

Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group



March 2019 Bulletin

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING
20 March 2019

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
20 March 2019

Management Committee:

Ramón Newmann – President
Jon Warren – Vice President
Ian Puddey – Vice President
Jay Steer – Treasurer
John Ewing – Secretary
Margaret Petridis – Field Trip Coordinator, Committee
Pat Richards – Bulletin Editor, Committee
Kim Hanson – Committee
Marina Karyagina – Committee

2018 WANOSCG Photographic Competition

At most of our general meetings we enjoy an orchid related presentation by a guest speaker or WANOSCG member who is an expert in the field. The November meeting, however, is the final general meeting of the year and the presentation is replaced by display and judging of members' entries to the annual WANOSCG photographic competition.

This year, after some pondering and head scratching for a potential subject, the committee nominated a widespread WA species that would give all members an opportunity to enter – the cowslip orchid (*Caladenia flava*) – including its various subspecies.

As in past years, the printed photos were displayed anonymously around the table and judging carried out by members present under the watchful eye of two scrutineer members who had not themselves submitted an entry. Each voting member was allowed three votes (green dot stickers). Following a bit of a hiccup whereby a photo was selected as winner but disqualified (it had been inadvertently entered but had not been taken in the 2018 season), the vote count resulted in the entries by Jack Eborall and Aly Mollica being declared equal first with the third place taken by Margaretha Roepen. Well done, all three!



(Image courtesy Ramón Newmann)

Photo competition winners

Jack Eborall, Margaretha Roepen and Aly Mollica

President's report

Ramón Newmann - President

2018 was quite a year for WANOSCG, with new awards, field trips, grants, presenters, photo competition, and a new constitution to boot!

We started the year with Anna de Haan receiving the 2017 WANOSCG Award, and three members being anointed as new Life Members – John Ewing and Kim and Thea Hanson. All very well deserved for the great work they have done for WANOSCG, helping to make it the strong group that it is today.

The rain dances that I asked for last year were at least partly answered, with some areas receiving good rainfalls, but others not being so lucky. Notwithstanding the patchy rain, the group completed a wide range of successful field trips right around the southern half of the State – starting with the Southern Rivers Group in the Stirling Ranges and ending with an end-of-year gathering in the Augusta area. Many were reported in the monthly Bulletin along with some great photographs of the orchids, members and locations.

There was a series of informative and entertaining speakers through the year at the monthly group meeting in Kings Park. These included some surprises from a 39-year overseas orchid study; updates on roadside vegetation conservation; the orchid databases; pollination of *Pterostylis* and *Caladenia* species; stories about growing up with orchids and a riveting presentation on the new constitution.

The Bulletin had a series of articles covering a wide-ranging set of topics – with articles on specific species (some range extensions and some new species), taxonomy, reports on current and past research projects sponsored by WANOSCG and what to do if you come across evidence of illegal orchid activity (report it to DBCA!)



Protective cage

This year a trial WANOSCG Grant was awarded to Ron Fauntleroy for the physical protection of a threatened species (*Drakaea elastica*) using cages he built. The cages have had a significant impact, and there were a lot of learnings from the project overall, which we will hear more about during 2019. Once this pilot has been completed and reported on, the committee will consider possible future grants.

For 2019, WANOSCG 45th anniversary, we plan to have a number of exciting field trips led by our intrepid members and informative presenters at our meetings. We will also see the bedding down of the new constitution and resulting process changes.

Due to state legislation changes affecting all incorporated associations, like WANOSCG, we had to replace our constitution with one that conforms to the *Associations Incorporations Act 2015*. We chose to adopt the 'model' constitution tailored to meet WANOSCG's specific requirements – which I am pleased to report has now been accepted by Consumer Protection and is now in effect. The new constitution and associated by-laws and committee resolutions have resulted in some process changes (such as the nomination and election of the committee at the AGM) and the strengthening of a number of areas (such as membership definitions, dispute resolution and proxy voting).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee and all of those members working hard in the background to make this a strong and active group. A special thanks from all of the committee goes to our outgoing Conservation Officer, Tim Hodgkins, who has done a sterling job over his 4-year tenure liaising with other organisations, being out in the field and providing great reports back to the group. Without these helpers we would simply not have the group as we know it today... and of course, it's the members' participation that makes it such a vibrant group.

Which brings me to the AGM and the 2019 committee – there are some key posts that are still looking for nominations, so please give some serious consideration to putting up your hand if you want to continue to enjoy the benefits for the group, including the protection of our native orchids, and to be part of the management and steering of WANOSCG.

Have fun and be involved in 2019!

Treasurer's Report

Jay Steer - Treasurer

2018 was quite a year for WANOSCG, with new awards, field trips, grants, presenters, photo competition, and a new constitution to boot!

