



BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

JUNE 1988

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP

OFFICE BEARERS 1988

Patron: Mrs J Holmes a'Court

President: Kingsley Dixon

Vice President: Beryl Yates

Immediate Past President: Bevan Buirchell

Secretary: Stephen Van Leeuwen

Treasurer: Lionel Johnston

Field Trip Co-Ordinator: Sid Gibbings

Editor: Ray Stapledon

Librarian: Wayne Merritt

Committee Members: Denis Burdinat

Chris French

Ian Greeve

Eric Swarts

Postal Address of Group: PO Box 323
Victoria Park 6100.

OBJECTS 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 natural environment.
- c. To learn their habitats and keep records.
- d. To have field days and learn to recognise the different genera and species.
- e. To hold meetings for the exchanging of knowledge and furthering of interest in Western Australian orchids.
- f. To affiliate with kindred organisations.
- g. To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.
- h. To do all such other lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

NOTE: Opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by the Group.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 15th June, 1988 at 7.00 pm, King's Park Administration Centre.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING - 3rd Wednesday of each month (March to November)

Wednesday 15th June, 1988 at 8.00 pm, King's Park Administration Centre.

Guest Speaker is Mr David Rose who will speak on 'Vegetation and Orchids of the Dryandra State Forest'. David has an extensive knowledge of the region and his talk will update members on new finds in this region.

BULLETIN

Contributions wanted for Bulletin editions. Copy deadline 1st of the month.

Next Field Trip

Saturday and Sunday 11th-12th June - 'Underground Orchid' - A weekend trip to check up on our old faithful Rhizanthella gardneri. Some of our newer members may not have seen this orchid yet so here's your chance. Accommodation Ardath Hotel - 5 twin rooms (\$25/room), 2 double rooms (\$25/room), 2 single rooms (\$20/room) (breakfast extra \$5/head). The Group has bulk booked all the rooms for Saturday 11th June so please inform Sid Gibbings [redacted] if you want to book a room. Once full, members will have to either bush camp or come to private arrangements.

Special 'Aussie' Evening Meal - Saturday 11th June, \$13/head. For 3 course roast meal book in with Sid. Come along and join the fun of a night out on the town at the Ardath Pub.

Sunday 19th June - 'Cleopatra's Needles' - This one day trip is to seek out another old friend Thelymitra apiculata. Meet at Reagan's Ford Roadhouse at 10.00 am. This place is about 1 kilometre north of the Moore River on Brand Highway.

From there we travel via Mogumber West Road to the orchid site, and if time permits we will carry on to Mogumber where a colony of Leporella fimbriata exists.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Noel Clarke reports from the Club trip to Pinjarra: Lots of Caladenia aphylla, but no Leporella or Eriochilus. However Beryl Yates has reported finding both of these in the same area, a week later.

Bevan Buirchell visited Wongan Hills and reports that Caladenia drummondii is in flower with lots still in bud.

Beryl Yates has also visited the same area and saw C. drummondii with some very tall Leporella and Eriochilus.

GROWERS' REPORTS:

Majority of my pots producing leaves, with Thelymitra variegata leaves well and truly up. Most Caladenia leaves are about 6 cm long. Beryl Yates

Hot weather of a couple of weeks' ago resulted in many of the Pterostylis vittata plants aborting their flowers. Kings Park

Also reported by a member that Thelymitra crinita leaves up and should be flowering by Bicentennial Wildflower Festival.

POTTING MIXES

Harry Lodge says: German Peat sterilised with hot boiling water, good for Pterostylis and Thelymitra, especially T. crinita.

Peter Brown says: Local peat no good because too salty. Use German peat and chopped up Casuarina needles. Also sprinkle light covering of original soil over pot to introduce fungi to new media - good for growing Pterostylis and Caladenia huegelii, complex species.

Mrs Juliet Reynolds says: Potting mix consists of 1/3 rice husks, 1/3 sawdust and 1/3 standard, good horticultural potting mix. Fertilizes with Osmocote - good for Pterostylis.

