

Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group



October 2018 Bulletin

IN THIS MONTH'S EDITION:

- Strawberries and Cream
- Field Trips
 - Northam/York
 - Jerramungup
 - Eastern Granites
 - Perth Metro
 - SRG – Cape Riche
 - Personal Trips
 - Upcoming Trips
- Conservation
 - Conservation Report
- Study Groups
 - ADORP
- Membership Corner
- Orchid News
 - Grant Project
 - DRF Surveys
- Notices

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
17 October 2018

Management Committee:

Ramón Newmann – President
Jon Warren – Vice President
Ian Puddev – Vice President
Jay Steer – Treasurer
John Ewing – Secretary
Margaret Petridis – Field Trip Coordinator
Pat Richards – Bulletin Editor, Committee
Kim Hanson – Committee
Marina Karyagina – Committee

Strawberries and Cream

Pat Richards

An unexpected find on the recent group field trip to Jerramungup on the long weekend was an unusual red beak orchid (see Margaret's trip report on page 3). We hesitate to call it *Pyrorchis nigricans* – *nigricans* means "black" – as it was a delicate cream colour with red tips rather than the very dark tips of regular red beaks – hence the "strawberries and cream" suggestion.

It was quite a largish patch with numerous specimens but, not only that, they were mixed in with a similar number of regular red beaks with the more conventional dark tips. It would have been interesting to see whether the pale specimens would turn black as they inevitably wither and dry out but, as is usual on such trips, we were unable to hang around to find out.



Images clockwise from top left:

Pyrorchis sp? (image courtesy Ramón Newmann),

Pyrorchis sp?, Red Beaks (*Pyrorchis nigricans*), Red Beaks (*Pyrorchis nigricans*) (images courtesy Pat Richards)



FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Northam/York area, 16 September 2018 – Kevin Uhe

A small but enthusiastic group of members met at Mt Observation and spent time photographing a number of orchids in the area, including the clubbed spider (*Caladenia longiclavata*), dancing spider orchid (*Caladenia discoidea*), bird orchid (*Pterostylis barbata*), china orchid (*Cyanicula gemmata*), along with a group of cowslip orchids (*Caladenia flava* subsp. *flava*). A number of purple enamel orchids (*Elythranthera brunonis*) and custard orchids (*Thelymitra villosa*) were seen in bud. A promise of things to come!

Travelling east through Greenhills the group arrived at Doodananing Road where in a very grassy area a number of caladenias greeted us, including the



Chapman's Spider Orchid
(*Caladenia chapmanii*)

yellow spider orchid (*Caladenia denticulata* subsp. *denticulata*) and the clumped spider (*Caladenia denticulata* subsp. *rubella*). An exciting find was a hybrid that appeared to be a cross between one of the denticulatas and the pink candy (*Caladenia hirta* subsp. *rosea*). A number of the western wheatbelt donkeys (*Diuris brachyscapa*) were in late flower.

Final stop of the day was at Meenaar and a large number of stark white spiders (*Caladenia longicauda* subsp. *eminens*) were in flower. An interesting find was a few white spiders with a red tip to the labellum and various theories were put forward as to how these spiders had acquired the red lip as no obvious other parent was located to provide a possible hybrid. Though the area is very grassy, a large number of drooping spiders (*Caladenia radialis*) were located along with a small group of Chapman's spider orchids (*Caladenia chapmanii*).

Overall it proved to be a very interesting day with a number of different orchids located and thanks to all who attended for their enthusiastic searching.



Hybrid Pink Candy x
Yellow Spider Orchid
(*Caladenia denticulata* x
C hirta subsp *rosea* x)

Jerramungup, 21 to 24 September 2018 – Margaret Petridis, Field Trip Leader

Orchid bonanza for the long weekend!!

Despite reports of a dry season and recent frosts in the area, 24 members attended the trip to Jerramungup and were rewarded well for their efforts. We found over 40 different species and at least eight different hybrids over the three-day weekend.

On the Saturday we went south of Jerramungup to a creek crossing and found *Caladenia x suffusa*, *Caladenia x cala* and a rare hybrid we think is between *Caladenia horistes* x *Caladenia longicauda* subsp. *eminens*. Small groups of *C barbarossa*, *C pulchra* and *C multiclavia* and some other common orchids were also found.



Lazy Spider Orchid (*Caladenia multiclavia*)



Hybrid *Caladenia x cala*

Near another creek crossing further south we found lots of interesting hybrids and explored further than on previous visits thanks to some inquisitive members. Hybrids between *C polychroma* and four other orchids were seen, including *C cairnsiana*, *C doutchiae*, *C discoidea* and *C bryceana* subsp *bryceana*. We also found *Caladenia x suffusa* there. Just as we were starting to leave, Trish found four tiny flowers of *C bryceana* subsp *bryceana* which, needless to say, delayed our departure considerably!

