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**BULLETIN**  
*OF THE*  
**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID**  
**STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP**  
**(INC)**  
(1974 – 2004)

JULY 2004

Registered by Australia Post Publication No WBH 1240

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SUPPER COORDINATOR	Donna Wajon	
CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE (1)	Eddy Wajon	
CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE (2)	Mike Harper	

#### 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: The opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by this Group,*

POSTAL ADDRESS OF GROUP: PO Box 323  
Victoria Park 6979

WANOSCG E-mail address: Web address:  
Web Master Don Ward E-mail: Web:

### NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 21 July 2004 at 7.00 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 21 July 2004 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Administration Office.

The guest speaker is to be advised. Please bring your slides and photos.

### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

8 August	Field trip Dryandra
15/17 August	Field trip Northampton/Kalbarri
18 August	<b>General meeting.</b>
22 August	Field trip Wireless Hill Park
4 September	Field trip York area
12 September	Field trip Narrogin/Yilliminning
15 September	<b>General meeting.</b>
19 September	Field trip Wooroloo ( <i>Tentative</i> )
2/3/4 October	Field trip Tenterden/Porongurup
9/10 October	Field trip Hyden/Pingaring
20 October	<b>General meeting.</b>
17 November	<b>General meeting.</b>
4/5 December	Field trip Albany

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

#### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE 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.

*The digit after your name on the address label is the year for which you are financial and is updated as far as practicable.*

If you have paid since then please make allowance.

Please send fees to The Treasurer, P.O. Box 323, Victoria Park, 6979. Your prompt payment would be appreciated.

### BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Tom Blinco, [redacted] The article submission deadline for the next issue is **Monday 2nd August 2004.**

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.*

### FOR SALE

History of WANOSCG \$3.00.

Group wineglasses \$7.50 each.

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

Orchids of WA (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed) \$9.00.

Orchids of SW Australia \$45.00.

Orchid Flowering Times \$5.00.

Colour Guide to Spring Wildflowers

by Eddy 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

Rufa Trip Report \$10.00

Club Polo Tee-shirts, 100% cotton with embroidered club logo, varying sizes, surplus after orders have been met. Cost is \$25.00 each Group name badges can be ordered from the Treasurer. The cost is \$10.00 each.

### GROUP WEB SITE

Have you visited our web site? See page 2 of the Bulletin for the address.

Thanks to Webmaster Don Ward.

### FIELD TRIP PROCEDURES

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

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

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

**Please ensure that you have sufficient fuel to get you through the field trip.**

### FIELD TRIPS

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

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

**Please consider car pooling, particularly on metro trips.**

Accommodation for weekend trips is your own responsibility.



**FIELD TRIP DRYANDRA  
SUNDAY 8th AUGUST 2004**

Christine Lock will be trip leader. Please contact Christine on [REDACTED] for details of time and meeting place.

**FIELD TRIP KALBARRI 15/16/17 AUGUST**

Meet at the 60km speed limit sign at the southern approach to Northampton at 9.00am Sunday 15th August. Field trip leader is Stuart Harris. Please advise Stuart on [REDACTED] if you are attending or if you subsequently change your mind.

Arrange own accommodation.

A Park entrance fee of \$9 per car (Seniors \$3) is applicable at Kalbarri, either by payment at the time of entry or by use of a National Park Pass, which can be obtained from any CALM office.

**FIELD TRIP APPLECROSS (WIRELESS HILL PARK) SUNDAY 22nd AUGUST 2004  
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

Meet at the car park at Melville City Council in Almondbury Road (off Riseley Street) at 9.00 am. Field trip leader is Eddy Wajon. Please advise Eddy on [REDACTED] if you are attending or if you subsequently change your mind.

Members please support this field trip - which is an attempt to let the public know about us and to perhaps gain some new members - and make yourself available to accompany visitors as required. Following the park tour there will be a social gathering in the Council meeting room to provide advice or response to any questions.

**FIELD TRIP YORK AREA  
SATURDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2004**

Meet on Great Southern Highway (The Lakes to York Road) at the corner of Inkpen Road (approx 13.2km from The Lakes) at 10.00am.

Trip leader is Tom Blinco. Please advise or leave a message on phone [REDACTED] if you are attending, or if you subsequently change your mind.

