



West Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group

June 2014 Bulletin

Two New Life Members!

At the May General Meeting, two long time members of WANOSCG, Christine Lock and Noel Hoffman, were conferred the honour of Life Membership for their services to the group.

Christine joined WANOSCG in 1987 and has fulfilled many roles in WANOSCG over the years including 4 as President from 2007-2010. Noel is best known for co-authoring "The Bible", Orchids of South-West Australia and his beautiful photographs. More details inside the bulletin. Congratulations and well deserved!

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- Trip List

Flowering in June

- The last of many Bunny species
- Winter Spider
- Early Donkey orchids
- Prasophyllum parvifolium
- Pterostylis Greenhood species
- Pterostylis Shell species
- Thelymitra apiculata



L-R: Noel Hoffman, Christine Lock and Jay Steer



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General Meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through November, at the BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park

WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, 21st May 2014

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.
Meeting opened: 7:40 PM

CIRCULATION OF REPORTS: Attendance Book and Treasurer's Report and Conservation Officer's report were circulated to the members

ATTENDANCE: 53 members present 10 apologies 2 visitors

RAFFLE: Kindly donated by George and Urszula Kosinski

The President welcomed all members and visitors to this special 40th year celebratory meeting.

1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Moved: Eddy Wajon Seconded: Noel Hoffman That the minutes of the 16th April 2014 General Meeting, as published in the May 2014 Bulletin, are a true and correct record of that meeting. carried

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 2.1 *Donna's Updated Sighting Sheets:* These were distributed with the May bulletin.
- 2.2 *Rosters:* Members were asked to fill the remaining positions on the roster sheets.
- 2.3 *Membership Fees:* Members were reminded that if fees are not received by the end of May then, as per our constitution, nonfinancial members will not receive the June bulletin.
- 2.4 *Photo Competition:* The size of photos for both competitions can be A4, 10" x 8" or 6" x 4" and photos may be mounted if entrants wish.
- 2.5 *Survey for *Rhizanthella gardneri* in potential habitat near Ravensthorpe:* Members were reminded that if they are interested in taking part in this survey they should contact Eddy Wajon. The rationale for this survey was published in the May bulletin.
- 2.6 *ADORP:* Kim reminded members that they should contact him if they had any information about his ADORP orchid *Caladenia caesarea subsp. transiens*, particularly if they were aware of any likely new locations. Kim also let the members know that the Albany Conservation Officer would like the club to help document *Caladenia bryceana subsp. bryceana* in the Albany region.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period 1st Feb 2014 to 30th April 2014
The Treasurer's report was circulated to members with the attendance book. Marina informed the members that as expected the biggest item of expenditure for the period was the cost of printing the 40th year book. Prior to the May general meeting 93 annual memberships

had been renewed and eighty one 40th year books had been distributed.

	31 st March to 30 th April	1 st Feb to 30 th April
Income	\$ 2687.	\$ 4097.
Expenditure	\$ 6175.17	\$ 7794.57

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Mail received for the period 17th April 2014 to 21st May 2014

Inward correspondence:

Various electronic and hardcopies of newsletters and bulletins from other Orchids groups

Payment of membership fees and for the 40th year book – cheques and electronic receipts

4.1 *Anna de Haan (17/05/2014)* Re: Details of the Southern Rivers Group AGM

4.2 *Christine Lock (15/05/2014)* Re: Excel Spreadsheet for replacement of items in First Aid Boxes

4.3 *Vanessa Westcott (15/05/2014)* Re: Dates for Eurardy Survey – 29th Aug to 1st Sept inclusive.

4.4 *Christine Lock (10/05/2014)* Re: Report on First Aid Kit refurbishment

4.5 *Andrew Brown (8/05/2014)* Re: Article on Bill Jackson and Walpole Eriochilus trip.

4.6 *Urszula Kokosinska (28/04/2014)* Re: Arrangements for the 40th Year Supper and celebrations

4.7 *Bob Bates (25/04/2014)* Re: Trip to attend the 2014 Mount Hagen Sing Sing. (For more details please contact Jay.)

4.8 *Paul Winthrop (25/04/2014)* Re: Applications for Natural Resource Management Project grants close Friday 20 June.

4.9 *Kevin Thiele (23/04/2014)* Re: Happy to give a presentation on the WA Herbarium in July

4.10 *Prof Doug Gill (21/04/2014)* Re: Best time to visit WA to see our orchids.

4.11 *Rod Shoesmith (20 & 23/4/14)* Re: 20th Australian Orchid Council Conference and Show 18 - 23 Sept in Mackay Qld (Ask Jay for details if interested)

4.12 *Police and Nurses* Re: Renewal of term deposit

4.13 *Bankwest* Re: Renewal of term deposit

Business Arising from Correspondence:

4.14 *Walpole Weekly:* Copies of the articles in the Walpole Weekly on Bill Jackson and his orchid and a report on the WANOSCG Walpole Field trip were tabled. Members wanting a copy of these articles should contact Jay.

4.15 *NRM Project:* dealt with in General Business.

5. FIELD TRIPS:

5.1 Margaret Petridis reported that the May Walpole field trip was very successful (about 30 members attended). The trip was reported in the Walpole Weekly. Orchids seen on the trip include: the Leafless orchid (*Praecoxanthus aphyllus*), the Hare Orchid (*Leporella fimbriata*) and several species of Bunny Orchids (*Eriochilus*).

