

# Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group



## October 2017 Bulletin

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### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

(18 October 2017)

### SPEAKERS

*Various Members*  
*How I became*  
*interested in orchids*

### Management Committee:

Ramón Newmann – President  
Kim Hanson – Vice-President  
Jon Warren – Vice President  
Jay Steer – Treasurer  
Margaret Petrids – Field Trip Coordinator  
Pat Richards – Secretary  
Robert van Oosten – Committee  
Ian Puddey – Committee

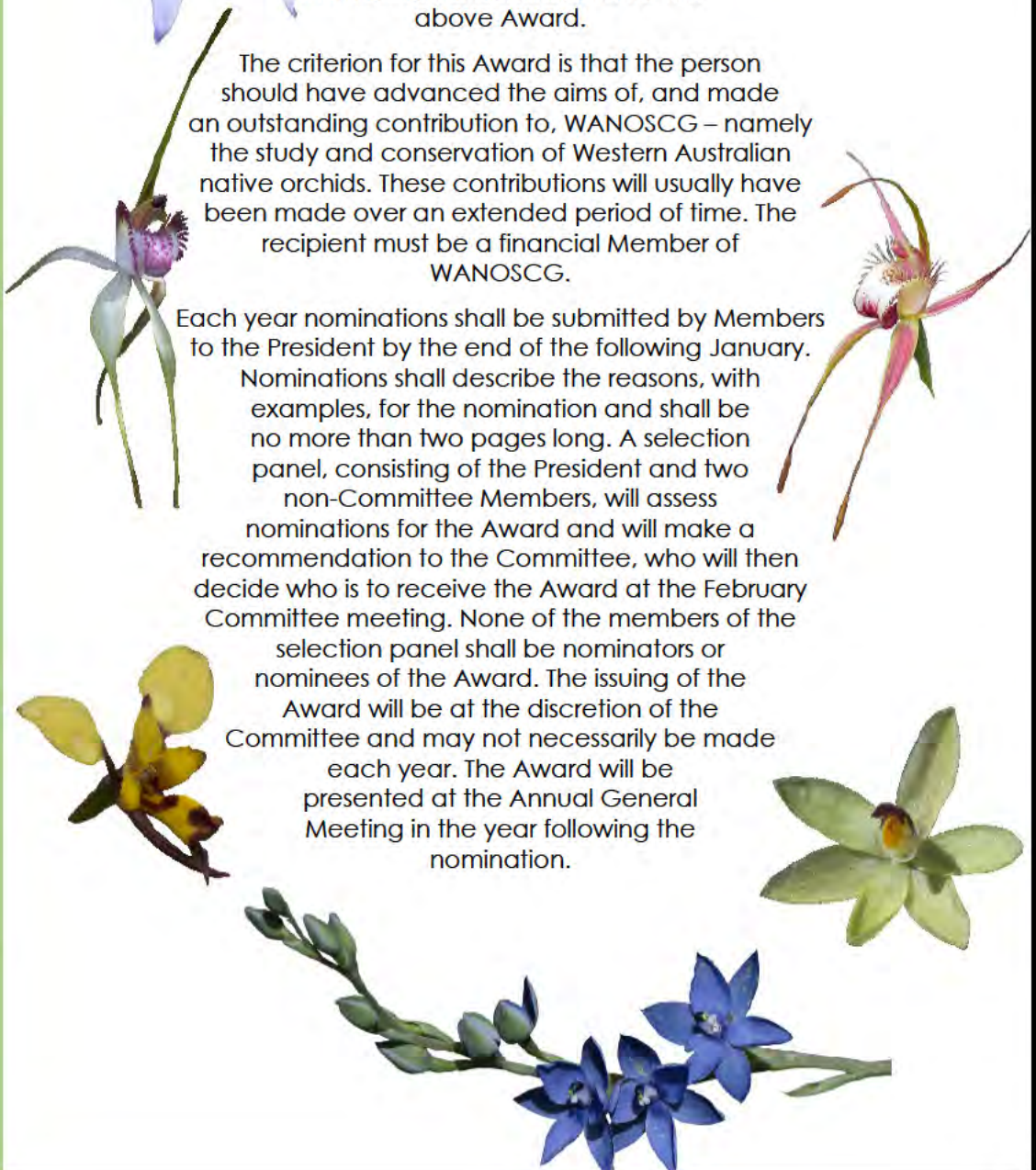


### WANOSCG Award

This is a call for nominations for the above Award.

The criterion for this Award is that the person should have advanced the aims of, and made an outstanding contribution to, WANOSCG – namely the study and conservation of Western Australian native orchids. These contributions will usually have been made over an extended period of time. The recipient must be a financial Member of WANOSCG.

Each year nominations shall be submitted by Members to the President by the end of the following January. Nominations shall describe the reasons, with examples, for the nomination and shall be no more than two pages long. A selection panel, consisting of the President and two non-Committee Members, will assess nominations for the Award and will make a recommendation to the Committee, who will then decide who is to receive the Award at the February Committee meeting. None of the members of the selection panel shall be nominators or nominees of the Award. The issuing of the Award will be at the discretion of the Committee and may not necessarily be made each year. The Award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in the year following the nomination.





# FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, 14 October	Kooljerrenup and Austin Bay Nature Reserves surveying new areas of the reserves after being shown examples of the target orchids that have already been found. Expressions of interest to be forwarded to Margaret Petridis.
Tuesday, 14 November	Andrew Brown has asked for members to help with a survey of the Berry reserve north of Toodyay Road. The intention is to look for the cinnamon sun orchid ( <i>Thelymitra dedmaniarum</i> ) prior to proposed burning in the area. Numbers for this trip will be limited to 6 or 7 WANOSCG members. Further details on this will be provided at a later date. Expressions of interest to be forwarded to Margaret Petridis.

## End-of-Year Break-up Functions

It has been suggested by members that we have two break-up functions this year, one in the Metro area and a field trip to the south.

- The Field Trip Sub-committee is looking for suitable venues for a BBQ function in the metropolitan area and we are looking at early to mid-November for this function. This will also be discussed with the WANOSCG committee and members will be informed as soon as possible. Any members with suggestions of suitable venues please contact a committee member.
- We are also planning a weekend trip away on 25 and 26 November, looking to base ourselves in Pemberton this year. This trip is in early planning stages at present and we will inform members once we have more definite information. Members are asked to arrange their own accommodation for this trip, once it is confirmed, and to contact the Field Trip Coordinator to register for the trip

Any other suggestions welcome.

