



BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

August 1994

OFFICE BEARERSPHONE

PATRON Dr Stephen Hopper

PRESIDENT John Eaton

VICE PRESIDENT Andrew Brown

VICE PRESIDENT Steve Phillips

IMMEDIATE
PAST PRESIDENT Joan Biddle

SECRETARY Noel Clarke

TREASURER Minna George

REGISTRAR & EDITOR Chris French

LIBRARIAN Tony Lock

AUDITOR Anna Brunnbauer

COMMITTEE Bill Burton

Jean Long

Joni Eaton

John Arends

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 recognise 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.

POSTAL ADDRESS
OF GROUP

PO Box 323
Victoria Park 6100



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING -
Wednesday, 17 August 1994 at 7.00
p.m., Kings Park Administration
Centre.



NEXT GENERAL MEETING -
Wednesday, 17 August 1994 at 8.00
p.m., Kings Park Administration
Centre.

TOPIC FOR GENERAL MEETING

Andrew Brown will be giving us a talk entitled
"Orchids of the Eremaea".



BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every
edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to
Chris French

The article submission deadline for the next issue
of the Bulletin is 1 September 1994.

- Please send in anything remotely newsworthy
which relates to our group, to our members (ie,
birthdays, special occasions, pen portraits, etc),
grower's tips, rescue digs, field trip reports, native
orchids and conservation activities. Anything
(almost!) will be published, provided it is of
interest to our group (or should that be read "of
interest to your Editor"?).



ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP FEES

1994 Membership Fees are now due!

Does your Bulletin label have a red spot? If so, you
are an unfinancial member of the group! Your
membership fees are now overdue for 1994!

The group membership fees for 1994 are as follows:

Single Membership	\$20.00 pa
Family Membership	\$20.00 pa
Junior Membership	\$ 2.00 pa

Please note that according to our constitution,
unfinancial members are not entitled to raise any
issues at meetings, speak in response to motions at
meetings, or vote at meetings. While we are not
trying to make the running of meetings too
technical, we must abide by the constitution as
lodged with the Corporate Affairs department (or
else we may face prosecution).

Please note that the updated membership list is not
held by the Treasurer (also in accordance with the
Constitution) so there is a small time lag between
receiving fees in the mail and actually updating the
membership list. Hence we may not have caught up
with your payment if it was received during the
last couple of weeks, and you may have been red
spotted in error. Please accept our apologies if this
is the case).

FIELD TRIPS



We need new locations to visit and
we are not getting a great deal of
response from group members,
apart from our old faithful regulars. We all have
locations close to us, or places that we know of that
have good populations of orchids. Please let John
Arends know of one of your special areas, either in
the metro area or in the country, that you would
like to lead the group to so that we can all share in
the orchids there. We need to know where the area
is, a rough idea of the orchids that grow there, the
best time to visit the area and the dates that you
could lead the group on.

If we don't get some more places to visit this year,
it is going to be a lean Field Trip Schedule so help
us to make orchid hunting more exciting for
everybody, and send in your details. Its amazing
how a few more pairs of eyes can add to the list of
discoveries for a particular area and hence expand
our knowledge of that area. You never know, the
extra information gained may be enough to provide
long term protection for an area under possible
threat.

The sooner you get the information to John, the
sooner we can organise your next trip. John's
address and telephone number are on the inside
cover of the Bulletin, or you can contact him at a
group meeting.

FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS AND MEETINGS

August 14, Shenton Park & Karrakatta

Joan Biddle will lead a trip to the Shenton Park
Reserve commencing at 2.00 p.m. Please meet at
the Dog's Home in Lemnos Street, Shenton Park.
Following this, Bill Burton will take over and lead
the group to an area of bushland in Karrakatta,
where some years ago the group relocated native
orchids collected on rescue digs.

**Please note: This trip is before the next meeting
and if this Bulletin arrives on time, then it is this
coming weekend.**

August 21, Darling Ranges

This trip has been cancelled as we have been unable to find a field trip leader.

