

# Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group



## November 2018 Bulletin

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### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

21 November 2018

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

20 March 2019

### Management Committee:

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

### Octogenarian Night – Celebrating our Senior Members

Our regular monthly meetings held in Perth are typically occasions when our members get together to share their common passion for all things orchid in Western Australia.

All members present contribute enthusiastically to the meeting business, especially once the meeting formalities are out of the way. Illustrated presentations on such things as the finer points of orchid species identification, their habitats, conservation and the fascinating peculiarities of their propagation in the wild are soaked up sparking lively discussions over refreshments at the end of the meeting.

These activities and the accompanying cheerful camaraderie would not be possible without the experience, consistent support and input of our long-term senior members. The good-humoured mentorship of these knowledgeable stalwarts nurtures the enthusiasm of our younger and less experienced members. This year, as in recent years in October, as a small token of our appreciation at our general meeting, we said a big thank you to our most senior members. These are not only long-term members but have also surpassed the age of 80 and are thus "octogenarians." (Noel Clarke, whose membership spans some 40 years, is actually a nonagenarian, but we're not going to quibble over a few extra birthdays.)



(Image courtesy Ramón Newmann)

### Our octogenarians about to tuck into the celebratory cake:

(Standing from left) Margaret Fox, Jack Eborall, Noel Hoffman, Ross Fox, Matz Dahlkamp,  
(Seated) Noel Clarke



# FIELD TRIPS

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### Muir Highway Area



A small group of members in five cars met in Manjimup on Saturday, 20 October and headed east along the Muir Highway. Our intention was to check out some burnt areas along and south of the highway over the weekend.

We stopped in several locations in the morning and found a few different orchid species in flower at each:

- In burnt forest we found bearded bird (*Pterostylis turfosa*), stumpy spider (*Caladenia ensata*), leaping spider (*C macrostylis*), rabbit orchid (*Leptoceras menziesii*) and purple enamel (*Elythranthera brunonis*).
- In a low wet area we found the laughing leek (*Prasophyllum macrostachyum*), swamp mignonette (*Microtis atrata*), pink fan (*Caladenia nana* subsp *unita*), and blue china (*Cyanicula gemmata*) on a gravel rise above it.
- In white sand on a flat we found king-in-his-carriage (*Drakaea glyptodon*), narrow-lipped hammer (*Drakaea thynniphila*), flying duck (*Paracaleana nigrita*) and cowslip orchid (*Caladenia flava* subsp *flava*).

We met up with the rest of the group either en route along the highway or at the second meeting point west of Thompson Road. In this area we explored unburnt bush on the north side of the highway and burnt areas on the south (burnt Nov-Dec 2017), and added king spider (*Caladenia pectinata*), rusty spider (*C ferruginea*), Muir Highway bird (*Pterostylis longicornis*), king leek (*Prasophyllum regium*), swamp leek (*P drummondii*) (in bud) and others to our list.

After lunch we headed south down Thompson Road and stopped in three locations. At the first we saw crab-lipped spider (*Caladenia plicata*), white fairy (*C marginata*), forest mantis (*C attingens* subsp *attingens*), purple pansy (*Diuris longifolia*) and a few others. At the next two stops the orchids were disappointingly scarce, probably due to the low intensity and wrong timing of the burn, we think.

#### Pictured from top:

Pink Fan (*Caladenia nana* subsp *unita*),  
Bearded Bird (*Pterostylis plumosa*)  
Rusty Spider (*Caladenia ferruginea*),  
King Leek (*Prasophyllum regium*)



