



BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

AUGUST 1988

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP

OFFICE BEARERS 1988

Patron: Mrs J Holmes a'Court

President: Kingsley Dixon

Vice President: Beryl Yates

Immediate Past President: Bevan Buirchell

Secretary: Stephen Van Leeuwen

Treasurer: Lionel Johnston

Field Trip Co-Ordinator: Sid Gibbings

Editor: Ray Stapledon

Librarian: Wayne Merritt

Committee Members: Denis Burdinat

Chris French

Ian Greeve

Eric Swarts

Postal Address of Group: PO Box 323
Victoria Park 6100.

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 organisations.
- 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.

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

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 17th August 1988 at 7.00 pm, Kings Park Administration Centre.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING - 3rd Wednesday of each month (March to November)

Wednesday 17th July 1988 at 8.00 pm, Kings Park Administration Centre.

GUEST SPEAKERS

This meeting we will have two speakers:

- . Ron Heberle will talk on Orchid Conservation in WA.
- . Andrew Brown will discuss New Names for Western Australian Orchids.

BULLETIN - Contributions wanted for Bulletin editions. Copy deadline 1st of the month.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

The following arrangements have been finalised for our next two field trips:

August 27th-28th - Leeman. Members are to meet at the Shell Roadhouse, at the intersection of the Coorow/Greenhead Roads on Brand Highway at 12.00 midday Saturday 27th. Terry Holfreter will meet the party and act as our guide for the weekend. See you all there - don't be late.

September 10th-11th - *Caladenia cristata* trip.

Meet Saturday 10.30 am at the Ballidu wheat bin. Transport - there will be a free bus (provided by the World Wildlife Fund) and it will leave from the President's home 8.00 am. Accommodation - World Wildlife Fund is subsidising accommodation for members attending this trip. This is being arranged at the Dalwallinu Hotel. Call - Sid Gibbings on [redacted] so that final arrangements for accommodation and transport can be organised.

CLUB BADGES

A new order for club badges is being lodged and any member requiring one (cost approximately \$6.00) is asked to contact Lionel (382 1033) no later than at the next meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER - JULY

At this meeting we were privileged to have Dr Bevan Buirchell, who was recently awarded the W A Section Prize of the F W Paddock Memorial Project, talk on the subject of his submission, "The Deflasking of *Caladenias*". His talk described some of the work, included in the submission, done by himself and his assistant Margaret Collins, on propagation of WA terrestrial orchids from seed. This work is being carried out in collaboration with Mr Kingsley Dixon at the King's Park Research Laboratory. Bevan explained the way the orchid seed is germinated in the presence of specific fungi, the growing on of the protocorms and the subsequent deflasking into sheoak mulch in the glasshouse. The basic problem holding back the successful propagation of *Caladenias* is the lack of tuber production once the seedlings have been deflasked.

In addition Bevan explained the asymbiotic (without fungus) germination of *Thelymitras*. The highlight of the evening was the "lawn" of *Thelymitra crinita* seedlings growing on nutrient Agar. Bevan has attempted the germination of approximately 100 orchids including a number of potentially spectacular *Thelymitra* hybrids.

We look forward to hearing more of this excellent work in the future and seeing some of the exciting orchids that will be generated by his efforts.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS**Tenterden - Kojonup Trip 7-8-9th July**

At a refreshment stop 1 km south of the Beaufort Tavern on Albany Highway we found *Lep. fimbriata* and *Pt. vittata* var *vittata* in flower and *Caladenia* and *Lyp. nigrican* leaves. In the Nornalup Nature Reserve we found *Pt. nana* and *Pt. vittata* var *subdeformis* in flower, *Lep. fimbriata* in seed and *Caladenia* and *Diuris* leaves. On the same road 500m south of the Gordon River we found a colony of *A. reniformis* var *reniformis* in grey sand. This year should be a good one in the Kojonup, Frankland, Cranbrook area.

