

BULLETIN JUNE 2009

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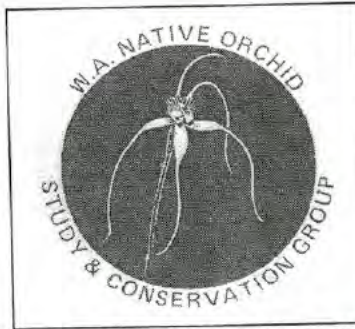
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WANOSCG (INC) 1974 - 2009

Patron:

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Field Trip Coordinator:

Ross Fox [REDACTED]

Conservation Officer:

Eddy Wajon [REDACTED]

Supper Coordinator:

Donna Wajon [REDACTED]

Auditor:

Phil Bunney [REDACTED]

Conservation Council

Rep:

Eddy Wajon

Christine Lock

OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

- a) To promote interest in and preserve Western Australian indigenous orchids.
- b) To learn the best means of cultivation and do all things possible for the conservation of native orchids in their environment.
- c) To learn their habits and keep records.
- d) To have field days and learn to recognize the different genera and species.
- e) To hold meetings for the exchange of knowledge and furthering of interest in W.A. orchids.
- f) To affiliate with kindred organizations.
- g) To make rules for the governing of the Group's domestic affairs.
- h) To do all such lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

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

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WEB MASTER: Don Ward email: [REDACTED]

REGISTRAR: Christine Lock [REDACTED]

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 17TH June 2009 at 7.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 17th June 2009 at 8.00pm at the Lecture Theatre, Kings Park Admin. Office.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

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

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

17 June General Meeting
15 July General Meeting
19 August General Meeting
16 September General Meeting

PLANNED FIELD TRIPS

JUNE 28 Australind and Ludlow - Meet at 10am at the nature strip 55km from Bunbury on the Old Coast Road.

JULY 26 Yillimining Rock - Meet at 10am on Williams-Narrogin Rd at the layby approx 22 east of Williams, just before Narrogin
Other field trips as per back page - details in future bulletins

WANOSCG MINUTES GENERAL MEETING 20th MAY 2009

OPENED: Meeting declared open at 8.10pm.

ATTENDANCE: 32 members present, 7 apologies, 1 visitor as per Attendance book.

VISITORS: Clive Pegler

RAFFLE: Kindly donated by Etienne Delannoy.
MINUTES TO THE MEETING 15th April 2009:

Moved Gerald Stack. 2nd Don Manners that the minutes of the meeting of the 15th April 2009 as printed in the Bulletin be adopted. CARRIED
FIELD TRIPS: Ross outlined the trips as printed in the Bulletin & let members know he is trying to get a trip to see *Caladenia williamsii*. Such a trip will require the presence of a DEC officer or another authorized person. Ross also reported there has been a fire near the hospital site at Mt. Barker.
GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. WANOSCG Branch proposal for the group to be known as 'Southern Rivers' was opened up for discussion by President Christine. The insurance & constitution requirements will not require any changes. The committee will have to format rules & by-laws under the constitution under which the branch will be able operate.

Moved Stuart Harris, seconded Eddy Wajon, that the Branch proposal go ahead subject to rules & by-laws of the group. CARRIED.

2. The Conservation Officer, Eddy Wajon reported:

a. Jandakot Airport proposal to develop an area of bush is ongoing.

b. Action about the selling of the bush block at Ferndale Primary School for development is still being pursued (see article below in CONSERVATION ISSUES).

c. Christine Lock & Mark Brundrett had an article in the Greener Times on the Endangered Wheatbelt Native Orchid Project.

d. Conservation Council is short of funding. Any private donations help would be appreciated.

21 October General Meeting
18 November General Meeting

PRESENTATION BY TONY LOCK:

Tony gave a presentation on the new Data Base that he has developed for the club. He explained the basic principles under which the data base was intending to operate. This included how to enter data, with all the specific requirements needed and how to retrieve your information. There is already an extensive volume of information that had Noel Clarke's data base as the initial source. Further information both from club trips and some individual contributions has also been added. The ultimate purpose of the data base is to compile as full a record of sightings as possible, both for conservation records and for retrieval by members when they might be going out on their own excursions. Access to the data base is intended for those who make contributions to it.

