BULLETIN MARCH 2010

Registered by Australia Post Publication No WBH 1240

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President:	
Christine Lock	
V President 1:	
Stuart Harris	
V President 2:	-
Eddy Wajon	
Secretary:	
Ramon Newmann	
Treasurer:	
Matz Dahlkamp	
Committee:	
1 Kim Hansen	
2 Margaret Fox	
3 Jeremy Storey	
4 Thea Hansen	-
Editor:	
John Ewing	
John Ewing	



WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2009

Patron: Prof. S Hopper

Registrar: Christine Lock Librarian: Bill Burton Field Trip Coordinator: Ross Fox Conservation Officer: Eddy Wajon Supper Coordinator: Donna Wajon Auditor: Phil Bunney **Conservation Council** Rep: Eddy Wajon Christine Lock

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: Christine Lock

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 17TH March 2010 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office. **NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday 17th March 2010 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.

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WANOSCG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – 18 MARCH 2009

Meeting opened: 8.15 pm

<u>ATTENDANCE</u>: There were 35 members present and 5 apologies, as per the Attendance Register.

Before proceeding, President Christine Lock spoke of the loss of orchid society members in the recent Victorian Bushfire, she referred to letters of thanks from the Victorian President Mike Duncan responding to messages of support from WANOSCG members, and then held a one minute silence in remembrance of this great tragedy of February 2009.

MINUTES The Minutes of the 2008 AGM were printed in the Bulletin, Distributed to all members.

Moved: Ross Fox, Seconded: Noel Clarke, that the Minutes of the 2008 AGM from 19 March

FORTH COMING MEETINGS

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

2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. CARRIED.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President's report for 2008 was published in the March Bulletin, and taken as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 2008, and the auditor's report. Moved: Matz Dahlkamp, and Seconded: Gerald Stack, that the meeting accept the 2008 Accounts and the Auditor's report. CARRIED.

ELECTIONS

The President declared all positions vacant except for the continuing positions of Patron, Vice President Stuart Harris, and Committee Kim Hansen and Margaret Fox.

The Secretary was nominated as the Returning Officer, to act while the President vacated the Chair. Scrutineers were to be elected if found necessary.

Position	Nominee	Moved	Seconded	Action
Patron	Steve Hopper	Gerald Stack	Noel Clarke	Continuing
President	Christine Lock	Noel Clarke	Donna Wajon	ELECTED
Vice President -1 year	Stuart Harris			Continuing
Vice President - 2 year	Eddy Wajon	Ross Fox	Noel Clarke	ELECTED
Secretary	Ramon Newmann	Eddy Wajon	Kim Hansen	ELECTED
Treasurer	Matz Dahlkamp	Donna Wajon	John Ewing	ELECTED
Committee - 1 year	Kim Hansen	12-4-		Continuing
Committee - 1 year	Margaret Fox		N.E.	Continuing
Committee -2 year	Jeremy Storey	Christine Lock	Margaret Fox	ELECTED
Committee - 2 year	Thea Hansen	Ross Fox	Bill Burton	ELECTED
Editor	John Ewing	Eddy Wajon	Margaret Fox	ELECTED

Field Trip Coordinator	Ross Fox	Donna Wajon	Noel Clarke	ELECTED
Conservation Officer	Eddy Wajon	Matz Dahlkamp	Donna Wajon	ELECTED
Registrar	Christine Lock	Matz Dahlkamp	Donna Wajon	ELECTED
Librarian	Bill Burton	Noel Clarke	Matz Dahlkamp	ELECTED
Auditor	Phil Bunney	Matz Dahlkamp	Christine Lock	ELECTED

GENERAL BUSINESS NIL

Meeting closed at: 8.35 pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2009

The year started with an exhibition from Luda Korczyuskyj, *Orchidacae*, at Kingfisher Gallery, West Perth in March. It was an exciting display of ceramic orchids in all shapes, sizes and colours. Three new items were introduced this year. Tom Burbidge suggested a 'welcomer' at club meetings for visitors and new members; a field trip protocol to better manage club trips; and Keep Australia Beautiful bags of which members used about 250 bags for 2009. All these will allow our club to grow and our state to be a better place.

The 'Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project' continues with Lotterywest funding for a further two years. Mark Brundrett spoke to the club updating members on the progress. Friends of Kings Park will be more involved with the work in this later part of the project. It is planned that Lotterywest will attend the club meeting when Mark speaks in 2010.

