

## BULLETIN OCTOBER 2007

Registered by Australia Post Publication No WBH 1240

**President:**

Christine Lock

**V President 1:**

Ian Greeve

**V President 2:**

Eddy Wajon

**Secretary:**

Gerald Stack

**Treasurer:**

Matz Dahlkamp

**Committee:**

1 Stuart Harris

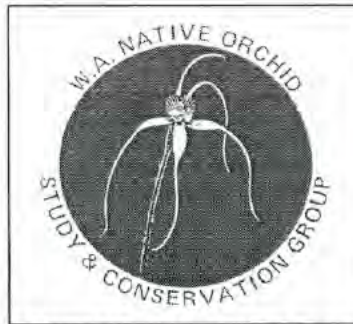
2 Margaret Fox

3 Wayne Merritt

4 John Ewing

**Editor:**

John Ewing



**WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2007**

**Patron:**

Dr S Hopper

**Registrar:**

Ross Fox

**Librarian:**

Bill Burton

**Field Trip Coordinator:**

Ross Fox

**Conservation Officer:**

Eddy Wajon

**Supper Coordinator:**

Donna Wajon

**Auditor:**

Phil Bunney

**Conservation Council****Rep:**

Eddy Wajon

Mike Harper

### 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 environment.
- c) To learn their habits and keep records.
- d) To have field days and learn to recognize the different genera and species.
- e) To hold meetings for the exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in W.A. 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 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: PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979**

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**WEB ADDRESS:**

**WEB MASTER:** Don Ward email:

**REGISTRAR:** Ross Fox

### NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

**\*\*\* There is no Committee meeting for October**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

**\*\*\*SPECIAL MEETING – SEE PAGE 2**

### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park.

### BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please send Bulletin contributions by email to by post to

The deadline for the NOVEMBER issue is 1st NOVEMBER. Any articles received after then will be carried over.

### **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

17 October - General Meeting

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

Shortly after the October meeting on Wednesday 17th October 2007, Noel Clarke will reach a momentous life milestone – his 80th Birthday.

Noel is a long standing Life Member in his 30th year of membership, and we have two other octogenarians that we see on a regular basis, Bill Burton and Joe Ward.

It has been decided that our club will mark and celebrate the occasion by commencing the meeting with a dinner at 6.00pm at the usual venue, King's Park Admin. Centre.

The usual Committee Meeting at 7.00pm will be foregone for this occasion.

It is requested that members attending please bring a plate of cold finger food for sharing.

21 November - General Meeting

### **PLANNED FIELD TRIPS**

**October 20&21** to Jurien Bay for a survey in Lesueur National Park. This will be done in conjunction with CALM personnel

Meet at 10 am Saturday 20 October at Department of Environmental and Conservation office in Jurien on Bashford St opposite the IGA Supermarket.

Jurien is 2.5 hours from Perth. All travel in Mt Lesueur to be in 4WD vehicles: car pooling will be required so if you have a 4WD please bring it and offer to share.

- DEC have booked four fully self-contained holiday rental houses with several bedrooms and single and queen size beds for between 6 and 10 people each free of charge for Friday and Saturday Night (19th and 20th Oct 2007). Those arriving on Friday night should call Benson Todd or Emma Richardson at the DEC Office in Jurien on 9652 1911 or 0429 600 580 to arrange for key pick up. Linen is required for all rental accommodation
- DEC will provide lunch and morning and afternoon teas. Attendees will be split into 2-3 groups and keep in contact via radio and CBs. If you have a VHF radio or CB please bring it along. All attendees need to sign on as DEC Volunteers to be covered by insurance. WANOSCG or ANOS members or affiliated members only. Eddy Wajon.

**Sunday October 28<sup>th</sup>** Gidgegannup

Meet at corner of Stoneville Rd and Toodyay Rd at 11am. Trip is to look for *T. demaniarum* Bill Burton will be the leader. Let Ross Fox know if you are coming on these trips. Detail of the meeting place will be in the next bulletin.

