

BULLETIN
of the
**Western Australian Native Orchid
Study and Conservation Group (Inc.)**

July 1987

OFFICE BEARERS 1987

Patron: Mrs J Holmes a' Court

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Immediate Past
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Pat Dundas

Peter Brown

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Note:

Opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by the Group.

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP

OBJECTS 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 natural environment.
- c. To learn their habitats and keep records.
- d. To have field days and learn to recognise the different genera and species.
- e. To hold meetings for the exchanging of knowledge and furthering of interest in Western Australian 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 other lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 15th July 7pm
Kings Park Administration Building.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 15th July 8pm
Kings Park Administration Building.

GUEST SPEAKER

Peter Hewitt Director of Forests, Department of Conservation and Land Management.

Mr Hewitt will talk on the regional plans for the forest areas. He will discuss the plans and policies relating to the land use and tenure of the northern, central and southern forests. Of special interest to the group will be a discussion of CALM's burning policy within the forest areas.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP LIST

We now have the membership list on disc for easy access for bulletin tables etc. Members can be added and subtracted without having to retype the mailing list each time. This work was done by David Bennett and we extended our thanks to David for the work.

FIELD TRIP

Busselton-Augusta 26-27-28 Sept.

Accommodation is available at Cape Mentelle Vineyard and bookings will be required at the next meeting.

Walpole 17-18th Oct

Accommodation is available at Tony Williams House and a number of commercial establishments. We are in touch with the local group and will have more details at the next meeting.

KINGS PARK SHOW

Extra space has been booked this year in anticipation of continued support from the groups growers. Please let the committee know that you have pots to loan early. A car roster to collect plants to a control point will be arranged. Early notice of donor addresses will assist us in planning.

We will also require volunteer's to 'man' the display over the weekend - put it in your diary now don't book anything else!!!

JUNE 27th 1987

FIELD TRIP BUNBURY

A blustery wet day was a disappointment for the 14 cars that turned up for this trip.

Unfortunately one car got lost - a new member followed a car that was not in our group and drove off away from the convoy. We talk about making sure this doesn't happen but it still seemed too!!! The leading cars are just about ready to leave a spot by the time the tail end Charlie arrives and they spend the whole day chasing the group. We must talk about this and arrive at a standard procedure that ensures that all who attend our field days get the maximum enjoyment out of it.

Our target was *Pterostylus angusta* and *P. rogersii* both of which were found. *Leporella fimbriata* and masses of leaves were also seen.

Ken Jones arrived late and missed the group but found Brian Harwood of the Bunbury Orchid Society waiting at the BP. He was also late!

It was agreed that it was useless to chase the group so they went off on there own trip.

Reported sightings were:

P.rogersii	in flower
P.vittata vittata	in flower
P.recurva	in bud
P.nana	in flower
Leporella fimbriata	in seed
Lyperanthus nigricans	leaves (lots)
Caladenia flava	leaves
C.sp.	leaves (lots)

Syd Gibbings.

PLANT DISPLAY - MAY 1987

<u>Grower</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Comments</u>
W Merritt	1) Pterostylis angusta '86	2 flowering plants
	'87	6 flowering plants
	2) Eriochilus dilatatus 84-85	1 flower
	86	2 flowers
	87	3 flowers
	3) Caladenia aphylla	leaf only potted 5 years, never flowered.
	4) P.vittata var. vittata	
	5) C.drummondii	potted 5 years, flowered every year.
P Brown	1) Dendrodium biggibum alba	Ex Queensland
	2) Dendrodium biggibum superbums	Ex Queensland
Kings Park	1) P.vittata var. subdifformis	
	2) Thelymitra variegata var. apiculata	
M Collins	1) P.scabra var. robusta	
D Burdinat	1) Leporella fimbriata	
	2) P.vittata var. vittata	
	3) T.variegata var. apiculata	

CONSERVATION

I was pleased to read the President's article in the June Bulletin announcing the formation of the conservation sub-committee. The Group has much to offer in alerting the community at large and Government about orchid conservation problems and their possible solution.

The case of Diuris purdiei at Canningvale raised by Bevan highlights the need for a strong voice from the Group to the Minister for Conservation and Land Management about the need to protect rare orchids. The decision to allow destruction of declared rare flora rests with the Minister under the Wildlife Conservation Act. It is in the interests of orchid conservation if the Minister hears both sides of the story from all interested parties when faced with development proposals that threaten rare species.

