



Journal
Of the
Native Orchid Society
Of
South Australia Inc.



RWL
2012

NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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The Native Orchid Society of South Australia, while taking all due care, take no responsibility for loss or damage to any plants whether at shows, meetings or exhibits.

Views or opinions expressed by authors of articles within this Journal do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the management committee. We condone the reprint of any articles if acknowledgment is given.

FRONT COVER FROM AN ORIGINAL DRAWING OF *PRASOPHYLLUM ELATUM* BY ROBERT LAWRENCE. USED WITH HIS KIND PERMISSION.

NOTICE BOARD

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia meets every fourth Tuesday of the months February to November at St Matthew's Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington. Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. Doors to the hall will be open from 7:15 pm to allow Members access to the Library and Trading Table.

Date	Event
January 4, Sat	Field Trip: Stirling Hyacinth Car park entrance to Lake Woorabinda, Woorabinda Drive, Stirling if forecast temperature is 35 degree or greater than cancelled til next day below 35 degree. This information will be posted on the website. Start 10.00am
January 31, Fri	Photographs for School Poster See below
January 31, Fri	Orchid Book Orders For more details see page 118
February 4, Tue	Committee Meeting held at the home of John and Libby Bartram starting at 7.00pm
February 7, Fri	Articles for Journal need to reach the editor by this date
February 25, Tue	General Meeting Trevor Garard will be speaking the Orchid in Schools Project
March 25, Tue	AGM

ARTICLES FOR NEXT JOURNAL

Items for November Journal need to reach the Editor by 7th February

FRONT COVER DRAWING

A new cover drawing will be required for the 2014 journals. Forward your drawing to the Editor as soon as possible.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2014 NOSSA COMMITTEE

NOSSA Members are asked to consider joining the management committee. There will be opportunities to be involved, particularly with the President, Secretary and Editor indicating that they will not be accepting nominations to be on the committee in 2014. In addition, the Field Trip Coordinator will not continue. Please discuss the opportunities with current committee members and indicate your interest to the Secretary.

I would like to thank David Hirst for his dedication and time for being the editor of the journal over the last 11 years. In 2014, I will be continuing my role as assistant editor, but will not be taking on the role of editor. As a result a new editor will be required. This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in NOSSA. It is important that someone steps up to the role as I have study commitments which will take priority. It will be a shared role. I will be looking forward to working with you in the coming year.

Helen Lawrence
Assistant Editor

PHOTOGRAPHS FOR SCHOOL POSTER

Reminder: photographs are required for poster. Details were provided in the last journal. Pictures are required by the January 31st.

NEW ARTICLES ON WEBSITE

If anyone wanted to know what was involved in flasking orchids, then watch the orchid keeper, a six minute video by Wayne Turville of the Australian Orchid Nursery.

<http://goo.gl/EHo6jN>

2014 MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

Members who wish to pay 2014 Membership Fees electronically should e-mail NOSSA Treasurer on nossatreasurer@hotmail.com

You will receive banking details so that you can complete your subscription. Please remember to include in your email any change of address details, Treasurer

JOURNAL COST \$2. PER ISSUE. FAMILY OR SINGLE MEMBERSHIP WITH SUBSCRIPTION \$20.00*

*Postal Mail full year \$20.00. Email full year \$15.00. Pro-rata rates for third quarter \$10.00 and last quarter \$5.00. Students \$10.00 per year. Juniors \$5.00

MERRY CHRISTMAS

NOSSA wishes all its members a safe and happy festive system.



The **Christmas Duck Orchid** is a rarely seen orchid, as it only flowers on December 25th every year. The pollinator is believed to be Reindeer, though how they get here is still a mystery. It is easily distinguished from other Duck Orchids by an unusual fuzzy red and white appendage.

Courtesy of Kris Kopicki

JUDGING RESULTS FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

EPIPHYTES BENCHED

Species: *Bulbophyllum aurantiacum*; *Cymbidium canaliculatum* var. Alba; *Cymbidium canaliculatum* var. Gladstone; *Cymbidium madidum*; *Cymbidium suave*; *Dendrobium canaliculatum*; *Dendrobium cucumerinum*; *Sarcochilus hillii*.