Contact FTC Margaret Petridis by text on [REDACTED]

If you would like to attend any of these trips.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

### Group Trip Long Weekend

Walpole - 23 – 25 September 2017 – Rachel Halls

After months of being confined to my piles of study books and work demands, I had largely missed this year's orchid season and my feet were itching to step out into the bush to discover some concealed treasures with some like-minded people. Fellow orchid lovers will understand the pull that can only be fulfilled by a good dose of nature and outdoors. This weekend, Walpole truly delivered the therapy I required.

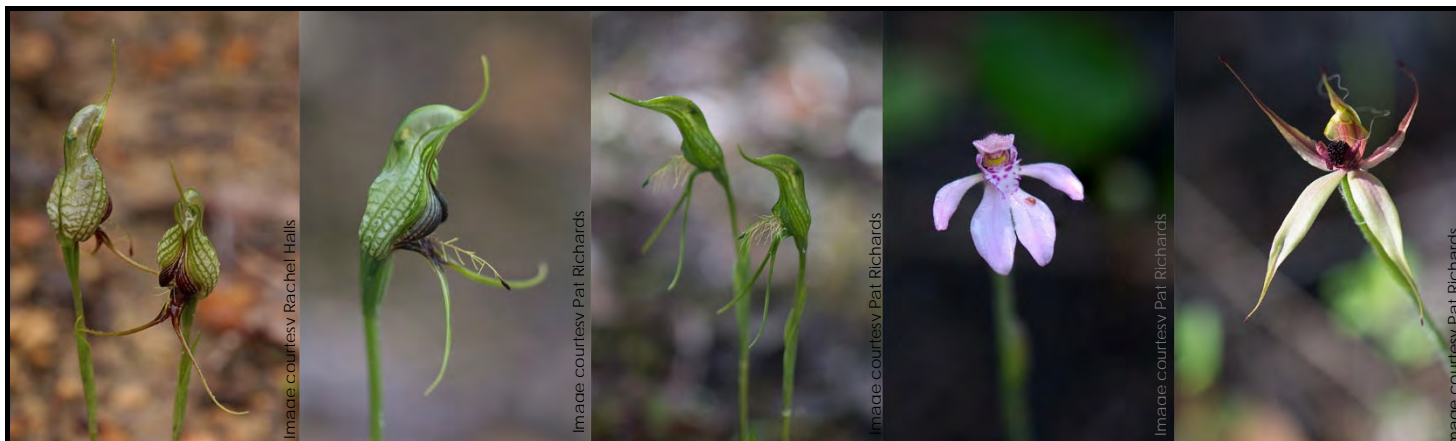
Despite several last minute cancellations due the weather, a rather large party gathered at the Visitor's Centre carpark in Walpole ready to brave the forecasted gale force winds and thunderstorms. We were informed that DPAW had advised that we stay away from areas with large trees.... presuming they knew we were in Walpole, home of the giant Tingle trees right?

### Day 1 - Saturday

Our field trip commenced on Bevan Road West within a burn area of Lake Muir State Forest. With the crunch of leaf underfoot, the search began between intermittent light showers. The forest floor was littered with Silky Blue orchids (*Cyanicula sericea*) creating beautiful bursts of colour contrasting with the charred tree trunks and fallen logs.

At this site, around seventeen different species of orchid in current flower were discovered by the well-honed eyes of our members. Highlights included the unique Karri Cowslip (*Caladenia Flava* subsp *Sylvestris*) with its pale lemon yellow sepals and petals grading to white at the tips. Within a 200 m





Sparse Bird

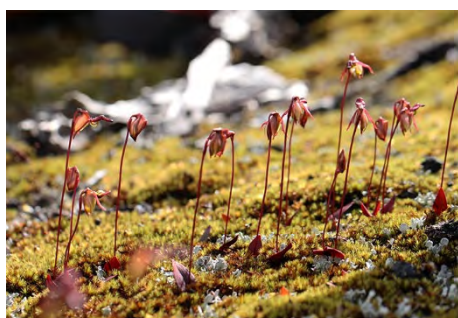
Bloated Bird

Bearded Bird

Little Pink Fan

Leaping Spider

distance, the party located three different species of Bird Orchid (*Pterostylis* sp 'sparse', *Pterostylis* sp 'bloated', *Pterostylis turfosa*). The subtle differences between the three birds was far more appreciable when seen 'in the flesh' rather than the depictions of the books. Other finds included Little Pink Fans (*Caladenia nana* subsp *nana*), Leaping Spider (*Caladenia macrostylis*) and Clubbed Spider (*Caladenia longiclavata*).



Images courtesy Rachel Halls

#### Images from top:

Flock of ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita*)

Duck orchid (*P nigrita*)

Hybrid (*Caladenia flava* x *reptans/latifolia*)

After exiting the forest with charcoal streaked legs, we travelled the long way around to avoid a water crossing that had formed with the recent heavier rains, to our second site of the day on Bevan road. This picturesque spot featured a large granite rock with a thriving flock of ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita*) playing in the mossy covering amongst nineteen other flowering orchid species. A truly special find was a single white version of *Cyanicula sericea* (Silky Blue). Some members had visited this same site only weeks earlier and noted the flowering landscape had rapidly changed. Three different species of Donkey Orchids were discovered, including *Diuris longifolia* and two others unidentified. Amidst the sandy loam surrounding the rock Crab-lipped Spiders (*Caladenia plicata*) nodded in the breeze. Other special finds included two hybrid *Caladenia flava* x *latifolia/reptans* and an unidentified snail measuring in at an impressive 28 cm height.

To finish a remarkable day, Margaret introduced us to the rare and extremely delicate Dwarf Hammer (*Drakaea micrantha*) lining the shadows at the road's edge. At this point the party divided with the majority driving back towards Walpole and the remainder enjoying some 4-wheel-driving through mud, sand and a small river crossing on the drive towards Nornalup. As the sun was setting, our eyes caught a glimpse of hammers reflecting the light on the road verge. We couldn't resist the urge to suddenly stop the convoy one last time and jump out to find King-in-his-carriage (*Drakaea glyptodon*), Narrow-lipped Hammer (*Drakaea thynniphila*) and Flying Ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita*) all cohabiting. As we neared our home for the weekend my father (Ian Puddey) exclaimed, "The best thing I ever did was join WANOSCG.... after marrying your mother I mean."

## Day 2 - Sunday

The second day of the field trip was forecast for heavy wind and rain so plans were made to confine our trip to local sites away from the threat of falling trees. To everyone's surprise, Walpole charmed us with blue skies and sunshine for the entire day. Our first challenge of the day was climbing Mount Burnett with a few of us (including myself) taking a tumble on the wet rocks. Scaling the rocks delivered a rewarding encounter with Hooded Leek (*Prasophyllum cucullatum*), including an albino form of the flower. Other



Hooded Leek

Tall Leek

Fringed Leek

Scented Mignonette

King Leek

Images courtesy Pat Richards

finds included Scented Mignonette (*Microtis albobiridis*), Fringed Leek (*Prasophyllum fimbria*), King Leek (*Prasophyllum regium*) and Tall Leek (*Prasophyllum elatum*). Once again, we were surrounded by *Cyanicula sericea* with one member pointing out the Silky Blues and another overheard saying, "Wow, I haven't seen one of those for at least five minutes!"

