

## BULLETIN APRIL 2008

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Christine Lock

### V President 1:

Stuart Harris

### V President 2:

Eddy Wajon

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Gerald Stack

### Treasurer:

Matz Dahlkamp

### Committee:

1 Stuart Harris

2 Margaret Fox

3 Wayne Merritt

4 John Ewing

### Editor:

John Ewing



**WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2008**

### Patron:

Dr S Hopper

### Registrar:

Ross Fox

### Librarian:

Bill Burton

### Field Trip Coordinator:

Ross Fox

### 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.*

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

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**WEB ADDRESS:**

**WEB MASTER:** Don Ward email:

**REGISTRAR:** Ross Fox

### NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2008 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be Wednesday 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2008 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

### BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to John Ewing at

Articles for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> of the month



## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

16 April	General Meeting
21 May	General Meeting
18 June	General Meeting
16 July	General Meeting
20 August	General Meeting
17 September	General Meeting
15 October	General Meeting
19 November	General Meeting

## PLANNED FIELD TRIPS

Some yet to be decided for the 2008 season. If you have any requests or suggestions let Ross Fox (the field trip co-ordinator) know. It would also be helpful if you could let the co-ordinator know of any burnt areas (throughout the whole of the South West) that you have seen.

### Wheatbelt Orchid Studies

1. July 26&27 Underground Orchid (*rhizanthella gardneri*) at Munglinup (South Coast). Mark Brundrett will be there 2 or 3 days before then. Contact him if you would like to help search before the start of the weekend.
2. September 20&21 Pingaring Spider (*caladenia hoffmanii* subsp *graniticola*) This is at Dragon Rocks which is near Hyden

## PHOTO COMPETITION FOR 2007

This year's subject will be "**CLUMPS OF ORCHIDS**". The competition night is at the November meeting.

## WANOSCG MEETING MINUTES GENERAL MEETING 19 MARCH 2008

**OPENED:** 8.35 PM

**PRESENT:** There were 25 members and 6 apologies, as per the Attendance Book

**NEW MEMBERS:** New (returning) member, Margaret Petrides (formerly, Groves) introduced herself and was welcomed by the meeting. Margaret presented historical photographs and a letter of Herb Foote (1974) on membership of the founding WANOSCG.

**VISITORS:** Carol Royal and Bob Steer were the visitors for this meeting.

**MINUTES TO THE MEETING:** 21 November 2007.

Moved: Kim Hansen, Seconded: Stuart Harris, that the minutes as circulated at the meeting were a true record of the meeting.  
**CARRIED**

## FIELD TRIP REPORT:

1. Field Trip Coordinator, Ross Fox, advised that currently no field trips were planned in the short term, and he was open to suggestions for future trips.
2. Don Ward suggested a search for the Wandoo Bearded Orchid off the York Road in late September. Another suggestion was to visit the Mullering Brook area just past Cataby.

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. President Christine outlined a proposal for an Honour Board (virtual), which would be maintained and published in the March Bulletin each year. It would recognise past members of WANOSCG who had contributed notably to the objectives of the Group, namely the study and conservation of WA native orchids.
2. President Christine then moved a recommendation from the Committee to recognise the long and meritorious contribution of member Bill Burton by awarding him Life Membership. This was seconded by Donna Wajon and **CARRIED** with acclamation.
3. Members were requested to submit their name, address, email and birth year, to confirm the Group's data base. This could be done at the time of renewing membership.
4. The theme of the 2008 WANOSCG Photographic Competition was canvassed and many ideas proposed. After voting, the theme for 2008 will be "Clump of Spider Orchids", being more than one. The competition will be judged at the November meeting, and only 2008 vintage photos will be eligible.
5. Noel Clarke advised the meeting that two new *Caladenia* species had been described in the 2007 *Nuytsia* #17 be A P Browne and G Brockman. *C.petrensis* was formerly named *C. sp rathsay*, and *C. saxicola* was formerly named as *C. jaudiensis*. This will be recorded in the next Bulletin and included in the next revisions of the



WANOSCG Reporting Sheet for field survey and recording.

