



Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group

April 2015 Bulletin



Congratulations to WANOSCG 2014 Award winners Margaret and Ross Fox pictured here receiving their award from WANOSCG President Jay Steer. Photo by R. Newmann.

New Season Opens

What seemed like an endless wait is over and the new orchid season has commenced. The word from members is that bunny, hare, pygmy and the leafless orchids are out already. Check out new season photos inside the bulletin.

Take care on the road and in the bush.

And let us all make an effort to report orchid sightings to the Registrar.

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- New octogenarian
- And more



Leafless orchid (*Praecoxanthus aphyllus*). Photo by W. Guy

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Website: [redacted]

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, March 2015

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.
Meeting opened: 8.08 PM

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

ATTENDANCE: 32 members present, apologies: Eddy and Donna Wajon, Tim Hodgkins, Kim and Thea Hanson, Margaret Petridis
Visitors: nil

RAFFLE: Prize donated by Jay Steer

1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

It was moved Tom B and seconded Matz D that the General Meeting Minutes of 19th November 2014, as published in the March 2015 bulletin are a true and accurate record of that meeting. *Carried*

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Orchids on Rottnest: If members visit Rottnest especially from June to August, they are asked to look out for orchids. This information can then be passed on to Jay Steer who will send it on to Luke Wheat. Note: The WANOSCG data base has no reported orchid sightings for Rottnest.

2.2 13th Dec 2014 Orchid Workshop: This was a successful event. If there is sufficient demand then another workshop can be held during 2015. The previous cost was \$25 per person and it would be anticipated that the same cost would apply if there are enough numbers.

2.3 Noel Hoffman's suggestion to create a WANOSCG collection of validated digital images of WA Native orchids: nothing further to report.

2.4 Five Year Plan: The review of the Five year plan was discussed at the February Committee planning meeting and revision is continuing.

2.5 Field trip guidelines and procedures: A revised version was circulated with the March 2015 Bulletin. The circulated report was compiled by Peter Proudfoot from a range of sources – discussion included reference to the bringing of dogs to field trips. It was agreed that the guidelines be changed to meet the concern of at least one member. The change will now read "Dogs are discouraged on WANOSCG field trips".

2.6 Database: The new registrar, Ramon Newmann, spoke briefly about access to the data base by members. The Committee is drafting 'rules' for access and these will be published in the Bulletin. The aim is to encourage both more contributions and to encourage members to access the data base more often.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period 1st November 2014 to 31st January 2015

	For 1 st November 2014 to 31 st Jan 2015	1 st Feb 2014 to 31 st Jan 2015
Income	194.70	9620.20
Expenditure	1530.62	11960.51

The treasurer reported there had been no transactions during the summer break.

It was moved Matz D and seconded Noel C that the Treasurer's report as outlined in the AMG be accepted as a true record of the club's finances. *Carried.*

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Mail received for the period 20th November 2014 to 18th March 2015

Inward emails to the WANOSCG Web site and [REDACTED]:

Numerous electronic versions of Newsletters and Bulletins have been received over the period from: Orchid

Jay outlined a range of both emails and other correspondence.