We navigated through the mud to our second location on Ordnance Road where fourteen species were uncovered with many more identified in bud. New finds for the weekend included Karri Spider (*Caladenia brownii*), Twisted Sun (*Thelymitra flexuosa*), Giant Donkey (*Diuris amplissima*) and a few species of snails. This was a large site to explore with open clearings, rock and forest all within a kilometre. Many enjoyed the sunshine with a quick bite to eat while resting on the granite. In the afternoon, Graeme led us to Mandalay Road and the truly magnificent Walpole Spider (*Caladenia interjacens*) with its uniquely pink labellum. Several buds showed promise of many more interjacens spiders still to come. The landscape had shifted to coastal sands and low scrub with a sprinkling of South Coast Spider (*Caladenia meridionalis*), Pink Fairies (*Caladenia latifolia*) and Dunsborough Donkey (*Diuris jonesii*).

The field trip concluded as things often do, in the local cemetery. The uniquely fertile soil provided home to ducks, hammers, birds and purple enamel orchids. Many thanks to Lyn Alcock and Margaret Petridis who organized and led a fantastic long weekend away in Walpole.



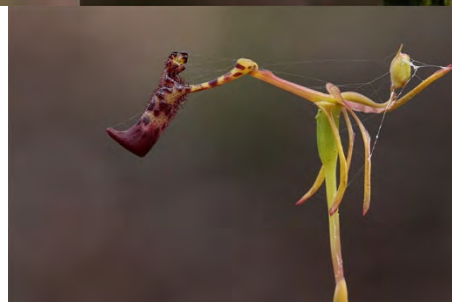
Images courtesy Rachel Halls

Images above from left:

Karrie spider orchid (*Caladenia brownii*)  
Crab-lipped spider orchid (*Caladenia plicata*)  
Walpole spider orchid (*Caladenia interjacens*)

and at right:

Warty Hammer Orchid (*Drakaea livida*)





## Perth Metropolitan

### Bold Park, City Beach, and Star Swamp Bushland, North Beach – 13 September 2017 – Christine Lock

A beautiful sunny day saw six members visit Bold Park in City Beach as a first stop before moving up the coast to the Star Swamp bushland in North Beach.

Orchids found were as follows:

#### Bold Park

- Carousel spider (*Caladenia arenicola*)
- Tuart spider (*Caladenia georgei*)
- Pink fairy (*Caladenia latifolia*) inc an albino variant
- Donkeys (*Diuris corymbosa* and *D magnifica*)

#### Star Swamp bushland

- White spider (*Caladenia longicauda* subsp *longicauda*)
- Pink fairy (*C latifolia*)
- Tuart spider (*C georgei*)
- Carousel spider (*C arenicola*)



Albino Pink Fairy

### Hope Road Bushland – Matz Dahlkamp

As this area is not far away from my home, I decided to have a quick look to see what was flowering in that patch of woodland. The following was the result of my “quick” two and a half hours’ bush walking:

- Carousel spider (*Caladenia arenicola*)
- Tuart spider (*Caladenia georgei*)
- Grand spider (*Caladenia huegeli*)
- Cowslip (*Caladenia flava*)
- Pink fairies (*Caladenia latifolia*)
- Coastal white spider (*Caladenia longifolia* subsp *calcigena*)
- Common donkey orchid (*Diuris corymbosa*)
- Common mignonette (*Microtis media* subsp *media*)
- Sun orchids (*Thelymitra* sp unidentified) in bud
- Pink fairy (*Caladenia latifolia*) albino form

### Darlington – 11 October 2017 – Pat Richards

Four members met up in the morning in Darlington. At our first stop we encountered several Common Bees (*Diuris decremента*), a patch of around a dozen Pink Enamels (*Elythranthera emarginata*), a bent White Spider (*Caladenia longicauda*), a couple of Lemon Scented Suns (*Thelymitra antennifera*) plus one or two Blue Ladies (*Thelymitra crinita*) lurking in the shrubbery, but lack of sun so suns not open.

At our second location in Glen Forrest, we saw a couple of Leaping Spiders (*Caladenia macrostylis*), one still fully open, many Blue Ladies (*T crinita*) and Scented Suns (*T macrophylla*), a couple of Cowslips (*Caladenia flava*) with little or no red markings, a rather sorry looking Redbeak (*Pyrorchis nigricans*) that still had an identifiable flower, but looked as if someone had given it a lick with a blow torch to get it to flower as the area around hadn’t been burnt, and a thriving community (50+) Darling Scarp Donkeys (*Diuris ostrina*).

Our final stop was the Greenmount NP on Padbury Road. This yielded the inevitable closed blue sun orchids, more Darling Scarp Donkeys (*D Ostrina*), a couple of Cowslips (*C flava*), and several White Spiders (*C Longicauda*) of which a couple had rather strange looking labella. In addition there was a single pristine Leek flowering without fire although there had been a summer fire reasonably close by in February 2016. The thinking was that it was either the Darling Scarp Leek (*Prasophyllum* sp ‘Swan Region’) or the very similar Tall Leek (*Prasophyllum elatum*).



Tall Leek?

## South-west

### BCBDCC Field trip 17 September 2017 – Jon Warren

A field trip for locals of the Bunbury, Busselton and Margaret River areas was organised to assist local members connect and meet some of the management committee. Of the 28 members in this region 10 were able to come on the trip, but most of the members who were unable to attend expressed a keenness for future trips of this nature.



Flying Ducks

The trip started at Ruabon Reserve where orchid locating and orchid identification discussions were quickly on the agenda as was donating to the local mosquito gangs. Orchids found were 20 plus - King-in-his-carriage (*Drakaea glyptodon*), numerous Purple Enamel (*Elythranthera brunonis*) numerous in bud Slender Sun (*Thelymitra vulgaris*), two flowering and two in bud Chapman Spider (*Caladenia chapmanii*), 10 plus Flying Ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita*), one open Plain Sun (*Thelymitra paludosa*) and one magnificent Grand Spider (*Caladenia huegeli*).

The group then moved onto a random spot with a couple of habitat types near the Sabrina River just to see what was there. The highlight was five superb Diamond Spiders (*Caladenia rhomboidiformis*) but a few other bits and pieces were also found including the ever present Cowslip (*Caladenia flava*), Jug (*Pterostylis recurva*), a little colony of eight Crinkle-leaf Snail orchids (*Pterostylis* sp), some occasional Hammers (*Drakaea glyptodon*) around the edge of numerous kangaroo arenas and multitudes of Hare (*Leporella fimbriata*) leaves.