Hybrids: *Sarcochilus Elegance Flamingo*; *Sarcochilus Pinkhide*.

TERRESTRIAL BENCHED

No terrestrial orchids were benched.

Judging Results		Growers
Epiphyte species Open division		
1 st	<i>Cymbidium canaliculatum</i> var. Alba	J & B Gay
2 nd	<i>Sarcochilus hillii</i>	Steve Howard
3 rd	<i>Cymbidium canaliculatum</i> var. Gladstone	J & B Gay
Epiphytes Hybrids Open		
1 st	<i>Sarcochilus Pinkhide</i>	J & B Gay
2 nd	<i>Sarcochilus Elegance Flamingo</i>	J & B Gay
Popular vote		
Epiphyte species	<i>Cymbidium canaliculatum</i>	Steve Howard
Epiphyte hybrid	<i>Sarcochilus Pinkhide</i>	J & B Gay
Plant of the night	<i>Cymbidium canaliculatum</i> var. Alba	J & B Gay

Plant commentary on terrestrials given by Steve Howard

NOSSA VISIT TO WILLUNGA HIGH

TREVOR GARARD, OCSA EDUCATION OFFICER

On Tuesday 19th of November 3 Members of NOSSA visited Willunga High School at the invitation of Trevor Garard to inspect the proposed site for relocating orchids into an Indigenous Garden. The NOSSA members: Robert, Rosalie and Helen Lawrence visited to give advice on orchid relocation and also had the opportunity to see firsthand the 'Orchids in Schools' program that is currently running at the school. More on this next journal.

The advice given had an immediate effect with the initial site being abandoned in favour of several discrete sites scattered throughout the garden. This will give a more aesthetic appearance and more importantly, be much easier to plant and maintain the orchids. Their advice on preparing the ground, obtaining the correct mulch and providing the correct drainage was invaluable and will hopefully result in the project being a success at the first attempt. The

indigenous garden project is being overseen by the NRMB and Jason Tyndall was also at the meeting as the Southern Area representative.



Various orchids native to the Willunga area will be selected, based on tuber availability and transplanted when the ground preparations are completed. This type of project will go a long way towards teaching a younger generation about the preservation and sustainability of our local orchids. Many thanks to NOSSA for their assistance with this project.

Discussing possibilities at Willunga High School

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

GEOFFREY BORG

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

On behalf of the NOSSA Management Committee I would like to wish all our members and happy and safe Christmas and New Year. I would like to extend an extra special thank you to all the volunteers who make NOSSA tick. As think ahead to 2014 it is time to consider the opportunities the New Year will bring. The Management Committee would like Members to consider what they would like NOSSA to do in 2014 and beyond and how the benefits offered to Members now could be improved. There are many opportunities for NOSSA to support orchid conservation in South Australia through propagation, study and conservation work. And then there is the growing and showing of our wonderful native orchids so we can all enjoy them up close (and without being bothered by mozzies, prickly bushes and other elements of the natural experience that seeing them in the bush provides).

In March NOSSA has its Annual General Meeting when vacant positions on the Management Committee are filled along with the Office bearers. As well as normal Committee members we will also be seeking nominations for the office bearers:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Any member of NOSSA can nominate with the exception of me for President. This term is limited to two consecutive years so in 2014 there will be a new President. The NOSSA Constitution describes these

positions and is available from the NOSSA website (follow the Membership link) or on request from the Secretary. These positions are important to the successful running of NOSSA but they do not do all the work.

In 2013 the NOSSA membership was made up of 135 private subscribers (including individual and family memberships) and 37 organisations. Assisting the Management Committee were many volunteers from within the membership who share the workload. If you have some time and a passion for Australian Native Orchids please consider nominating for the 2014 Management Committee. We are looking for people with ideas, lifetimes of experience, youthful enthusiasm, and/or a yearning for experience working as a volunteer to join the Management Committee or getting actively involved in running the many NOSSA activities.

The 2014 Management Committee will also be looking to appoint members to the positions of Editor (of the NOSSA Journal), Conservation Officer, Librarian, and The Registrar of Judges. Anyone interested in these positions should contact the Secretary.

