



WANOSCG

The Official Bulletin of the
Western Australian Native Orchid
Study & Conservation Group
Issue 1 - March 2024



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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
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ADORP Coordinator	Kevin Uhe

***** *"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 this year, 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.

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.

Email: wanoscg@gmail.com Website: www.wanoscg.com
Postal: PO BOX 323 VICTORIA PARK WA 6979

Presidents Musings March 2024

Welcome to the WANOSCG Bulletin for 2024! I don't normally do a President's musing in the first Bulletin, but this year is a special year, WANOSCG's 50th, and there are a few items of which I'd like to make everyone aware of.

1. To celebrate the 50th year every member will receive a commemorative badge through the conventional post system. You can sew it onto your hat or an item of clothing or just keep as a memento.
2. **WARNING**, if you have **changed** postal address since filling in a membership form and didn't tell us, you need to let us know ASAP. Send update to wanoscg@gmail.com please.
3. The wonderful Rachel Halls has volunteered to produce a book to commemorate the 50th year. So please provide any support you can to assist in undertaking this challenging task.
4. We are still looking for Bulletin stories on "How native orchids have affected my/our life journey" as part of the 50th Celebrations and to allow members to leave a legacy of their involvement with the group.
5. Guest speaker at the AGM (March 20th) will be Belinda Davis, Research Scientist (Orchid Conservation), Kings Park Science Program, DBCA, on the topic of "Above, below and in between – orchids in a changing world".
6. 2024 Memberships fees are also now due. Details later in the Bulletin.

Enjoy your orchid adventures, share your experiences, do your bit and watch your step.

Jon Warren
President

President's Annual Report 2023

As we head into the 50th year of WANOSCG I would like to take a moment to reflect on what, I think, was an excellent penultimate year for the group.

Before identifying the range of 2023 highlights, I would like to thank all those members who have contributed over the year for the work they put in to make their contribution. This growing trend of members contributing in any way they can is fundamental to the excellent performance of WANOSCG of the past year.

Over the year we were spoiled with a range of very good and interesting presentations from guest speakers Dr Ryan Phillips, Dr Noushka Reiter, Dr Jacopo Calevo, all highlighting aspects of orchid conservation.

WANOSCG members Ramón Newmann, Jay Steer, Katie White and Eddy Wajon also volunteered to present delivering quality talks.

The 'Have a chat and craft meeting' was, so I am told, super good so a big thank you to Aly Mollica, Peter McAvaney, Graham Warren, Justin Brown and Ramón Newmann for stepping up to the plate and giving such interesting short talks.

Then who can forget the excellent quiz night organised by Dave Lawson. The work that went into putting the quiz together was phenomenal.

The informal meetings continue to be work well with the management committee dealing with all the management stuff so members can enjoy learning and sharing at meetings.

Another highlight was a very interesting tour and presentation of the Kings Park orchid conservation facilities delivered by member Bel Davis.

On the conservation side of things, the ongoing ADORP work continues to be brilliantly managed by Kevin Uhe.

Another highlight was WANOSCG submitted responses to both the EPA and Minister for Environment, for several clearing applications where there was high risk of rare and endangered orchids, or their habitats, being affected by the clearing.

Additionally, we shouldn't forget those members quietly and effectively working with local government, DBCA staff and academics to further the conservation and science of WA's orchids.

Plenty of field trips with small numbers to reduce our impact were undertaken thanks to Graham Warren's excellent coordination and a whole bunch of members who put up their hands to be field trip leaders.

The Bulletin continued to be an excellent flagship for WANOSCG thanks to superb editorial work of Annie Bowerman and support of Pat Richards and Andrew Brown plus the input from many members.

The progress in the development of the Lucid Key to Native Orchids in WA stands out to me as a significant moment for WANOSCG as well as WA native orchid appreciation realms. At this point however, I am not sure that the membership has fully understood just how good a tool the Key is for identifying WA's orchids and learning what information needs to be gathered in the field to make identification easier and more accurate.

This is possibly because I have had first-hand knowledge of the hours of work and technical rigour put into the development of the Key principally by Ramón Newmann and Andrew Brown plus support from other members all of whom are warmly thanked for their efforts.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the support and work done by the 2023 committee and thank them sincerely for their efforts in making sure WANOSCG was running effectively.