We were going to stop for lunch at this spot but a couple of the locals suggested that Canebrake Pool would be a better stop and it was 'just a little way' down the road. So off we trooped and as the kilometres slipped by it became very apparent the locals' 'just a little way' and my 'just a little way' were quite different. However we did arrive and it was indeed an excellent location for a spot of lunch and, thanks to Brian's scouting, we were also able to spot another Diamond Spider as well as some more *Pterostylis* sp. Crinkle leaf and a pair of handsome Bird Orchids (*Pterostylis barbata*).

Next trip was to the Carbinup Reserve for a quick stop to see the to see the flowering Carbinup King Spider (*Caladenia procera*). This trip which was even longer and more convoluted than 'just a little way' but a scenic drive just the same and we certainly saw lots of spots that set the orchid radar off and evoked the 'I must return' vow. Carbinup was a quick walk down the very well-trodden path to see and photograph the majestic Carbinup Spider but with no wide scale exploring to minimise our impact on this important site. However we were lucky to have a couple of Rusty Spiders (*Caladenia ferruginea*) present right next to the track and there were numerous Rattlebeaks (*Lyperanthus serratus*) in viewing range from the track.

Next stop was a patch of sandy and, in places, quite degraded country on Blythe road where we were served a smorgasbord of King-in-his-Carriage (*Drakaea glyptodon*), Warty Hammer (*Drakaea livida*) and Flying Duck (*Paracaleana nigrita*) accompanied by a hearty serves of Zebra (*Caladenia cairnsiana*) and Purple Enamels (*Elythranthera brunonis*) and Birds (*Pterostylis barbata*) then finished off with a delightful selection of eight glorious Giant Spiders (*Caladenia excelsa*).



Zebras

Then, when we thought we could take no more orchid excitement, an eagled-eyed teenager spotted *Caladenia* leaves and buds just oh-so-close to opening and we had to leave speculating on likely species and vowing to return. So I hope one of the locals did manage to get back for flowering.

All in all a great day and hopefully the first of many such excursions for the locals in the future.

## South-east

### Intrepid Trip to Eyre and Back – September/October 2017 – Margaret Petridis



Camp site near Cocklebiddy

Following the very enjoyable and productive long weekend field trip to Walpole, which ended on a very wet note, a small band of members headed east for a week long camping trip to Eyre Bird Observatory area, on the Great Australian Bight.

Our aim was to visit the large burnt area south of Cocklebiddy to see if we could find any orchids and to look for the Eyre Rufous greenhood, *Pterostylis* sp 'Eyre'. We camped in woodlands and near granite rocks and recorded other orchids and flora seen on the way.

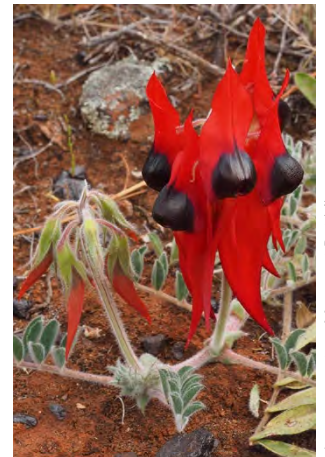
Image courtesy Margaret Petridis

The plan to head east along the Hyden-Norseman Road was thwarted when the road was closed

following heavy rain. We headed south for a long detour via Ravensthorpe and Gibson, camping the first night south of Lake King. We called into Pallarup Rock and recorded 12 orchid species, including Purple Veined spider (*Caladenia douthchiae*) and an un-named *C longicauda* subspecies.

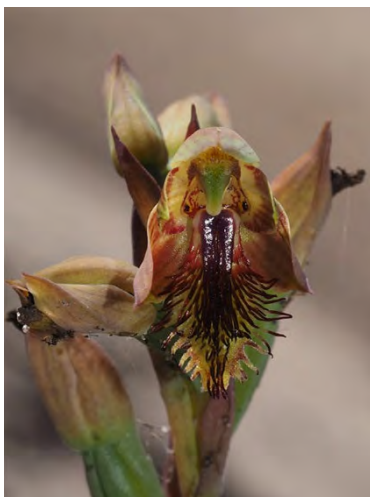
After brief stops in Ravensthorpe and Munghlinup, we drove to Swan Lagoon NR for a lunch stop. There we found Reclining Spider (*C cruscula*), Short-sepal Spider (*C brevisura*) and *Microtis* in early flower. At the Kumarl rest stop Rufous Greenhood (*Pterostylis roensis*) and Insect-lipped Rufous Greenhood (*Pt insectifera*) were found, before we headed to Norseman for showers and supplies. We camped at Buldania rock east of Norseman and found Greasy Rufous Greenhood (*Pt* sp 'greasy') flowering there next morning.

Two stops east of Frasers Range added Hairy Rufous Greenhood (*Pt ciliata*) and Sturts Desert Pea to our flora list. We camped in mallee woodland south east of Cocklebiddy for the next two nights.



Sturt Desert Pea

Image courtesy Margaret Petridis



Mallee Beard Orchid

Image courtesy Margaret Petridis

Next morning we drove south on the Eyre Bird Observatory track and soon entered the starkly burnt bushland with early signs of regeneration. The views to the coast from the top of the scarp, through spindly burnt trees, were amazing. In a burnt rocky gully along the scarp we found a few plants of the target orchid, Varicoloured Banded Greenhood (*Pt* sp 'Eyre'). We were lucky as generally the *Pterostylis* family do not like to be burnt. Following information from DBCA staff we also located the known population of the Mallee Beard, (*Calochilus pruinosis*) in the area, with several plants in good flower. Most plants had numerous fat seedpods.

We continued south along the often rough and uneven track to the Eyre Bird Observatory where we met the caretakers and a group doing a photography course. The museum and history of the place was very interesting, as was the information about the daily bird counts being done. We headed back to camp, with a few stops, but did not find any more orchids.



Next day we started our return journey and stopped near a track east of Cocklebidy where rufa rosettes had been seen in July 2016. Amid great excitement we saw and photographed a patch of unknown rufous greenhoods, possibly a new one for WA.

We called into Afghan rocks and found a few Pt. sp. 'greasy' in flower before a surprising population of the Elegant donkey (*Diuris concinna*) were found in bud and early flower. That night we camped near Newman rocks and found some previously seen rufa in flower.

A second stop in Norseman was made on the return journey for supplies and very welcome showers before we headed north to 50 Mile Rock. This is the type location for Pt xerampelina, a recently named rufous greenhood. We found a reasonable number but the dry season resulted in many less than last year.