RAFFLE DRAW: Tony drew the raffle which was claimed by Jack Eborall

GROWERS TABLE: Bill Burton showed two species Scented Autumn Leek Orchid (*Prasophyllum* sp early - previously called *P aff parvifolium*) and *Pterostylis vittata*.

NEXT MEETING DATE: 17TH JUNE 2009
MEETING CLOSED at 10.10pm

AUDITORS REPORT

I have examined the books, vouchers and bank transactions of the Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group (Inc) for the year ended 31 January 2009. The attached Statement of Receipts and Payments is in accordance with these records, and represents a fair and reasonable account of the financial affairs of the group.

Phil Bunny
Auditor

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the year 1.2.2008 to 31.1.2009

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

Balance as at 1.2.08	\$46,671.57
Plus Receipts	90,566.64
Sub-total	137,238.21
Less Expenditure	129,704.93
Balance as at 31.1.2009	7,533.28

INVESTMENTS

Term Deposit	\$7,597.22
Interest received	615.69
Total	9212.91

REPRESENTED BY BANK WEST A/Cs

Society Cheque Account	\$7,533.28
Term Deposit	8,212.91
Gold Cash Management A/c	8,713.64
TOTAL	\$24,459.83

RECEIPTS	2007/8	2008/9
Bal as at 1.2	\$61,132.36	\$46,671.57
Editor – Cash Adv	200.00	nil
Donations	91.35	148.75
Embroid. Garments	467.00	19.40
GST	3,303.00	8,622.00
Interest received	1,377.62	1,211.94
Lotterywest Grant	72,847.50	36,603.60
Membership Fees	2,124.50	2,529.50
Nom Fee/Ex Badges	225.60	375.00
Orchids of WA 2008	nil	6,760.00
Raffle	360.10	430.00
Supper	199.65	203.10
Wine Glasses	176.00	nil
Other	100.25	199.00
Sub-total	81,472.57	57,102.29
Tfr from GCMA	36,822.01	33,464.35
TOTAL	118,294.58	90,566.64

EXPENDITURE

Bulletin – copying	368.60	291.70
Postage	399.07	432.72
Conservation Fees	90.00	90.00
Council : Seminar	125.00	30.00
Embroid. Garments	nil	147.00
General Postage	20.40	21.75
GST	3,729.00	3,378.00
iiNET	299.40	46.60
Insurance	541.75	632.50
Name Badges	204.00	337.50
Rent	nil	990.00
Stationery	55.63	556.05
Supper	201.73	167.05
University Press	nil	5,940.00
University of WA	66,226.59	97,558.26
Wine Glasses	211.20	nil
Other	202.40	107.75
Sub-total	72,755.37	110,704.93
Tfr to GCMA	60,000.00	19,000.00
TOTAL	132,755.37	129,704.93

FIELD TRIP REPORTMAY 9th: DENMARK TO FERNHOOK FALLS

The inaugural trip of the southern members of WANOSCG was held on an unseasonably warm day. The area along the South Coast Highway due west and north of Denmark has endured an extended Indian Summer of dry

and unseasonably warm weather with little (Denmark) to no rain (Walpole westwards). We were all in awe of the orchids which were managing to flower.

After meeting at the new Denmark Visitors Centre we proceeded due west along the South Coast Highway to Tindale Road. Club members joining us here were already enjoying *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus* (Common Bunny Orchid) and *E. pulchellus* (Granite Bunny Orchid). Of course, the best group of orchids which just had to be photographed were found just as we were leaving.

Proceeding westwards to the Mandalay Beach Road club site we found limited numbers of *E. dilatatus* subsp. *dilatatus* (White Bunny Orchid) and *E. dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus*. The next stop was Railway Parade to see *Leporella fimbriata* (Hare Orchid). Orchids at Mandalay Road and Railway Parade were struggling to survive in the dry conditions. The orchids were already over their best, since being seen two weeks ago on the recce. Fortunately, *Prasophyllum* sp. *early* (previously *P. aff parvifolium*) (Scented Autumn Leek Orchid) were bursting into flower as were tiny *Pterostylis vittata* (Banded Greenhood).

