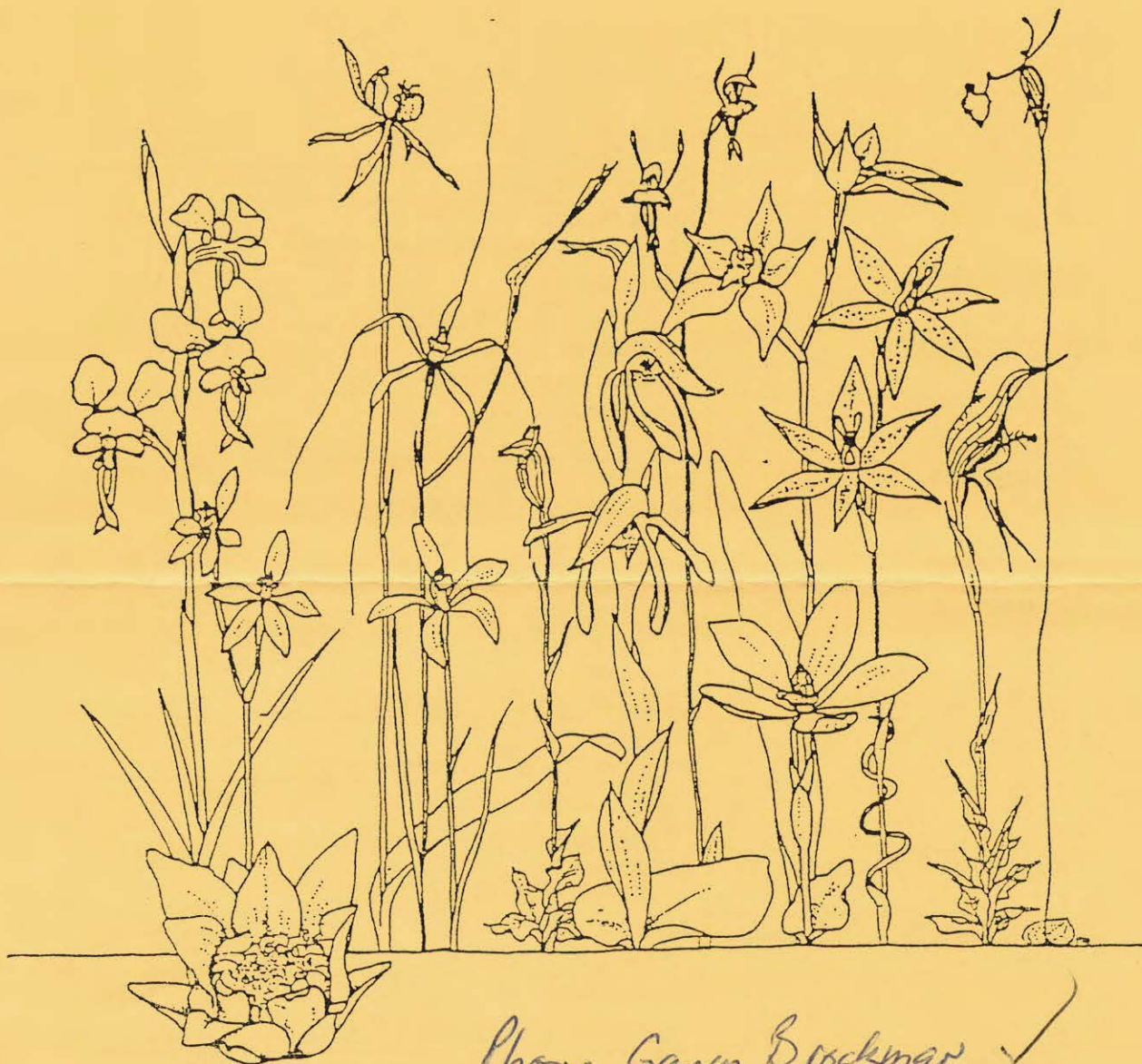




*Photo Garry Brockmar ✓
Alex - Slides of Herbarium*

BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

NOVEMBER 1997

OFFICE BEARER	ADDRESS	PHONE
PATRON	Dr. Steve Hopper	
PRESIDENT	Steve Phillips	
VICE PRESIDENT	Noel Clarke	
VICE PRESIDENT	Ian Geeve	
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	John Eaton	
SECRETARY	Joni Eaton	
TREASURER	Christine Lock	
COMMITTEE	John Haynes	
	Tony Lock	
	Don Manners	
	Joan Greeve	
FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR	Stuart Harris	
LIBRARIAN	Bill Burton	
EDITOR	Noel Clarke	
AUDITOR	Ross Wilton	

OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

- a To promote interest in and preserve Western Australian indigenous orchids.
- b To learn the best means of cultivation and do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their environment.
- c To learn their 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 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 this group.