Overview of WANOSCG receipts and expenditures for 2018/19 is as follows:

	2018/19	2017/18
Total Receipts	7,198.77	6,644.69
Total Expenditure	10,205.43	4,233.94
Profit / Loss	-3,006.66	+2,410.75

This is a brief summary of WANOSCG financial transactions and does not replace the audited accounts; they will be presented at the Annual General Meeting as per normal. Major differences between 2017/18 and 2018/19 are increased expenditure on the new improved Insurance policy (\$1,008) and the WANOSCG Orchid Grant (\$5,000). This has prompted the committee to modify the membership fee structure.

Registrar's Report

Ramón Newmann - Registrar

The WANOSCG Database of member's orchid sightings continues to grow. In the 2017 report the total number of sightings was 18,000 and it is now at over 21,700 thanks to some pretty dedicated members who have sent in to me the results from their many and varied field trips.

One key improvement to the database has been the translating of location descriptions to GPS readings where one is not otherwise provided. This has mainly been through the work by Paul Winthrop, Kevin Uhe and more recently Jon Warren. Over half of the sightings now have a GPS reading (up from a fifth). What this means is that the sightings can now be plotted on a map – to show species distributions or what has been found in an area or in a time period. This is valuable for the planning of field trips, or to see what species there are in an area threatened by habitat damage.

In the future, GPS readings will also help to give some level of species identification 'confidence', or 'validation', to be flagged against each sighting by comparing the location with the known locations – for instance by comparing to herbaria data. This is part of a current project to gather the 'known' locations' GPS readings and to automate the comparisons to see how far away a sighting is from the nearest known location. Currently the known flowering periods are compared to the sightings dates to give another view of an identification 'confidence' level. Notwithstanding that some sights are truly range extensions and the flowering periods can vary significantly.

During the year there have been a significant number of name updates – both scientific names and more recently the consolidation of the common names to be used in the database. All of these updates are incorporated in the latest version of the Sightings Template and listing of orchid species being sent out to all members.

The number of species for which we have no sightings has gone up since last year to 29 – not because we've lost the sightings, but because of the name changes and additions of new species.

Attached there is a listing of the species for which we have no sightings, and some information as to where the sightings have been, or there is a gap. We've hit the Wheatbelt pretty hard, but the Peel Region has got off lightly and surprisingly there are no sightings from the Cue, Mount Magnet and Mullewa Shires. Targets for 2019 field trips?

Please provide your past or current field trip orchid sightings – preferably in the form of the Sightings Template with as many of the columns filled as possible, but most other formats will also be useful if you cannot put it into that format; especially the ones we do not have any sightings for.

Have fun in 2019!



FIELD TRIPS

Field Trip Coordinator Report

Margaret Petridis – Field Trip Coordinator

We had another busy and productive year with many field trips far and wide, and with a pleasing variety of field trip leaders.

We started the official trips in mid-April out to Corrigin and Kondinin looking for the pygmy orchid (*Corunastylis fuscoviridis* - formerly *C tepperi*). We were excited to find three new populations of the orchid during the weekend. Thanks to Robin Campbell for leading the trip and providing follow-up information and photos.

This was followed by a trip to Dunsborough/Augusta/Walpole in late April, led by Andrew Brown. We successfully located *Eriochilus* species, hare orchid (*Leporella fimbriata*) and leafless orchid (*Praecoxanthus aphyllus*) during the trip. Thanks Andrew for organising and running the trip.

Andrew also took a small group of members from our waiting list on a private trip to see the underground orchid (*Rhizanthella gardneri*) near Corrigin in May. We were joined by some DBCA staff due to the orchid's critically endangered status. Only a few orchids were located but they were well photographed. This opportunity may arise again so any members wishing to see this orchid will have to contact me to put their name on the waiting list.

The annual winter spider orchid (*Caladenia drummondii*) trip in early June was focussed this year around Wongan Hills. We found the orchid in three new locations, which was awesome, and we were pleased to have some local residents join us for the searches.

Relatively new members Robin and Taryn Parsons volunteered to lead a trip around the Bunbury area in mid-June looking for *Pterostylis* species, mainly banded greenhoods and shells. Thank you to Robin for running the trip and to Taryn for providing some warming soup, despite being unwell. A good selection of *Pterostylis* species were seen as well as a few other early orchids.

In mid-July Kevin Uhe led a small group on a day trip to Gillingarra and in mid-August Peter Proudfoot ran a trip out to Wambyn NR west of York, both of which provided a selection of orchids for members to see.

In late August Ian Greeve ran his 7-day camping trip that had been postponed in 2017 due to lack of rain. Fortunately, this year's rainfall was better and attendees saw a wide range of orchids from the Perenjori area and east to Charles Darwin reserve, Mt Gibson and Ninghan Station. For most people attending it was the first time exploring some of these locations and it showed us the importance of granite rocks and run-off areas for orchids in these drier places. We enjoyed a delicious meal one night at the Perenjori hotel and we also had fun weathering a storm at Mt Gibson in our tents!