Mt Burnett provided the welcome shade for lunch. *E. dilatatus* subsp. *magnus* (Easter Bunny Orchid) provided an unusual spectacle happily growing out of a tree fork above head height. *E. dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus* and *E. dilatatus* subsp. *magnus* were found at ground level.

The rock off Broke Inlet Road only had orchids around the western base. Reasonable numbers of *E. pulchellus* and *E. dilatatus* subsp. *multiflorus* were found, however, all plants were quite small.

Further along the South Coast Highway we tried to locate a large granite rock only to find boulders, great for climbing all over but bereft of *Eriochilus valens*. Onto Fernhook Falls. The tiniest of drips of two weeks ago had dried up to leave a chain of pools. The bush here was extremely dry. *Pterostylis vittata* which were flowering two weeks ago were already dying off, however, further up the hill in the bush many tall vigorous plants were flowering. The few remaining *E. pulchellus* on the granite rock were found in shady locations within rock cracks.

Several members continued due westwards, whilst most returned to the Denmark area. At Mt Lindsay many fine specimens of *Praecoxanthus aphyllus* were found whilst at "The Farm" in Denmark *Prasophyllum* sp. early were in full bloom.

We ended the day with a barbecue hosted by the Spencer family. A big "Thank You" from us all. A very pleasant evening was spent discussing orchids around the dinner table. A great way to finish the day.

Although the numbers of plants found in each location were limited, all expected species were found over the 270km round trip. On the Sunday some club members found *Eriochilus valens* off the Mt Martin walk trail (Albany) and *Eriochilus dilatatus* subsp. *undulatus* was found south of Broomehill.

Anna de Haan

CONSERVATION ISSUES

Late last year Eric Swarts brought members attention to the issue concerning what was to happen to the bushland at Ferndale Primary School when the school is closed at the end of 2009.

Below is the text of the letter written to the Minister for Education, Ms Elizabeth Constable.

SUBJECT : Orchids of Ferndale Primary School bush block

Dear Ms Constable

It has recently come to our attention that a 2 hectare bush block commonly known as the Ferndale Primary school reserve (Karri way, Wisteria Way, Ferndale) is earmarked for possible development. This reserve has been fenced off and generally well kept over the years with only weeds around the perimeter. It has a very good selection of vegetation typical of the area and numerous plants which are not found elsewhere in the region including Calytrix species, Banksia, Burchardia, Hovea and at least 17 species of orchids, one of which Caladenia attingens, is rarely seen on the coastal plain

This reserve is extremely rich in orchid species considering its small area and should be conserved as a matter of urgency.

The following orchid species list was compiled on 14 September 2008 by Eric Swarts, a local

Ferndale resident and member of the Western Australian Native Orchid Society Study and Conservation Group.

(Ed. - At this point the letter had colour photographs, taken by Eric, of all the species listed below)

Species List

1. *Pterostylis vittata*
2. *Pterostylis sanguinea*
3. *Leporella fimbriata*
4. *Burnettia nigricans*
5. *Caladenia longiclavata*
6. *Caladenia flava*
7. *Caladenia discoidea*
8. *Caladenia macrostylis*
9. *Diuris magnifica*
10. *Microtis media*
11. *Caladenia arenicola*
12. *Pterostylis recurva*
13. *Pterostylis aff nana*
(slender snail orchid)
14. *Pterostylis aff nana*
(short-eared snail orchid)
15. *Caladenia attingens*
16. *Caladenia latifolia*
17. *Thelymitra aff holmsii*

The Western Australian Native Orchid Society Study and Conservation Group requests that the Minister for Education in association with the Department for Environment and Conservation gazette this area of land for permanent conservation. This would be in the long term interests of the of the Perth metropolitan area and in the interests of local residents. Despite the pressures for development, the quality of our urban environment would be better served by more conservation rather than less.

