



BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

NOVEMBER 1989

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP

OFFICE BEARERS 1989

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Vice President	Kerry Pickles
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Minutes Secretary	Margaret Adamson
Treasurer	Chris French
Field Trip Coordinator	Ian Greeve
Editors	Bevan Buirchell & Margaret Collins
Librarian	Eric Swarts
Committee	Juliet Reynolds
	John Eaton
	Stuart Harris
Postal Address of Group	PO Box 323 Victoria Park 6100

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 environments.
- c. To learn their habitats 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 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 objectives.

NOTE: The opinions expressed by contributors to this bulletin are not specifically endorsed by the group.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

15th November

You too can contribute to the Group by becoming an active committee member.

All committee positions become vacant at the end of the year. Nominations are required, if you wish to nominate for a position please give your name, address and telephone number to the current President, Denis Burdinat, by the 15th November. Nominations will be accepted on the night of the meeting. (Please remember - if you are not a financial member you have no voting rights.)

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 15th November, 1989 at 7.00pm at the Kings Park Board Administration Centre.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 15th November, 1989 at 8.00pm at the Kings Park Board Administration Centre.

FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS

November 4th Walyunga National Park. Looking for *Thelymitra benthamiana* and *T. stellata*. Meeting at the corner of Toodyay Rd and O'Brien Road at 9.00am. Bill Burton will be leading the trip.

MESSAGE FROM FIELD TRIP CO-ORDINATOR TO ALL MEMBERS

I would like to thank all those members, including country and Eastern States members, who participated in Club trips this year. It has been a pleasure to arrange excursions and camps for you to enjoy. I know that we certainly have enjoyed your company and are always learning more about our native orchids, photography, and other areas of natural history. Thank you all, we look forward to seeing you all in 1990.

Ian Greeve

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

FITZGERALD NATIONAL PARK, 30th - 2nd October

The weather was cloudy and threatening as we drove into the Jerramungup Roadhouse at 11.30am on Saturday the 30th. Awaiting us were Tony & Chris Locke, Chris & Maree French, Bill Burton and David Parker. Our first stop was 6 kms south of the town, where we found 16 species of orchids including a lovely *Caladenia hirta* X *eminens* hybrid. This was just an appetiser for the next stop at Stock Road. Here were a potpourri of orchids (21 species) all included in the main list at the end of the report. This stop proved to be one of the top spots of the weekend.

After lunch we headed for Quiss Rd to find *Thelymitra psammophila* and *Caladenia caerulea*. *T. psammophila* were present but closed up, and we couldn't find *C. caerulea* - probably finished. The Ranger's wife had mentioned that apart from early rainfall there had been no follow up rains and this was supported by the fact that there were about 50% less orchids than last season. On our way to the campsite we stopped to look for *C. graminifolia* which grows in thick mallee scrub, so thick that one could become disorientated especially on a cloudy day like this one. Some sensible people after a brief look, gave up. Others, delved deeply into the dark recesses. As we waited patiently for the Trip leader and two others to return, we heard a faint whistle. Everyone shouted "What have you got?". This went on for a few minutes before they staggered out blindly, declaring that they weren't really lost; just misplaced!

After this we went to the campsite and set up camp. The campsite was idyllic, with lots of casuarinas, a creek and numerous granite outcrops, not to mention orchids. Next morning we planned an hour walking around the campsite. This stretched to two hours as there were lots of orchids to discover especially *Caladenia filamentosa* hybrids. We counted 20 species including a very tiny *C. filamentosa*.

After morning tea we left Calyerup for a day at Fitzgerald National Park. The weather today was lovely, sunny but windy, and we looked forward to seeing West Mt. Barren and Point Ann. Orchids were not prevalent on West Mt. Barren, however the *Hakea victoriae* looked splendid, as did all the flowering banksias and other plants. Having spent some time watching the whales play in the ocean near Pt. Ann, we then left towards camp. On the way back we spotted some interesting mallee country at which we found *C. graminifolia* in seed, along with 11 other species, which was remarkable considering the dryness of the watercourse and surrounding bush. Here we found *Thelymitra cananiculata*, *T. campanulata* and *C. douthae* for the first time this weekend.