POSTAL ADDRESS OF GROUP: PO Box 323
Vic Park 6979

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 19 November 97 at 7.00 p.m., Kings Park Administration Centre.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 19 November 97 at 8.00 p.m., Kings Park Administration Centre.

GUEST SPEAKER

Members slide night. Please bring your slides for viewing.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

November 19 .. General Meeting.

December 6/7 .. Field Trip to Walpole and Xmas Party.

ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Group membership fees are as follows:

Single Membership \$20.00 pa

Family Membership \$20.00 pa

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Noel Clarke, [REDACTED]. The article submission deadline for the next issue is 1 March 1998.

SUPPER COST

Each month our supper is generously donated by group members (per the list on the back of the Bulletin), while the group supplies the tea, coffee, sugar and milk. To recoup some of the cost of these supplies, a modest fee of 50 cents applies. This can be left on the supper table and will be collected by the Treasurer at the end of the evening.

Also please rinse out your cups when you have finished with them.

ORCHID TALK

Have a computer? Connected to the internet? Want to talk orchids? Give your Editor your E-mail address for publication. We have one member connected. His address is [REDACTED].

\$ FOR SALE \$

Rufa Trip Report \$10.00

New Caladenia flava badges \$4.00 to members, \$5.00 to non-members.

Name badge \$8.50

Orchids of WA (2nd Ed) \$9.00

Orchids of SW Australia \$40.00

Car stickers \$1.50

Pat Dundas cards \$8.00

Bush Survival Kit \$4.00

FIELD TRIP XMAS PARTY WEEKEND 6-7 DECEMBER TO WALPOLE

Meet at the Park opposite the shops at 10.30 a.m. on 6 December. There should be 15 species to see. The Xmas Party will be held at "The Start Party Centre" in Chugg St, Walpole. BYO BBQ & chair. Gloria & Alice will do salads & fruit salad and Elizabeth & Thomas Gener have offered a lamb on the spit. The Coalmine Beach Caravan Park has onsite accommodation, ph 0898401026 and budget accommodation is available at Tingle All Over, ph 0898401041, at \$20/single, \$32-\$35 for two & family 3-4-5 \$45/50/55. I suggest you book to avoid disappointment. Please advise Stuart Harris, [REDACTED] if attending.

FIELD TRIP TO STIRLING RANGES SEPT. 27-29

To make sure you're not the reporter for this trip, you had to arrive the night before the meeting time. In attendance were Alan & Pam, Stuart & Mary, Don & Eva, Katie & Joe, Karen & Mark, Ann & Wayne, Michael & Del, Margaret, Don, Rod, Wayne & his two sons Justin & Rhey, Eric & son Anthony, visitors from Germany Robert & Eva, and Donna & Eddy.

We couldn't have asked for better weather conditions. The first day was calm but overcast after early morning sun, great for the photographers. We stopped four times along Chester Pass Road from the Stirling Range Caravan Park to Moingup Springs and twice on Formby South Road. Every stop rewarded us with a great show of orchids. A total of 36 species plus hybrids were seen which included the following:

Caladenia varians subsp variens (as good as any other name), polychroma, pulchra, plicata, discoidea, longicauda subsp eminens, heberleana, pectinata, falcata, ensata, arrecta, cairnsiana, bryceana subsp bryceana, hirta subsp rosea, reptans, falcata; Cyanicula sericea, gemma; Elythranthera brunonis; Drakonorchis barbarossa, Hybrid barbarossa x Caladenia falcata; Drakea glyptodon; Paracaleana nigrita; Lyperanthus serratus; Thelymitra flexuosa, antennifera; Prasophyllum gracile; Pterostylis recurva, barbata, aff barbata; Diuris amplissima, corymbosa, longifolia, laxiflora, laevis. Not being one for taking botanical names for gospel until we see them peer reviewed and published, we have used earlier (accepted?) names for the Caladenia varians and longicauda group. In the evening Alan and Pam gave us a slide show.

