

BULLETIN

OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY &
CONSERVATION GROUP (INC) (1974 - 2003)

APRIL 2003

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CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE (1)	Eddy Wajon	
CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE (2)	Wayne Merritt	

OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

- To promote interest in and preserve Western Australian indigenous orchids.
- To learn the best means of cultivation and do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their environment.
- To learn their habitats and keep records.
- To have field days and learn to recognise the different genera and species.
- To hold meetings for the exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in Western Australian orchids.
- To affiliate with kindred organisations.
- To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.
- To do all such other lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

Note: this group does not specifically endorse the opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin.

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FIELD TRIP TO WALPOLE 12-13 APRIL

This newsletter is early to allow members time to consider this early trip to Walpole to see 4 species of *Eriochilus* and *Praecoxanthus aphyllus*.

Meet at the park opposite the Walpole shopping center at 11.00 a.m. Gloria Jackson will be leading the trip on Saturday and Dallas Park on Sunday. As usual please advise the Field Trip Coordinator if you are attending.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 16 April 2003 at 7.00 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Administration Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 16 April 2003 at 8.00 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Administration Office.

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr Andrew Batty - "Translocation of Orchids".

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

12/13 April	Field trip to Walpole
16 April	General meeting.
11 May	Field trip to West Dale
21 May	General meeting.
18 June	General meeting.
16 July	General meeting.
16/17 August	Field trip to Eneabba
20 August	General meeting.
24 August	Field trip to Culbin
17 September	General meeting.
27-29 September	Field trip to Tenterden
15 October	General meeting.
19 November	General meeting.

ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP FEES

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE

The Group's financial year commences on 1 February.

Annual fees are \$25.00 for singles & families. New membership joining fee is \$10.00 and if joining after 30 June membership fee is adjusted prorata.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Noel Clarke. The article submission deadline for the next issue is 1 May 2003. Country members, we would love to share your orchid adventures (or misadventures). Many private field trips are undertaken, how about sharing them with the membership via the Bulletin.

SUPPER COST

Each month our supper is generously donated by group members (per list on the back of the Bulletin), while the group supplies the tea, coffee, sugar and milk. To recoup some of the cost of these supplies, a modest fee of \$1.00 applies. This can be left on the supper table and will be collected by the Treasurer at the end of the evening.

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

WANOSCG ORCHID SIGHTING FORMS

Keep them rolling in.

FOR SALE

Rufa Trip Report \$10.00.

Caladenia flava Badges \$4.00 members, \$5.00 non-members.

Name Badges \$10.00.

Orchids of WA (2nd Ed) \$9.00.

Orchids of SW Australia \$45.00.

Orchid Flowering Times \$5.00.

Colour guide to Spring Wildflowers by Eddie Wajon \$ 18.00 each.

Part 1: Kalbarri & The Goldfields.

Part 2: Perth & The Southwest.

Part 3: Esperance & The Wheatbelt

Car Stickers \$1.50.

Pat Dundas Cards \$8.00.

Bush Survival Kit \$4.00.

History of WANOSCG \$3.00.

NAME BADGES

Group name badges can be ordered from the Treasurer. The cost is \$10.00 each.

CAR STICKERS

Additional stickers may be purchased for \$1.00 from the treasurer.

SUPPER & RAFFLE ROSTER

A glance at the back page shows three vacancies for the supper roster & four vacancies for the raffle roster.

If you can help out please don't feel shy to volunteer your services. The roster book will go round at the next meeting, or you can tell the secretary.

LIBRARY ADDITION

Dr Richard Rogers was a medical practitioner who was a keen orchid enthusiast. He named and described many W.A. orchids and other genera in Australia.

His grandson Scott Rogers has donated a bibliography, in loose-leaf form, of Dr Richard Rogers to the group.

The Secretary is having it bound in a folder which will be an addition to our library. It will be interesting reading - join the queue.

SUMMER FIRES

Nov 2002 - North of Lake Cooloongup, Cohunu Wildlife Park.

Dec 2002 - Jurien, Mogumber, Mundijong, South of Lake Walyungup, Namming Nature Reserve, Drovers Cave NP, Comallo Nature Reserve, Marchagee Track, Bindoon - Moora Rd, North Dandalup.

Jan 2003 - Brookton Hwy, Graham Burkett Reserve Balcatta, Wandii, Mortimer Rd, Russell Rd, 80 Read, Bibbulmun Track North Mondocks campsite to Ginger Creek campsite near North Bannister, Mt Cooke & Nerang campsites, Walpole Wilderness area.

March 2003 - Anstey Lake, southern end Johnson Rd, The Spectacles, Landsailing area Baldavis, Marangaroo Reserve, Boundary Rd Yarloop, Anketell Rd, Muir Hwy near Goundry's, Mt Dale Conservation Park, West Palgarup Rd, Nyamup.