GUEST SPEAKER - TALK OF THE MONTH

For the benefit of those members unable to attend meetings, it is proposed to publish a summary of the guest speaker's address from the previous month's meeting.

TALK OF THE MONTH - MAY

The talk for the month was given by Penny Hussey of the Road Verge Committee on the role of that committee in preserving and managing roadside vegetation.

The committee was formed in 1969 and although having no legislative muscle has achieved considerable progress through gentle persuasion. The RVC works in the following areas:

- educating Shire Councillors on the benefits of conserving road verge vegetation and on the appropriate methods of keeping the vegetation intact.
- convincing Landowners of the benefits of the vegetation and discouraging annual burning.
- undertakes studies into management of the vegetation, especially where Rare and Endangered plants are involved.
- has instigated research into the prevention of dieback spreading during the construction and maintenance of roads.
- collaborated with Westrail in an effort to temper their use of herbicides which are affecting roadside vegetation where rails and roads are on the same reserve.
- coordinates work with the SEC and Shire Councils to find the best ways of conserving vegetation under threat of destruction due to new power line construction.
- have achieved some success in rehabilitating some roadside verges through direct seeding with local native species.
- currently undertaking a survey of all roadside vegetation to identify healthy bushland that may be designated as "desirable to preserve".

The community at large is at last coming to realise the importance of remnant roadside vegetation. Penny appealed to the group to become involved in the "Flora Road" survey as she believes that any roadside vegetation that possesses an orchid population must be in a healthy condition, considering the orchids inability to cope with weed infestation.

Bevan Buirchell

MAY PLANT DISPLAY

David Parker	Eriochilus dilatatus - 3 flowering plants, 4th consecutive year of flowering
Peter Brown	* Pterostylis ophioglossa s/sp Fusca (in bud) Eriochilus dilatatus (2 pots) * Pterostylis ophioglossa * Bulbophyllum aurantiacum * Pterostylis X Toveyana (native hybrid between Concinna and Alata) * Dendrobium bigibbum
Wayne Merritt	Pterostylis Angusta (6 plants, one 2 flowered)
Bevan Buirchell	Pterostylis Angusta
Andrew Brown	* Acianthus exertus (S.A. Mt Lofty Ranges) * Pterostylis baptistii
Ray Stapledon	Pterostylis viridiflora
Harry Lodge	Pterostylis viridiflora Pterostylis angusta (8 flowering plants)

* Eastern states origin

Pterostylis viridiflora has been synonymus with Pt vittata. However it is being reinstated as a good species.

Wayne Merritt

ORCHID CONSERVATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

HOW MEMBERS CAN HELP

The Act

Section 23F of the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950-1979, gives the Minister for Conservation and Land Management authority to confer legislative protection upon plants considered likely to become extinct, rare, or otherwise in need of special protection. Such protection is achieved by declaring plants to be rare flora throughout the State by notices published in the Government Gazette.

Plants declared as rare flora cannot be taken or destroyed in the wild, either on Crown land or private land, without the special written consent of the Minister. Because the Act binds the Crown, this requirement applies to Government Officers as well as private citizens. A fine of up to \$10,000 may be imposed on persons who destroy rare flora without written ministerial permission. Private landowners may apply for compensation if they are refused permission by the minister to take gazetted rare flora.

To be declared as rare flora a taxon (species, subspecies or variety) must be well defined, readily identified and represented by a voucher specimen in a State or National Herbarium, have been searched for thoroughly in the wild by competent botanists during the past 5 years in most likely habitats, according to guidelines approved by the Executive Director, and searches have established that the plant is either - rare, in danger of extinction, or deemed to be threatened and in need of special protection.