- 5.2 Margaret outlined the forthcoming field trips as set out in the May bulletin. An email with details will be sent to members before the June meeting.
- 5.3 Members were asked to seek out new locations for the Winter Spider Orchid (*Caladenia drummondii*) and report their finds to Margaret and the registrar.
- 5.4 No field trip is planned for June. Members wishing to look for new locations for Cleopatra's Needles (*Thelymitra apiculata*) should email Kim Hanson who has put together a list of likely areas.

Personal Field Trips:

- Members were reminded to complete personal field trip report forms and give them to the secretary so as to help him record where and what orchids you have seen. Further to this members were reminded to complete Donna's Orchid sighting report forms and forward them to the Registrar.
- 5.6 *Marina Karyagina*: reported seeing Hare Orchids at Warwick Open Space.
 - 5.7 *Mark Brundrett*: Crinkle-leafed Bunny Orchid – *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *Undulates*, Location?
 - 5.8 *Clive Pegler*: saw *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus* – Common Bunny Orchid, Location?
 - 5.9 *Eddy Wajon*: saw *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *Magnus*, stopping at a random spot along the South Western Highway on the way back from the Walpole trip.
 - 5.10 *Ross Fox*: saw 30 *Eriochilus tenuis* – Slender Bunny Orchid, Fernhill
 - 5.11 *Eric Swartz*: saw Numerous *Eriochilus* species, Peaceful bay on Bibbulmun track
 - 5.12 *Bob Steer*: saw *Eriochilus valens* – Red-lipped Bunny Orchid and many *Caladenia* and *Cyanicula* leaves, Railway Rd, Walpole.
 - 5.13 *Margaret Petridis and Jeanette Wheatley* continued on from the Walpole trip going to Toolina Cove on the Great Australian Bight where they saw the Eastern Bunny (*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *orientalis*). Margaret gave the members a very entertaining short presentation of their trip.

CONSERVATION REPORT:

The president presented the Conservation Officer's May report which earlier had been circulated with the attendance book.

- 6.1 *Wubin-Mullewa road clearing and widening*: Tim Hodgkins has contacted Andrew Brown for comment. It appears that DPaW has an input into this as some areas contain rare and priority flora. However although this road passes through several areas of natural bushland that contain orchids Andrew is unaware of any rare orchids being impacted.
- 6.2 *Plan to identify bushland with significant or rich orchid populations with the view of nominating them as a nature reserve at some point in the future*. At the April meeting the members expressed the view that this was a worthwhile goal. In order to pursue this objective Tim will need more support from members. Anyone interested in becoming part of a sub-committee should contact Tim.

- 6.3 *Ravensthorpe Heavy Haulage By-pass Route*: Main Roads is investigating options for this route. The favoured route north of the town passes through *Melaleuca hamata* thicket which Eddy thinks is potential habitat for *Rhizanthella gardneri*. (See May bulletin for Eddy Wajon's article.)
- 6.4 *Fracking in the Mid-West Region*: Concerns that fracking may damage water tables in the Dongara region were discussed and it was suggested that we should liaise with the CCWA on this matter. The view that it might already be too late to influence any decisions on fracking was expressed.
- 6.5 *Kalbarri National Park*: There have been reports of mass deaths of plants in the western side of Kalbarri National Park.

7. ITEM OF SPECIAL GENERAL BUSINESS

Election of Life members as per the WANOSCG constitution section 10:

HONORARY MEMBER –

- A) The members at a properly constituted General or Special Meeting may on the recommendation of the Management Committee appoint Honorary Life Members in recognition of meritorious services rendered to the Group.

The president put the following two motions:

- 1) On behalf of the committee I would like to move that the members at this meeting appoint **Noel Hoffman** to the position of Honorary Life Member of WANOSCG.

The motion was seconded by Eric Swartz. Jay Steer spoke to the motion (a transcript will appear in the June Bulletin) and Alex George supported the comments. The members voted unanimously to accept **Noel Hoffman** as an Honorary Life Member of WANOSCG.

- 2) On behalf of the committee I would like to move that the members at this meeting appoint **Christine Lock** to the position of Honorary Life Member of WANOSCG.

The motion was seconded by Eric Swartz. Jay Steer spoke to the motion (a transcript will appear in the June Bulletin) and Mark Brundrett supported and added to the comments. The members voted unanimously to accept **Christine Lock** as an Honorary Life Member of WANOSCG.

Both recipients thanked the members for bestowing on them the honour of being appointed a Life Member. The President then signed certificates and presented them to Noel and Christine.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 8.1 *Natural Resource Management Project grants*: A number of members have enquired whether WANOSCG were going to apply for a Natural Resource Management Project grant in 2014. The matter was discussed at the May Committee meet-

ing and it was felt that there was not enough time to put up a project this year as the closing date was 20 June. To put forward a creditable application the club firstly needed to agree on a project and secondly find a sponsor (and/or an ABN number). It was suggested that WANOSCG should however agree on a suitable project for future applications and investigate the other requirements for a successful application. Eddy Wajon pointed out that when the club undertook the Wheat Belt Project WANOSCG had an ABN number and that it may still be valid. It was suggested that a potential project might come out of the investigations being made into "finding an Orchid rich area to nominate as a reserve". The club will need to set up a sub-committee to look at this idea.

8.2 Five Year Plan: The committee is planning to look at what progress has been made with respect to WANOSCG's Five Year Plan with the view of re-focussing and potentially revising the plan.

8.3 Orchid taxonomy in Australia needs to lift its game: Mark Brundrett alerted members to a recent article by Kevin Thiele in Australian Systematic Botany Society Newsletter (March 2014) entitled "orchid taxonomy in Australia needs to lift its game".

9. GROWER'S TABLE

Nothing was brought in this month.