**FIELD TRIP NARROGIN AREA SUNDAY  
12th SEPTEMBER 2004**

Meet at the parking area by the Narrogin Caravan Park, at the Williams end of Narrogin on the Williams - Kondinin Road, opposite the entrance to Foxes Lair, at 10.00am.

Trip leader is Phil Bunney. Please advise Phil at the August meeting or Christine Lock on phone [REDACTED] if you are attending, or if you subsequently change your mind.

**BUSHFIRE INFORMATION**

Thanks to Tania and Bob Tatum for the following summary of media bushfire reports -

Date	Location
27 Dec 2003	*Near Tenterden
	*Forrestfield - Honey Road
	*Near Bridgetown - blaze along South Western Highway
	*Collie - CALM land on fringe of town. Two other fires 20km north of town
10 Jan 2004	Red Hill - Neumann Road, Quarry Road
13 Jan 2004	Success - Corner Hammond Road and Russell Road
3 Feb 2004	Forrestfield - Holmes Road
3 Feb 2004	Chittering
3 Feb 2004	Wooroloo
3 Feb 2004	Mundaring Bushfire started near Yallambee Hostel
10 Feb 2004	Boya, in Greenmount Nat'l Park
15 Feb 2004	Jarrahdale/Byford area - 8 fires
21 Feb 2004	Jandabup (east of Wanneroo)
25 Feb 2004	Bridgetown, 15km south of town
6 Mar 2004	Forrestfield - crossed Roe Hwy between Tonkin Highway and Berkshire Road
5 May 2004	Kelmscott - fire commenced near cnr Turner Rd/Taronga Dve

**FIELD TRIP REPORT 13 JUNE 2004  
from Ross and Margaret Fox**

At the Wooroloo burn, corner Great Eastern Highway and Banks Ave. we looked on both sides of Banks Ave and found leaves and buds in various stages of growth, often quite sparse.

We found the following leaves not very far advanced - *Caladenia* sp, *T. crinita*, *Pterostylis vittata* (bud), *recurva*, *barbata*?, *sanguinea*?, *Pyrorichis nigricans*. In flower, *Eriochilus dilatatus/dilatatus* and *Leporella fimbriata*. We could not find any *Prasophyllum* or *Cyanicular* leaves.

**FIELD TRIP REPORT MOGUMBER  
25 JUNE 2004, from Tom Blinco.**

This field trip was listed for Sunday 27 June, with the objective of looking for colour variations of *T. apiculata* (Cleopatra's Needles) at two locations I first visited some years ago. With the threat of adverse weather on that day, and there being only four "starters" notified by Wednesday and no more on Thursday, we did the trip Friday.

After some early cloud the day turned out to be perfect by the time it counted, with little wind and full sunshine. Near the meeting place we only



found some *Pt sanguinea*, before we moved on to behind the Mogumber Sports Ground. In a short visit we found more of the same, also a large population of *L. fimbriata*. These were generally quite tall, and many had three flowers.

We then moved north to Gillingarra. Nothing special was expected to be seen, and wasn't, but it was useful to point out a couple of good locations for later in the year.

We returned to Mogumber and proceeded along the Mogumber West Road. The first stop revealed only three flowering *T. apiculata* plants, but at the second we found nineteen, with colour variations and up to seven flowers – quite a colourful sight.

We also visited the regular club site, where only four flowering plants were seen – has there been any rain here?

Thanks to all for a very pleasant day.

### STATE OF ORIGIN –EAST VS WEST (CALADENIA ALLIANCE)

*The following is from the ANOS VICTORIAN GROUP BULLETIN, MAY 2004, and was a presentation to their April 2004 meeting by Mike Duncan, a member of our Group and well known to some WA members.*

"Tonight it's State of Origin, it's East vs West, in a battle of the Australian orchid heavyweights – the *Caladenia* alliance. Good evening and welcome to the highlight's package of tonight's match. I'm your host, Mike Duncan.

The "Western Redbacks" and the "Eastern Funnelwebs" teams have a long and proud history of caladenias, with eastern and western species being first recognized by Robert Brown in 1810. Land clearing, site disturbance and weed invasion have placed many species, on either side of the continent, under great pressure to survive. However, both teams have almost full lists to choose from, which is a credit to the trainers and medicos.