Unfortunately, two of the committee won't be continuing in 2024 and deserve special acknowledgement. Life member Andrew Brown has been a member since WANOSCG began some 50 years ago and has been on and off the committee many times over the years. Despite not being on the committee next year Andrew will still be very much involved with the group continuing with the development of the key, technical editor for the Bulletin, leading the end of year trip and the committee field trip as well as providing identification feedback and general counsel to the group. (Not bad for a non-committee member.)

Martina Fleischer took on the secretary's job and has worked with me reducing the secretarial workload. Despite much success in this endeavour Martina is unable to continue due to ongoing health issues but has indicated is happy to provide whatever support she can to whoever takes on the role.

On behalf of the entire membership, I would like to thank Andrew and Martina for their service to the group.

In finishing I would like to reiterate the importance of a broad spread of the membership contributing in whatever way they can to the function of WANOSCG. I know I bang on about it ad nauseum, but I do believe it is this level of contribution that is making the group a success when so many other similar groups are falling by the wayside.

Looking forward to the orchid season, catching up with as many of you as possible, and thanking masses of members for their contributions in 2024.

Jon Warren
President

Overview of WANOSCG receipts and expenditure for 2023/2024

	2023/24	2022/23
Receipts	6,824.20	13,288.14
Interest on Investments	2,117.13	488.17
Expenditure	9,525.40	13,086.01
Change in funds for year	-584.07	+690.30

Above is a brief summary of WANOSCG's financial transactions and does not replace the audited accounts, they will be presented at the Annual General Meeting as per normal. The larger expenditure and receipts totals in 2022/23 reflect the prepurchase and subsequent sale of Andrew Brown's Orchid books to club members. Major influences on the balance for 2023/24 include:

- i) Payment for WANOSCG 50th year pockets.
- ii) Higher interest rates in 2023/24

Jay Steer
WANOSCG Treasurer

ADORP Annual Report

2023 was another busy year with 245 Threatened and Priority Reports being received and submitted to DBCA, with 28 of those reports being either new populations or sub-populations. This was a good result considering the hot and dry conditions that reduced flowering of many of the later species. A total of 49 different species were surveyed by the ADORP teams, either entirely or spot surveys.

In 2023 a total of 5,724 volunteer hours were recorded, compared with 6,183 in 2022 which brings the total hours since the project commenced in 2011 to 41,990. A very special mention to Margaret Petridis who achieved a cumulative total of 2,500 volunteer hours, Deb Walker and David Stevens who each achieved 1,000 hours and Karen Southall and Robin Parsons who reached 500 hours respectively during 2023.

Work continued during the year to enter the ADORP reports into the DBCA database with all of the 2023 reports entered by the end of January. Most of the Priority species locations now have population numbers which makes recording a lot easier. Thanks to DBCA for the continued use of a desk and computer to enable the data to be entered into the database.

In October, 2023 *Thelymitra variegata* was raised to Threatened (Critically Endangered) following a nomination prepared using ADORP data from yearly surveys since 2015. This is a very positive outcome and shows the value of regular surveys that allow a nomination to be successful. Thanks to Graeme Walker and his team for the surveying of not only the existing locations but also spending time searching other possible habitats.

Finally, my thanks go to all the ADORP volunteers who willingly give up many hours of their time to go out and monitor some of our most vulnerable orchids. It is their work that makes this project the success it has become.

Kevin Uhe

ADORP Co-ordinator



Cryptostylis ovata – Slipper Orchid
Photo: Annie Bowerman



Leporella fimbriata – Hare Orchid
Photo: Annie Bowerman



Eriochilus dilatatus subsp. *dilatatus* –
White Bunny Orchid
Photo: Annie Bowerman

ADORP NEWS – March 2024

A welcome to Alec, Nick and Ruth Courts who joined ADORP towards the end of 2023 and look forward to their involvement in the coming season.

Now that the DBCA database is finally up to date it is timely to undertake a review of the current Priority ratings for each species given that there is up to date data available. This might result in a few species either being upgraded or downgraded depending on plant numbers, threatening processes, and land tenure.

There are also a few species that could be elevated to the Priority listings given they are very restricted in location with low plant numbers and are not on land reserved for conservation. Once upgraded then these can be added to the ADORP project list depending on location.