Noel Clarke

Field trip reports received for the month of June-July included:

Noel Clarke	Beaufort River Area <u>Leporella fimbriata</u> <u>Pterostylis vittata</u> var. <u>subdifformis</u> Nornalup Nature Reserve: <u>P. nana</u> , <u>L. fimbriata</u> <u>Caladenia</u> spp. nov. (leaves) <u>Diuris</u> spp. (leaves) Gordon River: <u>Acianthus reniformis</u>
Bevan Buirchell	Casuarinas: <u>C. deformis</u> (100's) <u>P. nana</u> Canning Mills Road Burn: <u>Prasophyllum</u> sp. (bud) <u>C. gemmata</u> var. <u>gemmata</u> (leaves) <u>Caladenia</u> spp. (leaves), <u>Diuris</u> (leaves)
Peter Brown	Gnangara Pine Plantation: <u>P. scabra</u> var. <u>robusta</u>
Bill Burton	Bindoon - Gingin Road: <u>Prasophyllum parvifolium</u> <u>C. deformis</u> , <u>Lyperanthus nigricans</u> (leaves) <u>Diuris longifolia</u> (leaves), <u>P. scabra</u> var. <u>scabra</u> <u>L. fimbriata</u> Orange Springs Road: <u>P. vittata</u> var. <u>vittata</u> <u>P. parvifolium</u> <u>D. longifolia</u> (leaves) Cervantes: <u>P. vittata</u> var. <u>vittata</u> <u>D. longifolia</u> (leaves), <u>L. nigricans</u> (leaves) Moora - Dandaragan Road: <u>C. flava</u> (leaves) <u>P. vittata</u> var. <u>vittata</u>
Steve Hopper	Southern Cross - Yellowdine: <u>P. nana</u> (Wheatbelt form, hairy stem) <u>P. mutica</u> , <u>Caladenia</u> sp. (inland, early flowering) <u>C. roel</u>

GROWERS REPORTS

The following growers report was received at the July meeting:

Peter Brown - has had Caladenia flava in pots for 3-4 years but has never succeeded in getting them to flower. However, this year he has one pot flowering. This was achieved by placing the pot in a plastic bag with a green banana when the leaves were just breaking the surface. The pot was left in the sealed bag with the banana until the banana ripened, ca. 3 weeks, after which time it was removed. Peter said that the plants had responded by not only producing flowers but by producing much healthier, lush leaves, especially when compared to the non-treated pots. Kingsley Dixon said that the stimulus for flowering was produced by the production of ethylene gas which is a product of the fruit ripening process.

JUNE PLANT DISPLAY

Wayne Merritt

- Pterostylis rogersii
- * Pterostylis toveyana
- Pterostylis vittata var. subdifformis
- * Pterostylis ophioglossa

Ray Stapledon

Diuris longifolia

Sid Gibbings

Pterostylis scabra var. robusta
Pterostylis vittata var. vittata

Peter Brown

- Pterostylis scabra var. robusta
- * Pterostylis ophioglossa sub sp. fusca
- Pterostylis vittata var. vittata
- * Pterostylis Joseph Arthur
- * Pterostylis nutans
- Prasophyllum parvifolium (in bud)

Noel Clarke

- Prasophyllum parvifolium (in bud)
- * Pterostylis toveyana
- Pterostylis vittata var. vittata (4 pots)
- Pterostylis scabra var. robusta

Bill Burton

Pterostylis vittata var. vittata
Pterostylis barbata (bud)

Andrew Brown

- * Corybas hispidus
- * Pterostylis robusta (S Aust)
- * Eastern States origin

PLANT DISPLAY JULY 1988

Ray Stapledon

Diuris longifolia - 14 flowering plants
Diuris longifolia - 8 flowering plants
Caladenia radialis
Caladenia filamentosa group
2 pots of different forms
Pterostylis nana SW form

Wayne Merritt

Pterostylis barbata - 2 flowering plants

Sid Gibbings

- Caladenia deformis
- Diuris longifolia
- * Pterostylis nutans

Noel Clarke

Pterostylis barbata (bud)
Pterostylis scabra var. robusta
Caladenia deformis

Kings Park

Caladenia flava x reptans

Peter Brown

- Caladenia flava
- Prasophyllum parvifolium
- * Pterostylis nana

Harry Lodge

Pterostylis vittata/vittata (small flowered form)
Pterostylis recurva

Pat Dundas

Pterostylis vittata var. *subdifformis*

David Parker

Thelymitra antenaferra

Aclanthus reniformis var. *hueglinii*

Pterostylis vittata var. *vittata*

* Eastern States

HELP WANTED WITH PTEROSTYLIS NANA RESEARCH.

