

## BULLETIN AUGUST 2010

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WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2010

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### Conservation Council

### Rep:

Eddy Wajon

Christine Lock

## Caladenia meridionalis

### WAPOLE FIELD TRIP – July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

A group of over 20 members met at Crystal Springs near Walpole and proceeded to Banksia track to hunt for the South Coast Spider Orchid (*C. meridionalis*). The group at this point was led by local enthusiast Dave Edmonds. Dave is interested in all things nature, but has become very keen about orchids and has an excellent knowledge of the local Walpole area. He didn't need the GPS readings from previous trips and so the the group happily wandered along the track with only Rob Halls from Bunbury really doing any work of looking in the low scrub. As justice would have it, before reaching the GPS positions, Rob discovered the first flower, and then a second one next to it. Further careful searching saw the discovery of over 20 more flowers across quite a wide area, including a 'bunch' of 4 growing together.



Continued on Pg 2

Other discoveries in the immediate area included the Curled-tongue Shell Orchid (*Pt. rogersii*), the Brown-veined Shell Orchid (*Pt. aspera*), and many Common Helmet Orchids (*Corybas recurvus*) together with some emerging Midge Orchids (*Cyrtostylis huegelii*).

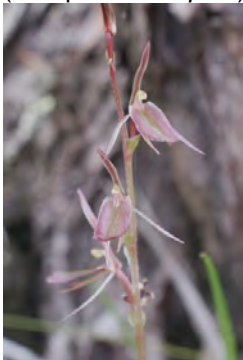


*rogersii*



*aspera*

The group moved on to the Mazzalotti Beach track on William Bay Road where the Midge Orchids (*Cyrtostylis huegelii*) were in full bloom. Also found were Large Gnat Orchids (*Cyrt. robusta*) and Short-eared Snail Orchids (*Pt. sp 'short sepals'*).



*robusta*



*huegelii*

A concerted effort to find the Sandhill Helmet Orchid (*Cory. despectans*) turned up many more Common Helmet Orchids, but search as we might there was not a Sandhill Helmet Orchid in sight.



*Corybas recurvus*

Undeterred, David Lawson and John Ewing, not wishing to lose a moment's good orchiding time, pushed on to Sinker Bay to seek the elusive *despectans*. The track from the parking

area wound down the narrow path and there again were the Common Helmets and Brown-veined Shell Orchids. Rigorous searching turned up the elusive Sandhill Helmets, but alas only in tight bud. We will now be dependent on the locals for progress reports on the flowering.

Sunday morning found us gathering on the banks of the Denmark River at the front of the pub. We left for the Kojonup Flora and Fauna Reserve. Here we found some magnificent specimens of the Cupped Banded Greenhood (*Pt. concava*) and NO you could not see the labellum when looking sideways on. At one place we found 3 species of Banded Greenhoods together within a metre of one another (Cupped, Dark Banded (*Pt. sanguinea*) and Banded (*Pt. vitatta*). It turned out to be excellent, as it was very clear which one was which and it was also clear what the distinguishing features of the three species were (ie flat sepals – Dark Banded; narrower slightly curved sepals – Banded; and strongly cupped sepals – Cupped Banded). Fortunately for the group we did not have any 'experts' there to disagree with the unanimous viewpoint (although it was perhaps a trifle dull).

The next move was to Martup Pool. Following the trail discovered in 2009 by the redoubtable Etienne Delanoy three further species were seen. A large number of Red-veined Shell Orchids (*Pt. hamiltonii*) were quickly located and then the first of the Narrow-hooded Shell Orchids (*Pt. angusta*). Very soon more Narrow-hooded Shells were found and then Hairy-stemmed Snails (*Pt. setulosa*). Quite quickly we lost count of the number of all 3 species. The final scheduled stop was at the Williams Nature Reserve where last year a final species was the Frog Greenhood (*Pt. sargentii*). Presumably it was there again this year.

(The writer was not present at this site as he had to go all the way back to Capel where two days earlier he had put down his GPS in the bush while photographing a Slender Snail (*Pt. sp 'slender'*). Fortunately the retrieval trip was successful and I still have all my data. Phew!)



