



Western Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group October 2014 Bulletin

Safe and Sound!

Orchid hunting can be such a distraction, lost in the moment wandering in the bush several members have recently found out how easy it is to become lost. Margaret, we're all so glad you're safe! Our thanks go out to the SES and Police.

How to look for Night Orchids.

Ross was hooking up the caravan so I thought I might just take one more photo of the elegant rufa that I had found . Then I decided to see if I could find another one !!! And that is when everything went wrong ! I got totally disorientated and did not look at the suns position . The wind was blowing the wrong way so I could not hear any cars or trucks and no matter how much I cooed I heard nothing . So I thought I could walk myself out of it . So to cut a long story short I spend a very cold wet shivering night under the stars wrapped in a bit of blue tarpaulin that I found hanging on a fence around a wheat field . I had by then found a road and was hoping a farmer might come past but no such luck .

I found the abandoned farmhouse the next morning as I could not walk another step that night . I smashed a window to get in and found a phone fax machine and rang

triple o . Then made a cup of tea with a biscuit and even found a banana there . I lit the fire in the lounge and sat in front of that as I was shaking a lot by then . I was so happy to see police and SES roll up! The SES lady checked me all over and said that I was remarkably well . So then back to Ross for the big reunion . And I had not expected such a big welcome !!!!! Even the big police helicopter was there from Perth ! Police cars and SES vehicles everywhere and all taking photo,s . And I never saw another Orchid on that long walk! i am now grounded according to my youngest daughter and tied to Ross when we are out !!! Everybody was so happy that it ended well . I will never live this down . So no more night orchids for me !

Margaret Fox



WANOSCG GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 17th September 2014

Meeting held at: BGPA Boardroom, Kings Park.

Meeting opened: 7:35 PM

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

ATTENDANCE: 23 members present, 6 apologies, 0 visitors

RAFFLE: Kindly donated by Noel and Mary Hoffman

1. PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Since the minutes of the 13th August General meeting had not been circulated to members prior to the September meeting voting on their veracity was suspended until the October General meeting. .

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 *Noel Hoffman's suggestion that WANOSCG establish a collection of validated digital images of WA Native orchids:* There was some discussion as to the makeup of the subcommittee to oversee this initiative. Noel indicated that Justin Brown, Andrew Brown and himself plus one or two other members form the subcommittee. (After the meeting it was agreed that Noel contact Ramon Newmann and ask him to join the subcommittee.) Some of the issues that the subcommittee needs to consider including: i) setting up a new web site to display images, ii) the process that members need to go through to downsize their images to achieve a suitable resolution and file size prior to submitting them to designated people on the subcommittee, iii) the process of authenticating the orchid images, iv) whether the club's database be linked to the collection of digital images at some time in the future. Once the subcommittee has met and produced a set of guide lines for the submission of digital images they will be discussed at committee meeting and then presented to the members.

2.2 *Margaret Collins suggestion that WANOSCG run some orchid identification workshops:* Amongst other things the workshop would cover basic plant identification skills and participants would carry out an easy artificial "keying out" exercise and then move on to a "keying out" exercise that involved orchid specimens. At this stage we are seeking a response from members who would like to attend such a workshop. Ten to twenty participants will be needed to make each workshop viable. Currently 8 members have expressed their interest. It is anticipated that the workshops would take place on a Saturday or Sunday in late October or November. If interested please filled out the expression of interest sheet at a general meeting or contact Margaret [redacted] or Jay [redacted] giving your name, contact details and the dates on which you would be able to attend. Please note: Margaret would like to video these workshops as they will form part of a course in Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

Initially it was planned to run the workshops at UWA but they are insisting that we employ one of their technicians to oversee the lab and this has led to an unacceptable increase in cost. Margaret is looking into alternative venues which have access to the internet, the ability to show Power point presentations, flat working surfaces, forceps, one or two microscopes, rulers and hand lenses. At the meeting some alternative venues were suggested by Eddy Wajon (Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre) and Mark Brundrett. Eddy also said that he had access to 3 microscopes which could be used in the workshop. Jay Steer and Mark Brundrett are going to forward this information onto Margaret.

2.3 *40th year garments:* Marina has kindly arranged the delivery of all unclaimed garments.

2.4 *ADORP:* Members were asked to forward any information on *Caladenia caesarea subsp. transiens*, particularly on likely new locations, to Kim Hanson. Additionally Kim would like any information on locations for *Caladenia bryceana subsp. bryceana* in the Albany region which he will pass along to Sarah Barret (the Albany Conservation Officer).

2.5 Five Year Plan: Please direct any comments and or suggestions with regard to the revision of the club's Five year Plan to a committee member or to the club's email. The next phase of the review of the Five year plan is likely to take place late this year and early next year.