Nov/early Dec – possible trip to Albany ; details at Oct meeting or ring Ross Fox

### **FOR SALE – Contact the Treasurer**

(Sales now subject to GST)

Pat Dundas Cards (Orchid paintings) – singly or in pack of four. \$2.50 ea.

Group wineglasses \$8.00 each.

**Both the above are ideal as presents.**

Car stickers \$1.50 ea

History of WANOSCG \$3.00.

Name badges \$12.00 each

Rufa Trip Report \$10.00

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

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

Note – all our copies of Orchids of SW Australia have been sold. This book is now out of print, so we await a new edition

**Colour Guide to Spring Wildflowers**

Part 1: Kalbarri & The Goldfields

Part 2: Perth & The Southwest.

Part 3: Esperance & The Wheatbelt  
\$18.00 each. (Contact Eddy

Wajon)

### **PHOTO COMPETITION FOR 2007**

This year's subject will be "Orchid insect interaction". The competition night is at the November meeting. The photo

competition has three parts. One, is to bring all your 2007 insect/flower photos. Two, allocate ONE photo only for the competition. Three, if you have insect/flower photos which you wish to bring from previous years, these can be shown for interest only.

**WANOSCG MEETING MINUTES**

**WANOSCG MEETING MINUTES**

**GENERAL MEETING 19 SEPTEMBER 2007**

**OPENED:** meeting declared open at: 8.13 pm

**APOLOGIES:** Stuart Harris, Ian Greeve

**VISITORS:** Margaret Bryant, Bill Gaynor, Anne Weir, Martin Punter

**ATTENDANCE BOOK:** 27 members were in attendance.

**RAFFLE TONIGHT:** Donated by Noel Clarke.

**MINUTES TO THE MEETING: 15 August 2007.**

Moved: John Ewing Seconded: Etienne Delannoy that the Minutes as printed in the Bulletin were a true record of the meeting. CARRIED

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- Report on invitation by Department of Environment and Conservation to join in a survey for DRF in Leseuer National Park, 20/21 October. Eddy Wajon, Conservation Officer, reported that Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) had confirmed the invitation to survey in Leseuer National Park for the rare flora, *Thelymitra Stellata*, and that DEC would support those attending with accommodation at Jurien Caravan Park. Only WANOSCG members would be able to attend, based on the protocols for surveys of Declared Rare Flora. Members wishing to go were to advise the Field Trip Coordinator or Eddy. Details of the time and place of the meeting place would be advised in the next Bulletin.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Correspondence has been attended by committee. A card will be sent to Ian Greeve who was then in Hospital.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Treasurer's report for the previous months was circulated to members with the Attendance Book.

**FIELD TRIP REPORT:**

1. The Field Trip Coordinator, Ross Fox, reported that the 15 September Lotterywest survey to Lake Chinnicup for wheatbelt rare orchids was rewarding and successful with some 50 *Drakea isolata* specimens located and plotted.
2. Ross advised that the long weekend trip to the Porongorups and Mt Barker area was on. The Stirling Range were an unknown quantity, but there had been a burn at the Porongorups which was good, and the Muir Highway areas were OK. There were also areas around the Frankland which were worth exploring.
3. John Ewing went exploring and found *Caladenia dorrienii* at Boddington, and *Diuris amplissima* at Woodanilling. Also heaps of orchids at the Arthur River bridge.
4. Tom Blinco travelled to Esperance with Kim and Thea Hanson and Etienne Delannoy, with great success. They identified 68 species plus 5 or 6 named hybrids including *Caladenia flava* x *C marginata* and *C multiclava* x *C horistes*. Another hybrid was a very pretty *Thelymitra antennifera* x *T macrophylla*.
5. Mark Brundrett showed pictures and findings of the Lake Chinnicup trip. 296 plants were identified, 50 in flower. While 26% had been grazed, there was apparently a good seed set and some germination.
6. Ross and Margaret Fox had a month travelling Kalbarri to Perenjori seeing very few plants. They had more luck in travels to the Munglinup/Ravensthorp area seeing some 70 species in flower.
7. Eddy Wajon said that there were 4 guided group bush walks at Wireless Hill run by the Friends of Wireless Hill park. The range of flowers were worth exploring.

