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BULLETIN

OF THE WESTERN
AUSTRALIAN NATIVE
ORCHID STUDY &
CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC) (1974 - 2005)



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JUNE 2005

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OFFICE BEARERS

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Conservation Officer: Eddy Wajon

Supper Co-ordinator: Donna Wajon

Conservation Council Representatives: Eddy Wajon, Mike Harper

Committee: Ross Fox:

Margaret Fox:

Ian Greeve:

John Ewing:

Editor: Tom Blinco

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Librarian: Bill Burton

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OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

- a) To promote interest in and preserve Western Australian indigenous orchids.
- b) To learn the best means of cultivation and do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their environment.
- c) To learn their habits and keep records.
- d) To have field days and learn to recognize the different genera and species.
- e) To hold meetings for the exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in W.A. orchids.
- f) To affiliate with kindred organizations.
- g) To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.

Note: The opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by this Group.

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979

EMAIL ADDRESS:

WEB ADDRESS:

WEB MASTER Don Ward

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 15 June 2005 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 June 2005 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Please send to Tom Blinco at Contributions from country members are especially welcome. The deadline for the next issue is 1 July 2005.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Group's financial year commences on 1 February and fees are now due.

Annual fees are \$25.00 for singles and families. New membership joining fee is \$10.00 and if joining after 30 June membership fee is adjusted prorata. Please send fees to The Treasurer, P.O. Box 323, Victoria Park, 6979.

The digit after your name on the address label is the year for which you are financial.

As always, please make due allowance in time for updating of digit number to occur.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

15 June - General meeting

20 July - General meeting

Sunday 24 July Field trip - Cataby

Sat/Sunday 13/14 August - Kalbarri

17 August - General meeting

Sat/Sun 20/21 August - Field trip Perenjori

Sunday 4 September - Field trip Brookton

21 September - General meeting

Sat-Mon 24/26 September (Long weekend)

Field trip Jerramungup (Note change).

19 October - General meeting

Sat/Sunday 29/30 October - Field trip

Augusta/Scott River

16 November - General meeting

FIELD TRIPS

For all the following field trips please advise Ross Fox [redacted] if you are attending or if you change your mind.

CATABY SUNDAY 24 JULY

Meet on Brand Highway at the corner of Mullering Road, approx. 9km north of Cataby, at 10.00am.

KALBARRI 13/14 AUGUST

Meet at the 60km speed limit sign at the southern approach to Northampton at 10.00am Saturday 13th August. Overnight Saturday at Kalbarri.

PERENJORI 20/21 AUGUST

Meet at the Perenjori Caravan Park at 10.00am Saturday 20th August. Overnight here, hotel and caravan park available.

BROOKTON SUNDAY 4th SEPTEMBER

Meet at Brookton Sports Ground, when approaching from Perth, at 10.00am.

JERRAMUNGUP SEPTEMBER 24/25/26

(Long Weekend) - Please note venue change

Meet outside Jerramungup Caravan Park, in Chester Pass Road, at 10.00am Saturday 24 September. Overnight here both nights. Various types of accommodation are available in Jerramungup.

THE WA ORCHID SPECTACULAR AND CONFERENCE

The above is an international event and will be held at the Fremantle Passenger Terminal, Victoria Quay, from 13th to 19th September 2005.

As indicated in the Minutes of our General Meetings of 17th April and 18th May 2005 (see below) John Ewing is coordinating our arrangements and may seek assistance.

The conference program is as follows -

Thursday 15th September 2005

9am to 9pm Open to the public

Education Workshops for the general public (main Show Hall)

11am Orchid Culture (Speaker to be notified)

2pm Orchid Culture (Speaker to be notified)

Friday 16th September 2005

As for Thursday

Saturday 17th September 2005

9am to 5pm Open to the public

Education Workshops for the general public (In Function Centre)

11am Orchid Culture (Speaker to be notified)

12 noon Fashion Parade

1pm The Garden Gurus

2pm Orchid Culture (Speaker to be notified)

Sunday 18th September 2005

9am to 5pm Open to the public

Education Workshops for the general public (In main show hall)

11am Orchid Culture (Speaker to be notified)

12 noon Fashion Parade

1pm The Garden Gurus

2pm Orchid Culture (Speaker to be notified).

Additional events are available for Conference Registrants only. If you are interested in being a full time participant please see John Ewing for details.