2.6 New date and Location of the WANOSCG 40th Year Christmas Trip: Due to the likelihood of finding a greater range and number of orchids the Christmas trip has been rescheduled to 22nd and 23rd of November and will now focus on Mount Barker, Blue Lake Rd and the Muir Highway. (See Margaret's update in the September bulletin.) Organisers will need to know numbers well in advance so that sensible sized groups can be arranged. Members are therefore asked to notify Field Trip coordinators (either SRG or Perth) of their intention to attend. Attendees will be advised of meeting spots at a later date. The Mt Barker Caravan Park was suggested as the base and location for the BBQ on Saturday night. Members need to make their own arrangements for accommodation, which could be anywhere close by. Eddy and Donna Wajon kindly offered their property at Kendenup as a possible site for some members.

Members were asked to vote on whether the Albany DPaW staff should be invited to the Saturday night BBQ to be held at Mount Barker. Those members present unanimously agreed that the Albany DPaw staff should be invited. It was further suggested that the Frankland DPaW staff should also be invited.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period 1st Feb 2014 to 31st August 2014

	For August	1st Feb to 31st August
Income	\$252.61	\$6,538.36
Expenditure	\$280.90	\$8,853.89

It was moved Eddy Wajon and seconded Matz Dahlkamp that the treasurer's report be accepted as a true record of the club's finances. Carried

3.1 Members were informed that in October \$2500 is to be transferred from the Bank West term deposit to the current Bank West working account in order to ensure there were sufficient funds in that account to cover outgoings over the next 6 months.

3.2 An email was received from the Australian Network for Plant Conservation thanking the club for our generous donation of \$500.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Mail received for the period 21st August 2014 to 17th September 2014

Inward correspondence:

Various electronic and hardcopies of newsletters and bulletins from other Orchids groups

Payment of membership fees and for the 40th year book – cheques and electronic receipts

Date	Sender	Topic
21/8/14	Bob Bates	Orchid tour of PNG
23/8/14	Don Ward	Renewal of wanativeorchidsociety.net
24/8/14	Eddy Wajon	Ian Small Scientist of the year
1/9/14	Paul Hamilton	Membership application enquiry
2/9/14	Simone van Hattem	CCWA AGM and Workshops
4/9/14	Graeme Anderton	Not received bulletin after April edition
1/9/14	Darryl Schulze	Looking to photograph T. variegata in second week of Sept.
1/9/14	Garry Brockman	Misreported as author of field trip report in July
29/8/14	Dr Noushka Reiter	Thank you for your donation to Australian Network for Plant Conservation
25/8/14	Leanne Hales	Cancellation of Eurardy Survey for 2014
3/9/14	Tim Hodgkins	Follow up on Lake Adams
10/9/14	Christine Lock Fwd from Christine Burtenshaw	Lights, Camera Volunteer! - Photo Contest from Western Australian Student Television ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER of City of Armadale
10/9/14	Simone van Hattem CCWA	Notice of Conservation Council State Conference and Annual General Meeting
16/9/14	Tanya Barnett	Changes to Field Trip Procedures

Outwards Correspondence:

- 24/8/2014 To Margaret Collins Re: Orchid identification workshop
- 24/8/2014 To Eddy Wajon and Ian Small Re Scientist of the year award
- 25/8/1204 To Don Ward re payment of domain name
- 25/8/2014 To Ian Small re: Scientist of Year
- 4/9/2014 To Graeme Anderton Not received bulletin after April edition
- 1/9/2014 To Darryl Schulze Looking to photograph Queen of Sheba orchid
- 1/9/2014 To Garry Brockman re field trip report
- 16/9/2014 To Tanya Barnett re field trip procedures

Business Arising from Correspondence:

- Flier from Bob Bates re PNG Mt Hagan orchid tour tabled
- Flier about CCWA AGM on the 4/5 October tabled
- Suggested changes in Field trip protocol from Tanya Barnett was discussed in general business

5. FIELD TRIPS

Members were advised of the latest field trip schedule and changes that would appear in the September Bulletin.

13th/14th September: Boyup Brook Searching areas around Boyup Brook for mainly Caladenia species, including C sp. 'Keninup', the Slender sepaled spider orchid.

28th September: Quindanning Following advice from Andrew Brown, the surveys of the Banjup burn

searching for *Diuris purdiei* have been postponed until 4th/5th October, as it is more likely to be in flower then. Instead, Andrew has requested that we do a survey of a nature reserve near Quindanning for the Quindanning spider orchid, which is a Threatened species (members only). **4th/5th October: surveys for *Diuris purdiei* *(new)** Surveys are to be conducted in the large Banjup burn over this weekend. We have been given various areas to search by Andrew Brown, as DPaW will be searching other sections. As this is a designated Threatened species the survey work is for members only. Please contact Margaret Petridis (as above) if you are able to assist.

11th/12th October: Walpole and Blue Lake burns (Note the change of date)

We will visit the burn and other areas near Walpole on Saturday 11th and then meet members of the Southern Rivers Group on Sunday 12th to explore the burn near Blue Lake. There is great potential for some exciting finds this weekend!! It is suggested that you organise accommodation in either Walpole or Denmark for the Saturday night.

2nd November (or maybe 9th, depending on flowering advice):

trip to see *Thelymitra dedmaniarum* *(new)

We will visit a private property to search for this orchid. As it is a Threatened species, there will be strict supervision when viewing and photographing this orchid.