Image courtesy Margaret Petridis

Unknown Rufous Greenhood

Our next stop was south of Norseman at Dundas rocks, where we found a large complex of granites in the area. With limited time we searched the low granites with many garden beds and found a few rufous greenhoods, including a possible hybrid. Our campsite that night was in woodlands along the Hyden-Norseman Road and we followed the original plan for day 2 in reverse the following day.

At Disappointment Rock an interesting population of large leafed blue sun orchids was found as well as the Rufous Greenhood (*Pt roensis*), Vanilla Orchid (*Thelymitra antennifera*) and Granite Sun Orchid (*T petrophila*). An un-planned stop due to a flat tyre gave some of us the opportunity to search the bush burnt two years ago. Some small blue sun orchids and a Freckled Sun (*T sargentii*) plant in bud were found. At another random stop Shirt Orchid (*T campanulata*) plants were found in flower.

Our final campsite was in the woodlands near Emu Rock, east of Hyden, which we accessed down a rough section of the Holland Track. Four different rufous greenhoods were found near the campsite: Spoon-lipped Rufous Greenhood (*Pterostylis spathulata*), *Pt exserta* (or possible hybrid), Rufous Greenhood (*Pt roensis*) and a surprising population of *Pt elegantissima*, with more than 20 plants in bud. (another trip is planned to check them again in 2-3 weeks!)

On the final day we woke to overcast skies and drizzly rain so we thought our chances of seeing sun orchids in flower were quite slim. We visited Bushfire Rock and found Clown Orchid (*Caladenia roei*), possibly Ironcaps Spider Orchid (*C paradoxa*) and Granite Bee (*Diuris picta*) in flower. Along the Hyden Norseman Road we were delighted to find large healthy plants of the Freckled Sun (*Thelymitra sargentii*) in flower and took lots of photos.

The trip ended in Hyden where we disbanded and headed for our respective homes. It had been a very successful and enjoyable trip, with around 40 different orchids seen, including at least 10 different rufous greenhoods.

Images below from left:

Granite Bee, Unidentified Sun, Insect-lipped Rufous Greenhood, Shirt Orchid, Freckled Sun

Images courtesy Margaret Petridis





## All Around the South

### Etienne's Final Week - Flowers at Last – John Ewing

After many flowers in bud and a week of work at UWA with Ian Small, Etienne was determined to make the last week as productive as possible. We decided to do the trip from a fortnight before in reverse order (see last month's report). Setting out on 16 September the first stop 20 km north of Williams yielded White Spider (*Caladenia longicauda* subsp. *longicauda*) which was identified by measuring the column. The column was 21 mm long and this meant it was not Stark White Spider (*C longicauda* subsp. *eminens*) which would have had a column of 18 mm or less. We also found what we thought was Darting Spider (*C uliginosa* subsp. *candicans*) although my notebook has a question mark as I had my doubts (more on this later).

We moved on to Culbin Reserve to be greeted by dozens of Tangled Spider (*C longicauda* subsp. *redacta*) including hybrids with Fringed Mantis (*C falcata*).



After some more stops we arrived at Kwobrup Reserve which is east of Katanning. Here the array of flowers was magnificent. Some we had seen before such as Red Thread (*C erythronema*), but there were many others including Slender Spider (*C pulchra*) of varying colours, Tenterden Yellow Spider (*C tramenichila*), Common Bee (*Diuris decremента*).

Next morning we wended our way down to Fitzgerald National Park and found Lazy Spider (*C multiclavia*), Drooping Spider (*C radialis*), Western Tiny Blue (*Cyanicula aperta*), Custard Orchid (*Thelymitra villosa*) and many others as well. Onwards to Ravensthorpe and south on the road to Hopetoun we found Grass-leaved Spider (*C graminifolia*). Etienne counted over 40 plants, some as flowers, others in bud, some finished and others as non-flowering leaves.

A little detour down Horner Road yielded Western Azure Sun (*Thelymitra occidentalis*), Tamarine Road had Forest Mantis (*C attingens* subspecies *gracillima*) together with some hybrids with white spiders and, when we finally reached Hopetoun, we located a few flowering plants of Mallee Beard (*Calochilus pruinosus*).

The trip went on and on with every stop yielding more flowers. Pallinup River had been the scene of Dwarf Spider (*C bryceana* subspecies *bryceana*) in bud and when we arrived the buds had flowered and finished. Following the Bill Jackson (Bill is a former member who has passed on but he was a great flower finder) formula of 'there is always an early one and always a late one' we searched for the late one. I said to Etienne, "They grow in these little limestone rock hollows." Sure enough, within a couple of minutes he turned up 'the late one' – mission accomplished. Boyup Brook had some late Slender Sepalled Spider (*C perangustas*), south of Bridgetown there were Lake Muir Spider (*C valadinerva*) and eventually over to Dunsborough and the Naturaliste Terrace where we saw Dunsborough Spider (*C viridescens*) and many many Chapman's Spider (*C chapmani*) in a whole host of colour variants.



Other explorations in this area saw many of the expected species but in particular Etienne had wanted to see Exotic Spider (*C nivalis*) again. They were in lots of locations in great numbers.

Many many places and flowers later we were on our way home on the last day which was Thursday. We called in to Harvey to see Frail Spider (*C uliginosa* subsp *patulens*). The area has been fenced as a result of a grant and the work of local high school students which is providing good protection for this rare species. We located many flowering plants and in one patch Etienne counted nearly 50 plants. They are doing well which is good.

From there we backtracked all the way to Robinson Road (about 100 km) so we could see Northern Darting Spider (*C uliginosa* subsp *uliginosa*). The idea was that we could see all three *uliginosa* subspecies on the same day (Etienne's idea not mine). Yes we found some of the plants at my GPS spot and so it was then a simple matter of driving up Albany Highway to 20 km north of Williams to see the *C uliginosa* subspecies *candicans* and the trip would finish with a flourish... BUT, when we arrived, the flower had suddenly transformed into *patulens*. I was suspicious the first time we saw this flower but having just seen *patulens* earlier in the day my suspicions were confirmed. (Compare the two photos and see what you think)

It turned out that on Friday Etienne, instead of packing up to go home on Saturday morning, was still keen not to waste a moment of orchiding time. So on Friday we went north to see if any Star Orchid (*Thelymitra stellata*) buds were open. They weren't. But we then made a grand tour out via York to Edison Mill Road where we found amongst other things– yes you guessed it – a heap of *C uliginosa* subspecies *candicans*. So Etienne did get to see all three subspecies. In the seven days we saw more than 60 different species IN FLOWER!!! As he left Etienne said, 'I must come back more often'. We will all look forward to that.



