



# Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group

## May 2015 Bulletin

### Staying Safe in the Bush

A range of orchids one can see in May keeps growing—members report seeing lots of bunny orchids, including a relatively uncommon Red-lipped bunny *Eriochilus valens*. Hare orchids are now flowering not just down South but also in Perth metropolitan parks. Leafless orchid, a favourite with many members judging by the submissions to the April and May bulletins, will finish flowering soon whereas several *Pterostylis* species are getting ready to flower. The earliest of all leek orchids, the aptly named *Prasophyllum* sp. 'Early' has already been seen around Walpole and Denmark.

We all derive immense pleasure from wandering around the bush, sometimes in large or small groups but quite often on our own.



*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus* (Common bunny orchid). Photo by E. Wajon.

This activity is not without risks - some of these risks are (literally) just small and irritating (like ticks) but some can have significant consequences, eg. getting lost.

In this issue of the Bulletin we kick off a special feature dedicated to staying safe in the bush - two WANOSCG members discuss two very different techniques they use to avoid getting lost, the techniques that represent the opposite ends of the technological spectrum.

Neither of them may work for you as a lot depends on where you go but it is important that you go to the bush prepared, that is, you have skills and technology to avoid getting lost and have back-up plans in case you do (we intend to cover these in the upcoming issues of the Bulletin).

If you would like to share your tips - we would like to hear from you.

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General Meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through November, at the BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park

# WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## Wednesday, April 2015

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.  
Meeting opened: 7:32 PM

**CIRCULATION OF REPORTS:** Attendance Book, Treasurer's Report, Conservation Officer's report were circulated to the members

**ATTENDANCE:** 34 members present, 6 apologies, No Visitors

**RAFFLE:** Prize donated by Kevin Uhe

### 1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

It was moved Matz Dahlkamp and seconded David Lawson that the General Meeting Minutes of 18th March 2014, as published in the April 2015 bulletin are a true and accurate record of that meeting. *Carried.*

### 2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**2.1 Supper Roster:** Jay thanked members for the quick uptake on the raffle roster but stressed that volunteers for the supper roster were still needed for August through to November.

**2.2 Follow up on access to the club's database:** discussed in General Business

**2.3 Noel Hoffman's suggestion of compiling validated digital photos of all WA native orchids:**

Noel Hoffman and Justin Brown reported on the considerable progress that they have made towards establishing a website where WANOSCG could display validated digital photos of all WA's native orchids. Justin demonstrated to members a sample page for *Drakaea livida* showing what the website might look like. (The sample page was hosted on Justin's website.) It is proposed that each orchid page should have four pictures showing a close up of the orchid, the whole orchid, a close up of the orchid's leaf and the orchid in its habitat. A dropdown panel would then provide access to multiple verified images of that particular species. A number of issues still need to be addressed including the process for validation and finding a host for the website. Ramon Newmann and Andrew Brown will contribute to the design and functioning of the website.

**2.4 Five Year Plan:** still nothing further to report.

**2.5 Speakers for 2015:** we are still looking for speakers for June, September and October.

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period 1st February 2015 to 31st March 2015

	MTD (1/03/15-31/03/15)	YTD (1/02/15-31/03/15)
Income	\$1743	\$1743
Expenditure	\$791	\$791

Marina reported on the transactions made during this period. To date 60 of 128 annual membership fees had been received. Members were reminded, as per the message in the April bulletin, that if fees are not paid before the end of May then no further bulletins will be sent out, either electronically or by post. Details for methods of payment are in the bulletin.

It was moved David Lawson and seconded Kim Hanson that the Treasurer's report as presented at the meeting be accepted. *Carried.*

### 4. CORRESPONDENCE

**19th March 2015 to 15th April 2015**

**Inward emails to the WANOSCG Web site and [REDACTED]:**

Electronic and / or hardcopies of Newsletters and Bulletins have been received over the period from: Orchid Society of Western Australia Inc, ANOS Illawarra, ANOS Sydney, ANOS Macarthur, NOSSA.



Date	Name	Subject
17/3/15	Sarah Rendell	Banksia resilience study: volunteer recruitment if members are interested contact Jay
12/4/15	Anna de Haan	Southern River Group AMG 18 <sup>th</sup> April
10/4/15	Simone van Hattem	CCWA Members Group Ebulletin 10 April
1/4/15	Tim Hodgkins, Eddy	Correspondence about Commonwealth approval for Beekeeper Reserve seismic testing
29/3/15	Rod Shoesmith	AOC Conference March Newsletter
29/3/15	Christine Lock Fwd from Trevor Cunningham	Use of Compass rather than GPS
27/3/15	Tim Hodgkins	Beekeeper Reserve seismic testing: Responses to e-mails dated 5 March
25/3/15	Ryan Phillips	Can give WANOSCG a presentation on 19 <sup>th</sup> August
25/3/15	Fwd from Tim	CCWA May is Community Eco-Action Month
21/3/15	Ross Fox	Petition re Proposed bauxite mining
20/3/15	Simone van Hattem	CCWA: Media Training with Jane Hammond – 28 March
19/3/15	Jane Tudor-Roberts	Botanic Gardens & Parks Authority
19/3/15	Kevin Uhe	Eneabba vegetation survey
17/3/15	Maggie Whittle	Dogs on WANOSCG Field trips (letter of support)
17/3/15	Tanya Barnett	Dogs on WANOSCG Field trips

### Outwards correspondence and Business arising from correspondence:

*Beekeepers Reserve and seismic surveys in the reserve:* see 6.1 conservation section

*Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority:* JS outlined the guidelines for the use of Kings Park Board Room. We need to be careful not to block the fire exit in the SE corner of the meeting room when returning chairs and room dividers to their original positions at the end of the meeting.