The second day was perfect. We travelled on Salt River Road which had been burned in January 1997. We made three stops before lunch and one of those stops was at a salt lake which was not burned. The list of orchids included the same ones as the day before except we didn't see all the Diuris, only laxiflora. The sighting of the day was Pyrochus nigricans, but we also saw the following:

Caladenias longicauda subsp longicauda, filifera, longicauda subsp redacta, doutchiae, nana subsp nana, nana subsp unita, marginata, saccharata, magniclavata. There were many hybrids. A few combinations were identifiable: Caladenia cairnsiana x polychroma, cairnsiana x heberleana, doutchiae x heberleana. Other orchids seen were Cyanicula gemmata white form with a hint of blue or was it the real ixioides candida; Leptoceras menziesii; Drakea livida, gracilis; Thelymitra campanulata; Prasophyllum ovale, cyphochilum, cucullata, hians, elatum, gracile (including some very dark forms); Pterostylis concava, sargentii. This gave us a total of 40 species plus hybrids for the day, including 20 new ones.

We unfortunately missed the evening's open air slide show but we were told it was great.

The third and last day of the weekend was sunny, bright and warm, but some people had to leave us early. For the rest of us it was a day for Thelymitras seeing 8 different species. We travelled north towards Borden, turned onto Nightwell, Toompup and Oakdale roads. The total species we saw were 33 which included 12 new species. These were Caladenia multiclavia, hirta subsp hirta; Cyanicula caerulea subsp apertata; Thelymitra villosa, psammophila, antennifera, variegata, azurea, campanulata, pauciflora, macrophylla; Microtis media; Pterostylis aff pusilla, ciliata.

The total count for the weekend was 68 species plus Hybrids. A great time was had by all. There were many interesting sidelights to the trip, including a car (Registration No. 9CY356) which got bogged on the side of the road in loose gravel, a delightful dinner at the Stirling Range Cafe and a priest who held up Mass for us at South Stirling as we raced from a mass of orchids. Thanks to Stuart and Mary for organizing us, and to Alan and Pam for showing us where a lot of orchids were to be found.

Donna and Eddy Wajon.

BOYUP BROOK / TONEBRIDGE FIELD TRIP STORRIE STYLE

When I dive, I see Ceratosoma brevicaudatum, Chromodoris westraliensis and Pterios volitans. That is my forte, orchids are yours. So firstly, thank you very much Noel for the list of foreign names occurring at the end of this article. Secondly, I joined the Orchid Society to go bush with a great bunch of people and to photograph caterpillars, spiders, birds, frogs, possums and even wildflowers, including orchids. Therefore you may find this article a tad strange or perhaps totally radical. Perhaps next time, I won't be allowed to write one! (Only if your not last. Ed.)

We arrived early but last, a few hundred metres out from Boyup Brook. There were cute little Cossack orchids everywhere. Ah ha. I'd seen these before - in fact they were on my first run as a visitor with Steve Phillips. They must be as common as muck, so I took a few photos and moved on to find rarer varieties. Oops, didn't quite understand all the excitement until Mary and Stuart explained that they'd never seen a Cossack before, and these were rarely found anywhere else.

Next someone found a rufa. I thought they said rufus. What, red kangaroos in this part of the country? Well this rufa was a lot easier to photograph and very beautiful, but then, I couldn't even find a rufa in the orchid book. At least I know it's a Pterostylis and because a Pterois volitans is a very common scorpionfish, I know how to pronounce it!

Other orchids at this spot included a range of spiders, dragons, and rattlebeaks. Then my hubby Wayne found thousands of bees. No, not species of Caladenias or Diuris, but real flying insects in a swarm. I excitedly took several close ups and was thrilled to see a few other people follow suit. Who said Orchid Society members were tunnel visioned?

Our second stop was several kilometres out of Boyup Brook on the Kojonup road. At last, I knew a proper name - Caladenia falcata I cried. Nope - a falcata with a fidelity problem? Not even that but a forest mantis orchid. Oh well, it was beautiful, as were the other donkeys, zebras, spiders and flavas (gosh, I know another one). There was even a beautiful patch of leschenaultia further into the bush, and then I found an iridescent blue and yellow bug on a trigger plant. Afraid that put an end to orchid photography.

Next stop was on the Cranbrook road where the debate on longicaudas, eminens and other orchids with immoral matings became more motivated. I do admire your dedication to identification. I snapped happily away at the dozens of species of wildflowers that surrounded us. Our bush is so beautiful when you take the time to look carefully.

On the track again and Ian got his first flat for the weekend. What you didn't know about the second (not to mention the weekend before) - read on. Actually it wasn't just a flat. When Ian does something, he does it properly. The blown tyre was replaced with the repaired spare from the weekend before and we continued to the Perup turn off for lunch.