The only species unavailable for selection tonight are *C. pumila* from Bannockburn and *C. magnifica* from Clydesdale (both with long-term injuries), and *C. thysanochila*, which hasn't played since 1990.

Tonight, we'll be using the new Jones et al. names for the caladenias so that you, the viewer, can better understand the groupings within this mega-genus. For the Jonesians, these can be considered genera, and for the Hopperians, please consider them sub-genera. And that's the topic of tonight's phone competition. Simply dial 1800 123 LUDITE if you wish to retain the broad definition of *Caladenia*, or 1800 123 SPLITA if you wish to carve up *Caladenia*. Then wait for the

tone, and tell us how many genera you think the *Caladenia* alliance actually contains. One lucky person will be chosen at random to win an all expenses paid, expert guided, weekend for two, orchid tour of the Simpson Desert.

Now to the first summary. As expected, the contest kicked off in a cautious fashion, with both teams sending out their cross-continental representatives, *Leptoceras menziesii*, *Pheladenia deformis*, *Cyanicular caerulea* and *Caladenia latifolia*. However, the West moved ahead with their diversity of *Cyanicular* and *Caladenia* species, including the real heavyweight, *Caladenia flava*. Somewhat controversially, the East countered with one of its trumps, *Glossodia major*, and the two most common members of the alliance from either side of the nation were face-to-face.

Next it was *Stegostyla*, the hooded caladenias. *Stegostyla congesta* with its strongly hooded dorsal sepal, and thick covering of fleshy, black calli on the labellum, was followed by *S. hildae* with its small, yellowish brown flowers, and *S. gracilis*, the most widespread member of the genus in the East. The West finally responded with *Glychorchis saccharata*. However, the East was on a roll. It sent out *Petalochilus carneus*, a widespread and variable complex of species from eastern Australia. The West offered *Caladenia marginata* in reply. But the East hammered home its advantage. *P. pusillus* and then *P. pictus*, an interesting autumn-flowering member of the group. The West seized on this fact and played *Praecoxanthus aphyllus*, another autumn-flowering species. And the West followed it up with *Drakonorchis barbarossa* and *D. drakeoides*, with their distinctive labellums that mimic a *Thynnid* wasp's abdomen to facilitate pseudocopulation. The West was back in front, and the East was running out of options.

The East played *Jonesiopsis filamentosa*, a grandfather of the group, and a name that's been applied to many of the West species until quite recently. And the West played one of them, *J. pulchra*, and then another, the spectacular *J. chapmanii*, with its rich maroon and yellow coloured flowers, followed by a magnificent clump of the petite *J. footeana*. But wait, there was more. This group also contains species like *J. cairnsiana*, the bizarre *J. multiclavia*, and *J. roei*. A big advantage to the West.

And that's the way things stayed until half time. The East really took a battering late in that first half. This match is still up for grabs, however with only the showy, long-tailed spiders to come you have to consider the West are favourites to take out this inaugural State of Origin.



As the second half commences, let's join the broadcast and see who comes out the victor. The East has the honours, and leads with *Arachnorchis dilatata*. An historic name in this group, it's now largely confined to southern Victoria and Tasmania. The West counters with its common and widespread green-comb spider, *A. falcata*. It has a broad labellum with relatively narrow calli. The East responds with its own common, large green-comb, *A. tentaculata*. This species is an eastern states endemic, and probably applies to a complex of species. It's characterised by its mobile, hinged labellum. The West replies with *A. radiata*, with its prominently fringed labellum. Oh, and here's a killer blow, the largest and most attractive of the green-combs, *A. lobata*. Orchids don't come much more beautiful than this one, with its broad, red, green and yellow labellum.

The East responds by down-sizing, with *Arachnorchis phaeoclavia*. Again, this name probably applies to a complex of species, with medium sized flowers, and brown osmophores on the sepals. And now even smaller, with *A. concinna*, from southern New South Wales. It has tiny flowers and the labellum fringe is very short or absent. Now it's the attractive, medium sized flowers of *A. stricta* from Victoria and South Australia. Its labellum has a central mass of tightly packed calli and long marginal teeth, and there are no clubs on the segments tips. However the West replies with the attractive flowers of *A. crebra*. It also has a dense central band of calli, and an untidy labellum fringe.

