



BULLETIN
OF THE
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID
STUDY AND CONSERVATION GROUP
(INC)
(1974 – 2004)

AUGUST 2004

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CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE (2)	Mike Harper	

OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

- To promote interest in and preserve Western Australian indigenous orchids.
- To learn the best means of cultivation and do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their environment.
- To learn their habitats and keep records.
- To have field days and learn to recognise the different genera and species.
- To hold meetings for the exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in Western Australian orchids.
- To affiliate with kindred organisations.
- To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.
- 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 this Group.

POSTAL ADDRESS OF GROUP: PO Box 323

Victoria Park 6979

WANOSCG E-mail address:

Web address:

Web Master Don Ward E-mail:

Web

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 18 August 2004 at 7.00 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 18 August 2004 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

The guest speaker is Pat Dundas, and her topic is "Painting Orchids".

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

22 August	Field trip Wireless Hill Park
4 September	Field trip York area
12 September	Field trip Narrogin/Yilliminning
15 September	General meeting.
19 September	Field trip Wooroloo (<i>Tentative</i>)
2/3/4 October	Field trip Tenterden/Porongurup
9/10 October	Field trip Hyden/Pingaring
20 October	General meeting.
17 November	General meeting.
4/5 December	Field trip Albany

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Group's financial year commences on 1 February. Annual fees are \$25.00 for singles & families. New membership joining fee is \$10.00 and if joining after 30 June membership fee is adjusted prorata.

The digit after your name on the address label is the year for which you are financial and is updated as far as practicable.

RED DOT ON YOUR BULLETIN

Do you have a red dot on your Bulletin?

This means that by our records you are an unfinancial member and **THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST BULLETIN.**

If you have paid since the last meeting please ignore the red dot.

**Please send fees to The Treasurer,
P.O. Box 323, Victoria Park, 6979.**

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are needed for every edition of the Bulletin. Articles should be sent to Tom Blinco, [redacted] The article submission deadline for the next issue is **Monday 6th September 2004.**

Country members, we would love to share your orchid adventures (or misadventures). Many private field trips are undertaken, how about sharing them with the membership via the Bulletin.

GROUP WEB SITE

Have you visited our web site? See page 2 of the Bulletin for the address.

Thanks to Webmaster Don Ward.

FOR SALE

History of WANOSCG \$3.00.

Group wineglasses \$7.50 each.

Caladenia flava Badges \$4.00 members,
\$5.00 non-members.

Orchids of WA (2nd Ed) \$9.00.

Orchids of SW Australia \$45.00.

Orchid Flowering Times \$5.00.

Colour Guide to Spring Wildflowers

by Eddy Wajon - \$18.00 each.

Part 1: Kalbarri & The Goldfields

Part 2: Perth & The Southwest.

Part 3: Esperance & The Wheatbelt

Car Stickers \$1.50.

Pat Dundas Cards \$8.00

Rufa Trip Report \$10.00

Club Polo Tee-shirts, 100% cotton with embroidered club logo, varying sizes, surplus after orders have been met. Cost is \$25.00 each
Group name badges can be ordered from the Treasurer. The cost is \$10.00 each.

FIELD TRIPS

The field trips listed are proposed and are subject to change if needed.

It is important that you advise the Field Trip Leader if attending because then you can be advised of any change of plans, etc.

Please consider car pooling, particularly on metro trips.

Accommodation for weekend trips is your own responsibility.

FIELD TRIP APPLECROSS (WIRELESS HILL PARK) SUNDAY 22nd AUGUST 2004

Meet at the Telecommunications Museum car park at the top of the hill (**please note change**) at 9.00 am. Please advise Eddy Wajon on [redacted] if you are attending.

Members please support this field trip - which is an attempt to let the public know about us and to perhaps gain some new members - and make yourself available to accompany visitors as required. Following the park tour there will be a social gathering in the Telecommunications Museum (**note change**) to provide advice or response to any questions.

FIELD TRIP YORK AREA

SATURDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2004

Meet on Great Southern Highway (The Lakes to York Road) at the corner of Inkpen Road (approx 13.2km from The Lakes) at 10.00am.

Trip leader is Tom Blinco. Please advise or leave a message on phone [redacted] if you are attending, or if you subsequently change your mind.