FIELD TRIP PROCEDURES

Remember the rule, keep the following vehicle in sight. If it falls behind then slow down till it catches up.

Most importantly when you turn, stop at the turning point till you are sure the following vehicle is going to turn.

No participant in a field trip is exempt from these two important rules.

A new procedure is to be trialed this year. The trip leader will ask you to enter your name and a contact name and phone number on a piece of paper in case of an emergency. The paper will be destroyed at the end of the trip.

FIELD TRIPS

Please ensure you have sufficient fuel to get you through the field trips.

Please advise the Field Trip Coordinator, phone [redacted], or the field trip leader, if you intend participating.

It is important that you advise the Field Trip Coordinator because then you can be advised of any change of plans, etc.

The field trips listed are proposed and are subject to change if needed.

Please consider car pooling, particularly on metro trips.

Accommodation for weekend trips is your own responsibility.

FIELD TRIP TO WEST DALE 10 MAY

Meet at 10.00 a.m. on Saturday 10 May at Brookton Hwy & Skeet's Place. Skeet's Place is the first road on the northern side west of Bartram Rd. The trip is to find *E dilatatus* ssp *undulatus*, *Pt aspera*. Noel Clarke is the trip leader. As always if you intend participating advise the Field Trip Coordinator.

FIELD TRIP TO ENEABBA 16/17 AUGUST

Alan Tinker from Floraland Caravan Park will be leading this trip. This is early advice so that participants can arrange accommodation early. The park is usually full at that time so get in early.

THE ORCHIDACEAE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA by RON HEBERLE.

The following article was written by Ron Heberle and published in our newsletter in February 1979. As you read on you will find that nothing changes.

"With the State currently celebrating its 150th year, it is appropriate to look back into history and recognize the contribution of the early botanists and settlers of what was then a harsh and inhospitable land. Their efforts in this field revealed to England and Europe the unique and bizarre beauty of our indigenous terrestrials. Although our State officially began with the 'Stirling' colonizing party landing at the Swan River in 1829, Lockyer had already established an outpost settlement at King George Sound in 1827. Flinders and Baudin and visited during their scientific exploratory expeditions in 1801 - 1803. Vancouver however, in 1791 had explored and named King George Sound, adjacent islands and what we now know as Princess Royal and Oyster Harbours.

As botanical specimens, paintings, drawings and records filtered back to England and Europe from these exploratory visits they created a sensation for their strangely different beauty. This triggered off visits scientists and botanists to investigate this strange new land. Menzies, Brown, Leschenault, Balladerii, et al visited Western Australia and together with enthusiastic settlers were involved in collecting and classifying these new additions to the world's Orchidaceae - one of the largest families of all plant life. Lindley, Reichenbach, Bentham and Endlicher did not visit Australia but did valuable work in studying specimens sent back to Europe.

The next wave of enthusiasts came from botanists within Australia and authoritative visitors assisted by local people to get the fast developing state of Western Australia where

transport and access had improved immeasurably. By 1950 Mueller, Fitzgerald, Schlechter, Rogers, Sargent, Diels, Andrews, Domin, Coleman, Nicholls and Rupp had all made their contributions.

Then followed many botanists and enthusiasts all active in a common field - studying, recording, naming and contributing to the knowledge of our Orchidaceae. A major factor in stimulating interest was the publishing of numerous attractive and informative books, beginning with Emily Pelloe in 1930 followed by Rica Erickson, Nicholls, Blackall, Watson - Sharp, Cady, Densey Clyne, Pocock and others, the first two being exclusively West Australian. Strangely all these authors were dedicated lay people. This wealth of pictorial and written material stimulated a public interest both on the town and country gathering momentum to this day.

As a result of this 'Orchid Book' explosion it was obvious there was considerable confusion in regards to names and the identification of numerous 'unidentifiable'. In 1960 the W.A. Herbarium decided to conduct a revision of orchid names and launched a thorough and exhaustive at the various herbaria in Australia, England and Europe. The revised check list in 'Nuytsia' Vol. 1 No2 1971 was readily available to all interested people. This was a major work and achievement and the Herbarium (author Alex George) is to be congratulated. The work remains an important and useful book of reference available to botanists and enthusiasts alike.

Unfortunately five attractive books containing W.A. material had been published between 1970 and 1972 that all became outdated. Further it was fore-shadowed more work was required to establish the separation of some difficult groups in the genera of *Prasophyllum*, *Diuris*, *Caladenia*, *Pterostylis*, *Thelymitra* and *Drakaea* leaving some orchids without names and others unidentified.