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Jon Warren – Vice President/Membership Coordinator

We warmly welcome two new members this month. Joanne Harley is from down Mandurah way and Jan Mohandas is from far away NSW but was a recent visitor here on an orchid tour (of course) and caught up with a few of our members during his travels.

Club membership currently stands at 150 paid memberships totalling 236 people when life members and our patron are included. In 2015 it was 129 paid memberships covering 199 people and the excellent orchid year of 2016 saw paid memberships increase to 142 covering 226 people.



## Rare Purdie's Donkey Orchid found in Flower

September – Andrew Brown

Following a prescribed burn of its habitat at a confidential location near Perth, Purdie's Donkey Orchid (*Diuris purdiei*) has been found flowering in good numbers this year. In 2016 the area was listed as requiring a fuel reduction burn. However, due to the orchid's threatened status its habitat was excluded from the planned autumn burn which may have killed or damaged plants during their early growing phase and a second burn undertaken in mid-spring when it was thought it may stimulate flowering. (Note: the species flowers only following spring/summer fire.)

The stimulating effect of the fire was very successful and some 160 plants have been recorded in flower. A very good outcome.

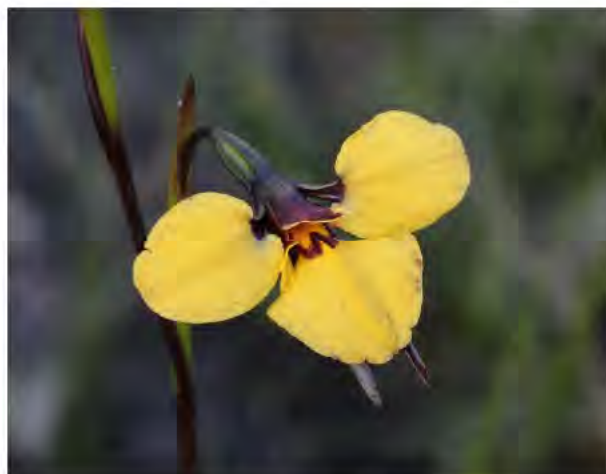


Image courtesy Justin Brown

Purdie's Donkey Orchid

## Single-minded Beastie

Courtesy Lynette Alcock

Those members who follow the WANOSCG Facebook page will likely have seen Lyn's recent post about the wasp and the Wandoo beard orchid.

To recap, her post was as follows:

"Right place at the right time. Yay. Pollinator frantically trying to get into this partially opened Wandoo Beard orchid..*Calochilus stramenicola*. He was so frantic at the pheromones being emitted he totally ignored me. I checked but could smell no real aroma.

"Have to be a wasp I guess!!"

Not being one to leave a job half done, Lyn went ahead and posted on the WA Insect page to which post she received this response below:

"I don't have the knowledge to say for sure, Lyn, but I think you might have captured something truly extraordinary and interesting here.



"From your photos and description this is a Scoliid Hairy Flower Wasp in the act of trying to copulate with a sexually deceptive *Calochilus* species orchid. The orchid uses pseudocopulation by wasps as its pollination strategy.

"That's a known thing. Some Scoliidae and some *Calochilus* spp. orchids just love each other. Carnally. At (wasp) family and (orchid) genus level, it has been scientifically documented, and there's a little bit of research online about it.

"What's really very interesting (if I'm right) is that the wasp is a *Scolia* or *Laeviscolia* species.

"And as far I can tell from the literature I've been able to find online, the documented relationships between *Calochilus* orchids and Scoliidae are limited to wasps in the genus *Campsomeris* (not a currently accepted name according to AFD and ALA - there is either a debate in progress or they've been revised and split out to other genera).

"Yours is from what has been considered an entirely different tribe within the family. It is (or was) Scoliini rather than Campsomerini.

[https://australianmuseum.net.au/.../19906/1562\\_complete.pdf](https://australianmuseum.net.au/.../19906/1562_complete.pdf)

"In layman's terms, it's the yellow or black/yellow striped Scoliids that have been documented pollinating Beard Orchids. Not the black ones, and not the black ones with two yellow dots on the abdomen.

"But you're not alone in having seen it and photographed it. The one reference I've found to a similar wasp caught in the act of trying to copulate with a similar Western Australian orchid is a flickr set that also notes that the behaviour was copulatory.

<https://www.flickr.com/search/?text=Calochilus%20scoliid>

"Given that it's been noted twice, you have photos, you're a reliable observer, I think it might be worth writing up your description in a slightly fuller form, and sending it and your photos to the museum. And possibly also the herbarium."

We'll be interested in further developments, Lyn.

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**Images below clockwise from top left:**

Granite Sun (courtesy Margaret Petridis); Cowslips, Rabbit, Blue China (courtesy Pat Richards); Warty Hammer (courtesy Jon Warren); Blue Lady conjoined, Twisted Sun, Pink Spider (courtesy Pat Richards); Diamond Spider (courtesy Jon Warren)







# General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 20 September 2017

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park

Meeting opens: 7:30 pm

**ATTENDANCE:** Visitors: 0

Number of members present: 38

Welcome to new members:

**APOLOGIES:** Tim Hodgkins, Emily Green-Armytage, Trish Newmann, Marina Karyagina, Noel Hoffman, Andrew Simpson, Margaret and Ross Fox, Bill Gaynor, George Kokosinski, Joff and Joan Start, John Ewing, Eddy and Donna Wajon, Rachel Halls

**CIRCULATION OF REPORTS:** The Attendance Book, copies of the Treasurer's and Registrar's Reports and a copy of the minutes of the AGM of 15 March 2017 were circulated to the members.

**RAFFLE:** Prize donated by Bob Steer

## 1. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Members were asked if they had any amendments to the minutes of 16 August 2017 General Meeting that appeared in the September Bulletin.

Moved by Tom Burbidge and seconded by Matz Dahlkamp that the General Meeting Minutes of 16 August 2017, as published in the September 2017 bulletin are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

*Carried*

## 2. 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Members were asked if they had any amendments to the minutes of 15 March 2017 Annual General Meeting that were circulated by email and in hard copy in the current general meeting.

Moved by Kevin Uhe and seconded by Matz Dahlkamp that the Annual General Meeting Minutes of 15 March 2017, as circulated are a true and accurate record of that meeting.

*Carried*

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 *Hard copy Bulletin delivery:* As mentioned at the last meeting, it was decided to limit hard copy Bulletin delivery to black and white copies. It is also intended that recipients will be limited to those who do not have email addresses or have an otherwise valid reason. It has been noted that some people did not receive the August edition of the Bulletin, an oversight for which we apologise. Any member with an email address who hadn't received their electronic copy of the September Bulletin emailed on Thursday, 14 September, was asked to let Pat Richards know.
- 3.2 *Bulletin editor:* - A volunteer Bulletin editor is needed. Volunteers should contact the committee.