In mid-September Kevin led a day trip to the Northam/York area and later that month we had a very interesting field trip to the Jerramungup area over the long weekend. Despite poor winter rainfall, we found over 40 species of orchids, albeit not in large numbers. We had the opportunity to visit new places such as Tozer's Bush Camp and Quaalup Homestead in the Fitzgerald River National Park, and found some orchids at each place.

Following the long weekend trip, a small group of members travelled to Karlgarin on a private trip to liaise with an interested local farmer and search various locations. An exciting find was a new population of the Pingaring spider (*Caladenia graniticola*), a Threatened species. We also found a large population of a *Cyanicula* in bud around a granite rock east of the town. This was later confirmed as the powder blue china orchid (*Cyanicula ashbyae*) and is a new location for this orchid, occurring about midway in its recorded range. This trip highlighted the benefits of local knowledge with regards to habitats and we will follow up this contact again in 2019.

In mid-October we ran a weekend field trip from Manjimup across the Muirs Highway to Mt Barker. The objective was to search for orchids in some of the prescribed burns along the way and also south of the highway. We found over 45 different species, but not in large numbers and some burnt areas were not



Easter Bunny Orchid
(*Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp.
magnus)

Images courtesy Paul Richards



Images from left:

Stark Spider Orchid x Pink Candy Orchid (*Caladenia longicauda* x *hirta* subsp. *rosea*), Esperance King Spider (*Caladenia decora*), Leopard Orchid (*Thelymitra benthamiana*), Sugar Orchid (*Ericksonella saccharata*), Lazy Spider (*Caladenia multiclavia*)

productive of orchids at all. We discussed this and decided it was probably because the burns were done at low intensity (cool burns) and at the wrong time to stimulate spring orchids.

The final trip of the year was the break-up trip in November to the Augusta area. Members enjoyed a hearty meal at the Augusta hotel on the Saturday night and we found a good number of late flowering orchids north, west and east of the town on the Sunday.

In addition, the half-day Metro trips organised by Christine Lock continued this year and were more successful in number of trips done and members attending than last year.

A very big thank you is extended to all members who volunteered to lead a trip this year. Your efforts were very much appreciated and it was pleasing to see new people lead trips. A special thank you goes to Kevin for his support and assistance to me during the year.

I encourage all members to consider volunteering to lead a trip to their local or well-known areas in order to share these with other members. We will provide whatever assistance is needed and you can determine the number of people you are willing to take.

Please contact Christine or myself if you would like more information or would like to lead a trip this year. We would also appreciate any suggestions regarding areas to visit or specific orchids you would like to see or look for.

Perth Metropolitan Trips

Christine Lock – Metropolitan Trip Coordinator

Nine field trips were planned with six completed and two cancelled as too late in the season. On average, six members attended each trip.

July: This trip to Trigg Island Bushland was a success. A couple of members from Southern Rivers Group attended. There was not much on show but all noted it was a worthy trip as a new area. This area could be revisited later in the season.

August: Brixton Street trip was fabulous. Whiteman Park also saw a couple of members from the Southern Rivers group attend. Both sites recommended for orchid viewing.

September: Kings Park burn saw three intrepid members attend and Warwick Reserve and Adenia Road saw a good turnout.

October/November: Yanchep National Park and Lake Lescanaultia were cancelled as too late in the season.

December: A last-minute extra trip to Warwick at the beginning of December caught the swan song for orchids in the Perth metropolitan area.



Carousel Spider Orchid
(*Caladenia arenicola*)

Chestnut Sun Orchid
(*Thelymitra fuscolutea*)

Images courtesy Pat Richards

Trip Reports

Augusta/Scott River – Final Group Trip of 2018

A large group of members made their own way down to Augusta on the Saturday in order to meet at the Augusta Hotel for an enjoyable evening meal, where tales of orchid adventures during the year were discussed.

On Sunday morning members met at the Donovan Street bushland and proceeded to discover a number of orchids still in good flower including the Albany Spider (*Caladenia pholcoidea* subsp *pholcoidea*), Christmas spider (*Caladenia serotina*), funnel-tipped spider (*Caladenia infundibularis*), Tuart spider (*Caladenia brownii*) and a few hybrids, which invoked discussion on possible parents.

A further stop to the west of Augusta near the industrial area saw more of the above spider orchids plus pink enamels (*Elythranthera emarginata*), blue lady suns (*Thelymitra crinita*) and a couple of leopard suns (*Thelymitra benthamiana*) still in late flower.

The final stop of the day was east of Augusta towards Scott River where the highlight was a group of club-lipped spiders (*Caladenia corynephora*) together with an array of Christmas spiders and, amongst a group of sheoaks, a small number of forest mantis spider orchids (*Caladenia attingens* subsp *attingens*). Also seen were pink enamels and large numbers of dense mignonette orchids (*Microtis media* subsp *densiflora*).