As it was only 3.30pm we decided to go to Fitzgerald river. Last year this area was magic, this year it was a disaster with only a third of the orchids present (7 species) and some not at all.

Back at camp we settled around the campfire after tea. Conversation was very animated, until a Ring-tailed possum decided to drop in for a visit! Then it was cameras out! Suddenly in the midst of all this we heard a "bang" which erupted from Bill's tent. Interest in the possum momentarily abated as we discovered Bill's egg which had blown up! He had put it on to boil and forgotten about it. It was a good night.

Monday morning dawned wet and dreary. Some of us were staying on, some left for Albany, David Parker and ourselves left for home, stopping on the way at Pallingup River. Despite the rain we looked for orchids and found plenty of *C. filamentosa*, a few hybrids but no *C. bryceana*. The rain stopped around 1.00pm and we had lunch at a place near Ongerup which proved to be a magic spot, especially for hybrids. There were thousands of *C. cairnsiana*, *C. barbarossa*, *C. filamentosa*, *C. multiclava*, *C. dilatata*, *C. ericksoniae*, *C. douthae*, and other intermediate forms. Too many to name and photograph. An unusual colony of *C. dilatata* was found and all this ended our weekend on a high note, despite the rain.

Orchids found :-

Caladenia barbarossa
C. cairnsiana
C. denticulata
C. dilatata
C. douthae
C. eminens
C. filamentosa
C. flava
C. graminifolia (in seed)
C. latifolia
C. longicauda
C. multiclava
C. roellii
C. saccharata
Cyrtostylis (finished)
Diuris laxiflora
D. longifolia

Elythranthera brunonis
Eriochilus dilatata
Lyperanthus nigricans (in flower)
Microtis unifolia
Prasophyllum ringens
Pterostylis nana
Pt. recurva
Pt. rufa
Pt. vittata
Spiculaea ciliata
Thelymitra antennifera
T. campanulata
T. cananiculata
T. crinita (leaves)
T. fuscolutea (in bud)
T. nuda (in bud)
T. psammophila

Plus numerous hybrids between *Caladenias*!

The Greeve Family.

IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GO ORCHIDING - BY CLYDESDALE

INGREDIENTS

An orchid enthusiast/partner
Two teenage horse enthusiasts
One medium to large Clydesdale - by courtesy of Vardo Horsedrawn holidays
One Romany caravan complete with bunks, fridge, stove and kitchen sink.
Enough food for four days
Orchid clothes and good stout shoes (I know, the horse trod on my foot)
Last, but not least, a camera.

METHOD

Location, just south of Margaret River in the Witchcliffe area.

Have horse enthusiast teenagers drive caravan to next stopover. No danger as horse travels at 4 - 5 km per hour.

Follow along on foot with orchid enthusiast partner, taking in all orchids along the way.

Rendezvous with caravan at stopover and with any luck horse will be unharnessed and fed, and our meal prepared on the table.

When the mood for orchiding wanes, there is always the clydesdale to get to know and to groom - a most relaxing and rewarding pastime.

RESULT

Caladenia flava, *C. heuglii*, *C. gemmata* var *gemma*, *C. gardnerii*, *C. grandis*, *C. ferruginae*, *C. cairnsiana*, *C. brownii*, *C. sp* (Margaret River Spider Orchid), *C. sp* (p 115, Hoffman & Brown),

