



WANOSCG

The Official Bulletin of The
Western Australian Native Orchid
Study & Conservation Group

Issue 7 - September 2023



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President:	Jon Warren
Vice President:	Ramón Newmann
Vice President:	Andrew Brown
Secretary:	Martina Fleischer
Treasurer:	Jay Steer

Ordinary committee members:

Peter Gee
Debbie Proudfoot
Peter Proudfoot
Kevin Uhe
Graham Warren

Subsidiary Positions:

Field Trip Coordinator	Graham Warren
Conservation Officer	Vacant
Membership Officer	Jay Steer
Branch Liaison Officer SRG	Jon Warren
Bulletin Editor	Annie Bowerman
Librarians	John Ewing & Alison Higgins
Supper Coordinator	Trish Newmann
Webpage Administrator	Ramón Newmann
Facebook Page Administrators	Graham Warren & Nathan Piesse
Perth metro field trip Coordinator	Vacant
Registrar	Ramón Newmann
ADORP Coordinator	Kevin Uhe



HOBBYISTS

Do you have a hobby that incorporates orchids? Our next meeting, September 20th, will be a craft night. Anything that is orchid inspired be it ceramics, painting, photography, etching, needlework, artwork, clothing, scrapbooking, Lego[®], calendars or table books, whatever brings you pleasure we want to see it.

Email me at wanoscg.secretary@gmail.com if you have any questions or are willing to participate, the more the merrier.

Martina, Secretary

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President's Musings September

Over the past month I have been lucky to be involved in several excellent orchid events.

Climate Impact?

First was the extremely interesting presentation from Dr Jacopo Calevo on the impact of climate change on orchid persistence. The take home message for me was the research indicates climate change isn't a major threat to *Caladenia* orchid populations or more accurately orchid habitat in WA. The geology will remain the same with temperature and rainfall variations resulting in suitable habitats moving.

It will be interesting to see if this holds for other genera especially those that like a lot of damp.

Sadly, though, there is a plethora of other factors contributing to orchid population decline but, on a positive note, Jacopo pointed out that at least the decline is reversible since it is mostly human-induced.

Hopefully we get the chance to get Jacopo back next year for an update on his research findings.

Orchid Conservation in WA

Second was a tour of the orchid conservation facilities at Kings Park Botanical Gardens and another excellent presentation about the work from Dr Belinda Davis. Unfortunately, we must limit numbers for logistic reasons but are planning on making this a regular event to enable more members to learn about this important work.

See the following excellent photos from Ramón Newmann to get a sense of what was involved at Belinda's presentation at the King's Park Laboratory last Wednesday, August 23.





Top right the critically endangered
Collie Spider – *Caladenia leucochila*.

Right – *Caladenia* sp.

President's Musings September...Continued

Better than sliced bread

On the 14th August an email announced the availability of the WANOSCG Native Orchid Lucid Key to all members.

So, while the email was very understated due to the humbleness of the authors, let me get just a bit excited as I have watched the development of this program over the last few years and think it is one of the most important tools for orchid appreciation in WA in the modern era.

Firstly, the work done to get the key up and running by Ramón Newmann and Andrew Brown with support from many others was huge. Not only was it huge but it was done with a level of technical rigour that was beyond impressive.

I have used the key regularly at home and found that it helps enormously with identifying orchids, but probably more importantly, it is also a great learning tool to find out what you should measure to be able to distinguish between closely related species. Yes, Snail orchids, I am talking about you!

Hearty congratulations to all involved in its development to date and an especially big thank you to Ramón and Andrew.

The best thank you members can give the team is to use the key.

The next phase of the project is to make the key into a phone app so that identification can happen in the field. I am sure all members will agree that is a worthy pursuit.

Enjoy your orchid adventures, share your experiences, do your bit and watch your step, and contemplate that in a year or so you could be checking your phone to determine if you have found that must see orchid or just another bloody hybrid.

Jon Warren
President

A Competition Idea

Long-time member Alex George has had some limericks floating around in his head for a while and has played around with one in particular, just for orchids.

It occurred to him that we could have a competition for members, the winner to be decided by a vote after a certain number of entries.

I'd like to suggest we begin with this bulletin's edition; gain some entries over the next two months and call a winner before the end of the year.

Please find Alex's excellent first limerick below to start us off. I encourage everyone to have a go at a limerick for the next Bulletin in October. A great idea Alex!

~ ~ ~

**An orchid of note, but a shy fella,
Went into the ground like a cellar.
A farmer named Trott
Dug one up on his plot,
And then it became *Rhizanthella*.**

~ ~ ~

WANOSCG welcomes the following new members

Welcome

Debbie Bettenay
Chris Burbidge
Mike & Ann Cahill
Pauline Collett
Martin Doran
Kerry Giblett
Sherall Malingre
Annette Westhoff
Ming Wu
Sarra Jamieson
Christopher Peacock
Callum Peacock
Zoe Peacock

New members represent the future of our club so, if you meet any new members at a meeting, online or in the field, please make them feel at home.

