



Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group

August 2015 Bulletin



Unknown species of wispy spider orchids. Photo by J. Brown

In Full Swing

Here we are at last, the orchid season is gathering momentum, good numbers and variety of orchids are being reported North of Perth and from South of the state although some inland areas are a tad dry with fewer orchids seen.

Members travel far and wide to see their favourite orchids or those they have not yet seen or just to enjoy anything they come across.

One does not need to go far though to find orchids. In this issue we kick off a series of articles on local reserves and orchid riches that they contain.

Your nearest orchid heaven may be just 5 minutes away!

INSIDE:

- Meeting Minutes
- ADORP Report
- Field Trip List
- Field trip reports
- Special feature—local reserves
- Online orchid identification key
- And more

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General Meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through November, at the BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park

WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 15th July 2015

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.
Meeting opened: 7:31 PM

CIRCULATION OF REPORTS: Attendance Book, Treasurer's Report, Conservation Officer's report were circulated to the members

ATTENDANCE: 40 members present, Visitors: nil

APOLOGIES: Emily Green-Armytage, Thea Hanson, Debbie Proudfoot, George Kokosinski

RAFFLE: Prize donated by Peter and Debbie Proudfoot

1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1.1 Amendments to the minutes published in the July meeting

Urszula corrected information reported in the bulletin which incorrectly referred to a burn in Nannup – corrected to Harvey.

It was moved Eddy Wajon and seconded Ross Fox that the General Meeting Minutes of 17th June 2015, as published in the July 2015 bulletin (and amended as above), are a true and accurate record of that meeting. *Carried.*

2. ITEM OF SPECIAL BUSINESS - Vale Bill Burton

Christine Lock spoke about Bill and recalled how he came into the group, the contributions he had made and some of her personal memories of Bill. Bill Gaynor added a personal reminiscence of his own. It was suggested that there might be a 'Bill Burton evening' where further memories could be recounted.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Supper Roster: Volunteers are still needed for September

3.2 Noel Hoffman's website of validated digital photos of all WA native orchids: Justin Brown and Noel Hoffman gave a brief outline of progress. The website (www.wanoscg.com) was accessed to demonstrate to members what was currently there and how it worked. An email address for members to submit orchid photos has not yet been set up but at this stage photos can be sent directly to Noel's email or given directly to Noel on a thumb drive. *Noel asked members to send photos of a reduced size (600x900) and generally in landscape view (some tall thin orchids may need to be in 'portrait' view). On the name of the photo include the species name, date [using format dd/mm/yyyy] and general location [eg Albany, Kalamunda].*

3.3 5 Year Plan: Committee will meet in November with the idea of producing a revamped plan for Mar-2016.

3.4 Speakers for 2015: We are still looking for a speaker for October.

3.5 Database: Ramon reported that there has been a trickle of information arriving to him and that there are now over 5,800 sightings in the database. He is hoping for a 'flood' in the near future. Those wishing to submit Orchid Sighting sheets can email them to Ramon Newmann [REDACTED]

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period 1st February 2015 to 30th June 2015

	MTD (1/05/15 – 30/06/15)	YTD (1/02/15 – 30/06/15)
Income	\$651.00	\$4244.45
Expenditure	\$127.20	\$1319.70

The treasurer is away and will not be back until the end of July.

It was moved Kim Hanson and seconded Tim Hodgkins that the Treasurer's report as circulated be accepted as a true record of the club's finances. *Carried*

At the bottom of the report were two items of note:

- Memberships paid as of end of June : 112 (out of 129) 86%
- Two new Members joined in June: Karen Johnston (SRG) and Emily Green-Armytage.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

18th June 2015 to 15th July 2015 Inward emails to the WANOSCG Web site and [REDACTED]:

Electronic and / or hardcopies of Newsletters and Bulletins have been received over the period from: Orchid Society of Western Australia Inc, ANOS Illawarra, ANOS Macarthur, NOSSA.

Date	Name	Subject
8/7/15	Margaret Collins	Workshops in 2015
8/7/15	Jess Suryn	Sustainability Award - Western Australia Regional Achievement and Community Awards
7/7/15	Margaret Petridis Fwd	Eurardy 10 year celebration
6/7/15	Tim Hodgkins	Back from Trip (Apology for July meeting)
26/6/15	Andrew Brown	Port Gregory Road
21/6/15	Marina Karyagina	Updated membership list
21/6/15	Murray Baker	OSWA's June Bulletin

Outwards correspondence and Business arising from correspondence:

On 20th June Marina (Treasurer) sent an emailed to 30 members who have not yet paid fees for 2015. As of July 8th two have said they are not re-joining and 10 have payed overdue fees.

