

BULLETIN OCTOBER 2008

Registered by Australia Post Publication No WBH 1240

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WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2008

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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

Wednesday 15th October 2008 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be Wednesday 15th OCTOBER 2008 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to John Ewing at [redacted] or [redacted]. Articles for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 1st of the next month.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- 15 October General Meeting
This is the special Octogenarian
Birthday celebration
19 November General Meeting

PLANNED FIELD TRIPS

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26 – meet at the corner of Toodyay Rd and Reen Rd at 10am. This trip is to look for *T. dedmaniarum* (Cinnamon Orchid H&B pg 243)

This orchid has been renamed since H&B was published.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16 – meet at the corner of Brookton Hwy and Yarra Rd at 10am. This trip is to look for *T. yorkensis* (Bronze Orchid) and for *Caledonia postea* (Dark Tipped Spider Orchid)

SAT/SUN DECEMBER 6&7 ALBANY

The 'Christmas' end of year weekend is to be based at Happy Days Caravan Park which is at the corner of Chester Pass Road and Millbrook Road (address is actually Millbrook Rd) on the banks of the King River. Phone is 1800 948 246 (or if you want to pay for your own call (08)98443267. You can check out their website which even has their GPS co-ordinates (this information is for Etienne). If coming you will need to make your own bookings for either a cabin or a caravan site. We will see a range of 'late' south coast orchids including *diuris herbeleana*

If you are coming on any of these trips will you let Ross Fox know as early as possible.

Very Important Note *There have been cases where members have advised Ross they are coming on a trip, and then not arrived on the day. In this case it would be courteous to ring Ross the day before to let him know, or at least on that morning if you were not coming or coming late. If this is not done either he or the whole group is delayed (In one case Ross waited for 2 hours). Members are asked to pay particular attention to this matter.*

NEW ORCHID BOOK

A new book by Andrew Brown, Pat Dundas, Kingsley Dixon and Stephen Hopper is about to be released. It is titled "Orchids of western Australia" and covers all known species (both named and unnamed). The illustrations are paintings by Pat Dundas.

The club will negotiate a bulk purchase (price yet to be negotiated, but in the \$80-\$90 range).

Please phone Kim Hanson on [REDACTED] (best in the evenings) if you are interested in a copy (copies). Some of the authors will be at the November meeting to sign copies of their book.

WANOSCG MEETING MINUTES GENERAL MEETING 17 SEPTEMBER 2008

OPENED: Meeting declared open at 8.09 pm

ATTENDANCE: There were 35 members present, 4 apologies

NEW MEMBERS: Glenys and Bill Salter, John and Betty Bartram and Jeremy Storey

VISITORS: John and Libby Bartram, Keith Lightbody, Luda Korczyuskyj, Helen Booth and Peter McQuire

RAFFLE : Was kindly donated by Jack Eborall. Christine reminded members that Kim will be taking money and orders for new orchid books after the meeting. Thank you to him for organising tonight's meeting and the book sales.

MINUTES TO THE MEETING:

20 August 2008 (in Bulletin)

Moved: John Ewing Seconded: Stuart Harris
Carried

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:
Nil

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

1. Tom Burbidge went to Golden Pipeline Kalgoorlie. At Telegraph Hill saw *c. latifolia*. Rotary lookout Esperance saw *diuris porrifolia*. At reserve saw *c. decora*, *c. flava*, *cyanicula amplexans*. Went to Wildflower Show at Ravensthorpe including *diuris laxifolia* and *d. porrifolia* and *pterostylis nana*. At Wave Rock saw *d. porrifolia*, *c. longicauda*, *cyanicula amplexans*. Between Corrigin and Brookton saw *d. porrifolia*.
2. Jack Eborall : At a bush reserve bordered by Johnson Rd, Miller Rd and Wellard Rd a good flowering of *C. longicauda calcigena* on a disturbed heap of sand and it had survived a spraying for weeds.
3. Eric Swarts lives near bush reserve at Ferndale Primary School which has 17 species of orchid. Found *c. attingens*, *c. longiclavata*, *c. macrostylis*. School and reserve is earmarked for bulldozing. Contacted Local Council and Department of Conservation but it is in the hands of the Education Department. Motion to ask Eric on behalf of the Club to write to authorities about the situation. Moved: Eddy Wajon Seconded: Bill Burton
4. Peter McAuley in Esperance area found *c. extans* and *c. graminifolia*, and at Hopetoun found *calochilus pruinosus*.
5. Eva Smith found seven new Bearded Orchid plants at Dewars Pool Rd. Burnt area near small pool had *leptoceras menziesii* and *c. deformis*, and at

Alexander Heights found *c. arenicola* and *d. longifolia*.