Date	Name	Subject
17/3/15	Sarah Rendell	Banksia resilience study: volunteer recruitment if members are interested contact Jay
17/3/15	Tanya Barnett	Disagrees with Clause in Fieldtrip Guidelines banning dogs from WANOSCG Fieldtrips
11/3/15	Helen Bryant	CCWA General Meeting Agenda - 18 March 2015
18/2/15	Colleen Osborn	Looking for a speaker at Chittering Wildflower Festival 17 th to 20 th September
11/2/15	Roj Jones	Change of address
16/2/15 to 18/2/15	Eddy and Margaret	ABC TV story Beekeepers reserve emails from Eddy Wajon/Claire Moody/Margaret Petridis
17&25/1/15 23/3/15	Rod Shoesmith	Schedule for the September 2015 20 th AOC and 50 th Tropical Orchid Conferences and show in Mackay Qld Early bird registration ends 21/3/15
15/12/14	Mike Pieloor	Native terrestrial orchids – seeking contacts for obtaining tubers
12/11/14	Andrew Cox	Invasive Species Council: Fire ants in Australia - this is a battle we can't afford to lose
11/12/14	Noushka Reiter	Thank you to everyone involved in helping fund our Orchid Conservation Centre.
6/2/15	Vanessa Westcott	National Environmental Science Programme: Application for funds to study threatened orchids at Eurardy Reserve
3/2/15	Timothy Hodgkins	173/14 MINISTERS APPEAL DETERMINATION - APPEALS AGAINST REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS - EP413 3D SEISMIC ACQUISITION SURVEY - NORWEST ENERGY NL, NORTH WEST OF ENEABBA
14/1/15	Denise Crosbie	Re: payment for Hall hire for 13 th Dec 2014 Orchid Workshop
7 & 15 /1/15 & 22/12/14	Gilda Davies Fwd Christine Lock	Volunteering WA is encouraging all volunteer groups to complete the survey.
9/1/15	Paul Winthrop	Kwongan Foundation
4/11/14	Eddy Wajon	Updates on Banjup - Spider Orchid and Vegetation Management Plan
6/1/15	Margaret Collins	Environment and Conservation grants- Ian Potter Foundation
30/12/14	Noushka Reiter	New Contact details Noushka.Reiter@rbg.vic.gov.au
28/12/14	Christine Lock	Registrar report WANOSCG
20/12/14	Tim Hodgkins	APPEAL AGAINST REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS - EP413 3D SEISMIC ACQUISITION SURVEY (REPORT 1530 ASSESSMENT 1993) see correspondence below
15/12/14	Fwd from Mark	New orchid pollinator book Email from Rudie Kuitert
9/12/14	Margaret Collins	see correspondence below
3/12/14	Alison Stevens	Picture request for Book of Orchids - <i>Rhizanthella gardneri</i>
3/12/14	Felicity McGeorge	Invoice for WANOSCG Orchid workshop
25/11/14	Ross Fox	Passing of Nancy Clarke (24 th November 2014)
24/11/14	Graeme Anderton	Photo of Noel Clark from bulletin – Emailed the photo and passed on the sad news of the passing of Nancy Clark
23/11/14	Irma Lachmund	CCWA Awards Night on Friday 5 December 2014
23/11/14	Michele Sanders	Survey of conservation groups – completed survey
21/11 to 3/12/14	Margaret Collins and members	13 th December Orchid Workshop Various emails. Hire of microscopes.

Outwards correspondence and Business arising from correspondence:

Passing of Nancy Clarke: Email to members and Card and message sent to Noel.

Survey on volunteering in WA: JS completed the survey as best he could but found that it was not that relevant to our group.

Vanessa Westcott and the National Environmental Science Programme (NESP) submission: Should her application for funds be successful, JS (as a representative of WANOSCG) has agreed to become part of a steering

committee overseeing a project conducting research into the orchids of Eurardy Reserve. Vanessa asks that WANOSCG be involved in parts of the survey work. MP suggested that WANOSCG should also offer to survey Eurardy for early flowering orchids. MP is to contact Vanessa Westcott. Members are encouraged to help with any surveys that become part of these projects.

Request for high quality pictures of Rhizanthella gardneri: Alison Stevens wishes to use pictures in a book on the orchids of the world. JS contacted a number of WANOSCG members and Mark Brundrett has sent her some suitable digital photographs.

Chittering Wildflower Festival: Colleen Osborn is looking for a speaker at the Chittering Wildflower Festival. The festival runs for 3 days 19 – 21 Sept. The request was for somebody to run a question and answer session on native orchids of the region. The committee felt that a display would be needed to back up the session. Jay to contact Don and Eva Smith who live locally.

5. FIELD TRIPS

5.1 A tentative list of field trips and dates was published in the March 2015 Bulletin. Members are requested to contact Margaret Petridis if they have any suggestions for 2015.

5.2 Kevin Uhe advised that he is in contact with Andrew Brown and will soon be able to announce details of the 2015 'camping trip' which will be to the east of Esperance and will be 9 days from August 15th to 23rd. The trip's primary purpose will be to examine recently named *Pterostylis nana* species [snails].

5.3 The Eurardy research will be August 24th to 31st.

5.4 Kevin has 86 'fires' on his list. Members can contact him to ask about them.

PERSONAL FIELD TRIPS:

Members were reminded to fill out Personal field trip report forms to help the Secretary record their names and where and what they have found. Even more importantly members were reminded to fill out Orchid sighting sheets (created by Donna) and send them to the registrar, who is now Ramon Newmann.