C. sericea, *C. longicauda*, *C. nana*, *C. menziesii*(leaves), *C. macrostylis*, *C. longiclavata* var *magniclavata*, *C. longiclavata* var *rhomboidiformis*, *C. latifolia*, *C. dilatata*, *C. excelsa*, *Pterostylis plumosa*, *Pt. barbata*, *Pt. nana*(in seed), *Pt. recurva*(in seed), *Pt. vittata* var *vittata*, *Thelymitra nuda*(leaves), *T. crinita*, *T. cornicina*, *Drakea glyptodon*(one a cream form), *D. elastica*, *Paracaleana nigrata*, *Monadenia bracteata*, *Diuris longifolia*, *Elythranthera brunonis*, *E. emarginata*, *Lyperanthus nigricans*(leaves), *L. serratus*, *Leporella fimbriata*(leaves), *Acianthus reniformis*(in seed), *Eriochilus dilatata*(leaves), *Cryptostylis ovata*(leaves) and one *C. flava* X (red flower).

HOPETOUN REVISITED

Chas and I retraced our steps to Hopetoun in late September to see the *Calochilus* species we found in 1988. We are fortunate in having local identity Helen Taylor as guardian of this hitherto undescribed species and she alerted us in early September that several orchids had shown and by the middle of the month had begun to flower.

Our route took us by Boyagin Rock, through Pingelly, Wagin, Katanning, Jerramungup, Fitzgerald and West Rivers, and localities in and around Hopetoun- then home through Lake King, Hyden, Corrigin, and Boulder Rock. What I found of great interest was that although we were within four days of our trip last year, because of differing factors, I would guess mainly weather and rainfall we found different orchids to those found in the places we visited last year. We found some orchids were absent and yet others we had not seen last year were in their place. Orchids we saw, collectively, were :-

Caladenia multiclava, *C. longicauda*, *C. flava* (one 70mm from tip to tip), *C. saccharata*, *C. reptans*, *C. nana*(out of territory), *C. dilatata*, *C. dilatata* var *falcata*, *C. discoidea*, *C. filamentosa*(footiana), *C. menziesii*, *C. filamentosa*(chapmanii), *C. filamentosa* var *denticulata*, *C. doutchae*, *C. roeii*, *C. pectinata*, *C. plicata*, *C. hoffmanii*(one with 3 heads), *C. longicauda* sub *rigidula*, *Thelymitra antennifera*, *T. crinita*(leaves), *T. nuda*(in bud), *T. villosa*, *T. campanulata*, *T. canaliculata*, *Diuris corymbosa*, *D. laxiflora*, *Pterostylis recurva*, *Pt vittata* var *vittata*(in seed), ? *Pt. mutica*(in seed), *Pt. rufa*, *Pt. roensis*, *Pt. barbata*, *Pt. allantoides*, *Pt. nana*, *Pt. scabra* var *scabra*(in seed), *Spiculac ciliata*(in bud), *Leporella fimbriata*(leaves and dead flowers), *Prasophyllum ringens*, *Pr. parvifolium*(dead), *Pr. fimbria*, *Pr. sargentii*, *Lyperanthus nigricans*(no burn), *L. serratus*, *Microtis unifolia*, *Elythranthera brunonis*, *Acianthus reniformis* (leaves). Also a number of hybrids : *C. longicauda* x *dilatata*(several), *C. flava* - mutant variety with narrow curled petals and sepals, *C. denticulata* x *doutchae*, *C. multiclava* x *denticulata*, *C. longicauda* x ? (pink petals). And of course our piece-de-resistance was *Calochilus sp* We were fortunate to see several plants with one or two beautifully full flowers. Only 14 plants have been recorded (to date) for this *Calochilus* species.

Margaret and Chas Adamson.

CANNING VALE - DIURIS PURDIEI - October 14th

On October 14th the club held a trip to look for new populations of *Diuris Purdiei*. At 10.00am club members met in the rain at Hope road where Bevan familiarised us with the *D. purdiei* plant.

We moved down Hope Rd. to investigate another burn where we found *D. purdiei* again but, unfortunately, there were only a few plants.

