

Conservation report ANOS Inc AGM 2024

Tracey Hinton

This year was the first year to run the ANOS Inc conservation grant. The grant was awarded to Geelong ANOS to fix the fencing around the endangered species *Caladenia* species 'Inverleigh'. Unfortunately, the project has been held up until an indigenous assessment of the area has been conducted by Parks Vic. The money is being kept on hold pending the results of the investigation.

The grant is open again this year until the 30th September. Each club has been contacted individually as well as the advertisement in the Orchadian.

Conservation articles have been written and included in each edition of the Orchadian for 2024. This is to continue. Again, I am endeavouring to contact each ANOS group Individually to encourage them to submit an article on their conservation work in the Orchadian if they haven't already. NOSSA is the first to agree to this. Leo Davis is also helping with this by contacting the Western Australian groups.

I am hoping to find out what conservation activities are being carried out across Australia so that ANOS Inc can share the findings and consider whether any coordination of activities or assistance might be offered. This could include organising an ANOS Inc trip for a reintroduction if people were interested in visiting other states.

ANOS Vic and ANOS Geelong members grow native terrestrial orchids for their enjoyment and hopefully in some special cases for reintroduction into the wild. Another important aspect of growing these orchids is to supply tubers for sale through either the ANOS Victoria tuber bank or at the ANOS Geelong tuber day where members can buy pots of tubers. The Tuber Bank and tuber day are valuable resources for members to obtain and grow native terrestrial orchids helping to propagate and conserve these orchid species. Nearly 100 different species of orchid tubers are available.

NOSSA are also growing orchid tubers including the associated fungi in their new facility. I believe another group is also starting to do this. ANOS Inc may be able to help facilitate sharing knowledge and resources between the different groups. This could include a web tutorial by one experienced member. If you have any ideas on how we could help please contact me. This could be especially important as access to the university resources such as the Cranbourne Botanical gardens programs have started to limit laboratory access to ANOS volunteers.

Updating the conservation page on the ANOS Inc website is continuing. I have written an initial document to upload onto the website. This will continue to be expanded. If anyone is interested in reading the draft and adding a section please contact me.

Conservation is an important aspect of any ANOS group. Doing it alone can seem like an impossible challenge. I would like each group to know the ANOS Inc conservation officer is here to help wherever possible. Either to help celebrate successes or to put you in contact with someone who has a similar experience to offer advice.

Tracey Hinton

ANOS Inc Conservation Officer

conservation@anos.org.au