*Use of a Compass:* At some point in the future an article is likely to be placed in the bulletin outlining a range of survival practices including the address of websites outlining how to use a compass.

### 5. FIELD TRIPS

Margaret's availability in 2015 is uncertain. In the short term Kevin Uhe has agreed to take on some of Margaret's role. Members will need to provide as much support as possible.

Kevin outlined the plans for the upcoming May fieldtrips:

**May 2nd/3rd Walpole - Northcliffe burn:** To look for *Eriochilus* species and *Praecoxanthus aphyllus*. A tentative booking has been made for the Large Kiln. Kevin needs to hear from members who wish to use that accommodation. There will be two meeting times, firstly on the Saturday morning at 9.30 for those people who are able to travel down on Friday and secondly at 11 am for those people who may travel down on the Saturday. Members wishing to attend this field trip need to contact Kevin to obtain meeting times and places (see April bulletin).

**May 30th/31st & June 1st Long Weekend:** to Kalbarri area. This trip is in the early stages of planning. Gary McDonald will keep Kevin up to date with the "orchid happenings". In addition a limited number of members will be able to carry out a survey for early orchids at Eurardy on the Sunday. Members interested in being involved in the Eurardy survey should contact Kevin.

**June 20th/21st:** Jurien area looking for *Thelymitra apiculata* and *Diuris perialla*. Camping or staying on Private property. Eddy Wajon is to lead this trip, interested members should contact him.

### PERSONAL FIELD TRIPS:

Members were reminded to fill out personal field trip report forms to help the Secretary record their names and where and what they have found. Even more importantly members were reminded to fill out orchid sighting sheets and send them to the new registrar, Ramon Newmann.

*Marina Karyagina - Nine Mile Lake reserve (12th April):* reported seeing *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* (Leafless orchid) flowering. Whilst there she met Robert and Lynette Goodale who own a bush block (sanctuary) adjacent to the Nine Mile Lake reserve. They expressed interest in having WANOSCG conduct a survey on their block (where 45 species of orchids can be found).

Justin Brown - South Coast (January 2015): reported seeing *Caladenia corynephora* (Club-lipped spider orchid), *Cryptostylis ovata* (Slipper orchid), *Thelymitra fuscolutea* (Chestnut sun orchid) and *Gastrodia lacista* (Potato orchid). The bushfire went through the site 3 weeks later.

## 6. CONSERVATION

The conservation report was circulated with the attendance book.

**6.1 Beekeepers Reserve and seismic surveys in the reserve:** Tim reported that, as per agreements at the March General meeting, a follow up letter had been sent to Norwest Energy and copied to the EPA and the Minister. Responses had been received from both the EPA and the Minister but nothing from Norwest Energy. These letters and responses were tabled at the meeting. The committee felt that WANOSCG should contact Western Botanical, the company who prepared the flora surveys for Norwest Energy, suggesting that should they require information on orchid locations and flowering times in the future they could contact us. Tim asked for the names of relevant people to contact in Western Flora. Andrew Brown and Mark Brundrett suggested he contact Geoff Cockerton.

**6.2 Bauxite mining Morangup/Toodyay area:** Tim reported that Ross Fox had alerted him to proposed plans to mine for bauxite. Eddy Wajon suggested that WANOSCG, both as a group and individual members, should consider doing surveys of the orchids in the area to make sure that our database was up to date should we need to provide data on this matter.

**6.3 Perth-Darwin Highway:** Tim's report covered a letter from Eddy concerning proposed clearing along the route of the Perth-Darwin Highway. It includes bushland to the west of Beechboro Rd, which is part of the Whiteman Park bushland.

*"I have been representing the Wildflower Society on the Environmental Reference Group for the design of the Perth-Darwin National Highway between Reid Highway and Brand Highway Muchea since July 2014. This group has had 2 meetings since, and the next one is Wednesday 15 April. I have been advised that the Public Environmental Review for this project is tentatively due for release approximately 8 June 2015 for a 4 week period closing 6 July 2015. The proposal will result in the clearing of 296 ha of native vegetation in various conditions, including 170 ha of Bush Forever sites, 5 ha of TECs and 83 ha of PECs, 39ha of critical habitat for *Caladenia huegelii* and 5 ha of critical habitat for *Grevillea curviloba* subsp *curviloba*. It will also affect a number of groundwater dependent ecosystems. There may be other orchids along the alignment."*

**6.4 Current status of reserves:** Tim tabled a list of reserves that we had drawn up in 2014. He asked members to sign up to survey these reserves in 2015 and report back to the group so that by the end of the year we had current information on each of them.