Declared Rare Orchids

In September 1987, 34 orchids were declared as rare and endangered flora under subsection (2) of section 23F of the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950-1979. 27 have been added and 4 deleted from the previous schedule. 3 of those deleted, Caladenia x triangularis, C. x lavandulacea and Thelymitra x macmillanii, are now considered to be of hybrid origin, while the fourth, Prasophyllum lanceolatum is regarded as being conspecific (the same species) with P. triangulare.

The Department hopes to illustrate all 34 orchids in a forthcoming publication on the "Declared Rare Flora of Western Australia". In the meantime members can refer to "Orchids of South-West Australia" by Noel Hoffman and Andrew Brown where 18 are illustrated (see species list for page numbers). For information on the others please feel free to contact committee members.

Rare Flora Field Report Forms (RFFRF) Members Participation

Although all 34 endangered orchids are confined to the SW Botanical Province, between Israelite Bay and Kalbarri, little is known about their conservation requirements, biology and ecology. While members of WANOSCG are actively involved in these areas, little information on new populations has filtered through to Department files, and until it does, these populations will unfortunately remain unprotected.

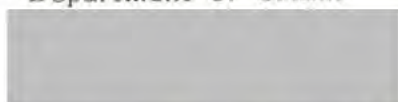
With members of WANOSCG ranging widely throughout the state, it is likely that new populations of Declared Rare Orchids will be located and with your cooperation I hope the above situation can be remedied. Members are urged to fill out a RFFRF whenever the opportunity arises and then send it to one of the following:

The Senior Clerk/Flora
Department of CALM



or

Andrew Brown
Department of CALM



These forms are designed to be easy to use, and can contain as little or as much information as you can provide. The minimum requisite being - your name, name of the orchid, survey date, locality and numbers of plants sighted. Of course, the more information you can provide, the better. Note: Lat and long information can be obtained from the 'Travellers Atlas (WA)'. If you are unsure of the identity of the orchid you have found, a photograph would also be invaluable. The Department can duplicate any photos sent in and return the original to you.

SPECIES LIST

Orchid species declared rare flora as of September 1987

(145 etc) = Page numbers in Hoffman & Brown "Orchids of S W Australia".

Caladenia

1. *C. bryceana* (145)
2. *C. cristata*
3. *C. dorrienii* (77)
4. *C. gemmata* var *ixioides* (159)
5. *C. integra* (133)
6. *C. plicata* (119)
7. *C. wanosa* (93)
8. *C. sp* (Murchison) S D Hopper 3270
9. *C. sp* (Esperance) D R Voigt 36 (143)
10. *C. sp* (Cape Naturaliste) S D Hopper 4518
11. *C. sp* (Jarrah Forest) S D Hopper 3990 (103)
12. *C. sp* (Northampton) S D Hopper 3347
13. *C. sp* (Leeuwin-Naturaliste) S D Hopper 4670
14. *C. sp* (Coastal Plain) S D Hopper 3400 (113)
15. *C. sp* (Moresby Range) G J Keighery 3328
16. *C. sp* (southern forest) S D Hopper 3553
17. *C. sp* (Muir) S D Hopper 3521 (97)
18. *C. sp* (salt lakes) S D Hopper 4162
19. *C. sp* (Dunsbrough) S D Hopper 5206

Corybas

1. *C. sp* (Albany) L Byrne 10

Diuris

1. *D. drummondii* (357)
2. *D. purdiei* (361)
3. *D. sp* (Kwinana) A P Brown 10.9.84
4. *D. sp* (Northampton) A P Brown 203

Drakaea

1. *D. jeanensis* (217)
2. *D. sp* (Kalbarri) A P Brown 8.82
3. *D. sp* (south west) S D Hopper 3566 (221)
4. *D. sp* (Great Southern) S D Hopper 3461

Prasophyllum

1. *P. triangulare* (253)

Pterostylis

1. *P. pusilla* (317)
2. *P. sp* (Northampton) S D Hopper 3349

Rhizanthella

1. *R. gardneri* (331)

Thelymitra

1. *T. psammophila* (19)
2. *T. stellata* (31)

RARE FLORA FIELD REPORT FORM

Gaz ☒ Proposed Gaz ☐ Not Gaz ☐

File No.: (leave blank)

TO: S/C FLORA, COMO

Population No.: (leave blank)

FROM: Andrew Brown

TITLE: Technical Officer / Flora.