Recently DBCA added two additions to the Priority listings with *Pterostylis* sp 'Murchison' (Kalbarri Rufous Greenhood) elevated to Priority 2 and *Pterostylis* sp 'Paynes Find' (Paynes Find Rufous Greenhood) listed as Priority 3. Any sightings of either of these two species during the coming season would be of interest as there are very few records of these species.

Kevin Uhe

WANOSCG MEMBERS AS GUESTS IN TASMANIA – PAT RICHARDS

As a highlight of my 2023 orchid year, I was delighted to participate in a trip in which a number of our members visited Tasmania in the first week of November as guests of our Tasmanian counterpart group. The intent was for us orchid fans to see the native orchids in another part of Australia, separated by the vast Nullarbor and some sea from our group's usual haunt in the south-west of Western Australia.

An informative kick-off visit to the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in Hobart went some way to showing us what orchids we might see. The table display and introduction by the Tassie botanists gave us an idea of the similarities and differences between the Tasmanian native orchids and those in Western Australia.

Following this formal introduction, we were let loose on Hobart's plentiful wild parklands and surrounding bushland in the south-east of the Tasmanian island state for the next couple of days, before heading north and west to the somewhat more remote land around Arthur River. In some cases, the generic taxonomy was slightly different, as that has not yet been standardised in Australia nor, for that matter, internationally. Nevertheless, we were able to appreciate the connections.

I won't go into the detail of all the locations visited, nor of all the species of orchid seen and photographed. I'll leave it to others to cover further detail in that regard. Many of the orchids we saw on the overall trip were similar and clearly closely related to those with which we were familiar in the west, but several were notably different (although they still had the same underlying floral structure.)

The following are a few of the species that to my amateur eyes were substantially different from anything that I had seen in Western Australia.



Chiloglottis triceratops –
Three-Horned Bird Orchid



Three Horned Bird orchid - *Chiloglottis triceratops*, left;
Small Bearded Greenhood – *Pterostylis tasmanica*, centre;
Large Golden Moth Orchid - *Diuris lanceolata* (above).

This cheeky little orchid (above left) was one of the first Tassie orchids seen when we explored some of the trails around Mount Wellington in Hobart. Very different in shape from those orchids we West Aussies were used to seeing in a “bird orchid” but, yes, with a mind shift, it can be seen as being bird-like. Closer to our WA bird orchid (*Pterostylis barbata*), the Small Bearded Greenhood *Pterostylis tasmanica* (taxonomy variant may refer to this as “*Plumatichilus tasmanicus*”) was spotted on the second day when some of the party struck out from Hobart and took the ferry across to Bruny Island. This was spotted in a grassy area on South Bruny Island. After a long drive north then west (stopping along the way to snap various orchid pictures) we arrived in a delightful coastal holiday spot overlooking the estuary of Arthur River. The Large Golden Moth Orchid, *Diuris lanceolata*, was located on a drive southwards along the coast on our second day. Following the coastal drive, we then headed inland to a forest reserve. As WA orchardists we are



Caladenia cordata –
Tailed Spider orchid

more familiar with terrestrial orchids, however, this little beauty (right) is epiphytic preferring to live up trees. Having spent two full days in the northwest, it was time to disband and make our way home to WA. I and two other members weren't quite finished with the hunt. On a tip-off we diverted to a location where we were assured a spidery orchid had been seen and we were not disappointed. It was with delight that we located and photographed some tailed spider orchids to cap off a wonderful trip.



Sarcochilus Australis – Gunns Tree Orchid

A BIG THANK YOU

To put it mildly, our Tassie hosts did us proud in organising our itinerary in a year in which there had been less rainfall than average, meaning that flowering in general was somewhat reduced.

I'll now leave it to others to go into greater detail on our wanderings.

Pat

Touring Tasmania in the Fun Mobile – Varena Hardy

October 29th to November 12th, 2023.

Melanie and I were on the list for the Tasmanian Orchid Tour from the day the email was sent out in December 2022. Our excitement at being the lucky ones to be going was continuous right up until we left.