From there some people returned home whilst others stayed overnight at Augusta and made their way home on the Monday.

Overall it was a fitting way to finish the season with most of the late orchids in flower and all who participated thoroughly enjoyed the evening meal on Saturday evening and a good number and variety of orchids to locate and photograph on the Sunday.

Thanks to Margaret and Jeanette for their organization of the trip.



Images clockwise from top right:

Forest Mantis (*Caladenia attingens* subsp *attingens*), Christmas Spider (*Caladenia serotina*), Hybrid Funnel-tipped Spider x Christmas Spider (*Caladenia infundibularis* x *serotina*), Albany Spider (*Caladenia pholcoidea*) Tuart Spider (*Caladenia brownii*), Funnel-tipped Spider (*Caladenia infundibularis*)

Southern Rivers Group

SRG Christmas Wind-up, 1 December 2018 – Anna de Haan, SRG Convenor

The aim of this field trip was to follow up on all the leaves found on the last field trip to Sunny Glen a month ago.

Our first stop beside the South Coast Highway was at a site which had been totally degraded by excessive spraying for weed control and roadside clearing through the removal of paperbark trees. The paperbark trees became mulch, so thick, it smothered nearly all regrowth. However, do not underestimate the orchid's ability to survive adversity. We sighted the late donkey (*Diuris emarginata*), common mignonette (*Microtis media* subsp *media*), club-lipped spider (*Caladenia corynephora*), the South African orchid (*Disa bracteata*), blue lady (*Thelymitra crinita*) and the dense mignonette (*Microtis media* subsp *densiflora*). The latter was of the same type (with a larger labellum) as those seen in the Augusta area the previous weekend. In a nearby dry swamp we also found the odd plants of tiger orchid (*Thelymitra tigrina*) and babe-in-a-cradle (*Epiblema grandiflorum*).

Su and Phil led us back to "The swamp" in Sunny Glen which was much drier this time, thus confining the orchids to the last damp areas. We added Christmas leek (*Prasophyllum brownii*), both the green and dark form, Christmas spider (*Caladenia serotina*), karri spider (*C brownii*), Albany spider (*C pholcoidea* subsp *pholcoidea*), white mignonette (*Microtis alba*), swamp mignonette (*M atrata*) and nanny goat (*Diuris laevis*). Leopard orchid (*Thelymitra benthamiana*) had gone to seed whilst babe-in-a-cradle was also well established here. Considerable hybridisation between the Albany and Christmas spider orchids created much confusion as some hybrids had quite narrow labellums, white sepals and petals and labellums with little to no red colouration.

We moved onto tracks within the Conservation Reserve. Out of the wind and in the shade, we made ourselves comfortable to enjoy the shared Christmas lunch whilst being flanked by Christmas leeks and white mignonettes. What more could orchid enthusiasts wish for?

After a long lunch we found the scented mignonette (*Microtis albobiridis*) and potato orchid (*Gastrodia lacista*). Jeff and Wendy brought us to an area of pink beaks (*Pyrorchis forrestii*) which had gone to seed. It would have been a sight when in flower. A limited number of plain sun orchids (*Thelymitra paludosa*) were also sighted.

I wish to thank the trip leaders for their excellent reconnaissance work which ensured over twenty species were sighted – indeed, a lovely way to celebrate the SRG Christmas wind-up.

Images from top:

Club-lipped Spider (*Caladenia corynephora*), Babe-in-a-Cradle (*Epiblema grandiflorum*), Scented Mignonette (*Microtis albobiridis*), Potato Orchid (*Gastrodia lacista*)



Planned Group Trips Upcoming

Planned trips – early season 2019

Month	Date/s	Area/Location	Target Orchids
April	13-14	Corrigin – Kondinin – Karlgarin (Staying Kondinin Saturday)	<i>Corunastylis fuscoviridis</i>
May	11-12	Walpole (limited numbers) (Stay Walpole Saturday)	<i>Corybas</i> sp 'peat' <i>Eriochilus valens</i> and other species
June	1 - 3	Kondinin – Hyden (Stay Kondinin/Karlgarin) (Saturday and Sunday)	<i>Caladenia drummondii</i> <i>Eriochilus undulatus</i>
July	13-14	Badgingarra – Jurien (STAY Badgingarra) (Saturday)	<i>Thelymitra apiculata</i> <i>Thelymitra pulcherrima</i>

To Register for a Field Trip

Register: in writing via email or text to the Field Trip Coordinator, or the Field Trip Leader if indicated

Registration: opens 4 weeks prior to and closes 3 days before each trip

Number of participants: limited to a maximum of 20, unless otherwise stated

Notes:

April: Participants can attend for one day around Corrigin, or two, staying overnight in Kondinin

May: We will be searching new areas of peat swamps around Walpole to see if we can find more populations of the newly discovered *Corybas* sp 'peat'. Limited places.