August 27 & 28, Watheroo Area

Please note the change of date for this Field trip which has resulted from a clash with Father's Day.

Ian and Joan Greeve have volunteered to lead this weekend trip to survey the Watheroo area for *Caladenia cristata* and associated orchids. The campsite will be at the same place as on the June long weekend (see the map below). Please meet at 10.00 a.m. at the junction of Watheroo west Road and Coalara Road. Other details of the area are in the May Bulletin.

Please ring Ian Greeve on [REDACTED] if you intend to come along or if you have any questions. If we don't know you are coming, then we won't know to wait for you if you are running a little late.

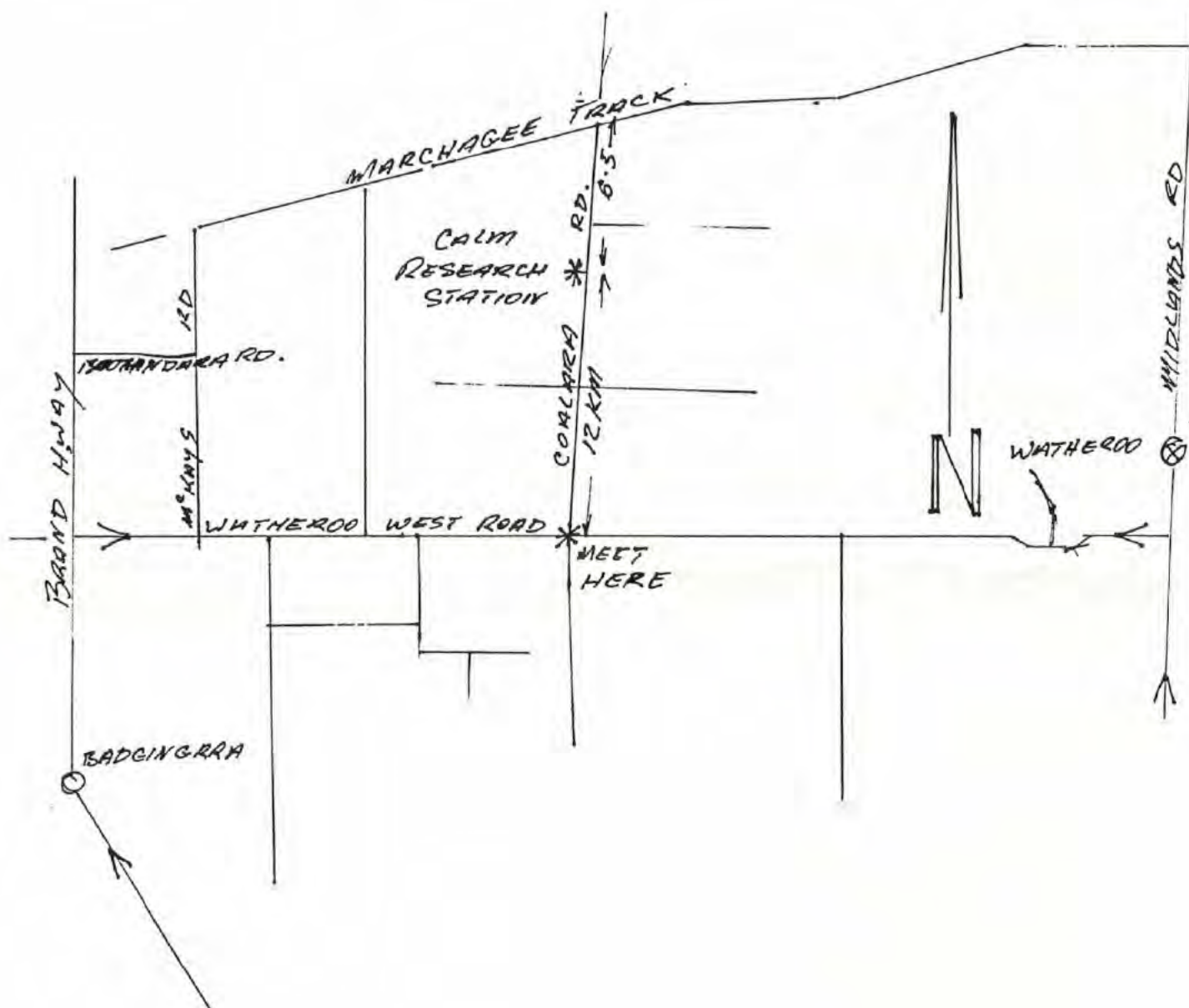
Once again, you will need to provide all of your own facilities for this trip although there is hot water and a shower available.