I wish to correct an error in the article concerning actions possible in preserving declared rare orchids in the pathway of bulldozers. Under current legislation, any person may apply in writing to the Minister for a permit to take or remove declared rare flora. A number of persons and organisations have received such permits in the past, including members of our group. The Minister has given these permits where the declared rare flora makes a positive contribution to knowledge on conserving the species. Our Group has a broad spectrum of expertise in growing and studying orchids that would be invaluable in rescue and transplant projects involving rare orchids in habitat to be cleared for development. I hope that active participation by the Group in such necessary work will continue to be pursued in the future.

Steve Hopper.

PLANT DISPLAY - JUNE 1987

<u>Grower</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Pat Dundas	<i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>subdifformis</i>	
Wayne Merritt	<i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>subdifformis</i> <i>P.scabra</i> var. <i>scabra</i> <i>P.rogersii</i> <i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>vittata</i>	
Syd Gibbings	<i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>vittata</i> <i>Eriochilus scaber</i> <i>Diuris longifolia</i> <i>P.scabra</i> var. <i>robusta</i>	1st time flowering since 1981
Andrew Brown	<i>P.scabra</i> var. <i>scabra</i> <i>P.robusta</i> <i>Acianthus exertus</i>	Ex S. Aust. Quite different from W.A. form. Ex S.Aust.
Paul Armstrong	<i>Liparis reflexa</i>	Ex Queensland
Harry Lodge	<i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>vittata</i> (family Varid flora)	narrow sepals
Peter Wilson	<i>P.scabra</i> var. <i>robusta</i>	
Noel Clarke	<i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>vittata</i> <i>P.scaba</i> var. <i>robusta</i> <i>Pterostylis falcata</i> <i>P.toveyana</i>	4 plots Ex Vic. Ex Tax
Ray Stapleton	<i>Caladenia huegelli</i>	leaves only
M Collins	<i>P.scabra</i> var. <i>robusta</i> <i>P.nana</i> <i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>vittata</i> <i>C.deformis</i> <i>P.sargentii</i>	
David Parker	<i>P.vittata</i> var. <i>vittata</i>	2 flowering stems on one plant

VANILLA

Ron Heberle has sent in the following extracts with information in the Orchid, Vanilla planifolia. This one is from the National Geographic April 1971 and the other from Economic Botany of Orchids, Len Lawler as printed in the ANOS Victoria Group Bulletin May 1984. We have only printed in this months Bulletin the article from the National Geographic.

THE EXQUISITE ORCHIDS

Luis Marden

Extracted from National Geographic April 1971

VANILLA PLANTIFOLIA

Some 450 years ago Spains conquistadors found the Aztecs of Mexico adding bits of an orchid seed bud to their cocoa. Vanilla planifolia travelled to Europe and thence to Madagasca.

Today the island supplies half of the worlds needs. The vanilla flower lasts only one day and must be pollinated by hand since no Madagascar insect performs the task.

On Vanilla planifolia in Tahati girls go from flower to flower lifting the little tongue on the flower column with a pointed stick and pressing the anther and stigma together. They call it marrying the orchid. An assiduos matchmaker could pollinate 2500 flowers in one day, nature would probably have fecundated no more than half a dozen.

Rescue Dig 5/7/87.

A rescue dig was called at short notice with a ring around late in the week before Sunday 5th. July.

The area targeted was in Canning Vale and set for development.

Our group met at 10 a.m. at the corner of Ranford & Bannister Rd. 11 members attended and were able to pot the following species :-

- P. parvifolium
- C. huegelii
- C. deformis
- P. vittata vittata
- L. fimbriata
- C. sp. ? leaves

D. jeanensis was not sighted but Bevan reported that it was collected last week. This spot will be worth a visit over the next months - untill the Bulldozers move in.

Supper Roster.
July.. J.K.St.Jack
Aug.. Ray Stapledon

Raffle Roster.
July.. Peter Brown
Aug.. Val Preston

Next Field trip.

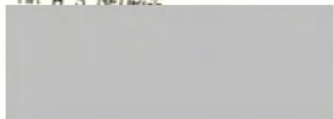
Sept. 5th. & 6 th. Mt. Jackson. (4wd) contact B.Buirchell.

Sept. 19th. Pithara area. Caladenia cristata.

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PUBLICATION No. WBH1240

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