

**BULLETIN JUNE 2010**  
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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 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

**BULLETIN ARTICLES**

Please email any Bulletin contributions to

John Ewing at or

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

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## **FORTH COMING MEETINGS**

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

## **WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.

Meeting opened: 8:10 pm

**CIRCULATION OF REPORTS:** Attendance Book and Treasurers Report were circulated to the members

**ATTENDANCE:** 25 members present, 6 apologies and 4 visitors

**RAFFLE:** Kindly donated by Bill Burton & Sarah Atkinson

### **1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Amendments:

1. Noel Clarke: The minutes did not record that the Auditors Report put in the Bulletin did not include a breakdown of the report items.
2. Tom Blinco: General Business item #2 should have included the fact that there was some discussion amongst the General Meeting relating to the matter raised by Noel Clarke.

The General Meeting Minutes as distributed and amended as above are a true and correct record of the meeting of April 21<sup>st</sup> 2010.

Moved: Noel Clarke, Seconded Russell Thomas and carried.

### **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. As a continuation of the items raised by Noel Clarke at the previous General Meeting, Noel expressed his view that the Group should not be making any donations to conservation groups, such as the Conservation Council and that the Group should not be as active, or act in the manner, as it has on conservation issues of late. Jack Eborall expressed the view that the Committee have been entrusted to make decisions on how the Groups funds are used, and as long as the donation is reasonable he is supportive of the Committee decision to assist other groups with similar aims to WANOSCG.
2. The forms and payments for the Group shirts and jackets were collected and are now being processed.

### **3. CORRESPONDENCE**

The general correspondence list was not available on the night, and will be circulated at the next General Meeting.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE: nil**

### **5. FIELD TRIP REPORT:**

The dates for some of the forthcoming field trips were not correct in the Bulletin, and will be amended accordingly in the next Bulletin.

### **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. No other business was raised

### **7. PRESENTATION**

Kingsley Dixon gave a presentation on "Conserving WA Orchids in the Age of Extinction"

### **8. GROWERS TABLE**

Bill Burton exhibited a fine *Pterostylis vittata* specimen.

### **9. RAFFLE DRAW**

Kingsley Dixon drew the raffle and the winner was: Eric Swarts

**MEETING CLOSED: 9:20 pm**

**NEXT MEETING: 8.00 pm Wednesday June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

## **FIELD TRIPS**

The committee has endorsed the concept that there should be some differences to some of our field trips this year. It was announced at the April meeting that some trips will be 'search and find' trips. This means

- a) that on some trips we will be going to sites not usually visited by the club to find and document any orchids we discover at that site. Part of this will be revisiting the same nature reserve/s at different times during the year and perhaps over a number of years.
- b) to look for new populations of the rare and poorly known orchids by going to a known site and then spending the rest of the trip looking for a similar habitat in the general vicinity.
- c) going on a weekend trip to a central base, dividing into sub-groups of about 4 people on Saturday, with each group exploring different directions, to see what can be found. On Saturday night there is a collating of information (maybe even a slideshow) and on Sunday visit the most appealing site/s.

## **2010 PLANNED TRIPS**

Sunday JUNE 20<sup>th</sup> - meet at 10am at Mogumber Tavern ( on Moora Bindoon Road at corner of Mogumber Road West) (to see *T. apiculata* and then have 'search and find'. Also to find sites for various forms of Banded Greenhoods – *Pt. sanguinea* – see table in April bulletin)

[NOTE – check at June meeting for a weather report, since sun orchids need sun!!!]

JULY 24&25<sup>th</sup> – meet at corner of South Coast Highway and Mandalay Beach Road (Chrystal Springs) at 10.30am (to see South Coast Spider Orchid – *C. meridionalis* and many other things. Overnight stay in Denmark and visiting sites along Albany Highway on way home.)

AUGUST 14&15<sup>th</sup> – Meet at Visitors Centre in Wongan Hills (Railway Station, Wongan Road) at 10am. Over night in Wongan Hills.

AUGUST 28&29<sup>th</sup> – meet at Western Flora Caravan Park at 10am.

SEPTEMBER – Day trips in or near Perth on dates to be decided to build the data base information for the Metro area. There could be more than one location on any day.

SEPTEMBER 24-26<sup>th</sup> - Esperance. Meet at 12 midday in parking area on beachfront at corner of Norseman and Goldfields Road (Norseman Road is the main road into town –this corner is before you get into town – it has a fishing jetty right next to it.)