Kevin Uhe spoke of a trip during last summer to the south coast near Walpole where he and Margaret P had explored swamps to look for *Microtis globula*. They spent much time wading around but were eventually successful having been aided by some locals. It turned out that some further plants of this species had also been found during this last summer by Andrew Brown.

6. CONSERVATION

The conservation report was circulated with the attendance book at the AGM.

It was moved Paul W and seconded Tom B that the Conservation Report be accepted. *Carried.*

6.1 *Update on Beekeeper Reserve* In the absence of Tim Hodgkins, Jay outlined interactions with NorWest Energy which is the company that has been granted explorations permits to do seismic testing at Beekeepers Reserve. This will involve the company clearing transects of land for the siting and use of their equipment. Jay explained that the permit that NW Energy has is subject to certain restrictions in relation to Declared Rare Flora and Fauna.

A letter was sent by Tim to the Environment Minister (Albert Jacobs) appealing against the permission, but this was dismissed. A subsequent letter to NW Mining received a reply saying that a survey had been completed, but they would keep our offer of help to conduct a survey on their records. {It is fairly clear that the surveys for *Paracalena dixonii* and for *Drakea concolor* were not done at the correct time and thus were not found. It is also unclear as to whether those conducting the survey would have had enough knowledge to know what they were looking for. We have no specific knowledge about these issues, but the lack of evidence in their survey/s suggests both of these assertions are valid. }

Eddy W and Margaret P had earlier taken part in an ABC filming about fracking and while it was a VERY brief segment, their concerns (and thus ours) were presented.

Subsequent communication with the EPA in Feb/Mar 2015 requested that we be included as an interested part for consultation in the 'Environmental Management Plan' and that we are provided with a copy of the Final Plan. The reply said 'they will be in contact', but provided no specific details.

Eddy W suggested that we continue to contact NW Energy with the specific times that the surveys need to be done (this was not included in the initial letter) and offer to conduct them. Even if we do not get direct co-

operation from the company Eddy suggests we go ahead and do these surveys, even if the seismic survey clearing has already taken place.

Discussion by members reached the conclusions that further action should be undertaken and the committee was empowered to follow through on this important conservation issue.

6.2 *Update on the Banjup Orchid and vegetation plan* – nothing presented

6.3 *Ferndale Primary School Christine Roll* nothing presented

6.4 *Other conservation matters* due to time constraints nothing further was discussed

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 *Rosters* – members are requested to fill in the spaces in the provided forms. It was emphasised that everyone should contribute in some way.

7.2 *Speakers for 2015* some are arranged and others are yet to be finalised.

7.3 *Fees are due* – details are in the Bulletin. Members are reminded that if fees are not paid before the end of May then no further bulletins will be sent out either electronically or by post.

7.4 *WANOSCG Photographic Competition for 2015* – the topic has not yet been decided. Members' suggestions would be most welcome. Contact any committee member.

8. **GROWER'S TABLE** nothing presented

9. PRESENTATION

John Ewing presented an update on his ADORP orchid *Caladenia dundasiae* – despite a significant technical hitch John outlined what had been done since 2011 when ADORP first began. He explained where studies had been conducted and mentioned a number of private properties that had been visited. A key focus was the 2014 season where due to better rains in April and May many flowering plants were found in 3 of the key sites. At Watheroo the numbers increased from 80 plants to over 400 and at Bulbarnet Reserve from none the previous year, to over 200. Access to another private property in 2014 saw John, David Lawson, Stuart Harris and Bob Steer rather perplexed by a range of 'red spider orchids'. This property will be the key focus in 2015 with special efforts made to make more definite identifications of which plants are *C dundasiae* and what other species are present.

10. RAFFLE DRAW:

The raffle was drawn by John Ewing, the winner being Jon Warren, our new Committee Member.

MEETING CLOSED 9.30 pm

NEXT MEETING:

7:30 pm Wednesday 15th April 2015

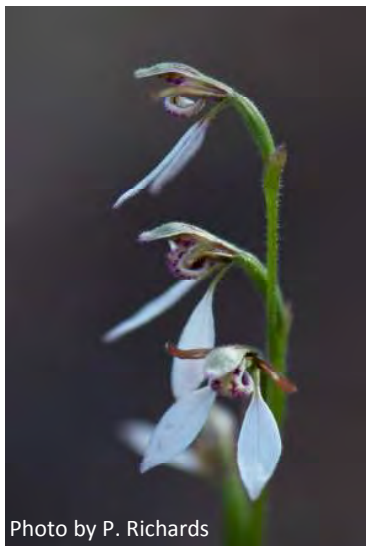


Photo by P. Richards

Results of the March 2015 AGM Elections

Position	Elected
Patron	Steve Hopper
President	Jay Steer
Vice President 1 Year	Kim Hanson
Vice President 2 Years	Ramon Newmann
Secretary	John Ewing
Treasurer	Marina Karyagina
Field Trip Coordinator	Margaret Petridis
Committee Member#1	Jeanette Wheatley
Committee Member#2	Peter Proudfoot
Committee Member#3	Jon Warren
Committee Member#4	Tom Burbidge
Registrar	Ramon Newmann
Auditor	Phil Bunny
Supper Coordinator	Trish Newmann
Librarian	Jay Steer
Conservation Officer	Tim Hodgkins
Editor	Marina Karyagina

Thank you to Christine Lock for being Presiding Officer.

WANOSCG AWARD 2014

At the March 2015 AGM the WANOSCG Award for 2014 was presented to Ross and Margaret Fox for their dedicated service to the club.

In last year's 40th year book Ross and Margaret reported becoming interested in WA's native orchids after attending a wild flower show at Kings Park. There they had met Noel Clarke and John Eaton who recommended that, "if they wanted to know more about WA's native orchids they should join WANOSCG". Our club records show that Ross and Margaret Fox became members in 1995. Following a weekend trip to the Stirling Ranges, where they saw one hundred species of orchids, Ross and Margaret were hooked.

Ever since joining WANOSCG, Ross and Margaret have been very active members. Margaret served on the committee for 6 years. After one year as a general committee person, Ross served as the club's Field Trip Coordinator for 5 years. Just as importantly Ross and Margaret have and continue to be great ambassadors for the club. They are always the first to offer help and guidance to new and old members alike. Many current members recount that their association with WANOSCG began after a chance encounter in the field with the friendly Foxes, who recommended that, "they might like to join WANOSCG if they wanted to increase their enjoyment of WA's native orchids".

Thank you Ross and Margaret, you are pillars of our organisation.



Photo by R. Newmann



WANOSCG members presenting Gloria Jackson (centre) with the WANOSCG 40th Anniversary book during the field trip to Walpole in May 2014. Photo by J. Hills.

Happy Birthday, Gloria Jackson

It is a big 'eight O' for Gloria this month and WANOSCG wishes her a very happy birthday.

Gloria and her late husband Bill joined WANOSCG in 1987 after they attended a WANOSCG trip to the Northcliffe area in December 1986. They both worked tirelessly to popularise orchids of the Walpole region and shared their knowledge of local orchids with many visitors from all over the world.

Gloria has volunteered her time to many different community activities from organising orchid displays at the Visitors centre to participating in surveys and studies of local flora and much more.

Many Happy returns, Gloria.

Happy Birthday, Jean Long and Alex George

Gloria is not the only Life member celebrating her birthday this month. Foundation members Alex George and Jean Long have their birthdays in April as well.

Happy birthday, Jean. Happy Birthday, Alex. From all of us at WANOSCG.



FIELD TRIP UPDATE

Below are details on the upcoming field trips. A member wishing to attend or for further information please contact **Kevin Uhe** .

MAY

2nd/3rd May—Northcliffe/ Walpole area

The first trip of the season will be to the Northcliffe/ Walpole area to search for *Eriochilus* species and other early flowering orchids. With the large burn around Northcliffe it will be an opportunity to study the effects of fire on the orchid populations.

There will be two meeting times to accommodate those members who may arrive in the area on Friday night and those who have to travel from Perth on the Saturday.

Full details on this trip will be available at the April meeting.

30th/31st May & 1st June—Kalbarri

This will be a long weekend trip to Kalbarri to look for early orchids in that region. This will include *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *brevifolius* (Blunt-leaved bunny orchid) and expand the locations for *Caladenia drummondii* (Winter spider orchid).

JUNE

20th/21st June—Jurien Bay area

This field trip will concentrate on the Jurien Bay area and a number of *Pterostylis* species should be seen, along with *Diuris perialla* and possibly *Thelymitra apiculata*.

AUGUST

15-23 August—Extended Camping Trip

This year's extended camping trip will be to the south coast to see most of the named and yet to be named snail orchids. This will be a great opportunity to study the recently named snails and see fresh specimens in the field.