Finally, I as President would like to thank the current Management Committee for all their hard work in 2013. This Committee is one of the most congenial and friendly I have been on and it has been a privilege serving as President. To all on the Management Committee I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous 2014.

2013 ORCHID SEASON SUMMARY

BOB BATES

The first four months: After a shocking start to the year, when after the dry spring/summer of 2012 rains failed to eventuate during January, February, March and April 2013 thru most of southern SA. Hence autumn orchids were hard to find in flower anywhere.

The next four months: these were a total contrast to the first four months as after a reasonable break to

the season in May/June there were great mid winter rains throughout the orchid regions including the southern pastoral zone, central Flinders and Gawler Ranges. Many NOSSA members, including myself took advantage of these rains and spent many days camping in those regions in Aug/Sept turning up many new records and extensions of known orchid range. In the southern parts Winter was just too wet, roads on Kangaroo Island were closed for months, parts of

the Adelaide Hills and South-East were so wet orchids began to rot away and sun-orchid flowering was the poorest I can remember

The last four months of 2013 saw reduced rainfall, early heat and strong drying winds so that in the north and inland the orchid season had a premature ending. My visit to the Flinders Ranges in early October showed that most orchids had shriveled.

The annual plague of thrips caused by warm dry spring weather has now extended as far north as Hawker and northern EP. Most orchid and lily flowers aborted or were distorted and by early Nov in the Adelaide Hills the orchids were sucked dry.

Climate change seems here to stay and the orchid season in much of SA has continued to telescope to just three months.

New Finds: extensions to known range were mostly in the Flinders ranges but undescribed orchids in the genera *Arachnorchis*, *Oligochaetochilus* and *Prasophyllum* were sorted out across the State; more on these in the April journal.

New species: there were three new sun orchids named for SA in 2013, all three of them blue flowered.

The outcrossing *Thelymitra alcockiae* J Jeanes may be the State's most widespread and common sun orchid and we have been using the name for several years but it was only published in full in early 2013 (Muelleria). In his paper Jeanes suggests that there may be several taxa within the species, most needing more study.

The much larger *Thelymitra glaucophylla* Bates ex Jeanes with its bluish, glaucous leaves, and flowers up to 3cm across is common in the Lofty and southern Flinders Ranges and loves to form large populations in grassy woodland.

The less outcrossing *Thelymitra corrugata* R Bates from higher parts of the southern Lofties has dark blue blotches of colour and a dark, corrugated post anther lobe.

Several suspected new species were studied in detail and Type collections and illustrations prepared ready

for publication in 2014: The best known of these is the northern green-comb spider orchid *Arachnorchis subglabriphylla* of the central and northern Flinders. Also from this region is the northern rufous hood orchid, likely to have the species epithet *O. simulans*. The wet winter of 2013 was ideal for it and large populations were found between Hawker and Leigh Creek with Angorichina Creek near Parachilna chosen as the type location. Barb Bayley has been busy doing the illustrations.

June Niejalke found a new species of *Oligochaetochilus* aff *boormanii* near Bordertown in October

Rediscoveries and extensions of range include *Pterostylis cucullata* ssp *cucullata*, not seen in flower in the SE for some fifty years. *Oligochaetochilus* sp. Mt Olinthus which was previously known from very few sites was found by NOSSA members in hilly areas right across northern Eyre Peninsula.

New populations of *Oligochaetochilus* species were located in the MU and FR regions, although numbers were small and the hot dry early spring inhibited their flowering. The rediscovery of suspected new *Arachnorchis* of the *A. fragrantissima* and *A. reticulata* complexes were made during the NOSSA survey of Native Wells NFR and a private study of reserves near Rockleigh.

NOSSA members will check both locations in 2014. All of these discoveries were made by NOSSA members including new members of 2013.



A. subglabriphylla
Wilpena mallee

Photographer:
Supplied by Bob Bates



Oligochaetochilus sp
Olinthus

Photographer:
June Niejalke

 BOOK REVIEWS

Recent orchid guide publications

NOSSA is intending to place special orders for the following orchid titles. Please let Rosalie know by **31st January 2014** if you wish to place an order. These titles are all by Rudie Kuitert and are A5 format with a soft cover. Prices will be slightly higher than quoted to cover postage.