OCTOBER 23&24<sup>th</sup> - Collie and surrounds. Meet at 10am in Darkan at the War Memorial (on the Collie-Darkan Road) – overnight in Collie

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER – Christmas trip still to be decided.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### From the meeting

Margaret Petridis reported on finding both *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* (Leafless Orchid) and *Prasophyllum* sp 'early' (Scented Autumn Leek Orchid) in Redgate Road, *Eriochilus pulchellus* (Granite Bunny Orchid) at Cosy Corner and *Cryptostylis ovata* (Slipper Orchid) on Caves Road.

Don and Eva Smith reported finding *Leporella fimbriata* (Hare Orchid) and various Bunny Orchids near their property at Gidgegannup. Others made various reports on finds of Bunny Orchids

### Club trip to Corrigin : Sunday May 30th

An early start from Perth was the order of the day for those members attending this field trip. A small group of members met just east of Corrigin and proceeded to Kunjin Reserve where a few *Eriochilus dilatatus subsp undulatus* (Crinkle Leaf Bunny Orchid) were located close to the vehicles.

Further searching located two Hare Orchids (*Leporella fimbriata*) and just as hopes were fading of locating other orchids our new field

trip co-ordinator (Iain McLean) located the Winter Spider Orchid (*Caladenia drummondii*). A vigorous search of the area located a number of *C. drummondii* as well as a lone *Corunastylis tepperi* (Pygmy Orchid) which was in seed.

Returning to the cars a number of *E. dilatatus subsp undulatus* were located which had to be photographed before the group, which had increased by a visitor who is in Perth for a few months, headed off through Corrigin to Bendering Road. This site was selected as no one in the group had been there before and to our knowledge it was not on the data base of either the club or Florabase. So it was a 'shot in the dark' and a 'seek and find' mission.

On arrival, some members decided to eat lunch and others went to explore the surroundings. Whilst eating lunch one eagle eye spotted a *C. drummondii* just on the edge of the lunch circle. (This 'eagle eye' was the writer of this article - Ed.) This inspired others who quickly found a large number of *C. drummondii*, including a mutant with two flowers on the same stem, a light almost lutea form and a beautiful light coloured orange form.

Further spotting located a number of *E. dilatatus subsp undulatus* in seed and a *C. Drummondii* which was happily growing in moss on a large rock (Also by the same 'eagle eye' - Ed). That all these species were managing to survive in such a harsh, dry environment is a testament to the remarkable ability of the orchid family to adapt to all conditions.

After one further stop where nothing was located members then headed back to home after a very fruitful day and credit goes to our new field trip co-ordinator on a job well done.

Kevin Uhe

(Photos in electronic version – see Pg 9)

### FROM FRANCE - Etienne Delanoy

Dear WANOSCG members,

A few months after my return to France, it's finally peak orchiding time in the south of France and I've been enjoying some nice orchid trips around Marseille but also in Corsica.



The first orchids to flower (*Himantoglossum robertianum* and *Ophrys lupercalis*) were fairly late this year because of a long, cold and wet winter. So I had to wait until the beginning of March to see my first European orchids since 2006.

But it was not until mid-April that I did my first big orchid trip of the year.

I went to Corsica, a French island in the Mediterranean sea, to look for species which are not present or much rarer on the main land. I arrived in Bastia on the north east coast of Corsica early on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April in the overnight ferry from Toulon. I spent the first day in the top end of Corsica where I could see a big difference in flowering between elevated sites (over 1000m above the sea level) where it was just beginning and low land sites which were just past their prime. I saw a lot of *Anacamptis papilionacea* very abundant in Corsica but very rare on the main land. I also saw several *Ophrys* species from the *fusca* group: *O. lupercalis*, *O. zonata*, *O. peraiolae*, *O. funerea*, *O. lupercalis*. The differences are as tenuous as the ones between *Caladenia* of the *varians* group. Another main finding of the day was *Orchis pauciflora*. I camped overnight (very cold night!) in Central Corsica and the next day I explored a few mountain sites but it was a bit too early and then I drove to the main orchid area of Corsica, around Bonifacio at the bottom end of the island. I spent 2 days there where the sites were past their prime but I could still find a lot of things like *Gennaria diphylla*, *Ophrys Corsica*, *annae*, *morisii*, *praecox*, *incubacea*, *bombyliflora*, *neglecta*... and even my own site of *O. ciliata* the star of *Ophrys* species. On the 5<sup>th</sup> day, I drove up to Ajaccio on the west coast to catch the mid-afternoon ferry back to Toulon. On the way I could see various *Serapias* including *S. neglecta* which is restricted to Corsica and Provence.