As it was still raining we moved on. We were led astray by Bevan as he searched for a burn on Anstey Rd. We stopped (as did the rain, thankfully) and trudged through dry quicksand to look for a burn that wasn't there! We didn't find *D. purdiei* but we did find a rather tall, interesting late flowering *Pterostylis nana*. At this site Eric Swarts attempted to get out of the way of a tiger snake, while Derek Mead-Hunter demonstrated his herpetology skills when he picked the beast up.

In the meantime Bevan had found the burn he was searching for and we headed off to Amstey Rd. where 22 plants of *D. purdiei* were successfully located. This spot was amazing for the quantity of orchids. *Caladenia heugellii*, *Diuris laxiflora* and *Leptocerus menziesii* were prolific, smaller *C. marginata* populations were also found.

We then travelled to Warton Rd. where unfortunately we didn't find *D. purdiei* but did find *Drakaea glyptodon* and various other interesting orchids. A few club members then went on to the corner of Vahland Ave. and South St. to have a look at another burn but this area seemed to have been invaded by weeds.

We felt it was a very successful trip from an orchid lovers viewpoint but it was disappointing that we didn't find larger populations of *D. purdiei*. It was also worrying to find out that all the sites we visited are earmarked for development. It reinforced our viewpoint that the battle for *D. purdiei* must be fought as hard as we can.

The following is a list of the orchids found at the various sites on October 14th :

<i>Prasophyllum gibbosum</i>	<i>Thelymitra crinita</i>
<i>Pr. ringens</i>	<i>T. antennifera</i>
<i>Pr. ovale</i>	<i>T. nuda</i>
<i>Pr. fimbria</i>	<i>T. pauciflora</i>
<i>Pr. hians</i>	<i>T. flexuosa</i>
<i>Pr. hians</i>	<i>T. fuscolutea</i> (in bud)
<i>Pr. elatum</i>	<i>Diuris purdiei</i> (22 plants at Anstey Rd.)
<i>Pr. parvifolium</i> (in seed)	<i>D. laxiflora</i> (tall swamp type - hundreds)
<i>Microtis atrata</i>	<i>Caladenia heugellii</i> (thousands)
<i>M. orbicularis</i>	<i>C. flava</i>
<i>Pterostylis nana</i> (? pyramidalis)	<i>C. marginata</i> plus two hybrids (both x flava)
<i>Elythranthera brunonis</i>	<i>C. discoidea</i>
<i>Leptocerus menziesii</i> (colony flowering)	<i>Drakea glyptodon</i>
<i>Lyperanthus nigricans</i>	<i>Monadenia bracteata</i> .

Marie French

APOLOGY : To the dead Red Tailed Wambenger found at Boyagin Rock - someone neglected to tell the editors that the animal found was a female with six young (also dead).

XMAS PARTY

The ultimate event of the year.

WHEN: Saturday December 9th starting at 7pm

WHERE: [REDACTED]
The home of the illustrious artist Pat Dundas

ARRANGEMENTS: Barbecue : Bring your own meat, salad and dessert. BYOG. or soft drink

DOOR PRIZE Contributions to the door prizes would be greatly appreciated. NB - Everyone gets a free ticket

Diuris Purdiei

This month has seen the political animals crawl out of the wood work and set to in fine fashion. In a recent debate in the State Parliament where the MLA for Riverton and a member of this Group Mr Graham Kierath was trying to present a few scientific facts and ultimately embarrass the Government, the Group was accused of being a "political wing of the Liberal Party". In a recent comment in the Community newspaper, the "Comment News", the Federal Member for Canning, Mr George Gear, has implied similar accusations. It seems to me that when politicians don't understand something or they are losing they start accusing people of being against them and thus for the opposition. I have tried in all my endeavours to represent the Group as a **Conservation Group** that has **no political ties**.

George Gear a Labour Party member helped me see Senator Richardsons people -- does that make me a Labour Party stooge

Senator Norm Sanders a Democrat asked a few questions in Federal Parliament -- does that make me a Democrat Party stooge

Graham Kierath a Liberal party member has asked questions in State Parliament -- does that make me a Liberal Party stooge

Sue Payne an Australian Conservative Party candidate is organising a Conservation Meeting at which I will be speaking on Diuris purdiei -- does that make me an ACP stooge.