See the map below for details of the meeting place.

September 11, Perth Metro Area

John Arends will lead a trip in the Perth Metro area to survey areas burnt last summer. Meet at 10.00 a.m. at the Thornlie pub, in Spencer Road, Thornlie.

September 21, Ordinary General Meeting



October 19, Ordinary General Meeting

October 22 & 23, Walpole Area

Once again Bill Jackson has offered to lead a trip to the Walpole and Muir Highway areas to look for *Pterostylis* species (bird orchids and snail orchids). Of course there will also be plenty of *Caladenia*, *Diuris*, *Thelymitra*, *Prasophyllum* and other species to be found.

October 15 & 16, Scott River

Ron Foreman will lead a trip to look at later flowering *Caladenia*. This trip has yet to be confirmed.

October 15, Bridgetown Area

Steve Phillips has proposed a trip to survey orchids in the Bridgetown area. This trip has yet to be confirmed.

November 16, Ordinary General Meeting



Supper Cost

There has recently been some confusion regarding the cost of the supper provided to group members at the monthly meetings. Although the supper is generously donated by group members (per the list on the back of the Bulletin), the group supplies the tea, coffee, sugar and milk. To recoup some of the cost of these supplies, a modest fee of 30 cents applies. This can be left on the supper table and will be collected by the Treasurer at the end of the evening.

While on the subject of supper, it would be very helpful if everybody could rinse out their tea and coffee cups when they have finished with them. Currently this task falls on the shoulders of a dedicated few who have to stay back later to finish the job. By washing your own cups, you can share the load more evenly.



'T'-SHIRTS AND WINDCHEATERS

The prices for this year's supply of garments printed with the group's logo were included in the May Bulletin. Orders need to be placed promptly as we need a minimum of 20 garments before purchasing and printing is done.

The logo is 8.5 cm in diameter and is positioned at the left front unless you specify otherwise.

You may also have the logo printed on similar garments already owned by you, provided that the colour is suitable for white ink.

Used garments will be printed at \$4.00 per print but the group will not accept any responsibility for poor prints on used garments because the surface texture may have deteriorated due to washing, preventing satisfactory acceptance of the white ink.

Please place your orders with Bill Burton at the next meeting or by phone or mail to :-



We need to know :-

Garment Style

Size (Adult and Child)

Quantity Required

Colour

If not standard, location and number of prints on garment

If not collecting personally, your mailing address and cheque payable to the group which includes postage and packaging charges as detailed in the last Bulletin. If you have lost or misplaced the May Bulletin, then please contact Bill as above



FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Please don't forget to send in reports of all your orchid hunting field trips. We want to hear all about the trips that group members are making, not just the official field trips. The reports are a very useful tool for other members to use to plan future field trips and for you to report on your discoveries.

Field Trip reports don't have to be long and witty, so don't feel daunted. A brief description of locations visited and orchids found is all that you need to supply. Of course, long entertaining stories will also be reproduced.

Canning Mills Road / Mills Road & Canning Mills Road / Buchanan Road
17 July 1994.