June: Long weekend in early June. Planning to stay in Kondinin and/or Karlgarin area.

July: Weekend trip north, staying at Badgingarra.

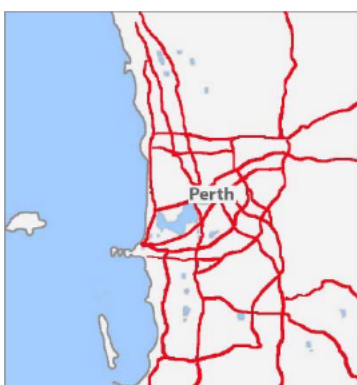
This list is flexible and can be altered to reflect members' requests and/or weather conditions.

If any members have ideas for places to visit or specific orchid species to look for, or would like to volunteer to lead a field trip (half a day or more), please contact the Field Trip Coordinator,

Margaret Petridis [redacted] or [redacted].

Perth Metropolitan Field Trips 2019 – Coordinator, Christine Lock

Such half-day trips will be planned nearer the time as suitable dates, weather conditions and locations become clearer.





CONSERVATION

Editorial

Networking

Our native orchids are the primary focus of our group with their beauty and fascinatingly diverse characteristics holding the attention of our members in thrall through much of the year. That said, our orchids do not exist in isolation but are part of a much wider eco-system whereby there is a mutual reliance between orchids and other living organisms and their habitats. So too there is often considerable benefit to be gained with the periodic interaction between our group focusing on orchids and other similar groups whose focus may be on different sections and aspects of our country's unique biodiversity.

Tim Hodgkins, as Conservation Officer for WANOSCG, has been tireless in networking with local councils, government departments, academics, and other not-for-profit groups in the field of biodiversity. His reports back to our members have led to a greater understanding within our group of the importance of being active in promoting the care and protection of our natural environment in addition to purely studying it. Tim has consistently brought to our attention activities of like-minded groups whose particular focus may be slightly different but still works towards protecting our environment, enabling members to participate in such activities and thus appreciate the beauty of our orchids in the greater scheme of things.

Illegal Roadside Clearing

With the onset of the hot summer months in Western Australia's south-west, the majority of our native wild flowers, including our orchids, have become dormant, often causing our roadside verges to appear parched and deceptively barren. In reality, however, there are frequently thriving populations of native flora lying dormant and hidden just awaiting the onset of the first winter rains to re-awaken them. During this time many of our members have been suffering orchid withdrawal, myself included, turning our attention to non-orchid matters while we await the onset of the first autumn rains that herald the new orchid season. Not so, Eddy Wajon.

Eddy has been steadfast in following up on reports of unnecessary and often illegal roadside clearing by local councils around the south-west of our state. Eddy's passion for conservation of our native flora, including our native orchids, has led him tirelessly to lobby politicians of all political persuasions and including local, state and federal members. Responses ranged from defensive to positive with constructive ideas suggested in some cases.

The verges of our country roads in the south-west of WA are home to many native wild flowers, including orchids some species of which are listed as threatened or endangered. These verges constitute not only a widespread habitat network outside designated reserves but also a readily visible tourist drawcard for visitors to our wildflower state. Indiscriminate and illegal roadside clearing often serves little purpose and can lead to the confinement of some native flora to the pockets of the scattered reserves and further threaten the viability of some of the rarer species that are already under threat.

Eddy Wajon's concern has led him to contact shires directly when ill-considered, excessive and possibly illegal clearing has come to his attention. In addition, he has brought such actions to the attention of the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). We understand that of 104 reports investigated by DWER, 59 were deemed illegal and that warning letters and educational advice was provided to relevant councils in some cases, but no penalties appear to have been imposed. We also understand, however, that updating of compliance and enforcement policy is being considered.

In the meantime, Eddy urges our members to keep reporting instances of possible unlawful clearing to DWER, and/or to Eddy himself and to make a note of details and take photos.



Main road with adequate but not excessive clearing.
(Verge retained.)



STUDY GROUPS

Kevin Uhe – ADORP Coordinator

Adopt An Orchid Project (ADORP)

A number of new ADORP participants signed up in 2018 which allowed a number of new groups to be formed, thus substantially increasing the taxa under survey to 35 species with another five being surveyed on an ad hoc basis due to their remote locations.

Most of the orchids under review are Priority 1 to 3 with a small number of Threatened also being surveyed by a total of 64 active volunteers.

During 2018 a total of 4,229 volunteer hours were recorded undertaking ADORP tasks which can include research, travelling to locations, surveying and reporting. The total hours worked on the project since commencing in 2011 is now an impressive 12,064.

The overall dedication of ADORP members is very encouraging with Graeme Walker achieving a cumulative total of over 1,000 hours, and with Anna de Haan, Deb Walker and Bill Gaynor accumulating over 500 hours since the project began in 2011.