**Report from Ross and Margaret Fox from their travels in Queensland**

We met up with David James at Caboolture on 3rd May (Labour Day in Qld). He took us out to the Stoney Creek and Bellthorpe areas. We stopped on a hillside and walked straight into the long grass. When we queried him about the long grass he assured us that's where you had to look (we had been looking on and around rocks).



'Surely there's no orchids in here!'

He went straight to some trees and around the base was *Corybas barbara*, a few metres away was *Acianthus fornicatus* then *Chiloglotis diphylla* and some not identified sp Mango Flats, (we applied sp names to some others)



*Corybus barbara*

We walked further and saw in bud *Pterostylis grandiflorum*, not far away were *Pterostylis nutans* and *ophioglossa*. David also pointed out the leaves of an orchid which he called a Christmas Orchid. Looking up, he also pointed to various leaves of tree orchids.

We went on to Bellthorpe for lunch. On the way we stopped on another hillside and found more *Pterostylis Baptistii* and *nutans*. Whilst on the hillside we heard a truck roaring down the narrow rough steep road and a large heavily loaded timber truck came speeding past, followed shortly after by two others.

Our last stop after lunch was to an embankment beside the road, where we could see from the road some more *Pterostylis nutans*. On climbing up the bank we found more *Pterostylis baptistii*, then *Acianthus fornicatus*. New species were *Chiloglotis* sp 'Stanmore' and what David thought was *Corybas aconiflurs* because the leaves were green on the back, whereas the *barbara* were red on the back. David Jones book describes *barbara* as having both colours. We had a good time and thanks to David our first orchid trip was a success.

Regards to all and hope you have a good season. We will be back in November.

Ross and Margaret



*Chiloglotis* sp Mango Flats

**REPORT FROM SOUTHERN RIVERS  
ALBANY TO WILLIAM BAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

A cold but crystal clear morning greeted eight enthusiastic members. One more member joined us in Denmark.

First stop was the huge burn due east of Mutton Bird Road. Randomly scattered over the scorched earth from the hot burn *Prasophyllum parvifolium* (Scented Autumn Leek) was seen. In amongst piles of granite boulders many orchids had found moist and less exposed micro environments. *Pt. vittata* (Banded Greenhood), *Pt. sp 'crowded'* (Crowded Banded Greenhood), *Pt. sp 'coastal'* (Coastal Banded Greenhood) and the first

*Cyrtostylis robusta* (Large Gnat) were found flowering. Many leaves were found including the Slipper, Redbeaks, Common Bunny and rosettes of *Pterostylis* – but which one?

Our second stop in a burn along the Lower Denmark Road had been too hot and late for orchids to appear yet.

The Bibbulmun Track is always a happy hunting ground for orchids. Last weekend in Albany large numbers of *Pt. rogersii* (Curled-tongue Shell) and immature *Corybas recurvus* (Helmet Orchid) flowers were seen. Why not try the Bib Track at Lowlands? This has always guaranteed success for the *Pt. rogersii* in the past, but not today. The track leading into the local *Cory. recurva* spot had been washed away during the last Southern Ocean storms. Another recce will be needed to find a safe route without being washed out to sea. Lunch was had looking over the calm sea at Lowlands and the antics of walkers and 4WD's negotiating steep granite and sandy inclines. Less rain has fallen due west, thus William Bay was drier than expected with significantly fewer orchids to be seen. Sighted were Banded Greenhoods, Crowded Banded Greenhoods, Coastal Banded Greenhoods and many immature flowers on the stems of *Cyrt. robusta* (Large Gnat).

Not quite the range or number of orchids as expected, however, the company of like minded people enjoying a sunny day out in the burnt bush made up for the lack of orchid numbers. Anna De Haan

### **VICTORIAN TRIP John Ewing**

During July I had the pleasure of visiting Victoria and caught up with some friends. One day I accompanied a small group to Mooroduc Quarry which is south of Frankston. We spent the morning weeding a small bush area in the hope of giving a rare spider orchid that has not been seen for years, a better chance of reappearing. I was impressed with the dedication about conservation. We kept going despite rain BUT when the hail came down --- there's a limit to even the dedicated. Next day a number of the same group were out at a northern suburb bushland reserve digging weeds again. Dick Thomson, one of the leaders took me to his home and showed me all the conservation/reproduction work he is doing. He has hundreds and hundreds of growing tubers and potted plants. He and others in ANOS Victoria are doing a fantastic job of conservation and research.