The photographic competition was won by Iain McLean, for all the categories. Well done! This was a grand way to end 2009 meetings at Kings Park. The competition was a great success. Thanks to Ramon for organizing the prizes and Bill Salter for making the President's Trophy.

Field trips have been plentiful this year, and many thanks to Ross and Margaret Fox for their efforts in leading us afar in search of orchids. The Southern Rivers Group have also been busy and many thanks for the end of year Christmas celebration.

Eddy Wajon has provided monthly updates on orchid conservation in the Bulletin and club meetings. Eddy's efforts have culminated in a club nomination for the DEC Environment Awards in the category of Biodiversity Conservation Award. He was a finalist with Birds Australia and Mike Whitehead. Australian Wildlife Conservancy won the category. Congratulations to Eddy in being a finalist. On a sad note, Ross Wilton passed away in November, an Honorary Club Member who audited our books for 9 years. In December Mary and Stan Ennor, the couple who led the Mt Gibson trip, were tragically killed in a car accident.

Everyone has contributed in making this a great club and an interesting year. Having put this report together the club has been very busy, traveled much and gathered new friends and members. Thank you to all and I am looking forward to 2010 with good rains, new places, lots of orchids and burns to explore and a cooler summer!

Database Report

Thanks to Tony Lock for restructuring and updating the club's database. He has also made the program available to club members. There has been 182 orchid species sighted and a total of 594 individual sightings entered for 2009. The database has been used in helping Eddy Wajon, eg, Toodyay road verge clearing and Robinson Road and Andrew Brown in regard to thelymitra locations. A request went out to club members in the November Bulletin to send in reports of orchids sighted in your local reserve. Very few sightings from reserves/parks are documented within the metropolitan area. Remnant bushland is very important and perhaps 2010 can be a year where club members take a stroll in their local park and findings are noted for the database. As I answer many email enquiries from the public, I do receive comments on flowering orchids, or what leaf/orchid is this? These I add to the database. As an outcome from one of these requests an orchid trip to a new metropolitan reserve is planned for 2010.

Christine Lock President

WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY 18th November 2009

Meeting at: BGPA Boardroom. Wednesday 18th November 2009. Commencing 8:07 pm

ATTENDANCE: 37 members present, 3 apologies, 2 visitors as per Attendance book. RAFFLE: Kindly donated by Gary McDonald MINUTES TO THE MEETING:

The following corrections on the October 21st, 2009 General Meeting minutes as published in the Bulletin were noted:

 Noel Clarke:- General Business clause 7: should read "conservation of orchids and not frivolities" and "to discuss how to best use it to conserve orchids"

Noel Clarke moved that the minutes should be accepted with the above amendment, seconded by Gary McDonald – motion carried. FIELD TRIPS: Ross outlined the trips as printed in the Bulletin

 Due to the high number of expected attendees to the Group's December trip to the SW area, there will have to be 2 groups visiting the sites in turn. There will be a BBQ at Jeff Spencer's house.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer's report Income and Expenditure was tabled by the President on behalf of the Treasurer who is currently overseas. One amendment is the \$180 expenditure against the Conservation Council should be the expense for the DEC Conservation Awards night for Eddy and Donna Wajon.

Eric Swarts moved that the report should be accepted with this amendment, and seconded by Donna Wajon – motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Alex George presented his "Australian Botanist's Companion" 671 page book, making it available to members on the night, or through his email:
- Noel Clarke
 - a. announced that the Group will buy a copy of the Mulleria Plant & Fungal Taxonomy and Systematics vol 27(2) 2009 for the library.
 - b. Reminded everyone that they must get written permission from the owner of a property before they can go on their property for an extended period or to take samples.
- 3. Mark Brundrett:

- a. A Lucid Key for Orchids is being developed with Margaret Collins. The aim would be to have the Key on a CD that would be available for sale. The Committee will take up the task of discussing how to best support the work – typically it would need volunteers to measure specimens etc. Funding sources are being sought.
- An underground orchid paper has been submitted to the prestigious Nature journal for publication.
- The Lotterywest research work on orchids will be presented at the April 2010 meeting
- John Ewing is planning a trip to France in 2011, and if anyone is interested to contact him.
- The President thanked Matz Dahlkamp for organizing the purchase of new wine glasses for the speakers, and made them available for members to buy at \$15 each.
- The President announced the committee's approval to have the Group put forward to receive the Alcoa community group grant through Ramon Newmann having devoted over 50 hours of his time to the Group over the period of a year.
- 7. Jeremy Storey reported that he had seen a Group Member driving a 4WD up the track off Canning Mills Rd that has *Thelymitra* stellata plants on its edge. Jeremy emphasised that members need to take more individual responsibility for not damaging, or threatening, orchids or their environment.
- 8. Russell Thomas reported that
 - a. there had been a fire on O'Brien Rd, near the Toodyay Road.
 - b. Evidence of illegal baiting of birds of prey (poisoned roo carcasses on the side of the road that appeared to be targeting wedge tailed eagles) had been seen on the Qualen Rd. The authorities need any details such as car registration number, time, place etc to be able to follow up on it.

CONSERVATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Eddy Wajon presented his Conservation Officer's Report for November 2009

PRESENTATION

John Dell was introduced by Peter Gee – for the judging of the Group's annual photographic competition John Dell:-

· Has an interest in Natural History

- Has won the Australian Natural History Medallion for his contribution to Natural History education
- Is editor of the West Australian Naturalist
- Has been a Royal Show Photographic Judge for the past 14 years.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Judged by John Dell: Results:-

- Genus Thelymitra Category : Winner : lain McLean
- Hybrids Category : Winner :
 lain McLean
- Mutations Category : Winner :
 Iain McLean

The President presented the inaugural President's Photographic Competition Trophy to lain, along with a prize of Camera Electronics' photo shop \$100 voucher.

RAFFLE DRAW: Drawn by John Dell and won by Alex George

GROWERS TABLE

 Bill Burton presented a Diuris emarginata plant specimen.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday March 17th, 2010 at 8pm

MEETING CLOSED at 10pm

MEMBERSHIP

All members are reminded that annual subscriptions are now due. The annual family membership fee is now \$30. Payment can be made in person to the Treasurer, or by mail with cheques made out to WANOSCG and sent to

Or by electronic transfer to the club's bank account Bankwest BSB - 306 044

A/C number - 549 2468
If using an electronic transfer please send details of the transfer to WANOSCG website.

CLUB ITEMS FOR SALE

WANOSCG wine glasses	\$15.00
Pat Dundas cards	\$2.50
History of WANOSCG	\$3.00
Rufa trip report	\$10.00
Orchids of Western Australia	\$9.00
Historical: Orchids of WA: Cultiva	ation
and Natural History	\$5.00
Badges : Name Badge	\$12.50
Caladenia Flava	\$4.00
30 th Anniversary	\$4.00
Car Stickers	\$2.50

[Contact Matz for any of these items]
Colour Guides to Spring Flowers in 4 parts for different areas of the state. \$18.00 each [Contact Eddy Wajon for these items]
Shirts and Jackets Donna Wajon will be taking orders at the March meeting. Samples will be available. This only happens ONCE a year, so be ready to order if you want one/several items.

FIELD TRIPS FOR 2010

Plans are still being developed. If you have any particular preferences please contact Christine Lock or the newly elected Field Trip Coordinator

FIELD TRIP REPORTS (from end of 2009) 15th NOV: MT BARKER TO HAY RIVER

The cool clouds of the south coast gave way to a pleasant sunny morning in Mt Barker where a small group of members and one visitor searched for late orchids from 9:30am onwards. A robust group of Prasophyllum brownii (Christmas leek orchid) flower stems were emerging from their leaf sheaths, a late Caladenia lobata (Butterfly orchid) was holding on to life for our visit while Thelymitras crinita (Blue Lady orchid) and Th. benthamiana (Leopard orchid) were in full bloom, Diuris setacea (Bristly Donkey orchid) were just beginning their flower show and just before we sat down for morning tea, we found an excellent group of Microtis alba (White Mignonette orchid) hiding a very active ant's nest. Between finding the above there were many orchids having gone to seed, as with Prasophyllum elatum (Tall Leek orchid) and perhaps Pras. hians (Yawning Leek orchid) and a number of Thelymitra macrophylla (Scented Sun orchid).