6. FIELD TRIPS

6.1 Field Trip Reports were received and published in the July Bulletin from:

1. Southern Rivers Group about their trip to Albany Wind farm area.
2. Emily Green-Armytage (recently joined member) and Eddy for the 'Badgingarra' trip.

6.2 Upcoming Field trips

July 19th: Pingelly Nature reserves. This trip will proceed as advertised.

August 8th/9th: Northcliffe area. The planned trip to the Kalbarri area has been abandoned since conditions are too dry. An alternative trip to the Northcliffe area was advised at the July General Meeting. Members are asked to let Margaret Petrides know if they wish to go. Accommodation at 'The Kilns' has been provisionally booked. Again let Margaret know if you wish to take up this option.

August 15th - 22nd: WEEK LONG CAMPING TRIP to the east of Esperance focussing on Pterostylis species (snails) with Andrew Brown. The snail trip planning is complete. The maximum numbers on trip is 20 members and 10 vehicles (19 people and 10 vehicles at present).

August 19-20th: The Eurardy survey was to have been held from the 24 to 28th August but partly due to dry conditions and other commitments for Eurardy staff the survey will now be held earlier and over 2 days (Wed and Thurs 19/20 August). Ross and Margaret Fox are going and if any other members wish to participate can they let Margaret know.

September 12-13th: Master's property at South Bokal: MP has contacted the Masters and there will be camping accommodation for 6 or 7 sites and up to 20 members at the property (chemical toilets, no showers). Other interested members could stay at nearby towns or campsites (*Lake Towerrinning*). People can arrive on the Friday if they wish.

September 26-28th : Perup (near Manjimup) with accommodation at 'The Kilns'. Please advise Margaret if you are going.

6.3 Orchid surveys in summer burns sheets - A list of burnt sites as compiled by Kevin Uhe and published in the Bulletin. Kevin has advised that some members have already adopted some of the 'burns'. He asked that members do some exploring and report back on any sites that are NOT likely to be of interest so that the Group can focus on the more potentially productive ones. All members are encouraged to form a small group and adopt at least one burn.

6.4 Personal Field Trips:

Members are still requested to fill out the personal field trip report form on the front table to help the Secretary record their names and where and what they have found. None were done last month and again none were done this month.

Oral reports came from:

- Margaret Petridis about a trip to Manjimup/Mt Chudalup area and to some of the burn areas. A small 'girls group found an interesting cyrtostylis among 10 flowering plants and very many leaves which suggest a promising next few months
- Mark Brundrett who went to Pemberton reported on helmet orchids as well as *Prasophyllum parvifolium* (autumn leeks) and *Pheladenia deformis* (Blue fairies) at Koondoola.
- Noel Hoffman reported that *Thelymitra speciosa* (Eastern Queen of Sheba) is in flower at Tozer's Bush Camp (which is located on the road to Bremer Bay).

No other sightings were reported.

Members are again requested to fill out Orchid sighting sheets (created by Donna) and send them to the registrar (Ramon Newmann). If you don't have a copy of the sheet then send an email to the Secretary (John Ewing – [REDACTED]) and he will provide you with an electronic copy.

7. CONSERVATION

Tim Hodgkins commented briefly on his report. He underlined the damage that has been done by Norwest Energy in its survey work. If anyone has any further information about this activity can they pass it on to Tim. There were no other new issues arising this month.

8. GROWERS TABLE:

Christine Lock arranged for Annette from Kings Park to bring some orchid plants to the meeting. This commemorated Bill Burton's regular contributions to our meetings.

Mark Brundrett also brought some pots including *Pterostylis aspera* (Brown-veined Shell Orchid) and a most spectacular *Diuris* sp 'Munglinup' (no common name).

9. GENERAL BUSINESS:

9.1 Orchid workshops for 2015: At least 10 members indicated they would like to attend a repeat of the workshop run last year by Margaret Collins and Mark Brundrett. This is sufficient for planning to fix a date and venue for a workshop to begin for later in the year. Additionally it was suggested that the workshop might be run in Albany for the SRG. The possibility was raised of conducting workshops on other orchid related matters, for example on orchid photography or propagation. Would anybody interested in running or attending such workshops contact Jay or another committee member.