In the afternoon we visited Tozer's Bush Camp near Bremer Bay and were impressed by the amenities there, particularly the TV on which some people watched the Eagles win their semi-final. A few *Caladenia pectinata* and *C decora* were seen by those who ventured out for a walk along the trails.

Graeme and Deb found another hybrid: *Caladenia barbarossa x C falcata* on the road to the Jerramungup Sports Complex that afternoon and shared it with us the next morning.

After the quick stop to see the hybrid we headed to a burn east of the South Coast Highway. There we saw a variety of orchids, including *Cyanicula gemmata*, *Cyanicula nikulinskyae* and many *Pyrorchis nigricans* in flower. A very interesting find were populations of a pale red and cream-coloured *Pyrorchis* which we dubbed 'strawberries and cream' (see page 1).

In the afternoon we visited the Quaalup Homestead area in the Fitzgerald National Park and explored along a couple of trails. We found *Pterostylis lortensis* and probably *Pterostylis* sp. 'Ravensthorpe' as well as *Caladenia heberleana* along the sandy edges of tracks, and *Diuris decremента* and *Elythranthera brunonis* on a gravel/granite ridge.

Back to the north along the Boxwood Hills Road we found a few *Thelymitra speciosa* still in flower and then two populations of *T psammophila* that we carefully surveyed with excellent teamwork. Near one population we found some buds and leaves that will be checked in November to see if they are a new population of *Thelymitra* sp 'Ongerup'.



Sandplain Sun Orchid
(*Thelymitra psammophila*)



Dragon x Fringed Mantis Orchid
(*Caladenia barbarossa x Caladenia falcata*)

On the Borden Bremer Rd we had our sixth and final stop for the day where we found more *Caladenia polychroma*, *C doutchiae* and numerous hybrids plus a single flower of *Ericksonella saccharata*.

We had our second very sociable evening in the camp kitchen of the caravan park as we prepared and ate our meals while discussing various orchid related topics.

On the Monday morning we visited the Sports Complex and found previously seen species and hybrids, with a large clump of *Caladenia cairnsiana* (including five double-headers) and a single dark red flower being the stand-out finds.

We headed north to a well-known spot on Needilup Nth Rd and spent some time exploring the very dry habitat. The orchid numbers were low but we still saw some lovely hybrids, similar to those previously seen.

We ended the official part of the trip around lunch time as some people had to head off home. A few of us who were staying on went further north to search for the rarely seen hybrid, *Caladenia x resupina*, a cross between *Caladenia multiclavia* and *C polychroma*. After much careful searching, Trish and Ramon found two unusual hybrids.



Zebra Orchid
(*Caladenia cairnsiana*)

We examined them carefully and looked at other orchids in the area and then we determined them to be most likely *Caladenia cairnsiana* x *C multiclavia* and *Caladenia multiclavia* x *C pulchra*, so not exactly what we were looking for, but very interesting all the same.

Thank you to all of the members who attended the trip. I am sure you will all agree it was very interesting and worthwhile.



Hybrid *Caladenia cairnsiana* x
(*Caladenia multiclavia*)

Rufa Hunting in the Eastern Granite Country starting 25 September – Kevin Uhe

Following the recent field trip to Jerramungup a small group of members headed out to the eastern granite country to search for rufas and other orchids that might be in flower.

After departing Hyden we headed out along the Hyden-Norseman Road with a stop at The Breakaways where a few granite suns (*Thelymitra petrophila*) were found in bud. This was to be common during the trip as, despite seeing granite suns at nearly every stop, we did not find one in flower!

Disappointment Rock had been ravaged by a hot summer fire and only a couple of rufa were found in bud. To our amazement a small colony of the shy greenhood (*Pterostylis allantoidea*) was found with some still in flower.

The following day we headed down to Stennet Rock where we found another two rufa in bud and what was to become a very common sight, the little laughing leek (*Prasophyllum gracile*). This tiny orchid was found at every rock we visited in reasonable numbers despite the dry conditions.

A short stop at Dundas Rocks revealed a group of rufa but once again in tight bud. Another stop at Dundas Rocks also had a few rufa in bud along with the granite suns (*Thelymitra petrophila*) and little laughing leeks (*Prasophyllum gracile*).

We then headed to Fraser Range Caravan Park where we enjoyed a two-night stay despite the weather gods trying to blow our tents away on the first night and bringing some welcome rain to the area.

A trip to the hill behind the caravan park at Frasers Range had over 100 rufa in various stages of flower and bud so a number of hours were spent searching and photographing. The rufa were a combination of the rufous greenhood (*Pterostylis roensis*) and the greasy rufous greenhood (*Pterostylis* sp 'greasy').



Shy Greenhood
(*Pterostylis allantoidea*)

A journey further east had a number of hairy rufous greenhoods (*Pterostylis ciliata*) in flower so the Frasers Range area proved to be quite productive compared to previous areas visited.