10. PRESENTATION

Eric Swarts gave a scintillating presentation befitting of our 40th Year celebratory meeting.

He took us on a Tasmanian orchid trip starting south of Hobart, progressing along the east coast to Launceston, then across to Smithton and ending partway down the west coast. It was obvious to all present that there are many very colourful and interesting orchids in Tasmania.

RAFFLE DRAW

Drawn by Eric Swarts – the winner being Bernie Sangster.

SUPPER

Supper was a sumptuous affair organised by Urszula Kokosinska with the 40th anniversary cake supplied by Sarah Atkinson. The cake featured a delicious photo of Queen of Sheba (most probably *Thelymitra pulcherrima*).

MEETING CLOSED: 9:45 pm

NEXT MEETING:

7:30 pm Wednesday 18th June 2014



Meeting photos by Eddy Wajon and Don Ward



Life Members

Christine Lock

Christine first joined WANOSCG in 1987 and since then she has accumulated an outstanding record of service to the club. One only has to look at the appendix in the back of the 40th year book to see that Christine's name is listed over and over again year after year. She has represented WANOSCG in 19 significant positions spread over no less than 15 different years and I am sure that there are many other roles that she has performed that are not listed. I would like to point out to you that Christine served the club as:

Treasurer in 97 and 98; Field trip Coordinator in 02, 03, 04; Vice President in 2005, 2006; President in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and Registrar in 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14. She has also been a WANOSCG Conservation council rep on a number of occasions.

Although I am relative new comer to WANOSCG I have been lucky enough to see firsthand Christine's outstanding contribution to some highly innovative and significant projects. I would like to briefly mention two such projects that stood out for me. Firstly Christine as president oversaw, the Lottery West Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project. This proved not only to be an astounding conservation initiative but it also created a sizable financial buffer for the club. Secondly Christine championed the establishment of the Southern Rivers Group. This extended WANOSCG's underlying values and commitment across the tyranny of distance to orchid lovers on the South Coast. Each of these projects has left a legacy that has strengthened the club's future, albeit in different ways.

Christine so richly deserves her appointment as a Life member.

I would like the members to join me in thanking Christine for what she has done for "WANOSCG"

Noel Hoffman

In his page in the 40th Year book, Noel describes that he, like so many of us, became interested in orchids at a young age. Noel goes on to describe that ever since the advent of affordable motor vehicles, in the late 1950s, there has been a growing interest in understanding and describing the rich tapestry of orchids of SW Australia.

Early on Noel saw the importance of keeping a photographic record of the orchids that he had seen. With discipline and perseverance Noel honed his photographic skills and by the early 80s he had amassed an extensive photographic record of the orchids of South Western Australia.

The lack of an orchid book that adequately illustrated the growing number of recently recognised WA orchids was

proving to be a stumbling block for many budding orchid enthusiasts. Noel, seeing the need for such a book, joined forces with Andrew Brown publishing the first edition of Orchids of South West Australia in 1984. The rest, is as they say, just history.

For the next three decades the words "Hoffman and Brown" have become synonymous with the name of the Bible, that

we in WANOSCG, and for that matter any serious orchid enthusiast, follows. The 144 orchids originally photographically illustrated and described in the 1984 edition swelled over several editions to 440 in the 2011 edition.

The contribution that Noel's book has made to our club is immeasurable. In short it is the stuff of legends.

Noel's service to the club does not end there. Noel has also served on WANOSCG committees as Secretary (80, 81) and as a committee member (84). Finally Noel, to our combined benefit, is always happy to share his orchid knowledge before, during or after a meeting.

Thankyou Noel you truly deserve a place amongst the other legends of our club.

I would like the members to join me in thanking Noel for what he has done for "WANOSCG"

Life Members

Andrew Brown
Bill Burton
Noel Clarke
Herb Foote*
Alex George
Roy Hargreaves*
Ron Heberle*
Noel Hoffman
Gloria Jackson
Christine Lock
Harry Lodge*
Jean Long
Don Voigt*
Ross Wilton*
Beryl Yates*



L-R: Noel Hoffman, Christine Lock and Jay Steer

**SOUTHER RIVERS BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT
2013**

One heavy storm at the beginning of the 2013 season gave us hope of a bountiful season. Alas, it was not to be. The usual range of early orchids was found in the first two field trips of the season around the Albany hinterland and northwards to the Stirling Ranges. Orchids appeared in small numbers, then all became dry and stayed unusually warm. Our third trip to the Lowlands/Denmark area in mid June resulted in a wide range of orchid species being found, though the number of orchids was small. On a positive note, the Munda Biddi Track opened up “new” orchid sites in consolidated dunes.

The successful photo presentation night doubled as the AGM at Trevor and Jeans home. All who attended indeed had a very pleasant evening. Shortly afterwards a number of members became grey nomads and headed north, no doubt visiting many an orchid site on the way. Thus, the following field trips northwards to the Stirling Ranges and eastwards to Cape Riche were long in distance and limited in club member numbers as well as limited in the number of orchids being found, both in range of species and numbers found due to the unusual weather patterns. Last year’s fire through the Moates Lagoon area did not result in the expected abundance of orchids either.

2013 concluded in a successful short field trip to a local golf course just before Christmas, followed by a shared lunch beside Oyster Harbour, bringing the field trips for the season to a close.

I wish to thank everyone for their support throughout the year and adding to the strength of the collective knowledge of the branch.

Eight field trips throughout the year had a total of 56 members plus two visitors.

One participated in 8 trips;

One participated in 7 trips;

One participated in 6 trips;

Five participated in four club trips;

Three participated in three club trips;

Two participated in two field trips and

Four participated in one field trip.