6. The Conservation Officer, Eddy Wajon, reported on a (so far) successful outcome for native orchids of a proposal to clear 100 ha of Banksia woodland in the Jandakot Airport reserve, when the Federal Minister for the Environment, Hon Peter Garrett, objected to the proposal which has gone to the Federal Minister for Transport for determination. Eddy has been invited to present the case for conservation on Stateline to be broadcast on Friday 28 March or 5 April. A press release has been prepared and distributed on behalf of several wildflower and related groups.
7. John Ewing advised that he will be "off the air" and return with a new email address in about a month or two. [Editor's Note – I am 'on the air' again – see front page for my new e-mail address John] He will continue editing the Bulletin and asks members again to improve their reporting rate, to either (or both) the Registrar (Ross Fox) or himself as Editor. These can then be included in future Bulletins, or with Don's help, in the Group's website. Donna Wajon will provide more Reporting Sheets to encourage members use.

**PRESENTATION ON THE LOTTERYWEST  
THREATENED ORCHID SPECIES PROJECT BY DR  
MARK BRUNDRETT.**

Mark Brundrett then provided a presentation of some of the results of the 2007 fieldwork as carried out under the Lotterywest Wheatbelt Threatened Orchid project. Transect surveys of three populations of these orchids had indicated some disturbing trends (the impact of grazing by unknown animals – kangaroos, rabbits or others – and some possible measures to aid protection and foster growth, such as fencing part of the population to enable germination. Several new populations of critical species had been identified and this will be further assessed in 2008 surveys, particularly the Underground Orchid. There would be opportunities to engage with some members of the Group in extended field surveys in June and September, with accommodation and sustenance being provided. Members who would like to take a week to really get in touch with the native bush and its endangered flora should keep up with

the planning and contact Mark, or Ross Fox. Summarising, Mark felt that it was a successful year and that there was plenty of follow-up work on seed and soil field collections to be done during the off season. Contact with other groups and the Department of Environment and Conservation recovery teams had and will continue.

**RAFFLE DRAW:** The raffle donated by Scilla and Gerald Stack was drawn by Mark Brundrett and happily collected by Joe Ward.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next general meeting will be held on 16 April 2008

**Meeting closed at: 9.35 pm**

**WANOSCG President's Report 2008**

2007 has been a busy year and 2008 is looking busier for field trips. There were 11 booked field trips from the club, and I am sure at least that many again from each member traversing the countryside, excluding Ross and Margaret of course and where would we be without them leading us, thus much of the state has been covered. It would be interesting to measure the number of kilometers we do both as club members and privately to look for these beautiful plants. This year is no different with trips planned as far north as Euardy station and east to Esperance. An invitation has been received from the Mukinbudin branch to celebrate the Western Australian Wildflower Society 50 Anniversary. There is also Orchid Spectacular in September this year. Car pooling has been very successful and with our traversing the country side many new friendships and memberships have formed.

Special moments of this year were celebrating Octogenarian month. donation of Nicholl's book, Candy's Bush Reserve celebration which then led to an invitation to Mt Leseur National Park to survey orchids and finding *Para. dixonii* and *Th. steilata*. And each field trip has its special moments, eg, Lake Muir Blood Spider Orchid. I am sure we could fill a Bulletin with anecdotes. Eastern States and overseas members arrived and joined in the field trips including the Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project.

A sad moment with the passing of Bill Mangini. Noel, "hobby orchidologist" maybe loosening his ties but he sure stays in contact and keeps us on our toes.



Conservation projects are ongoing including road verge clearing and Jandakot

Airport. Thanks to Eddy for all his input and that of members in supporting him. The

Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project has given the club opportunity to visit new areas

and provide us with many benefits including enhancing our bank account. Thanks to

Mike Harper being the chair of this group.

Guest speakers have been very informative from the Millenium Seed Bank to updates from the Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project. Club members also contributed keeping us up to date and inspired with local and overseas orchids. Thank you.

Club members - committee members, everyone has contributed in making this a great club and a great 2007. Thank you to all and I am looking forward to 2008 with good rains, new places, lots of orchids and burns to explore.

Christine Lock

The editor has always encouraged members to send in field reports and photos for publication. This is still the case. However, in 2008 for the months up to August, I will be publishing a list of the orchids to be found in the month of that bulletin.

Here is the possible March list (also found in April and May as well)

H&B page	Common Name	Botanical name
170	Leafless Orchid	<i>Praecoxanthus aphyllus</i>
176	Hare orchid	<i>Leporella fimbriata</i>
179	White bunny	<i>Eriochilis dilitatus</i> subsp <i>dilitatus</i>
180	Common bunny	<i>Eriochilis dilitatus</i> subsp <i>multiflorus</i>
331	Slipper	<i>Cryptostylis ovata</i>