11:30 am saw us heading south toward Denmark where we stopped at a swampy area. Here we found Microtis media subsp. media (Common Mignonette orchid) and Microtis alboviridis (Scented Mignonette orchid), Caladenia brownii (Karri Spider orchid), Lyperanthus serratus (Rattlebeak orchid), Caladenia serotina (Christmas Spider orchid), Elythranthera emarginata (Pink Enamel orchid) and a small colony of Prasophyllum drummondii (Swamp Leek orchid), thanks to the eagle eye of Gladys. By this time the need for food and refreshment was paramount so we made for Denmark. After a relaxing lunch the group headed for the Wilson Inlet where we found flowers of the Cryptostylis

ovata (Slipper orchid) Microtis media subsp. media (Common Mignonette orchid) and Caladenia attingens subsp. attingens (Forest Mantis orchid). There were numerous Thelymitra vulgaris (Slender Sun orchid) as well as - possibly - Thelymitra granitora (Coastal Sun orchid) plants in seed interspersed with some small Caladenia species in bud. Onward to Hay River where we walked the swamp in search of Epiblema grandiflorum supsp. grandiflorum (Babe-in-thecradle) to no avail but found Thelymitra crinita (Blue Lady orchid) instead. On a long track to the estuary we found Thelymitra paludosa (Plain Sun orchid) (about 80 cm high) awaiting sunshine and another blue Thelymitra, unidentified. Along the roadside were buds of Microtis media (Common Mignonette orchid) and a good colony of Caladenia corynephora (Club-lipped Spider orchid).

At each of the sites we visited there was one last remaining *Caladenia flava* (Cowslip orchid). At 4:15pm we parted from our successful day of orchid hunting.

Julie McKenzie

SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP END OF YEAR FIELD TRIP: ALBANY 19TH DECEMBER 2009

A warm sunny and blustery morning saw 7 members gather at Emu Point for a short end of year field trip. The nearby consolidated dunes were very dry leaving dozens of *Cryptostylis ovata* (Slipper orchid) leaves yellow and drying off. Only a limited number of stunted stalks with one or two open flowers and many more buds were found. Deeper into the dunes in shaded areas a clump of robust flowering plants were found. Further along under larger trees very hardy flowering stalks and buds were found as were many *Microtis media* ssp *media* (Common Mignonette).

Morning tea was had in the shade of trees near the beach with the luxury of a picnic bench. The year's events were revisited and discussed as were possible field trips for 2010.

Onto the suburb of McKail where Eileen brought us to a very degraded remnant bush with the most delightful display of over 100 Prasophyllum brownii (Christmas Leeks) in full bloom or in bud. A delightful sight to finish the year.

Anna De Haan

CHRISTMAS WINDUP - DENMARK

The weekend of 12/13 December could best be summarised in the immortal words of Sir Winston Churchill:

" Never have so many, travelled so far, to see so few."

Around 20 vehicles gathered opposite the hospital in Mt. Barker on a warm morning. Anna ran through the field trip protocols, the advised us that due to the dry season and early hot days, orchids were rather scarce and then she congratulated the prize winning photographer! We then walked through the burn area and only a few specimens of Diuris setacea (Bristly Donkey Orchid), Microtis alba (White Mignonette Orchid), Prasophyllum (Christmas Leek Orchid) Thelymitra fuscolutea (Chestnut Sun Orchid) were seen. We then gathered in the car park and the convoy was divided in half so as to avoid congesting the roads and to minimise our impact at the respective orchid sites. The two convoys left on their respective routes.

My group then returned to Denmark, where the metropolitan members were staying, and we went to "The Cove" Inlet Rd, boat ramp. After a cool walk through forest on what was developing into a very hot day, we arrived at the waters edge. Many specimens of *Cryptostylis ovata* (Slipper Orchid) were in flower. Also seen were *Caladenia radiata* (Ray Spider Orchid) but all had turned except for one. Apparently, the second group did not see these.

We then moved onto the gravel pit, north side of the South Coast Hwy. where we had a long lunch, as it was very hot by now and interest was waning. There appeared to be some confusion as to whether *Thelymitra tigrina* (Tiger Orchid) were flowering in the swamp area. Apparently they were.

We then proceeded to Pratt Rd. by the Hay Bridge. Fortunately Caladenia corynephora (Crab-lipped Spider Orchid) were in good condition and numbers. Also seen were Diuris emarginata (Late Donkey Orchid). Microtis media subsp media (Common Mignonette Orchid) and Microtis media subsp densiflora (Dense Mignonette Orchid). Across in the swamp which was dry, unlike last year, Epiblema grandiflorum (Babe-in-a-Cradle) and Thelymitra tigrina (Tiger Orchid). concluded orchid hunting for the day and we had an early afternoon finish.