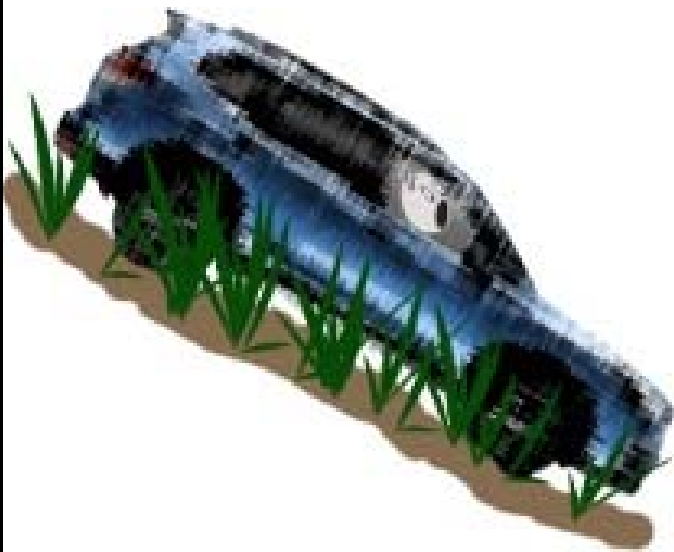


Our last stop for the day was in another recent (Dec 2017) burn east of Lake Muir where we found some lovely dainty leeks (*Prasophyllum plumiforme*), bee orchids (*Diuris laxiflora*), the Caldyanup snail orchid (*Pterostylis* sp 'robust'), dark mignonette (*Microtis orbicularis*) and ray spider (*Caladenia radiata*) in flower.

On Sunday, 21 October, we met at the eastern end of Blue Lake Road, south-west of Mt Barker, finding rattle beaks (*Lyperanthus serratus*), warty hammers (*Drakaea livida*) and flying ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita*) nearby before following Krystyna to locations in a prescribed burn west and south of there.

At one location we saw and surveyed a population of the rare Threatened species *Drakaea micrantha*, the dwarf hammer, which had been previously found by Krystyna and Maggie. A TPFR form has subsequently been completed and sent in to DBCA for this population. We also saw some leaves and buds of *Pyrorchis forrestii*, pink beaks, that were just showing colour.

At other locations we found the little pink fan (*Caladenia nana* subsp *nana*), karri spider (*C brownii*), karri cowslip (*C flava* subsp *sylvestris*) and leaping spider (*C macrostylis*).



After lunch at Blue Lake, several members left the convoy to head home. The rest of us proceeded north to another prescribed burn north of Bevan Road, east of Nornalup Road. On the way we headed up a short cut and came across an unexpectedly steep river crossing, which stopped the convoy for consultation on the safety of the crossing for all of the vehicles. While we were stopped, several flowering plants of the beautiful butterfly orchid, (*Caladenia lobata*) were seen.

Once all vehicles were safely across the river, (even my smaller AWD vehicle!) we explored some nearby granites and found a population of over 20 *Caladenia lobata* plants.

Proceeding west, we crossed the Kent River and stopped to explore a low wet area in the burn. There we found nanny goats (*Diuris laevis*), hooded leeks (*Prasophyllum cucullatum*) and pink fans (*Caladenia nana* subsp *unita*). Later we came across a granite rock and found finished plants of flying ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita*) in moss on the rock as well as buds of the swamp beard (*Calochilus uliginosa*) nearby.

All in all, it was a productive trip in terms of different orchids seen (46 species in flower) but numbers were low, possibly due to the low intensity and timing of the prescribed burn.

Thank you to all members who attended and helped to make it an enjoyable weekend.

#### Orchid images from left:

Ray Spider (*Caladenia radiata*), Caldyanup Snail (*Pterostylis* sp 'robust'), Karri Cowslip (*Caladenia flava* subsp *sylvestris*), Dwarf Hammer (*Drakaea micrantha*), Butterfly Orchid (*Caladenia lobata*)





#### Orchid images from left:

Purple pansy (*Diuris longifolia*), Karri Spider (*Caladenia brownii*), Nanny Goat (*Diuris laevis*)  
Shy Sun (*Thelymitra graminea*), White Fairy (*Caladenia marginata*)