In 1974 a group of orchid lovers formed the W.A. Native Orchid Society in Perth (now changed to the Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group Inc.) with the objects of adding to the already extensive knowledge and to encourage other enthusiasts to conserve, grow and assist the Herbarium. The group has certainly lived up to its new name, having established its own orchid garden at Hollywood, Perth where many terrestrials can be seen growing. Another achievement was pressing to have an area at Bakers Junction, Albany declared a Flora and Fauna reserve to conserve the 19 genera and 80 species growing there. The group is

currently involved in assisting the Herbarium in the revision of Rica Erickson's 'Orchids of the West'. The goal is a complete and compressive book containing the full knowledge to date of W.A. Orchidaceae and in doing this we should not forget those who have contributed during the past 150 years and before."

UPDATE - The orchid garden went defunct because the weeding was left to two people who finally gave it away. The area was in Smyth Rd opposite the Bowling Club. Rica Erickson's 2nd book was never published. It was to contain a description and list of 63 species, a table of characteristic measurements, and a chapter on pollination written by U.S. orchidologist Warren Stoutemire who was visiting at that time.

Hoffman and Brown became the bible. There used to be a copy of Nuytsia Vol.1 No2 1971 in the Dianella library. The group should have a copy. I also have a copy. It lists all the orchids named till then and the synonyms. Some have since changed. It also describes *C corynephora*, *C crebra*, *C graminifolia* and *Pt angusta*.

In 1989 the Australian Orchid Research Foundation published the 1st Volume that was a catalogue of Australian Orchidaceae. This also listed the genera & species as was then known and the synonyms. As usual there have been changes. The group has a copy in its library.

May be an exercise for someone to update them!

The changes are still evolving - there should be a resolution soon on the *Caladenia* and *Pterostylis* revision.

When will we get the new names for some that have been bandied around for many years?

WANOSCG – MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 19th MARCH 2003

Meeting commenced at 8.30pm

President Mike Harper opened the meeting.

ATTENDANCE:

28 members and 6 visitors were present as per the attendance register.

NEW MEMBERS:

Helen Hamersley of Bunbury.

VISITORS:

Jim & Ruth Downes, Kaye Bell, John Ewing & Tania & Bob Tatum.

MINUTES

Moved. S Harris / Ross Fox Minutes of General meeting of November 20th 2002 as presented in the Bulletin be confirmed.

CARRIED.

Matters Arising:

Eddy Wajon updated members on the ongoing struggle to preserve Ken Hurst Park from a highway extension.

CORRESPONDENCE:

As per list circulated with attendance book and dealt with by committee.

Members were advised of the group receiving a bibliography from Scott Rogers, grandson of Dr Richard Rogers who was prominent in the naming of many orchid species from Australia and WA.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The treasurer's report is circulated with attendance register for members.

Matters from that report are dealt with by committee or by any inquiry from the floor.

Matters Arising:

Nil

Matters from the February Committee meeting:

Members were advised that annual membership had been set at \$25 for this year to cover rising costs of print/postage of the bulletin and general costs.

The committee also suggests a new format for meetings in a door fee of \$2, which would include supper and a raffle ticket.

Much debate followed from the floor with the resulting motion.

**MOTION: Moved Ian Greeve / Ross Fox
That the supper cost be raised to
\$1 per head. CARRIED.**

FIELD TRIPS:

Christine Lock reported that 2003 was to be an 'Adventure Year'.

The concept being that the group visit some of the large number of summer burn sites to investigate and record the orchids there.

A trip to see *P.aphylla* is in the planning.

Check the bulletin.

PLANT TABLE:

Nil

In the absence of plants on the table, Ron Heberle was kind enough to present some of his extensive mounted photographs of orchids, a collection from over many years, and from location that today often no longer exist. From members present, thank you Ron.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Secretary advised the members that a list was available for anyone wishing a copy of Australian Orchid Research Volume 4. Cost will be \$25 plus shared freight/post.
2. Members were asked to address the use of the digital camera and utilise it on field trips. Anyone proficient in its use could

then help others to become familiar with its use.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Due to the AGM and General meeting, this meeting was deemed a member slide night.

Members enjoyed an array of slides including some orchids.

RAFFLE:

The raffle was donated by Del Hayward and won by our newest committee member Matz Dahlkamp.

SUPPER:

Donna Wajon provided supper again for the meeting.

Thank you from all members who attended

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

The next general meeting, will be on 16th April 2003, at the Kings Park Botanic Gardens Administration building, 8.00pm.

Guest Speaker will be Dr Andrew Batty, KPBG Orchid researcher, who will talk on 'Orchid Translocation'.

	SUPPER ROSTER	RAFFLE ROSTER	SPEAKER
MARCH	D. Wajon	D. Hayward	Members slides
APRIL	M. Fox	S & G Stack	Dr Andrew Batty
MAY	M. Harper	N. Clarke	Ron Heberle
JUNE	G. Blinco	G & V Brockman	Chris French
JULY	N. Clarke	S. Harris	
AUGUST	M. Dahlkamp		
SEPTEMBER			
OCTOBER			
NOVEMBER			

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS

12/13 April - Walpole
10 May - Skeet's Place
16/17 August - Eneabba