I think the pressure is working when the Government has to stoop to such levels to attack individuals and the Group itself.

On November 9th at Gosnells Civic Centre there is a meeting for all those interested in environmental issues of the Canning Electorate. I will be talking on "The Plight of Purdie's Donkey Orchid - how the Government has Taylor'd the environment to suit their needs." If any of the members can attend to support me and the Groups cause please do so. Contact Bevan Buirchell on [redacted] for further details.

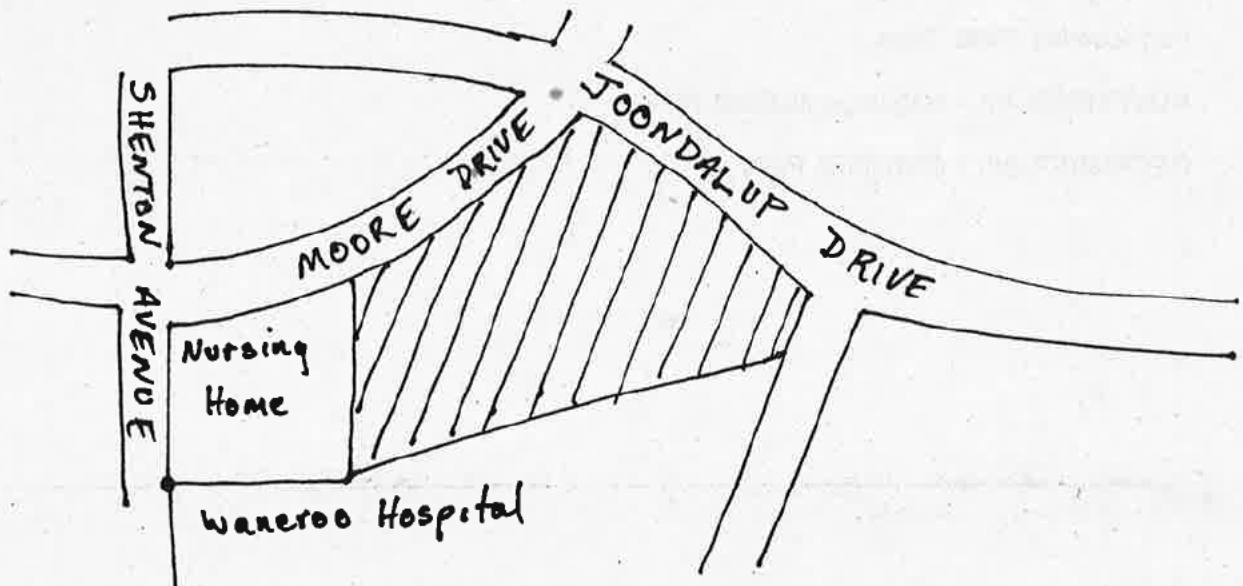
Bevan Buirchell
Conservation Spokesman for WANOSCG

Obituary:

Wish to bring to the notice of the members the recent death of RAY AXON. Ray had been an active member since 1983 On behalf of the members of the Group we send our greatest sympathy and condolences to his wife and family.

RESCUE DIG

Cath Bolin has received permission from the Joondalup Development Corporation for the Group to remove whole orchids from an area of land in Joondalup. The area of land is between the Western boundary of the Wanneroo Hospital and the Eastern boundary of Moore Drive. All those who are interested please contact Cath on 275 6953 for details of the time and place



SUPPER ROSTER 1989

Nov Marie French

RAFFLE ROSTER 1989

Nov Noel Clarke

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Victoria Park 6100

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Victoria Park
6100

MR M BRUNDRETT
SOIL SC. UNIVERSITY OF WA
NEDLANDS W A
6009

Forthcoming Field Trips :

NOVEMBER 4th - Walyunga National Park

DECEMBER 9th - Christmas Party