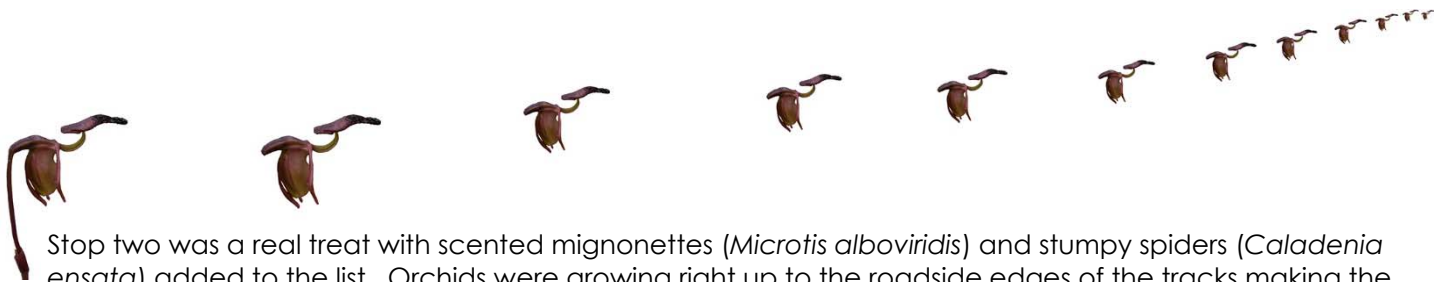
## Southern Rivers Group

### Sunny Glen, 28 October 2018 – Anna de Haan, SRG Convenor

September was busy with many SRG branch ADORP surveys, a number of small group ADORP surveys and one field trip. It was time to slow down into the rhythm of just enjoying the bush and orchids without all the counting.

North of Denmark and closer to home, we followed up on last year's attempt to gain access to a burn when we were halted by creeks and bogs. Today we swapped around cars to get where we needed to. First stop "The Swamp". Before even stepping out of the car the purple enamel orchid (*Elythranthera brunonis*) and the nanny goat (*Diuris laevis*) were sighted. These were followed by large numbers of Karri spider orchids (*Caladenia brownii*) ranging in heights and shades of greens and reds. Spreading out over the whole swamp were yawning leeks (*Prasophyllum hians*), swamp mignonettes (*Microtis atrata*), southern fringed leeks (*Prasophyllum* sp 'southern'), white fairies (*Caladenia marginata*), and cowslip orchids (*Caladenia flava*) were sighted. Moving onto the outer margins and into the bush, we found blue ladies (*Thelymitra crinita*), shy suns (*T graminea*) and bearded birds (*Pterostylis turfosa*) as well as very immature tall leek plants (*Prasophyllum elatum* complex) in very tight bud. Much time was spent trying to identify a group of quite different karri spider orchids (*Caladenia brownii*). Eventually with the help of the book we settled on karri x ray spider hybrid (*Caladenia brownii* x *C radiata*). Many more orchid buds across the swamp were seen, thus a return visit in the near future is on the agenda.

Our second focus was into an area used (legally) by locals to collect fire wood. Just perfect! There were dozens of small tracks to follow in the two year old burn. First stop was at a cross road with a range of soils and vegetation. Here we sighted many purple pansy orchids (*Diuris longifolia*) and some rattle beaks (*Lyperanthus serratus*). In the opposite direction in white sand were king-in-his-carriage (*Drakaea glyptodon*) as well as flying ducks (*Paracaleana nigrita*). The latter had a very high rate of pollination.



Stop two was a real treat with scented mignonettes (*Microtis alboviridis*) and stumpy spiders (*Caladenia ensata*) added to the list. Orchids were growing right up to the roadside edges of the tracks making the slow driving conditions very pleasant.

Our final stop was in a swamp beside the highway. Sun orchids galore! Tiger sun (*Thelymitra tigrina*) was still in tight bud, however, blue lady (*T crinita*) was in full bloom in the warm afternoon sun. Here we added common mignonettes (*Microtis media* subsp *media*) and (South African) brown finger orchids (*Disa bracteata*) to the long list of orchids found on the day.

I wish to thank Jeff and Wendy for their excellent recce work as well as being the accomplished leaders of today's wanderings through their local bush.

## Planned Group Trips Upcoming

### End-of-Year Break-up Trip to Augusta – 24 to 25 November 2018

This will be the final WANOSCG field trip for the year.

Attendees will be requested to make their own way to Augusta, stopping and exploring promising areas on the way. We have booked to have dinner together at the Augusta Hotel from 6:30 pm and will share information during the eventing about what orchids were found on the way down.