The East now changes suit and introduces *Arachnorchis reticulata*, the ancestral name for the clubbed spider orchids in eastern Australia. Its diminutive flowers have distinct clubbing on the sepal tips, and the labellum is yellowish with red veins and margins. The West responds with their ancestral clubbed spider, *A. huegelii*. It has larger, more attractive flowers, and a long (often split) labellum fringe,

Now it's *Arachnorchis australis* from the East. An attractive species from southern, coastal regions, with cream coloured flowers, and relatively long, dark red clubs. Without missing a beat, it's *A. nivalis* in reply. Also a near-coastal species, its stark white flowers can be striking against the surrounding stunted coastal heath vegetation. The East responds with an attractive species of its own, the nationally threatened *A. xanthocila*, with its small, attractive yellowish flowers and tiny red osmophores. Oooh, now it's *A. ferruginea* from the West. Unmistakable rusty coloured flowers, with thickly clubbed sepals, and a distinctly two-toned labellum. Now

*A. callitrophila* from the East, which is restricted to *Callitris* woodlands of southern New South Wales. And *A. brownii* in response from the West, with its distinctively clubbed sepals and petals, green and red colouration, and late flowering season.

Whoa!! In a final, desperate change of tact, the East has moved on to the grand-daddy of the tailed spider orchids, *A. arachnorchis patersonii*, the ancestral name for a huge group of eastern states species. It has a small, yellow/white flowers with long filamentous segments and reddish brown glandular tails. Snap says the West, playing *A. longicauda*, the ancestral name for many modern-day tailed spider orchids in Western Australia. It has large white flowers, with very long, slender segments, and a narrow labellum with a long fringe. Another of the large spiders from the East, *A. arenaria*, but nothing like the size of the Western Australian giants. It's from inland New South Wales and has creamy white to yellowish-green flowers with long drooping segments.

All stops are out. It's the bright pink flowers of *A. harringtoniae* in reply. The East says "I'm not done yet" with the equally beautiful pink flowers of *A. versicolor* from western Victoria. Now the subtle lemon-yellow hues of *A. citrina* from the West, with its prominently clubbed labellum fringe, and stiffly held segments. Countered by the bright yellowish flowers of *A. flavovirens* from Melbourne's Dandenong Ranges. And now *A. uliginosa* from the West, with its weird, elongated forward-projecting labellum. Finally, the 'ace' of the eastern spiders, *A. venusta*. The largest of the eastern states species, with beautiful white flowers with a red fringe and glands. But its not going to be good enough, because the largest of the western species is the gigantic *A. excelsa*, with plants that stand greater than a metre tall.

And there's the siren!! So that's it, it's all over, and the West has come out on top. They're the winners in the first State of Origin but I think orchids have been the real winner here tonight.

**Editor's note** - the above text was accompanied by photos of *S. hildae* and *A. versicolor* (from Omeo and Lake Fyans, Victoria, respectively), and *J. footeana* and *J. roei* (from Eneabba and Perenjori, W.A. respectively) that I am unable to reproduce. The Editor's comments also included these remarks - "My condolences to those who missed the experience of a lifetime- Mike's entry in the A.N.O.S Comedy Festival... .."

**My comments are that I think it would make a great travelling roadshow, Mike!!**



## MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

16 JUNE 2004

**OPENED:** meeting declared open at 8.20pm

**ATTENDANCE:** There were 28 members present, with 8 apologies and the night's guest speaker, Mrs Regina Drummond.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Nil

**VISITORS:** Nil

**MINUTES:** Moved Ross Fox / Noel Clarke, that the minutes of the General Meeting of 19 May 2004 as presented in the Bulletin be confirmed.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE**

**MINUTES:** Nil

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Correspondence was received as per the list circulated with the attendance book, and dealt with by the committee.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Nil

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** A copy of the Treasurer's report was circulated with the attendance book.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Nil

**FIELD TRIP REPORTS:**

Ross Fox reported on a recent trip to the Wooroloo burn where not much was found but where there were signs of promising budding. Jim and Ruth Downes reported on their trip through the south-west, Ferguson Valley and down to Augusta. There were plenty of the Easter Bunny Orchids (*Eriochilus dilatatus ssp. magnus*). They also reported Hare Orchids (*Leporella fimbriata*) out at Wireless Station Hill. Chris French reported on recent ranging east of Norseman following good rains, finding *Pterostylis sanguinea* in bloom in May. Around Bolgart/Toodyay there were *Caladenia drummondii* (Winter Spider) and *Pterostylis scabra*.