Alison and John Blackstock also showed me a site where a rare spider orchid has been grown from seed and planted back into the wild. This will in time lead to the regeneration of this species that is almost extinct due to clearing and weed infestation of its natural sites.

I was fortunate to shown around by my wife's cousin Rosemary Hendry in the Panton Hill area. Alison and John Blackstock took me Diamond Creek and then all the way across Melbourne to Balak William Reserve, Colin and Mischa Rowan took me to Anglesea, Bill Kosky took me out for a day in the Brisbane Ranges (where incidentally I saw my first wild koala) and Gary and Judy Backhouse took me all the way to Wilson's Promontory. Together these generous people made my stay wonderful.

I saw many greenhoods and in particular I enjoyed the five types of corybas. Photos of these are in the electronic version.

### **CONSERVATION ISSUES**

#### **STATUS OF JANDAKOT AIRPORT**

Dear all

Jandakot Airport Holdings and Ascot Capital have received their environmental and transport approval to clear 167 ha of banksia woodland. The letters I have sent in the last 2 months to the Ministers for Environment and Transport, DEWHA and DoITRDGL complaining about the poor decision and seeking a review as well as further input to the conditions have either not been answered or they have all had the standard line of "they (and we) have complied with the legislation and you can appeal the decision, but we are not going to help you find an alternative solution". So this seems to be the end of the line of the protest against a very sad decision.

Today, I and several Friends of Ken Hurst Park and the Convenor of the UBC went to a meeting with Ascot Capital organised by Melissa Parke, the Federal member for Fremantle, and her research officer Josh Wilson. The meeting was designed to re-open channels of conversation. We (ie the conservationists) agreed we would try to work with Ascot Capital in implementing their Master Plan and Environmental Strategy to benefit the environment. This will start with clearing 40 ha of bushland by the end of June 2010. In return, Ascot Capital have agreed to meet with us regularly and allow us to provide input on their plans, and to provide funds to enhance the environment, including the outcome for orchids, in their conservation area as well as

off-site. Ascot Capital wish to revegetate the cleared sand mines owned by the City of Canning and have asked our assistance in trying to get the City of Canning to reverse their opposition to this proposal. We have agreed to support the revegetation of the sand mines because the alternative is that all the top soil from Jandakot Airport will go elsewhere to be used by DEC as they see fit, and the sand mines will remain barren. This appeared to be the best of a bad outcome.

So, while we deeply regret the forthcoming loss of a fantastic bit of bush with a magic orchid population, we have decided to face reality and hope that by being involved with the next phase of Ascot Capital's project we can still make some difference.

I thank you for your assistance in the past and look forward to your continued support.

Dr Eddy Wajon  
Convener  
Friends of Ken Hurst Park

### **WANOSCG 2010 Photographic Competition**

See the details from the July meeting's (below) minutes and from last month's bulletin.

### **WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES Wednesday 21 July 2010**

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.

Meeting opened: 8:05 pm

**CIRCULATION OF REPORTS:** Attendance Book and Treasurer's Report were not circulated to the members as the Secretary was not present.

**ATTENDANCE:** 26 members present, 7 apologies and 2 visitors

**RAFFLE:** Kindly donated by Jeremy Storey.

#### **1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

The General Meeting Minutes as distributed are a true and correct record of the meeting of 16 June 2010.

Moved Gary MacDonald

Seconded Eric Swartz Carried.

#### **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

2.1 A meeting and discussion was held by Christine Lock, Ramon Newmann, Matz Dalhkamp and Kim Hanson with Noel Clarke on 14 July at his home relating to constitutional and conservation matters. CL indicated that the issues had been resolved.

