

## **BULLETIN AUGUST 2007**

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### **V President 2:**

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Gerald Stack

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### **Committee:**

1 Stuart Harris

2 Margaret Fox

3 Wayne Merritt

4 John Ewing

### **Editor:**

John Ewing



**WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2007**

### **Patron:**

Dr S Hopper

### **Registrar:**

Ross Fox

### **Librarian:**

Bill Burton

### **Field Trip Coordinator:**

### **Conservation Officer:**

Eddy Wajon

### **Supper Coordinator:**

Donna Wajon

### **Auditor:**

Phil Bunney

### **Conservation Council**

### **Rep:**

Eddy Wajon

Mike Harper

## **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.
- h) To do all such 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.*

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**WEB MASTER:** Don Ward email:

**REGISTRAR:** Ross Fox

### **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2007 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

### **NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

The next General Meeting will be on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2007 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park.

### **BULLETIN ARTICLES**

Please send Bulletin contributions by email to [redacted] by post to [redacted]

The deadline for the SEPTEMBER issue is 1st SEPTEMBER. Any articles received after then will be carried over.



### **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

15 August - General Meeting  
19 September - General Meeting  
17 October - General Meeting  
21 November - General Meeting

### **PLANNED FIELD TRIPS**

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> September – daytrip - meet at Corner of Old Bunbury Road and Old Coast Road  
Sat 15<sup>th</sup> September – Mark Brundrett will lead the trip to find *D isolata*  
Accommodation should be booked for Saturday night at Lake Grace Hotel/Motel [Ph 9865 1219] or at Lake Grace Caravan Park [Ph 9865 1263 – single dongas only] or at Pingrup Hotel [Ph 9820 1041] or at Pingrup Caravan Park [Ph 9820 1860]  
MEETING PLACE - 9am at corner of Chinnocup Rd and Tees Rd  
September 29,30 & October 1 – long weekend. The previously proposed trip to Hyden and the Pingaring area to look for *C graniticola* has been postponed to next year due to the lack of accommodation in the Hyden area. There is a local music festival on and all accommodation is booked out.  
A new venue is proposed and this will be the Porongorups and the Stirlings (including a burnt area). We will be based at Mt Barker Caravan Park. ***There are cabins available, but bookings should be made ASAP as there is a wine festival on that weekend!!!!***

MEETING PLACE – at 11am at first parking bay on left past hospital on Muir Hwy

Let Ross Fox know if you are coming on these trips

### **MEMBERSHIP FEES**

***Membership fees for 2007 are now due.***

Membership fees are \$25.00 per family.

**NON FINANCIAL MEMBERS – IF THIS BULLETIN HAS A RED STICKER NEXT TO YOUR NAME OUR RECORDS INDICATE YOUR FEES FOR THIS YEAR HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED. PLEASE SEND YOUR FEES IMMEDIATELY AS THIS IS THE LAST FINAL REMINDER.**

### **FOR SALE – Contact the Treasurer**

(Sales now subject to GST)

Pat Dundas Cards (Orchid paintings) – singly or in pack of four. \$2.50 ea.

Group wineglasses \$8.00 each.

***Both the above are ideal as presents.***

Car stickers \$1.50 ea

History of WANOSCG \$3.00.

Name badges \$12.00 each

Rufa Trip Report \$10.00

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

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

Note – all our copies of Orchids of SW Australia have been sold. This book is now out of print, so we await a new edition

***Colour Guide to Spring Wildflowers***

Part 1: Kalbarri & The Goldfields

Part 2: Perth & The Southwest.

Part 3: Esperance & The Wheatbelt  
\$18.00 each. (Contact Eddy

Wajon)

### **PHOTO COMPETITION FOR 2007**

The General meeting decided this year's subject will be "Orchid insect interaction". Keep your photos throughout the year as the competition night is at the November meeting.