Tom Blinco found signs of *Thelymitra apiculata* around Mogumber.

**PLANT TABLE:** Peter Gee tabled a pot of *Pterostylis rogersii*, originally from Spinnaker Drive Australind 1992. There was a discussion of potted Diuris and how to keep them alive.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

1. Eddy Wajon reported on the EPA report and recommendations on the Environmental Impact Statement for Roe Highway Extension Stage 7, which had not altered the proponent's proposals. WANOSCG will put in an appeal to have the recommendations changed. Eric Swarts will also submit a personal appeal.

2. President Mike noted that Dr Steve Hopper (Group Patron) had been appointed Professor of Plant Conservation Biology at the UWA. WANOSCG will send a letter of congratulations.

(Dr. Hopper had been at Kings Park for 12 years, and took up the position at UWA on 1st July 2004. He joined our Group in 1978 and has been Patron since May 1994 - Ed).

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

A report in the West Australian on 26 April 2004 drew attention to the efforts of Mrs Regina Drummond and her work in conservation of the Brixton Street Wetlands in the City of Gosnells, resulting in the purchase by CALM of this area with the official opening by Hon Judy Edwards on March 18th 2004.

Mrs Drummond spoke to the meeting of her activity in pursuit of this outcome. She was involved since 1989 when the Waterbird Conservation Group formed an Urban Bushland conservation committee under the Conservation Council with the aim of conserving this 19ha of Homeswest land. The Pinjarra Plain ephemeral wetland has had 350 species identified - more than Kings Park.

After years of letter writing and signature gathering, the group had erected a fence to protect the site and assumed responsibility for looking after the site for Homeswest. In Sept 1991 the EPA recommended against the use of the land for housing - but this did not guarantee protection. In 1993 the Friends of Brixton Street Wetlands were incorporated and lobbied for grants to carry out research and management. The Friends fought (and lost) to have Brixton Street closed at the railway where a bridge now crosses the railway. They have been supported by community groups, the Green Corps and Eco Plan work groups, and most recently signwork by the Rehoboth School. Their next objective is to have a triangular remnant of railway reserve amalgamated with the Wetlands, and their overall objective is to see the greater area of these wetlands united in a single reserve back to Welshpool Road. This would preserve an amazing diversity of flora and fauna, much if it unique in the world.

The President thanked Mrs Drummond and presented her with a gift. The occasion was taken to also thank Joe Ward for his presentation at the last meeting and deliver his belated gift.

**RAFFLE DRAW:** The raffle, donated by Tom Blinco, was drawn and the meeting concluded to continue discussions over the supper generously provided by Matz Dahlkamp.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next general meeting will be held on 21 July 2004.

**Meeting closed at:** 9.45pm.

	<b>SUPPER ROSTER</b>	<b>RAFFLE ROSTER</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	Donna & Virginia	Gary Brockman	Members slides
<b>APRIL</b>	N/R	Stuart Harris	Noel Clarke
<b>MAY</b>	Margaret Fox	Eva & Don Smith	Joe Ward
<b>JUNE</b>	Matz Dahlkamp	Glenys Blinco	Regina Drummond
<b>JULY</b>	Mike and Del	Phil Bunney	Members slides
<b>AUGUST</b>	Noel Clarke	Scilla & Gerald Stack	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	Wendy Spencer	Ian Greeve	
<b>OCTOBER</b>	Sarah Atkinson	Joni Eaton	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		Jim and Ruth Downes	

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#### **FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

Sunday 8th August – Dryandra  
Sunday to Tuesday 15/16/17th August – Northampton/Kalbarri.  
Sunday 22nd August – Wireless Hill Park, Applecross.  
Saturday 4th September – York area  
Sunday 12th September – Narrogin/Yilliminning Rock  
Sunday 19th September - Wooroloo (*tentative*)  
Long weekend 2/3/4 October – Tenterden/Porongurups  
Saturday/Sunday 9/10 October – Hyden/Pingaring  
Saturday/Sunday 4/5/December - Albany