Soon after that we arrived at the Tonebridge campsite. What a glorious spot. Trees, grass, BBQs, running water and toilet, complete with dummy bees. And thank you to whoever supplied the toilet paper. Opposite the camp site, a swampy area provided an afternoon of orchid entertainment. Donkeys, leeks, rattlebeaks, pink and purple enamels and oodles of spiders. Between the longicauda discussions we even debated whether or not we had a dwarf mustard. Looked mighty like it to me, but then again.....

A wonderful day was topped off over a quiet drink and nibbles, with birds twittering in the trees, grass maggots bleating in the green fields and the roar of the big red truck. Now the big red truck passed at amazing regularity. It roared backwards and forwards every half an hour until 8.30 that night. It never appeared loaded and I'm sure its sole purpose in life was to provide entertainment for the Orchid Society.

That night, as always when I'm in the bush, I went possum hunting. No possums, just a night heron fishing in the river. It flew off before the photo, so I gave it half an hour and then returned. I had several interested orchidists behind me, and as predicted, the heron was back feeding. Thankyou to everyone who

thoughtfully waited on the bank while I crept down to get one shot before it took off again. When I turned around, there was a line of dark figures with torches shining down on me like Indians on the hill top. I wish I'd got a shot of that. At 1.00 a.m. there was a scratch beside the tent, then a bin rattle. Ah ha. Possums. I grabbed the torch and peeped out the tent. An animal ran across in front of me and stopped about 10 metres away. It was cute, but it was a fox. No possums that night.

At five the white corellas called. I popped out to go bird shooting and soon found two nests near the river bank just over the bridge from the campsite. One belonged to restless flycatchers, the other a little brown jobby with a black head, possibly a scrubwren. After about an hour and a half of frustrating, and not so patient shooting, I raced back to get hubby's breakfast and help pack up. We had about 10 minutes to wait for Donna and Eddy who were coming from Bridgetown, so I took Wayne back to show him the birds. Just before the first nest, Wayne states in dry, nonchalant, familiar tones, "By the way, there's a possum just above your head." It was a ringtail curled up asleep on a branch, in the open - and this was at 8.00 a.m.! I carefully took a couple of shots, and then started back to tell the others, especially Mary who was keen to see a ringtail in the wild. Unfortunately, we'd woken possum who decided to high-tail it up the tree where it disappeared into a hollow before I could move 2 feet. We'll go spotting that side of the bridge next time we stay the night.

On the road again and the big red truck resumed its taunting raids. Perhaps it thought we were entertaining. On Southfield road, we found the red spider orchids that aren't in the book. Gosh they're exquisite - but check Noel's list for proper name! After another couple of stops we waited at the Tone River cottages turn-off while Noel and Dave trundled off to find the rare Majestic spider orchid. They were gone for quite some time - so most of us popped back up the track to find birds on Tonebup road. Birds we found - not my kind, but bloated birds which I believe are also rather rare. There were a couple of magnificent specimens, now well photographed and supported.

Back at Tone River, Noel and Dave could not get across the trees on the tracks to the Majestic spiders. Have to save something for next year! It was around midday at this stage, so since most of us had to drive back to Perth, we went our separate ways. Wayne and I visited the Tone River cottages to photograph the roos, dozens of them with joeys, hence, we were a little behind most others on our way back to Perth. Guess what. A few hundred metres out of Bridgetown there was Ian and Joan on the side of the road, their spare tyre blown and nowhere to go. Bridgetown on Sunday is not the place to have problems. Ian had got through to the RAC in Manji, but getting the right tyre even from there was not an easy feat. We tried our Nissan spare which did fit, but made things a tad lop sided. Also, Ian thoughtfully did not want us to drive without a spare, so persisted until another tyre could be found and delivered. Not cheap! After an hour or so, we finally left them, still waiting on the side of the road, but at least knowing that help was on the way. I hope that you two made it back to Perth that night! Apart from those couple of mishaps, it was a fabulous weekend. Wayne and I would like to thank Noel, Joan and Ian, Mary and Stuart, Donna and Eddy, Eva and Don and Dave for a great trip and wonderful company. This Society is well organized and everyone I have met so far shows great respect and care for the bush and their fellow members. I hope we can join you again soon.