Branch Convenor

**SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
DATE: 17th May 2014**

Meeting held at: Crusoe Beach, Denmark

Meeting opened: 10.40am

ATTENDANCE: 9 members present 8 apologies 0 visitors

The meeting was chaired by Peter Mc Cauley

1. PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Amendments: Nil

The Annual General Meeting Minutes as distributed are a true and correct record of the meeting of 2013.

Moved: Julie Mc Kenzie Seconded: Pat Bracknell and carried.

2. ELECTIONS

Peter Mc Cauley was nominated as the Returning Officer for the Committee elections.

Southern Rivers Group

Position	Nominee	Moved	Seconded	Action
Branch Convenor	Anna de Haan	Pat Bracknell	Maggie Whittle	All in agreement
Assistant Branch Convenor	Julie Mc Kenzie	Anna de Haan	Maggie Whittle	All in agreement
Branch Field Trip Coordinator	Maggie Whittle and Tanya Barnett	Anna de Haan	Pat Johns	All in agreement

AGM CLOSED: 10.55am

NEXT MEETING: First club meeting 2015



Pterostylis rogersii by Maggie Whittle

SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP FIELD TRIP REPORT

Albany Wind Farm 7th June 2014

On a glorious winters morning 22 SRG branch members and visitors met at the Wind Farm to search for *Pterostylis* orchids. Using the Bibbulmun Track as easy access through the coastal scrub we were soon on our way.

Our first sighting was of *Pterostylis rogersii* (Curled-tongue Shell), an individual plant which gave everyone the motivation to find more.

Many more indeed were

seen, some as individual isolated plants whilst others were in small colonies.

The next sighting was of *Pterostylis* sp. 'coastal' (Coastal banded greenhood), tall, robust and very deep green. Smaller, shorter and more greyish and light green *Pt. vittata* (Banded greenhood) plants were seen too. This leads onto our next species. Although "the books" state that *Pt. sp. 'crowded'* (Crowded banded greenhood) does not grow as far south as Albany, the crowded deep green of the plants left us all asking questions about the *Pt. vittata* complex.

Large colonies of *Cyrtostylis robusta* (Mosquito orchid) were in bud where we turned around for the return walk. Our last sighting for the morning was *Prasophyllum* sp. 'early' (Scented Autumn Leek). Many were in tight bud with only a few in flower.

For some lucky members the bonus of watching dolphins surfing the waves below really made the morning a perfect field trip. Plans were made for the next two field trips due west, whilst eating lunch out of the breeze beside Princess Royal Harbour.

Anna de Haan



Pterostylis sp 'crowded' by Peter McCauley



Albany Wind Farm by Maggie Whittle

An Alignment of Western Australian *Diuris* and *Pterostylis* names

by Andrew Brown

The article has been updated and is attached to the bulletin separately.

Three new species of *Pterostylis nana* named

by Kevin Uhe

As mentioned by Chris French in his informative talk at the April meeting he and David Jones are naming a number of new species in the *Pt nana* complex.

In the latest edition of the Australian Orchid Review they have named another three nanas. *Pterostylis erubescens* is the new name for *Pt sp* 'red flowered' as illustrated in Brown et al on page 365. The type specimen is at the Milneanup Coast Rd and distribution is from Perth to Albany. It is named from the Latin *erubescens* meaning reddening or blushing in reference to the light red colouring on the upper parts of the flowers.

Pterostylis sp 'karri' is now known as *Pterostylis karri* as illustrated in Brown et al as *Pt sp* 'karri forest'. The type is from Johnston Road south of Mandurah and is named after the Karri tree which dominates the usual habitat of this species.

Pterostylis telmata is the new name for *Pterostylis sp* 'Cape Arid' as illustrated in Brown et al on page 354. The type specimen is from Yaks Swamp which is east of Frenchmans Peak. It grows in swampy areas and is often found standing in water. It is named after the Greek *telmatos* which means standing water, pool or marsh in reference to habitat that the orchid grows in.

All of the above have affinity to *Pterostylis pyramidalis* in having tall scapes and lacking a distinct rosette. .



FIELD TRIP UPDATE

The current field trip list is on the last page. For any further information contact **Margaret Petridis**, Field Trip Co-ordinator , on [REDACTED]

MAY/JUNE

Members are encouraged to search for new locations for the **Winter Spider (Caladenia drummondii)** to add to our database during May and June.

This orchid has been found over a large range from Lake King to Nerren Nerren Station, north east of Kalbarri.

It grows in Mallee shrublands and Eucalyptus open woodlands in clay soils and also laterite.

If you are venturing east and north/south east of Perth, stop and look for it. It will be very exciting to find new locations within it's known range and even better, outside of it.

Please advise our Registrar, Christine Lock of any locations you find. [REDACTED]

JUNE

The Committee has decided not to have a group field trip in June.

However, we encourage members to head north during this month to search for new locations of **Thelymitra apiculata (Cleopatra's Needles)**.

This orchid is 'found between Mogumber and Eneabba, growing amongst low shrubs on the top of low lateritic hills' (Field Guide to the Orchids of Western Australia)

The early flowering **Diuris perialla** may also be found in the area.

Any interested members should contact Kim Hanson [REDACTED] for suggested areas to search. Once you are familiar with the orchid's preferred habitat, stop and explore any similar areas you come across.

Please advise our Registrar of any locations of these orchids for inclusion in our database.