It is pleasing that new locations are continuing to be found for some of the target orchids and some teams have managed to relocate old populations which have not been seen for many years. In the course of surveying for the adopted orchids a number of Threatened populations were discovered and reported to DBCA.

The good winter rains over most of the state resulted in some very large counts of some orchids during the season which is very encouraging for those species. It also tests the teams when counting over 1,000 plants!

A nomination for Threatened status has now been submitted to DBCA for *Thelymitra magnifica* after years of survey data has revealed this taxon is very much at risk. Further submissions on other taxa will be made over the coming years once sufficient data become available.

During the year we were successful in getting *Diuris brevis*, *Caladenia applanata* subsp *erubescens* and *Pterostylis heberlei* upgraded to Priority 2 with these three taxa now being part of the ADORP programme.

For the first time two non-priority taxa have been included in the programme to ascertain their current status, these being *Caladenia exilis* subsp *vanleeuwenii* and *Diuris oraria*.

Finally many thanks to the group leaders who have organised their teams and provided reports, to all team members who have enthusiastically spent hours in the field surveying and to the DBCA co-ordinator, Tanya Llorens, who has continued to support this worthwhile initiative. Special mention to Andrew Brown who continues to provide support to the ADORP programme.



Images:

Moora Spider Orchid (*Caladenia exilis* subsp *vanleeuwenii*) – two colour variants

Images courtesy Pat Richards



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Jon Warren – Vice President/Membership Coordinator

Membership

WANOSCG finished 2018 with 161 memberships covering 241 people including 14 new members compared to 2017 when we had 154 memberships covering 230 people including 16 new members. Since 2015 the group's membership has steadily risen from 199 members to the current 241 members.

Paper Work Warning

As warned in the November bulletin all members will have to fill out a new membership form this year due to meeting the requirements of the *Associations Incorporations Act 2015* by our club via our new constitution and the need to redefine membership categories in particular.

Currently 52 highly organised folk have returned their membership forms.

A couple of points of clarification on filling in the membership forms (ie where some folk have got it a bit wrong so far):

1. Fill in either the Individual Membership section *OR* the Family Membership section. Not both.
2. If you are filling in the family membership section please remember to nominate membership class (Ordinary or Associate) next to each person's name. This is very important as this determines voting rights.

Remember if you are already a member you do not need the nomination section to be filled.

New membership forms are available and have been sent to current members and posted on the WANOSCG web site.

The new year is upon us so please get those forms in and the payments rolling.



Notices

Tuesday, 5 March 2019

WANOSCG Grant Project Update

Protective Cages for Glossy-leaved Hammer Orchid

Ron Fauntleroy reports that, on initial assessment, the deployment of cages to protect this orchid (*Drakaea elastica* - a Threatened species) from feral predatory activities has been effective. A more detailed and ongoing investigation of the success of the project is scheduled with a view to evaluating the benefits of award of the WANOSCG Grant.

Orchid Taxonomy – New namings

Kevin Uhe

After a quiet 2018 as far as new namings went, this current year will see a number of taxa formally described as ongoing studies continue into a number of undescribed species.

In the February - March edition of the Australian Orchid Review, David Jones and Chris French have formally described five members of the nana (snail) complex.

These have been placed in the genus *Diplodium* which is not recognised by the WA Herbarium and a follow up paper will be required to formally place them into the *Pterostylis* genus. Until that time these five taxa will continue to be known by their phrase names (where they have one).

Diplodium crispulum (phrase name *Pterostylis* sp 'crinkled leaf') is named after the Latin *crispulus* which means finely and irregularly crinkled, referring to the margins of the leaves. This taxon is found between

Perth and Albany and extending inland in the higher rainfall areas with a disjunct population at Banks Rocks to the east of Hyden.

Diplodium gracillimum (known as *Pterostylis* sp 'long sepals' in Brown et al) is named after the *gracilis* (slender) and *-illimus* very (superlative) referring to the thin, slender habit of the plant. This taxon is confined to moss pockets on granite rocks between Denmark and Windy Harbour.

Diplodium saxum (no current phrase name) is named after the Latin *saxum* (rock) which refers to the where this species grows among granite boulders at the type site. This taxon is found at the Porongorup and Stirling Ranges then extending west to Northcliffe. It flowers in August and September and is found shrubs in forest areas and among granite boulders in stony brown loam.

Diplodium scabrellum (no current phrase name) is named after the Latin *scabrellus* which means rough, scabrid referring to the labellum margins and surface. Found between Margaret River and Albany in eucalyptus forest in sand over laterite and can occur near granite. Flowering time is August to mid-September.



Pterostylis sp 'long sepals'



Pterostylis sp 'inland'

Diplodium setulosum (phrase name *Pterostylis* sp 'inland') is named after the Latin *setulosus* (minutely setose) which refers to the "hairy" stems and ovaries on this species. This species is found over a large area from north of the State Barrier fence at Nerren Nerren to Balladonia and west to Brookton. It is a variable species with plants inland being taller than plants in higher rainfall areas. Further studies are needed to determine if these smaller plants are a possible undescribed related species.