It was moved Tim Hodgkins and seconded Eddy Wajon that the Conservation Report be accepted.

*Carried.*

## 7. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 7.1 WANOSCG photo competition for 2015:

The committee came up with two suggestions at the April meeting:

- I. Any native orchid taken from an unusual perspective (eg behind, above, creative)
- II. Two different orchid species (or hybrids) in the same field of view.

Members present at the meeting agreed that the second of these suggestions should become the topic for our 2015 photo competition. Members were reminded that photographs must be taken in 2015 in the field under natural circumstances. The photo is not to be the result of "Photoshopping" two orchids into the same shot. Photos are to be up to A4 size and unmounted.

### 7.2 Database: Where to from here?

The registrar (Ramon Newmann) reported that he had been speaking to Christine Lock about how the Database works. In the short term it is suggested that we continue to add to the existing database.

In the medium to longer term (and perhaps in parallel) we need to set up a restructured database that will allow us to input the data from excel. Any new database would include information on who supplied the data, when it was collected and when the data was entered into the database. Some level of verification needs to be included. Ramon suggested that the NZ Orchid website uses a system of verification that we might consider. He will need help getting data into a standardized form that can be imported into the database. Members might be able to submit their sightings via an excel spreadsheet that contained dropdown boxes for orchid names, locations and a level of confidence in their identification of the orchid.

Some thought needs to be given to how the skills of the registrar can be passed on. The question of how threatened and priority flora will be recorded in a new database still needs to be addressed. Kim Hanson reminded us that as part of the ADORP agreements, where DPaW has provided individual groups with sensitive information, we should not be including ADORP data in the Club's database.

### 7.3 Emergency response strategy:

Marina and Peter are working on a set of instructions to cover basic responses to emergency situations. When complete this will be laminated and placed in First Aid Boxes.

### 7.4 Four New snail orchids named: Kevin Uhe reported to the meeting that

*Pterostylis* Sp 'Small Stature' is now *Pterostylis parva*

*Pterostylis* Sp 'Broad Petals' is now *Pterostylis platypetala*

*Pterostylis* Sp 'Elegant Snail' is now *Pterostylis scitula*

*Pterostylis* Sp 'Miniature' is now *Pterostylis voigtii*

**7.5 Merging of *Paracaleana* and *Caleana*:** Andrew Brown reported that Mark Clements has recently published a paper proposing the merging of *Paracaleana* and *Caleana*. Andrew will be taking part in a herbarium review of this matter.

**7.6 New book on orchids:** "Orchids of Margaret River and Australia's southwest capes". Mark Brundrett reported that a book by Jane Scott on the orchids of Margaret River was going to the printer and would soon be available.

## 8. GROWER'S TABLE nothing presented

## 9. PRESENTATION

Jay Steer gave a presentation entitled "**The Fuscolutea complex - towards a phylogenetic tree**".

Ramon Newmann was heard to say the presentation was both "magnificent and stellar".

## 10. RAFFLE DRAW:

The raffle was drawn by Jay Steer, the winner being his brother Bob.

**MEETING CLOSED 9.32 pm**

**NEXT MEETING: 7:30pm Wednesday 20th May 2015**



<b>Hot of the Press</b>  A paper titled "New taxa of Caladenia (Orchidaceae) from south-west Western Australia" has just been published and is available as a free download from <a href="https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/nuytsia/">https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/nuytsia/</a>  In this paper Garry Brockman and I formally describe 11 new Caladenia species and 6 new subspecies. All are illustrated in "Field Guide to the Orchids of Western Australia" and for your convenience I have listed the page numbers.  Of special note is that we named two of these orchids in honour of club members, <i>Caladenia hopperiana</i> is named in honour of Steve Hopper and <i>C. swartsiorum</i> is named in honour of Eric and Nigel Swarts.  <b>Andrew Brown</b>	Page	New name	Old name
	108	<i>C. ambusta</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Boranup
	76	<i>C. bigeminata</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Yerina Springs
	75	<i>C. erythronema</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Nyabing
	109	<i>C. leucochila</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Collie
	73	<i>C. fluvialis</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Brookton Highway
	95	<i>C. hopperiana</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Quindanning
	74	<i>C. perangusta</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Keninup
	77	<i>C. pluvialis</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Yuna
	74	<i>C. straminichila</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Moodiarrup
	95	<i>C. swartsiorum</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Island Point
	75	<i>C. validinervia</i>	<i>C. sp.</i> Muir Highway
	119	<i>C. attingens</i> subsp. <i>effusa</i>	<i>C. attingens</i> subsp. <i>granite</i>
	56	<i>C. denticulata</i> subsp. <i>albicans</i>	<i>C. denticulata</i> subsp. <i>Arrowsmith</i>
	56	<i>C. denticulata</i> subsp. <i>rubella</i>	<i>C. denticulata</i> subsp. <i>red</i>
	90	<i>C. longicauda</i> subsp. <i>extrema</i>	<i>C. longicauda</i> subsp. <i>Manjimup</i>
	89	<i>C. longicauda</i> subsp. <i>insularis</i>	<i>C. longicauda</i> subsp. <i>Duke of Orleans Bay</i>
	89	<i>C. longicauda</i> subsp. <i>minima</i>	<i>C. longicauda</i> subsp. <i>Chapman Valley</i>

## **SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

Meeting held at: Gazebo beside Denmark River, opposite Horsley Road Denmark

Meeting opened: 10.36am

**ATTENDANCE:** 10 members present, 9 apologies 0 visitors

The meeting was chaired by Anna de Haan

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

Amendments: - None

The Annual General Meeting Minutes as distributed are a true and correct record of the meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

Moved Kate Aston    Seconded Pat Bracknell    and carried

### **2. ELECTIONS**

Christine Lock was nominated as the Returning Officer for the Committee elections.