6. Eddy Wajon went on Kwongan field trip of "Biodiversity on the Verge". At York Chidlow Rd saw self-seeded *pterostylis nana* on site revegetated in 1994.
7. John Ewing saw *d. magnifica*, *c. calcigena* and *c. arenicola* at Star Swamp.
8. Christine Lock went to Tone Bridge. Orchids have been marked. Asked if anyone had tagged them. Found *c. emminens*, *c. flava*, *c. aff. polychroma*, *c. luteola*, *c. footeana*, hybrids and *diuris*. The site near the water tanks at Boyup Brook were dry and *diuris* dying off. Press Rd Bridgetown *c. validinerva*, variant of *c. vulgata* and lots of *diuris*. At the burn near her place found *leptoceras menziesii*, *c. magniclavata*, *c. longiclavata* gone to seed, *c. flava*, *cyanicula sericea* and *d. nicholsoniana* A.P.B.R.ms. Buds perhaps *prasopryllum fimbria*.
9. Wireless Hill is good this year.
10. Christine mentioned field trip to Dragon Rocks on Saturday and hoped everyone enjoyed themselves.

PLANT TABLE:

Bill Burton tabled specimens of *thelymitra macrophylla* but couldn't coax open. Also *diuris* aff *magnifica* (Dunsborough Donkey Orchid). A 30kind year old *c. barbarossa* was also tabled.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Luda gave update on her exhibition of WA orchid sculptures. Exhibition will be at the Kingfisher Art Gallery – Botanical Art Friday March 13th for three weeks. Invitations to be sent. Botanical drawings now at the Gallery are worth seeing. Exhibition is by Botanical Artists Group of WA 12th Sept to 8th Oct, Kingfisher Art Gallery, 49 Colin St., West Perth.
2. John Ewing spoke about Orchid Spectacular at the Oasis Leisure Centre Belmont Friday 26th Sept. Asked for volunteers on Saturday or Sunday to answer people's questions. Also asked for albums and photos to show people. Speakers will be Mike Duncan and Ron Parsons. Phil Bunny ANOS will also have an exhibit.
3. Eddy Wajon gave update on Jandakot Airport. He has permission to take a field trip to see *C. huegii* possibly 27th, 28th or 29th Oct. Airport still proposing development, draft in October and submitted to Government by the end of the year. Also talked about trying to save Fiona Stanley Hospital because of Carnaby Cockatoos. Only delayed six months. The Species Orchid Society salvaged the orchids on the site Eddy salvaged the rest of the plants and is transferring them to Murdoch TAFE for propagation.
4. Christine announced that Andrew will be launching his book 25th Oct at Kings Park.

5. Kim said book should be out on 29th Oct. Christine will be going to the launch.
6. October is Octagenarian month so we will be celebrating with a special cake.
7. Christine thanked Thea for standing in as Secretary for Gerald.
8. Jack showed photo of huge clump of spider orchids. Christine reminded everyone of the photo competition at November meeting. Bring photos of clumps of orchids (two or more orchids) or send by post. One entry per person 6 x 4 postcard size. No 'Photoshop', raw data. Voting will be done on the night.

PRESENTATION BY PETER McCAULEY

Peter talked about orchids found in South Australia. In his talk he outlined the situation for a number of the endangered species. Similar problems to WA of clearing and weed infestation are present in SA. A lot of work is being done to record, study and preserve sites of rare species. A DVD that Peter has donated to the club contains much of the content of his talk.

RAFFLE DRAW

Peter McCauley drew the raffle prize which was kindly donated by Jack Eborall.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next general meeting will be held on 15 October 2008
Meeting closed at: 9.25pm

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

DRAGON ROCKS

September 18th-21st

Granite Spider Orchid Survey

The objective of this 3-day field trip was to conduct a comprehensive survey of known and potential habitats for the critically endangered, declared rare granite Spider Orchid (*Caladenia graniticola*) in Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve and provide the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) with updated reports on population sizes and potential threats.

On Thursday 18 of September, despite persistent rain, a group of 10 people, comprising myself and 9 WANOSCG volunteers, surveyed 3 large areas in Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve, including one location that required a long walk in. We were eventually able to relocate a previously known population of granite spider that had not been thoroughly surveyed recently. Thirty six plants were located and mapped. On Friday a larger group of WANOSCG volunteers searched three additional areas including one that took a

long time, as there were over 200 individuals to count. On Saturday an even larger group of about 30 WANOSCG volunteers surveyed the largest target area. Two groups were sent in different directions, each with a recording sheets and GPS. They eventually met on the far side of a granite rock, in a spot where most of the orchids were located. We noted that many of these orchids occurred outside of what was previously believed to be its prime habitat. A special commendation must be made to Mary Harris, who spotted one of these orchids from the car window 1 km from its nearest expected habitat.