8. Kim Hanson found *Thelymitra spiralis* in bud at Dragon Rock near Lake Grace mid September.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

1. Tee shirts: Donna Wajon offered to arrange a new order of tee shirts. The next run would be polyester/cotton mix with long sleeves, button front and with embroidered logo. It was AGREED to proceed with the order, and there will be a Bulletin item with sizes, colours and costs on offer.
2. Matz Dahlkamp presented the new batch of glasses, and suggested buying some coffee mugs with the Group logo, but this was not proceeded with.
3. End of year function options were discussed, and it was AGREED to have a picnic function at Whiteman Park on Saturday 1 December, Tom Blinco offered to make the booking. There would be a BBQ and afterwards an orchid hunt.
4. The editor called for some of the members to submit their trip reports (with email photos) for inclusion in the Bulletin. All members were encouraged to send in some detail for sharing.
5. Etienne Delannoy enquired of the progress with Orchids of Western Australia. He wished to suggest some keys for identification as set out in *Nuytsia*. It was pointed out that the illustrations in the new edition would be paintings and not photos. In the absence of Andrew Brown, Etienne will contact Andrew directly.
6. Tom Blinco advised on local accommodation following their trip south that (a) Jerramungup park is now busy and bookings should be made early, and (b) the Stirling Caravan Park was a regular venue for hang gliders and again bookings would be difficult at long weekends and should be made early. He said that Mike Duncan sent his regards to the Group.

Mike was off to be a keynote speaker at the Canadian Orchid Conservation Festival.

7. Eddy Wajon advised the group that he was professionally involved in managing a population of *Drakea elastica* sited on the proposed alignment of the Perth-Bunbury Highway. After exploring options, permission had been granted for removal of 180 plants which could not be avoided. Eddy proposed that they be translocated locally and that earthmoving plant would be available to assist in this. He offered to be the coordinator and invited members to participate. Christine Lock wished to see that the Millennium Seed Bank project and the WA Herbarium obtain the maximum benefit from the opportunity as this would have ongoing benefit, where translocations were subject to many difficulties. Contact details would be forthcoming.

**Guest Presentation:** Jessica Daniels was invited to speak on her work with the Millennium Seed Bank project researching aspects of seed preservation and stored seed germination.

**RAFFLE DRAW:** The raffle, donated by Noel Clarke, was drawn by Jessica, with the winner being Ann Weir.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** *The next general meeting will be held on 17 October 2007.*

**Meeting closed at: 9.25 pm**

#### **FIELD TRIP REPORTS**

##### **FOX'S THREE WEEK AUGUST TRIP**

We set off up the Brand Highway and stops included Moore River, Mullering Road [where it was burnt] until we overnighed at Coomaloo Rest Area Nature Reserve where a range of common orchids were found.

On to Jurien Bay from where we explored Lesueur National Park, Cockleshell Gully and Hill River. The *Caladenias* were *hirta* ssp, *longicauda* ssp *borealis* and *footeana*. At Western Flora Caravan

Park we looked in vain for *Thelymitra variegata* [Ed note – because it wasn't out yet], but did find *D. aff. magnifica*. Along the railway line south of Arrowsmith were hundreds of *C. footeana*, many still in bud and many *Phaladenia deformis*. We camped at Watheroo where we saw *C. dundasiae* and then along the Gunyidi Wubin Road we saw *Drakonorchis drakeoides* as well as *Caledenias exilis* ssp *exilis*, *vulgate*, *hirta* ssp *rosea*, *pendans* ssp *pendans*, *nobilis* and *Pt. setulosa*. Further north at Northhampton we found *C. hoffmanii* ssp *hoffmanii* in bud, but the *C. elegans* was out.

North again to Kalbarri saw small numbers of orchids due to the dry conditions, but *caladenias reptans* ssp *retans*, *flava* ssp *maculate*, and *pachychila* were in evidence. After a few more days which yielded more orchids, but nothing new we returned via Northampton to find *hoffmanii* now in flower.