1st and 3rd November: surveys for *Thelymitra dedmaniarum* *(new)

Andrew Brown has requested a small group (8 -10 members) on each day to assist with surveys of several areas near Gidgegannup to look for *Thelymitra dedmaniarum*. If you are able to assist on one or both days, please contact Margaret Petridis. **NB:** These trips and survey dates in November may vary, depending on feedback from the private property owner and DPaW staff. It is possible they may occur a week later.

If you would like to participate in any of the above field trips please contact Margaret Petridis on [REDACTED]

Personal field trip reports:

Eddy Wajon: Ellis Brook: *Elythranthera emarginata* (Pink Enamel Orchid); Hepburn Heights: *Prasophyllum elatum* (), *Caladenia longicauda* (White Spider Orchid), *Caladenia arenicola* (Carousel Orchid), *Caladenia latifolia* (Pink Fairies Orchid), *Diuris magnifica* (Pansy Orchid).

Wayne Merritt: Darkan Rd near swamp: About 40 plants of *Caladenia footeana* (Crimson Spider Orchid) were seen as were *Caladenia pendens* subsp. *pendens* (Pendant Spider Orchid), *Elythranthera brunonis* (Purple Enamel Orchid), quite a few donkey orchids, *Diuris brumalis* (Winter Donkey Orchid), *Caladenia arenicola* (Carousel Orchid), *Caladenia longicauda* (White Spider Orchid); Hay Flat Rd: *Caladenia hiemalis* (Dwarf Common Spider Orchid) finished and *Diuris brumalis* (Winter Donkey Orchid)

Noel Hoffman & John Ewing: Bunbury: *Thelymitra variegata* (Queen of Sheba) was still out on 13th September; Kunjin Reserve: *Caladenia roei* (Ant Orchid), *Caladenia polychroma* (Joseph's Spider Orchid) & a hybrid; Kale Rd opposite brickworks with Dog kennels on S side of road: thousands of *Diuris magnifica* (Pansy Orchid); Lake Adams: *Caladenia arenicola* (Carousel Orchid), *Caladenia latifolia* (Pink Fairies Orchid).

Justin Brown: Brixton Rd Swamp: *Caladenia paludosa* (Swamp Spider Orchid), *Leptoceras menziesii* (Rabbit Orchid) leaves and *Diuris* sp.(Bee Orchids); Kalbarri: late August there were 4 orchids in total

Lynne Alcock: Narrogin: Yillamining Rock: *Caladenia chapmanii* (Chapmans Spider Orchid); Toolibin: Giant snail orchids; Banjup Burn: *Pyrorchis nigricans* (Red Beaks Orchid), Spiders; Rotary Reserve Marri Park burn on Thomas Rd: *Diuris magnifica* (Pansy Orchid), *Caladenia arenicola* (Carousel Orchid); Boyup Brook: *Caladenia* sp 'Lake Muir' (Lake Muir Spider Orchid); Westbourne Rd: *Caladenia polychroma* (Joseph's Spider Orchid); Foxes Lair: *C. xantha* (Primrose Spider Orchid)

Bob Steer: North of Cataby: *T. campanulata* (Shirt Orchids); Mullering Rd : *C. falcata* and *C. lorea*

Andrew Burbidge: Near Eneabba: *Thelymitra pulcherrima* (Northern Queen of Sheba Orchid) and *Caladenia crebra* (Arrowsmith Spider Orchid) under an Illyarrie (*Eucalyptus erythrocoryus*).

Members name missing: *Romeo Rd Wanneroo:* *Thelymitra campanulata* (Shirt Orchid).

Members name missing: *Pomeroy Rd:* Hammer Orchids

Members name missing: *Eneabba:* *Caladenia occidentalis* (Ruby Spider Orchid)

Members were reminded that they need to fill out Personal field trip report sheets to help the Secretary record their names and where and what they have found. Even more importantly members were reminded to fill out Orchid sighting sheets (created by Donna Wajon) and send them to the registrar.

6. CONSERVATION

The conservation report was circulated with the attendance book.

Moved Eddy Wajon seconded Matz Dahlkamp that the Conservation Report for September as circulated be accepted. Carried

6.1 New reserve project and NRM funding in 2015: Honeymoon Rd in Harvey Shire: Urszula Kokosinska reported a potential target for reserve nomination and or an application for NRM funding was Honeymoon Rd near Harvey. The area contains ADORP orchids and as there was a lot of rubbish being dumped there - it requires protection. Urszula and George have made contact with the neighbours who are keeping an eye on this area and trying to keep it clean of rubbish. Members of a local care group and students from Curtin University have been interested in the site and are doing a really good job clearing rubbish. Contact has been made with the Shire and the site may already be earmarked for fencing. Urszula is going to pass on what information she has to our conservation officer (Tim Hodgkins).

Another potential site that may be worthy of reserve status and NRM funding is near the old Forestry houses on Forestry Rd near Harvey. Tim is following up on both these sites.