Aly joined us in the hire car for the week of the official tour, which was around Hobart and across to Arthur River. Nathan joined us on several occasions when we continued exploring after the official end of the day's tour, and he coined the name "Fun Mobile." We certainly had many fun times in the car.

Mel, Aly and I arrived at Hobart two days before the start of the guided tour. Our plan was to have a day out and about trying to find some orchids ourselves. Malcolm kindly gave us some suggested spots to go that were not on the coming days itinerary, plus we checked out a couple of other locations that I thought might be worth a look around.

I knew Hobart was hilly, but we managed to find several steep areas which tested Mel, Aly and myself. We were all surprised and very happy with ourselves finding 10 different orchids on our first day.

In the late afternoon we meet up with most of the others at the Hobart Bush Cabins where most people were staying. We were told Tasmania has had around half the usual annual rainfall this year. Much like WA the orchids have been flowering earlier, and in fewer numbers than normal.

Day 1 of the guided tour, Tuesday 31st October.

Because of the lack of rain, the itinerary had been altered a little, the first stop was the Royal Botanical Gardens. We had a very interesting talk and got to see some of the rare Tasmanian orchids that are being grown there. There was even a cultivated Macquarie Island orchid, *Corybas dienemus* – Windswept Helmet Orchid. Not an orchid I'd ever heard of let alone expected to see. That was a very special little orchid to be able to see, even though it wasn't in its normal habitat.

In the afternoon we got out and about visiting 3 different locations around Hobart. One very challenging area up a steep gravel track, the 2nd in the wet forests around Mount Wellington, and the 3rd in a dry forest. All the orchids seen were different from the WA ones: *Chiloglottis triceratops* - Three-horned Bird, the *Chiloglottis grammata* - Small Bird and the *Townsonia viridis* are endemic to Tasmania.



Corybas dienemus – Windswept
Helmet Orchid



Chiloglottis triceratops –
Three Horned Bird orchid



Townsonia viridis –
Beech Orchid



Caladenia filimentosa – Daddy
Long-legs Spider



Caladenia alata – Fairy Orchid



Caladenia carnea – Pink Fingers



Caladenia tonelli – Robust Fingers

Day 2 of the tour had the group split into two, with about half of us going to Bruny Island with Eddie and the rest staying around Hobart with Malcolm. We saw several more orchids new to us, and some lovely views around Bruny Island. After the morning on Bruny Island, it was a dash back to the ferry to rendezvous at Oyster Bay on the main island with the other half of the group.

We drove a short way in convoy to a private property to see Tasmania’s only “wispy” spider, the *Caladenia filimentosa* – Daddy Long-legs Spider (not remotely similar to the WA named one!). This rare orchid was growing on a casuarina-covered slope overlooking a lovely bay, but the wind was fierce making taking photos very difficult! Eddie tried his best to be a wind break.

Day 3 we were shown several more orchids to the east and south of Hobart, including *Prasophyllum*, *Caladenia*, & *Diuris*. With the tour day ending in the early afternoon the fun mobile, along with Nathan, headed to a couple more locations. We were very happy to find the *Caleana major* – Flying Duck, the *Glossodia major* - Waxlip, several colourful *Thelymitras*, and hybrids, and a mutant two bearded *Calochilus robertsonii* – Purple Beard.

Day 4 was a long day’s drive across to Arthur River. We had several stops along the way seeing several rare orchids which we’d been shown at the botanical gardens but we weren’t expecting to see in the wild. The difference in the wild ones and the cultivated ones was striking. Unsurprisingly, the orchids are way more robust when grown in perfect conditions.

Arthur River was a lovely little place, on the west coast of Tasmania with a magical sunset over the beach on the first night.

Days 5 and 6 saw us meeting with several locals to the area, including Garth & Craig, as well as our main guide Malcolm, and his wife Rae. Many more orchids were seen on the west coast over these 2 days. The comment from the locals on the final night was that we were extraordinarily lucky with the weather. It was perfect; warm and sunny without much wind. Quite rare for the west coast!



