

BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2008

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WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2008

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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.
- 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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NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 15th October 2008 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be Wednesday 17th SEPTEMBER 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 1st of the next month

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

17 September General Meeting
15 October General Meeting
19 November General Meeting

PLANNED FIELD TRIPS

SEPTEMBER 14

TOODYAY TRIP POSTPONED The kangaroos have eaten off all the emerging flowers. The trip may occur in the near future. Advice will come at the meeting and will be published on the website.

SEPTEMBER 18-21 {weekend is 20th & 21st} at Dragon Rocks which is near to Hyden. (Check your map book to see location.) This is the second of this season's Wheatbelt Orchid Studies under Mark's leadership. The trip is to survey *C. graniticola* (Pingaring Spider Orchid H&B Pg 419). Places to stay are Hyden Caravan Park (98805023), Tressies Caravan Park (98895043), Hyden Motel (98805052). If you are coming before the weekend, contact Mark (mobile below) to find out about meeting points and times. The Saturday meeting point is the corner of Pingaring-Varley Road North and Holland Track at 11am. This location may be well away from the search area so be on time. Mobiles work OK in this area (Mark [REDACTED])

Note from President Christine Lock

This trip is to see a species that is DRF (Declared Rare Flora). On these designated trips it is the protocol of the club that only club members attend. Volunteers can be signed up with a DEC staff member or permission sought from Andrew Brown or as in this trip to Dragon Rocks with Mark Brundrett. All participants are to be registered with the club trip co-ordinator. Interstate ANOS members are classified as WANOSCG members.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 5 in the Boddington area
Meet at the Boddington Shire Office at 10am.
The trip is to find *C. sp. quindanning*. Advise Ross Fox if you are coming.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26 – meet at the corner of Toodyay Rd and Reen Rd at 10am. This trip is to look for *T. dedmaniarum* (Cinnamon Orchid H&B pg 243)
This orchid has been renamed since H&B was published.
[Editor's note – this name was incorrect in last month's bulletin as was the Bronze Orchid below.]

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 – meet at the corner of Brookton Hwy and Yarra Rd at 10am. This trip is to look for *T. yorkensis* (Bronze Orchid) and for *Caledonia postea* (Dark Tipped Spider Orchid)

If you are coming on any of these trips will you let Ross Fox know as early as possible.

Very Important Note There have been cases where members have advised Ross they are coming on a trip, and then not arrived on the day. In this case it would be courteous to ring Ross the day before to let him know, or at least on that morning if you were not coming or coming late. If this is not done either he or the whole group is delayed (In one case Ross waited for 2 hours). Members are asked to pay particular attention to this matter.

WANOSCG MEETING MINUTES GENERAL MEETING 20 AUGUST 2008

OPENED: 8.05 pm

VISITORS: President Christine welcomed visitors to the meeting, David Roberts, Sallyanne Cousans, Noel McClumpha, Myles Minz and Keith Lightbody.

ATTENDANCE BOOK: There were 26 members and 7 apologies.

MINUTES TO THE MEETING: 16 July 2008.

Moved: Noel Clarke, Seconded: Kim Hansen, that the Minutes as circulated, amended to show Eva Smith in place of Eva Ward, were a true record of the meeting of 16 July 2008. CARRIED.

FIELD TRIP REPORT:

1. Tom Blinco reported on the recent trip to Eurardy Station which was an outstanding success both in the hospitality enjoyed and the orchids (and wildflowers) experienced. "A fantastic trip"
2. Ryan Phillips reported on recent field trips, to the south coast – Hopetoun and Millers Point, and to the north – Kalbarri where patchy rains had resulted in poor

flowerings. He also explored the Stirling Ranges for the *Diuris confluens* and *D. gracilis*.

PLANT TABLE:

1. Bill Burton tabled two specimen plants. The one was *Caladenia latifolia* (Pink Fairy). The other was possibly *Diuris gracilis*.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. John Ewing advised that he had heard from Geoff Hardwick at South West TAFE of a course on translocation of orchids to be given by Nigel Swarts of BGPA, Kings Park. It was imminent and those wishing to attend could get the details from him (John).
2. Mark Brundrett tabled details of meeting points for the trip to Dragon Rocks, with maps.
3. Attention was drawn to the flyers for the release of Orchids of Western Australia, by Andrew Brown, Pat Dundas, Kingsley Dixon and Stephen Hopper. There will be a Group order prior to the launch and members should advise if they wish to be included as the price will be reduced from the recommended retail price.
4. Jack Eborall raised a matter of concern regarding finding markers left over from (presumably) research projects in Ken Hirst Park. In addition to the visual pollution, he suspected that the metal stakes used both physically damaged the nearby plants but runoff of metallic waste also impacted plant growth. This sparked general discussion, including
 - a. Similar experiences at Dunsborough, Meelup and Cape Naturaliste
 - b. Use of pieces of wood and branch pressed into the ground near specimens disturbed the soil and damaged the plants