9.2 Jay made special reference to the efforts of our Bulletin editor (and Treasurer) Marina who has not only produced the bulletin and emailed it from UK while on her holidays but also prepared and presented the June financial statement. He expressed his thanks for her contribution.

10. PRESENTATION:

Chris French New *Diuris* species

Chris gave us a lively and interesting outline of the recently named *Diuris* species. Significantly his talk provided some clarity in the features that characterised each of the species he covered. Apart from the newly named species he also showed photos and discussed features of other 'new' species that have not yet been formally named. Chris highlighted that the general characteristics of whole populations needed to be looked at, especially as donkey orchids tend to be clonal and thus produce individual variants within populations. At the end of his talk there was a lively discussion including debate about "How different does something have to be to be recognised as a different species?". This almost unanswerable philosophical question is not even necessarily resolvable with DNA analysis (which Chris thus far has not entered into – he is a traditional taxonomist). What Chris explained is that careful study enabled discernible differences to be observed and where they form consistent patterns there

is justification for deciding that one group is a different species from another. The enthusiastic applause at the conclusion was a clear indication that members had enjoyed the presentation. We all came away with an improved understanding of *Diuris* and the challenge of making more diligent observations in an effort to extending this understanding.

11. RAFFLE DRAW:

Chris drew the winning ticket which was held by Tom Burbidge.



Caladenia filifera. Photo by I. Puddey

General Items



THANK YOU WANOSCG MEMBERS

Sarah Atkinson and the family would like to sincerely thank WANOSCG members for attending Bill's funeral. They also would like to thank members for their support and messages of condolence.

<< *Pyrorchis nigricans* sites required for KINGS PARK Researchers

Kings Park is researching deep dormancy in seed of *Pyrorchis nigricans* and we are needing to know where they are flowering in the Perth region this spring. Given the number of summer fires there are probably some great colonies that will flower. If members can keep an eye out at flowering time could they please email Emma Dalziell on

Emma.Dalziell@bgpa.wa.gov.au

Guidelines for Orchid Photo Website

Please visit web site on wanoscg.com to see preferred format for the photos.

Portrait images are preferred but not completely necessary. Images will be downsized to 600 X 900. Where images need to be cropped this should be done before they are downsized.

Leave Justin and I to put your names on the photos. All images should be named as follows e.g. *Caladenia arrecta* Lesmurdie, 26 August 1979 or *Caladenia hirta* subsp. *rosea* Wagin, 20 September 2007

For the present submit images where there is absolutely no doubt about their classification. Until an e-mail address is established images may be submitted on a thumb drive or C.D. or D.V.D – envelopes will be provided.

Noel Hoffman



Adopt an Orchid Project (ADORP)

ADORP REPORT PART 2 — FUTURE DIRECTIONS

By Kim Hanson

As ADORP has been in operation for five years now, some of you may be feeling a little stale with your orchid(s) and may be looking for a new challenge. If you wish to swap orchids with others or take up one of the recently described orchids (see list below) please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]

The following recently described *Caladenia* orchids have been added to the ADORP Project:

C. ambusta
C. bigeminata
C. perangusta
C. swartsiorum
C. validinervia
C. erythronema
C. longicauda subsp extrema
C. longicauda subsp minima



Caladenia swartsiorum. Photo by E. Swarts

Of course, if you wish to continue monitoring and surveying your currently adopted orchids Andrew and I are more than happy that you carry on doing this.

This year ADORP would also like all club members to assist us with the following projects if they can.

July-August - *Thelymitra variegata* and *T. pulcherrima*

Thelymitra variegata

The type (coastal form) of this species is now very rare, being known from just one location near Bunbury, but in the past has been found in scattered populations between Perth and Margaret River. It prefers grey sandy soils in banksia woodlands and is often found at the base of banksia trees. It would be great to learn about other locations if you come across them. Another (more colourful) form of this species is found in scattered populations near Hyden, the Stirling Range and Gull Rock east of Albany. Although more common, we would also like to hear about any new discoveries of this form.

Thelymitra pulcherrima

Some may not realise that this species is also known from two forms, an early flowering late June-July form that often has pale flowers and a mid August-early September form with often more colourful flowers. We would like to hear about locations of either of these forms, particularly the early form which has not been seen for some years.