Noel Clarke visited these two sites in July, the first being an unburnt area and the second being an area burnt last year. Orchids located by Noel included *Burnettia nigricans* m.s. (bud), *Cyanicula deformis* m.s., *C. gemmata* m.s. (bud), *Pterostylis vittata*, *P. aff. sanguinea*, *Diuris brumalis*, *Prasophyllum fimbria*, *P. parvifolium* (bud) and *Thelymitra crinita* (bud).

FROM THE PEN OF OUR BUNBURY CORRESPONDENT

Some people I know look for gold. Some people find gold. Some people I know look for orchids. Some people find orchids. One people I know looks for orchids. One people finds snakes!



Group members on field trips may have noted that ONE people always walks three metres behind SPOUSE. When startled by a loud yell from the rear the reaction is instinct. SPOUSE leaps vertically and forward in that order, experience has taught him he has just walked over a snake. The decibel rating of the yell governs the leap parameters - decibels are rated on the musical scales, high C indicating a fairly large snake harbouring evil intentions. So far ONE people has not seen a reptile that has caused her to completely lose her voice - imagine the gigantic leap if SPOUSE discovered the beastly all by himself. The mind boggles.

During the June field trip to Watheroo National Park, ONE people had occasion to exercise her vocal chords twice. Twice? Well you may ask - twice? in the middle of winter. Yes, winter is no deterrent to ONE people's ability to find snakes, she can see them ANYWHERE - ANYTIME. A couple of glasses of poteen and I guarantee she would find a couple in Ireland. There was not any poteen at Watheroo if that is what you are thinking.



NOTE: Reptile number one was light grey in colour and declined to stop and be interviewed.

The other was light fawn with three or four narrow bands - dark navy blue in colour - spaced along its body. A light coloured band around the base of the skull and a dark tip to its snout completed the picture. This one was extremely upset at being disturbed while resting - if it had ears they would probably still be ringing. It stood up on its tail and slashed the air with rapid side to side movements before disappearing down a hole. A beautiful but decidedly angry reptile.

ONE people would be pleased if any group member can identify the above for her, decibel ratings may have to be upgraded with the introduction of a second dimension added to snake size - harmless through to deadly.

Diuris aff. picta -- Three Springs Shire

During 1992 (I think!), one of our group members, Alan Tinker, who runs the Western Flora Caravan Park just north of Eneabba, discovered an ivory and purple coloured *Diuris*, similar in appearance to *D. picta*.

Several of our group members made the trek to Eneabba to look at and photograph this very attractive orchid, which flowers during October.

Last October, David Jones visited Alan Tinker and also had a look at the orchid. He believes it to be a new discovery.

Most of the people who have seen the orchid share Alan's concern about its long term future as it is growing in the road verge and is under severe competition from the local weed population. Consequently, the committee has contacted C.A.L.M. and the local shire to see if positive conservation actions could be undertaken.

The following letters are extracts from the correspondence that has taken place so far.

- 1) Letter to C.A.L.M. from the committee dated 11 October 1993.

Director
C.A.L.M.
Attention: Mr Ken Aitkens, Senior Botanist
Nature Conservation

Diuris aff picta - Bunny Road, Three Springs.

The committee of the W.A. Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group have requested me to write to you about a population of Diuris aff picta which is in danger of extinction by weeds and grasses. The population is situated in Bunny Road, Three Springs near the north bank of the Arrowsmith River and on the western side of the road It is the only known population.

A group member, Mr Alan Tinker, the owner of Western Flora Caravan Park at Eneabba has talked to the Three Springs Shire who are willing to co-operate to conserve the population if requested to do so by C.A.L.M.

The committee consider that spraying with a selective herbicide if one exists may be the answer.

The group is seeking your assistance to conserve this orchid. Andrew Brown has suggested himself as a referee.

Original signed
N. Clarke
Hon Secretary

- 2) Letter from C.A.L.M. to the group dated 8 December 1993.