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
20 APRIL 2005**

As the Minutes of this meeting were not available for inclusion in the May Bulletin, and attendance at the May meeting was low (with some blame on the 'flu season and the forecast of severe weather that evening), the Minutes are now included in this issue.

OPENED: 8.20 pm

APOLOGIES: Christine Lock, Scilla Stack, Garry Brockman, and Sarah Atkinson

ATTENDANCE BOOK. 24 Members were present, as per the Attendance Book

MINUTES OF MEETING 16 March 2005.

Moved John Ewing seconded Donna Wajon that these are a true record of the meeting.

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence list was circulated.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer's report for the previous months dealt with by Committee was circulated for inspection.

FIELD TRIP REPORT:

Planned field trips are listed in the Bulletin. The next scheduled trip is to the Corrigin area on 29 May, further trips may be forthcoming.

Noel Clarke suggested searching for *Genoplesium nigricans* (Pygmy Orchid) in April/May and he could assist in planning. Ross Fox suggested the Leafless Orchid (*Praecoxanthus aphyllus*) in the Pinjarra area, and he could advise further. Note was made that the Fitzgerald National Park has had extensive burns and may be a good location late in the year.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(a) Library: Bill Burton pointed out that Orchadian Vol 14 No 7 had been taken and has not returned. It will be noted in the Bulletin with a request for its return. Bill again showed the system for recording any borrowings from the library. Borrowers will record the item borrowed on the card and place the card in the sleeve of the Record book,

(b) Data Project/Computer package. The club is not permitted to use the BGPA equipment and sees value in seeking grant funding for a package.

Before deciding further Noel Clarke will research the market before preparing a grant application.

(c) WANOSCG application for grant funding for conservation of wheatbelt endangered native orchids was discussed. The application has yet to be finalised and submitted to LotteryWest. There was a request for a bound copy of the submission for members to read. If successful, there will be interim reports from the project which will be passed to the

members. Members will elect (or be chosen) to participate in project fieldwork.

(d) Orchid Spectacular. There was an invitation for members to form a sub-committee. They will look at a stall, plants, signage, brochures and attendances. The Spectacular runs from 12 to 19 September. John Ewing volunteered to make initial enquiries. He will liaise with Tom Blinco on a note in the next bulletin. Donna Wajon, Noel Clarke and Bill Burton offered their help.

There were showings of members' slides, with descriptions of species and locations.

RAFFLE DRAW: The raffle, which was donated by Christine Lock, was drawn by Ian Greeve. The winner was Sarah Atkinson.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next general meeting will be held on 18 May 2005

Meeting closed at: 9.42 pm

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
18 MAY 2005**

OPENED: 8.10 PM

APOLOGIES: Christine Lock, Joni and John Eaton, Glenys Blinco, Bill Burton, Sarah Atkinson, Jim and Ruth Downes, Stuart Harris, Del Haywood, Scilla Stack

PRESENT: 18 members as per the Attendance Book.

SUPPER: Donated by Margaret Fox

RAFFLE TONIGHT: Donated by Gerald and Scilla Stack, with thanks for their support

MINUTES OF MEETING 20 April 2005. These were distributed at the meeting and read from the Chair.

Moved Eddy Wajon seconded Noel Clarke that these are a true record of the meeting.

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Orchid Spectacular: John Ewing advised that WANOSCG had been offered a 3m x 3m booth without cost, and the supply of power would be checked. The proposal would be to erect a display of photos and posters with slide projections. There will be help required to assemble and erect the displays and then members would be rostered to attend the display.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Correspondence list for May was circulated.

MATTERS ARISING FROM

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter was received from the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River setting out the recent history of the Elizabeth Street reserve, which through the input of Greg Bussell, has been cleaned of rubbish and work done to reduce weed infestation. The identification of some Declared Rare Flora on the site has caused a plan for an Emergency Services facility on the reserve to be amended to find an alternative location. President Mike expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the Club's representations.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's report for the year to May 2005 was dealt with at Committee and circulated at the meeting.

FIELD TRIP REPORT:

Field Trip Coordinator, Ross Fox, reported that the trip on the 29th May to witness the underground orchids of Corrigin was arranged. Members were asked to contact Ross promptly and meet at 10.00 am at the corner of Wickopin and Brookton Roads, 12km west of Corrigin. He advised that there would not be much walking involved. The next field trip would be to Cataby in search of *Thelymitra variegata* 24 July. Other trips are in planning.