The Oakababella Tearooms were advertised at the Geraldton Visitor's Centre. They had a small list of orchids, but we provided them with the 16 species we had found together with flowering times and photos.

Continuing the return journey we stopped at Canna Dam where we found *caladenias remota* ssp *parva*, *incense*, *roei*, and others. The dry conditions continued to limit what we found and so we decided to head for Ravensthorpe and the south coast.

Proceeding via Hyden we visited the main rocks in the area; Lilley McCarthy, Holt and Varley.

Amongst the best finds were *caladenias roei*, *radialis*, *dimidia*, *microchila*, *vulgata* and *horistes* all growing in clumps. Further on at Lake King we found *C. sigmoidia*. With a base at Ravensthorpe, we visited Hopetoun to see *Calochilus* aff *campestris* on Hammersley Drive at East Mt Barren. At a burn on the South Coast Highway we found about 20 species including *Diuris* aff *pulchella* [we think] and *Prasophyllum cucullatum*. Near Munglinup, among other things we found *C. decora*. There were also many species at Fitzgerald River including *caladenias radialis*, *attingens* ssp *gracillima* and *multiclava*.

One of the key finds of the trip was at Lake Altham where we discovered hundreds of *C. melanema*. At Lake Toolabin we also found hundreds of giant snail orchids and a range of other species including *caladenias douthiae*, *discoidia* and *saccharata*. We counted the trip a great success having found 103 species from 18 different genus.

## CLUB TRIP TO LAKE CLIFTON AREA

On 2<sup>nd</sup> of September members gathered at a burnt area near Lake Clifton, south of

Mandurah. Among the *Cladenia* species recorded were : *arenicloa*, *footeana*, *georgei*, and a *huegeli*, together with some hybrids. Other species included *Cy. gemmata*, *Py nigricans*, *D. magnifica* and *L. menziesii* [ one of which was an albino]. At Johnston Rd, we found among other things, *C. nobilis*, *C. longicauda* ssp *redacta*, *C. discoidia* and a yellow form that was probably *C. denticulata*.

## Esperance field trip 10-15 September 2007

On Monday 10th September 2007 I travelled to Esperance, there to meet Thea and Kim Hanson. With Glenys unable to do the trip, Etienne Delannoy accompanied me.

Reports were to hand that *Calochilus* aff *robertsonii* (Wandoo Beard Orchid) had been in flower at Hopetoun so we included that in the itinerary, omitting other stops enroute as we wished to get to Esperance in the one day.

Following are some notes of the trip. To avoid repetition and with space limitations in mind I have not tried to list each orchid from each location.

**Toolibin** – *Pt. aff. nana* (pg 347), *C. brevisura* in both flower and bud were in profusion, *C. falcata*, *C. hirta* ssp *hirta*.

**Newdegate** – Etienne's sharp eye saw a magnificent roadside display of *C. dimidia* (The Chameleon Orchid), also some *D. aff. corymbosa*.

**Lake King** – a few *C. sigmoidea* and *Pt. mutica*.

**Hopetoun** – found a few *calochilus* plants but only one in flower, but that was enough for a photo, also *Pt. mutica*, *C. barbarossa*.

**9km east of Ravensthorpe** – *Pt. mutica*, *C. microchila*, *douthiae*, *attingens* ssp *gracillima*. Had hoped to see *Pt. allantoidea*, but the search was unsuccessful.

**Mills Road, Munglinup** – *D. laxiflora* and seven *caladenia* species.

## TUESDAY

**Went to Boyatup Hill, 115km east of Esperance.** Here we believe we saw 24 species and hybrids, the most interesting to me being a few

surviving *D. aff. pulchella* (Coastal Granite Donkey Orchid), a lone *T. antennifera* x *macrophylla*, and a large colony of *C. flava* x *marginata* (Cowslip x White Fairy Orchid – named hybrid *C. x erminea*).