Burnettia cuneata – Lizard Orchid



Diuris lanceolata – Large Golden Moth



Caladenia alpina – Mountain Caladenia



Prasophyllum concinnum – Trim Leek



Prasophyllum brevilabre – Short-lip Leek



Prasophyllum amoenum – Dainty Leek



Diuris palustris – Swamp Donkey



Thelymitra aggericola – Bleak Sun



Thelymitra erosa – Striped Sun



Caladenia major – Large Duck / Flying Duck



Thelymitra aristata – Great Sun



Thelymitra rubra – Salmon Sun



Thelymitra x irregularis – Crested Sun



Thelymitra iscioides – Spotted Sun



Calochilus robertsonii – Purple Beard

To top off the trip, the Fun Mobile gang saw wombats, and Aly and I caught the Aurora Australis in the late evening too! The official tour ended here with most of the group heading back to WA on Nov 6th.

A few of us stayed on at Arthur River for another night, and others went touring around the Island. Our Fun Mobile was down to Mel and me for a further week of travelling around by ourselves. Once again, the local guides suggested some areas to go to and we had further success.

We headed east for St Helens and based ourselves there for five nights. We toured around the coastal areas of the north and south of St Helens, and back up into the hills to the Blue Tier and Ben Lomond National Parks.

The Blue Tier was amazing; the forest is covered in lichen, mosses, fungus and we found orchids too. Ben Lomond was a surprise; the foothills had a couple of orchids, but we didn't realise the drive to the top was along the Jacobs Ladder track. All I can say in OMG! And very well done to Mel for tackling it; a windy hair-bend track to the top of the plateau! Then, of course, we had to come back down.

Our final orchid day Mel found an open *Dipodium roseum* – Rosy Hyacinth Orchid, and I found the *Dockrillia striolata* – Streaked Rock Orchid. The *Dockrillia* was found with the help of some information from a local. Both were a lovely surprise and great end to this brilliant taster of Tasmania.



Pterostylis aphylla –
Leafless Greenhood



Pterostylis cucullata – Leafy
Greenhood



Pterostylis tasmanica –
Small Bearded G/H



Caladenia ebindachila –
Fawn Spider



Caladenia atrata – Dark Caladenia / Dark
Caps



Dipodium roseum – Rosy Hyacinth



Sarcochilus australis –
Gunn's Tree Orchid



Calochilus herbaceus – Pale Beard



Paracaleana minor – Small Duck



Chiloglottis cornuta – Green Bird

Sixty plus orchids seen, many laughs along the way, and great scenery thrown in.

We can't thank the Tasmanian orchideers enough for taking us touring and showing us many rare and different orchids. Also for their patience, with us newbies to the orchids of Tasmania trying to write or remember the Latin names, then asking; "What is that in English"?

My appetite is definitely whetted to go back there and discover more of Tasmania, and its orchids of course.

I have included 34 photos of the orchids I saw;