6.2 Existing reserves – Potential application for NRM funding in 2015: Members can assist by noting the current condition of fencing and signage at any of these reserves that they may visit during the balance of this year: Bakers Junction, Albany region; Hollywood Reserve, Nedlands; Candy's Reserve, Moora; Voittii Compound, Esperance; Mondurup Reserve (opp. Hospital), Mt Barker; Frankland Reserve, Frankland town site; Donovan St Reserve, Augusta.

6.3 Lake Adams Neaves Rd: Tim has made contact with the Wanneroo council who are happy to share their information on fire and weed control in their more than 100 parks and bushland reserves. They would be happy for WANOSCG members to survey for orchids and other flora before and after fuel reduction burns. Interested members should contact Tim for more information.

6.4 The Shire of Busselton wants to make its airport larger and take over the Pistol Club next door.

The President thanked Tim for his in depth report.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Octogenarian's night: Members were reminded that the October General meeting is Octogenarian's night and asked to contact members that might need a lift to that meeting.

7.2 2014 Photo competition: Members were reminded to get their photos ready for the November meeting. Please note that there are two competitions for 2014. Firstly for the President's Trophy for the best photo of an orchid formally described in the first 10 years of WANOSCG's existence and secondly the 40th Year prize for best photo of a WANOSCG member or members taken in the Field in 2014.

7.3 Revision of Field trip protocols and procedures: Following an email from Tanya Barnett the meeting discussed her suggestion that a rule be inserted at the beginning of the list of Field trip Procedures, that is "Members on a club trip will gather and listen to information and/or instructions from the trip leader prior to setting off to look for orchids". The members agreed that this was a good idea. Further to this point it was suggested that in order to make it more likely that members complied with Tanya's suggested change the meeting place should be arranged to be different from the intended first orchid stop.

Members also expressed the view that in order to be fully covered for insurance purposes, those attending the field trip should personally sign off an attendance sheet rather than just being 'ticked off' on a list. There was also some discussion on the importance of spraying boots to mitigate against the spread of dieback and it was felt that the importance of dieback be acknowledged by moving its position on the list of field trip procedures closer to the top. Additionally Wayne Merritt and Eddy Wajon suggested that the Field Trip leader could use the signing of the attendance sheet as a time to oversee the spraying of member's boot with 70% methylated spirits. The committee will look at updating the list of Field trip procedures at the October meeting

and report back to the members. An updated set of Field trip rules and procedures will be put into the bulletin as soon as they are drawn up.

8. GROWER'S TABLE No plants were tabled

9. PRESENTATION

Mark Brundrett treated members to a "tour" of his soon to be published orchid book. Mark demonstrated how his book is set out differently from other orchid books and covers many often unaddressed aspects of orchid biology. For example he shows how his "plain language" orchid identification keys worked. His presentation showcased the stunning photography that he has used to illustrate the book. There was much interest from the members in his examples of orchid pollinators and of orchids mimicking other nearby wildflowers. There was particular interest in the roles that these factors may have in determining variability in orchids. The presentation generated many questions and much discussion that continued on into supper.

RAFFLE DRAW:

The raffle was drawn by Mark Brundrett. The prize donator, Noel Hoffman's ticket was drawn out and he called for a re draw. The eventual winner was Jay Steer.

MEETING CLOSED: 9:50 pm

NEXT MEETING: 7:30 pm Wednesday 15th October 2014

Burn Report

The last month has seen a large number of leek orchids in many of the burns with the highlight being a good number of the Darling Range Leek (*Prasophyllum* sp 'Swan Region') being found at Stoneville.

Other burns have yielded *Prasophyllum giganteum*, *elatum*, *fimbria*, *hians*, *triangulare* and *regium*. It was pleasing to find *triangulare* in the Walpole burn as this leek orchid is not common and is restricted to the South Coast area.

The Blue Lake burn is still producing a number of different orchids, many of which are only found the first season after fire. A full report on this burn will be in the next bulletin after the club field trip in October.

It has been an interesting exercise to record the orchids found at each burn and whilst some of the burns have not yielded large quantity of orchids it is still worthwhile to record the species seen.

The value of looking through the burn areas has revealed a number of new populations of threatened orchids and range extensions of other orchids. It is hoped to continue this program each year to expand the club's knowledge and provide members with the opportunity to see many of the fire stimulated orchids.

Kevin Uhe

FIELD TRIP REPORT:BOYUP BROOK September 2014

(Or why I should have been last and am writing this report)

NOTE: If you only wish to know about orchids at Boyup Brook, please fast forward to “THE BOYUP BROOK ORCHID STORY” – around page 2 – or read on for a relatively typical “Storrie story”.

Some people in this Society know that I am more into fauna than flora and a few may know that Wayne and I spent over 30 years underwater. I am still far more comfortable discussing *Ceratosoma brevicaudatum* (a sea slug) than *Caladenia flava*! Therefore; a very big thank you to Margaret for proof reading and supplying the amazingly extensive list of foreign names to which I shall attempt to match my photos.