This region was subjected to a large fire last November, although some small parts of the hill area were unburnt. A 360-degree view from the

summit of the hill showed blackness all around, being endless to the northeast.

Saw six other sites on Coolinup and Kau Rock Roads for 17 species plus several hybrids, including a *D. laxiflora* lutea (all yellow) spotted by Thea, and probably a *C. exstans* x *attingens* hybrid.

It was getting dark on arrival at Cape Le Grand Road near Merivale Road, but still found a couple of magnificent double-headed *C. decora* (Esperance King Spider Orchid).

#### WEDNESDAY

Stopped at six sites in the Cascades area, northwest of Esperance; saw 27 species also several hybrids.

An unusual find was a colony of about 20 *C. microchila* (Western Whispy Spider Orchid) plants with labellum fringing on the petals. Defects are seen from time to time in single plants of various orchids, but this was in a whole colony.

Also found *Pt. aff spathulata* (page 450) in two locations, and a lone *Pt. aff rufa* that we couldn't identify.

#### THURSDAY

Visited Helms Arboretum, Rotary Lookout, Frenchmans Peak, Hellfire Bay and Thistle Cove for a total of 21 species and hybrids.

Etienne's sharp eye was again to the fore, finding some *Pt. aff plumosa* (Esperance Bird Orchid) in almost impenetrable bushes at Whistling Rock.

#### FRIDAY

Headed to Jerramungup, and searched again just east of Ravensthorpe, this time a few very small *Pt. allantoidea* (Shy Greenhood) were found.

At two stops along Old Ongerup Road not a lot of orchids were seen. However, at the Fitzgerald River camping and parking site saw 14 species, including *C. multiclavia* (Lazy Spider Orchid), which Thea, Kim and Etienne had on their wish lists.

On South Coast Highway at a floodway east of Jerramungup, 12 species but wet weather was threatening and by the time we drove through Jerramungup it was raining.

The weak front passed over and the rain stopped whilst we were at the site 6km south of Jerramungup. Got wet feet though, in finding about 25 species and hybrids. Very interesting was a *C. multiclavia* hybrid (*C. x resupina*), also possibly a *C. barbarossa* x *falcata* hybrid.

#### SATURDAY

We joined the field trip at Lake Chinocup, leaving it at Kwobrup to return to Perth by that evening.

On the way we stopped near Katanning and at the Wagin lookout, altogether sighting 10 species. At the latter there were at least ten maroon coloured *P. gracile* amongst many of the regular type (there may have been more but by now it was quite dark, with a very strong and gusting wind which had prevailed for most of the past 5 days).

I had a great week. Thanks to Thea and Kim for their invitation to join them, and to them and Etienne for the company.

Tom Blinco

Dr Mark Brundrett  
Senior Lecturer  
**WANOSCG Lotterywest  
Endangered Wheatbelt  
Orchid Project**  
School of Plant Biology  
(M084)  
Faculty of Natural &  
Agricultural Sciences  
The University of Western  
Australia  
35 Stirling Highway  
Crawley, 6009, Western  
Australia



#### Trip Report for WANOSCG / WOR / DEC *Drakaea isolata* survey

On Saturday Sept 15 2007 WANOSCG volunteers conducted an intensive survey for the Critically Endangered Lonely Hammer Orchid (*Drakaea isolata*) near Pingrup, coordinated by the Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project (WOR) and Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC). There was a very good turnout for this event with a total of 29 WANOSCG volunteers, including 8 from Victoria and 2 from overseas. Volunteers were split into two groups with one lead by Mark Brundrett (WOR) and one by Andrew Brown (DEC). Despite the cold windy, damp and cloudy conditions there was a successful survey of a large area centred on the known population that revealed almost 300 individuals, of which 50 were flowering. As a consequence of this survey we now have a better idea of the size of the only known population of this rare orchid. A key outcome of the survey was to take GPS coordinates and reference photographs for each group of plants to provide the tools for future monitoring. This survey used geo-referencing

equipment (GPS's and digital cameras) provided by the WA Herbarium. Valuable information was also obtained during preliminary visits to the site the day before with Marie Strelein, a Flora Conservation Officer in DEC's Great Southern District (Narrogin). During the preliminary survey other areas of potential habitat for Lonely Hammer Orchid were highlighted near Pingrup and, as it was not possible to cover the entire potential habitat in one morning, there is a need for further surveys to be conducted next year.