The snail trip will combine bush camping and overnight stays in caravan parks. It is expected that the first part of the trip will involve bush camping and head out via the wheatbelt to Norseman then across to Mt Ridley and down to the south coast east of Esperance. We will then make our way back along the south coast via Walpole before arriving back in Perth. The bottom part of the trip will mainly involve stays in caravan parks.

Whilst this trip is focusing on snails it will also provide an opportunity to see other orchids that grow in the eastern area as there will be other orchids growing in the areas we will visit.

As many of the roads we will travel over are unsealed and subject to wash outs people will need to have a 4 wheel drive or arrange to go in one. Many of the tracks into the rocks are not suitable for normal vehicles.

As with previous camping trips there will be a limit on the number of cars and people and I would like to have close to final numbers by the end of June. Please register your interest with Kevin Uhe (see contact details above).

24-28 August—Eurardy Station Surveys

Last year a small group of members visited Eurardy Station to help search for a number of DRF species that grow in the area. We have had contact from Vanessa at Eurardy seeking the help of WANOSCG to assist in this year's surveys.

WANOSCG members at the 2014 Eurardy station survey.



The dates for the surveys are from Monday August 24 to August 28 and accommodation is available at Eurardy for cabins, camping or caravans.

To reduce the impacts on the environment there will be a restriction on the number of people who can attend though depending on interest we may be able to rotate members during the week if people only wish to do a couple of days.

Please register your interest with Kevin Uhe (contact details above).



Pterostylis microphylla from Blue Lake burn (2014). Photo by K. Uhe

Members' Stories

Leafless Heaven

By William Guy



Praecoxanthus aphyllus (Leafless) is one of my favourite orchids. An early flower is often forgotten about as the orchid season progresses. It is a truly beautiful flower – in colour, size and shape.

In April 2014 I was on a birding trip in the Stirling Ranges area. I stopped off at a random location on Chester Pass Road (just south of the National Park) chasing birds. After wandering around trying to follow some elusive Elegant Parrots, I was on my way back to the car. I stopped, had a look around and spied some Leafless orchids.

Went back to the car and grabbed my orchiding camera gear and had a walk around. There were at least 150 Leafless orchids – in various stages, in bud, just opening up, fully open, just going over. They were everywhere. I've seen them in a number of locations over the years, but never in such huge numbers. A truly wonderful sight. I spent a couple of hours seeing how far they extended. Far too many photos later, I reluctantly left.

I'd been in Leafless heaven.

Other members report.....

Maggie Little (end of March): 'Went out looking and feeling I would be a bit too early, but these little beauties are out at Gull Rock in all their glory' (see photo below).

Christine Lock (Easter weekend) headed to Corrigin area and found these beautiful pygmy orchids (*right*) at a nearby reserve. Christine reports that, unfortunately, the site is very degraded, there are plants with buds, but only a few plants were found.

Su Hayman and her partner Phil found the Crinkle-leafed Bunny, many in flower and dozens just coming into bud on their way home from touring Wheatbelt and Hyden area for nine days and seeing no orchids there. Check Su's photos on page 9.



L-R: Leafless orchid *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* from Gull Rock (M. Whittle). Leaf of Leafless orchid growing next to a flowering orchid stem (M. Karyagina, 2012). Pygmy orchid *Corunastylis tepperi* (C. Lock).

Easter Bunny Orchid *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *magnus*

by Ann Storrie

This may be of interest to those members who have queried my strange photographic techniques!

Coming from an Underwater background of photography, I use flash a lot! This Easter Bunny Orchid, *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *magnus*, (I think) was taken at one of my favourite orchid spots, the Augusta Yacht club. I used a Nikon D7000 and 60mm macro lens. I also use a tiny manual flash with a sensor (slave) that picks up and is fired by the on-camera flash. For this image, the slave flash was held just to the side and behind the flowers and at its only power - which is full. I alter exposure from that flash by moving it closer to, or further away from the subject. The on camera flash is usually set at around an eighth power - just enough to trigger the slave flash and to give detail to the front of the subject.