Burnettia cuneata – Lizard Orchid

Caladenia alata – Fairy Orchid

Caladenia alpina – Mountain Caladenia

Caladenia atrata – Dark Caladenia / Dark Caps

Caladenia carnea – Pink Fingers

Caladenia cordata – Tailed Spider

Caladenia ecbindachila – Fawn Spider

Caladenia filimentosa – Daddy-long Legs

Caladenia tonelli – Robust Fingers

Caladenia major – Large Duck /Flying Duck

Calochilus herbaceus – Pale Beard

Calochilus robertsonii – Purple Beard

Chiloglottis triceratops – Three-horned Bird

Chiloglottis cornuta – Green Bird

Corybas dienemus – Windswept Helmet

Dipodium roseum – Rosy Hyacinth

Diuris lanceolata – Large Golden Moths

Diuris palustris – Swamp Donkey

Paracaleana minor – Small Duck

Prasophyllum amoenum – Dainty Leek

Prasophyllum brevilabre – Short-lip Leek

Prasophyllum concinnum – Trim Leek

Pterostylis aphylla – Leafless Greenhood

Pterostylis cucullata – Leafy Greenhood

Pterostylis dubia – Blue-tongued Greenhood

Pterostylis tasmanica – Small Bearded G/H

Sarcochilus australis – Gunn's Tree Orchid

Thelymitra aggericola – Bleak Sun

Thelymitra aristata – Great Sun

Thelymitra erosa – Striped Sun

Thelymitra ixiooides – Spotted Sun

Thelymitra rubra – Salmon Sun

Thelymitra × *irregularis* – Crested Sun

Townsonia viridis – Beech Orchid



Caladenia cordata – Tailed Spider



Pterostylis dubia - Blue-tongued Greenhood



Arthur River
Photo – Jon Warren



Arthur River
Photo – Jon Warren



Arthur River – Photo Malcolm Wells



Arthur River – Photo Malcolm Wells



WANOSCG and Tas Guides at Corinna Rd Site
Photo Malcolm Wells



Diuris lanceolata – Large Golden Moth
Photo Malcolm Wells



WANOSCG group & Tas volunteers West Coast Tasmania – Photo Malcolm Wells



Photo – Malcolm Wells



Photo – Malcolm Wells



Photo – Malcolm Wells



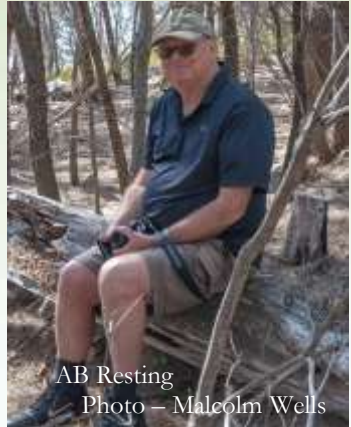
Photo - Malcolm Wells



Metho Spraying
– Photo Annie Bowerman



Tasman Peninsula Site
Photo – Malcolm Wells



AB Resting
Photo – Malcolm Wells



Dr Magali Wright – Orchid Conservation & Research Program Royal Tasmanian Botanic Gardens



Photos – Malcolm Wells

In recognition of the 50-year anniversary of WANOSCG the 2024 theme is WA's 'Golden Orchids'.

1. Submissions

- Photographs submitted to the competition must not have been previously published via any media.
- The submitted photographs must be:
 - of WA native orchids,
 - taken in the field,
 - have yellow or gold coloured flowers, and
 - taken between 12 Oct 2023 and 11 Oct 2024
- Any Member that is current on the Submission Due Date is eligible to enter and/or vote.
- Only electronic submissions permitted:
 - 'jpeg' file format
 - File size: **MIN: 150 Kbytes MAX: 5 Mbytes**
- **Two photos** may be submitted per eligible Member.
- Each entry must have the following details provided:
 - photographers name,
 - subject's species name,
 - approx. location taken, and
 - date taken.
- All entrants give consent to have their entry published in the WANOSCG Bulletin, Website and Facebook Page.
- Submissions must be emailed to wanoscg@gmail.com, or handed to a Committee Member.
- **Submission Due Date:** Entries must be received by **11 Oct 2024** (*Fri before Oct GM date*)

2. Voting

- All valid competition entries will be placed in the Oct/Nov 2024 Bulletin for voting.
- Eligible members will have 3 votes, nominating their first, second and third favourite photos.
- Voting returns must state:
 - WANOSCG 2024 Photo Comp Votes in the email subject line
 - the voter's full name
 - the selected photographs' reference numbers and
 - the order of preference (first, second, third).
- Voting returns by email to wanoscg@gmail.com
- **All votes due on 15 Nov 2024** (*Friday before Nov GM due date*).

3. 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, **20 Nov 2024**.

4. 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 General Meeting and posted in the Bulletin, Website and Facebook page.

5. 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.

Safety in the Field – Is it just a work thing? – Eric Courts

Having spent almost 40 years as a geologist and engineer, a major part of any project is planning for Health and Safety. From a very low base in the 1980s this is something that is now routine and in the most part very effective (or to some very restrictive). Almost all work activities have procedures and guidelines to ensure that they are carried out in a safe manner.

Now some of you may be asking how does this apply to WANOSCG and going out looking for orchids? Well – last year I managed to injure myself twice while out in the bush, and on both occasions, this was while looking for orchids!

In the first case I had someone with me and fell over on a footpath consisting of rounded laterite pebbles, which were doing a very good impression of marbles (more embarrassing than dangerous). However, on the second occasion I fell on a very degraded footpath descending a steep slope and ended up wedged between two rocks. It was only at that point that I realised I had no mobile reception and I had not seen anyone else for about 4 hours! The outcome could have been much more serious, but fortunately I was able to walk out somewhat battered and bruised.