- c. Damage could also be caused by field surveys for Underground Orchids if the litter scraped aside to find specimens was not replaced very carefully
- d. It must be reiterated that on field trips to survey for Declared Rare Flora (DRF), only members themselves could go unless others were specifically authorised by Department of Environment and Conservation (Andrew Brown). This would apply to the trip to the Dragon Rocks.
- e. Those on field surveys under the care of Andrew or Mark Brundrett ought take care to enter their name and details in the Register for each field trip to record their presence.

PRESENTATION:

Then followed a presentation on "THE TABLE TOP BOTANIST" by David Roberts, visiting scientist from Kew Gardens.

RAFFLE DRAW: David Roberts then drew the winning ticket in the raffle, where the prize was kindly donated by David Lawson.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next general meeting will be held on 17 September 2008

Meeting closed at: 9.45 pm

CLUB ITEMS FOR SALE

See July bulletin for these items

NEW ORCHID BOOK

A new book by Andrew Brown, Pat Dundas, Kingsley Dixon and Stephen Hopper is about to be released (hopefully next month). It is titled "Orchids of western Australia" and covers all known species (both named and unnamed). The illustrations are paintings by Pat Dundas. The club will negotiate a bulk purchase (price yet to be negotiated, but in the \$80-\$90 range). Please phone Kim Hanson on [REDACTED] (best in the evenings) if you are interested in a copy (copies).

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

JUNE 22 MOGUMBER

On a cold windy morning we travelled to Mogumber and went to the Recreation ground as we had arrived a little early. There we saw the hare orchid, *Leporella fimbriata* still out in flower although I gathered from Matz that there were less than a fortnight ago. We then joined the main bunch of people at the meeting point and went along Mogumber West Rd a short way to the place where the Cleopatra's Needles orchid, *Thelymitra apiculata*, had been seen to be flowering. They were not easily seen amongst the other native flowering shrubs however there were enough to be seen on both sides of the road as long as you didn't slip down the steep slopes that were on either side of the road at that point.

After lunch the group went to an old metal dump on the Brand Highway a little north of the Moore River crossing where we hoped to find a Donkey Orchid that had been seen there before. However, we found many *T. apiculata* flowering plus a number of *Leporella* leaves, but no Donkey orchid. The group then went onto Cataby where ice creams etc were bought and scoffed before we all went further north to Mullering Rd to a burnt area see if we could find any early *T. pulcherrima* or the Northern Queen of Sheba orchids. This burn had been a very fierce wildfire area and there was very little undergrowth growing of any sort. Despite looking on both sides of the Brand Highway there was no or very little sign of orchids at all. There were a few *Pterostylis aff. nana*, two species, at this site but nothing else as the fire had been too hot.

Below are my pictures of the trip.

Tom Burbridge



Figure 1 *Pterostylis aff. nana*



Figure 2 Orchid hunting at Mogumber



Figure 3 *Thelymitra apiculata*

(Editor's note : This report was received some time ago, but was missed in previous bulletins)

AUGUST 28 - MT LESUEUR

After such a good week at Eurardy Station, Mt Lesueur had a lot to top. Sadly it wasn't very productive for orchids or people attending the trip. Bill Burton and Sarah Atkinson joined Eddy and Donna Wajon on the 18 Kilometre scenic drive around the Park leaving Jurien at 9:35 am.

We made five stops in total and at the first stop we saw Mark Brundrett, Karen Clark, Margaret

and Geoff Langley looking at wildflowers in general. We left them behind but said we would call them on the CB with news of any interesting orchids.