John Ewing

Committee member : Western Australian Native Orchid Society Study and Conservation Group.

The minister replied in a non-committal manner saying that once the school closed the land would move out of control of the Education Department and into the responsibility of the Director General of the Department of Planning. Therefore, Eddy Wajon and Christine Lock wrote another letter part of which is published below

WANOSCG recently wrote a letter to the Department of Education regarding the fate of the Ferndale Primary School and requested that the area of bushland be gazetted for permanent conservation. The response from the Department of

Education was that the retention or otherwise of the bushland would be a matter for the future owner/developer at the time of re-zoning the land from its current to urban use. Any proposal would need to be to the satisfaction of the Department for Planning and Infrastructure as part of the subdivision approval process.

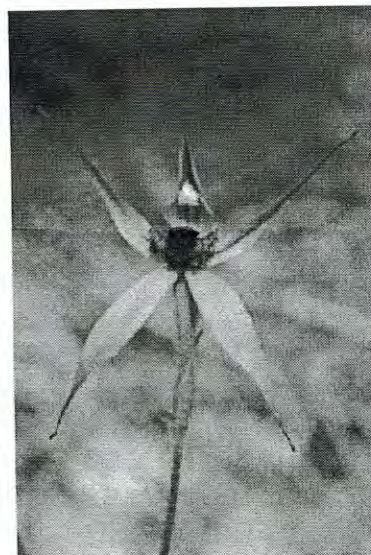
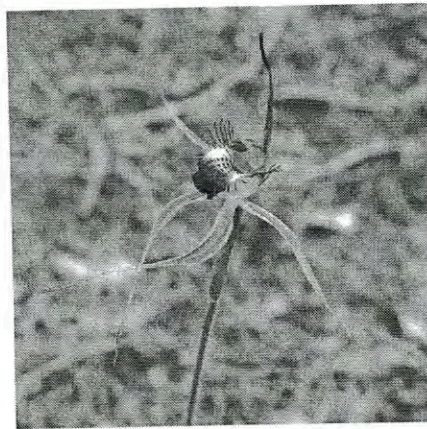
We are writing to urge you to take the initiative to retain the bushland and zone it for conservation or parks and gardens so that it and its conservation and biodiversity values are retained forever. To provide further information regarding the value of the bushland, we recommend that comprehensive flora and fauna survey(s) be undertaken at the most appropriate time of year - from July to October 2009 for the flora and in November-December 2009 for reptiles and mammals.

Conservation of this bushland would be in the long term interests of the Perth metropolitan area and in the interests of local residents as the site will have more value for the community as bushland than it will as housing. Despite the pressures for development, the quality of our urban environment would be better served by more conservation rather than less.

To assist in making such a decision, it should be considered whether the bushland could be "banked" as a potential offset for other future projects that have no alternative but to clear bushland. That is not the case here, as there is no imperative to clear the bushland for housing.

We would be interested in meeting with you to discuss the matter and look forward to an invitation to do so.

*Yours faithfully
Christine Lock
President WANOSCG*



These are 4 of the species at Ferndale. This is a quiz for the Eastern States members. Can you identify all of the above. Entries to the Editor by return email.

	Raffle Roster	Welcomer	SPEAKERS 2009
MAR	Gerald Stack		Mark Brundrett – Wheatbelt Orchid Rescue Project
APR	Glenys Salter	Tom Burbridge	Ramon Newmann – How I started orchids
MAY	Etienne Delanoy	John Ewing	Tony Lock – WANOSCG data base
JUNE	Noel Clarke	John Ewing	TBA
JULY	Tom Blinco		
AUG	Louise Little		
SEPT	Jay Steer		
OCT	David Lawson		
NOV	Gary McDonald		Photo competition and members slides

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FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS
 JUNE 28TH AUSTRALIND – LUDLOW
 JULY 26TH YILLIMINING ROCK – NARROGIN
 SEPTEMBER 26-28TH JERRAMUNGUP
 OCTOBER 10-11TH FRANKLAND

Others to be advised