Nominations for Committee and Subsidiary Offices

Further to the email to members of 16 February 2019, it is noted that there are still several positions outstanding, with insufficient nominations received to fill the roles. Most critical is the position of the group's secretary. This is an essential position on the committee recently filled by John Ewing. John stepped in at short notice on a strictly temporary basis to relieve Pat Richards, who at that time was filling the roles of both secretary and Bulletin editor, a workload not sustainable on a long-term basis.

Going forward, Pat is willing and able to fill either the secretary position or that of editor but not both. So far, no nominations have been received for either position other than from Pat to fill one of them. Should no further nominations for these offices be received at the AGM, Pat will, of necessity, have to take the position of secretary, as this position is an essential one for an incorporated association. This will leave the subsidiary position of Bulletin editor vacant, in which sad case, no Bulletins can be produced unless and until someone steps forward to fill one of the positions.

The position of secretary involves basic documentation skills on a computer and some measure of administrative abilities and organisation.

The editor position requires document layout ability using software such as Microsoft Word, or a desktop publishing application, eg Microsoft Publisher, or Adobe InDesign. (Desktop publishing software certainly isn't essential as MS Word is quite up to the task for our group's needs.)

We therefore urge members to consider stepping up in a community spirit to volunteer to serve our group in one or other of those offices for 2019 as, otherwise, this edition of the Bulletin will be the last for some time to come.

In addition there are other committee positions and subsidiary offices still awaiting volunteers (details from Ramón Newmann on application).

Illegal Removal of Native Orchids – Reminder

It is illegal to remove native flora from public lands without an appropriate licence and, in the case of threatened flora, it is illegal to remove it from any lands, including private land without ministerial approval. The Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 now provides for substantial deterrent penalties, up to \$500,000 for a person taking threatened flora species.

Members seeing signs of illegal orchid removal should report it without delay to a DBCA District Office.

- 1 Goldfields Region – kalgoorlie@dbca.wa.gov.au
Kalgoorlie – (08) 9080 5555
- 2 Kimberley Region – kununurra@dbca.wa.gov.au
Kununurra – (08) 9168 4200
- 3 Midwest Region
Geraldton – (08) 9964 0901 -
Shark Bay district, Denham – (08) 9948 2226
Kalbarri National Park – (08) 9937 1140
Moora district – (08) 9688 6000 **
- 4 Pilbara Region
Karratha – (08) 9182 2000
Exmouth district – (08) 9947 8000
- 5 South Coast Region – albany@dbca.wa.gov.au
Albany (headquarters) – (08) 9842 4500
Esperance district – (08) 9071 3657
- 6 South West Region – bunbury@dbca.wa.gov.au
Bunbury (headquarters) – (08) 9725 4300
Blackwood district (Busselton) – (08) 9752 5555
Wellington district (Collie) – (08) 9735 1988
- 7 Swan Region
Crawley (headquarters) – (08) 9442 0300
Perth Hills district (Mundaring) – (08) 9290 6100
Yanchep National Park – (08) 9303 7759
Swan Coastal district (Wanneroo) – (08) 9303 7700
- 8 Warren Region – warren.admin@dbca.wa.gov.au
Manjimup (headquarters) – (08) 9771 7988
Donnelly district (Pemberton) – (08) 9776 1207
Frankland district (Walpole) – (08) 9840 0400
- 9 Wheatbelt Region – narrogin@dbca.wa.gov.au
Narrogin (headquarters) – (08) 9881 9200

General Meeting Rosters

We are calling for volunteers to provide raffle prizes and supper at our general meetings. If you feel you can help out in this regard, a sheet, a sample of which is shown below, will be tabled for each general meeting next year and you are encouraged to put your name down.

Date	Speaker	Topic	Raffle Prize	Supper
20-Mar-19	Bill Gaynor	ADORP (Ducks)	Marina Karyagina	Trish Newmann
17-Apr-19	Margaret Petridis	Crested Spider Orchid (<i>Caladenia cristata</i>)		

*Welcome to 2019
May our native
orchids burst forth
in abundance in
the new season*

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Bulletin contributions to the Editor at wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com. As noted herein, we are unsure yet whether there will be an April edition of the Bulletin, given the uncertainty that the Editor's position will be filled. If it does go ahead, members will be advised of the deadline for submission of articles in due course.

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ARTICLES: Come from the author and not WANOSCG.