Hon Secretary
WA Native Orchid
Study and Conservation Group

I refer to your letter of 18 November 1993 in relation to *Diuris* sp. (Three Springs).

I have approached the Shire of Three Springs (as per the attached copy of my memo dated 8 December 1993) and will provide you with further advice in due course.

The Department of Conservation and Land Management thanks you for bringing this matter to our notice and for your interest in the conservation of the States rare and endangered plant species.

Original signed for
Syd Shea
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- 3) Letter from C.A.L.M. to Shire of Three Springs dated 8 December 1993.

SHIRE CLERK
SHIRE OF THREE SPRINGS

Dear Sir,

Diuris sp. (Three Springs) aff. *picta*

The WA Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group (WANOSCG) has provided advice to the Department of Conservation and Land Management concerning an orchid species along Bunny Road, Three Springs.

The species is apparently not known from any other site is being threatened with extinction by introduced weeds and grasses. Advice recently provided to CALM suggests that it may be a new species.

The small population of *Diuris* sp. (Three Springs) occurs near the north bank of the Arrowsmith River on the western road verge of Bunny Road. I understand that Mr Alan Tinker, from the Western Flora Caravan Park, has discussed the location and management of this species with your Shire. Further, Mr Tinker and members of WANOSCG have offered to undertake some weed control work at the road verge site as a means of improving the status of this species in the wild.

It would appear appropriate to consider some action aimed at enhancing the survival of this species and I am keen to involve local enthusiasts in this regard subject to the approval of your Shire. Could I have your advice in this regard please? Any weed control program would of course be documented and forwarded to your office for approval prior to the commencement of the work.

In addition, you may wish to consider site markers as a means of protecting the orchid from accidental damage.

Yours faithfully

Original signed for
Syd Shea
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- 5) Letter to C.A.L.M. from the committee dated 17 February 1994.

Director
C.A.L.M.

Atn: Mr M. O'Donoghue

Ref *Diuris* sp. (Three Springs)

The committee of the WA Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group have requested me to ascertain the progress to conserve this population.

Could you please advise?

Original signed
N. Clarke
Hon Secretary.

- 6) Letter from committee to Mr Charles Strachen of the Three Springs Shire.

*Mr Charles Strachen
Three Springs Shire*

Dear Charles,

Andy Brown, one of our members, has requested me to write to you about an endangered donkey orchid growing in Bunny Road.

I have been advised by Mr Alan Tinker, another member, that you have liaised with him and that CALM endangered flora signs are to be erected.

Our club intends to hand weed the area when the orchid is above ground. In the meantime we hope that through official channels, spraying the area with a selective herbicide while the orchid is dormant will take place.

If there is any assistance you may need from us please don't hesitate to request it. Thankyou for your interest.

*Original signed
N. Clarke
Hon Secretary*

- 7) letter to C.A.L.M. from Three Springs Shire dated 5 January 1994.

*Executive Director
Department of Conservation and Land
Management*

ATTENTION: M O'Donoghue

Dear Mr O'Donoghue

DIURIS SP (THREE SPRINGS) aff. picta

I refer to your letter of the 8th December 1993 regarding the future preservation of the above rare orchid.

I am pleased to advise that Council considered this matter at its meeting held on the 14th December 1993, and has agreed to approve carrying out of a

weed control program on the road verge to improve the status of these species in the wild.

Mr Charles Strachen, our Council gardener has been advised of the orchid, and he is willing to do whatever is required to protect the orchid.

Yours faithfully

*Original signed
Geoff Edwards
SHIRE CLERK*

The committee is continuing to work with C.A.L.M., Alan Tinker and the Three Springs Shire to try to protect this population of *Diuris* aff. *picta*.

A hand weeding working bee is planned to take place later this year and we would appreciate if group members would provide assistance. We will also try to clear some blocked roadside drains at the same time. If you can help, please let Noel Clarke know.