In my whole career I have only been injured at work once and this reminded me of some interesting statistics regarding accidents at work. These showed that most accidents did not occur carrying out a planned work activity, but often before or afterwards when carrying out a more routine activity such as loading items into a Ute or getting a hand trapped in an office door. This for me carries many parallels with looking for orchids. If we are going out on a formal fieldtrip with WANOSCG then there is a comprehensive set of procedures and guidelines to follow, to ensure everyone's safety.

However, in reality does anyone consider these when going out on an individual day out, probably to somewhere we have been before and know well. The statistics would indicate that this is when we are more likely to have an incident because its minimal risk, we may be familiar with the area, and it's been successful in the past and therefore there is an element of complacency.

So, as a new year of orchid hunting starts does this mean that we should all be planning and undertaking full risk assessments before we step outside the front door!

The answer is clearly no – but taking a cue from some of the effective initiatives in Industry I would suggest that we pause for a minute and ask ourselves a few basic questions:

- Is the area remote?
- Is the terrain rugged?
- Am I familiar with the area?
- Is there mobile reception where I am going?
- Do I have appropriate equipment for the conditions?
- If something goes wrong, would I be able to get help?
- Does anyone know where I am going?

If the answer to any of these questions is no, then it may be worth having a read of the WANOSCG field trip guidelines and making any adjustments before you set off.

Taking those few seconds to consciously ask yourself “Is there anything different or unusual about what I am going to do today,” may help to avoid a painful experience.

<https://wanoscg.com/download-attachment/15201>



You Can Lead a Horse to Water – Aly Mollica

A common topic in our family car,
No different when we travel near or far,
“is it red, white, or green?”
“ARE YOU SURE WE”VE NOT SEEN??”
‘Ahhh buggar it kids, you can stay where you are!’

There's an Orchid that mimics a Pea Mick Hurdus

There's an Orchid that mimics a pea,
Yellows and orange to see,
It looks like a Donkey,
But never is shonky,
Diuris depends on a bee.

LIKE NOWHERE ELSE ON EARTH, RARE [PLANTS AND COMMUNITIES ON THE LEEUWIN NATURALISTE RIDGE

This year the Wildflower Society of WA has free webinars available on their YouTube Channel. The most recent one has Professor Stephen D. Hopper AC talking about our very own backyard in Like Nowhere Else on Earth, Rare Plants and communities on the Leeuwin Naturaliste Ridge.

It's a summary of almost 60 years of visiting the Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park focusing on rare plant surveys conducted in the 1980s (e.g. the naming of about half the presently known 50 species of *Caladenia* orchids), local endemics, rare hybrids, and rare communities (including those of inland granite outcrops, each with their own mix of rock outcrop and gnamma (rock pool) species).

Prof Hopper also discusses the current discoveries of new weeds, and a completely fresh perspective on the flora emerges from walking together with Wadandi people, the Webb family in particular.

Now available to view at your leisure.

Editor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMRFUoOJHT8>



Like Nowhere Else on Earth
Rare plants and communities on the Leeuwin Naturaliste ridge

Stephen D. Hopper AC
UWA Albany Campus and School of Biological Sciences
Hosted by Nature Conservation Margaret River Region and the Undalup Association
Tuesday 7th November 2023

Flora of Australia - Orchidaceae

The *Flora of Australia* website is designed to provide an authoritative synthesis of Australia's native and naturalised vascular plant biodiversity.

This link takes you to the *Orchidaceae* page which includes taxonomic info to further support plant identification.

It is another resource that would be for those who like a deeper academic overview on the topic.

Thank you to Aberline Atwood for her interest.

https://profiles.ala.org.au/opus/foa/profile/Orchidaceae?fbclid=IwAR2X4iptYr-QD2eahkoN9OZ38e2YRDJUbyM_ptW0ogdsowMfVS6-MEcm3A_aem_AQsPsIdi3lBN9t8qjL0ZbzLNIzar-WYTJsdw2blIV22tFzozhDBBtf4QRNZlxyXLeno

WHAT'S FLOWERING THIS MONTH

WANOSCG Website **UPDATED FLOWERING CHARTS – 2024** including updated species names in the WANOSCG Members Only area.

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

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

Due date for articles for the next Bulletin will be Friday, 29th March 2024.