But back to 6.00am Saturday 13th Sept. I was very organized and had approx. 40 mins work to do before leaving Busselton by 7.30. No problem. Then I noticed one of my Ringtail possums scrabbling down our low fence out back, trying to retrieve her tiny joey that had fallen into our backyard. I watched for several minutes and decided she'd never get it. No problem. I picked up baby and was placing it on my low 'possum platform' just above the fence when mum charged. Now Western Australian Ringtails are not renowned for aggressive behaviour, unless defending their young. I sprang back just in time. Mum gave me the eye and fussed over her contaminated joey.

No problem. Now I'd just watch joey climb onto her back to be carried up to the higher platform and possum box. I snapped happy with the camera and waited... and waited. After watching the 90th attempt by joey to climb onto mum's back, I intervened again. This time, I had to stand on a step ladder and gently place bub above head height. No problem. I waited until mum's back was turned, snatched up joey and mum got to my hand before I'd finished placing it. I couldn't drop bub, so with closed eyes and gritted teeth (mine, not mum's), waited for the inevitable. Wow! I felt her soft nose sniff my hand. She then gave me the eye and fussed over her contaminated baby. Cool!



OK, now I could get ready. It was 7.00am and I was off by 7.30, right on time. Funny though, I had a nagging feeling I'd forgotten something. Yep. 15 mins later the penny drops. Money, credit cards, phone; all sitting on the kitchen bench. No problem. I planned to be at least half an hour early anyway.

Zooming down Vasse Hwy, past Nannup and onto the Manji-Pemberton road. Yep, you've got it! U-turn, back to Nannup and onto the Boyup Brook road! No problem. Only wasted 5 mins when WUMP and a couple of Wood Duck feathers float down the car's windscreen. OH DUCK!

OK. Stop car. Check duck. I'd only just turned into the Boyup Brook road and was going slow, so hopeful duck was just stunned. Now anyone who has ever picked up a duck straight out of a swamp will appreciate this. As I placed hands over duck there was a squawk, a flurry of feathers and a trail of duck 'do' as duck took off! The 'no problems' were wearing thin as I scrubbed face, hands and clothes and came to grips with writing the story!

Heavens, I arrived by just on 9.30 and wasn't last – but hey – thought I'd share my morning anyway.

THE BOYUP BROOK ORCHID STORY

Apparently Andrew Brown had suggested to Margaret Petridis that it would be good for the Society to have a field trip to Boyup Brook and do a count of *Caladenia* sp 'Kenenup', the Slender sepaled spider orchid in and around the town. So who would lead? Guess! Yep, Margaret and Kevin – by default. Thank goodness for those two.

Margaret's counting – 17,18.. There's more, so we extend our departure time from 10.30 to 11.00am. At 11.00, David Lawson calls from 100 metres further south. Still counting 56,57..which soon became lots! Beautiful bunches of *Caladenia* sp. 'Kenenups' intermingled with *Caladenia longicauda* subsp. *eminens*, *Cyanicula sericea*, species of *Diuris* and others. Margaret listed 12 species for this site. I'm sure I missed half.



Seventeen vehicles left soon after 11.30 and headed for Reservoir Road, just east of town. For people who were worried that they didn't know the area well, Margaret and Kevin sure hit several jackpots. We hip-hopped to 3 spots down this road, and the tally was 19 species, including *Caladenia nana* subsp. *nana* that sent Jeanette into a spin. This was her first sighting and they were exquisite. From then on, she was called to more little pink fan orchids than you could count. Kevin was excited by a couple of unknown snails, while I snapped happy on everything, including magnificent displays of *leschenaultia*, *hibbertia* and *acacia*.



L-r: *Caladenia dorrienii*, *Caladenia nana* subsp *nana*, *Caladenia* sp. 'Keninup'

Our last stop for the day (we had lunch somewhere along Reservoir road) was a spot of Jim Parry's (from Frankland) along Scotts Brook road. This is where it became exciting with discussions of which were *Caladenia* .sp 'Kenenup', and *Caladenia erythrochila*, (Lake Muir blood spider orchid) - all blood spiders to me which were what we called all of them 35 years ago. Then there were *Caladenia* . sp.'Moodiarrup', (Tenterden yellow spider orchid) and heaps of longicaudas. ..all stunningly beautiful and very photogenic.



Field Trip Reports

From there we split to stay at caravan parks, bush camps and Perup – a great eco centre for groups for the future (?) Next day we met at Mickalurrup Nature Reserve on Westbourne Road. A few vehicles had returned home; Ramon and Trish, and Ian Greeve joined us and we tallied 12 vehicles, on and off, for Sunday. Margaret was after birds. So was I and when I was called to a tree with a Southern Boobook owl, I was over the moon. (Sorry Margaret). This first place did not yield very many orchids, but the 2nd stop on this road (where *Caladenia lobata* will be flowering now) was amazing with 20 species including a couple of lovely hybrids between *Caladenia caesarea* and sp. 'Moondiarrup' and *Caladenia caesarea* x *polychroma*.