2.2 Christine Lock indicated that the positions of Conservation Officer,

Registrar Branch Liaison Officer and Supper Co-ordinator needed to be reviewed, nominated and voted upon at each AGM. This would commence at the next AGM.

#### **3. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. The general correspondence list was not available on the night.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE: None**

#### **5. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

1. The Treasurer's report was circulated.

#### **6. FIELD TRIP REPORT:**

1. Iain MacLean indicated that David Edmonds and John Ewing would be leading the Denmark/Walpole field trip on 24/25<sup>th</sup> July.

2. Margaret Petridis reported 3 x *Thelymitra apiculata* on Mullering Road on 17/18<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

3. Margaret Petridis reported 7 x *T. variegata* on private bushland in Jurien on 17/18<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

4. Eva Smith reported *Eriochilis* and *Pterostylis* species in High View Park Alexander Heights

5. Jay Steer reported *T. apiculata* on Mullering Road on 17/18<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

6. Christine Lock reported *D. brumalis* and *Pras. parvifolium* in flower in Roleystone, but not on her own block.

Christine Lock will send Orchid Sighting Report sheets to all members electronically to allow their sighting to be recorded in the WANOSCG Database.

#### **7. GROWERS TABLE**

1. Bill Burton showed a single flowering *Corybas recurvus* with a small flower in a tray of mixed leaves of *Corybas* and *Pterostylis*. Bill Burton said the growing tray was required to be kept very moist and stood in another tray of water.

#### **8. GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. 2010 Photo competition

Members agreed there should be a photo competition in 2010.

Members agreed that there should be two prizes: one for the best portfolio of 1-3 photos and one for the best individual photo.

Members agreed that voting would be by members at the meeting using two different coloured dots to vote for the best individual photo and the best portfolio.

Members agreed that the President's Trophy would be awarded to the best individual photo.

Members agreed that the prize for the 3 best portfolios would be a certificate. It was stipulated that entries could be of any orchid photographed in 2010. All photos should be A4 and untouched.

2. The Bulletin with the questionnaire/survey went to 140 members. Christine Lock indicated that 8 responses had been received prior to the meeting, and that more had been received at the meeting. Many responses provided considerable written feedback in addition to marking the response sheet, and thanked the Committee for seeking feedback. Christine Lock indicated that most responses were positive about what the Group was doing.
3. Matz Dahlkamp indicated that WANOSCG had received an electronic payment of \$40 but the payer was unknown as their details weren't entered at the time of payment. MD asked whether anyone present had made the payment. Matz Dahlkamp indicated that in future all members should ensure that their details are clear on any EFT to WANOSCG.

#### 9. PRESENTATION

John Ewing gave a presentation on "Orchids of South Australia". The presentation, from a trip in 2009, contained an amazing collection of orchids, especially of Carapee Hill with its bewildering array of Green Comb species and hybrids.

#### 10. RAFFLE DRAW

John Ewing drew the raffle and the winner was Iain MacLean.

**MEETING CLOSED: 9:20 pm**

**NEXT MEETING: 8.00 pm Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

*Note: The opinions expressed by contributors to this Bulletin are not specifically endorsed by this Group.*

#### BULLETIN ARTICLES

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

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**WEB MASTER: Don Ward email:**

#### NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

#### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

#### BULLETIN ARTICLES

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#### PROPOSED FIELD TRIPS

**AUGUST 14&15<sup>th</sup>** – Meet at Visitors Centre in Wongan Hills (Railway Station, Wongan Road) at 10am. Over night in Wongan Hills.

**AUGUST 28&29<sup>th</sup>** – meet at Western Flora Caravan Park at 10am.

**SEPTEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>** – meet at the end of Stephens Road (which is 5km north of Bindoon) – this is to search for C. sp 'Julimar'. Other day trips in or near Perth will be dates to be decided. They are to build the data base information for the Metro area. There could be more than one location on any day.

**SEPTEMBER 25-27<sup>th</sup>** - Esperance. **Note – date is a correction from previous bulletins**  
Meet at 12 midday in parking area on beachfront at corner of Norseman and Goldfields Road (Norseman Road is the main road into town –this corner is before you get into town – it has a fishing jetty right next to it.)