Position	Nominee	Moved	Seconded	Action
Branch Convenor	Anna de Haan	Jeff Spencer	Sarah Stodart	All in agreement
Assistant Branch Convenor	Julie McKenzie	Anna de Haan	Jeff Spencer	All in agreement
Branch Field Trip Coordinator	Anna de Haan Julie McKenzie	Jeff Spencer	Pat Bracknell	All in agreement

**AGM CLOSED:** 10.40am

**NEXT MEETING:** First field trip 2016

## **SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

Meeting held at: Gazebo beside Denmark River, opposite Horsley Road Denmark

Meeting opened: 10.45am

**ATTENDANCE:** 10 members present, 9 apologies 0 visitors

The meeting was chaired by Christine Lock

### **1. Setting planned field trip dates.**

A set weekend of each month to be identified for field trips on either/or a Saturday or Sunday. The third weekend is not suitable due to clashes with another local club. It was decided to hold monthly planned field trips on the **SECOND** weekend of the month plus any extras as necessary.

### **2. Possible field trips for the year.**

A) Kulunilup/Unicup Nature Reserve Burn, B) Church Road Denmark, C) North Denmark burns, D) Soho Hills, Frankland National Park- entry only by walking, E) Leighton's private property – Wellstead and F) late flowering orchard multi day trip.

### **3. Letter of thanks from Jay Steer.**

Read to the meeting. Thank you Jay for your kind and supportive words.

### **4. Thanks from our Eastern states members.**

Sarah Stodart and Kate Aston thanked WANOSCG and the Southern Rivers Group for their support, comradeship and hospitality. Visiting new country in the south-west whilst searching for and photographing the vast range of different species was greatly appreciated. We wish both successes in their orchid hunting endeavours back home.

**General Meeting Closed:** 11.10 am



## NEW PTEROSTYLIS NAMINGS

By Kevin Uhe

David Jones and Chris French have continued their series of naming members of the Western Australian nana complex with another four named in the April/May edition of the Australian Orchid Review.

*Pterostylis* sp 'small stature' now becomes *Pterostylis parva* which has been named after the Latin *parvus* which means small, little, puny. This is in relation to the very small stature, small flowers and leaves. This orchid is found east of Esperance to the Stirling Range and inland to Hyden area.

*Pterostylis* sp 'broad petals' has been named *Pterostylis platypetala* which comes from the Greek *platy* which means broad and *petala* in reference to the broadly dilated petal margins. The orchid ranges from south of Kalbarri to Perth.

*Pterostylis* sp 'elegant snail orchid' now becomes *Pterostylis scitula* named after the Latin *scitulus* for the pretty, elegant and neat in reference to the neat elegant flowers. This orchid has a restricted range between Moora and Gillingarra.

*Pterostylis* sp 'miniature' is named *Pterostylis voigtii* and named after Don Voigt who was a well known orchid enthusiast in the Esperance area. This orchid is found between Esperance and Duke of Orleans Bay.



*Pterostylis voigtii* is named in honour of WANOSCG Life member Don Voigt.  
Photo by K. Uhe.



*Caladenia x hopperi* named in honour of WANOSCG Patron Steve Hopper. Photo by A. Brown.

***Caladenia x hopperi* J.M.H.Shaw, a new name for *Caladenia x ornata* Hopper & A.P.Br.**

By Andrew Brown

When Steve Hopper and I published the name *Caladenia x ornata* for the rare hybrid between *C. exilis* and *C. drakeoides* in 2001 we were unaware that the name *ornata* had already been used for an eastern Australian orchid by David Jones when he elevated *C. carnea* var. *ornata* to a species in 2000, naming it *C. ornata*.

This error has now been rectified following the publication of *C. x hopperi* in 2014 by Julian Shaw who re-named the hybrid in honour of Stephen Hopper.

This orchid is historically known from just two locations, near Pithara and west of Miling, growing on sandy rises above saline flats and flowering in August-September. The small Miling population is now believed to be extinct and the Pithara population has dwindled from over 60 plants when discovered in 1988 to just a handful now, making it one of our rarest hybrids.



## General Items

### SOUTHERN RIVERS BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT— 2014

As usual the first field trip was rather warm, sunny and along the coast making the most of the sea breeze. Two more coastal field trips followed, enabling members to enjoy easy access to coastal orchid locations via the Bibbulmun Track.