There are still some areas of potential habitat in Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve that are worth surveying in the future, but these are very inaccessible. If you visit this area on your own, it is strongly recommended that you do not wander far from a road, as is easy to get lost in the dense vegetation of this very large Nature Reserve. We must also be very careful to avoid damage to orchids and their habitat when visiting these areas (some are in open areas and are not easily to spot).

Of course we were not only looking at granite spiders, and additional highlights included about 50 *thelymitra spiralis* plants in full bloom. In total we saw over 40 orchid species over three days (listed below), plus a few more at Wave Rock on Sunday morning before deteriorating weather drove us away.

Our survey resulted in a very substantial improvement in our understanding of this critically endangered orchid in Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve. We counted over 300 flowering individuals in total, a very substantial increase in populations. Our careful counting and GPS recording of all these plants will also greatly benefit future DEC surveys by allowing accurate habitat maps for each population to be produced and individuals to be relocated more easily. This would not have been possible without experienced and enthusiastic volunteers and I am very grateful to WANOSCG members who attended this survey. I would also like to thank Andrew Brown for corrections to the orchid list provided below.

Orchid list Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve

Genus	Species	Notes
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>dimidia</i>	
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>falcata</i>	

<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>flava</i> subsp. <i>flava</i>	
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>graniticola</i>	Survey Target
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>hirta</i> subsp. <i>rosea</i>	
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>longicauda</i>	ssp. <i>eminens</i> ?
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>mesocera</i>	
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>nana</i> subsp. <i>nana</i>	well outside normal range
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>pachychila</i>	
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>radialis</i>	
<i>Caladenia</i>	<i>roei</i>	
<i>Cyanicula</i>	<i>nikulinskyae</i>	pale blue
<i>Cyanicula</i>	<i>aperata</i>	range extension?
<i>Cyanicula</i>	<i>gemma</i>	
<i>Cyrtostylis</i>	<i>huegelii</i>	
<i>Diuris</i>	aff. <i>corymbosa</i>	
<i>Diuris</i>	aff. <i>corymbosa</i>	long sepals
<i>Diuris</i>	sp. Granite	
<i>Elythranthera</i>	<i>brunonis</i>	
<i>Ericksonella</i>	<i>saccharata</i>	
<i>Eriochilus</i>	<i>dilatatus</i>	leaf
<i>Leporella</i>	<i>fimbria</i>	leaves
<i>Microtis</i>	<i>media</i> subsp. <i>media</i>	leaves
<i>Prasophyllum</i>	<i>macrotys</i>	
<i>Prasophyllum</i>	<i>gracile</i>	
<i>Prasophyllum</i>	<i>sargentii</i>	
<i>Pterostylis</i>	aff. <i>barbata</i>	dwarf bird
<i>Pterostylis</i>	<i>mutica</i>	
<i>Pterostylis</i>	aff. <i>nana</i>	seed
<i>Pterostylis</i>	<i>recurva</i>	
<i>Pterostylis</i>	<i>sargentii</i>	
<i>Pterostylis</i>	<i>spathulata</i>	
<i>Pterostylis</i>	<i>vittata</i>	seed
<i>Pyrorchis</i>	<i>nigricans</i>	leaves
<i>Spiculaea</i>	<i>ciliata</i>	
<i>Thelymitra</i>	<i>antennifera</i>	closed
<i>Thelymitra</i>	<i>flexuosa</i>	
<i>Thelymitra</i>	<i>macrophylla</i>	large leaf early bud
<i>Thelymitra</i>	<i>spiralis</i>	lots seen
<i>Thelymitra</i>	<i>spiralis</i> x <i>flexuosa</i> ?	hybrid

ORCHID SPECTACULAR Sept 26th - 29th

The club had a stand at the Spectacular which was held at the Oasis Leisure Centre in Belmont over the long weekend. The stand was organised by John Ewing. A number of members, including some very new members, contributed large print photos for display. Mark Brundrett had a major part of the display with the Endangered Wheatbelt Species, and he also brought some potted orchids, including the Carbanup King Spider (*caladenia procera*). The projected slide photos came from Etienne Delanoy and from Peter McCaulay. These photos were magnificent and created much interest from visitors. In addition there were photos in albums from Matz Dahlkamp and John Ewing.

The stand was looked after by Cilla and Gerald Stack, Kim and Thea Hanson as well as Peter, Etienne and John. Many thanks to Peter who was there for many hours. A few club members visited the stand.

Visitors were provided with information about the club and many were given the club's information card.