JULY

SUNDAY 27TH JULY: FIELD TRIP SOUTH

To Johnston and Bagieau Rds off the Perth Bunbury Freeway; Eaton and Bunbury for *Pterostylis* species.

Meet at 9.30am on Johnston Rd. We will search in the bushland within 500m of the corner.

AUGUST

9TH/10TH AUGUST: KALBARRI

To coastal gorges area, Z-Bend and locations along Ajana Rd, including the large burn south of Ajana Rd.

16TH – 23RD AUGUST: NORTH/EAST CAMPING TRIP (FULL)

8 DAY CAMPING TRIP to Perenjori/Paynes Find/Southern Cross and more with Andrew Brown.

29TH AUGUST – 1ST SEPTEMBER: EURARDY STATION SURVEYS (FULL)

4 days of survey work with Bush heritage at Eurardy Station on North West Coastal highway

30TH /31ST AUGUST: POSSIBLE GROUP FIELD TRIP

Any members with suggestions of places to go and anyone interested in leading a field trip for members, please contact the Field Trip Co-ordinator: **Margaret Petridis** [REDACTED]

SEPTEMBER

13TH/14TH SEPTEMBER: BOYUP BROOK

Search areas around Boyup Brook for the **Caladenia sp. 'Keninup'**, **Caladenia dorrienii** and any other *Caladenia* species.

Any members with knowledge of promising locations in this area, please forward them onto the Field Trip Co-ordinator to assist in planning the weekend.

27TH/28TH SEPTEMBER: BANJUP BURN

Search the large burnt areas south of Armadale Rd, particularly in wet swampy habitat for **Diuris purdiei** and **Prasophyllum sp. 'striped'** amongst others. We will be liaising and co-ordinating with Andrew Brown and DPaW staff in this project to maximise coverage of the area and minimise habitat disturbance.

CORRIGIN AND BEYOND 31ST MAY TO 2ND JUNE 2014

On the way to Corrigin to see *Rhizanthella gardneri* with Andrew Brown, a quick stop at Williams Rd saw *Pterostylis hamiltonii* and sp. 'inland' in flower. A small group of members then met Andrew near Corrigin and went in to look for the *Rhizanthella*. Robin Campbell and two interested visitors from Corrigin also joined us, with Andrew's permission.

Andrew located and partly uncovered a specimen in a known location to show us the orchid and a flurry of photography ensued. Kim Rowcliffe was very excited to find a new specimen for Andrew and took many photos of it. A mature specimen was then spotted poking up through the leaf litter under a marked tree. We all had the opportunity to photograph it in situ before Andrew partly excavated it for more photographs of the composite head of the plant.



After this, Andrew carefully replaced the soil around the flower and leaf litter on the surface and we left the area.

We were all very pleased and excited to see this rare and endangered orchid, and thank Andrew for giving us the opportunity.



Rhizanthella gardneri partially uncovered

Following this, we moved further into the reserve and found *Caladenia drummondii* and *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp *undulatus* in flower before having lunch. Large populations of *Pterostylis scabra* were also in the area, with a few buds, and buds/flowers of *Pt. sanguinea* were found.

After lunch, we explored north of the track and found *Pt. scabra* in flower, including a patch of pale flowers. *C. drummondii*, *Pt. 'rufa'* leaves, and *Corunastylis tepperi* in seed were also seen.

Some members, including Andrew, left us here and a small group then headed out to Pitman's farm in search of *Rhizanthella* and *C. drummondii*. We did not find *Rhizanthella*, noting differences in the soil and leaf litter compared to that in Kunjin NR. We did, however, find a population of 15 plants of *C. drummondii* in open mallee woodland, which included an unusual pale flower with a pink labelum, yellow tepal tips and pink and green column.

Also in the area were some large clumps of *Pterostylis sargentii* in bud, *Pt. 'rufa'*, *sanguinea* and *scabra* in leaf and *Corunastylis tepperi* in seed.

Some members stayed overnight in Corrigin and we met at the hotel that night for a delicious evening meal and drink to celebrate a great day.

Next morning we met just after 9am outside the hotel and were joined by Lyn Alcock from Narrogin and her two friends from S.A. Jeanette, Ursula



Rhizanthella gardneri uncovered

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

and Marina had gone out to the Wildflower Drive with Robin earlier and found 12 plants of *C. drummondii*, before meeting up with us.

We headed out in a small convoy to the West Bendering NR near Dickinson Rd, where we had discovered a population of *C. drummondii* in 2010. At the end of May that year we found 38 flowers and 12 plants in seed.

We re-located the population of tiny flowers, some only 4cm high, and were excited to find a new sub-population about 30m to the west of the original one. All in all, we found 77 plants, with 12 flowers, 4 finished flowers (no seedpod), 13 seedpods, 10 eaten off (with fresh 'roo droppings nearby) and 38 seedlings or non-flowering leaves.

Also in the area were large populations of *Pt. scabra*, *Pt. sp.'inland'* and '*rufa*' leaves, and small *Thelymitra* leaves.

On a quest to find new populations of *C. drummondii*, we then headed to the Bendering NR on the east side of the Kondinin Narembeen Rd. After missing the turn on the left due to a name change on the road, we stopped at likely habitat on the SW edge of the reserve. After about 15 minutes, we heard an excited shout from Ursula..."drummondii!!" In the nearby area we found 21 plants, with 19 in flower and 2 leaves.

Pt. sanguinea and *Pt. sargentii* were also found in leaf and bud here, as well as *Pt. scabra*, *Pt. sp.'inland'* and *Eriochilus d ssp undulatus* in seed.