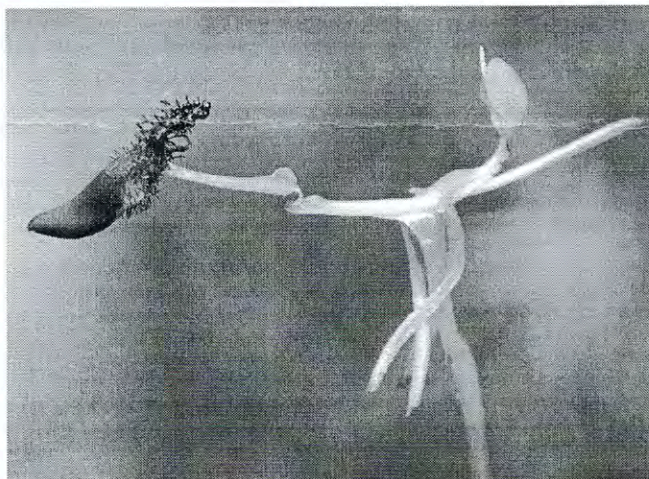
After lunch the group visited several nearby locations for orchids, especially to view the common *Caladenia mesocera* and the Critically Endangered *Caladenia melanema* (also part of the WOR Project). This resulted in the second major outcome of the trip when we were all very excited to discover a new sub-population of *Caladenia melanema* some distance from the main population. This is the third known sub-population of this rare orchid, as Andrew Brown and Marie Strelein had also discovered a new location the day before. All of these locations are in similar vegetation in a narrow band around the same salt lake system. Increasing salinity is a major problem with in the Catchment and it is not yet clear what impact, if any, this will have on populations of either of these very rare orchids.

Later in the afternoon we visited a nature reserve west of Nyabing to see an undescribed *Caladenia* species and many other orchids in a nature reserve. On behalf of the WOR Project DEC and WANOSG I would like to sincerely thank all those who attended this survey. It was a very enjoyable and productive day. Several rare orchid surveys are in an early stage of planning for 2008.

Mark Brundrett & Andrew Brown



Photograph taken as a record for future monitoring surveys, showing highly distinctive leaves of a large group of *Drakaea isolata* (with *Paraclaeania triens* in bud).



*Drakaea isolata* The Lonely Hammer Orchid.



We discovered a new location for the very rare Ballerina Orchid (*Caladenia melanema*)!

	<b>RAFFLE ROSTER 2007</b>	<b>SPEAKER 2007</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	Ian Greeve	Mark Brundrett – The current state of orchid conservation in WA/ the Lotterywest Project
<b>APRIL</b>	Donna Wajon	Wayne Merritt
<b>MAY</b>	Christine Lock	Etienne Delannoy – Orchids of France
<b>JUNE</b>	Stuart Harris	Noel Clarke – Varians group Martin Revell – Friends of Kings Park
<b>JULY</b>	Glenys Blinco	DVD 'Orchid Adventure Special' courtesy Mike Duncan
<b>AUGUST</b>	David Lawson	Eddy Wajon – Orchids of Mondrup View
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	Noel Clarke	Jess Daniels – Millennium Seed Bank
<b>OCTOBER</b>	Eva Smith	Etienne Delannoy – Orchids of France part II
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	John Ewing	Photo competition and members slides

If undeliverable return to  
WANOSCG  
PO Box 323  
Victoria Park 6979

Print Post Approved  
PP630205/00007

SURFACE  
MAIL

POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA

GEORGE MR A S

#### **FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

October 20&21 – Jurien Bay – Lesueur National Park

October 28 Gidgegannup

Nov/ early Dec – possible trip to Albany