## 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period August 2017:

	August 2017	1-Feb-17 to 31-Aug-17
<b>Income (operating account)</b>	0.00	5,127.20
<b>Expenditure</b>	0.00	932.30

Moved by Margaret Petridis and seconded by Sarah Atkinson that the Treasurer's report for August 2017 be accepted as a true record of the club's finances.

*Carried*

An amendment was made to the Treasurer's report for the period July 2017 to take account of additional income in the form of cheques to the PO box that had not been accounted for. The adjusted figures were as follows:

	July 2017	1-Feb-17 to 31-Jul-17
Income (operating account)	520.00	5,127.20
Expenditure	0.00	932.30

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE 17 August 2017 to 19 September 2017

Electronic or hard copies of Newsletters and Bulletins have been received over the period from: ANOS Sydney, ANOS Illawarra, Invasive Species Council, OSWA, CCWA, NOSSA Correspondence covered a range of topics.

### Inward emails to the WANOSCG Web site and members of the committee:

Date	Sender	Topic
Aug-17	Australian Native Orchid Society	Subscription renewal
21-Aug-17	Andrew Brown to Tim Hodgkins	Manea Park bushland damage
21-Aug-17	Tim Hodgkins to Andrew Brown	<i>T variegata</i> in Manea Park, Bunbury
22-Aug-17	Tim Hodgkins to Andrew Brown	<i>T variegata</i> in Manea Park, Bunbury
22-Aug-17	Andrew Brown to Tim Hodgkins	<i>T variegata</i> in Manea Park, Bunbury
23-Aug-17	Tim Hodgkins to Andrew Brown	<i>T variegata</i> in Manea Park, Bunbury
23-Aug-17	Eddy Wajon	Brixton Street Wetlands campaign taking off
29-Aug-17	Tim Hodgkins to DWER	Submission with respect to the Shire of Dandaragan CP 7662/1 (Public comment period closing on September 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017)
29-Aug-17	State Library of Western Australia	WANOSCG Bulletins
7-Sep-17	Ron Fauntleroy	Dredging at Point Grey
10-Sep-17	Tim Hodgkins to Technical & Rural Services, Narrogin Council	Clearing applications for expansion of Narrogin Cemetery area.
11-Sep-17	Heather Adamson	Assistant required - wildflower excursion to Yarloop on Monday, 2 October.
14-Sep-17	Tim Hodgkins forwarded from Urban Bushland Council	No urban landcare funding allocation in this year's budget
17-Sep-17	Heather Adamson	Assistant required – wildflower excursion to Yarloop on Monday, 2 October – position filled
18-Sep-17	Kingsley Dixon	Ex situ conservation of the Queen of Sheba complex
18-Sep-17	Melanie George	(via web site) Pingaring spider orchid in flower
18-Sep-17	Kingsley Dixon	Ex situ conservation of the Queen of Sheba complex



Date	Sender	Topic
19-Sep-17	Associations and Charities Branch, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety	AssociationsInfo 21 – We're starting a clean up Consumer Protection is compiling a list of clubs and associations that are no longer operating or have been dormant for at least 12 months.

#### Business arising from Correspondence:

- Potential supporting action by individuals in relation to environmental concerns raised by Tim Hodgkins, Eddy Wajon and Ron Fauntleroy. In particular, this includes the issue of destruction of habitat at Manea Park, Bunbury, as a result of clearing for fire hazard reduction. This has potential consequences for a population of *Thelymitra variegata*, likely the only known population on the Swan coastal plain. Anyone interested in the detail of this correspondence should contact the committee.
- Members are requested to contact Kingsley Dixon in relation to sightings of flowering of orchids in the Queen of Sheba complex, **copying in WANOSCG for our records**. WANOSCG will circulate Kingsley's email request for the information of members.
- As WANOSCG is a registered association, the committee will ensure that its information statement is lodged to confirm that it is active, eligible to be incorporated and has held its annual general meeting, thus avoiding deregistration.

#### 6. FIELD TRIPS

During August and early September individuals have been encouraged to offer to host small groups to local metropolitan reserves where orchids were to be seen. Christine Lock has been coordinator for this purpose. Metropolitan locations visited since the last general meeting included:

- Marangaroo "Bush Forever" reserve – 14 species of orchid in flower plus leaves of a further seven. (See September Bulletin.)
- Bold Park, City Beach (Carousel Spider (*Caladenia arenicola*), Tuart Spider (*C georgei*), Pink Fairy (*C latifolia*), Donkeys (*Diuris corymbosa* and *D magnifica*)) and Star Swamp Bushland (White Spider (*Caladenia longicauda* subsp *longicauda*), Pink Fairy (*C latifolia*), Tuart Spider (*C georgei*), Carousel Spider (*C arenicola*).

An outline for field trips in 2017 was published in the August 2017 Bulletin.

#### Upcoming Field trips

- Long weekend 23 – 25 September – trip to be based in Walpole with places to search NE and NW of Walpole and north of Bow Bridge. Margaret Petridis would be liaising with Maggie Whittle and Lyn Alcock about how the attendee numbers will be managed to minimise habitat damage. (It was noted that there were more than forty people registered to participate in this trip.) It was noted that wet weather was forecast for the period and consequently participants were advised to take appropriate wet weather gear.
- Survey work for Mark Brundrett has been requested from mid-September to mid-October. Further information would be provided once Margaret Petridis had ascertained more exact details and had a better idea of who could be available to participate.
- On Sunday, 8 October there will be a trip to the Goodale Sanctuary, looking for occurrences of *Drakaea elastica*.
- Saturday, 14 October – Eric Swarts will lead a trip to two nature reserves south of Mandurah, targeting *Caladenias* and *Drakaeas*. As Margaret Petridis expected to be away from 21 September to 4 October, she specified that those wishing to register should contact her after 4 October and before the deadline of 12 October.
- Margaret Petridis will enquire about Walpole, Denmark and Northcliffe in relation to the projected end-of-year trip. Other areas that might be considered are Mount Barker, and Margaret River/Augusta. The Capes might also be considered for next year in December and Jon Warren will talk to his contacts in the area with this in mind.

### Personal Field Trips: (Please use common names and full names where known)

Members are requested to fill out the personal field trip report form on the front table and send electronic Orchid Sighting sheets to the Registrar (Ramón Newmann [REDACTED]). If you don't have a copy of the report or sighting sheet then send an email to the Secretary (Pat Richards – [REDACTED]) and she will provide you with an electronic copy.

