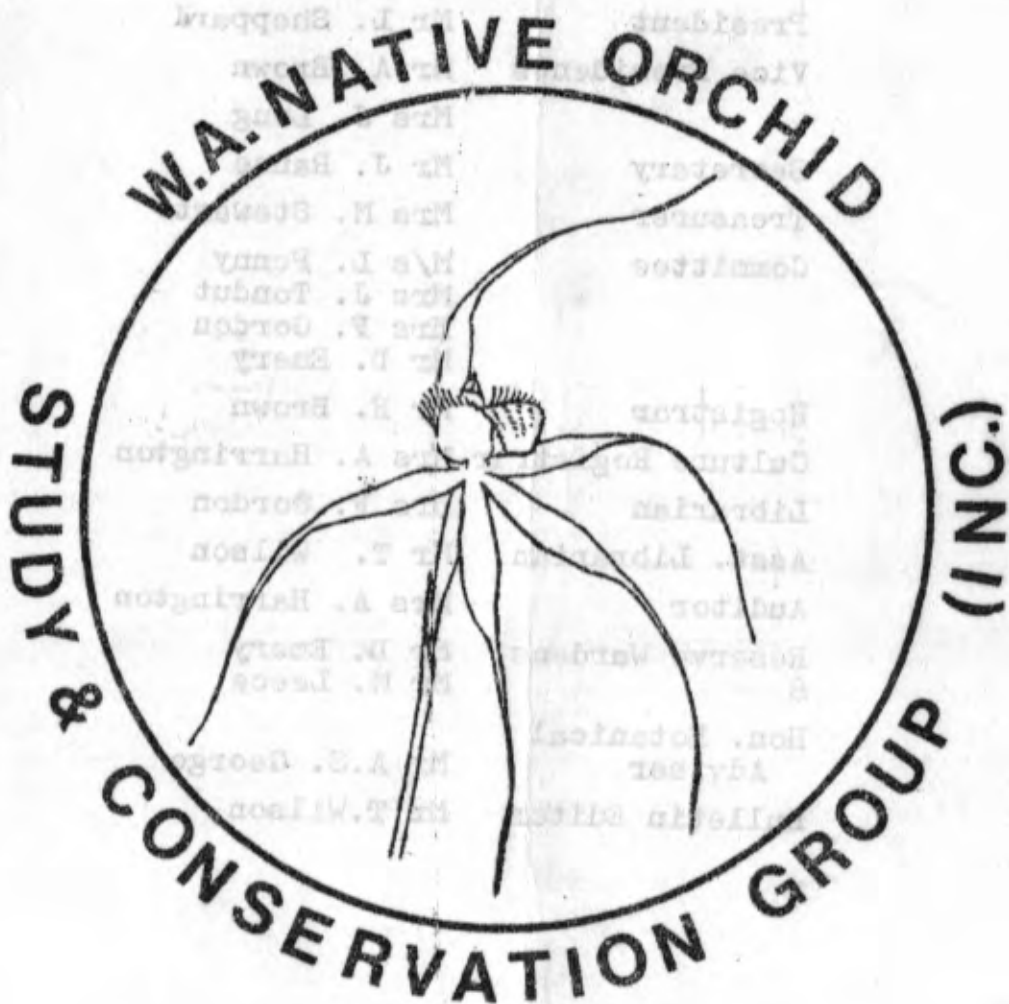


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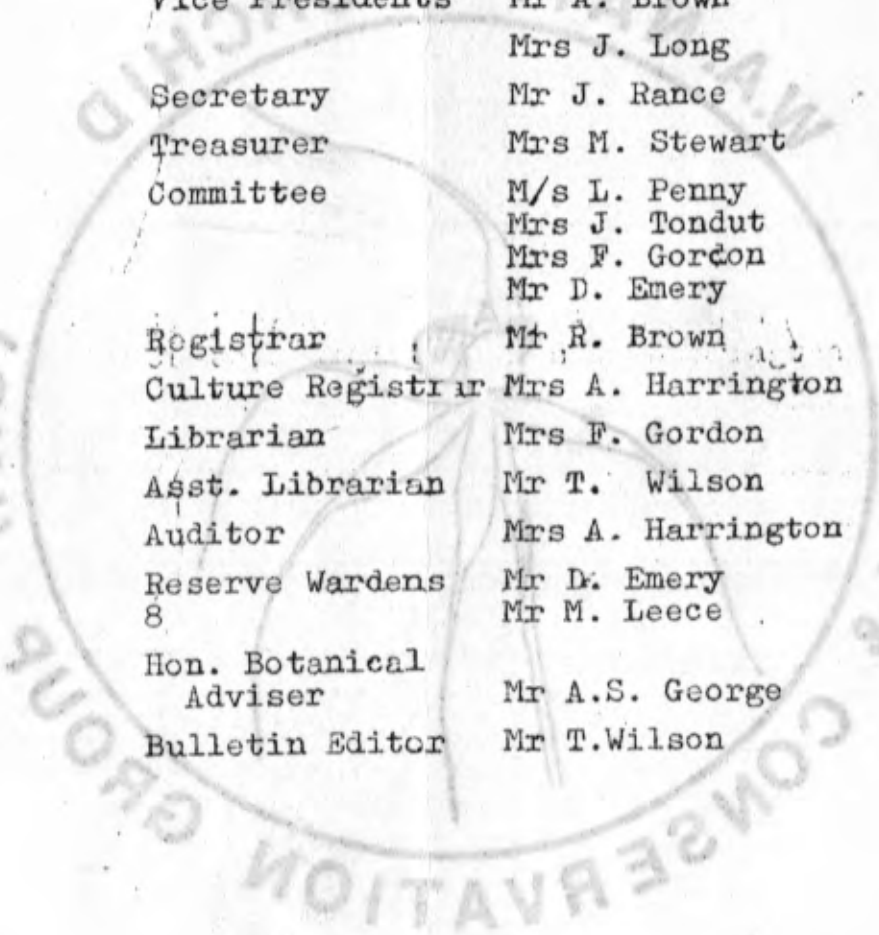
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MAY 1979