We re-traced our tracks and took White Rd (named Bendering Reserve Rd in R&T) through the middle of the reserve. We stopped at some low granite rocks near the eastern boundary and found *Eriochilus* in flower, seed and leaf nearby. I headed west to a raised area on the roadside with open eucalypt woodlands and excitedly yelled..."drummondii!!" as I saw three small flowers of the target species.

Everyone converged on the area and we found 30 plants on the north side of the road, with 23 in flower and 4 plants on the south side. Interestingly, some of the plants on the north side were growing under sheaok and also out in the open in red gravelly clay soil.



Caladenia drummondii pale form

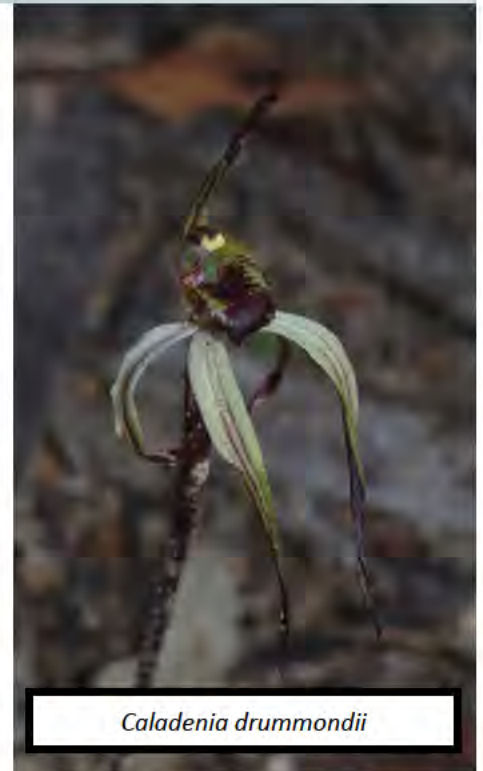
Most of the party left us here to head home and all agreed it had been an interesting and rewarding trip.

Kevin and I camped out overnight after failing to find any more winter spiders that afternoon. On the Monday morning we explored the reserve around Mt Bayly without success, though did find some *Pterostylis* rosettes.

At lunch time we stopped to look for *C. drummondii* in the Mt Hampton NR where we had found a new population last year. We located the population and counted 40 plants, with 29 in flower. Plant height was 4cm – 8cm, so they were very difficult to see. Also found was a large colony of the often co-occurring *Pt. scabra*, *Pt. 'rufa'* and *Thelymitra* leaves.

We headed for home after a very productive and satisfying weekend.

Margaret Petridis.



Caladenia drummondii



Pterostylis scabra

INTREPID ADVENTURE TO TOOLINA COVE: 4TH – 11TH MAY 2014

After realising last year that the Eastern Bunny (*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *orientalis*) was the only named white bunny orchid we had not seen, Kevin and I decided to plan a trip to Toolina Cove on the Great Australian Bight this year to look for it.

We contacted Andrew Brown for information and then asked other WANOSCG members to join us. We were pleased to have Ian Greeve and Jeanette Wheatley agree to come and felt much safer in a small convoy of 2 vehicles.

Following the weekend field trip to Walpole on 3rd/4th May, we headed to Gull Rock Rd out of Albany and found 15 flowering plants of *Eriochilus valens*. We then drove to Jerramungup and stayed overnight in the caravan park.

Next morning we drove to the Stokes NP in search of the summer burn and found it east of the inlet off Farrell Rd. We did not find any early orchids there but thought it could be interesting later in the season.

After staying the night in Esperance, we headed east along Fisheries Rd and stopped at Condingup where we found *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *dilatatus* and *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* flowering in the bush on the corner. We drove to Condingup Peak for a lunch stop and found *Eriochilus pulchellus*, *dilatatus* subsp. *dilatatus* and *Leporella fimbriata* in flower.

After lunch we headed to the Cape Arid NP in search of two more summer burns. We saw a burn on Tagon Peninsula in the distance but could not access it. Near Mt Arid, the track to the west where the burn had been was closed, so we headed south over a sandy and, at times, rough track over granites to the Thomas Fishery beach to camp.

In the morning we saw a glorious sunrise from the beach and then found *Eriochilus* in flower on the coastal granites on our way out. We headed north to Parmango Rd via the Muntz NR where we found *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus* during our morning tea stop.

The Parmango Rd was very rough and slow going. We stopped at Breeborinia Rock for lunch and found *Eriochilus* flowering, *dilatatus* subsp. *dilatatus* and *pulchellus*. After stopping to explore homestead ruins just off the road, we arrived in Balladonia at 5pm. We decided to stay the night in the motel and enjoyed a good meal, a comfortable bed and hot showers.

This proved to be a good decision as it rained overnight and was still raining when we set off in the morning, heading east to the start of the Toolina track. We went in on the eastern entrance and splashed through muddy water in the low points on the grassy plain. The habitat became Mallee woodland as we came to higher areas of limestone on the track.

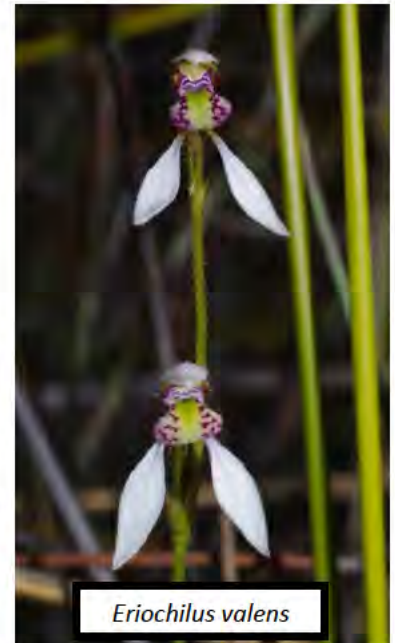


Toolina Cove

We found Pygmy orchids (*Corunastylis tepperi*) at our lunch stop and then about 4kms from the coast, (after about 70kms on the track) we stopped to check a plant and found some bunnies on the east side. A survey of the area found 32 plants, with 23 in flower.