There were several reports from members of the results of personal trips

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. A copy of the Orchid conservation project funding application was tabled for members' perusal.

2. In a follow-up to the Roe 7 alliance, Tom Blinco had personally written to MRWA seeking information on progress with land transfers. He received a reply dealing with the transfer of L136 Fraser Road, Jandakot.

Eddy Wajon reported that some of the groups associated with the alliance had concerns that action was tardy on the 7 offset sites, that the Planning Commission had failed to attend a meeting on the work and that there was a lack of urgency by the proponent (MRWA) in fencing, signing, patrolling and protecting the offset sites. The groups will write to the Dept of the Environment to pursue compliance with the Minister's conditions.

Eric Swartz reported that there had been some unexpectedly positive results from the

translocation of orchids under the Roe Freeway research.

3. Noel Clarke reported that he noticed on a recent trip to Busselton that the Old Whittakers Mill Site has been inundated with trail bikes, a further example of governmental lack of resolve to preserve the value of the flora reserved.

GUEST SPEAKER: Garry Brockman provided a presentation on Botanical Nomenclature and then, the role of the volunteers at the Herbarium in identifying plant types and recording the work of the taxonomists. There remains plenty of work to be done. While 512 orchids have been identified and classified, there are 107 known orchids in Western Australia yet to be formally described.

RAFFLE DRAW: The Guest Speaker then drew the raffle, which was won by Eric Swartz.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next general meeting will be held on 15 June 2005
Meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

ELIZABETH STREET RESERVE (RESERVE 46143) MARGARET RIVER

In the November 2003 and March 2004 issues of BULLETIN mention was made of the poor condition of the town reserve in Margaret River. The following response from the Shire Of Augusta-Margaret River dated 26 April 2005 was received at the May meeting and may be of interest to members -

"I apologise for our delayed response to this issue. Council staff met on site with Mr Greg Bussell following your initial letter in 2003. Following our on site inspection with Mr Bussell we identified that there were a number of threats to the reserve including rubbish, weeds, bike paths and jumps through the reserve. Council operations staff removed most of the large rubbish from the site. The Shire Green Corp team also visited the site on several occasions in 2004 to carry out a preliminary bushland assessment of the site, remove rubbish including old tyres, drums and weeds. During the meeting we identified a need to set up a Friends Group for the reserve involving the neighbouring landholders. Following this we applied for an NHT Envirofund application title "WIN the war on weeds" which would employ a bushland regenerator to help the Shire to set up a Friends Group in this and other Shire

reserves. Unfortunately the Shire was unsuccessful with this application.

Since then the Cape to Cape Catchment Group has applied for a similar grant for that project, which we would expect to find out in the next few months. This project will employ a consultant to undertake bushland assessments and develop management actions for four high conservation value bushland reserves. It will employ a coordinator to encourage development of 'friends of groups' and to support the groups in implementing on-ground actions to protect and enhance conservation values of the bushland. Education and training will be provided to 'friends of' groups to build their capacity to undertake the work necessary to protect and restore the bushland reserves.

The Shire was also recently successful with an NHT application to carry out surveys of the Shire bushland reserves for biodiversity conservation purposes; in which we expect that this reserve will be targeted.

It has only recently come to our attention that the Elizabeth Street reserve has been earmarked for several years as a potential site for the development of an emergency services facility. However the species list provided to us by Mr Bussell has helped to identify that there are some Declared Rare Flora on the site and further negotiations are underway with Local Emergency Management Advisory Committee (L.E.M.A.C.) to consider an alternative location.

We will keep you informed of how these negotiations evolve with LEMAC. In addition we will keep you updated on the biodiversity project outcomes; and we would look forward to a partnership with the WA Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group with this and other projects."

BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE

It was a pity that more members were not in attendance at our May meeting, because those absent missed an excellent presentation from Garry Brockman that was backed up by superb photography.

Although the above heading was the nominated name of Garry's address, as indicated in the meeting minutes he also spoke about the Western Australian Herbarium and FloraBase 2.

Garry has kindly provided a copy of his address, from which the following notes are provided. Thanks Garry.

BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE THE WEST AUSTRALIAN HERBARIUM FLORABASE 2

The Beginning

The term "Orchidaceae" was created in 1742 by Albrecht von Haller (1708-1777), who was a Swiss Botanist.

In referring to plant names the generic name is followed by a descriptive phrase.