Our 3rd site on Westbourne road was where David had pulled over for a look on the way to the meeting site. I was lucky enough to be tagging behind. Unfortunately, Dave (who had to leave earlier) missed the rest of this amazing site that yielded 20 species with some stunning *Thelymitra*'s, more hybrids and a wallaby!

But I think the site of the weekend was the next and last, courtesy of Iain McLean. Back on Scotts Brook road near the Tone River Bridge, with a massive 28 species that included Margaret's super hybrids, *Caladenia* x *eludens* and *Caladenia* x *exserta*.

What a fabulous weekend. Thanks to Andrew for suggesting it; Margaret and Kevin for reconnaissance work, leadership, counting and recording; to Jim, Ian and David for their spots and to all the members who make these trips viable.

Happy orchid hunting, **Ann Storrie**

Clockwise: *Caladenia longicauda* x *chapmanii*, members, *Caladenia vulgata*,
Caladenia caesarea X 'moondiarrup'



FIELD TRIP REPORT: BANJUP BURN SURVEYS 4TH AND 5TH OCTOBER

(RAIN OR SHINE...THE SURVEY GOES ON)

On a fine warm and sunny day, 16 members and a visitor from DPaW met on Taylor Rd and headed into one of the blocks designated for us to search.

We started combing through sandy Banksia woodland habitat and moved eastwards towards the swampy area, looking for *Diuris purdiei* and any other orchid species. We found four *Prasophyllum*s: *elatum*, *fimbria*, *hians* and *drummondii*, the latter species just starting to flower. *Caladenias* found were *C. flava*, *marginata*, *paludosa* and *pectinata*, with the latter two species more numerous in the wetter areas.

Thelymitras found included *graminea*, *crinita*, *vulgaris* and *macrophylla* in flower, and *benthamiana* in bud. Other orchids seen were *Elythranthera brunonis* and *Microtis media/media*, and in the swampy area we found a lot of *Diuris laxiflora*.

Great excitement ensued when the call came over the 2-ways that *Diuris purdiei* had been found!

We all made our way down to the spot where John Ewing had found one plant of the target species in flower, and took turns to admire and photograph it. Despite further searching in the area, we did not find any more of this orchid in flower but were very pleased to have found one.

After lunch we made our way to another block where we found *Prasophyllum giganteum* and *Caladenia flava*, but no more of the target orchid were seen.

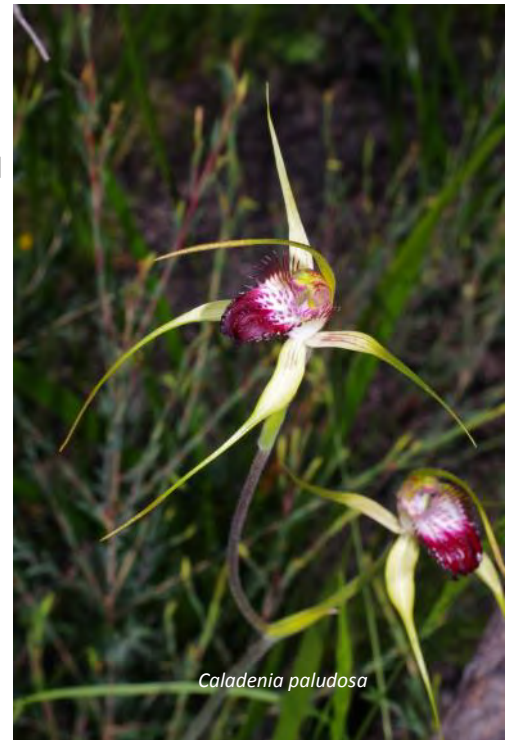
On Sunday morning after rain overnight and under dark clouds, 10 members gathered to again explore the first block. The extra water in the habitat was amazing and we soon found ourselves splashing through 4-6" water in the swamp and wading through water on the track, which looked more like a lake!

We weathered a few heavy downpours standing under umbrellas and kept going...

Although we did not find any more of the target species, we found two flowering plants of a beautiful large, pale purple *Diuris* on the edge of the track (yet to be ID) and many more *D. laxiflora* and the swamp loving *Caladenias*. Some of the spiders looked like hybrids between *C. paludosa* and *C. pectinata*.

We also found a large population of *Leptoceras menziesii* and many more of the swamp leek, *Prasophyllum drummondii*, on our way out of the area, including the pale green form.

Due to the heavy rain and already being very wet, we decided the quickest way back to the cars was to wade



Caladenia paludosa



Caladenia pectinata

Field Trip Reports

through the water on the 'track', creating bow waves and the scene for an interesting photo!

Fortunately, the rain cleared so we dried out during a quick search of another area in the second block. Here we found all of the above *Caladenias* and *Elythranthera brunonis*, but the habitat was not suitable for *Diuris purdiei* and none were found.

Overall, we had a very interesting and enjoyable time despite the heavy rain and were very pleased to have found *Diuris purdiei*, and to have persisted with the survey over the two days.

The survey will add to our knowledge of orchids in the area as well as what flowers well after summer fire. The data from the survey has been forwarded to Andrew Brown at DPaW.

