



BULLETIN

OF THE

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)

APRIL 1997

OFFICE BEARER	ADDRESS	PHONE
PATRON	Dr. Steve Hopper	
PRESIDENT	Steve Phillips	
VICE PRESIDENT	Noel Clarke	
VICE PRESIDENT	Ian Greeve	
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	John Eaton	
SECRETARY	Joni Eaton	
TREASURER	Christine Lock	
COMMITTEE	John Haynes	
	Tony Lock	
	Don Manners	
	Joan Greeve	
FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR		
LIBRARIAN	Bill Burton	
EDITOR	Noel Clarke	
AUDITOR	Ross Wilton	

OBJECTIVES 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 environments.
- 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 exchange 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 objectives.

NOTE: The opinions expressed by contributors to this bulletin are not specifically endorsed by the group.

POSTAL ADDRESS
OF GROUP

PO Box 323
Victoria Park 6979

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 16 April 1997 at 7.00 p.m., Kings Park
Administration Centre.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 16 April 1997 at 8.00 p.m., Kings Park
Administration Centre.

SPEAKER

Andrew Brown - "WA Orchid Discoveries in Recent Years"

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

May 21 .. General Meeting
June 18 .. General Meeting
July 16 .. General Meeting
August 20 .. General Meeting
September 17 .. General Meeting
October 15 .. General Meeting
November 19 .. General Meeting

ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP FEES

1997 Membership fees are now due! The Group membership fees are as follows:

Single Membership	\$20.00 pa
Family Membership	\$20.00 pa

AUDITORS REPORT

The Members,

I have examined the books and vouchers of The Western Australian Native Orchid Study & Conservation Group (Inc.) for the year ended 31 January 1997 and have received explanations as deemed necessary.

The accounts records have been maintained on the cash basis of accounting. The Statements of Cash Receipts and Cash Payments for the year ending 31 January 1997 has been prepared in accordance with the Society's records and, in my opinion, shows a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 January 1997.

R. Wilton FCPA

Hon. Auditor.

EDITOR'S RAVE

Now that the election of Office Bearers is over for another year we can look forward to a blooming good year learning more about bush orchids, new species and new locations.

I have taken on the editor's role this year. Although I have a computer it is an old XT not capable of doing the wizzbang things the last two editors have been able to accomplish.

Any newsletter is only as good as the information provided by the members, be it orchidwise or personal.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Noel Clarke [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The article submission deadline for the next issue is 1 May, 1997.

SUPPER COST

Each month our supper is generously donated by group members (per the list on the back of the Bulletin), while the group supplies the tea, coffee, sugar and milk. To recoup some of the cost of these supplies, a modest fee of 50 cents applies. This can be left on the supper table and will be collected by the Treasurer at the end of the evening. Also please rinse out your cups when you have finished with them.

THINK YOU'VE GOT TROUBLES

The following article appeared in "KALORI" bulletin of A.N.O.S. Gold Coast Group. I also saw it in the Arltunga Pub near Alice Springs.

"It all started back in 1966 when they changed from pounds to dollars and my overdraft doubled. I was just getting used to this when they brought in kilograms instead of pounds and my flaming wool clip dropped by half. Then they changed rain to millimetres and we haven't had an inch of rain since. So what do they do? They bring in a thing called Celsius and it never gets hotter than 40 degrees in mid-summer - no wonder my wheat won't grow. This wasn't enough, they had to change us over from acres to hectares, and I end up with half the flaming land I had. So one day I sat down and I had a think, I reckon that with daylight saving I was working seven extra hours a week for nothing. So I decided to sell out. But to cap it all off, I'd just got the place in the agent's hands when they changed from miles to kilometres and now I find I'm too flaming far out of town for anyone to buy the flaming place."

\$ FOR SALE \$

Rufa Trip Report \$10.00
 New Caladenia flava badges \$4.00 to members, \$5.00 to non-members.
 Name badge \$8.50
 Orchids of WA (2nd ed) \$9.00
 Orchids of SW Australia \$40.00
 Car stickers \$1.50
 Pat Dundas cards \$8.00
 Bush Survival Kit \$4.00

FIELD TRIPS

You will notice in the list of Office Bearers that we require a Field Trip Coordinator.

The position entails, as the name suggests, coordinating requests from members to see certain orchids and offers from members to lead trips. If there are no requests or offers then there is no work.

FIELD TRIP TO CORROGIN - Sunday 11th. May

The object of the trip is to see *Genoplesium nigricans*. Meet at Brookton Sports Ground at 10 a.m. Please advise Noel Clarke, [REDACTED], if you intend participating.

NEW SPECIES FOR WA

There was a spelling error in the March 1997 issue. The correct spelling of the new name for the WA species is *Prasophyllum odoratissimum*.

LIBRARY PROCEDURES

Our library operates on the "honour system" i.e. it is the responsibility of those who remove items from the cabinet to return them, nominally within two months, however extensions of that time can be obtained by phoning the Librarian (see inside cover of your Bulletin).

Each item has a number on its spine and they are stored in numerical sequence.

If you remove an item on a "borrowing" basis (not for a quick browse whilst awaiting a meeting) you are required to record your borrowing on the card enclosed in the item. You must record "your name, phone number and date of removal" and leave the card IN THE PLACE OF THE ITEM.

When you return the item "ditto" your name on the next line, record "returned" under your phone number and the "returned date", replace the card in the item and replace the item in its sequence in the cabinet.

If you do this we should be able to retain our library in good order for the use of all members.

WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING 19/3/97

PRESENT - As per Attendance Book.

