



BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

OCTOBER 1988

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID STUDY & CONSERVATION GROUP

OFFICE BEARERS 1988

Patron: Mrs J Holmes a'Court

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Vice President: Beryl Yates

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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.

PREVIOUSLY UNRECOGNIZED THELYMITRAS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Recent research has shown that there are at least 3 previously unrecognized Thelymitra species occurring in Western Australia. T. holmsii and T. longifolia, both common species in Eastern Australia, are now known to occur in the west. In addition T. benthamiana, a species described by Reichenback, has been rediscovered in the Darling Range north east of Midland. Brief descriptions are provided here to aid recognition.

Thelymitra holmsii

Closely related to T. nuda this species differs in having a narrower, more concave crest to the column some what later flowering period and a preference for winter wet situations. It can be found growing in such habitats in great profusion following summer fires.

Flowering in November-December this attractive orchid produces up to 15 blue/lilac flowers and on occasions form dense colonies which make for a spectacular display. To date it is only known to occur between Perth and Albany.

Thelymitra longifolia

This species was described from material collected in New Zealand and is common in South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria. T. longifolia is confined to the coastal granites between Augusta and Albany. It may occur east of Esperance but further survey work is required to determine if this is so. Most closely related to T. pauciflora, a species with which it often grows in association with, it differs in having a somewhat broader leaf which tapers to a sharp point at the apex. It also has larger white or pale blue flowers with acute sepals.

Habitat consists of shallow soil pockets on granite where it can be found flowering in September-October.

Thelymitra benthamiana

A member of the T. fuscolutea complex this species is most closely allied to T. stellata but differs in having uniformly golden yellow flowers, a taller flowering scape and a preference for clay soils in wandoo-jarraah woodlands. T. stellata prefers lateritic loams in jarraah woodlands.

Flowering in November this species to date is only known from a few square kilometers of land north east of Midland.

A.P. Brown

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

The GREEVE Family
20th August

Brookton Hwy

Caladenia macrostylis, C. huegelii (B), C. flava, C. denticulata, C. longiclavata, C. filifera, C. reptans, C. deformis, C. sericea, C. dilatata var. falcata (B), C. menziesii (B), C. saccharata, Diuris longifolia, Leporella fimbriata (L), Lyperanthus nigricans (L), Pterostylis nana, P. recurva, P. vittata var. vittata, P. scabra var. robusta, P. sargentii and Eriochilus dilatatus (F).

Orchids growing in wandoo and sheoak vegetation communities.

Wayne and Ken MERRITT
27th August

Southern Cross - Bullfinch Road

C. denticulata (3 forms), C. roei, P. nana, P. rufa, Thelymitra nuda (B), T. sargentii (B), Prasophyllum macrostachyum var. ringens.

16 km North of Bullfinch

P. mutica

Mt Jackson

C. barbarossa, C. amplexans, C. roei, C. denticulata (2 forms), P. nana, P. rufa.

28th August

Mukinbudin & Wyalkatchem

D. longifolia (yellow form), C. flava, C. denticulata (4 forms), C. roei, C. amplexans, C. deformis, C. barbarossa, C. saccharata.

In all, orchids were plentiful and widespread. It is possible the best season for some time.

Kevin COATE

Baldivas Road, Baldivas

C. menziesii (albino), D. longifolia.

A burnt area next to the railway reserve. The albino rabbit orchids are very attractive with all white flowers and green ears (petals).

Andrew BROWN & Stephen VAN LEEUWEN
9 September

Damboring

C. longicauda, C. roei, C. denticulata, C. deformis, C. denticulata (salt lake form), C. cristata, D. aff. longifolia, T. antennifera, P. aff. rufa, P. macrostachyum var. ringens.

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NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 19th October, 1988 at 7.00 pm, King's Park Board Administration Centre.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 19th October, 1988 at 8.00 pm, King's Park Board Administration Centre.

GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker at the next meeting will be Dr Norm Stockton from Murdoch University. His subject will be - THE BIG MOVE - learning to grow eastern species in Western Australia.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are wanted for every edition of the bulletin. Articles should be sent to Stephen van Leeuwen [redacted] or [redacted]. Your articles can be sent by facsimile machine if you wish, the number of which is [redacted]. The article submission deadline for the next issue of the bulletin is November 1st.

FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS

October 22nd - 23rd. Survey of the Frankland River area to assess the conservation status of Caladenia dorrienii. Many other late flowering caladenias and other orchids should be encountered. Please make your own arrangement for accommodation. Details of the meeting place will be provided at the next meeting or can be obtained from Syd Gibbing after the October meeting.