All our previous Bulletins can be viewed from the WANOSCG website. www.wanoscg.com

Field Trip Reports

Say goodbye to 2023,
Where finding the target was rare,
Wondering where they could be,
Seeking in spots others don't dare,
Often found in a place that was awkward,
To find a treasure in the form of an orchid,
Good Luck and Happy Hunting in 2024.

Ok, I will stick to Field Trip Co-ordinating and not being a poet.

Well, another year has passed and members participated in 14 Field Trips that all have reported in the Bulletins.

These trips were to the following;

- **Collie** with members helping do a survey for DBCA,
- **The Diuris Study** that took four separate trips to complete and we thank John Ewing for his efforts.
- **The Noel Clark Memorial Trips (NCMT)** completed by five groups led by Peter Gee, Ric Woodland, Paul Armstrong, Annie Bowerman and Aberline Attwood,
- **Eddy Wajon's Birthday Bash** led by Ramón Newman,
- **Walpole Wilderness BioBlitz 2023** attended by Anna de Haan,
- **Ravensthorpe Trip** led by Mel George; she had planned to do a Hyden area trip but cancelled to the late rainfall in the area.
- **End Of Year Trip Walpole/Albany Area**, led by Andrew Brown.

I thank all these members for the assistance in getting these trips completed and hope we get some new names over 2024.

Just a quick reminder to those who attended the NCMT, and may have forgotten, that a WANOSCG FIELD TRIP ORCHID SIGHTING REPORT 02 Oct 23 was to be completed and sent to me and Ramón as a condition of getting the search information.

Speaking of 2024 let's put some ideas out there and see who is interested.

- **Collie Trip**; Looking at redoing the Collie Trip again but will do this the same way as the NCMT was run last year. More info to come.
- **New and updated photos for Web Site**; I will liaise with the person tabulating the photos on the WEB page to find out what photos are required and then work with Ramón to set up from the data base areas for field trips to look for these. More info to come.
- **Updating Data Base**; We might also look at the database and build areas that we have very dated data and set up search areas for members to go and report on finds. More Info to come.
- **End of Year Trip**
- Dates to consider around 15th Nov to 17th Nov or 22nd to 24th Nov. Confirmation of dates and location to be published closer to the dates.

Now these are not written in stone and we are open to all suggestions so don't be shy and contact me with any ideas, questions so we can work through what you want to do.

Email me at fieldtrips.wanoscg@gmail.com with details and we can discuss and develop these ideas and get some members to participate.

Happy orchid hunting and stay safe and keep those field trip ideas rolling in.

Graham W.

Field Trip Co-ordinator

fieldtrips.wanoscg@gmail.com

WANOSCG Membership Fees Now Due by 31st March, 2024

- **Ordinary Membership fee of \$35.**
 - This entitles a member to attend field trips, vote and receive a copy of the electronic WANOSCG Bulletin for the months of March to November inclusive and the use of club's library.
 - Must be 15 years old or older.
- **Associate Membership fee of \$20.**
 - This entitles a member to receive the Bulletin, but not to vote.
 - Must normally reside outside of Western Australia OR be a full-time student.
 - Must be 11 years old or older.
- **Family Membership fee of \$45.**
 - This covers up to two Ordinary Members plus three Associate Members at the one residence.
- **Associate Family Membership fee of \$40.**
 - Covers up to five Associate Members at the one residence.
- **Nomination Fee of \$25 for new members only.**
 - This entitles a new member to one name badge and copies of the club Constitution and field trip guidelines and procedures. Additional badges are \$15.

Payment

- **in person** to the Treasurer at a General Meeting, or
- **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 WANOSCG bank account:
 - BSB: 066 173
 - Bank name: Commonwealth Bank
 - Account number: 1051 0903

Note: If you choose to send money electronically, please give your name and what the payment is for (e.g. Annual Fees, Nomination Fee) and send a copy of your electronic receipt to wanoscg@gmail.com .

Notice of WANOSCG March 2024 General Meeting

We hereby give notice that the Annual 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 March 2024.

Guest speaker at the meeting will be Belinda Davis, Research Scientist (Orchid Conservation), Kings Park Science Program, DBCA, on the topic of “Above, below and in between – orchids in a changing world”.

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

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