Poor weather did not dampen our ever enthusiastic Su who lead a field trip (the first was postponed due to poor weather) along Chester Pass Road with many pleasing finds. Su also capably helped John Ewing in his quest to survey (read measure) two local *Diuris* species over a three day period. This opportunity gave all parties an insight into the dedication required to identify possible differences between plants and still be the one species.

As the season progressed our Field Trip Co-ordinators Maggie and Tanya turned their attention to the huge Blue Lake burn area. The first exploratory trip resulted in the identification of over a dozen different leaves. A birthday was celebrated at another field trip to the Blue Lake burn, this time recording more flowers than leaves. Water crossings had become rivers or swamps too deep to forge. Continued return visits to the Blue Lake burn required the October field trip to be divided into two groups of over 15 people. Appreciation of the abundance of orchids was seen on every member's face and their enthusiasm to find and photograph "just one more orchid".

Meanwhile, Julie brought us to a new *Caladenia meridionalis* site. The range of *Pterostylis* orchids was enjoyed by all.

WANOSCG's Christmas weekend wind up was held in Mt Barker after yet another successful visit to the Blue Lake burn on the Saturday. The Blue Lake burn had been a very successful and rewarding orchid hunting ground throughout the year. The comradery between the club members from both groups has certainly developed over the year. On Sunday Anna lead the club along the Muir Highway to Lake Muir. Animated discussions were held over the identification of *Diuris emarginata* and *drummondii*. What's what?

Our final get together was held at the Albany Herbarium where we shared our orchid sightings of the year and viewed Andrew Brown's Late Flowering Orchid slide show.

Over 11 field trips and 23 SRG members:

2 members participated in 10 field trips	2 members participated in 4 field trips
3 members participated in 8 field trips	4 members participated in 3 field trips
2 members participated in 7 field trips	1 members participated in 2 field trips
2 members participated in 6 field trips	2 members participated in 1 field trip.
5 members participated in 5 field trips	

Another 65 Perth based club members attended SRG field trips throughout the year.

2014 has been a very successful year due to the efforts of our enthusiastic Field Trip Co-ordinators, number of field trip leaders and of course the club members who continue attend field trips and other club activities. I wish to thank all club members and visitors for their continued support throughout the year.

**Anna de Haan (Branch Convenor)**

>> Orchids that flower in May: From the top: *Pterostylis sanguinea* (P. Richards), *P. rogersii* (W. Guy), *Leporella fimbriata* (P. Hill), *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus* (W. Guy).





## FIELD TRIP UPDATE

Below are details on some of the upcoming field trips. For full list please see the back page. Members wishing to attend or for further information please contact [REDACTED]

### MAY—JUNE

**16th & 17th of May—South Western Highway north of Walpole** (See back page for a separate notice)

**30th/31st May & 1st June—Kalbarri**

This will be a long weekend trip to Kalbarri and Eurardy station to look for early orchids in that region. This will include *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *brevifolius* (Blunt-leaved bunny orchid) and expand the locations for *Caladenia drummondii* (Winter spider orchid). Contact [Kevin Uhe](#).

**20th/21st June—Jurien Bay area**

Field trip 20/21 June to Jurien area looking for *Thelymitra*, *Pterostylis* and *Diuris* species.

This trip is being lead by [Eddy Wajon](#). Please put your name down for this field trip by speaking to Eddy at the May or June meeting or call him on [REDACTED] to get details of the time and place where we are meeting on the Saturday morning.

We will be staying in Jurien on Saturday night. Accommodation options include

Apex Camp: 5-person self-contained unit including linen \$115 (2 person) + \$10pp extra. Phone 9652 1010

Tourist Park: 1-bedroom chalet \$120, 2-bedroom chalet \$135. Phone 9652 1596

Beach Front Holiday Units: 5-person self-contained unit including linen \$150. Phone 0467 073 862

Hotel/Motel: \$115-145/room. Phone 9652 1022.

Get together and share a unit or chalet.

### AUGUST

**24-28 August—Eurardy Station Surveys**

Last year a small group of members visited Eurardy Station to help search for a number of DRF species that grow in the area. We have had contact from Vanessa at Eurardy seeking the help of WANOSCG to assist in this year's surveys.

Accommodation is available at Eurardy for cabins, camping or caravans.

To reduce the impacts on the environment there will be a restriction on the number of people who can attend though depending on interest we may be able to rotate members during the week if people only wish to do a couple of days.

Please register your interest with [Kevin Uhe](#).



L-R: *Pterostylis dilatata*, *Thelymitra pulcherrima* and *Diuris perialla*—some of the species that will be the focus of the June field trip to Jurien Bay area. Photos by E. Wajon.



*Praecoxanthus aphyllus.*

Photo by L. Alcock

### East Yornaning Leafless

*By Lyn Alcock*

Having received reliable information some years ago that there were *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* orchids in the East Yornaning Reserve, I have spent the last 3 years attempting to find them. Armed with a better mud map and a determination to find them I again headed out on Tuesday April 22nd. After driving for ages, walking heaps, and getting more and more frustrated I was about to head home when I decided to head further into the reserve just to see what was there. As I drove into yet another track suddenly the terrain changed totally and seemed to be exactly where the orchids might be. More walking and frustration and as I was about to step out from the bush onto the track back to the car there was an orchid in all its glory.