FIELD TRIP NARROGIN AREA SUNDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2004

Meet at the parking area by the Narrogin Caravan Park, at the Williams end of Narrogin on the Williams – Kondinin Road, opposite the entrance to Foxes Lair, at 10.00am.

Trip leader is Phil Bunney. Please advise Phil at the August meeting or on mobile phone [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] if you are attending, or if you subsequently change your mind.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Don't forget your entry in the competition for the best photograph, in either print or digital format, of *Caladenia flava ssp flava*.

Please see the minutes of the 19 May 2004 General Meeting in your June *Bulletin*, and have your favourite entry in the competition ready in time for the November meeting.

PRASOPHYLLUM INCORRECTUM

Have you ever wondered about the naming of some orchids? Then read on.

This item is from the ANOS GEELONG GROUP BULLETIN, APRIL 2004

The Prasophyllum growing at Campbell Town, Tasmania has now been given a new name, *Prasophyllum incorrectum*. There is quite a long path to this name.

The name first given to the Prasophyllum on the old railway line west of Bairnsdale [Victoria] was *P. chasmoganum*, however this was described from a wrong specimen.

When this was discovered a new name of *Prasophyllum correctum* was given to this orchid, which derives from the Latin *correctus*, correct or made right.

When the Campbell Town Prasophyllum was found it was thought to be the same as *Prasophyllum correctum* and has been known under that name, however molecular study has found that the Tasmanian and Victorian orchids are different. The new name *incorrectum* derives from the Latin *incorrectum*, incorrect or wrong, referring to the mistake made in including the species in *P. correctum*.

IN THE NEWS

Did you notice the recent report in the travel pages of *The West Australian* on the prospects for the forthcoming wildflower season, and the new orchid mentioned?

Well, in quoting Allan Tinker of Western Flora CP, it did say that some orchid varieties, such as hair, donkey and sun orchids, are already blooming.

Then again, perhaps it was just a case of an "uneducated" reporter, having made a telephone enquiry from within office confines, not knowing the difference between one hair and another hare?

(Ed)

CALADENIA FILIFERA (OR IS IT?)

Following his field trip report at the July meeting, Bob Tatum arranged with Matz and myself a visit to the Meenaar Nature Reserve (east of Northam) to look at some small red spider orchids referred to in his comments.

After a wide scout around we eventually found a colony of what appeared to be *Caladenia filifera* in various stages between buds and flowers.

But wait – isn't mid-July a little early for this orchid? H & B says that the flowering period is September – October, as does *NUYTSIA* Vol.14 Number 1/2 2001, in which *C filifera* is described. Further, the labellum is supposed to be small and uniformly red, which is not the case here – a number have the appearance to me of *C pulchra* whilst a number have a larger labellum than others. Interestingly, *Nuytsia* says that *C filifera* is allied to *C dundasiae*, and resembles *C pulchra*.

As well as many solitary plants, lots of which were "aff *dundasiae*", there were clumps small and large, in one of which there were seventeen plants with nineteen flowers and buds (very enticing for photography!). I also saw several double-headers and at least two triple-headers (or would be when all the flowers come out). This conforms with the described habits of *C filifera*.

In later discussion with Noel Clarke, he advised that *C filifera* has been reported in the Northam area in July and that is probably what these are – and agreed that was so after we made a subsequent visit.

All too confusing for this amateur!!

Of further interest were two plants that I believe were hybrids – one with distinctive yellow colouring at the base of the petals, the other with narrow striping on the edges of the petals and very distinctive red striping on a white labellum

On our revisit to this location, we saw both *C flava/flava* and a *C dimidia* in flower. Could either of these be a hybridisation partner?

Neither H & B nor *Nuytsia* mention any hybridising habits of *C filifera*, and in an article by the late Ron Heberle on *Caladenia* Natural Hybridisation, published by *The Orchadian* in June 1992 and in the *BULLETIN* in March 1993, the only hybridisation by *C filifera* then known by him was with *C multiclavia*, at Jerramungup.

Has anyone any comments on *C filifera* hybrids?

Tom Blinco

WANOSCG - MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 21 July 2004

Meeting was declared open at 8.00 PM

Present: There were 21 members present and two apologies, as per the attendance register.

A welcome was extended to three visitors, Luke Levy, Kirsty Pickett and Mark Brundrett, and to the guest speaker, Nigel Swarts.

Supper and Raffle: Supper was supplied by Mike Harper and Del Hayward, and the Raffle prize was donated by Phil Bunney.