### **WANOSCG MEETING MINUTES**

#### **GENERAL MEETING 18 JULY 2007**

**OPENED:** 8.15 pm

**NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS:** President Christine welcomed New Members, Brian and Linda Curson, to the meeting, and also Visitors, Ramon Newmann and Martin Punter.

**ATTENDANCES AND APOLOGIES:** As per the Attendance book, 32 members were present and three apologies were received.

**MINUTES TO THE MEETING: 20 June 2007.**

Moved: Bill Burton Seconded: Tom Blinco, that the Minutes for 20 June as printed in the Bulletin were a true record of the meeting. CARRIED



#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

Tom Blinco reported on progress regarding development works near Beechboro and Marshall Roads, which threaten populations of native orchids. His contacts with the Local Authority and with Main Roads WA was disappointing as neither organisation saw the matter as one of their responsibilities. The problem is indirect in that it is the drainage associated with roadworks nearby which is causing the swamp to be drained and so upset the habitat for the orchids on adjoining land.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE LIST AND**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** were circulated with the Attendance Book having been dealt with by Committee.

#### **FIELD TRIP REPORT:**

1. July 22. Zig Zag Kalamunda. Meet at 11.00 am at the first bend of the Scenic Drive, as per the Bulletin. Coordinator for this trip is Ross Fox.
2. Sun July 29. Trip to Cataby. Meet at 10.30 am at the turn off to Mullering Rd, about 9km north of the road house. Target species is *Thelymitra variegata*.
3. August 5. Moora bush field day. Meet at the Council Office at 9.30 am. Elaborate preparations being made by the local enthusiasts, including lunch. Bring a morning tea to share. Coordinator for this trip is Eddy Wajon. (Wear name tags)
4. 2 September. Meet at the corner of Old Coast Road and Old Bunbury Road Clifton at 10.00 am. For trip liaison, contact Ross Fox or Matz Dahlkamp.
5. 15/16 September. Lotterywest trip to Lake Chinnicup. Meet at Tees Road/Chinnicup Road at either 9.00 am, or 11.00 am (second session). Members are to make their own arrangements for accommodation, with the overnighting to be in Lake Grace. Contact Ross Fox as soon as

possible if intending to be in the survey expedition.

6. 29/30 September. Lotterywest long weekend trip to the Pingaring area with overnight at Hyden. Accommodation is very tight in the area – Kalgaren caravan park is a recommended alternative.  
(**Secretaries note:** Confirm arrangements with Ross Fox as Mark Brundrett advised that the WANOSCG part of the trip will be cancelled due to lack of accommodation)
7. Wayne Merritt reported his trips to Moora, and Mollering (?) Road where he found *Thelymitra appiculata*
8. John Ewing had an active schedule of trips to Walpole (found *C. meridionalis*), Parry Beach, John Forrest National Park (first of the bird orchids are out), Sawyers Valley (*Prasophyllum parvifolium* and variants) and North Beach. He commended Star Lake as a good site for leek orchids following the burn there last summer.
9. Eric Swarts told of his trip to White Hills Road, Mandurah, where he saw *Pterostylis angusta* or possibly *aspera*, among others.

#### **PLANT TABLE:**

1. Bill Burton tabled specimens of *Pterostylis curta* from Victoria, and five pots of *Caladenia aff nana* with subtle variations.
2. Bill also revised his report to the last meeting of an unusually tall (75cm) Bird Orchid, which turned out to be an average height Jug Orchid on further inspection.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

1. Eddy Wajon briefed the meeting on the Toodyay road clearance. He was invited to meet the Appeals Convenor following receipt of the Shire of Toodyay response to the appeal. There was a fruitful discussion of the conditions



attached to the permit, and enforcement.