Phone: 08 8294 8014

Email: nossa.membership@gmail.com

Victoria's Small Caladenias \$20
38 pages, 300 photographs

Victoria's Orchid Quick guide \$20
38 pages, 355 photographs

Victoria's Greenhoods & Rustyhoods \$55
189 pages, 1218 photographs

Orchid Pollinators of Victoria \$50
118 pages, 550 photographs (2nd edition)

Victoria's Spider-orchids \$65
236 pages, 1390 photographs

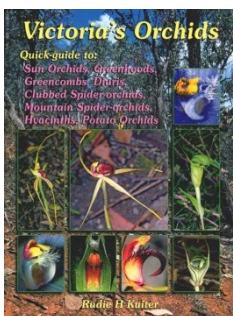
Also available for order

Wild Orchids of Western Australia by Andrew Brown Kingsley Dixon Christopher French Garry Brockman \$50

Spider-Orchids: the Genus Caladenia and its Relatives in Australia **Special Price** \$22

Victoria's Orchids Quick-guide by Rudie Kuitert

Review by Thelma Bridle



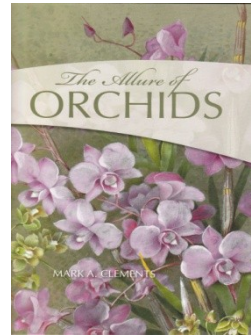
This book is an excellent, easily carried guide, containing quality photographs and information for all orchid genera, including several examples of species in each genera. Ideal for those new to orchids, there are also some close-up pictures of parts of flowers to assist identification to

species for more experienced orchid enthusiasts.

Currently out-of-print, it will hopefully be available again by end Jan.

The Allure of Orchids by Mark Clements

Review by Thelma Bridle



Mark Clements is a well-respected orchidologist at the Australian National Herbarium in Canberra and his book *The Allure of Orchids* would make an excellent Christmas present for anyone interested in orchids and/or art. Mark writes the history of orchid illustration in Australia, which

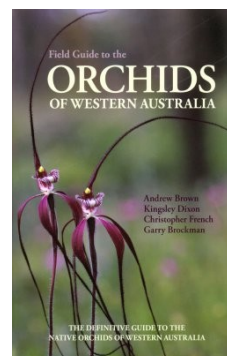
forms an important record of the richness of native orchids and helps document their past range, much of which has changed since the early illustrations eg George Raper 1778 illustration of *Diuris punctata*. A brief biology of orchids is followed by a description of each genera of terrestrial and epiphytic orchid and copiously illustrated with paintings held in the National Library of Australia. Short biographies of the 23 artists whose works are used are included.

The Allure of Orchids is available at the South Australian Museum or Dymocks for \$34.95

Field Guide to the Orchids of Western Australia by

Authors: Andrew Brown Kingsley Dixon Christopher French Garry Brockman

Review by Barb Bayley

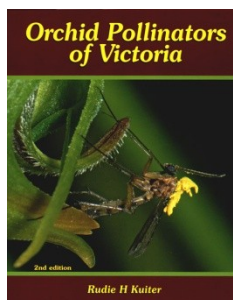


This is an excellent updated reference book of Western Australian Orchids. It is complete with distribution maps, descriptions of all orchids and good photographs to enjoy the beauty of this Genus.

A great handbook to add to your collection.

Orchid Pollinators of Victoria by Rudie Kuitert

Review by Cathy Powers*



A new book on the market is one that contains interesting and informative details about orchid pollinators in Victoria as observed and documented by the author, Rudie Kuitert. It puts a question mark beside many long-held beliefs regarding the interaction between terrestrial orchids and their insect pollinators. The author has been able to use his skills as a 'nature observer' to take advantage of the opportunities presented while conducting research into the relatively unknown world of orchid pollination.

If orchid pollination does not rock your boat but you want some excellent reference material on Victorian terrestrial orchids, specifically spider orchids or greenhoods, then two other 'orchid' books published by Rudie Kuitert are worth considering, his most recent publications titled *Victoria's Greenhoods & Rustyhoods* and *Victoria's Spider Orchids*.