After many photos I decided to head back into the bush and finished up finding a total of 12 orchids and 2 buds yet to open. Very happy with my find I headed home. That night Judith Williams contacted me and we decided to meet up the next day and head out there again. Two sets of eyes are better than one!

In 2 hours we had recorded over 60 orchids, several buds still to open and 2 finished flowers with swollen ovaries. In one patch about 2m x 1m there were a total of 10 flowers. Most were also distinctly greenish/yellow as per Mark Brundrett's book for the Eastern-most flowers.

In all our searching we did not see one pollinator on or near an orchid. My supposition is that because they are scented, maybe the pollinators emerge in the late evening when the scent would be strongest. Who knows!! I certainly am not going out there on my own at night to check my theory.

The orchids were all on one side of the track only...a fire had been through the other side a couple of years ago, and despite much searching we did not find one orchid.

Surprisingly, despite lots of sand, there was not one Hare orchid leaf to be seen anywhere. This is certainly an amazing piece of bushland and as it is very close to me, I shall be visiting it many times over the next few months.

### **Ross Fox writes from the road:**

On our way to Albany we stopped for a cuppa before Glenn Eagle Forest and found our first *Eriochilus multiflorus*. Then off to Gull Rock Rd with the whole family (great-grandchildren included). There we found some lovely red *valens*. Granddaughter found 2 *Praecoxanthus aphyllus*. Then onto Denmark and around several roads and on to Watershed Rd we found lots of *P. aphyllus* and a lot of different *Eriochilus*: *magnus*, *pulchella* (we think), more *valens* and lots of tiny little *helonomos*. So a very successful morning. And still have one more day to go in Northcliffe but that might be a total wash out as it is now pouring rain!



Ross thinks that this might be *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *magnus*—flower and leaf.



### The mystery of the disappearing/reappearing leafless orchids

by Andrew Brown

Some years ago (back in April 2003) I was returning from a meeting in the Wheatbelt when I stopped to stretch my legs. The area was a tiny bush remnant a few kilometres east of Northam, right on the edge of the Great Eastern Hwy.

After finding a few flowering plants of the common crinkle-leafed bunny orchid (*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus*), imagine my surprise when I happened upon a leafless orchid (*Praecoxanthus aphyllus*) in full flower. Yes, that's right. This is not a typo, it was a leafless orchid. I could not believe my eyes. What was this orchid doing here? The next nearest location is down near Narrogin some 172 km to the south and even that population is an outlier with most populations found even further south between Albany and Bunbury, extending in a narrow band along the south coast to Esperance. This orchid was not supposed to be here. It was breaking all the rules. But here it was and after hunting around for a while I found two more, both in beautiful flower.

Over the next 11 years I stopped at that spot on a number of occasions, even making special trips to look for the leafless orchid. However, there was no sign that it had ever been there. I began to think it was an anomaly, perhaps the plants had somehow been transported to the location as tubers in soil collected further south but this seemed highly unlikely as they were growing in relatively undisturbed vegetation. Perhaps the seed had somehow been transported to the location to germinate and grow for a few years and then die out. This also seemed highly unlikely. Whatever the reason, they were there in 2003 only to disappear, perhaps forever.

Just a few weeks ago in April 2015 I again stopped at the spot in the vain hope of finding the leafless orchid. Given previous experience I certainly was not optimistic and, at first, I found just the usual suspects, a handful of crinkle-leafed bunny orchids in flower but then, to my great delight, I found it, no, not another bunny orchid, a leafless orchid. Fantastic, here it was again after 12 years and not one or two but after a bit of searching I found 13 of these beauties in full flower.

How remarkable that the leafless orchid is out there. Even more remarkable is that it can disappear for 12 years and then appear again in relative abundance. I cannot wait to look again next year.

I love orchid mysteries don't you!

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### SOUTHERN RIVERS GROUP — Denmark Hinterland 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015

After car-pooling at the Denmark Visitors Centre we went to two sites in Denmark. Our first stop was off Inlet Road in remnant bush. Jeff and Wendy lead us to a large colony of 70+ flowering Hare Orchids (*Leporella fimbriata*). These were a photographer's dream of water droplets and spider webs on flowering plants.

Stop two brought us to granite rocks off Ocean Beach Road. Here we were shown "The Log" where previously 80 *Thelymitra paludosa* were photographed by Jeff and went on to grace the cover of the March 2014 Bulletin. Ten *T. paludosa* leaves were already 10cm tall and growing vigorously from the same log. Here we also found in tight bud, many *Prasophyllum* sp. 'Early' (Scented Autumn Leeks).

Beside the Denmark River in a gazebo morning tea was enjoyed followed by the SRG AGM and general meeting.

Two members returned to Albany via the Wind Farm where *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *magnus* (Easter) and *E. dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus* (Common Bunny) were sighted. The rest of the club drove due north to the Mt Roe National Park, August burn area. At a boulder outcrop, we found the above two mentioned orchids as well as *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* (Leafless) and *E. pulchellus* (Granite Bunny) orchids. *Pyrorchis nigricans* (Red Beaks) leaves were also seen. A great start to the season.