In early days a species of the plant "Plantago" was described as *Plantago foliis linearibus planus hirsutis spica oblonga erecta*. This translated to "The Plantago with linear hairy leaves and oblong hairy spike".

In May 1753 Carl Linnaeus (1708-1778), a Swedish scientist, described the same plant as *Plantago alpina* L; "alpina" because it grew in the Swiss Alps, and "L" was an abbreviation for the name of the collector. This system of classification, where the generic name is followed by a species name, became the format which survives today.

The International Code of Botanical Nomenclature

Linnaeus laid down the rules as to how this process was to be followed.

During the 19th Century various people modified these rules. In the early 20th century the Europeans and Americans reached a consensus and the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN) was born.

It is reviewed every 6 years by botanists elected to the Committee and the code is published with changes after each review.

The Principles for the basis of Botanical Nomenclature.

The PRINCIPLES form the basis of the system of Botanical Nomenclature.

The object of the RULES (presented as ARTICLES) is to put the nomenclature of the past in order and to provide for that for the future.

Principles of the Code

There are five principles from which the Articles that make up the rules are derived. The three that concern us here are

- * The application of names of taxonomic groups is determined by means of nomenclatural types
- * The nomenclature of a taxonomic group is based upon priority of publication.
- * Scientific names of taxonomic groups are treated in Latin regardless of their derivation.

The other principles are -

- * Botanical nomenclature is independent of zoological nomenclature.

The code applies equally to names of taxonomic groups treated as plants whether or not these plants were originally so treated.

- * The rules of nomenclature are retroactive unless specially limited.

Genus and species

The name of the species consists of two words, in Latin or is to be treated as if in Latin. This is called BINOMIAL.

The first word of the binomial is the name of the genus.

The second word is the specific epithet. Of one word, and if originally a combination of two or more words, these are united to stand alone.

The generic name is identified by using a capital letter, with the species name all in lower case [the code does permit use of a capital if named in honor of a person] - e.g. *Thelymitra fuscolutea* - *Thelymitra* is the genus, *fusco* - meaning brown, and *lutea* - meaning yellow, is the epithet.

When written in a sentence, botanical names are traditionally written in italic script.

The genus name is a noun in the singular e.g. *Caladenia*

the epithet is usually an adjective e.g. *Microtis orbicularis* [orb shaped labellum]

or a noun in the genitive e.g. *Caladenia gardneri* [gardners spider orchid]

or a noun in apposition [one noun is placed next to another noun] e.g. *Thelymitra fuscolutea* [the brown yellow sun orchid]

Latin nouns have gender, so generic names also have gender and the epithet; if in the form of an adjective, has to agree grammatically

e.g. *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* [masc]

Caladenia citrina [fem]

Prasophyllum parvifolium [neut]

This is one part in the code that we as orchid enthusiasts should not look too hard at.

RANKING is in ascending sequence - Species, genus, family, order, class, division, kingdom.

INTERSPECIES RANKING. The species rank may then be divided into subordinate ranks - subspecies, abbreviated to "subsp." variety, abbreviated to "var." form, abbreviated to "f."

Only one subordinate ranking is accepted as a name e.g. *Caladenia bicalliata* R.Rogers subsp *cleistogama* Hopper & Brown AP. However if we are to believe that there are two ranks within this species e.g. *Caladenia bicalliata* subsp *cleistogama* var *alba*, the latter "alba" is accepted as a classification and NOT a name.

And if a subordinate ranking is formed - again lets use *Caladenia bicalliata* R Rogers subsp *cleistogama* Hopper & Brown AP - the typical subsp., var or form is also created - *Caladenia bicalliata* R Rogers subsp *bicalliata* - and this is distinguished by not having the author's name follow. This automatic creation of subspecies is called 'autonym'.

Subdivisions in genera

There are three principal ranks of subdivision in genera - in descending order, Subgenus [subg.], section [sect.], and series [ser.]. Fortunately in orchids we don't as yet need to bother with these, although there are suggestions that in the genus *Caladenia*, subgenus would be most appropriate - e.g. fairy orchids, spider orchids, bee orchids and dragon orchids.

NAMES ABOVE THE RANK OF GENUS

Again I feel we don't need to enter into this other than to say "family" may contain "subfamilies" and above that tribes may have "subtribes".