2. Noel advised the group of recent adjustments to the nomenclature of some *Caladenias*. He also referred to an article in the *West Australian* reporting MRWA adjustment to the alignment of the Bunbury Highway to preserve a population of *Drakea elastica*. Finally, he pointed out that the recent massive growth of the town of Hopetoun was threatening a population of *Calochilus aff campestris*.
3. Chris French addressed an issue of concern regarding the Group reserve – the fixed term funds. This was intended to cover operating shortfalls or equipment. It would not be appropriate to transfer it to any organisation in support of conservation generally as the objectives of the group are clearly stated as the study and conservation of Western Australian native orchids. The reserves were built up through the great effort of a few members at successive Kings Park Wildflower Shows.

#### **GUEST PRESENTATIONS:**

Tom Blinco then addressed the group on a DVD prepared by Mike Duncan titled "Orchid Adventure Special" filmed of his travels in South America in search of orchids (and other flora/fauna). The DVD was most enlightening and entertaining, and was really appreciated.

**RAFFLE DRAW:** The raffle, donated by Glenys Blinco, was drawn by Tom Blinco, and the winner for the first time ever was Gerald Stack.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** *The next general meeting will be held on 15 August 2007.*

**Meeting closed at: 9.35 pm**

#### **ORCHID FREAKS**

The New Zealand Native Orchid Journal of May 2007 has an interesting article entitled "Monsters, Freaks, Retrogrades & Primitives" by Ian St George. I recommend members read it to gain some understanding of this interesting subject. The author postulates that the Australasian orchid tribe *Thelymitreae* is composed of *Calochilus*, *Epiblema* & *Thelymitra*. Mutations take many forms. I have seen extra petals, sepals or labellums. I once saw a *Drakea* with an additional labellum at right angles to the true labellum & forward of the hinge. Have you ever wondered what causes the mutations? It's all in the genes. It has been discovered that: -

1. The A gene produces sepals.
2. The B gene produces nothing on its own.
3. The C gene produces carpels (part of the reproductive system).
4. The A & B genes together produces petals.
5. The B & C genes together produces stamens.

Thus mutants: -

1. Lacking the A gene will only produce stamens & carpels.
2. Lacking the B gene will only produce sepals & carpels.
3. Lacking the C gene will only produce sepals & petals.

The resultant products could be multiples. With this knowledge desirable mutants can be created at will. The average orchid labellum is a modified petal adapted to assist pollination.

Noel Clarke

[Ed – Just to prove that WA is still naturally producing such things consider the following *C Reptans* subsp *Reptans* found on the Zig-Zag field trip]  
[See next page]





The double labellum looks quite cute, don't you think?

### NEW ORCHID NAMES

There are 2 new manuscript orchid names in Florabase.

*Caladenia* sp (Rothsay) = *C petrensis* (ms)

*Caladenia jaurdiensis* = *C saxicola* (ms)

This latter orchid (*C jaurdiensis*) is referred to in Nuytsia V14 of 2001 under *C incensa* as a yellow form. It appeared in Florabase as *C jaurdiensis* (ms) because it grows on Jaurdi Station amongst other equally remote areas. It is 4WD area only & the yellow is cream.

Noel Clarke

### A CORRECTION

A 'typo' occurred in the information provided to me and printed in the April 2007 Bulletin (Page 6). The picture on page 211 of H&B (*Paracaleana triens*) is of *P granitica*.

Tom Blinco [previous editor]

### HEALTH REPORT

We have been told that Thelma Spice has moved back into her own home. They've done quite a lot of alterations to her house for wheelchair access, etc., and she is moving around herself between the wheelchair and a walking frame. Still very slow, of course, but from being told she would never walk again, she has achieved much more than expected. What's more she is her usual cheerful (and determined) self,

looking after her own meals whilst receiving visits from therapists, etc. We are sure Thelma would love to hear from her friends.

Telephone [REDACTED]

### FIELD TRIP REPORTS

#### ZIG-ZAG KALAMUNDA JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>

The day was windy with occasional showers. A large number of members arrived and quickly spread over a wide area in a rather uncoordinated and haphazard manner. The *Caladenia Heimalis* we had come to see was in abundance, including this one nestled in its bush location.