Returning via Norseman we stopped at 50 Mile Rock and found a number of rufa in flower, including the newly named *Pterostylis xerampelina*. A stop at another rock further north saw a small number of rufa in flower which are yet to be identified.

We then headed west to Cave Hill then to Burra Rock where another small population of *Pterostylis allantoidea* was found followed by a bigger population further west. The desert mignonette orchid (*Microtis eremicola*) was just beginning to flower at the base of the rock.

Stops at low granites further north did not yield any flowering rufa though a handful were found in bud. Another granite outcrop was explored with a small population of the hybrid between the lemon scented sun (*Thelymitra antennifera*) and the granite sun (*Thelymitra petrophila*) being located.

The group then headed out past Kalgoorlie to Cardunia Rocks where after much searching only one dainty brown rufous greenhood (*Pterostylis tryphera*) was found. Even though it had been dry out that way a large thunderstorm preceded us and provided a number of puddles to negotiate on the drive in and out of Cardunia Rocks.

Returning west we visited Karalee where, to our amazement, a number of rufa were in full flower, including *Pterostylis ciliata*, *Pterostylis roensis*, spoon-lipped rufous (*Pterostylis spathulata*) and the straight-topped rufous (*Pterostylis* sp. 'straight tops').

Our final night was north of Southern Cross where we found a couple of rufa in tight bud early next morning. The weather forecast had expected rain in the order of 20 to 40 mm so, after a quick look around the breakaways, we headed towards Perth. As it happened Southern Cross had over 50 mm of rain later that day so we got out just in time.

The lack of early rain affected the rufa flowering at many of the places we visited but it was a useful exercise to visit a number of granites that would be worth another look in a better season.

Pictured from top:

Hairy Rufous Greenhood (*Pterostylis ciliata*),

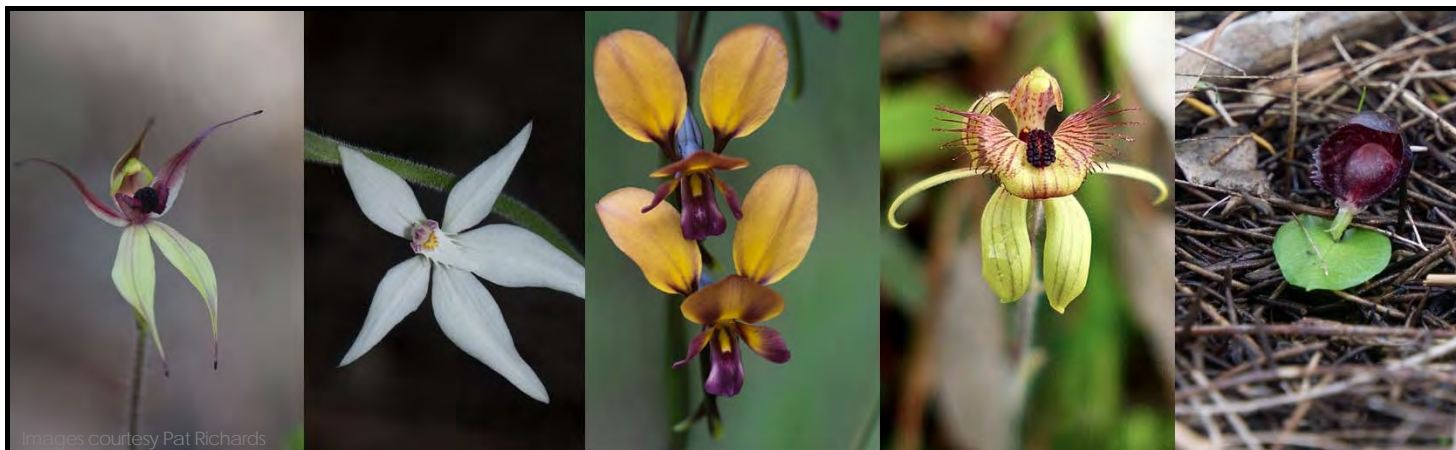
Pterostylis xerampelina,

Hybrid Lemon-scented Sun x Granite Sun (*Thelymitra antennifera* x *T. petrophila*),

Rufous Greenhood (*Pterostylis roensis*)

(Images courtesy Kevin Uhe)





Images from left: Leaping spider (*Caladenia macrostylis*), albino pink fairy (*C. latifolia*), large pansy orchid (*Diuris magnifica*), dancing spider (*C. discoidea*), helmet orchid (*Corybas recurvus*)

Perth Metropolitan – August and September

During the last couple of months a number of members, coordinated by Christine Lock, hosted morning visits to their local metropolitan reserves by small groups of their fellow members. This has helped foster a greater appreciation of the diversity of wild orchids in the greater Perth urban area and the importance of preserving remnant bush in the face of increasingly dense development, both commercial and residential. These metro visits were as follows:

Date	Location	Host	Species noted
13-Aug-18	Brixton Street Wetland	Margaretha Roepen	Winter donkey (<i>Diuris brumalis</i>) Dark banded greenhood (<i>Pterostylis sanguinea</i>) Common bee orchid (<i>Diuris decremента</i>) Perth swamps donkey (<i>Diuris brevis</i>)
20-Aug-18	Whiteman Park	Pat Richards	Helmet orchid (<i>Corybas recurvus</i>) Late-flowering snail (<i>Pterostylis glebosa</i>)
	Darlington		Common white spider (<i>Caladenia hiemalis</i>) Vanilla orchid (<i>Thelymitra antennifera</i>) Hare orchid (<i>Leporella fimbriata</i>) Crimson spider (<i>Caladenia footeana</i>) Winter donkey orchid (<i>Diuris brumalis</i>)
	Glen Forrest		Winter donkey orchid (<i>Diuris brumalis</i>) Leaping spider (<i>Caladenia macrostylis</i>) Warty hammer orchid (<i>Drakaea livida</i>) (in bud)
5-Sep-18	Kings Park	John Ewing	Large pansy orchid (<i>Diuris magnifica</i>) Cowslip orchid (<i>Caladenia flava</i> subsp <i>flava</i>) Carousel spider (<i>Caladenia arenicola</i>) Pink fairy orchid (<i>Caladenia latifolia</i>)
10-Sep-18	Warwick Open Space	Mark Brundrett Tim Hodgkins	Pink fairy orchid (<i>Caladenia latifolia</i>) Dancing spider (<i>Caladenia discoidea</i>) Large pansy orchid (<i>Diuris magnifica</i>) Purple enamel orchid (<i>Flythranthera brunonis</i>) Cowslip orchid (<i>Caladenia flava</i> subsp <i>flava</i>) Short sepalled snail (<i>Pterostylis</i> sp 'short sepals') Carousel spider (<i>Caladenia arenicola</i>) Common donkey orchid (<i>Diuris corymbosa</i>) Dark-banded greenhood (<i>Pterostylis sanguinea</i>)
17-Sep-18	Adenia Road, Riverton	John Ewing	Coastal white spider (<i>Caladenia longicauda</i> subsp <i>calcigena</i>) Cowslip orchid (<i>Caladenia flava</i> subsp <i>flava</i>) Pink fairy orchid (<i>Caladenia latifolia</i>) (both regular and albino forms) Carousel spider (<i>Caladenia arenicola</i>) Bee orchid (<i>Diuris laxiflora</i>) Cauline-leafed snail (<i>Pterostylis ectypha</i>)

Southern Rivers Group

Cape Riche and Beyond, Saturday, 15 September 2018

Anna de Haan, SRG Convenor

After a week of cold weather we were all looking forward to a day in the sun. Our meeting spot may have been cold, however, the sun was shining. Our first stop at a recent burn along the South Coast Highway was an opportunity to search a two year old burn. Within the burn we found the king spider orchid (*Caladenia pectinata*) in bud and leopard orchid leaves (*Thelymitra benthamiana*).

Stop two highlighted the late flowering period with both the ochre spider (*Caladenia fuscolutescens*) and rattlebeaks (*Lyperanthus serratus*) still in tight bud. The roadside edges had also been recently slashed and severely graded, making life difficult for the plants right on the edge of the roadside vegetation.

Our third stop was right off the highway. Although usually a wet site, the orchids today were flowering in dry soil. Native vegetation was protecting most orchid plants. Here we added the common bee orchid (*Diuris decremента*), the Green Range donkey (*D littoralis*), the cowslip orchid (*Caladenia flava* subsp *flava*), purple enamel (*Elythranchera brunonis*) in bud and the Dunsborough donkey (*D jonesii*). The zebra orchid (*Caladenia cairnsiana*) was the only orchid flowering in healthy numbers.

Heading south, we were taken aback as to how dry the country was – from the usually waterlogged heavy clay to the hard dry clay of the day. Orchid numbers and species were very limited. Only a single fringed mantis (*Caladenia falcata*) and two vanilla suns (*Thelymitra antennifera*) were added to our short list of finds.

Southwards, to Cape Riche on the coast it was dry, dry, dry! The range and numbers of orchids was disappointing indeed, however, sharp eyes spotted a single crystal helmet flower (*Corybas limpidus*) amongst dozens of leaves, a few pink fairies (*Caladenia latifolia*), the odd slender snail orchid (*Pterostylis* sp 'crinkle leaf') when usually there are large colonies, southern white spider (*Caladenia longicauda* subsp *australora*) with very limited numbers, banded greenhood (*Pterostylis vittata*) in seed and the odd jug (*Pterostylis recurva*). The low rainfall had come too late to support the usual numbers of healthy flowering orchid plants here.