T. variegata (coastal form).
Photo by M. Karyagina



Of interest is that it was the subject of one of the group's first field trips in the 1970s when plants were seen in flower in early July south-east of Lancelin.

October - *C. caesarea transiens*

Following last year's discovery south-east of Boddington, we would like to know if other sightings are made in bushland areas near Boddington in 2015. A survey has also been organised by Margaret Petrides.

November - *C. abbreviata*

We have sufficient information for the Dunsborough-Augusta area where we have several ADORP volunteers but are seeking information from club members on any sightings they make between Augusta and Albany.

Caladenia abbreviata. Photo by M. Karyagina

Time Sheets

Can we please start completing and sending in our time sheets? These are important to the Department of Parks and Wildlife and ADORP members do receive a Park Pass and other goodies. Remember, anything you do counts as time spent on your project. Thinking, planning, telephone calls, emails, time spent on the road, writing reports etc all count (I count daydreaming ha ha).

Participants may wish to make up a small info sheet on your orchid with a couple of photos, data and habitat. This could help locals help you locate new orchid populations.

Remember, if you need any help or advice please do not hesitate contacting Andrew Brown or me and we will do what we can.

A Brief Note on Online Identification Keys

By M. Collins

WANOSCG members will be aware that Florabase (<http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>), the Department of Parks and Wildlife database of WA flora provides not only basic information on the Western Australian flora (including a very brief description, maps of recorded specimens, information on name changes and often photographs), but also access to the more recent taxonomy papers published in Nuytsia, including Andrew Brown and Gary Brockman's latest publication on Caladenia. However, fewer people are aware that there are interactive keys to the larger plant families. These can be found under 'Interactive Keys' on the Tools menu. Unfortunately, there are no Orchid keys currently on the list, in part because of the rapidly changing taxonomy in this family, but also because most of the work preparing and uploading is done by volunteers so it is a slow process.

However, there is also another website called 'Keybase' (<http://keybase.rbg.vic.gov.au>) that may be useful to WANOSCG members because it does contain some orchid keys. The aim of the Keybase project is to get keys to all Australian plant genera online, firstly by adding those already published and then preparing new keys for genera where these have not yet been published. In the future the database will be updated as changes to the taxonomy and names occur. The project is well underway but is far from complete.

I have been working as a volunteer with Kevin Theile, curator of the WA Herbarium, while unemployed to add keys to this database and as part of this project I have incorporated several orchid keys for WA taxa. These in-

clude *Caladenia* species (WA), *Corybas* (WA), *Cyrtostylis* (WA), *Eriochilus* species and subspecies (WA) and *Pyrorchis* (Aust.)¹. The *Caladenia* and *Eriochilus* keys have been taken directly from papers published in Nuytsia (Brown and Brockway 2015, Hopper and Brown 2006), but I have prepared the other three from plant descriptions published in Flora of the South West (Wheeler et al. 2002).

I would greatly appreciate it if WANOSCG members could test these and give me some feedback. For those likely to travel further afield there are also keys to some of the orchid genera of other states and one to the Australian genera. I hope to be able to upload the keys to all of the *Caladenia* subspecies in the near future and further genera as these become available.

Notes:

1. The bracketed information indicates whether this is a West Australian key or Australia-wide key.
2. If the botanical jargon is a bit difficult there is a useful on-line glossary to terms used in orchid taxonomy at: <https://www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/cd-keys/orchidkey/html/glossary.html>

References:

Brown, A.P., Brockman, G. (2015) New taxa of *Caladenia* (Orchidaceae) from south-west Western Australia Nuytsia 25: 45–123

Florabase: <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>

Hopper, S.D. and Brown, A.P. (2006) Contributions to Western Australian orchidology: 3. New and reinstated taxa in *Eriochilus* Nuytsia 16(1): 29–61

Keybase: <http://keybase.rbg.vic.gov.au>

Orchid Glossary: <https://www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/cd-keys/orchidkey/html/glossary.html>

Wheeler, J.R., Marchant, N.G. & Lewington, M., (2002) *Corybas*, Flora of the South West 1: 359–360

Wheeler, J.R., Marchant, N.G. & Lewington, M., (2002) *Cyrtostylis*, Flora of the South West 1: 270–271

Wheeler, J.R., Marchant, N.G. & Lewington, M., (2002) *Pyrorchis*, Flora of the South West 1: 386

Some orchids are easy to identify. Check out this lot by **Margaret and Ross Fox** from their travels to St Ronan's Reserves and a burn area 4 km east of the Lakes.