That evening we all gathered at the Spencers for a lovely evening bbq with good food and company. Anna gave us a couple of options for Sunday (no orchids) and as it was forecast 38* it was unanimously decided to cancel the day. The evening was a success and thanks to

the Spencers for their hospitality

On Sunday half a dozen of us decided to drive Muirs Hwy and see what was in flower. One specimen of Thelymitra fuscoletea (Chestnut Sun Orchid) was in good condition near Blue Lake Rd. We went to Hiker Rd. but were blocked by a fallen tree. East of Rocky Gully 4 specimens of Caladenia radiata (Ray Spider Orchid) were in flower, but 200mts. west of where they flowered last year. In the swamps before Lake Muir we saw Diuris drummondii (Tall Donkey Orchid) and Diuris pauciflora (Swamp Donkey Orchid). West of Lake Muir were two Caladenia pholcoidea (Albany Spider Orchid) along the verge and some 10kms further west four more were in the late stages of flowering. The highlight of the day was a little west of Frosty Rd. where there were 20 -30 specimens of Paracaleana brockmanii (Brockman's Duck Orchid). It was incredible seeing these small flowers in full glory on an extremely hot day growing in white hot sand.. It was a fitting finale to our trip. lain McLean.

CONSERVATION ISSUES

The following is a copy of a letter sent by Eddy Wajon to the Melville City Council on behalf of the 'Friends of Ken Hurst Park' . If this were to come to fruition then members would be invited to join in the scientific study. This is the

Grant funding for orchid research project in Ken Hurst Park

Hi Deanne

It's taken us some time to discuss possible projects and grant applications because we generally go into a bit of a recess over summer. However, I have now had approval to proceed to the next step with our proposed research project.

The project we would like to undertake is to look at the reasons for the decline of Caladenia huegelii in Ken Hurst Park and compare it to the current healthy population at Jandakot Airport, looking at factors such as drying climate, falling water table, reducing soil moisture, loss of over story. It would follow on from the work done by Nigel Swarts as part of his Ph. D looking at the success of translocation and propagation of Caladenia huegelii in Ken Hurst Park adjacent to Roe Highway Stage 7. The current thoughts are that we would like to measure water tables and soil moisture levels near some orchid populations. What would the City of Melville

think about installing a monitoring bore in Ken Hurst Park, on a readily accessible track, or along Roe Highway close to the biggest

population of C. huegelii?

We've probably missed the deadline for the Community Environmental Grants Round 2 though there is likely to be a round 3, but that might be later than we want to commence for this coming orchid season. Are there any other grants that you're aware of that are still open for us to start by July 2010? I am aware that Lotteries West Grants are always open, so this might be a goer, but are there any City of Melville grants currently available?

Any help in applying for a grant would be welcome. Dr Eddy Wajon

TOODYAY ROADSIDE CLEARING

You will be pleased to know that the Minister for the Environment has finally taken heed of our complaint regarding the lack of community consultation by the Shire of Toodyay and the inadequate flora survey and offset proposal.

The Minister advised that the DEC has recently amended the Shire's Clearing Permit to include condition on communication The permit now requires the consultation. Shire to communicate and consult with the Toodyay Naturalist's Club Inc including providing details of all, proposed clearing activities and discussing options for road maintenance, that includes alternatives to clearing. We need to make sure that we are consulted by the Toodyay Naturalists Club and are asked by them to be their specialist advisors on orchids, so that we are invited to any meeting/workhop with the Shire of Toodyay.

The Minister also advised that the DEC is liasing with the Shire in relation to the matters we have raised. I have already been advised that our complaint that the Flora Survey was inadequate because it did not survey at the appropriate tine for Thelymitra stellata has been upheld and the Shire needs to conduct another survey at the appropriate time.

The DEC's investigation into the alleged illegal clearing is also nearing completion and that the evidence will be reviewed in accordance with DEC's Enforcement and Prosecution Policy. The Minister has asked the DEC's Vegetation Conservation Manager to contact me in the near future to discuss these matters.

I think this could be classified as a small win. Whether the environment will win in the long term remains to be seen.

Eddy Wajon Conservation Officer

	Raffle Roster	SPEAKERS 2010	
MAR		Andrew Brown - New Caladenia species	
APR		Kingsley Dixon	
MAY		Mark Brundrett	
JUNE		John Ewing – A Trip to South Australia	
JULY			
AUG			
SEPT			
OCT			
NOV		Photo competition and members slides	

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GEORGE MR A S

FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS To be advised