November 6th. Survey for the recently rediscovered species of sun orchid called Thelymitra benthamiana. This trip will be to the Gidgeganup-Walyunga area and is being conducted in conjunction with the Eastern Hills Wildflower Society. The meeting place is at the corner of O'Brien Road and the Toodyay Road at 9.30 am. O'Brien Road is ca. 8 km east of Red Hill on the Toodyay Road. Please bring a picnic lunch.

November 19th. To survey selected areas of the Gnangara mound for late flowering species of orchids such as Epiblema grandiflorum and Prasophyllum drummondii. To meet at entrance to Wildlife Research Centre on Ocean Reef Road, Woodvale at 9.30 am.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

If you are interested in participating in an orchid trip to the Kimberleys in early 1989 please contact Kingsley Dixon.

ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION

Notice is hereby given to all members of the following motions to amend the Constitution that will be put at the Annual General Meeting on 16 November 1988 -

CLAUSE 5 - RETIREMENT OF OFFICE BEARERS

The clause be amended to read -

The President, Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and one half of the Committee shall retire on the day of the Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election, those to retire each year shall be those Committee members who have completed a two year term or part thereof. The Committee members shall be elected to two and one year terms.

CLAUSE 8 - SUBSCRIPTION

Sub-clause 8(b) be amended to read -

- b) The amount of the annual subscription for junior members shall be such fraction of full fee as determined from time to time by the management Committee.

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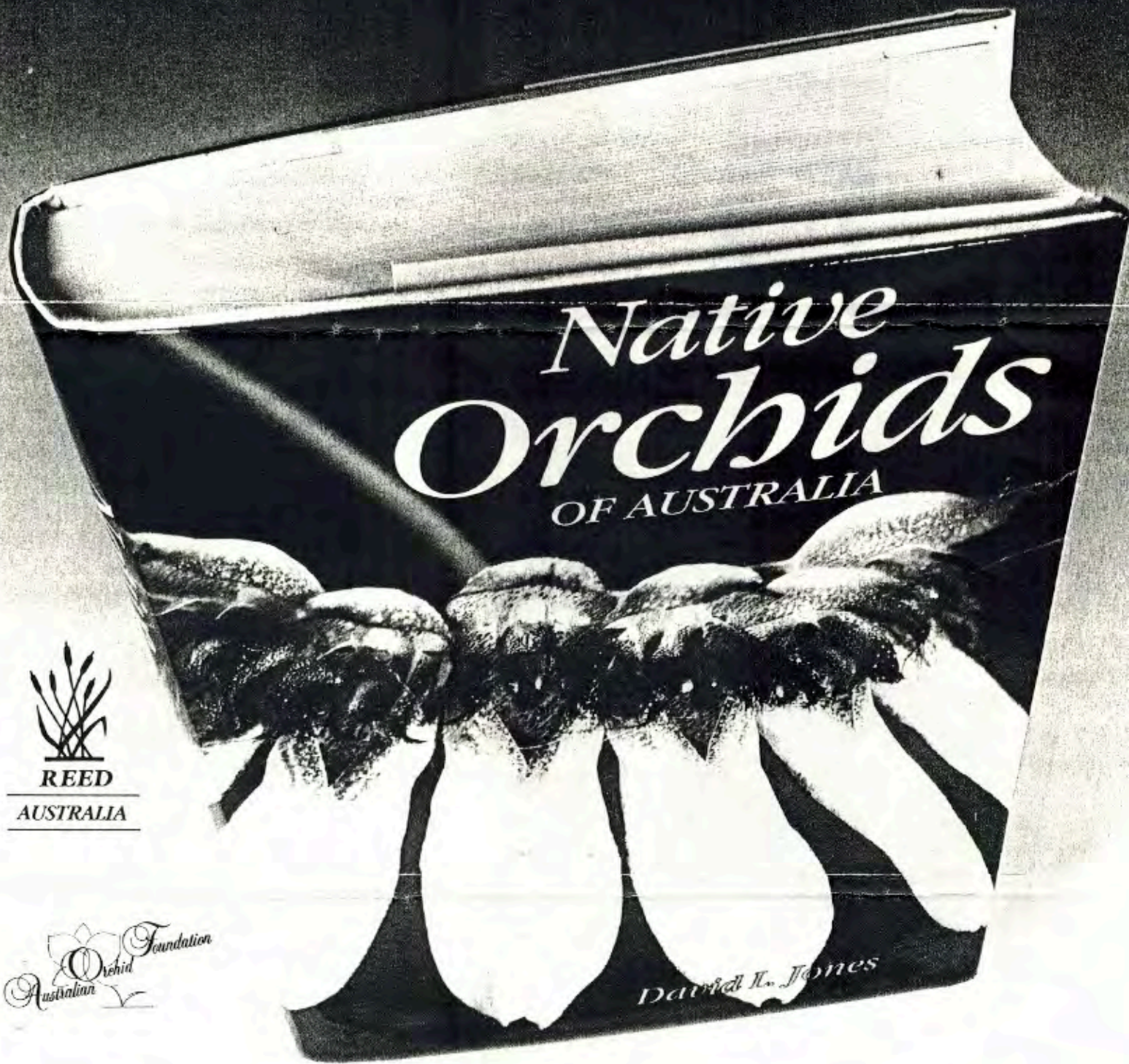
GROWERS TABLE