- Jack Eborall had visited the lake areas to the south of Perth and had seen a few common orchids, including very large numbers of Pink Fairy orchids (*Caladenia latifolia*) in spite of the very weedy environment around the lakes.
  - In the surviving bushland there were many Common Donkeys (*Diuris corymbosa*) and Cowslips (*Caladenia flava*).
  - An unusual *Diuris* orchid was seen at Lake Kogelup bushland. It had small flowers (2 cm) held horizontally and was colony forming. It had a long narrow v-shaped leaf and was about 30 cm tall with 5-7 flowers carried on very long leaf stalks. Pictures are available for those interested.
  - At North Lake there were hybrids between *Caladenia flava* and Little Pink Fairies (*C. reptans*).
- Geoff Foley had been to Wongan Hills. In the area near Lake Ninan he had seen approximately 15 Hinged Dragons (*Caladenia drakeoides*).
- Ron Fauntleroy had participated in the survey for the Glossy-leafed Hammer orchid (*Drakaea elastica*), having found over 500 plants. In addition, Ron had visited various locations in the Perth metropolitan area and to the south of the city identifying nearly 50 different species.
- Tom Burbidge indicated that in Leeming he had seen Cowslip Orchids (*Caladenia flava*), Pink Fairies (*Caladenia latifolia*) and Carousel Spider (*Caladenia arenicola*), Red Beaks (*Pyrorchis nigricans*) at Wireless Hill and Marangaroo.
- Urszula Kokosinska indicated that, at Johnston Road near the ammunition site, works are being carried out where there is a little piece of bush with hundreds of orchid buds. She suggested that this should be made into a reserve. In addition on the forestry road, there is a little area of native bush with Carousel Spiders (*Caladenia arenicola*) and Duck Orchids (*Paracaleana* species) near the plantation next to the houses for the forestry workers. One of the people who lives there is keeping an eye on that patch of bush.
- At the Julimar Conservation Park east of Bindoon Margaret Petridis had found heaps of Yellow China Orchids (*Cyanicula ixioides* subsp. *ixioides*) and White China Orchids (*Cyanicula ixioides* subsp. *candida*).

## 7. CONSERVATION

Moved by Tom Burbidge and seconded by Geoff Foley that the Conservation report as published in the September Bulletin be accepted. Carried.

Additional issues:

- At the Bushmead development the developers are very keen to find and conserve orchids. An inspection identified five or six acres of suitable habitat for the Crystal Brook Star Orchid (*Thelymitra magnifica*). This is an area worth watching in the future.
- At Flynn Drive in Neerabup there are very many spider orchids in an area of likely development. It was queried whether a recovery can be made.
- As a result of last year's recovery exercise two of the orchids relocated are flowering in Marangaroo with three more in Warwick.

## 8. GROWER'S TABLE

- Mark Brundrett tabled specimens from Flynn Drive of a Carousel Orchid (*Caladenia arenicola*), Shell Orchids (*Pterostylis allantoidea*) and a Shirt Orchid (*Thelymitra campanulata*) in bud.

## 9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 9.1 *Insurance*: The committee is continuing to evaluate needs and options.
- 9.2 *New Rules of Association*: Requirements are in hand.
- 9.3 *Corrigin trip*: Ian Greeve led a field trip to Corrigin two weeks ago, although only two people attended. The group was shown around by Robin Campbell who had arranged for some visits to private land and was very helpful. We need to thank her. Orchids seen included some hybrids of



White Spiders (*Caladenia longicauda* subsp *eminens*) and several *Thelymitra* species in bud. Anyone interested in visiting the area should contact Ian Greeve and he will put them in touch with Robin Campbell.

**PRESENTATION:** John Hills presented on his ADORP projects – *Thelymitra yorkensis*, *Caladenia postea*. Rob van Oosten presented on how he became interested in orchids and showed several photographs of his sightings.

**RAFFLE DRAW:** John Hills drew the raffle with the initial ticket drawn belonging to Bob Steer who had donated the prize. On redraw the prize was won by Ron Fauntleroy.

**MEETING CLOSE:** 9:35 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** 7:30 pm Wednesday 18 October 2017 BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park



## CONSERVATION REPORT

Tim Hodgkins, Conservation Officer

### Conservation Officer Report to October 2018 general meeting.

#### 1. Clearing Notices

No current sites being followed up. Eddy to report on Roadside clearing broader issues.

#### 2. Investigation of expansion of Kemerton Buffer Zone

C/F - Further action after the upcoming field trip gives a better idea of the area. Graeme Walker has been monitoring populations of various species and has added a new one to the list.

#### 3. State Explosives Facility, McLarty

C/F - Communication with the Shire of Waroona and an application for Reserve status is on the agenda for later in the year.

#### 4. Mullering Road, Cataby

Bob Steer is awaiting contact with the local DPaW officer about installation of markers in this and other critical locations in the Shire.

#### 5. Manea Park

Planned meetings with DFES and the City of Bunbury for late October. The current news about the new project headed by Kingsley Dixon regarding the development and refinement of the ex situ conservation of the **Queen of Sheba orchid complex** is that it will focus on this remaining population for seed harvest.

#### 6. Flynn Drive orchid transplants

A total of five flowering plants were observed, three at Warwick Bushland and two at Marangaroo NR.

A further 36 plants have at Flynn Drive been tagged for removal in November.



## NOTICES

### 18 October 2017 Meeting is Octogenarian Night

We'll be celebrating our senior members for whom our native orchids continue to be a passion. Members are requested to aid in the attendance of our octogenarians where appropriate.

### 15 November 2017 Photo Competition

This is a reminder that the November general meeting includes the annual photo competition. This year the subject is "Orchid with Pollinator" however, in practice, the "pollinator" can be any bug rather than a specifically acknowledged pollinator.

Judging is traditionally at the last general meeting of the season in Perth. The judging takes place on hard copy photographs printed 6 in x 8 in with only one entry per person and the photo must have been taken this season. Judging is carried out on the photos displayed anonymously by means of all members present depositing tokens against the photos on display.

Those members based in regional areas and unable to attend the meeting should have their entry printed to the above specification then send it to our PO Box 323, Victoria Park WA 6979 to be received by Friday, 10 November in time for the meeting. The committee would then ensure it was entered in the competition. (Alternatively, if you were to be in Perth on the night, you could attend the meeting in person, bringing your entry photo with you.)

### Rosters:

	Speaker	Topic	Raffle Prize	Supper
18-Oct	Selected members	"How I became interested in Orchids"	David & Janeanne Cumming	Trish Newmann
15-Nov	Photo competition	Member Photo Competition	Marina Karyagina	Trish Newmann

*Thank you for  
reading.  
Until next month,  
Happy Orchid  
Hunting*

#### BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to the Editor at [wanoscg@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg@gmail.com). Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 8 November 2017.

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