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Sep
2014

Fabulous floral display at Candy's Bush Reserve

This year has been blooming marvellous in Candy's Bush Reserve ! The 8ha Salmon Gum and Wandoo woodland reserve located on the south east edge of Moora has put on a fabulous display of flora including carpets of daisies, thousands of orchids and even rarely seen plants that have made an appearance due to the good rains in autumn. Rachel Walmsley NRM Officer for Moore Catchment Council (MCC) said "It's been magnificent this year, the orchid numbers are triple what they were in 2013 including the giant white spider orchid which have been huge. I've also located a potential Declared Rare Flora which only has known locations east of Geraldton."

The reserve was finally fenced off from vehicles and illegal tippers in 2013 by Moore Catchment Council and Friends of the Moora Woodland volunteers using State NRM Program funding. This fencing will help long term regeneration of the degraded areas to restore this important piece of remnant vegetation which has long been regarded as a biodiversity gem in the botanical world. The reserve has also been designated Land For Wildlife status in 2014 by Department of Parks and Wildlife.

This year, MCC is running a project to make the reserve a natural asset for locals and visitors to visit and enjoy. Rachel said "This has involved designing and installing interpretative signage for a formalised 1km walk trail around the reserve with information including flora identification, bush medicine plants and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo awareness. Some of the signage is finished but what I need is more on the history of the reserve – both recent history and further back. Are there any interesting stories about the reserve that anyone would like to share? I'd particularly like some stories from a Yued perspective. Did the reserve or vegetation within have any significance to the Yued people? " Please ring Rachel on 9653 1355 if you have any information, stories or old photos of the reserve.



Clump of *Caladenia longicauda subsp longicauda* - White Spider orchids



Rachel admires a giant White Spider orchid

The Moore Catchment Council promotes Natural Resource Management in the Moore River Catchment