AUTHORS OF PLANT NAMES

The species name is often followed by the name of the persons[s] who originally described the plant. These are usually abbreviated - e.g. L. is Linneus; Lindl. is John Lindley; R.Br. is Robert Brown; or where there are multiple authors the use of "et al" - D L Jones et al, meaning D L Jones and others; or "&" as in Hopper & Brown AP

If a plant is placed in another genus at revision, both authors are noted, with the original author [who created the epithet

name] in brackets – e.g. *Cyanicular gemmata* (Lindley) Hopper & Brown AP.

If the plant is then considered to belong in another genus, then it adopts the new genus name and retains the original species name – e.g. *Caladenia aphylla* Benth. is removed from *Caladenia* by Hopper and Brown to a new genus. It becomes *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* [Benth] Hopper & Brown AP. It still recognizes George Benth, who originally described the plant. It also recognizes the revision authors Hopper & Brown AP and corrects the grammar by changing the “a” in “aphylla” to “us” in “aphyllus”.

PRIORITY

The correct name for a plant is decided by the priority of publication. If two names have been given to the same species then the earlier one is correct.

TYPES

“The application of a name at any rank is determined by its type” (ICBN). The type is ultimately *a* specimen though for convenience we cite the name of a species as a type. Today when the name of a new taxon is published the author must cite a “type” and site where that specimen is lodged [herbarium]. This specimen is called the “HOLOTYPE”.

Duplicates of the holotype are called ISOSTYPE and lodged in other institutions for safety should the holotype become damaged or destroyed.

Where as often in the past has occurred the author cites a number of specimens under the new species name but does not designate a single specimen as type, these are called SYNTYPES.

Where such is revised and the author selects one specimen as type, then this specimen is known as a LECTOTYPE, which gains the same status as a HOLOTYPE.

Duplicates of this lectotype in other institutions are called ISOLECTOTYPES. Lectotypeification should be done in a manner so the selected specimen best agrees with the original written description. If all of the type material is missing then a NEOTYPE can be selected, again with the specimen best suiting the described original type.

These notes will be continued in the July Bulletin

FIELD TRIP REPORT CORRIGIN 29 MAY 2005

We met at Kunjin, west of Corrigin, for the *Rhizanthella gardneri* trip, with 25 people in attendance including Andrews Brown and Batty who had surveyed the area two days before. Also in attendance was Robin Campbell from the Corrigin Conservation Council; she was very helpful and handed out information on the area.

Andrew Brown advised that nothing had been found at the Kunjin site so we drove directly to the Babakin site. The ground there was hard and had very little leaf litter, and nothing was found.

We proceeded to the third site, where Andrew Batty had found the one and only specimen. He had deliberately left it partly covered so that we could photograph it that way first, then fully exposed it to allow the flower opening up. Also at this site we saw *Caladenia drummondii* and *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus*, whilst *Pterostylis sargentii* and *Pt recurva* were in bud.

Our last stop on the way home was on the York-Quairading Road just before Mawson, where we saw *Pt sanguinea*, *Leporella fimbriata* and *E dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus*.

We all enjoyed ourselves, and many thanks to both Andrews for their efforts.

Ross and Margaret Fox

WHISPERS

*Noel Clarke recently found out that neither fibreglass sheeting nor fresh air is able to carry his body weight, especially when that body weight is accidentally put where part of the shed roof has no supporting beam.

Some facial injury was suffered but fortunately all was not as bad as it could have been, and Noel has now recovered.

I understand that his GP has banned Noel from any more DIY activities in the back yard (that means more time for orchiding!!).

*Glenys Blinco was an apology for the last meeting to take some hoyas and other plants to an Epiphyllum and Cacti Club Show at a local shopping centre for that weekend.

When she took them home she also took home the WA Horticultural Society Hoya State Championship.

Well done, Glenys.

	SUPPER ROSTER 2005	RAFFLE ROSTER 2005	SPEAKER 2005
MARCH	Donna Wajon	Tom Blinco	Bill Burton
APRIL	Noel Clarke	Christine Lock	TBA or slides
MAY	Margaret Fox	Gerald Stack	Garry Brockman
JUNE	Matz Dahlkamp	Sarah Atkinson	TBA
JULY	Joni Eaton	Noel Clarke	
AUGUST		Del Hayward	
SEPTEMBER		Joni Eaton	
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NOVEMBER			

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS

July 24 – Cataby

August 13/14 – Kalbarri

August 20/21 – Perenjori

September 4 – Brookton

September 26/28 – Jerramungup

Field trips to burns of last summer in the Metropolitan area are to be advised.