Anna de Haan



**ANZAC long weekend trip to Northcliffe—April 24 - 27th**  
(Su Hayman, Phil Wilding, June Scott, and Maggie Whittle)

With the weather starting to cool off a little and reasonable rains at the start of April, it was decided to check on the areas around Northcliffe and the recent bushfires, in the south-west.

Arriving Friday and setting up camp at the Round-Tu-It Eco Caravan Park, it wasn't long before some bunnies were found in the bush adjoining the grounds. It was a promising start to the weekend.

Saturday was ANZAC day and the dawn service was a must do for Su and Phil. There was a good turnout of approximately 80 people, braving the chill of the morning. The service was very moving, remembering all the participants of all the conflicts Australia has fought in. This year was the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing and held particular interest for local people, as so many of the soldiers were from, or later settled in, the timber towns of the south-west.

This was followed by a hearty breakfast kindly supplied by the Manjimup Shire.

It was arranged to meet up with Wendy Eiby who works at the Northcliffe Visitors Centre, who had kindly volunteered to show us the best spots for finding orchids.

Over the next couple of days we found the Easter Bunny *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *magnus*, Granite Bunny *Eriochilus pulchellus*, Common Bunny *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus*. Leafless orchid *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* (only 2). Scented Autumn Leek *Prasophyllum* sp. 'Early' (only 2 in bud). Hare *Leporella fimbriata* (large colony flowering in Cleave Road also many leaves). Mosquito *Cyrtostylis robusta* (1 with bud, several very small leaves). Slipper *Cryptostylis ovata* (many leaves found on our outings, with one plant still flowering, having 23 flowers pollinated and one flower still to open).

We took advantage of our proximity to Mount Chudilup, to make the climb up and see the extent of the recent bushfires. Whilst at the summit, we found a large colony of some 30 *Eriochilus helonomos* orchids in flower and buds were found.

One of the highlights, of a non-orchid variety, was a trip into the Warren River valley to see the spectacular trees of this area. The steep valley is abundant with towering Karri and Jarrah with a diverse understorey with the river running through it. All agreed this was an area well worth the detour.

All in all, a very enjoyable trip, with wonderful weather and abundant orchids found. Everyone is looking forward to the next trip.

Phil & Su

From the top: *Cryptostylis ovata*, *Eriochilus helonomos*, *Prasophyllum* sp. 'Early', leaf and bud of *Cyrtostylis robusta*. Photos by Su Hayman.





### Simple Safety Precaution

*By Pat Richards*

Australia is vast and it's easy to get to remote areas where you don't see another soul for weeks on end. For very remote areas an "EPIRB" distress beacon is strongly recommended. Nevertheless, many people can and do get into trouble in within sight of major urban centres.

I regularly walk in the hills to the east of Perth and some of the paths I take, although within walking distance of my home, are steep, rugged and out of sight and hearing of roads and buildings. I can frequently walk all morning and not encounter another soul. It goes without saying that I take a fully-charged mobile phone with me and, luckily, the areas I walk in have a reasonable mobile phone signal (unlike my home itself, unfortunately.) However, given the rugged nature of the terrain, there is always the possibility that I will fall and injure myself or become ill, and I frequently walk alone. As long as I can make a call from my phone, I am able to call for help but, for example, should I hit my head in a fall or should the phone battery die, I could be in real trouble. I don't have an EPIRB, however, as an additional precaution, I do have a useful and very cheap app on my phone.

The app can, amongst several other things be set to forward an email at regular intervals I specify, eg every 15 minutes, to a specified email address giving my GPS position and a link to the location on a map. I set emails to go to my husband and home and this enables him to check at intervals that I am still moving and where and, if there were to be a problem, even if I were able to make a call to him for help, he would know exactly where I could be found. There are one or two dead spots where there is no phone coverage but these are few and, given the fact that the emails are set to be sent at regular intervals, it can still be ascertained what my most recent location was and where to start looking.

An additional benefit to me is the ability to record the GPS coordinates way-point at any time, for example, if I find a particular orchid or other wild flower and, if desired, I can record my whole walking route. (This does not require mobile phone coverage as it just relies on receiving the GPS satellite signal.)

The app I use is called MotionX GPS, is available for Apple iPhone and iPad, and currently costs a mere 99c US.

### Top Ten Bushwalking Essentials — Compass

*By Trevor Cunningham*

No one ever believes they will ever get lost, that's true, it is always someone else.

There are a few tips to try and avoid getting lost but I notice that one of the oldest of man made methods to find your way home and still a great asset today even with all this tech stuff around, a compass rarely gets a mention.

We almost always, particularly if out on our own carry a small SILVA compass (it must have a moveable bezel). It takes only seconds virtually to set it before heading into the bush and when you return you basically come back on the reverse bearing that you walked out on. This is what is called a reciprocal bearing. This is a very basic set-up, it is not overly difficult to set up and follow on your return path.

The last suitable Silva brand compass that I purchased 2 or 3 years back was under \$30 at that time (from BCF).



Bush around Northcliffe.  
Photo by M. Petridis.



GPSs are no doubt good but many people cannot nut them out and some models definitely lose the signal in the timber country.