Then there is the April list

H&B page	Common Name	Botanical name
181	Easter bunny	<i>Eriochilis dilitatus</i> subsp <i>magnus</i>
182	Crinkle-leaf	<i>Eriochilis</i>

	bunny	<i>dilitatus</i> subsp <i>undulatus</i>
183	Granite bunny	<i>Eriochilis pulchellus</i>
185	Swamp bunny	<i>Eriochilis helonomos</i>
292	Pygmy	<i>Corunastylis taperi</i>

Now there is May as well

68	Winter Spider	<i>Caladenia dummondii</i>
157	Blue Fairy	<i>Pheldenia deformis</i>
256	Cleopatra's Needles	<i>Thelymitra apiculata</i>
302	Scented Autumn Leek	<i>Prasophyllum aff parvifolium</i>
327	Underground Orchid	<i>Rhizanthella gardneri</i>
338	Brown-veined Shell	<i>Pterostylis aspera</i>
340	Green-veined Shell	<i>Pterostylis scabra</i>
341	Narrow-hooded Shell	<i>Pterostylis angusta</i>
343	Robust Snail	<i>Pterostylis dilitata</i>
348	Broad-petalled Snail	<i>Pterostylis aff nana</i>
350	Slender Snail	<i>Pterostylis aff nana</i>
362	Banded Greenhood	<i>Pterostylis vittata</i>
442	Kalbarri Shell	<i>Pterostylis aff aspera</i>

**NOTE** – only the May and June list will be published in the May bulletin

#### NEWER MEMBERS

If you wish to know specific location for these orchids, there are experienced members who will be able to give you some help

EXPERIENCED MEMBERS (and newer members)

While this is not really a competition the editor would like to be kept informed of the 'first find' of each of these species.

In future months further lists will be published (yes I know the lists will be longer). As the year goes on you can put a tick in the bulletins for each species you personally have found. What is your target for the year????



WANOSCG Lotterywest Wheatbelt  
Orchid Rescue Project - 2008  
Surveys (Part 1)

Major surveys include a Saturday, when it is expected that the majority of WANOSCG members will wish to attend, as well as several preceding weekdays when DEC staff are most available. The main purpose of trips in 2008 is to help identify the extent of habitats for rare orchids to allow effective management. We will be accurately recording information about the position and numbers of orchids in surveys and taking geo-referenced photographs.

1. July 26 - *Rhizanthella gardneri* survey near Munglinup with WANOSCG. There should be sufficient accommodation at Munglinup Beach Caravan Park ([enquiries@munglinupbeach.com.au](mailto:enquiries@munglinupbeach.com.au), 9075 1155). This trip is scheduled for later in the flowering period of the underground orchid so we will also see other interesting early flowering orchids. We also plan to visit other interesting local orchids spots on Sunday morning (July 27) before returning to Perth. The WOR project needs help from a few fit, enthusiastic people in the preceding days to investigate a large area of potential habitat along the Oldfield River (July 24 and 25). We will be helping DEC staff from Esperance map out the boundaries of a potential nature reserve. We plan to borrow additional radios and GPS units to help with coordination during surveys.
2. Sept 20 - WANOSCG volunteers invited to participate in *Caladenia graniticola* survey at likely habitats in Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve on Saturday. Overnight accommodation at Hyden which is nearby is recommended. We will also be surveying area for 2-3 days beforehand with DEC (Note this trip is still at being planned and more information will be provided soon).

**FIELD TRIP PROCEDURES FOR  
RARE ORCHIDS**

1. Always follow WANOSCG convoy and trip procedures and instructions provided by trip leaders and DEC staff.
2. Please listen carefully to briefings and follow specific instructions concerning survey procedures, communications, use of equipment such as GPS's, etc. so that survey data will be accurate.
3. Wait for trip leaders before entering sites where rare orchids occur so all participants are aware of what plants look like.
4. Do not wander too far away from the area where the group is searching and ensure that you are back at the cars at the time prescribed by the trip leaders.
5. Take care not to trample plants or disturb habitats. There will often be non-flowering plants near flowering ones and some are well hidden.
6. Do not collect specimens. Special permits and permission from DEC are required to collect or handle orchids.
7. You are free to take photographs, but this should not take precedence over survey work. Request additional time at the site if you feel it is necessary.
8. Please do not interfere with site management (seed bags, markers, etc.) and keep out of core habitat areas with fences or enclosures.
9. Please note any insects that may be pollinating orchids and photograph them if possible.
10. Please feel free to ask questions about orchids and their habitats, we will answer them as best we can.
11. Precise locations of rare (DRF) and priority taxa should not be disclosed to others as we want to protect these sites from trampling and other possible damage that could occur if too many people visit these areas.