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| 8 | Mr M. Leece |
| Hon. Botanical Adviser | Mr A.S. George |
| Bulletin Editor | Mr T. Wilson |

(I.M.C.)



2000

The next committee meeting will be held at [redacted] on 29th May at 8 pm.

The general meeting will be held on 1st June at the Department of Agriculture Film Room, South Perth.

President's Report on May Meeting

A lengthy discussion took place for and against the motion proposed by Terry Wilson and seconded by Alison Harrington on control within the Group of taking orchids and specimens. The motion which was in two parts was as follows:

That the W.A. Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group Inc. will:

- 1) Leave it to the individual members of the Group to obtain such permits as may be necessary to comply with the laws and/or regulations governing the taking of specimens of native flora.
- 2) That the Group will draw its members attention to the laws and/or regulations current at any time and will emphasize the need to observe these laws and/or regulations at all times to protect the good name of the Group.

The motion was held over to a later date and will then possibly include a further clause to allow the Group's committee to endorse a responsible member's application for a permit. The President is endeavouring to contact the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife to have talks on this matter.

The talk for the evening was given by Mr Stephen Hopper on Caladenia hybrids, this was backed by slides of hybrid Kangaroo Paws showing variations. It was very interesting and when out in the field this could be helpful in sorting out the cross.

Field Days

The days that have so far been set aside are:

- 20th May '79 Busy Bee at Smythe Rd. Nedlands
- 10th June '79 Busy Bee at Smythe Rd. Nedlands
- 1st July '79 Meet at Midland Railway Station
8.30 am. Destination - Mogumber
Object - Queen of Sheba and we
hope to find her in all her glory.
- 8th October '79 Busselton

+ + + + +

Jim Rance kindly donated two pots of Chrysanthemums to be raffled. These made a 1st and 2nd Prize which were won by Fred Bishop and Margaret Stewart.

+ + + + +

Royal Agricultural Show

The theme for the show competition has been decided and it is based on conservation - showing 150 years from natural bush to bulldozed area.

+ + + + +

Opportunity Table Once again the table was well stocked with a good selection of flowers and plants and everything was sold.

+ + + + +

New Member

We welcome into the group a new member
Mrs Lex Barton of New South Wales.

+ + + + +

Dormant Orchids? Mick Leece

Last winter I had about twelve pots containing Caladenia Huegelii and Caladenia Flava which did not appear. About October I shook the pots out and found all the bulbs shrivelled.

I placed them in a dry box in the wash-house. On 8th April this year I inspected them and found they had all fattened up and were sprouting.

I have planted them at Smythe Rd. Nedlands for further study.

Could this mean that our orchids have the ability to become dormant for extended periods, the reason for which we may find by further study. Could this also be the reason for their paucity in areas where they were previously abundant. This lack of orchids was not uncommon in most areas I visited last winter, and I will revisit them this winter for further observation. I believe the Smythe Rd. Nedlands plot will be a valuable place to experiment and study matters of this nature.

+ + + + +

Smythe Road Reserve - Nedlands

My fellow warden and I would be delighted if during the season any members making trips into the country would bring back some of the less common species and leave them in my care for transplanting at Nedlands.

Perhaps some of our country members might find it convenient when visiting Perth to drop some plants in.

My address: Mick Leece



+ + + + +

The Taking of Orchids - Mick Leece

First - a good forged spade, not pressed plate and not a shovel which is useless. Always keep the spade edge sharp with a file.

You must have enough trays to accommodate the full length of your specimens, and several pieces of damp cloth.

Always select a plant in reasonably clear ground, never in clumps of other growth as you will destroy both.

- 1) Force the spade blade to its full length squarely around the orchid on its four sides, then lift the whole clod of earth out.
- 2) Retaining the clod on the spade, gently tap it on the ground and carefully trace the root down from the leaf to the bulb or bulbs. Very gently remove the specimen and lay it in your tray.
- 3) Lay a damp cloth over the tray. Make sure that you have sufficient trays to avoid crowding which will damage your plants.
- 4) Replanting is simple. Force your spade blade to its full length into the ground and rock it back and forth to make a wide open Vee.

Take your specimen and dangle the bulb to its full length in the Vee, then close the earth around it by pressing with a foot on each side.

Water to consolidate the soil.

Editorial

We were unable to change to the new format this month as hoped, as we are still awaiting the draft of an advertisement.

Also the membership list is being held over until we we change to the new format.

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