From the top: *Eriochilus scaber* subsp. *scaber*, *Thelymitra spiralis*, *Caladenia reptans* subsp. *reptans*. Below: *C. deformis*.



FIELD TRIP UPDATE

Below are details on some of the upcoming field trips. For full list see the back page. Members wishing to attend or for further information please contact Margaret Petridis on [REDACTED].

AUGUST 19-20 — Eurardy Station Surveys

The dates have been changed for these surveys to 19th and 20th August only. Four members will be attending to assist with the orchid surveys.

SEPTEMBER

September 12th and 13th

South Bokal Private Property: we will be doing a search and survey for orchids in a variety of habitats and expect some interesting *Caladenias* and other species.

Camping sites are available on the property for 6 or 7 camper trailers or tents. A chemical toilet is on site. No water. Please bring all food and water needed for your stay.

Alternative caravan/camping sites are available at Lake Towerinning, approximately 25 km away, with toilets and showers available.

Other alternatives are the hotel at Darkan, approx. 50km away, or various options at Kojonup. (approx. 45mins drive away).

Please make your own accommodation arrangements and advise the Trip Leader (M.Petridis) if you plan to attend and where you plan to stay. A map of directions to the property will be sent to all who register.

September 20th

Day trip planned to either the burn on Brookton highway or York Rd or both, plus other locations nearby. Please advise the Field Trip Co-ordinator if you want to attend. Meeting details will be sent out the week before.

September 26th– 28th(Long weekend)

We plan to explore areas along/near the Muir highway, including burnt reserves; around Tonebridge, Perup and Boyup Brook.

A preliminary group booking for accommodation has been made at the Perup Forest Ecology Center off the Boyup Brook Cranbrook Rd, approx. 10km north of Tonebridge and 55km south of Boyup Brook.

Accommodation options include a 20 bed bunkhouse, a dwelling with three double bedrooms and a cottage with two bedrooms. There is also allowance for two caravans. Accommodation cost will be approx. \$20 per person per night.



Caladenia arenicola. Photos by P. McAvaney, K. Lightbody and I. Puddey

SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP — Two Peoples Bay Area 12th July 2015

Although greeted by a chilly breeze and a cold morning at our meeting place club members knew it would become a warmer sunny day. Thirty minutes later at Two Peoples Bay there was not a breath of wind and the sun was out.

Under Peppermint trees, dozens of Helmet orchids (*Corybas recurvus*) were found. The flower size ranged from pinhead to 8mm. Nearby, a large mat of Large Gnat (*Cyrtostylis robusta*) leaves with only two plants flowering was closely examined. In the centre was one sole Coastal short-eared snail (*Pterostylis* sp. 'coastal clubbed sepals').

Stopping three times along a gravel coastal road we added hundreds more Helmet Orchids and a number of Banded Greenhoods (*Pt. vittata*), two Coastal Banded Greenhoods (*Pt. sp. 'coastal'*) and many different immature *Pt. nanas*. Large and small rosettes of leaves; varying numbers of different shaped leaves on stems; narrow and broad dorsal sepals; long, short, thick and thin sepals. Only time and maturity will unravel the puzzle of identification. Finally, we could positively identify two Autumn Leeks (*Prasophyllum parvifolium*), but then found rosettes of immature bird orchids, again questioning which one?

A very successful day for Helmet orchids. However, a rather more frustrating day sighting so many immature *Pterostylis nana* plants. Making a positive identification will have to wait another visit.

Anna de Haan

Pingelly Field Trip July 19th

A number of members stopped off on the way to the meeting point at William Road west of Brookton where a number of *Pterostylis hamiltonii* were in good flower, along with *Pt. sp. 'inland'* and *Pt. sanguinea* with a number of *Pt. recurva* in bud. One *Diuris corymbosa* was spotted on the way out.

A good number of members met at the meeting point and a quick look around in the bush revealed a few *Thelymitra* leaves and a couple of rufa rosettes.

The group then headed to the western end of Pingeculling Reserve where the group spread out to see what they could locate. It was very dry in the reserve and orchids were not in great quantity but the keen eyes of Andrew Brown soon spotted *Pterostylis sargentii*, *Diuris corymbosa* and *Caladenia reptans* subsp. *reptans* in flower. A number of *Pterostylis sanguinea* were also in flower and seed, whilst a good number of *Pterostylis recurva* were in bud.