VISITORS & NEW MEMBERS - Nil.

MINUTES - It was moved Brockman/Haynes "that minutes of General Meeting of 20/11/96 be accepted. CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING - Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE - As per Correspondence list.

Request from Darby Paull for info on bushland available in Stirlings area.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer's report was circulated.

FIELD TRIPS - Nil.

PLANT TABLE - Nil.

GENERAL BUSINESS - A library report was presented by Bill Burton.

Noel Clarke mentioned name change of *Prasophyllum odoratum* as in "Hoffman & Brown" to David Jones new species of *P. odoratissimum*.

Artwork for T-shirts done, five shirts printed. Any questions or orders to Don Manners.

It was moved Greeve/Phillips "That Noel Clarke be made an Honorary Life Member for services rendered to the Group." CARRIED.

Pat Dundas spoke of Andrew Mitchell of the WA Ag. Dept. finding a possible *Zeuxine oblonga* in flower in early August north of Kununnurra. This species has been recorded in Queensland, but is new to WA. The raffle was provided by John Eaton and won by Gary Brockman.

Our supper was provided by Joni Eaton.

Meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

MY METHOD OF GROWING TERRESTRIAL ORCHIDS

The following article by Ray Young, appeared in "The Orchidophile" ANOS Sydney Newsletter.

"THE MIX

Some time ago I noticed a broken bag of Seed Raising Mix on the floor of our local BBC Hardware, and as I am an avid grower of terrestrials I had a good look at it, and liked what I saw.

It was a mix put out by a firm named AMGRO in the Penrith area, it contained no fertilizer but did contain pebbles, a small amount of Peat Moss, just enough, and appeared to have good drainage.

At that moment the "Counter Jumper" appeared and said I could have it for half price. As I had just been given a couple of tubers I said ok! The bags come in 15 litre and smaller, the 15 litre costs less than \$5 so for small growers its perfect. A great discount has been given to members of Warringah Group who are now using it, delivered to that area for \$3.50 per 15 litre bag, food for thought eh?

I mix to each 15 litre bag one dessertspoon of Patons Blood and Bone, and one dessertspoon of Dolomite and find no fertilizer is needed.

The first 3 inches of mix is firmly placed into the pot to stop the mix escaping, no shade cloth or gauze is used in the bottom of the pot as it clogs and does not release excess water. The pot is then filled to within 2 inches from top with mix, distribute the tubers with the **eye facing up**, and cover with another 1 inch of mix.

The pot is immediately watered and placed in a cool position with further waterings ONCE PER MONTH, until the growth appears, and is then watered once per week.

As I grow my terrestrials under opaque fibreglass which is covered in summer with shade cloth, I have to hand water once per week, which is usually on a Sunday morning, to keep to a regular schedule.

During winter I move the **Diuris** to full sunlight to strengthen the stems, but the same watering schedule carries on EXCEPT if rains that week, then I give no further watering.

I had great success this year which I put down to using the **AMGRO Seed Raising Mix** for its "drainability", texture and small amount of Peat Moss.

TUBER DIVIDING

The easiest way of multiplying your collection of **Diuris** species is by the tuber division method. The correct time to do this is just as the bottom flower is going off (this is usually the first opening flower).

I place paper on the bench, or if the "Cook" is not home, a table, then place the pot on its side whilst resting the stem of the orchid on the palm of my left hand. I gently roll the pot, still with the stem supported, until the soil has fallen away from the tuber.

The orchid is gently withdrawn from the pot supporting both the stem and tuber. Lay the whole plant on the table and you will see the new tuber growing alongside the old one, I then hold the old tuber and gently twist the new one, it will come away without any trouble. A small "dob" of Sulphur on both

breaks and after about two minutes replant the orchid, supporting it with a small sized stake tied to the plant in two places, the new tuber is then planted in the same pot but away from the orchid, a drink of water (for the pot, not you) and place in a cool position.

The **Diuris** thinks it has aborted its new growth and immediately starts growing another. You are not going to kill your favourite orchid as you have next years tuber and if done correctly you have another "on the way".

Care must be taken both handling and removing the tuber as the stem will snap like a carrot, and no more can be enticed. This method is suitable for all **Diuris** species, but **Diuris corymbosa** is tricky as it multiplies and each new one has to form a growth similar to Dahlias before it flowers. One grower last season told me he had several pots of **Diuris corymbosa** but no flowers. I quickly told him not to repot each year but each three years.

I hope you understand my method of dividing tubers and do not hesitate to ask should you feel the need. It is easy, and John Riley told me he tuber divided a **rufa Pterostylis** five times in the one season, all perfect. Incidentally, it was John who me this method, and if I can do it, so can you."

JUMBLED WORDS

A little teaser to help you get familiar with orchid names. Unscramble the words and learn. Have fun.

1. ENIDIORIR
2. SAWOAN
3. ANNA
4. HAXANT
5. ALACCUYIN
6. PIIDLUMS
7. FUSTORA
8. ATIILAC
9. SIOVLAL
10. CAPIT
11. KAARED
12. CRIIUSOLEH
13. TIGRINA
14. SUIDIR
15. VAIDIL

	SUPPER ROSTER	RAFFLE ROSTER
APRIL	Jean Long	Jean Long
MAY	Joe Ward	Noel Clarke
JUNE	Ross Fox	

WANOSCG
PO Box 323
Victoria Park 6979

SURFACE

MAIL

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

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BROWN MR A

Forthcoming Field Trips
Sunday 11th. May to Corrogin.