Margaret Petridis (Field Trip Co-ordinator/Leader)



Diuris sp



Diuris purdiei



FIELD TRIP REPORT: CALADENIA SP. 'QUINDANNING' SURVEY...AND MORE!!

An enthusiastic group of 12 members met Andrew at a nature reserve north of Quindanning on Sunday 28th September to conduct a survey for the little known and threatened species, *Caladenia* sp. 'Quindanning'.

Little did we know then what other treasures we would find during the day....!

For the survey, we spread out and walked down one side of a creek gully for around 200 meters, then crossed the creek and walked back. In this area, Andrew had found 17 plants of the target species previously, so he was thrilled when the tally at the end of the survey amounted to 42 plants, with 39 in flower.

The target species was scattered randomly up the slopes above the creek and was difficult to spot due to high grasses and the fact that it is a small pale - yellow flowered orchid that hid well amongst the vegetation. During the survey, we also saw many lovely white spiders, and six other *Caladenia* species including *Caladenia macrostylis*, *hirta* subsp. *hirta* and *flava*.

After an hour and a half of survey work, we moved further into the reserve for a lunch break. Here we found some magnificent specimens of *C. splendens*, *Diuris laxiflora*, *Prasophyllum cyphochilum* and *Elythranthera emarginata*, the latter in early flower.

A few small yellow spiders found by Peter Proudfoot were casually ID as *Caladenia caesarea* by Andrew, but it was not until we reviewed our photos that evening that a few of us realised we had seen *Caladenia caesarea* subsp. *transiens*!! This was a momentous find, as it is a new location for an orchid not seen for a few years, and was a healthy population of over 15 plants.

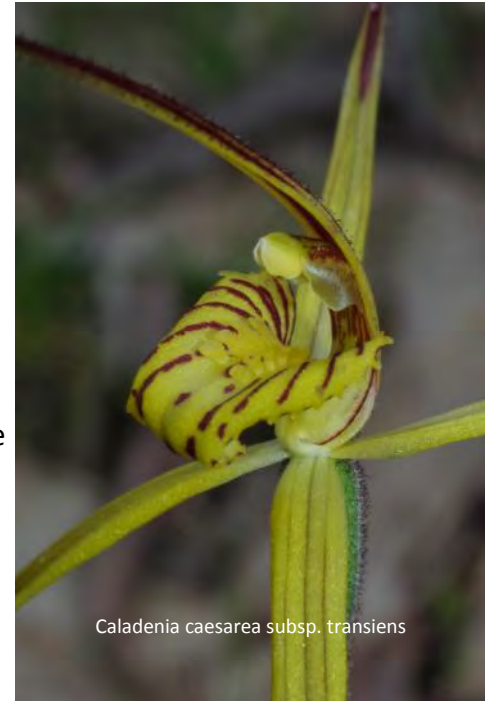
At another site near the eastern end of the reserve, we again searched for the target species, but without finding it. We did, however, find both *Caladenia uliginosa* subsp. *candicans* and subsp. *uliginosa* growing together, as well as 9 other more common species.

Andrew finally took us to a site near North Bannister where we saw *Caladenia* sp. 'Brookton Highway', both subspecies again of *Caladenia uliginosa*, a hybrid between *Caladenia longicauda* subsp. *redacta* and *uliginosa* subsp. *candicans*, both subspecies of *Caladenia hirta*, and a surprise find of *Paracaleana nigrita* and *Drakaea gracilis* in an area of white sand.

Everyone agreed it had been a very worthwhile experience to do the survey work and explore some new areas. Thank you to all who attended.

If anyone who attended would like a full species list for the day, please contact me.

Margaret Petridis (Field Trip Co-ordinator)



Caladenia caesarea subsp. *transiens*



FIELD TRIP UPDATE: OCTOBER 2014

NOVEMBER 2ND (OR MAYBE 9TH, DEPENDING ON FLOWERING ADVICE): THELYMITRA DEDMANIARUM

We are planning a trip to a private property to see and survey for this orchid.

Andrew Brown also needs volunteers to survey reserves nearby on days either side of this visit. If you can assist, please contact Margaret Petridis (as above)

****MEMBERS MUST NOTIFY THE FIELD TRIP CO-ORDINATOR/S OF INTENT TO ASSIST WITH SURVEYS OR TO ATTEND FIELD TRIPS.**

Prior notice of numbers assists us to plan and manage the trips more successfully.