Ann Storrie

LIST OF ORCHIDS SEEN IN FLOWER ON TONEBRIDGE TRIP

Caladenia attingens subsp *attingens*, *caesarea* subsp *caesarea*, *caesarea* subsp *transiens*?, *cairnsiana*, *dorrienii*, *filifera*, *flava* subsp *flava*, *flava* subsp *sylvestris*, *longicauda* subsp *eminens*, *longicauda* subsp *longicauda*, *longicauda* subsp *redacta*, *macrostylis*, *pectinata*, *polychroma*, *pulchra*, *rubrichila*, *aff speciosa*, *vulgata*.

Cyanicula gemmata.

Diuris aff *amplissima*, *laxiflora*, *longifolia*, *magnifica*.

Drakonorchis barbarossa.

Elythranthera brunonis, *emarginata*.

Lyperanthus serratus.

Microtis atrata, *media* subsp *media*, *obicularis*.

Prasophyllum cyphochilum, *gracile*.

Pterostylis ciliata

Thelymitra antennifera, *crinita*, *flexuosa*, *pauciflora*.

There were several hybrids and lots of buds.

Noel Clarke

BREAMER BAY - ORCHIDS & WHALES by Bill Jackson

Gloria - 7 a.m. 15/10 - We should go to Breamer Bay and see the whales at Point Ann?

Bill - Yes, we should go to Breamer Bay and look for orchids!

Having agreed at least on Breamer Bay, we left Walpole at 9 a.m. 15/10/97, having obtained the use of our friends house in Breamer Bay for 2 nights.

First stop about 64 km east of Albany to have a look at *Pterostylis* sp. (bird) seen in bud earlier this year. We were a week too late! (story of your life? Ed.)

Another one for next year. Only *Emarginata brunonis* flowering here.

Lunch at Pallinup - 2 p.m. (very late) *Caladenia falcata* still in reasonable flower, plenty of *Drakonorchis barbarossa* also *Thelymitra benthamiana* in flower and seed. *Caladenia flava* scattered. *Diuris setacea* just starting to flower. No fire in this area and 114 km east of type location in Albany area.

Arrived at coastal heath above Little Boat Harbour, Breamer Bay at 4.30 p.m. - just enough time to locate *Pterostylis* aff *turfosa* sp. growing in dense Banksia-Dryandra cover - first four plants found all had damaged flowers -eventually some good specimens. Also in flower here some small flowered *Thelymitra* sp (blue flowers) and plenty of *Elythranthera brunonis* and *Caladenia flava*.

Went to bed early - T.V. picture played up.

16th 9 a.m. left for Fitzgerald River N.P. Checked *Pterostylis* aff *rufa* sp population on Devils Creek Rd, saw them in bud in mid August. *Pterostylis leptochila*? Morning tea here - on time 10 a.m.! A kilometre up the road spotted a *Thelymitra* sp in road verge - turned out to be *T. villosa* - unfortunately only top two flowers remained. Anyway I had previously photographed this particular colour form elsewhere. Whilst I was examining the villosa Gloria found a *Prasophyllum*, hooked very much like *P. macrotys*! black stem and darkish flowers. Found more *villosa* but they were in seed.

Then on to Point Ann. Driving down to the parking area at the beach, saw waves breaking over a dark object close to the shore. Whales? No must be a rock! Having parked and walked onto the whale spotting platform we discovered that the black object was in fact a whale and calf. There were two other adult whales with calves in the Bay, and they provided a spectacular display for the half dozen spectators present.

We decided to go on to Point Charles at the Fitzgerald River Inlet. The track in is some 23 km, the first 13 o.k., then only fit for 4WD.

Approximately 13 km along the track Gloria spotted white spider orchids, in sedge with acacia overstory. All but one plant had gone over - very long slender sepals and petals. A *Longicauda* sp?

Plenty of water birds at the inlet but only one *Microtis* sp. flowering. Several small *Caladenia* sp in seed also *Pterostylis* aff *nana* types gone over.

Back to Breamer Bay 5.15 p.m. for a shower and tea. T.V played up again.

No orchiding on the way back as we had to be in Denmark by 9.30 a.m.

MYSTERY TOUR - WILDFLOWER BUS TRIP - 9 SEPTEMBER

We booked for a one day mystery bus trip which took us to Bindoon for morning tea. Our first stop was Blue Plains & Maddern Rds where there was an abundance of wildflowers. There was a wildflower guide on board who pointed out the different types of flowers, however we drifted apart looking for orchids. We only saw 3 species at this stop Cyanicula sericea, Caladenia reptans & Pterostylis recurva. The next stop was near New Norcia (where we had lunch) was also disappointing for orchids, only Diuris brumalis & Caladenia flava. The next stop was near the corner of Mogumber Rd and Gt. Northern Hwy where there were plenty of Caladenia longicauda & flava and some Pterostylis vittata.