A number of leaves were able to be identified and it was thought that in a good season it would be worth a return visit.

After lunch the group moved on to a small reserve east of Pingelly where a number of hairy stemmed snails (*Pt. sp. 'inland'*) were located, along with a number of *Pt. recurva* in bud, *Diuris corymbosa* and one *Diuris* sp. 'western wheatbelt'. A number of rufa rosettes were also located.



Thelymitra speciosa, *T. spiralis*,
Prasophyllum parvifolium.
Photos by S. Hayman

The final stop was at Jingaring Nature Reserve where a number of *Caladenia hiemalis* (see photo) were in flower along the road verge. To see the number of these small spider orchids was the highlight of the day considering the very dry nature of the area. Keen eyes found one *Pheladenia deformis* out in flower before the group dispersed and headed for home.

Despite the lack of large numbers of orchids it was good to have such an enthusiastic group of members and overall it was nice to be back out into the bush again.

Kevin Uhe



Southern Cross 31st of July - 2nd of August

On Friday 31st July Kevin, Jeanette and myself headed east to Southern Cross on a trip to look for **Caladenia saxicola**, which we had missed last year on the camping trip due to poor early rainfall.

We had had reports of better early rainfall in the area this year, so we were hopeful of success. As you may be aware, there were forecasts of heavy rain in the eastern wheatbelt on Friday, and they were right! It rained from when we left Perth until after we arrived in Southern Cross.

Plans for a camping weekend were quickly shelved and we booked into rooms at the Caravan Park and appreciated the roof over our heads as it continued to rain during the night.

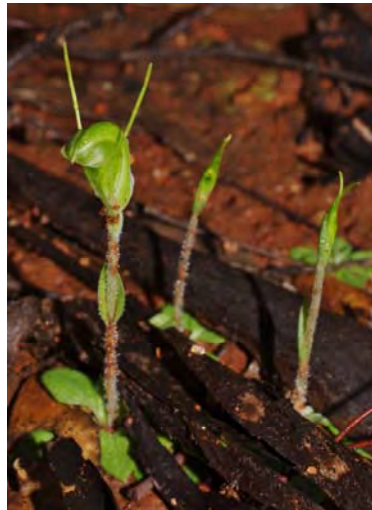
On Friday afternoon we headed north to Koolyanobbing as we had had reports of **C. saxicola** being found in the Koolyanobbing Range. When we arrived, we found that there was no access to the range due to mining, so contented ourselves with searches along the roadside. There we located several populations of the Hairy Stemmed Snail (**Pterostylis sp. 'inland'**), rosettes of one or two species of the **Pterostylis rufa** complex and **Thelymitra** leaves.

On Saturday we headed east past Yellowdine to Karalee rock and dam, where there is a lovely area for camping and picnics, with a flushing toilet! There is also a large viaduct, built in the late 1890's, taking water from the rock to a dam, and previously used for steam trains on the railway.

Around the rock area we found **Pt. sp. 'inland'** and **Ericksonella saccharata** in flower; **Diuris hazeliae**, **Spiculae ciliata**, **Pt. mutica**, **Thelymitra petrophila** and **Caladenia** sps. in bud; and **Pt. 'rufa'**, (more than one species) and **Microtis** sp. in leaf.

We had noticed some low rocks on the side of the highway as we passed on the way to Karalee, so stopped on the way back to have a look around. Here we were excited to find the target orchid, **Caladenia saxicola** in good numbers under Thryptomene bushes on the edge of the rocks. We also found **Caladenia roei** and **Pt. sp. 'inland'** in flower; and most of the other previously seen species in leaf or bud. We tentatively ID **Caladenia mesocera** in bud also.

L-R: *Diuris hazeliae*, *Pterostylis sp. 'inland'*, *Pt. mutica*.
Photos by M. Petridis.



In several places in the rock run off and surrounding woodlands, we sank into the soft goeey mud up to our ankles. We had to turn back on some gravel roads due to water running over the road, and could not access some areas we had planned to visit. In the woodland along the pipeline we found *Pterostylis mutica* in early flower and bud.

On Sunday we headed north towards Bullfinch and stopped at some rocks on the way. There we found small rock gardens with orchids growing in them: *Diuris hazeliae*, *Pterostylis* sp. 'inland' and again *Caladenia saxicola* in flower. We also found *Caladenia paradoxa* just coming out and in bud, then later one in full flower. *Thelymitra petrophila* and *Pt. 'rufa'* leaves were also there.