We will continue to keep you posted as further developments unfold. Remember, conservation of native orchids is one of the main objectives of this group.

MINUTES OF W.A.N.O.S.C.G. GENERAL MEETING - 20 JULY 1994.

VENUE: Kings Park Board Administration Centre.

The meeting commenced at 2015 hours.

The President welcomed new members and visitors.

The President advised the meeting that only financial members could speak or vote.

PRESENT:

As per attendance book.

MINUTES:

It was moved M. Tiong / D. Parker "that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 15 June 1994 be accepted." Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Nil

CORRESPONDENCE:

As per correspondence list.

The Secretary read the letter from the Ministry of Fair Trading and the Group's reply, regarding a complaint that we have not been operating in accordance with the Constitution (made by one of our group members).

Letters to the Hon. Kevin Minson regarding proposed mining in Chinocup Nature Reserve and to Kings Park regarding the Wildflower festival were also read out to the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer's Report was circulated.

Members were advised that group stickers were once again available at the new price of \$1.50.

FIELD TRIPS:

A barbecue tea will be held on the 6 August trip to Walpole.

Shenton Park and Karrakatta field trip to be organised.

PLANT TABLE:

Growers talked about their plants.

Bill Burton commented on his aphid problem.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

September supper roster vacancy filled by J. Biddle who will also assist at the Kings Park Festival.

Raffle provided by Christine Lock, was won by Jean Long.

A delightful supper was provided by Joni Eaton.

Judy Williams showed us slides of orchids of the Brookton Shire which has many productive sites.

Meeting closed at 2140.

FOR SALE.

ORCHIDS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.. 2ND ED.

WANOSCG's second publication of the cultivation and natural history of WA native orchids is now available with 14 pages of colour photographs. The book is priced at \$ 9.00 (plus \$2.00 postage for

WANOSCG members or \$12.00 (plus \$2.00 postage) for non-members.

5 IN 1 SURVIVAL AID

In order to encourage safety awareness in the bush on field trips, the group purchased 50 "Survival Aids". These are basically a whistle and compass combination but also incorporate a small signalling mirror, a fire starter flint, a nylon lanyard (to hang it around your neck) and a water proof match container. In addition, the compass has a luminous dial.

We have sold around half of these items and are now offering the remaining "Survival Aids" at the discounted price of \$4.00 (plus \$2.00 for postage and handling).

I recommend members carry a whistle and compass combination of some sort. Even our most experienced members have been lost at some time in the bush.

PAT DUNDAS NATIVE ORCHID CARDS

Packs of 6 blank cards and envelopes featuring different W.A. native orchids by Pat Dundas are available from WANOSCG.

These are excellent value at a price of \$8.00. They would make a superb gift or would be a perfect way to contact friends or relatives while highlighting the colour and beauty of our W.A. orchids.

WANOSCG NAME BADGES

Be proud of yourself. Let everybody at group meetings and field trips know who you are. Buy a WANOSCG name badge embossed with your name and wear it with pride. These are available for \$7.00. (cost price).

WANOSCG STICKERS

Don't get lost on the next field trip (or if you do, take somebody else with you). Purchase a WANOSCG sticker for your car window. The stickers are 150 mm square, green on white, making them visible from quite a distance. They are priced at \$1.50.

All of the above items can be purchased from Minna George at any meeting of the group, or can be ordered from Minna by mail (address is on the inside cover). Please add \$2.00 for postage and packaging for each item.

SUPPER ROSTER		RAFFLE ROSTER	
August	T. Bishop	August	W. Merritt
September	J. Biddle	September	M. Tiong
October	J. Long	October	J. Long

WANOSCG
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PO Box 323
 Victoria Park 6100

SURFACE
 MAIL

POSTAGE
 PAID
 VIC.PARK
 6100

Forthcoming Field Trips

August 14, Shenton Park and Karrakatta

August 27 & 28, Watheroo Area

September 11, Perth Metro Area