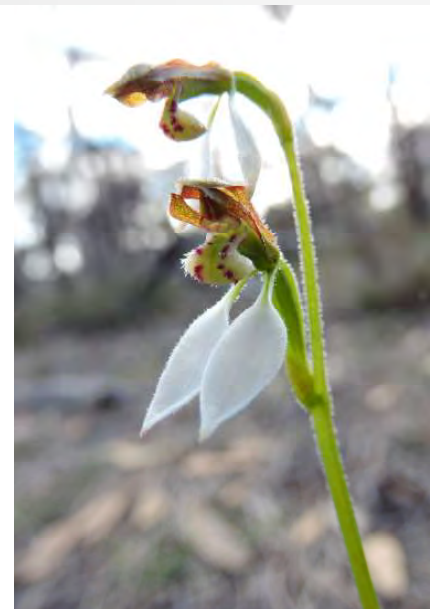
In this case, the camera exposure was 1/60th second at F40, ISO 100. I always use manual settings for this technique and it often requires a bit of playing to get the desired effect. It also helps if the day is overcast or the subject is in shade or under an umbrella to ensure that the slave flash picks up the on-camera flash and fires. It is the slave flash that has provided the back lighting and exposure of the tiny hairs on the stem, petals and sepals and labellum.



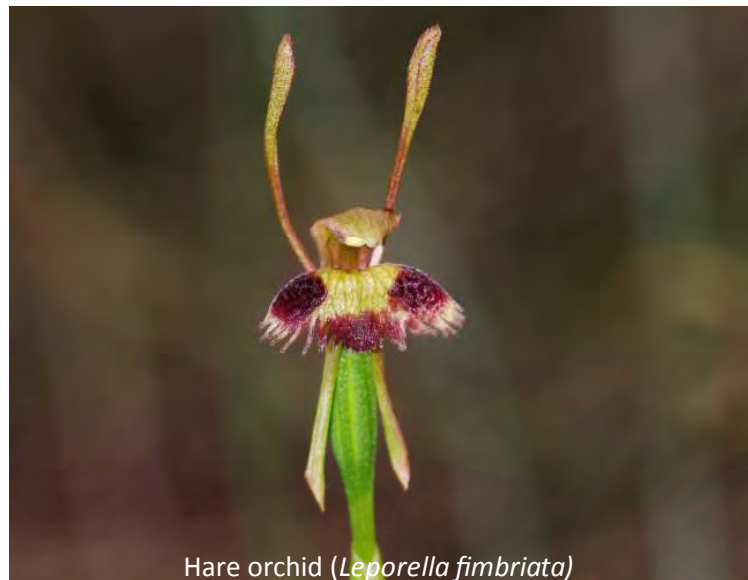
If I am feeling lazy or in a hurry I will often use only the on camera flash. Flash has the advantage of stopping movement if a breeze (not a hurricane) is blowing and gives the image a bit of sparkle that I like. (Underwater, flash is essential to show colour other than blue or black and to stop movement if not using a high ISO).

I hope this explains the how and why to those who have been interested. Happy snapping!

Crinkle-leafed Bunny Orchid (*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus*)



Photos by Su Hayman



Hare orchid (*Leporella fimbriata*)

MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2015

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" 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 have not been paid by the end of May you will be a non-financial member and not receive the Bulletin anymore.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to Marina at wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com . Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 5th May 2015

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Upcoming Field Trip List

Month	Dates	Description
May	2/3	Northcliffe/ Walpole burn looking for Eriochilus species
May	30/31/ June 1	Kalbarri area
June	20/21	Jurien area looking for Pterostylis and Diuris perialla
July	19	Day trip to Pingelly area to look at reserves and record findings
August	8/9	Kalbarri area
August	15-23	Week long camping trip to the east of Esperance focusing on Pterostylis nana (snails) species
August	20-24	Eurardy Surveys - limited numbers
September	12/13	Visit to a private property in Moodjarup area

2015	ROSTERS		SPEAKERS 2015	
	Raffle	Supper		
MAR	Jay Steer	Urszula Kokosinska & Jeanette Wheatley	John Ewing	<i>Caladenia dundasiae</i> an ADORP update
APRIL	Kevin Uhe	Trish and Ramon Newmann	Jay Steer	The Fuscolutea complex - towards a phylogenetic tree
MAY	Ross Fox	Margaret Fox	Andrew Brown	Orchids of our eastern granites
JUNE	Matz Dahlkamp	Urszula Kokosinska	TBA	
JULY	Peter and Debbie Proudfoot	Pam Hill	Chris French	The new <i>Diuris</i> species
AUG	David and Jane Cumming		Ryan Phillips	Title coming
SEPT	Tom Burbidge		TBA	
OCT	Bob Steer		TBA	
NOV	David Lawson		Photo Competition and Members slides	