On the Sunday morning, we shall explore areas close to Augusta and go over to the Scott River area in the afternoon. Attendees may also choose to stay in Augusta on the Sunday night.

Those wishing to participate should register as below.

### Perth Metropolitan End-of-Year Get-together

A group social event is being planned for 9 December in Perth. More information on this will be made available at the general meeting on 21 November.

### 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  
[redacted]

### Perth Metropolitan Field Trips 2019 – Coordinator, Christine Lock

Such half-day trips will be planned nearer the time as suitable dates, weather conditions and locations become clearer.



#### Orchid images clockwise from top right:

Blue China (*Cyanicula gemmata*)

Leopard Orchid (*Thelymitra benthamiana*), King Spider (*Caladenia pectinata*), King-in-his-Carriage (*Drakaea glyptodon*)

**Centre** - Dainty Leek Orchid (*Prasophyllum plumiforme*)





## CONSERVATION

Tim Hodgkins – Conservation Officer

### Conservation Report – November 2018

There is no conservation report this month as Tim has a conflicting commitment and has tendered his apologies. Members are asked to remain alert for matters relating to conservation and to report them to the committee if appropriate. Note the DBCA contact details on page 8 to report urgent issues such as illegal removal of native orchids.



## STUDY GROUPS

Kevin Uhe – ADORP Coordinator

### ADOPT AN ORCHID PROJECT (ADORP)

Welcome to Mick Hurdus and Lisa Wilson from Albany who have recently joined the ADORP program and they join the SRG team looking after their respective priority orchids.

The total hours completed in the first quarter (July to September) was 1,967 which is an impressive commitment by all concerned. Putting that into perspective last year's total hours recorded were 2,446 so well on track to record a considerable increase this year.

A number of surveys have now been completed and initial results are very encouraging with new populations being found and good counts for many target taxa.

Once the final reports have been forwarded for this year's surveys consideration will be made to which taxa could be the focus of an application to apply for Threatened status or upgrading or downgrading of priority status.



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Jon Warren – Vice President/Membership Coordinator

So far in the year 2018 we have 160 memberships covering 240 people including 14 new members compared to 2017 where we had 154 memberships covering 230 people including 16 new members. Since 2015 the group's membership has steadily risen from 199 members to the current 240 members.

### Paper Work Warning

All members will have to fill out a new membership form next year due to meeting the requirements of the *Associations Act 2015* by our club via our new constitution and the need to redefine membership categories in particular.

Now, before you start moaning about more paperwork, think about the poor volunteer souls who are going to have to process and file this mass of records.

New membership forms will be available soon and will be sent to current members and posted on the web site.



# ORCHID NEWS

## WANOSCG Grant Project Update

### Protective Cages for Glossy-leafed Hammer Orchid

Ron Fauntleroy has been busy doing more work in the field with the glossy-leafed hammer orchid (*Drakaea elastica*) and writing up the survey results following his experimental deployment of cages to protect against predation by feral animals. The survey results, some of which are very interesting so far, cover 10 different areas and Ron will report on those results and provide some copies at the general meeting in Perth on 21 November.



## Notices

Wednesday, 7 November 2018

### Preparation for 2019 under the New Constitution

The 2018 orchid year is now rapidly winding down with the start of the hot dry summer months in the south-western part of WA, however recent legislation has mandated a new WANOSCG constitution that will govern the group from 1 February 2019. This will require more formal preparation for the next orchid year ahead of the group's Annual General Meeting on 20 March.

In September a special resolution was passed to update our constitution as from 2019 to comply with the legislation. We have since been advised that further amendments need to be carried out to ensure full compliance. Consequently, a notice of special resolution under the terms of our current constitution is being forwarded to members. The intention is for the special resolution to be put to the vote at the general meeting on 21 November 2018.

In addition, preparation for the new constitution involves making a formal invitation to all ordinary members to nominate to stand for election as committee members and/or subsidiary office positions. Election of the committee will take place at the March AGM followed by election of the subsidiary office holders.

Members receiving this issue of the Bulletin will also receive the notice of special resolution together with forms enabling them to nominate for the respective committee and/or subsidiary positions. To assist members who may be considering volunteering to fill a position, a set of role descriptions is also being included. Note that all nominations for **committee** membership must be endorsed and signed by a nomination supporter (who is also an ordinary member).