We went back down to Merredin on the Chandler Merredin Rd, past the Lake Campion NR. Around some roadside rocks we found a population of around 50 *Pheladenia deformis* in flower, a few *Caladenia roei* in flower and bud, one *Caladenia dimidia* in flower and one *Pt. sp. 'inland'*.

We pulled into some mallee woodlands north of Merredin Peak for lunch and found a few *Caladenia dimidia* and *Pt. sp. 'inland'* in flower.

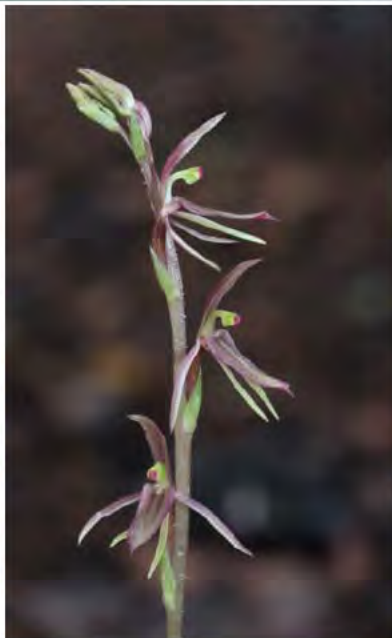
After a late lunch we headed for York, turning south at Tammin, and called into the Wallaby Hills NR east of York where we found one *Diuris corymbosa* in flower and some *Caladenia flava* in bud. It was very dry.

Arriving back in Perth around 6pm, we all agreed it had been an enjoyable and worthwhile trip, with the main target orchid, *Caladenia saxicola*, found. It is a new species for us all.

Margaret Petridis.



Clockwise from above:
Caladenia saxicola flower and close-up,
 road conditions west of Bullfinch,
Caladenia roei,
Pterostylis rufa rosette.
 Photos by M. Petridis



<< These photos of *Cyrtostylis huegelii* by **Justin Brown** are from the Boddington burn. They were taken at the end of July.

Lovely *Pheladenia deformis* below is by **Ross Fox**.



Juliet McKenzie writes from Denmark:

"Wendy and Jeff Spencer and I scoured the hills around Ocean Beach on Sunday 2nd August in search of *Caladenia meridionalis*. We came across a little group of three early on, but found no more in our intensive search through thick scrub and shrubbery. We also found a couple of nearly finished *Pt. vittata* and a couple of beautiful and from what I can glean, *Diuris* sp. 'Green Range'. " >>



Noble Spider Orchid
Caladenia nobilis

Mingenew WA 2015



Caladenia hirta



Dainty Donkey Orchid
Diuris sp 'north-western wheatbelt'

From Springs WA 2015

Diuris refracta



Caladenia longicauda subsp. *borealis*
Lake Logue



Arrowsmith Spider Orchid
Caladenia crebra
Western Flora WA 2015

<< **Michael Macpherson's** job takes him all over the state. He has found a range of orchids this year already. Most of these are chance findings as he pulls over at likely looking locations.

He writes: "Arrowsmith region has received adequate rainfall and the temperatures are high, so a number of plants seem to be running to flower early this season".

See more on page 15...



Caladenia vulgata from Darlington.
Photo by P. Richards

Darlington – Open space

By Pat Richards

This ridge comprising some 600 ha bounded by the village of Darlington to the north and a loop of the Helena River to the south doesn't appear to have a formal name. Clicking in Google Earth puts it in Beelu National Park, however, the WA Department of Environment and Conservation map does not, nor do any maps I have come across give it a name. It is a rugged area on the Darling scarp dominated by granite outcrops interrupted by dolerite dykes and some sedimentary conglomerate, and cut through in places by tree-shaded, steep-sided creek beds. It ranges in altitude from around 100 m to 250 m. The geology and topography accommodate a wide range of aspects, drainage and soil conditions giving rise to a wonderful variety of native vegetation, the majority of it flowering. In addition, the generally poor and thin soil has not encouraged the establishment of very many invasive alien species, so the natives reign supreme. The edges of the granite domes are particularly productive in the winter months as the runoff from the impervious rock creates wet spots to which several native species, including several orchids, have adapted. I have been regularly walking the fire trails of the ridge for exercise year round for about six years and in that time have photographed

and tentatively identified over 500 species of flowering plants, including some 30 species of orchids. There is a continuous orchid parade through the autumn, winter and spring starting in April with the unassuming bunny orchids and culminating with the flamboyant sun orchids in October/November when the hot summer sun puts an end to the show. There are several access points to this delightful bit of paradise – the southern end of Nelson Road next to the entrance to the Darlington Winery and the southern side of Oakleigh Road, Darlington to name but two.