'CHRISTMAS'/BREAK-UP TRIP: NOVEMBER 22ND/23RD. MT BARKER (*NB CHANGE OF DATE AND BASE)**

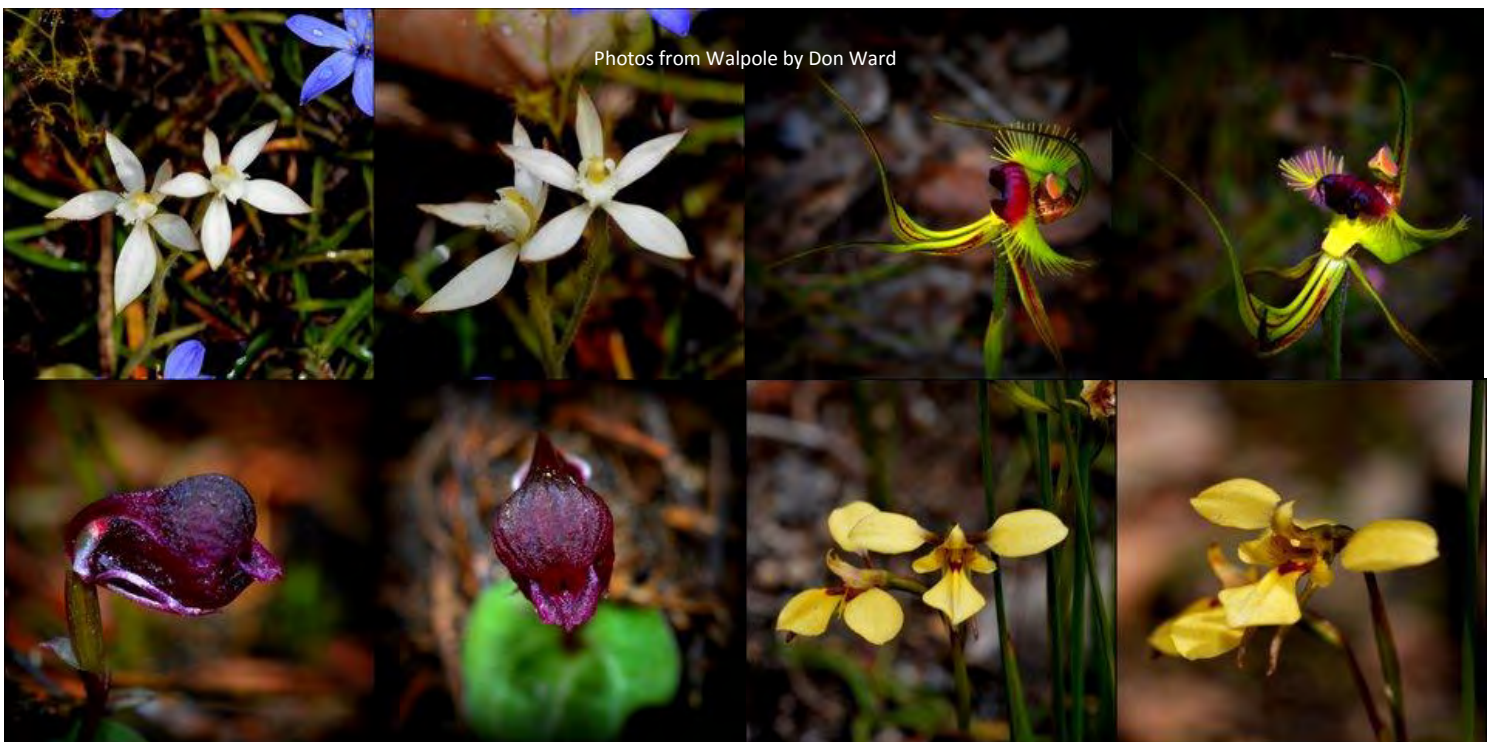
After consulting members of the Southern Rivers Group, we have decided to bring the final trip for the year forward 2 weeks in order to see more orchid species.

If we have large numbers, the group will be split into smaller groups and assigned trip leaders. All groups will attend the same or similar areas in rotation, and be expected to record a list of orchids seen, with GPS points for sharing at the evening get together.

It is likely we will have an evening BBQ as a group and have time to share our finds of the day. We may have a presentation of photos from members of the SRG as well.

Members are requested to arrange their own accommodation in or near Mt Barker. SRG members please liaise with your FT Co-ordinators.

Mt Barker Caravan Park and Cabin Accommodation: Lot 584 Albany Highway, 98511691 will be the site of the group get together on Saturday 22nd November.





Caladenia sp. 'Keninup
by Ann Storrie

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please email any Bulletin contributions to the Editor at wanoscg.newsletter@gmail.com Items for the next Bulletin need to be submitted by 7th November 2014

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2014	ROSTERS		SPEAKERS 2014
	Raffle	Supper	
MAR	Jay Steer	Urszula	Historical Club slides
APRIL	Ramon & Trish Newmann	Margaret Fox	Chris French - An overview of the Pterostylis nana complex
MAY	George and Urszula Ko-kosinski	Urszula, Marina, Sarah	Eric Swarts - Orchids of Tasmania
JUNE	Jeanette Wheatley	Jeanette Wheatley	Kevin Thiele—The Western Australian Herbarium
JULY	Peter and Debbie Proudfoot	Donna Wajon	Ian Small - DNA and plant classification
AUG	Yuko	Pam Hill	Ryan Phillips - Orchid pollinator research
SEPT	Noel and Mary	Urszula	TBA
OCT	Bob Steer	Trish and Ramon	Mark Brundrett—An overview of his new book
NOV	David Lawson		Photo Competition & Members slides