**OCTOBER 23&24<sup>th</sup>** - Collie and surrounds.  
Meet at 10am in Darkan at the War Memorial (on the Collie-Darkan Road) – o/night in Collie  
**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER** – Christmas trip still to be decided.

## WANOSCG SURVEY OF MEMBERS JUNE 2010

### Results for 21 replies

Strongly Agree **SA**    Agree **A**    Disagree **D**    Strongly Disagree **SD**

	<b>SA</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>SD</b>
1. We should retain 'conservation' in the Group's name and objectives.	81%	19%		
2. We should retain part of clause 2b) of the Group's Constitution that states that the Object of the Group is to "do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their natural environment".	71%	29%		
3. We should only have passive involvement with the conservation of WA's native orchids.	9.5%	4.5%	38%	48%
4. We should be very actively and consistently involved with conservation of all native orchids.	65%	35%		
5. The Group should undertake more study and research into the presence of orchids	81%	14.5%	4.5%	
6. Access to the Groups Database should be restricted to only those members who have contributed data to it.	27%	49%	21.8%	5.2%
7. The Group should actively promote greater membership.	24%	61.5%	14.5%	
8. The present number and type of field trips is appropriate.	5.3%	74%	15.4%	5.2%
9. A proportion of field trips should be primarily to research new areas.	52.5%	43%	4.5%	
10. There should be some opportunity at most Group meetings to have a short segment to show members' slides.	19%	57%	24%	
11. The bulletin style, content and information are appropriate.	24%	61.5%	14.5%	
12. The Group's current general pattern of expenditure is appropriate.	18.7%	75%	6.3%	
13. I am satisfied with the decisions the committee is making with regard to allocating the Group's funds.	47%	47%	6%	
14. The club should financially support other conservation groups.	25%	25%	37.5%	12.5%
15. Decisions about financial support of other conservation groups should be made by a general meeting, rather than by the committee.	31.6%	47.4%	10.5%	10.5%
16. Accepting sponsorship for the Group's photo competition is appropriate.		85%	15%	5%
17. Overall I am satisfied with the way the club is run and the activities it undertakes.	33%	48%	19%	

Respondent details – please tick the box

Length of membership	Less than 5 yrs	7	More than 5 yrs	14		
Place of residence	WA Metro	14	WA Country	5	Outside WA	2

The committee will be making a brief report at the next meeting to summarise the written comments. It is intended at the next meeting that the survey results will be an agenda item for discussion during the meeting. It is not intended that this will occupy a large part of the meeting.

	<b>Raffle Roster</b>	<b>SPEAKERS 2010</b>
<b>MAR</b>	Ramon Newmann	Andrew Brown - New Caladenia species
<b>APR</b>	Donna Wajon	Ramon Newmann – slides from 2009
<b>MAY</b>	Bill Burton and Sarah Atkinson	Kingsley Dixon Conservation ‘in situ’
<b>JUNE</b>	Christine Lock	Mark Brundrett Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue programme 2009/10
<b>JULY</b>	Jeremy Storey	John Ewing – Orchids of South Australia
<b>AUG</b>	Kevin Uhe	Members’ Slides
<b>SEPT</b>	Stuart Harris	
<b>OCT</b>	Scilla and Gerald Stack	
<b>NOV</b>	David Lawson	Photo competition and members slides

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**FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS**  
**August 14&15<sup>th</sup> Wongan Hills**  
**August 28&29<sup>th</sup> Eneabba**  
**September 5<sup>th</sup> Bindoon**  
**September – various around Perth and environs**  
**September 25,26,&27<sup>th</sup> Esperance**  
**October 23&24<sup>th</sup> Collie and environs**



# CORYBAS ORCHIDS OF VICTORIA JULY 2010



*DIEMENICUS* Veined Helmet



*ACONTIFLORUS* Spurred Helmet



*FIMBRIATUS* Fringed Helmet



*UNGUICUATUS* Small Helmet  
(also known as a Pelican)

AND FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA



*INCURVUS* Slaty Helmet



*CORYSANTHES DILITATA*  
Hills Helmet Orchid  
(Note – SA does not have *Corybas*)