CONTACT DETAILS:

WANOSCG EMAIL: wanoscg@gmail.com

WANOSCG WEBSITE: www.wanosca.com

WANOSCG DATABASE REPORT FEB 2019

Total Sightings Reported: 21,700

Species with no WANOSCG Sightings reports	WANOSCG Common Name	Species Distribution	Flowering Start	Flowering Finish
Caladenia caesarea subsp. 'Mooradung'	Mooradung Mustard Orchid	Bodington to Mooradung	15-Sep	15-Oct
Caladenia longicauda subsp. 'Pallarup Rock'	Pallarup White Spider Orchid	Allocasuarina thickets around granite outcrops between Pallarup Rock and Mt Madden	01-Aug	07-Oct
Caladenia sp. 'east of Esperance'	Scrub Spider Orchid	Esperance to Cape Arid	01-Aug	31-Aug
Caladenia sp. 'Kellerberrin'	Kellerberrin Wispy Spider Orchid	Woodlands north of Kellerberrin		
Caladenia sp. 'western Wheatbelt'	Western Wheatbelt Spider Orchid	Merredin to Corrigin	01-Aug	30-Sep
Corybas sp. 'peat swamps'	Peat Helmet Orchid	Under thick vegetation in peat swamps near Walpole	15-Apr	31-May
Cyanicula sp. 'northern'	Northern China Orchid	Heathland between Badgingarra and Dongara	01-Aug	31-Aug
Diuris sp. 'Scaddan'	Rock-Loving Donkey Orchid	Scaddan to Hyden	01-Jul	01-Sep
Diuris sp. 'Williams'	Little Williams Donkey Orchid	Williams area	01-Aug	01-Sep
Drakaea andrewsiae	Lost Hammer Orchid	Gnowangerup to Tunny	01-Sep	30-Sep
Drakaea sp. 'coastal plain'	Enamel orchid	Heathy open forest on the coastal plain south of Perth	01-Aug	31-Oct
Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. 'Darling Range'	Darling Range White Bunny Orchid	Shallow soil pockets on granite outcrops in the Darling Range between Kalamunda and Armadale	15-Jun	30-Jul
Prasophyllum paulineae	Pauline's Laughing Leek Orchid	Albany	15-Sep	30-Nov
Pterostylis angulata	Helena River Snail Orchid	Coastal fringe between Yanchep and North of Bunbury	01-Aug	30-Sep
Pterostylis crebriflora	Darling Range Banded Greenhood	Darling Range near Perth with some scattered occurrences on the Swan Coastal plain	01-Jul	30-Sep
Pterostylis eremaea	Salt Lake Rufous Greenhood	Kulin to Mollerin	15-Sep	31-Oct
Pterostylis hadra	Elusive Rufous Greenhood	Pootenup area	07-Oct	22-Oct
Pterostylis saxa		Stirling and Porongorup Ranges extending to Northcliffe	01-Aug	30-Sep
Pterostylis scabrella		Coastal strip between Margaret River and Albany	01-Aug	15-Sep
Pterostylis sp. 'chocolate'	Chocolate Flowered Rufous Greenhood	Karonie area	15-Sep	15-Oct
Pterostylis sp. 'Cocklebidy'	Cocklebidy Rufous Greenhood	Sparsely shrubby limestone plains grasslands near Cocklebidy (01-Sep	07-Oct
Pterostylis sp. 'limestone sands'	Limestone Snail Orchid	Near coastal woodland on well-drained calcareous sands from Yanchep to Busselton	01-Aug	30-Sep
Pterostylis sp. 'Nullarbor'	Nullarbor Rufous Greenhood	Sparsely shrubby plains on limestone between Nundroo SA and Eyre WA	01-Sep	31-Oct
Pterostylis telmata	Eastern Swamp Snail Orchid	Esperance to Israelite Bay	31-Aug	30-Sep
Thelymitra sp. 'Denmark'	Yellow Sun Orchid	Denmark area	15-Oct	15-Nov
Thelymitra sp. 'late northern'	Late Northern Scented Sun Orchid	Sandplain shrubland and woodland between Northampton and Nerren Nerren Station	01-Sep	31-Oct
Thelymitra sp. 'northern swamps'	Northern Swamp Scented Sun Orchid	Swamps between Perth and Bunbury	21-Sep	31-Oct
Thelymitra sp. 'south coast'	South Coast Sun Orchid	Margins of swamps between Walpole and Bremer Bay	01-Nov	30-Nov
xCyanthera glossodiodes	Mauve Rare Orchid	Mt Barker to Margaret River	01-Sep	01-Nov

WANOSCG SIGHTINGS		SHIRES WITH NO WANOSCG SIGHTINGS	
Region	Region Count	Shire	Region of Shire
Wheatbelt	6322	Laverton	Goldfields
Great Southern	4644	Leonora	Goldfields
South West	4412	Ngaanyatjarraku	Goldfields
Mid West	2147	Cue	Mid West
Perth	1957	Meekatharra	Mid West
Goldfields	1723	Mount Magnet	Mid West
Peel	559	Mullewa	Mid West
North West	6	Murchison	Mid West
Kimberley	0	Sandstone	Mid West
Gascoyne	0	Wiluna	Mid West
Pilbara	0		