We also found some small banded greenhoods in bud in the area and assume they are *Pterostylis* sp. 'Eyre'.

A further 4kms brought us in on a rough limestone track to the coastal cliffs which were covered in low windswept bushes. We did not find any orchids in this area, so after tak-



Eriochilus valens



Pterostylis sp. 'Eyre'

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

ing photos of the spectacular cliffs and Toolina Cove, we headed back north to camp.

In the morning we found *C. tepperi* and banded greenhoods near the campsite. A few sturdy greenhoods were in flower and ID as *Pterostylis sanguinea*. We returned to a spot just north of the previous bunny location and found more under shrubs in the mallee woodland. The population was spread over 200-300m on the eastern side of the track and overall we counted 80 in flower, 11 in seed and 21 non-flowering leaves. We only noted one in bud, so felt we had gone in at the ideal time of the year.

On the way back, we camped at Frasers Range Station and the Breakaways on the Hyden Norseman Rd. We found *Corunastylis tepperi* near both. We called in to Disappointment and McDermid Rocks and found early leaves of *Thelymitra* and *Pterostylis* species.

Our last orchiding stop was at the Karlgarin NR west of Hyden where we found *Corunastylis tepperi* in bud, flower and seed, a few *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus* flowers and our first *Caladenia drummondii* for the season. It was a great bonus for the trip and for Mother's Day (11th May).

We all agreed it had been a fantastic trip and were pleased to have found the Eastern Bunny at Toolina. It has given us a lot of respect for the botanists and enthusiasts who travel to remote places in search of the wide diversity of flora in our state.

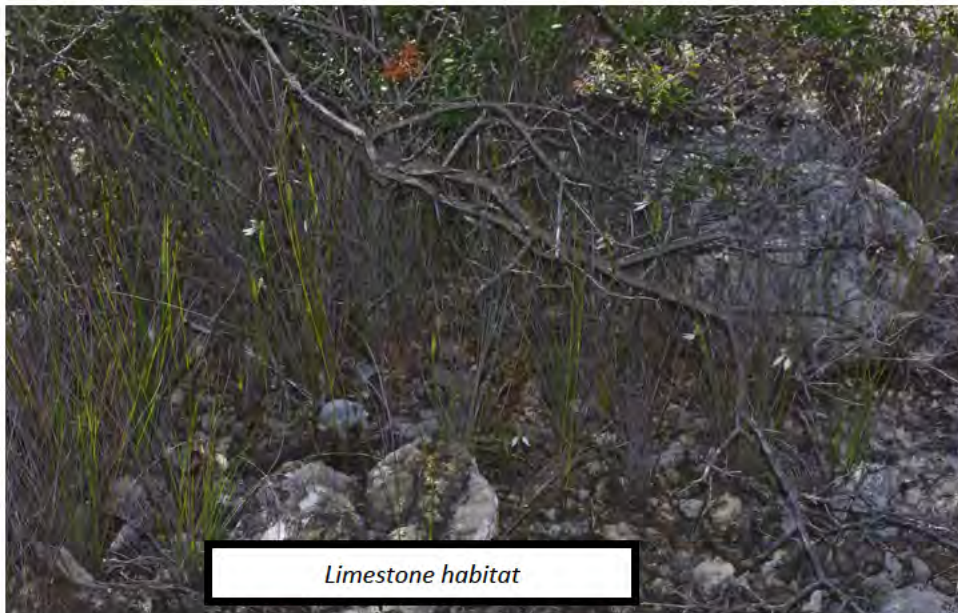
Margaret Petridis.



Track into Toolina Cove



Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. *orientalis* leaf



Limestone habitat



Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. *orientalis*

FIELD TRIP REPORT: WALPOLE 3RD AND 4TH MAY 2014

Over 30 members met south of Manjimup on Saturday 3rd May and followed Trip Leader Andrew Brown to a site along the South Western Highway where *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* (Leafless) and *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp *multiflorus* (Common Bunny) were found.

The convoy next headed to Broke Inlet Rd where we explored on and around two large granite outcrops. On the first rock we found a large population of *Eriochilus pulchellus* (Granite Bunny) in bud and flower and near the second we found *Prasophyllum* sp. 'early' (Scented Autumn Leek) and *Pterostylis vittata* (Banded Greenhood).

After lunch we drove to Railway Parade to explore the large burnt area north-west of Walpole. A population of *Eriochilus valens* (Red-lipped Bunny) found two weeks previously was shown to participants who had the chance to photograph a rarely seen species. A few other *Eriochilus* flowers were found in the area and these were thought to be a small form of *E. dilatatus* subsp *multiflorus* (Common Bunny).



Prasophyllum sp. 'early'

Further east along the road in unburnt bush, a few *Leporella fimbriata* (Hare), Common Bunnies and Scented Autumn Leeks were found, as well as a finished flower of the Leafless orchid.

The last stop for the day was along Mandalay Beach Rd where specimens of *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp *dilatatus* (White Bunny) were found.