Warwick Bushland

By Tim Hodgkins

Situated in the suburb of Warwick and bordered by Wanneroo Rd (E), Beach Rd (S), Erindale Rd (W) and Warwick Rd (N) is a section of bush that has a remarkable diversity of plants. This has been well documented by Mark Brundrett and others and there are several resources on the web including the following site which is well worth a visit for its beautiful photography:

<http://friendsofwarwickbush.wix.com/friendsofwarwickbush#!plants/c6l7>

As a resident of Greenwood I have been within walking distance of this bushland reserve for over 40 years but have only discovered it in the last 10 or so years. This came from a chance meeting with a friend who knowing my interest in native orchids pointed out the *Pterostylis nana* (snail orchids) that



Caladenia falcata. Photo by T. Hodgkins

are among the first to flower in the reserve. That particular year was 2006 and due to a fire in a small section of the reserve we also saw the *Pyrorchis nigricans* (Red beaks) for the first and only time since then.

Since 2006 we have been regular visitors to the reserve and in the key Springtime months August – November, nearly every day. We have been able to assist with weed control by focussing effort on the Gladioli plants that are unfortunately proliferating in the reserve. These can be removed and crushed with some success to prevent the spread of the weed.

Of all the orchids photographed and illustrated in the published information (website above) on the reserve we have been able to see each one in its season. During 2014 a new discovery was made with two plants of *Caladenia falcata* (Green spider orchid) and early in 2015 two plants of *Eriochilus dilatatus* (White bunny orchid).

One of the most beautiful orchids that flowers in the reserve is the late flowering *Thelymitra fuscolutea* (Chestnut sun orchid) of which there are over 30 plants in the reserve.

Warwick bushland is well worth a visit and has many distinct walking paths throughout the whole area.



Variety of coloration of *Thelymitra fuscolutea* from Warwick bushland . Photos by M. Karyagina

MEMBERS' PHOTOS - RECENT FINDS (Continued)

William Gye on his first trip north saw 16 species of orchids and one hybrid in a single day!

He reports that there is water everywhere and that lots of orchids blooming and big numbers going to flower soon.

L-R: *Pterostylis* sp. 'inland', *Caladenia cristata*



MISSING BULLETINS

A few people have complained about not receiving the bulletin. The problem seems to be affecting people with *gmail* addresses.

We believe the problem is caused by filter(s) on receiver's end. Some filters consider the wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com to be a suspicious email address especially when it emails to many people at once. If you one of the people not receiving the bulletin through normal channels, please let the editor know (write to wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com) - we will try to get bulletin to you some other way.

Do not suffer in silence!

WANOSCG photographic competition for 2015

Photographs are to be of two or more orchid species (or hybrids) in the same field of view. Members are reminded that photographs must be taken in 2015 under natural circumstances and not be the result of "Photoshopping" two or more orchids into a single photograph. Photographs should be 6"x4", 8"x10" or A4 sized and without a mounting or backing. Members may enter up to three photographs.

Caladenia drakeoides.
Photo by W. Gye. >>



BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to Marina at wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com. Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 1st September 2015.

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Upcoming Field Trip List

Month	Dates	Description
August	15-23	Week long camping trip to the east of Esperance focusing on <i>Pterostylis nana</i> (snails) species
August	19-20	Eurardy Surveys - limited numbers
Sep	12-13	Visit to a private property in South Bokal
Sep	20	Day trip to Brookton Highway or York Rd or both plus other nearby locations
Sep	26-28	Stay at Perup Ecology Centre and explore areas in vicinity

2015	ROSTERS		SPEAKERS 2015	
	Raffle	Supper		
AUG	David and Jane Cumming	Pat Richards	Ryan Phillips	Orchids of Central and South America
SEPT	Tom Burbidge	VOLUNTEER NEEDED!	John Hills	Timeline for Rocks and Orchids
OCT	Bob Steer	Alison Higgins and John Ewing	TBA	
NOV	David Lawson	Kim and Thea Hanson	Photo Competition and Members slides	