“How native orchids have affected my/our life journey.”

As many members would be aware, the Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2024.

We would like to include a series of articles in 2024 Bulletins written by club members, on the positive impact native orchids have had on your lives, families, careers or relationships. Rather than more general biographies, we would like to focus on how native orchids and/or WANOSCG have impacted your lives.

Although these articles will not be used until next year feel free to send them this year, so they are ready for next year's Bulletins.

Your stories should be emailed to wanoscg@gmail.com with the subject line: 50 Year Celebration, to assist with filing.

Peter Gee and Ramón Newmann

Noel Clarke Memorial Field Trips – Package No.1.

On a lovely day in August, Friday the 4th 2023 to be precise, eight intrepid orchid enthusiasts braved the warm sun and set out to revisit some of Noel Clarke's footsteps around the Wandoo National Park and surrounds.

With Ric Woodland leading we covered various locations along Brookton Highway and were delighted to find a number of orchid species just starting to show, some finishing and other's well on their way. The following is but a sample of those found.

A day well enjoyed by all who attended. Additional Photos – Ric Woodland and Abby Attwood

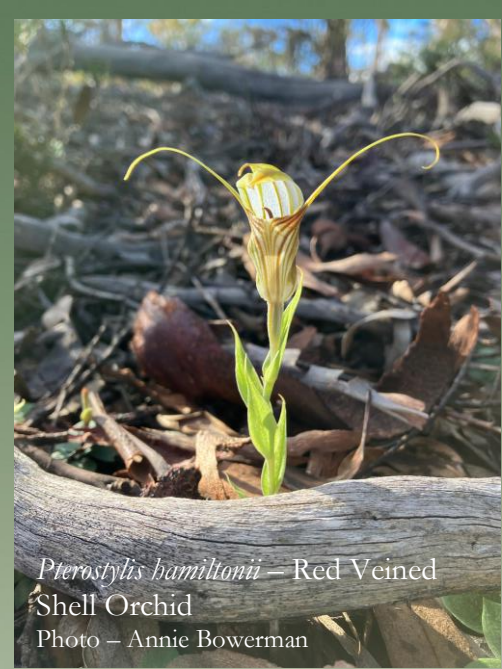
Annie Bowerman



Caladenia biemalis
– Common Dwarf Orchid
Photo – Annie Bowerman



Pheladenia deformis – Blue Fairy Orchid
Photo – Annie Bowerman



Pterostylis hamiltonii – Red Veined
Shell Orchid
Photo – Annie Bowerman



Diuris corymbosaa – Common Donkey Orchid
Photo – Annie Bowerman





Pterostylis hamiltonii – Red Veined Shell Orchid
Photo – Annie Bowerman



Pterostylis sargentii
Frog Greenhood Orchid
Photo – Annie Bowerman



Pterostylis hamiltonii – Red Veined Shell Orchid
Photo – Abby Atwood



An Awkward (Orchid) Meeting (Right place and time, wrong day)

I have always had a dinner meeting with a group of friends on the third Thursday of each month. When I joined the WANOSCG late last year I then had meetings on both the third Wednesday and the Thursday of each month. They have always been in the same week.

On Thursday, 15 June, the dinner meeting arrangements were all in place – time, venue and people. I didn't even think too much about it, the WANOSCG meeting would be the night before.

I arrived at the Kings Park venue just before 7.30pm on the 14th. Driving into the carpark there were cars already there and others arriving. The usual room was lit up and people were standing around talking. As I walked in a smiling gentleman greeted me warmly, like a long lost friend. I explained that I had some orchid books that had been passed onto me recently and I was keen to see if they were useful for the library or if anybody wanted them.

He asked me to spread them out over the long tables, which had been repositioned to be end on end. I obliged, ensuring the 9 books were scattered over the full length of the tables. The members were positioned on the usual side of the tables; the other side was set-up for a presentation.

I was intrigued at the repositioning of the big wooden tables, unusual I thought. As I looked around the room I became aware that the people were of similar age to my previous meetings, some even had hiking boots on but none of the usual faces were evident.

I reminded myself that I've only been to a few WANOSCG meetings so maybe there are lots of members that I haven't met yet. Sitting down I noticed that the presenter had a banner next to them; it was about mosquitoes. My intrigue was now progressing to suspicion.