The stand and the Orchid Spectacular was a successful activity.

THE FRENCH CONNECTION Oct 4th and 5th

Etienne Delanoy organised a weekend at Margaret River with a range of people with whom he works at UWA. John Ewing, his wife Kaye and Kaye's cousin Rosemary were the only Australians in a group of 20, most of who were from France, but also English, Slovakian and Americans were in the group. Some enthusiasts started early on Saturday at George St, Margaret River, where we were dodging in and out of the rain showers. The most interesting finds were the Reaching Spider (*caladenia arrecta*), the Rusty Spider (*c. ferruginea*), Merritt's White Spider (*c. merrittii*), the White Spider (*c. longicauda* subsp *longicauda*), Clubbed Spider (*c. longiclavata*), Leaping Spider (*c. macrostylis*), Silky Blue (*cyanicular sericia*) and others. Later in the morning the group went to 3 sites along Cowaramup Bay Road where the following were found : Forest Mantis (*c. attigens* subsp *attigens*), Scott River Spider (*c. thinicola*), Swamp Spider (*c. paludosa*), Giant Spider (*c. excelsa*), Funnel Web Spider (*c. infundibularis*), King in His Carriage (*drakea glyptodont*), Flying Duck (*paracaleana nigrita*) Giant Donkey (*diuris amplissima*) and a white Pink Fairy (*c. latifolia*). Moving south on Caves Road, other finds included : Diamond Spider (*c. rhomboidiformis*), Warty Hammer (*drakea*

livida) and further finds of the Reaching Spider. Eventually we reached the Augusta Yacht Club and although too early for most things we found further Funnel Web Spiders and Forest Mantises, but also found the Augusta Bee (*diuris carinata*).

The final stop just near Witchcliffe yielded the Margaret River Spider (*c. carinata*).

On Sunday, John, Kaye and Rosemary left early for Mandurah (see report below), but not before giving Etienne instructions for the Yallingup/Cape Naturalist/Dunsborough area. I hope he found a range of things.

PEEL ORCHID SOCIETY Sunday Oct 5th

John Ewing led a group of 20 people including 3 children from the Peel Orchid Society. We started at Johnston Road, some 45Km south of Mandurah. John had surveyed the site earlier and gave the group photos of expected species. He told them to go and discover their own. Very soon cries of 'Here's one' came with the finding of the first Cowslips and the first Purple Enamels. Very soon others found the Sandplain Spider (*c. speciosa*) and then others found the Bee Orchid (*c. discoidia*) which had not been located in the survey and then the King Spider (*c. pectinata*) which had also not been found earlier. The Noble Spider (*c. nobilis*), the Common Mignonette (*microtis media* subsp *media*) and some nice hybrids of the Sandplain Spider were also found. Further to this Kaye found, in seed, the Gnat Orchid (*cyrtostylis huegelii*) and the Helmet Orchid (*corybus despectans*). The tour people could still see evidence of the general shape of both flowers. We also found one 'blue sun orchid' which may have been the Slender Sun Orchid (*thelymitra pauciflora*). It was a bright sunny day and one of the two small flowers was coaxed to be more fully open. Also present in bud were Leopard Orchids (*t. benthamiana*). During the exploration of the area a huge number of spectacular Sandplain Spiders were found and this created a great sense of accomplishment for many who, while they grow potted cymbidiums, had never tried to find native orchids before. After a stop for lunch at a member's property we moved on to Island Point where the Island Point Spider and the Tuart Spider (*c. georgeii*) were added to the finds.

At the end of the day there were some quite tired elderly folk, but quite a few who expressed enthusiasm for this new found source of enjoyment. Many photos were taken and all thought it was one of their clubs 'best activities ever'.

	RAFFLE ROSTER 2008	SPEAKER 2008
MARCH	Gerald Stack	Mark Brundrett – The current state of orchid conservation in WA/ the Lotterywest Project
APRIL	Anna De Haan	Ross Fox – Orchiding in Tasmania
MAY	Ross & Margaret Fox	Mark Brundrett – Fungal associations
JUNE	Stuart Harris	Ross Rudeforth – Friends of Kings Park
JULY	Donna Wajon	Gary Brockman – Nomenclature Revisited – keeping up to date
AUGUST	David Lawson	Dr David Roberts (Kew Gardens) The Kitchen Table Botanist
SEPTEMBER	Jack Eborral	Peter McCaulay – Orchids of South Australia
OCTOBER	Kim & Thea Hansen	TBA
NOVEMBER	John Ewing	Photo competition and members slides

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS
October 26 – Toodyay Rd
November 16 – Brookton Hwy
December 6&7 Albany