Overall this trip was good with 30 orchid species including 9 new ones for me.

Ten days later I was part of a day trip of the Provence branch of the Societe Francaise d'Orchidophilie (SFO; there are 14 branches) in the Estaque just west of Marseille. A couple of locals lead more than 30 orchid hunters on their favourite sites. It was peak flowering time and orchids were seen by the thousands. We saw once again *O. ciliata* but the stars of the day were *O. aurelia*, a protected species but locally very abundant and the beautiful *O. splendida*. This day we saw 14 species and a few hybrids.

May is peak orchiding time in the south of France and I'm spending all my week ends orchid hunting. I miss *Caladenias* and other WA orchids but I realise that I was also missing European orchids and I'm very happy to see them again.



*s. neglecta*



*S. splendida*



*Or pauciflora*

**FROM NSW – Margaret Bradhurst  
CHILOGLOTTIS ORCHIDS OF SOUTHERN  
SYDNEY**

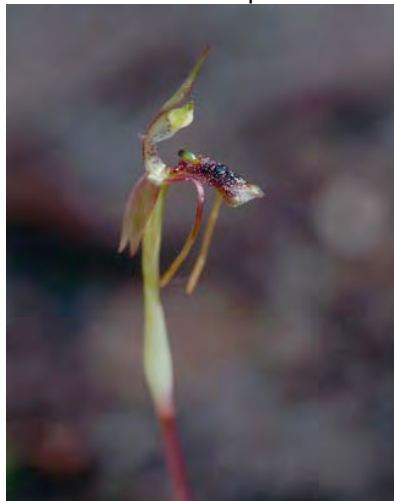
Living in Sutherland Shire in Southern Sydney, I am very fortunate to be close to several national parks and bushland reserves, so there is usually some species of orchid to be found in flower throughout the year.

In autumn I look out for *Chiloglottis* orchids (also known as wasp or ant orchids). They can form quite large colonies and have pairs of elliptic leaves about 3cm long. There are usually many more leaves than flowers, and it takes some searching to actually find a flowering plant. The flowering stem is between 4 and 7 cm tall and because of its colour can be quite difficult to spot amongst the leaf litter. The labellum dominates the flower and the narrow lateral sepals point downwards and end in an apical club. There are at least two species of autumn flowering *Chiloglottis* in my area, and each has its own distinctive arrangement of glands and calli on the labellum and each has its own specific thynnine wasp pollinator. The male wasp is attracted by the orchid's pheromone and attempts to mate with the labellum. After pollination the stem can elongate to 10cm or more and this is an aid to seed dispersal.

Another species, pictured below, *Chiloglottis formicifera* (Common Ant Orchid) is spring-flowering. Its labellum is trapeze-shaped and the callus, which covers much of the surface resembles an ant (hence the common name).



Here are two other species



*Chiloglottis diphylla*  
Common Wasp Orchid



*Chiloglottis seminuda*  
Turtle Orchid



## CONSERVATION ISSUES FROM ANOS NEWCASTLE

### *Genoplesium baueri*

I have not received any reports of occurrence of this orchid in our area.

I have examined a few likely areas with orchids being found but not *G. baueri*. Areas searched include Anna Bay powerlines, Kurri, Myuna Bay and Glenrock SRA.

The Anna Bay powerline (location of *Diuris praecox*) now has the new line in place.



The track has been firmed with packing and compacted, so the boggy holes have been removed. The damage was kept to a minimum. We will be able to see the effects on the orchid populations this spring.

No orchid leaves were seen in this area in late April.

The area of line containing the greatest number of *Diuris arenaria* still is to have the new poles and lines put in place. The newly created stretch of line has been completed with little evidence of disturbance observed. All the poles have been erected and there are none left on the ground. Small plants of *D. arenaria* were beginning to emerge as well as some *Caladenias*.

Myuna Bay had numerous orchid leaves appearing including *Acianthus*, *Pterostylis*, *Thelymitra* and a late spike of *Cryptostylis subulata* which had just withered, as well as several flowering plants of *Ptst. Obtusa* (below).