I highly recommend any of these three books to you for purposes such as reading enjoyment, identification & field guides, thought-provoking content or even just the pleasure of viewing the beauty of terrestrial orchids.

*Adapted from Australian Plants Society Victoria Growing Australian (June 2013)

Victoria's Greenhoods and Rustyhoods by Rudie Kuitert

Review by Thelma Bridle



Rudie Kuitert has written a number of orchid books in recent years, all packed with quality photographs to assist with orchid identification in the field. *Victoria's Greenhoods and Rustyhoods* is packed with 1,000 photographs of about 70 species and hybrids of *Pterostylis*, many of which also grow in South Australia. Each species has several illustrations of all aspects of the flower, leaves and whole plant, together with information on flowering times, size and variations. Some photos capture pollinators. Detailed close-ups of tall-greenhood labellums and hoods enable accurate identification of species. An excellent value *Pterostylis* identification book for all levels of orchid enthusiasts and the A5 format makes it easy to carry as a field guide.

Images from Google, Andrew Isles and Thelma Bridle

NOSSA COMMITTEE MEETING

3 DECEMBER 2013

Spring Show planning for 2014

St Bernadette's School is confirmed that the hall is booked for 19,20 and 21st September 2014, for NOSSA. Janet and Rosalie will convene a planning group of all interested people for the Spring Show for 2014 to meet sometime in January.

New Editor

NOSSA will produce a Certificate of Thanks for David for the many hours of work that he has given to NOSSA in maintaining the important and successful publication. The position of Editor needs to be advertised in the Journal.

End of year Auction

It was agreed that this point of this evening needed to be revisited. Plant offerings for sale were getting very sparse. The Christmas Hamper raffle is inappropriate at this time of the year. It was suggested that in its place, NOSSA collects food and gift items from members in the months preceding Christmas and we make up a gift box to give to an appropriate organization who distribute to needy people in the Adelaide area. The supper also needs to be reconsidered. The room in which it is held is too small, crowded and congested. This is an item for the committee to take on board on 2014.

BBQ

This event also needs to be reconsidered for 2014. Attendance was disappointing with only 22 people turning up and few Committee members were present. Those that attended had a good time was enjoyed.

Conservation

Thelma was writing a report on the very successful Fairview Conservation Park survey. The Park experienced a controlled burn some years ago and there had been a survey conducted at that time to determine the impact on the orchid population. Recently there had been a wildfire burn in the Park and the Parks authority was concerned to see if there was a different impact than with the controlled burn.

She was also writing reports for Forestry SA on surveys in 6 small parks

Thelma was at the Herbarium finishing the threatened Flora Status lists for Mount Lofty Ranges, Fleurieu

Peninsula and Kangaroo Island. This now completes the lists for South Australia.

Judges

Judges will only have 3-4 meetings next year. These will be Judging meetings. Judges still want to do monthly judging at the NOSSA General Meeting and at the Spring Show.

Les agreed that he would nominate for Registrar of Judges for 2014 but this would be his last year.

Membership Liaison

Robert and Rosalie had attended a meeting at Willunga High School with Trevor Garard. He is the OCSA Education Officer. He has oversight of a project which is encouraging children to learn about and grow orchids at school. Three schools are involved: Willunga, Mt Barker and Woodville High Schools. Willunga wants to venture into native orchids. Trevor article can be seen on page 115.

Membership

Gordon reported that when the invoice for membership renewal is sent out, it will be accompanied by a short questionnaire that will help identify our actual membership. We are not sure how many people are represented by a 'family' membership. NOSSA will also write to former members to see if they would consider re-joining.

Current membership status

37 organisational members, 135 'family' members, 81 of whom live in Adelaide, 34 rural, 18 interstate and 2 overseas

Webmaster

The WANOSCG will send a copy of the Roy Hargreave article when completed.

Furthermore, NOSSA turns 40 in 3 years. If we plan to do anything, it will need to be programmed very soon.

Robert mentioned that the <https://gobotany.newenglandwild.org/> website in New Hampshire was very good. The committee approved him writing to GoBotany to see if we can adopt their format.