Forms completed and signed may be scanned and forwarded by email, mailed hard copy to the group's PO box or handed directly to the secretary, John Ewing. Note that, regardless of means of transmission, **nomination forms for committee positions are to be received by the secretary no later than 20 February 2019**. Committee nomination forms received after that date will not be considered valid.

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 committee and subsidiary 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 have questions regarding any of these positions, please contact Ramón Newmann or a member of the committee directly, or by email to [wanosca@gmail.com](mailto:wanosca@gmail.com).

## 2018 WANOSCG Photo Competition – General Meeting, 21 November

Final reminder of the rules for entry of photos:

- 1 Subject of photo to be any subspecies of cowslip orchid (*Caladenia flava*) but **NOT** a hybrid
- 2 Prints to be any size up to A4 (210 mm x 297 mm), but no larger
- 3 Prints to be neither mounted nor framed and should have the entrant's name on the back.

Members wishing to submit an entry but who are 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.**

## Illegal Removal of Native Orchids – Reminder

It is illegal to remove native flora from public lands without an appropriate licence and, in the case of threatened flora, it is illegal to remove it from any lands, including private land without ministerial approval. The Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 now provides for substantial deterrent penalties, up to \$500,000 for a person taking threatened flora species.

Some of our members have noted clear signs of native orchids having been dug up and removed, possibly illegally. Members have also seen evidence of damage to populations of native orchids listed as threatened, including vegetation clearing, spraying of herbicide and removal of plants. We encourage members seeing such evidence to report it without delay to the appropriate DBCA District Office.

- 1 Goldfields Region – [kalgoorlie@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:kalgoorlie@dbca.wa.gov.au)  
Kalgoorlie – (08) 9080 5555
- 2 Kimberley Region – [kununurra@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:kununurra@dbca.wa.gov.au)  
Kununurra – (08) 9168 4200
- 3 Midwest Region  
Geraldton – (08) 9964 0901 -  
Shark Bay district, Denham – (08) 9948 2226  
Kalbarri National Park – (08) 9937 1140  
Moora district – (08) 9688 6000 \*\*
- 4 Pilbara Region  
Karratha – (08) 9182 2000  
Exmouth district – (08) 9947 8000
- 5 South Coast Region – [albany@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:albany@dbca.wa.gov.au)  
Albany (headquarters) – (08) 9842 4500  
Esperance district – (08) 9071 3657
- 6 South West Region – [bunbury@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:bunbury@dbca.wa.gov.au)  
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 – [warren.admin@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:warren.admin@dbca.wa.gov.au)  
Manjimup (headquarters) – (08) 9771 7988  
Donnelly district (Pemberton) – (08) 9776 1207  
Frankland district (Walpole) – (08) 9840 0400
- 9 Wheatbelt Region – [narrogin@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:narrogin@dbca.wa.gov.au)  
Narrogin (headquarters) – (08) 9881 9200



\*\* Note that the Moora district contact in the Midwest region was omitted from earlier notices, for which we apologise. Our thanks to Andrew Brown for drawing this to our attention.



## General Meeting Rosters

Many thanks to the volunteers who have contributed in 2018. Thinking ahead, we shall also be calling for volunteers for 2019 meetings similarly. If you feel you can help out in this regard, a sheet, a sample of which is shown below, will be tabled for each general meeting next year and you are encouraged to put your name down.

Date	Speaker	Topic	Raffle Prize	Supper
20-Mar-19				
17-Apr-19				

*Thank you for  
reading.  
Have a great break  
and may you  
return in 2019  
refreshed and  
raring to go!*

### BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to the Editor at [wanosca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wanosca.newsletter@gmail.com). It's a long time ahead but note that items for the March 2019 Bulletin need to be submitted by COB on 4 March 2019 at the latest.

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**ARTICLES:** Come from the author and not WANOSCG.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

WANOSCG EMAIL: [wanosca@gmail.com](mailto:wanosca@gmail.com)

WANOSCG WEBSITE: [www.wanosca.com](http://www.wanosca.com)