It suddenly occurred to me, the third Wednesday and Thursday might not necessarily be in the same calendar week! I quickly grabbed my phone and checked – oh no, the WANOSCG meeting was on next week! Just then the meeting was formally called to order and everybody listened intently.

The presenter was introduced and promptly started. There was no way for me to stand up, excuse myself, gather all of the books and leave without totally disrupting the meeting. I had to stay and sit it out quietly.

I must say I did learn a bit about the number of types of mosquitos, I discovered that they were able to discern places where water would gather and that it is only the females that bite people. There were then some other brief presentations by members, one on a bee and another on creatures found on a recent field trip. What was this group?

After one hour, to my relief, the meeting was called to a close. The chair thanked the member (me) who had brought the books for people to look at and take. As soon as the meeting was over I discreetly walked up to the tables and collected the books, except one that was in the hands of an interested reader, I then took a membership application form and headed out the door.

In the car, engine started, I looked at the form. I had been at the Western Australian Insect Study Society! I chuckled to myself as I drove away. They were nice people but it had been an awkward night rather than an orchid night.

PS. I did take the books to the July meeting and Jon Warren gratefully received them. Phew!

Chris Gostelow



Prasophyllum plumiforme - Dainty Leek
Orchid Photo - Annie Bowerman

Noel Clarke Memorial Field Trips – Package No. 4

Winter days in Western Australia are perfect for an orchid field day. On August 18, four participants replicated Noel Clarke's Package No. 4 as offered in the list of 2023 field trips. Setting off from Karagullen we covered the 120 km along Brookton Highway to just south of Brookton, stopping at each site where orchids were originally sighted, flowering from August to October, as noted on Noel's list. Priority, of course, was given to sites where we knew species should be flowering in August/September.

We managed to time-keep exceptionally well, stopping at 10 of the 15 sites listed; plus one not included (to satisfy our curiosity); 11 sites in total. One site was very weedy and yielded nothing of note and one coordinate was just a roadside spot covered in long grass where there was no remnant or intact habitat to be seen.

We again managed to site all orchid species mentioned on Noel's list (as flowering in Aug/Sept) except two, Zebra Orchid (*Caladenia cairnsiana*), and the Green Spider Orchid (*Caladenia falcata*).

The following species were seen; Cowslip Orchid (*Caladenia flava* subsp. *flava*); Chameleon Spider Orchid (*C. dimidia*), Primrose Spider Orchid (*C. xantha*), plus a lutea version. We saw lots of *Caladenia* leaves in bud, certainly the *C. longicauda* subsp. *longicauda* as listed flowering later. Others included Blood Spiders (*Caladenia filifera*), *Diuris* sp., one being Winter Donkey (*D. brumalis*), Jug Orchid (*Pterostylis recurva*), and many *Thelymitra* leaves, some with buds, suspiciously Custard Orchid (*Thelymitra villosa*). The very possible sighting of Brookton Highway Spider Orchid (*Caladenia fluvialis*); the jury is still out on this one.

Further species included Little Pink Fairy Orchid (*Caladenia reptans* subsp. *reptans*), many Hare leaves (*Leporella fimbriata*), Greenhoods - Dark Banded and Banded (*P. sanguinea* and *P. vittata*), Lemon-scented Sun Orchids (*Thelymitra antennifera*), Blue Fairies (*Pheladenia deformis*), South African Orchid (*Disa bracteata*), Sugar Orchids (*Ericksonella saccharata*), Hairy Stemmed Snail Orchids (*Pterostylis setulosa*), Frog Greenhoods (*Pterostylis sargentii*) and Red Veined Shell Orchids *Pterostylis hamiltonii*.

Photos Annie Bowerman



Sunday Afternoon in Cranbrook/Kojonup

An impromptu Sunday afternoon in the Cranbrook Kojonup area with WANOSCG SR members Su and Phil and Mick.

We start at Cranbrook and find some fresh *Caladenia. ensata* and *C. longiclavata*.

At a quick stop up the Albany Highway there are numerous *Caladenia reptans* subsp. *reptans* and the first *Pheladenia deformis* for the year.

Small yellow spiders, most probably *Caladenia xantha*, are out in singles and clusters.

At Kojonup reserve there are *Pterostylis recurva*, *Caladenia hiemalis*, *Thelymitra antennifera*, and *Pheladenia deformis* in good numbers in a wide range of pale to rich purple blue hues.

At Myrtle Benn numerous *Diuris* (possibly *D. brumalis*) and several *Caladenia filifera* are also in bloom.

We are not 'twirly' and the season has started to accelerate with more buds to open!