I am currently trying to unravel the complex of *Pterostylis nana* which exists in Western Australia. I have been researching this group for the last 3 seasons and some interesting results are beginning to emerge. I prefer to work with fresh material and am seeking the help from members throughout the south-west who may be prepared to collect material on my behalf. Please note that it is not uncommon for more than one taxon of this group to be growing in fairly close proximity. Often each may occupy slightly different niche (habitats) - one may be growing on laterite or logs, another in soil; some form dense colonies, others grow in small groups.

About 3-5 fresh specimens per site would be ideal. They should be cut off at ground level so that all basal leaves are included. For despatch, roll them completely in tissue, moisten and seal in a plastic bag, pack in a box or mailing cylinder and send to my home address listed below. Any interesting notes on habitat, colony-formation, flower colour, soil type etc., would be most useful.

If anyone is prepared to help with this project I will be grateful to hear from you.

David L Jones

[REDACTED]

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Committee and members of the society would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new members and wish them an enjoyable, educational and rewarding association with the group. The new members are:

Mrs Jean Biddle

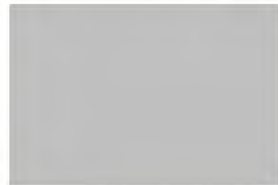
Mrs Mary Starr

Dr Kate Creed

Mr William King

Mr David Jones

Mr John Barlow



URGENT

A Tribute to the Beauty of our Native Orchids

Native Orchids in Australia, one of the largest books ever published on Australia's orchids, will be released soon.

Members of orchid societies around Australia will be offered this magnificent book through the Australian Orchid Foundation. A mail-order form will soon be sent to your society to take your orders. Only a limited number of this magnificent book has been produced, so we are alerting interested orchid lovers first.

Written by David L Jones, it is the most important book on Australia's orchids published in more than 20 years. It has been produced by authoritative botanical publisher, Reed Books.

It is divided into three sections: About Native Orchids; Terrestrial Orchids; and Epiphytic Orchids. There are exhaustive notes on cultivation and propagation.

Specifications

260mm x 190mm (10 1/4" x 7 1/2"), 656 pages, quality matt coated artpaper, hard cover binding with glossy jacket. Twenty-seven chapters, approximately 250,000 words of text, extensive glossary and index, over 260 colour photographs and 600 detailed line drawings.

A colourful brochure will be sent to your society soon. Please place your order by phone with Lionel Johnston (382 1033) before the next meeting (17/8/88).

(DRAFT)

MURDOCH UNIVERSITY

WORKSHOP ON

AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDS

SUNDAY, 9TH OCTOBER 1988

PROGRAMME:

- 9.00 AM** **REGISTRATION**
- 9.20** **OPENING REMARKS** Professor John Consadine
- 9.30** **INTRODUCTION: HISTORY, CONSERVATION & PROTECTION**
Stephen Hopper
- 10.00** **NOMENCLATURE AND OCCURRENCE**
Kingsley Dixon
- 10.30** **MORNING TEA**
- 11.00** **TERRESTRIALS: THEIR CULTURE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**
Bevan Buirchell
- 11.30** **EPIPHYTES: THEIR CULTURE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**
Rob Manning
- 12.00** **LUNCH (BBQ)**
- 1.30 PM** **PHOTOGRAPHY OF NATIVE ORCHIDS**
Dereck Mead-Hunter
- 2.00** **HYBRIDISATION AND JUDGING STANDARDS**
Norm Stockton
- 2.30** **SEED AND TISSUE CULTURE**
Eric Bunn
- 3.00** **AFTERNOON TEA**
- 3.30** **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDS**
Kingsley Dixon
- 4.00** **DISCUSSION FORUM**
- 5.00 PM** **CLOSE.**

COST: \$50 Covers lunch, morning & afternoon teas and workshop notes.

NORM STOCKTON



SUPPER ROSTER 1988

August Sara ATKINSON
September Lionel JOHNSTON
October Jean LONG

RAFFLE ROSTER 1988

August I & J GREEVE
September Ray STAPLEDON
September Jean LONG

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MR A S GEORGE



Next Field Trip:

1. **August 27th and 28th.** Leeman "Northern Heathland Orchids."
2. **September 10th and 11th.** Caladenia cristata trip.

Full details are contained elsewhere in this bulletin.