Field Trips

NOSSA is still looking for a field trip coordinator. The next field trip is scheduled for January. If the temp is over 35C, the walk is cancelled. Details will be on the website.

Books

Thelma and Rosalie had identified a number of recent publications including:

Greenhoods and Rusty hoods; Victorian Orchids Quick Guide; Victorian Spider Orchids; and Orchid pollinators, all by Rudie Keiter; and *Lure of the Orchid* by Mark Clements. They would acquire copies for the library and produce an article for the Journal to advise members, in case they would like copies ordered for their own use. See page 118 for reviews.

It was agreed that the library needs more profile in the Journal.

Copyright

Rosalie reported she had received no feedback to her draft. If she hears nothing by the next meeting, she will move that the policy be adopted.

Orchid Poster

The poster proposal from Jason Tyndall has not moved far. This work will focus on the end of January. Rosalie will post and email members seeking photos of common orchids for the poster by the end of January.

CD - Gary Backhouse – *Caladenias in Australia*

Les had brought back 10 copies for sale to members from the ANOS-Vic conference he attended at Lake Fyans, Victoria.

Diuris project

Les reported that they were repotting most plants. Each had produced only 1 tuber. The smaller pots had produced by far the largest tubers, which was interesting.

He also reported on the ANOS-Vic Symposium had just attended. He said it was excellent. He said that the Victorians were doing some excellent work in

attempting to regenerate threatened orchids, by growing large numbers of these, using new fungus and then to hopefully get them to regenerate in the bush.

ANOS-Vic will put out a DVD of the conference. Members said that NOSSA should try to acquire one of these. The conferences are held every 2 years at different venues.

The Government was cutting funds in Victoria to environmental work. However, not for profit organisations were stepping up for some of the work, for example, the Glenelg Nature Trust.

TAFE students were doing some work on Native orchids. We should offer them the DVD at a discount for \$20. Committee agreed.

Picture competition

A member, Doug Castle had raised a couple of issues with Rosalie.

One was a suggestion that we have a theme of "Insects and Pollinators" for one of the photo exhibitions. The Duck orchid theme was very successful.

Secondly, the Meningie Motor Cycle Track was causing a lot of damage to orchid habitat. Was there anything NOSSA could do? Thelma said she would investigate.

Field Trips

Gordon raised the matter of our Field Trip Duty of Care. Are we meeting our responsibilities? Do we keep records of people attending? For example, ANOS Victoria requires people to sign up for field trips in advance of the trip and also to give 24 hours notice if they then cannot attend.

Nominations for 2013

Robert asked that nominations for President, Secretary and Committee members be called for in the next Journal.

NOSSA OUTING TO CHOOKALOO AND KNOTT HILL NATIVE FOREST RESERVE

LEO DAVIS

When 16 of us mustered at Chookaloo, Saturday November 16 2013, we soon realized that we had no leader. So we extemporized and worked together, pooling our local and identification knowledge, our hunting skills and our youthful enthusiasm. It seemed we'd arrived too late for the Common Potato Orchids or Cinnamon Bells (*Gastrodia sesamoides*) and only the uniquely shiny dark chocolate seed pods were on show. But soon somebody spotted a spike of seed pods with a single flower open and we could see the pot bellied flower shape that is referred to in the Generic name. Then others spotted better more numerous flowers and, in the excitement of photographing, we forgot to check for the smell referred to in the common name.

On then to Knott Hill Native Forest Reserve that has at least one orchid on show almost every month of the year. First sightings, one or more species of Onion Orchids (*Microtis* spp.), still in flower, along with far too many richly seed laden South African Weed Orchids (*Disa bractreata*), did not raise much interest; we'd come for Ducks, hadn't we, and a chance to win the current photography competition!

Our first "interesting" find was a small patch of the endangered Late Donkey Orchid (*Diuris brevifolia*), still in flower, but nearing their end. There were fewer plants in flower than last year and those in just three small patches. They have 2 to 8 short (hence the specific name) leaves in contrast to the similar but larger flowered *D. sulphurea*, which has just 2 much longer leaves. Some of us have it in flower, right now, in pots. The nearest occurrence is the SE.