From there our next stop was at the gravel pit on the Bindoon/Gingin & Wells Glover Rds we stopped at on our return from Caladenia Ridge. This time there was plenty of Caladenia flava out and the bus driver spotted an enamel orchid at the same time as me. It was not fully open and the only one seen, then just as we were leaving a Pyrochus nigricans was found. The next few weeks should see plenty of Cyanicula gemmata and others.

The last stop was in Gingin for afternoon tea and a look at the Kangaroo Paws at the cemetery. Then on home. It rained nearly all day and started to clear on the return trip, however a good time was had by all with 9 orchid species and over 60 wildflowers identified.

Ross & Margaret Fox.

FIELD TRIP 6 OCTOBER

We went first to Rocky Pool and on the hillside above the old toilet block we found about 100 each of Thelymitra holmesii and Prasophyllum elatum also a few Caladenia flava and longicauda. From there into the Park itself where we found at several sites Caladenia flava, Thelymitra crinita, Elythranthera brunonis and emarginata.

Then onto Lake Leschenaultia for lunch where there was nothing to find. From there to the York Rd along to The Lookout on Catchment Rd stopping at several sites where only a few Caladenia flava, Thelymitra crinita and Elythranthera brunonis were found.

Ross & Margaret Fox.

WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING 15th October 1997

PRESENT -As per Attendance Book.

NEW MEMBERS/VISITORS -Visitors present were Paul Kores, M. Sindler, Mia Molvray, R.B.G. Kew, Lynne Gaull and Dianne Beckingham. They were welcomed in the usual manner.

MINUTES -It was moved Manners/Parker "that minutes of General Meeting of 17th September be accepted. CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING -Nil

CORRESPONDENCE -As per Correspondence list.

TREASURER'S REPORT -No Treasurer's report was available.

FIELD TRIPS - Details of planned field trips will be published in the Bulletin. Forthcoming field trips were discussed and several members spoke on individual trips taken.

PLANT TABLE -Ross Wilton brought in a Cymbidium canaliculatum.

GENERAL BUSINESS -Those who lent orchids for the Kings Park display were thanked.

A plaque crediting WANOSCG was on display at the Wildflower Show and several requests for information about the Group were received.

The raffle was provided by Don Manners and won by Jean Hort and the supper was provided by Sarah Atkinson.

Dr Steve Hopper gave us his long-awaited talk and slide show of the Orchids of the Granite Outcrops.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

SUMMARY OF TALK BY DR STEVE HOPPER

Hopper and Brown have surveyed the distribution of 126 orchid taxa on 41 outcrops ranging from high rainfall forests, e.g. Walpole, through the intermediate wheatbelt zone to the arid zone. Each rock outcrop was treated as a site.

The primary division was between rocks in the forested high rainfall zone and the rest. Remarkably some adjacent rocks about 0.5 km apart had significant differences in their populations, whereas others separated by many kilometres, e.g. Boyagin Rock and Pingaring Rock, often had similar flora.

The patterns suggested significant barriers to orchid dispersal, particularly between forest rocks and high levels of local extinctions.

There have been significant climate changes over the millions of years Australia has been drifting north. The centre has become arid. The microclimate created by granite outcrops has provided a refuge for plants which have adapted to change.

This stress and isolation has provided the catalyst for genetic variation.

Slides of orchids that predominantly occur on granite outcrops were shown. They were:-

Caladenia caesarea subsp *maritima**, *extans**, *granitora*, *hoffmanii* subsp *graniticola**, *integra*, *longicauda* subsp *clavicola*, *longicauda* subsp *rigidula*, *multiclavia*, *nivalis*, *remota*.

Cyanicula ashbyae, *fragrans*.

Diuris conspicillata, *picta*, *pulchella*.

Eriochilus pulchellus.

Microtis eremaea, *graniticola*, *media* subsp *eremicola*.

Spiculaea ciliata.

Thelymitra aff *nuda*, *dedmaniarum**.

* = declared rare flora.

	SUPPER ROSTER	RAFFLE ROSTER
NOVEMBER	Margaret Wilton	Eva Smith

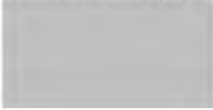
WANOSCG
PO Box 323
Victoria Park 6979

SURFACE
MAIL

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

Print Post Approved
PF630205/00007

BROWN MR A. L.



Forthcoming Field Trips
6-7 December to Walpole