also many Caladenia leaves. Our last stop was nearby in the eucalypt woodland to look for more shells. One population of shells and snails was found in a rocky outcrop after much searching. After a lovely day with great conditions it was time to head back to Perth about 3:30pm. Thanks to Lyn Alcock and John Ewing for research and leading the trip.

Paul Winthrop

Photos- Paul Winthrop, Urszula & George Kokosinski



ACCOMODATION - BUSSELTON Trip

If you are going on our Busselton trip you may like to stay at the 'Pylon Inn' partly own by our member Ann Storrie. The 'Pylon Inn' sleeps up to 9 people in beds - probably more comfy with 6-8, but you can also pile on in with a tent or two in the back yard. It's a minimum of \$80/night – if more than 4 people, it's \$20 per person per night. It has two showers and toilets and two fridges.

If you are interested please let know Ann on

as soon as possible.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Thank you very much to all authors of articles, reports and beautiful photos. Your contributions are very much appreciated.

Please email any Bulletin materials to Urszula Kokosinska at

or call on ■

Articles for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 6th September 2012.

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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.

19th AOC Conference & Show

Perth, Western Australia

11th to 16th September 2012

"Wild About Orchids"



For the latest information on what's on and to book various activities and tours visit

<u>nπp://www.waorcnigs.iinet.net.au/19th</u> AOC Conference.htm

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 5th September at 7.30 pm

2012 General Meetings		
August 15 th	October 17 th	
September19th	November 21 st	

NEXT GENERAL MEETING August 15th at 7.30 pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office

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

Month	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	ADORP – Jay Steer – Thelymitra magnifica	
JUNE	lan McLean	John Ewing – Orchids of Italy	
JULY	Clive Pegler & Allison Higgins	David Deely & Graham Bowden - Orchid Preservation	
AUG	Peter & Debbie Proudfoot	Mary Gray – Conservation of urban bushland and the threats to our wildflowers, especially orchids.	
SEPT	John & Heather Hills	Alan Stevenson – Orchid Conservation in NSW	
ОСТ	Bob Steer	Jay Steer – Gibbons slides from WANOSCG Library collection.	
NOV	Thea & Kim Hanson	Photo Competition	

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2012 FIELD TRIPS

If you intend to take part in any of the below trips please advice our Field Trip Coordinator -

Oui		
Date	Place	Targeted species/Notes
18 th /19 th August	Eneabba area	
9 th September Sunday	Brookton Hwy	
15 th /16 th September	Wyalkatchem, Wongan Hills	
late Sept./early Oct.	Banjup	Caladenia huegelii survey
29 ⁻ 30 th Sept1 st Oct.	Busselton area	
early October	Boddington,Williams, Quindanning	Possible day trip
13 th /14 th October	Northcliffe Burn	

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.