As the sun was warm and we finished early we decided to head north, north east. Alas, another disappointing site for orchid numbers! Sheer determination and perseverance enabled us to find a number of prisoner orchids (*Caladenia x ericksoniae*), leaping spiders (*Caladenia macrostylis*), Joseph's spider (*Caladenia polychroma*), one purple-veined spider (*Caladenia doutchiae*) and a number of fringed mantis orchids (*Caladenia falcata*) ranging from near white to the most deeply coloured reds and greens.

I feel we would have had a longer list of all the missing orchids than from those listed above. Today was a sobering lesson into the impact various rain patterns and seasonality can have on orchids. On a positive note, of all the sites visited today, none was adversely affected by the frosts of the previous week.

Pictured from top:

Common bee orchid (*Diuris decremента*), zebra orchid (*Caladenia cairnsiana*), fringed mantis orchid (*Caladenia falcata*), Joseph's spider orchid (*Caladenia polychroma*)
Images courtesy of Pat Richards

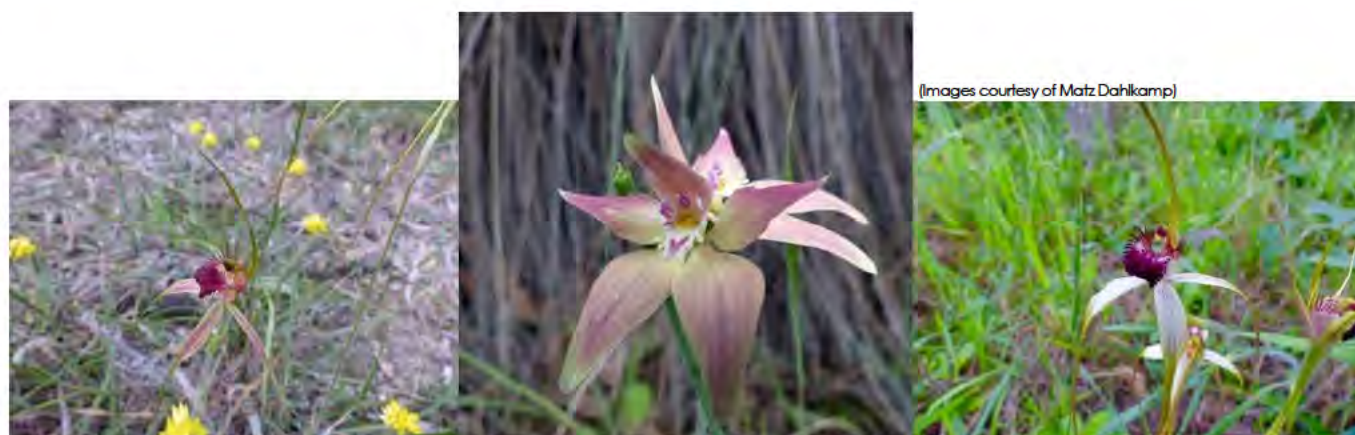


Personal trips

Beeliar Regional Park, Beginning October – Matz Dahlkamp

Went last week to Hope Road in Beeliar Regional Park and had a look between Progress Road and Bibra Drive. I found the following orchids:

Carousel spider orchid (pictured below left)	- <i>Caladenia arenicola</i>
Tuart spider orchid (pictured below right)	- <i>Caladenia georgei</i>
Coastal white spider orchid	- <i>Caladenia longicauda</i> subsp <i>calcigena</i>
Cowslip orchid	- <i>Caladenia flava</i>
Pink fairy orchid	- <i>Caladenia latifolia</i>
Pink fairy (albino)	- <i>Caladenia latifolia</i>
Hybrid cowslip x pink fairy (pictured below centre)	- <i>Caladenia flava</i> x <i>latifolia</i>
Hybrid coastal white spider x carousel spider	- <i>Caladenia longicauda</i> subsp <i>calcigena</i> x <i>arenicola</i>
Common donkey orchid	- <i>Diuris corymbosa</i>
Large pansy orchid	- <i>Diuris magnifica</i>
Common mignonette orchid	- <i>Microtis media</i> subsp <i>media</i>
Greenhoods (all seeded)	- <i>Pterostylis</i> sp



Planned Group Trips Upcoming

20 – 22 October	MUIR HIGHWAY AREA BURNS Suggestion is to meet in Manjimup on Saturday 20 October morning and travel east along the Muir Highway. Participants could stay overnight on the Friday. Stay in Mt Barker 1 – 2 nights to access recent burns to the south-west of town.
24 – 25 November	AUGUSTA Final Break-up field trip for the year. It is planned to have a group meal at the Augusta hotel on the Saturday. Participants to arrange own accommodation

To Register for a Field Trip

1. Contact Margaret Petridis, the field trip coordinator, by email at [redacted] or text on [redacted]
2. Names for the trips will be accepted four weeks prior to the trip.