Participants then headed off to their various accommodation locations in and around Walpole for the night. Six members called on local orchid identity Gloria Jackson to deliver her copy of the 40th Anniversary

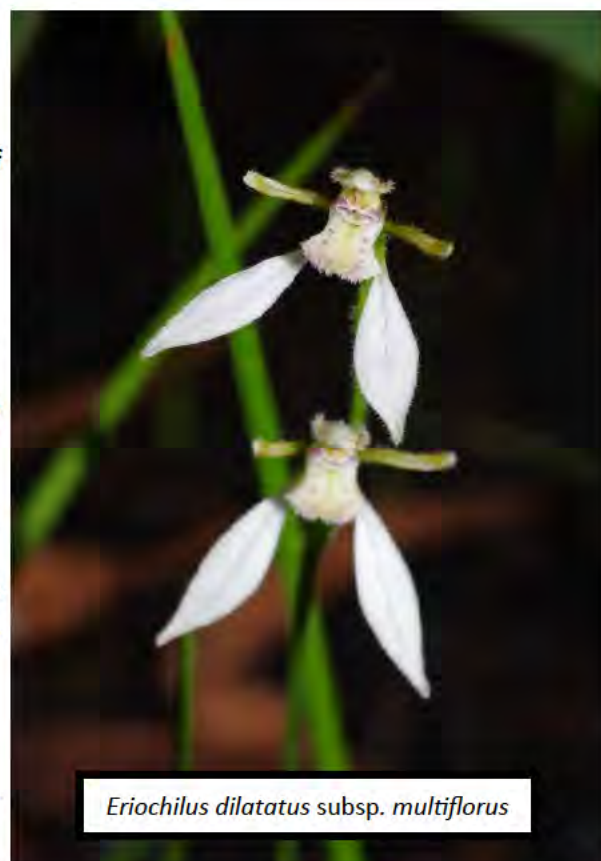
book and a bottle of wine, and were asked to stay for a cup of tea.

We met again in Walpole on the Sunday morning and headed out to The Knoll where Andrew showed us some specimens of *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp *magnus* (Easter Bunny). Andrew was disappointed at the small size of the plants this year, presumably from the lack of early rain in the area. Last year one plant had had 20 flowers and a large, broad leaf but this year it was only half the size, with 8 – 10 flowers and a much smaller leaf.

Our next stop was out at Sandy Beach where we were shown a couple of specimens of a luteal form of *Leporella fimbriata*. One flower was com-



Eriochilus pulchellus



Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. *multiflorus*



Eriochilus magnus



Eriochilus valens



Leporella fimbriata luteal form

pletely pale green, while the other had a touch of purplish colour on the labellum.

We returned to the burnt area west of Walpole along Angove Rd and stopped near a low rock. In the area we found more small specimens of the Common Bunny, the Easter Bunny and Leafless orchid.

Most people headed home from this point but a small group headed further east to a large granite outcrop north of Ficifolia Rd where they found another population of the Granite Bunny in flower and bud.

Thank you to all the participants who attended. It was wonderful to have so much interest and enthusiasm for our first group field trip of the year.

Margaret Petridis (Field Trip Co-ordinator)



WANOSCG Club Slide—Sid Gibbing 1980

MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2014

All members are reminded that annual subscriptions are now due. The annual single or family membership fee is **\$30**. Payment can be made :

to the Treasurer in person

by mail with cheques made out to WANOSCG and sent to:
WANOSCG PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979

by electronic transfer to the club's bank account:

BSB: 306044 Bank name: Bankwest

Account number: 5492468

If you choose to send money electronically please identify what the payment is for (eg "Annual Fees" or "40th year Book") and send a copy of your receipt of electronic transfer with your name on it to the club's email account (wanoscg@gmail.com)

Please note that if the fees aren't paid by the end of May you will be a non-financial member and not receive the Bulletin anymore. Additionally only financial members will be eligible to purchase a copy of the 40th year publication at the subsidised price of \$10.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to Paul Winthrop at wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 6th July 2014

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Tentative Field Trip List for 2014

June		Self drive Thelymitra apiculata
June	21/22nd	Badgingarra area
July	5th/6th July	Ravensthorpe for the Southern Underground Orchid. Eddy Wajon
July	6th July	Johnston Rd, Bagieau Rd, Eaton, for Shell orchids and Greenhoods. Contact Kevin Uhe on 0419913792 or kuhe98694@gmail.com
July	27th	Williams/Narrogin .for Shell, Snail orchids, possibly Caladenia xantha. Contact Lyn Alcock on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]
August	9/10th	Kalbarri , Ajana, Z Bend
August	16-23rd	North Eastern Wheatbelt. Extended camping trip.
August	30/31st	Member suggestions
September	13/14th	Boyup Brook. Caladenia species
September	27.28th	Banjup Burn. Armadale Road

2014	ROSTERS		SPEAKERS 2013
	Raffle	Supper	
MAR	Jay Steer	Urszula	Historical Club slides
APRIL	Ramon & Trish Newmann	Margaret Fox	Chris French - An overview of the Pterostylis nana complex
MAY	George and Urszula Kosinski	Urszula, Marina, Sarah	Eric Swarts - Orchids of Tasmania
JUNE	Jeanette Wheatley	Jeanette Wheatley	Kevin Thiele—The Western Australian Herbarium
JULY	Peter and Debbie Proudfoot	Donna Wajon	Ian Small - DNA and plant classification
AUG	Yuko MacKenzie	Pam Hill	Ryan Phillips - Orchid pollinator research
SEPT	Noel and Mary Hoffman	Trish and Ramon Newmann	TBA
OCT	Bob Steer		Andrew Brown - Our December/January flowering orchids
NOV	David Lawson		Photo Competition & Members slides