Minutes: Moved Tom Blinco seconded Noel Clarke that the Minutes of the General Meeting of 16 June 2004 as presented in the Bulletin be confirmed. CARRIED.

Matters arising from the Minutes Nil

Correspondence:

As per the list circulated with the attendance book and dealt with by Committee.

Matters arising from the Correspondence: Nil Treasurer's Report:

A copy of the Treasurer's Report was circulated with the attendance book.

Field Trip Reports:

- a) There will be a Open Field Trip for members and visitors to Wireless Hill Park, Melville, on Sunday 22 August. Members willing and able to attend and help greet visitors should contact Eddy Wajon as soon as possible.
- b) Bob Tatum reported orchids found along Great Eastern Highway (Winter Spider Orchids), throughout the wheatbelt (Dwarf Common Spider Orchid), and Chingah Hills, Chiddarcooping, Lake Toolibin and Wallaby Hills.
- c) Tom Blinco reported on the Group trip to Mogumber which found plenty of orchids.
- d) Matz Dahlkamp had a barren trip to Mullering Road.

Plant Table:

Mark Brundrett provided a display of specimens and posters of the Underground Orchid. Mark spoke of his recent research and requested the Group support an application for funding for future research and for the group to provide community support through assisting in field surveys. It was agreed that the Group support the application as has been done in previous years.

General Business:

There was a vote of Congratulations to Joe Ward who celebrated his 80th birthday on 19 June.

Guest Speaker:

Nigel Swarts is a researcher with the Botanic Gardens and Park Authority at Kings Park, and his PhD research is in the habits of *Caladenia huegelii*, with particular interest in understanding the germination and growth of this orchid with the objective of translocating specimens at risk and fostering their broader spread.

C. huegelii or Grand Spider Orchid is 1 of 14 critically endangered species among Western Australia's 350 species of native orchids. It is found in banksia woodland in the south west of WA, with best populations in Canning Vale, in Ken Hurst Park and Ranford Road. It requires quite specific environmental conditions to survive and these conditions have been diminished with development of the natural habitats. In order for successful recovery of these critically endangered species there must be an Integrated Orchid Conservation plan (IOC). This will incorporate,

Ecology: knowledge of the required habitat and factors promoting growth.

Genetics: the population size and characteristics, and any problems

Mycology: the fungal associations necessary to achieve germination and development

Botany: gathering seed and carrying out biological study on the plants

Entomology: understanding the agents and methods of pollination

Environment: preservation of those elements needed for these orchids to prosper.

To provide the knowledge and understanding necessary for a successful Integrated Orchid Conservation plan, Nigel Swarts' research is in three experimental areas,

Seed Botany: to identify soils and fungal activity which germinate *C. huegelii*

Specificity Testing: the mycorrhiza of orchids vary in specificity, and this will be demonstrated.

Genetic Analysis: using techniques of molecular genetics to answer questions on variations within and between populations and fungal specificity.

President Mike Harper thanked Nigel Swarts for his presentation and presented him with a memento gift. He then invited Nigel to draw tonight's raffle.

Raffle Draw:

The winner of the raffle was Del Hayward.

Next Meeting Date: The next general meeting will be held on 18 August 2004.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

	SUPPER ROSTER	RAFFLE ROSTER	SPEAKER
MARCH	Donna & Virginia	Gary Brockman	Members slides
APRIL	N/R	Stuart Harris	Noel Clarke
MAY	Margaret Fox	Eva & Don Smith	Joe Ward
JUNE	Matz Dahlkamp	Glenys Blinco	Regina Drummond
JULY	Mike and Del	Phil Bunney	Nigel Swarts
AUGUST	Noel Clarke	Scilla & Gerald Stack	Pat Dundas
SEPTEMBER	Wendy Spencer	Ian Greeve	
OCTOBER	Sarah Atkinson	Joni Eaton	
NOVEMBER	Joni Eaton	Jim and Ruth Downes	

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Sunday 22nd August – Wireless Hill Park, Applecross.
Saturday 4th September – York area
Sunday 12th September – Narrogin/Yilliminning Rock
Sunday 19th September - Wooroloo (*tentative*)
Long weekend 2/3/4 October – Tenterden/Porongurups
Saturday/Sunday 9/10 October – Hyden/Pingaring
Saturday/Sunday 4/5/December - Albany