Thank you to members who have volunteered and led field trips this year. It has been very much appreciated by members attending the trips, the field trip sub-committee and field trip coordinator.

If any members have information to assist the FTL on any of the trips, please advise the FTC (as above).

Members are encouraged to look in new areas and send sighting data to the registrar

Perth Metropolitan Field Trips 2018 – Coordinator, Christine Lock

There are currently no planned metropolitan trips.



CONSERVATION

Tim Hodgkins – Conservation Officer

Conservation Report – October 2018

Clearing Notices

We are seeing some more support for our submissions and appeals to DWER this year with heightened scrutiny of applications and some additional conditions being placed on applicants

Members are requested to provide immediate feedback if they observe clearing that appears to be illegal or unwarranted.

Existing Projects:

Oldfield River NR & adjacent private property

This is one of only two known sites for the underground orchid (*Rhizanthella gardeneri*). The Club was co-sponsor of a 2011 Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project which made significant recommendations. A detailed reply has now been received from DBCA Albany and copies are available for interested members.

Donovan Street Reserve, Augusta

Information from Joy Hamlyn DFES and member Jenny Kikeros – “prescribed burning will commence in Donovan Street Bushland in the next two to three weeks. The area to be burnt is the same area that was burnt in 2012 and forms part of the hospital protection plan. The area is around the hospital, St John Ambulance and nursing post. This area does have weed infestation and apparently old septic. Joy said the area is drying out fast. We have had very strong south easterly winds. Very similar to our summer weather pattern. No hot days but the wind is drying things out.”

Linville NR, Falcon

Follow up correspondence and meeting with the City of Mandurah Environmental officer, Eryn Jackson. Ron Fauntleroy sent the report:

“Have contacted the city environmental officer and had a very informative discussion, she welcomed WANOSCG involvement in the Mandurah area with the orchids as her department had only a generalised knowledge of orchids. Eryn also gave me information about a small population of *D. elastica* basically almost in the centre of the city which I checked out and found 26 plants with four in flower and one already pollinated. She also gave me information on Dawesville West Reserve and asked if we could check this out for *Caladenia huegelii* as it had been recorded here. I gave her all the results from the reserves I'd completed, seven so far, and advised her of the confidential nature of the DRF which she agreed on. I also gave her the contact details of yourself, Eric Swarts and myself.”

Thanks to Ron for this very positive outcome.

Shire of Irwin

We have had renewed contact with this council following information from Gail Reed about clearing on Burma Road South. The matter is progressing with a conversation now established with Peter Traylen (Shire) and Gail together with DBCA Alanna Chant.

Caves Road upgrade

Information is available on the MRWA website and encapsulated as follows:

“The key message is that Main Roads' preference was to retain the existing aesthetics of Caves Road in recognition of its importance as a tourist route.

“We have also briefed local governments - both the Shire of Augusta Margaret River and the City of Busselton. The two community reference groups (CRGs) for the 86 km section of Caves Road from Yallingup to Rainbow Cave Road met for the first time two weeks ago. The two groups - a northern CRG and a southern CRG - are generally based on the City of Busselton and Shire of Augusta Margaret River local government boundaries.

“We have advised the local governments and the CRG members that the perception that project development was well advanced and that key decisions about likely treatments had been made was incorrect. The true position was that Main Roads was about to start working on the strategy for Caves Road, with full community involvement.

"The key purpose of any work would be to seal the existing gravel shoulder to improve road user safety. The broad objective was always to keep any clearing impacts to an absolute minimum. Additionally, no work will be undertaken until the community reference groups have been consulted.

"Plans for addressing safety concerns along Caves Road have not been determined - this will be done in consultation with the community.

"We are assuring the community that any safety improvements would not resemble those delivered on sections of the Bussell Highway, which has much wider shoulders and partially cleared verges."

Site Watch

1. Johnston Road survey
2. Frankland NR

CCWA & Urban Bushland Council

Several communications have been sent through to members via email.

Thanks to club members for their ongoing support and input.



STUDY GROUPS

Kevin Uhe – ADORP Coordinator

ADOPT AN ORCHID PROJECT (ADORP)

With the submission of the first quarter timesheets currently underway, the total numbers of hours since the project inception in 2011 has now exceeded 10,000 hours. This is a great achievement for a small group and is an indication of the amount of time members spend undertaking surveys and reporting.

Some ADORP members have recently undertaken opportunistic surveys in the outer regions for some of our priority species which are not possible to allocate to teams due to their remote locations. This information is particularly valuable in understanding the range and populations of these remote species.

A small group of ADORP members surveyed a private property near Hyden for the Pingaring spider orchid (*Caladenia graniticola*) and, whilst unsuccessful at the property, they were able to locate a new population on a road reserve nearby. It is hoped that other farmers in the area will allow surveys on suitable land in future years.