TAXON: Caladenia bryceana

SURVEY DATE: 20th September 1987

REGION: South Coast

DISTRICT: Mt Barker

SHIRE OF: Borden

MAP REF: No/TYPE: Lands & Surveys 1:50 000. Borden

LAND STATUS: Nature Res. ☐ Nat. Park ☒ State Forest ☐ Water Res. ☐ Rly Res. ☐
 Shire Res. ☐ Private ☒ Rd. Verge-MRD ☐ Rd. Verge Shire ☐
 Gravel Res. MRD ☐ Gravel Res. Shire ☐ VCL ☐ Other (state) _____

LOCALITY: Stirling Range National Park and adjoining private land.
 Chester Pass rd on 3 km W of Red Gum Pass rd.

LATITUDE: 33° 36' 40" LONGITUDE 119° 33' 20" ALTITUDE unknown

HABITAT: SOIL TYPE: Laterite Ridge ☐ Pebble ☐ Gravel ☐ Limestone ☐ Granitic ☐
 Loam ☒ Peat ☐ Sand-White → ☐ Grey → ☐ Yellow → ☐
 Clay ☒

CONDITION: Perm wet ☐ Moist ☒ Saline ☐ Dry ☐ Other (state) _____

LANDFORM: Cliff ☐ Hilltop ☐ Ridge ☐ Breakaway ☐ Slope ☐
 Lake Edge ☐ Drainage line ☒ River bank ☐ Gully ☐ Valley ☐
 Lowplain ☒ Flat ☐ Sand Dune ☐ Firebreak ☐ Other (State) _____

low plain adjacent to small creek.

ASPECT: not applicable.

VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION: Open woodland over dense thickets of Casuarina
 over scattered low shrubs. Dense ephemeral herbs.ASSOCIATED SPECIES: Eucalyptus wandoo, Casuarina fraseriana,
Acacia acuminata, Hibbertia sp., Acacia sp., Everlastings.NO. OF PLANTS: Mature: 20 Seedlings: 1 Area Occupied (m²): 30
 (Estimated)CONDITION: Healthy ☒ Dying ☐ Other (state) _____REPRODUCTIVE STATE: In bud ☒ Flower ☒ Fruit ☐ Immature ☐ Dehiscent ☐RELEVANT OBSERVATIONS: e.g. Recently burnt ☐ Dieback ☐ Undisturbed ☒
 (please describe) Some damage from Rabbits in N.P. Grazing in adjacent private land.POLLINATORS: Native Bees ☐ Honey Bees ☐ Mammals ☐ Birds ☐ Others (state if observed) native waspsATTACHED: Map ☒ Illustration ☐ Photo ☒ Voucher Specimen ☐ Mudmap ☐ACTION REQUIRED: ☒ Taken ☐ (state) Careful scrutiny should be kept on
to any further damage from Rabbits and grazing stock.COPY: Regional Office: ☐ District Office ☐ Other ☐ (state) _____

Signed

A. P. Brown

Date

20th September 1987

Straight down Carrington to Forest Rd lights.
centre just past on left.

SUPPER ROSTER 1988

June J EATON
July Joy ST JACK
August Sara ATKINSON

RAFFLE ROSTER 1988

June Margaret ADAMSON
July Wayne MERRITT
August I & J GREEVE

WANOSCG

Registered by Australia Post
Publication No. WBH 1240

41 Gardner Street
Como, 6152

Postage
Paid
Como
6152

MR & MRS A & C BROWN

Next Field Trip:

June 11th-12th - A weekend trip. Underground orchid - Rhizanthella
gardneri.

Group to meet at the Babakin Store at 12.00 noon on Saturday 11th
June.