The September plant display was the best for the year to date. Contributors and their plants were:

Wayne Merritt	<u>Pterostylis rufa</u> (2 forms), <u>Caladenia denticulata</u> (large red), <u>P. barbata</u>
Ray Stapledon	<u>Diuris aurea</u>
Eric Swart	<u>C. flava</u> , <u>C. aff. huegelii</u> , <u>Elythranthera brunonis</u> , <u>Dendrobium speciosum</u>
Denis Burdinat	<u>E. brunonis</u> , <u>C. flava</u> , <u>Theiymitra crinita</u>
Chris French	<u>E. brunonis</u> , <u>C. longicauda</u> x <u>pectinata</u>
David Parker	<u>Drakaea elastica</u> , <u>T. crinita</u> , <u>D. laxiflora</u>
Stephen Van Leeuwen	<u>C. aff. huegelii</u> , <u>C. denticulata</u> , <u>C. longicauda</u> , <u>Microtis unifolia</u> , <u>Pterostylis aff. nana</u>
Pat Dundas	<u>C. filifera</u> , <u>C. aff. denticulata</u> (2 forms), <u>C. discoidea</u> , <u>C. longicauda</u>

Norm Stockton also provided an excellent collection of epiphytic orchids in the genus Dendrobium. Several of the specimens presented were hybrids.

A Tribute to the Beauty



of our Native Orchids

Native Orchids of Australia – The most comprehensive book ever published on Australia's orchids.

David L. Jones has written the most important book on Australia's native orchids in 25 years. Produced by authoritative botanical publisher, Reed Books.

Pithara

C. denticulata (salt lake form), C. roei, C. radialis, C. barbarossa (hinged labellum), C. barbarossa x denticulata, C. radialis x denticulata, C. flava, T. antennifera, P. macrostachyum var. ringens.

WANOSCG

10 September

Ballidu

C. denticulata, C. flava, C. roei, C. radialis, C. barbarossa (salt lake form), C. barbarossa (hinged labellum), P. aff. rufa, P. aff. nana, P. macrostachyum var. ringens, T. antenifera.

Damboring

"As Above" including P. aff. nana, C. barbarossa (salt lake form), C. barbarossa (hinged labellum).

Pithara

"As Above" including C. doutchae, C. barbarossa (salt lake form).

WANOSCG

24 - 26 September

Ravensthorpe Area

C. barbarossa, C. caerulea, C. dilatata var. falcata, C. doutchae, C. denticulata, C. aff. denticulata, C. flava, C. gemmata, C. graminifolia, C. hirta (pink & white forms), C. latifolia, C. longicauda, C. multiclavia, C. radialis, C. roei, C. saccharata, P. allantoidea, P. pusilla, P. mutica, P. recurva (S), P. vittata (S), T. campanulata, T. canaliculata, T. aff. nuda (B), T. fuscolutea (B), T. psammophila, T. villosa, E. brunonis, L. nigricans, M. alba, M. atrata, P. elatum.

Besides those orchids mentioned above, lots of hybrids between different species of Caladenia were encountered, some of which looked like the elusive Caladenia lavandulacea. The group would like to thank Helen Parker of Hopetoun for her guidance and the owners of Cocananup House for allowing the group to use their facilities, especially the warm and enjoyable fire. 18 members were in attendance.

Beryl YATES & David PARKER

26 September

Pallinup River Area

C. barbarossa, C. bryceana (50+), C. cairnsiana, C. dilatata var. falcata (500+), C. doutchae, C. flava, C. denticulata, C. filifera, C. aff. denticulata, C. hirta, C. latifolia, C. longicauda, C. nana, Pterostylis species in seed, P. macrostachyum var. ringens, Thelymitra species in bud, E. brunonis. Lot of hybrids were also encountered between the caladenias. There were also lots of other spectacular wildflowers to be seen.

SUPPER ROSTER 1988

October Jean LONG
November Harry LODGE

RAFFLE ROSTER 1988

October JEAN LONG
November John TONKINSON

CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE: 1st November

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MR A S GEORGE
[REDACTED]

Next Field Trip:

October 22nd - 23rd	<u>Caladenia dorrienii</u> - Frankland River area.
November 6th	<u>Thelymitra benthamiana</u> - Gidgegannup - in conjunction with Eastern Hills Wildflower Society.
November 19th	Gnangara mound.
December 3rd - 4th	Late flowering <u>Diuris</u> - Walpole.