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Jon Warren – Vice President/Membership Coordinator

WANOSCG has had a total of 14 new members join in 2018 with the latest being Melanie George. A big welcome to Melanie who is from up New Norcia way and has been busy scouting good orchid areas in the region.

Pictured from left:

Darling Scarp Donkey Orchid (*Diuris ostrina*), Blue Silky Orchid (*Cyanicula sericea*)
Drooping Spider Orchid (*Caladenia radialis*)

(Images courtesy of Pat Richards)





ORCHID NEWS

WANOSCG Grant Project Update

Protective Cages for Glossy-leafed Hammer Orchid – Ron Fauntleroy

The *Drakaea elastica* have commenced flowering in the past week. This year is shaping up as a better one with more plants in bloom with far superior protection as a result of the installation of all the cages.

I have been very busy doing all the recording from leaf emergence right through to the recent flowering. DBCA was working on site with me until the last few weeks, then Andrew Crawford [DBCA] sent out reams of data sheets so I could take over from there entering all the info on a regular basis. I still have at least another six weeks of doing this until the cages will go into storage. Andrew explained to me his time at this part of the year becomes very hectic with other conservation matters, so my job recording will be shared with DBCA and WANOSCG when in November it all gets collated and I print out all the outcomes.



Glossy-leafed hammer orchid
(*Drakaea elastica*)

DRF Orchid Surveys

Eurardy Station, 22 – 23 August – Bill Gaynor

On 22 to 23 August I spent time at Eurardy (Bush Heritage Property) assisting with surveys of three DRF orchids found on the property. Eurardy is located north of Kalbarri NP comprising over 30,000 hectares. The survey was done in association with Vanessa (ecologist), Ben (ecologist and property manager) and Janet (DBCA Geraldton).

Eurardy is a fantastic property with considerable biodiversity, having a range of flora and fauna found there. Many are priority species and there are a number of research programmes undertaken including both fauna and flora.



Images above from left:

Northern dwarf spider orchid (*Caladenia bryceana* subsp. *cracens*), Kalbarri spider orchid (*C. wanosa*), Small dragon orchid (*C. barbarella*)

The three species of orchids surveyed were Kalbarri spider orchid (*Caladenia wanosa*), the northern dwarf spider orchid (*Caladenia bryceana* subsp. *cracens*) and the small dragon orchid (*Caladenia barbarella*). Based on past experience it was an average rainfall year with all three species found. I remember one year that only one flower of *C. wanosa* was found in association with dry weather; on the other hand in wet years all three species are found in good numbers. We also found Alcock's duck orchid (*Paracaleana alcockii*) in bud (a priority orchid).

For the past couple of years they have been focusing on transect surveys rather than broad location numbers. There are several aspects of this approach that I liked, including more focused insights that are apparent when closely surveying a limited area.

WANOSCG members have helped in the past with surveys and it is great that we can contribute to the efforts of Bush Heritage.



Working on a transect survey



Notices

Wednesday, 10 October 2018

Vale Pat Johns

It was with great sadness that we learned of the recent passing of Pat Johns.

Pat was one of the founding members of the Albany branch of the Wildflower Society and Herbarium in Albany, where she collected and processed orchid species both for the Albany and State Herbariums. At this time she also became a member of WANOSCG and remained so until just recently when she could no longer contribute due to ill health. Pat continued to contribute when many others would have retired and her contribution will be sorely missed by the WANOSCG as a whole and especially by the other members of the Southern Rivers Group.

Constitution Update

Ramón Newmann, President

The members at the September general meeting unanimously voted 'Yes' to the adoption of the new proposed constitution and by-laws as circulated to all members according to the current constitution. The voting in of a new constitution is a significant milestone for WANOSCG, as it is for any club or association.

We are on schedule for it to come into force for 2019 – it has now been uploaded into the Consumer Affairs portal for its final acceptance and registration.

I would like to thank past and present committee members for their efforts over the past couple of years to get us to this point. In particular I would like to highlight the early work done by Jay Steer and Peter Proudfoot in kicking the whole process off and Jon Warren and Marina Karyagina for more recent contributions.

It was also pleasing to see long standing members at the meeting, including Noel Clarke, as they provide a direct link back to those who drew up and implemented the original constitution which has guided the club for the past 14 years. Many thanks to all!

WANOSCG 2019

Positions Vacant

The end of 2018 is approaching fast and, with the new constitution and rules as approved and with which we must comply, your committee will be making an early start to plan our group's future operations to ensure compliance with new requirements. As usual, the annual general meeting will be held in March immediately followed by the general meeting.