We saw nine different orchid species. *Caladenia flava flava* (Cowslip) were at all the stops. *C. radialis* (Drooping Spider) was seen along the Gardner walk track. *C. lorea* (Blushing Spider) and *C. arenicola* (Carousel Spider) with maybe some hybrids between the two were seen at the Cockleshell Gully picnic area. *Diuris* aff. *magnifica* (Arrowsmith Pansy) was on it's last legs. A colony of *Leporella fimbriata* (Hare) were still standing. There were some beautiful leaves of *Leptoceras menziessii* (Rabbit) and *Pyrorchis nigricans* (Red Beaks). *Pterostylis sanguinea* were visible but not looking very healthy. But the surprising find was *Paracaleana nigrita* (Flying Duck) which was so close to the cars that one was run over and not noticed until we were leaving to go to the next stop.

We split up to go home on our separate ways at 3:00pm. Maybe we were too early for the area or the area that would have been more productive was only accessible by 4WD and we did not have enough 4WD space to see it. It'll have to wait for another year.
Donna Wajon

AUGUST 29 – 31 MUKINBUDIN

The group of early arrivals, led by Ross Fox, spent part of Friday at a private property to the north of the townsite of 'Muka', as the town of Mukinbudin is affectionately known. This farmsite yielded a range of *Caladenia dimidia* (Chameleon orchid), some *Cyanicula amplexans* (Dainty Blue) and *C. roei*. The local enthusiasts who owned the property and helped guide us were extremely welcoming and very pleased to have the club come to visit them.

Saturday was the grand final of the local football competition, and so we were left to ourselves. The first two sites visited were at granite rocks. At Elachbutting Rock there were almost no orchids (a few *diuris* and after a climb, Etienne found some not fully opened *Thelymitra antenifera* growing in a hollow right on the top. Other group members could not be persuaded to 'come and look'.

The group proceeded to Yanneymooning Hill. Once again there were few flowers. After extensive searching and bushbashing, a few *C. dimidia* and two *C. radialis* (Drooping Spider) were located some hundreds of meters from

the cars on the far side of the rock.

With all this disappointment, the group made its way to the Quanta Cutting Reserve which had been briefly visited earlier in the day. This proved to be the highlight of the day with many more orchids. Prominent among the species were *C. roei*, *C. dimidia*, *Cy amplexans*, *C. incensa* (Glistening Spider), *C. saccharata* (Sugar Orchid) and more than one species of *diuris*. The real finds of the afternoon were *C. mesocera* (Narrow-lipped Dragon H&B pg 193 – in one place a colony of more than a dozen plants) an unidentified spider (that was similar in size and structure to *C. incensa* but had pale yellow petals and sepals) and two magnificent hybrids of *C. roei* (one a vivid pink and the other a creamy yellow). It was a good end to Saturday.

The Sunday morning saw the return of the locals and a short trip to Chiddarcooping Reserve. The reserve included many rock outcrops spread over a huge area. Very quickly the group became widely separated in what was quite rugged terrain. Orchids had to be searched for, as the dry conditions made the number of plants quite sparse. During the morning most of the main varieties from the previous day were located plus *Prasophyllum gracile* (Little Laughing Leek – one that had a beautiful red on its flower tips). Mukinbudin was an interesting place to visit and would be well worth a return in a better season.

ORCHID SPECTACULAR

The 2008 Orchid spectacular will be held at ??? over the 3 days of Friday September 29 to Sunday October 1st. Our group will be publicising native orchids and their conservation with photos both print and electronic projection. If you have some print photos that you would be happy to have displayed, please contact John Ewing during this week. He will arrange collection and return of the photos.

We will be having a stand on the Saturday and the Sunday. If you can come to supervise the stand for an hour or two on either day could you contact John as he will draw up a roster for the two days.

	RAFFLE ROSTER 2008	SPEAKER 2008
MARCH	Gerald Stack	Mark Brundrett – The current state of orchid conservation in WA/ the Lotterywest Project
APRIL	Anna De Haan	Ross Fox – Orchiding in Tasmania
MAY	Ross & Margaret Fox	Mark Brundrett – Fungal associations
JUNE	Stuart Harris	Ross Rudeforth – Friends of Kings Park
JULY	Donna Wajon	Gary Brockman – Nomenclature Revisited – keeping up to date
AUGUST	David Lawson	Dr David Roberts (Kew Gardens) The Kitchen Table Botanist
SEPTEMBER	Jack Eborral	Peter McCaulay – Orchids of South Australia
OCTOBER	Kim & Thea Hansen	
NOVEMBER	John Ewing	Photo competition and members slides

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS
 September 20&21 Dragon Rocks
 October 5 - Boddington
 October 26 – Toodyay Rd
 November 16 – Brookton Hwy