Lisa Wilson



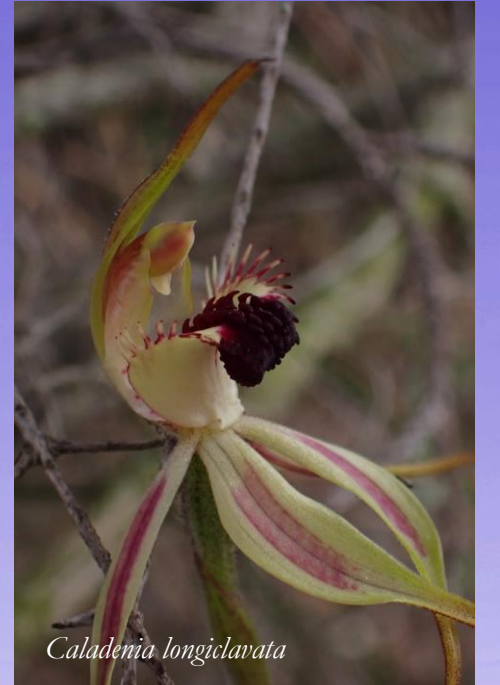
Diuris Sp.



Thelymitra antennifera



Caladenia xantha



Caladenia longiclavata



Caladenia filifera



Pheladenia deformis



Caladenia longicauda sp.

Wildflower murals, with orchids

On Wireless Hill, Melville, there are several murals depicting wildflowers including some orchids. They were commissioned by the City of Melville as a contribution under the Percent for Art Scheme that requires local governments to spend 2% of their budget on public art.

The artist was Joanna Brown of Laeline Design Studio, Fremantle. Orchids featured are *Caladenia flava* and *Diuris corymbosa*.

Done with deluxe exterior paints, they are expected to last for at least 10 years. Joanna has designed a number of murals and other works around Perth. Her work can be seen at <https://laelinedesign.net>.

Alex George



THE 2023 WANOSCG PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION (Reminder)

A. Topic

Topic: “Your best shot of WA Native Orchid in the field in 2022 or 2023”.

B. Submissions

- Any Member that is current on the Submission Due Date is eligible to enter and/or vote.
- Only electronic submissions permitted:
 1. ‘jpeg’ file format
 2. File size: MIN: 150 Kbytes MAX: 5 Mbytes
- Two photos may be submitted per eligible Member.
- Author’s name, subject’s species name, approx. location taken, and date taken must be provided with each submission.
- All entrants give consent to have their entry published in the WANOSCG Bulletin, Website and/or Facebook Page.
- Submission may have been taken during calendar years 2022 or 2023.
- Submissions must be emailed to wanoscg@gmail.com, or handed to a Committee Member.
- Submission Due Date: Entries must be received by 16 Oct 2023 (Mon before Oct GM due date).

C. Voting

- All valid entries will be placed in the Oct/Nov 2023 Bulletin for voting on.
- Eligible Members are permitted a single vote, stating the selected photograph’s reference number by email to wanoscg@gmail.com
- All votes due on 13 Nov 2022 (Mon before Nov GM due date).

D. Winner

- The Winner will be determined by the WANOSCG Committee (who may appoint adjudicators) based on the valid votes.
- Winner declared and prize presented at the Nov General Meeting due date, 15 Nov 2023.

E. Displays

- All valid entries are to be displayed at the Oct GM and Oct/Nov Bulletin.
- Winning photo and runners-up are to be displayed at the Nov GM and posted in the Bulletin, website and/or Facebook page.

F. Orchid Conservation and Protection Rule

- Due to the potential to damage habitat and plants, populations of orchids listed as Threatened should not be visited for the sole reason of taking photos for this Photo Competition.
- If you otherwise happen upon populations during your travels, as part of an ADORP team monitoring these plants or have another official reason to visit populations you may submit photos of these species.

Notice of WANOSCG September 2023 General Meeting

We hereby give notice that the next General Meeting of the Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group Inc (“the Group”) will take place at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, 20th September 2023.

The official activities for the September meeting are short presentations by individual members plus...

Member craft presentations:

Anything that is orchid inspired be it ceramics, painting, photography, etching, needlework, artwork, clothing, scrapbooking, Lego[®], calendars or table books, whatever brings you pleasure we want to see it.

The location of the meeting will be in the Administration Building, 1 Kattidj Close, Kings Park WA 6005.

WHAT IS FLOWERING THIS MONTH

UPDATED FLOWERING CHARTS – 2023. including updated species names in the Members Only area.

<https://wanoscg.com/flowering-this-month/>

Bulletin Articles

Please send Bulletin contributions to the editor at Wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com.

The due date for articles for the October Bulletin will be Friday September 29 2023.

Please also be advised that due to many members involved with the production of the Bulletin travelling to Tasmania, the due date for articles for the November Bulletin will be earlier than normal.

Please make a note that the due date to send in articles for the November issue will be Friday, 20th of October 2023.

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