Searching revealed a number of quite large specimens with cream coloured petals and sepals. These also had quite strong red colouring on the back of the petals and sepals. After some robust debate about whether this was a different subspecies [We always think we have found a 'new one'], it was concluded that it was simply a bigger more brightly coloured specimen. *Pheladenia deformis* [Blue Fairy] were everywhere with colour variants from a serious purply/mauve to deep blue and down to the palest light blue. The *Prasophyllum fimbria* [Fringed Leek] were also widespread, but often small and lacking much pink on the labellum, with many being almost pure white. A handful of *Diuris brumalis* [Winter Donkey] were also found. Many *Cyanicular gemata* [Blue China] leaves and some other *Caladenia* leaves suggest this site will be worth another visit later in the year.

Stuart Harris then led the group on to Lesmurdie where more *D brumalis* were seen. Also found were *Pterostylis barbata* [Bird Orchid] and one very early flowering *Caladenia longiclavata*. Many more of this species will be flowering at this location over the next month or more.



## **VARIEGATA SEARCH JULY 29<sup>TH</sup>**

The whole trip seemed a doubtful proposition from the start. A weather forecast of clouds and rain seemed an unlikely day for finding a SUN orchid. The start was wonderful as the corner of Mullering Road and the Brand Highway, just north of Cataby had been burnt and a sensational *Diuris* aff *magnifica* [Arrowsmith Pansy] was in full flower, together with others in bud. Then it was onto sites further north along the Brand Highway. MUCH searching took place at two sites in at least periodic sunshine, but alas it was all to no avail. Not even a bud!! As the clouds rolled in, most called it a day.

Undaunted Etienne and John pushed on north to Eneabba and beyond. A site provided by Bill Burton created elation as *Caladenia crebra* [Arrowsmith Spider] was found in its glorious green array.



The photo does not do it justice as the brilliance of the green [not seen by those reading this hard copy] is not shown. Many other buds were in evidence and the intrepid two will be back again to get a better picture.

They stayed overnight at Alan Tinker's 'Western Flora Caravan Park'. Here *Diuris tinkerii* and various greenhoods were found. A trip down Beekeepers Road was of little value (*P deformis* only), but the next day, following directions from Alan the duo sought the elusive *T variegata*. The sun was shining and a search near Lake Indoon revealed a number in bud, but no flowers. A second reason to return. A couple of diversions on the way home turned up *C longicauda* subsp *borealis* [Daddy Longlegs Spider] but none of the

searched for *C footeana* [Crimson Spider] nor *C dundasiae* [Patricia's Spider]. Thus, overall a mixed result, but we'll be back.

## **CANDY'S BUSH RESERVE – MOORA August 5<sup>th</sup>**

Published is part of a letter of thanks written to people at Moora

What a great day we had at Candy's Bush Reserve!!! Glorious weather and great company. In the end, we had 22 WANOSCG members and friends come along. I think the final analysis is we saw the following orchids:

- Moora Spider Orchid, *Caladenia exilis* subsp *vanleeuwenii* in reds, pinks, yellows and whites
- Daddy Long Legs Spider Orchid, *Caladenia longicauda* subsp *borealis* (with a touch of subsp *albella*)
- Crimson Spider Orchid, *Caladenia footeana*
- Brown-veined Shell Orchid, *Pterostylis aspera*
- Moora (?) Snail Orchid, *Pterostylis* aff *nana*
- Blue Beard Orchid, *Cyanicula deformis*
- Mini Donkey Orchid, *Diuris recurva*  
We also saw the leaves of another *Pterostylis* species.

And it wasn't just one or two orchids either. There were lots of Moora Spider Orchids, Mini Donkey Orchids, Brown-veined Shell Orchids (most either past or only rosettes of leaves) and Moora (?) Snail Orchids (many rosettes).

It was great to see the area with the big obvious rubbish removed, though there remains lots of glass and smaller metal to collect.

It was also wonderful to be able have several people, including ourselves, share their knowledge in a corroboree like situation.