I think a compass, one with a rotating bezel, should be a part of every bush walker's kit. A short lesson on how to use them is a must and you do need some basic understanding of the compass.

The above we have used only on short trips off roads and tracks, trips other than that definitely need a good understanding of all the navigation options.

Ed: Check <http://stuckinthewoods.info/gear/compass.html> or talk to Trevor for more advice on use of compass with a rotating bezel.



*Caladenia drummondii*. Photo by W. Guy

## Announcements

### WANOSCG photographic competition for 2015

Photographs are to be of two or more orchid species (or hybrids) in the same field of view. Members are reminded that photographs must be taken in 2015 under natural circumstances and not be the result of "Photoshopping" two or more orchids into a single photograph. Photographs should be 6"x4", 8"x10" or A4 sized and without a mounting or backing. Members may enter up to three photographs.





**Let it grow**

It is illegal to remove native plants in Western Australia. Take the beauty home by taking only photographs.

Please stay on existing tracks to prevent trampling of fragile plants.

Thank you for your help in conserving this special area and it's flora.

This area is monitored.

Department of Parks and Wildlife

### Visiting Threatened Orchid Sites

Andrew Brown advises that Albany District Threatened Flora Recovery Team is concerned about over visitation of the popular *Thelymitra variegata* site and the trampling it causes. Members are asked to tread carefully and to keep visitations to a minimum (i.e. not go there every year) and not in big groups.

A sign (see right) has now been placed at the site.

### MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2015

All members are reminded that annual subscriptions are now due. The annual single or family membership fee is **\$30**. Payment can be made :

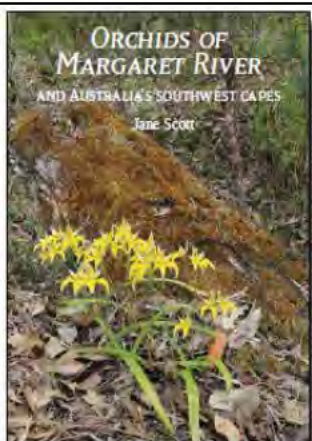
- to the Treasurer in person
- by mail with cheques made out to WANOSCG and sent to: WANOSCG PO BOX 323, VICTORIA PARK, W.A. 6979
- by electronic transfer to the club's bank account:  
BSB: 306044 Bank name: Bankwest  
Account number: 5492468

If you choose to send money electronically please identify what the payment is for (eg "Annual Fees" and send a copy of your receipt of electronic transfer with your name on it to the club's email account ([wanoscg@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg@gmail.com))

Please note that if the fees have not been paid by the end of May you will be a non-financial member and not receive the Bulletin anymore.

**Book Launch**  
**Orchids of Margaret River**  
**and Australia's SouthWest**  
**Capes**  
By Jane Scott

Date: Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 6 - 8 pm  
Venue: The Church Gallery,  
Margaret River Community  
Resource Centre  
Turnbridge St







*Eriochilus valens* - flower and leaf. Photos by M. Petridis

## BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to Marina at [wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com) . Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 4th June 2015

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## Upcoming Field Trip List

### Additional Field Trip 16th & 17th of May— South Western Highway north of Walpole

During the field trip last weekend (2nd and 3rd May) WANOSCG members located a substantial population of *Eriochilus valens* in the burn along the South Western Highway north of Walpole.

Some members are planning to go down there again on the weekend of 16th and 17th May to search the area for more populations. Anyone interested in joining us or requiring information to see this species, please contact

Kevin Uhe [redacted]  
Margaret Petridis [redacted]  
before 15th May

Month	Dates	Description
May	16/17 <sup>New!</sup>	South Western Highway north of Walpole to look for <i>Eriochilus valens</i>
May	30/31/June 1	Kalbarri area and Eurardy station
June	20/21	Jurien area looking for <i>Pterostylis</i> and <i>Diuris perialla</i> on private properties
July	19	Day trip to Pingelly area to look at reserves and record findings
August	8/9	Kalbarri area
August	15-23	Week long camping trip to the east of Esperance focusing on <i>Pterostylis nana</i> (snails) species - <i>Almost Full!</i>
August	24-28	Eurardy Surveys - limited numbers
Sep	12/13	Visit to a private property in Moodiarup area
Sep	26-28	Stay at Perup Ecology Centre and explore areas in vicinity

2015	ROSTERS		SPEAKERS 2015	
	Raffle	Supper		
MAR	Jay Steer	Urszula Kokosinska & Jeanette Wheatley	John Ewing	<i>Caladenia dundasiae</i> an ADORP update
APRIL	Kevin Uhe	Trish and Ramon Newmann	Jay Steer	The <i>Fuscolutea</i> complex - towards a phylogenetic tree
MAY	Ross Fox	Margaret Fox	Andrew Brown	Orchids of our eastern granites
JUNE	Matz Dahlkamp	Urszula Kokosinska	TBA	
JULY	Peter and Debbie Proudfoot	Pam Hill	Chris French	The new <i>Diuris</i> species
AUG	David and Jane Cumming	Pat Richards	Ryan Phillips	Title coming
SEPT	Tom Burbidge		TBA	
OCT	Bob Steer		TBA	
NOV	David Lawson		Photo Competition and Members slides	