Included in the annual general meeting will be the election of officers and committee members. Amongst the positions under consideration are the following:

1. WEBMASTER since Stuart Gale resigned as a consequence of his work commitments this position has become vacant.
2. SECRETARY or BULLETIN EDITOR – following the resignation of Paul Winthrop as Bulletin editor, secretary, Pat Richards, took over as editor of the Bulletin on a temporary basis pending finding a permanent replacement. This combined workload was not sustainable on a permanent basis and John Ewing stepped in as interim secretary to ease the workload. We will therefore be looking for an eager beaver to fill *EITHER* the position of secretary *OR* that of Bulletin editor.

In addition, the ongoing continuity of the group is greatly facilitated by a reserve of knowledgeable and enthusiastic members who are willing to step up to serve in the various offices and committee positions. A spell serving as an ordinary committee member is not onerous and is a great way to learn how the group is organised, plus it serves as very useful experience for those who may be time poor currently but might be willing to serve as a designated officer at a later date.

If you feel you have the skills and inclination to fill any of these positions or questions regarding the same, please contact Ramón Newmann or a member of the committee directly or by email at wanoscg@gmail.com.

Illegal Removal of Native Orchids - *Reminder*

Under the *WA Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* as amended, it is illegal to remove native flora from public lands without a licence. Some of our members have noted clear signs of native orchids having been dug up and removed, most likely illegally. We encourage members seeing such evidence to report it without delay to the ranger at the appropriate DBCA regional location. Following is a map showing the various regions and a list of the contact numbers for the regional offices.

- 1 Goldfields Region
Kalgoorlie – (08) 9080 5555
- 2 Kimberley Region
Kununurra – (08) 9168 4200
- 3 Midwest Region
Geraldton – (08) 9964 0901
Shark Bay district, Denham – (08) 9948 2226
Kalbarri National Park – (08) 9937 1140
- 4 Pilbara Region
Karratha – (08) 9182 2000
Exmouth district – (08) 9947 8000
- 5 South Coast Region
Albany (headquarters) – (08) 9842 4500
Esperance district – (08) 9071 3657
- 6 South West Region
Bunbury (headquarters) – (08) 9725 4300
Blackwood district (Busselton) – (08) 9752 5555
Wellington district (Collie) – (08) 9735 1988
- 7 Swan Region
Crawley (headquarters) – (08) 9442 0300
Perth Hills district (Mundaring) – (08) 9290 6100
Yanchep National Park – (08) 9303 7759
Swan Coastal district (Wanneroo) – (08) 9303 7700
- 8 Warren Region
Manjimup (headquarters) – (08) 9771 7988
Donnelly district (Pemberton) – (08) 9776 1207
Frankland district (Walpole) – (08) 9840 0400
- 9 Wheatbelt Region
Narrogin (headquarters) – (08) 9881 9200



2018 WANOSCG Photo Competition – Just a Month to Go



Cowslip orchid (*Caladenia flava*)

Members are reminded that the subject of this year's orchid photo competition is the cowslip orchid (*Caladenia flava*). Photos must have been taken during 2018 and be of any subspecies of *Caladenia flava* – but NOT a hybrid with another species. Entries should be printed up to A4 in size and neither mounted nor framed. Voting will take place at the 21 November general meeting in the same way as in the past.

Entrants unable to attend the November meeting in person should write their name on the back of the photo and put it into an envelope marked "Photo Competition" to ensure that it is opened

only by the impartial competition scrutineer. They should then forward the entry by mail to WANOSCG at PO Box 323, Victoria Park WA 6979 to arrive no later than Friday, 16 November.

Photographic Exhibition

Ongerup, 22-September to 18 October 2018

Krystyna Rees

Some of you may be interested that I have a photographic exhibition in Ongerup with over half the photos being orchids. Any members and friends who find themselves in the Ongerup area over the next week are welcome to attend.

Venue: Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre
Jaekel Street
Ongerup
Open Tuesday to Saturday 9am to 4pm



General Meeting Rosters

Meeting rosters for the remainder of the year are now complete. Many thanks to the volunteers past and in the future.

Date	Speaker	Topic	Raffle Prize	Supper
17 Oct	Ryan Phillips	Recent discoveries in the pollination biology of <i>Caladenia</i> from Western Australia and Victoria	Jeanne & David Cumming	Ian Puddey (Octogenarian night)
21 Nov	None	Photo competition (<i>Caladenia flava</i>)	Leif Jamvold	Donna Wajon

*Thank you for
reading.
Happy orchid
hunting!*

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to the Editor at wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com. Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 9 October 2018 at the latest.

COPYRIGHT

All articles and images appearing in the Bulletin remain the property of WANOSCG or the original owner. WANOSCG is happy for any of the articles, items or images to be used by another orchid society for a non-profit purpose providing the society acknowledges the source and the author.

ARTICLES: Come from the author and not WANOSCG.

CONTACT DETAILS:

WANOSCG EMAIL: wanoscg@gmail.com