Let me thank you again for the invitation, the food, the opportunity to



meet with interested locals, your organisation, the plaque of appreciation and the gift of a bottle of port.

On the way home, 4 of us stopped along the Moora Bindoon Road just north of Gillingarra and saw lots more Moora Spider Orchids and Blue Beard Orchids, but also two species of Donkey orchid, Winter Donkey Orchid, *Diuris brumalis* and Rosy-cheeked Donkey Orchid, (*Diuris aff corymbosa*)

### **CONSERVATION ISSUES** **TOODYAY SHIRE CLEARING**

The following is part of the letter received as a result of an appeal lodged by our group with respect to road side clearing. Eddy Wajon continues to work on our behalf [and on behalf of the beleaguered orchids on the road verges].

#### **3. Ground:**

The appellants submit that there has been a lack of community consultation by the Shire, which should be made to consult with the local community. The appellants also submit that the community should also be given the opportunity to comment on the Shire's detailed plans for survey, clearing practices and revegetation works.

#### ***DEC comment:***

During discussion with Shire employees and the community during the assessment of this permit, it was clear that there had been little or no consultation. This has resulted in a strained relationship between the groups and individuals within the community concerned with preserving roadside vegetation and the Shire.

All submissions received by DEC were reviewed and the comments, objections and recommendations taken into account as is required under section 51E of the EP Act.

#### ***DEC recommendation:***

This ground of appeal be partially upheld and that a similar condition to that on the Shire of York's clearing permit through appeal be imposed so that the report required under condition 14 of permit CPS 1279/1 is made available to the Toodyay

Roadside Group and the local community annually during the life of the permit.

Consideration should be given to requiring the Shire of Toodyay to consult with the local community prior to the clearing of roads authorised under the permit, although it is uncertain that this would be effective in addressing community concerns.

### ***BUNBURY CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL***

John Ewing has been in touch with the Headmaster of the school which currently has an application awaiting approval from the Commonwealth to clear some bushland that the school owns for the purpose of building a new sports ground. The school has approval from the state DEC and so it is unlikely that there are any Declared Rare Flora (DRF) on the site.

During the upcoming orchid season the school is keen to have some help in relocating some of the many spider orchids [probably *C speciosa* – the Sandplain Spider, but also some others if they are there]. To this end, the site is to be monitored and at an appropriate time members will be encouraged to show students what to do and to be involved with translocation. This is quite an exacting task as those who have done it before will attest. However, it is part of

what our group has as its stated aims and so members are encouraged to let John know if they will be available. The likely times will be somewhere in September and/or October.

|                  | <b>RAFFLE ROSTER<br/>2007</b> | <b>SPEAKER<br/>2007</b>  |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>MARCH</b>     | Ian Greeve                    | Mark Brundrett – The current state of orchid conservation in WA/ the Lotterywest Project |
| <b>APRIL</b>     | Donna Wajon                   | Wayne Merritt  |
| <b>MAY</b>       | Christine Lock                | Etienne Delannoy – Orchids of France   |
| <b>JUNE</b>      | Stuart Harris                 | Noel Clarke – Varians group<br>Martin Revell – Friends of Kings Park                     |
| <b>JULY</b>      | Glenys Blinco                 | DVD 'Orchid Adventure Special' courtesy Mike Duncan                                      |
| <b>AUGUST</b>    | David Lawson                  | Eddy Wajon – Orchids of Mondrup View   |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b> | Noel Clarke                   | Jess Daniels – Millennium Seed Bank  |
| <b>OCTOBER</b>   | Eva Smith                     | Etienne Delannoy – Orchids of France part II   |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b>  | John Ewing                    |  |

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#### **FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – South of Mandurah

Sat 15<sup>th</sup> September – Pingrup - Lottery West Endangered Orchids field trips with  
Mark Brundrett

29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> September and October 1<sup>st</sup> — Stirling Ranges and Porongorups