In a burnt area at Kurri flowering plants of *Ptst. acuminata*, *Ptst. reflexa* (below) and *Ptst. parviflora* var. *parviflora* were observed.



Several finished, fruiting plants of *Genoplesium* will encourage us to revisit this area next year, at an earlier time.

Another couple of members looked around Glenrock SRA for *G. baueri*, without success. Local areas where the *Genoplesium* has been found in the past will be re-examined next year.

Thanks to Dick Thompson, ANOS Victoria and John Ewing, WANOSCG for information about the *Genoplesium/ Corunastylis* group.

Dougall Herd  
Conservation Officer  
ANOS Newcastle Group



## SPECIAL FEATURE



Luda Korczynskij with her winning piece.

Ceramics artist Luda Korczynskij won the overall award at the recent City of Gosnells Community Art Exhibition and Awards held at Centro Maddington Shopping Centre. Her piece *Orchidaceae*, inspired by the beauty and fragility of WA orchids, also won the three dimensional category. Ms Korczynskij won \$5000, which included the acquisition of her piece by the City.

"This year, the exhibition attracted a great range of artworks and the overall award winning piece is a positive addition to the City's collection," Mayor Olwen Searle said.

(Article and photo courtesy of Community Newspaper Group)

## MEMBER PROFILE The Thomas family

Russell, Kristine, Sophie and Freya have been members since November 2008. Since that time they have been regulars both on club field trips and in attendance at monthly meetings.



(Freya was asleep and didn't make the photo). Russell and Kristine are both teachers, having started careers in the country and meeting at Nyabing Primary.

Russell's first interest in orchids came as a child from walking in King's Park with his grandmother and looking at spider orchids.

A few years ago, he and Kristine had gone to the Stirling Range Retreat to be part of a bird watching group. While there they saw an orchid video and decided to go for a wander in the bush and 'find their own' and they were very successful. That was the start!

In early November 2008 they were out at Qualen Road and met Ross and Margaret Fox, where their 'eyes met over a Leopard Orchid'. By the end of that month they were members of WANOSGC.

Russell's favourite orchid is 'the last one I saw', but apart from that he can't choose from the more than 150 caladenias. At least Kristine restricts her favourites to Snail Orchids and to *Caladenia roei* (Clown Orchid). Sophie's favourite is *Caladenia drummondii*, and in particular the plant she personally found that was taken to go to the herbarium ('museum' for Sophie) as the species identification from Bendaring Road. (Can you see the flower next to her right foot?)



Russell's favourite orchid hunting place near Perth is Qualen Road, and he gave a report about finds out there during one of last year's meetings. Kristine is keen on the Tenterden area where they have found 'lots of good stuff'. On her wish list is to see *C. melanema* (Ballerina Spider Orchid). Russell's wish list, like his favourite list, is 'too lengthy to enumerate', but includes the Northampton and Kalbarri areas (He couldn't even have ONE area, let alone one orchid). He hopes he might get there this year.

As parents, Russell and Kristine do a great job with their children, and in addition, Sophie is already an 'orchider' in her own right.

	<b>Raffle Roster</b>	<b>SPEAKERS 2010</b>
<b>MAR</b>	Ramon Newmann	Andrew Brown - New Caladenia species
<b>APR</b>	Donna Wajon	Ramon Newmann – slides from 2009
<b>MAY</b>	Bill Burton and Sarah Atkinson	Kingsley Dixon Conservation ‘in situ’
<b>JUNE</b>	Christine Lock	Mark Brundrett Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue programme 2009/10
<b>JULY</b>		John Ewing – Orchids of South Australia
<b>AUG</b>		
<b>SEPT</b>		
<b>OCT</b>		
<b>NOV</b>		Photo competition and members slides

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**FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

**June 20<sup>th</sup> Mogumber**  
**July 24&25<sup>th</sup> Walpole and Denmark**  
**August 14&15<sup>th</sup> Wongan Hills**  
**August 28&29<sup>th</sup> Eneabba**  
**September – various around Perth and environs**  
**September 24,25&26<sup>th</sup> Esperance**  
**October 23&24<sup>th</sup> Collie and environs**





***C. drummondii* in moss on rock**



**'Pale' *C. drummondii***



**Mutant *drummondii***