We found just 2 plants of the Horned or Crucifix Orchid (*Orthoceras strictum*), each in advanced enough bud for some folks to pencil in a return visit in coming weeks.

The group fragmented and excitement bubbled as scattered single plants of the main goal, the larger and smaller Duck Orchids (*Caleana major* and *Paracaleana minor*), were discovered and contorted shapes crouched over flowers in every direction. Then Jane spotted the only flower, just one on a spike of potentially more than 20 flowers, of the Common (not so today!) Hyacinth Orchid (*Dipodium roseum*); traffic jam of photographers! Later we found many plants from 5 cm to 70 cm high that might soon make a fine show; kangaroos permitting.

So far we'd stayed on the open main fire track. We plunged into the terrors of the deep *Eucalyptus*

baxteri scrub, damn the snakes, and found real treasures. Some Little Ducks had two flowers open and up to 5 more buds waiting. Some folks learned for the first time what happens when you try to push a waiting duck into a better pose. They snap closed and sulk for 30 minutes!

Back on the fire track we found a spent Leopard Sun Orchid (*Thelymitra benthamiana*) with one of its 4 flowers having formed a plump seed pod. It had been seen in flower back on October 26 when both of the Duck's earliest flowers and the Donkeys were also open. Different folks found 3 different examples of the characteristic blackened (hence the specific name) spent remains of flowers, a rare thing in the absence of fire, of the Fire Orchid (*Pyrorchis nigricans*). Jill's keen eye spotted a spike of seed pods of the Southern Bearded Orchid (*Calochilus robertsonii*), close to the northern edge of its distribution. Some much taller specimens were found in the scrub where the species is common in patches.



There was little interest in the *Microtis* spp. that were in flower. Note the single leaf.

Knott Hill Native Forest Reserve:

Flowers: *Caleana major*. *Dipodium roseum*. *Diuris brevifolia*. *Microtis* ssp. *Paracaleana minor*.

In fruit. *Calochilus robertsonii*. *Thelymitra benthamiana*. *T. bracteata*. *T. cyanapicata* (perhaps). *T. juncifolia*. *T. rubra*. *T. ssp.*

Spent: *Pyrorchis nigricans*. *T. spotted hybrid*.

In bud. *Orthoceras strictum*.

In leaf. *Corysanthes diemenica*. *Pyrorchis nigricans*.

Chookaloo:

Flowers: *Gastrodea sesamoides*.

In leaf. *Corysanthes diemenica*.



Caleana major with one flower (right) triggered and one (left), snapped closed.



Paracaleana minor with one flower (left) triggered and one (right), snapped closed.



Senescent *Pyrorchis nigricans*.



Thelymitra benthamiana, seen with one set seed pod today, as observed on October 26



WINNING OCTOBER 2013 PICTURE COMPETITION

ROSALIE LAWRENCE

For the November competition NOSSA had a special theme of Duck Orchids. There was a stunning selection of both major (10) and minors (7) which were divided into two sections. The winner for the Flying Duck was Patsy Love and the winner for the Little Duck was her partner David Manglesdorf. Other entries were Jenny Woodley (2nd), Claire Chesson (tied 3rd), Robert Lawrence (tied 3rd), Doug Castle, Marg Paech, Helen Lawrence, Lesley Gunn and Jane Higgs. A life size picture printed on an A4 paper was also displayed. In this Journal, I will discuss the Flying Ducks and in the next Journal, the Little Ducks. Bob Bates gave an interesting commentary.

Caleana major or Flying Duck orchid is unique and the unique shape of its flower was featured on an Australia Post stamp in 1986. It is found only in Australia and ranges from as far north as the Tropic of Capricorn, around the eastern seaboard, across to the South Australian/Victorian border where there is a gap until the southern section of the Mt Lofty Ranges. The latter distribution is known as disjunct because it is isolated from the main distribution group. In the Mt Lofty region, the range has been severely restricted. Records prior to 1983 show the distribution to be as far north as Cleland, Belair and Greenhill. Post 1983 distribution consists of a few isolated locations in the south. Though common in the eastern states, in South Australia it is listed as Vulnerable.

The factors contributing to the South Australian vulnerable status is the restricted distribution as a result of loss of habitat due to clearing, grazing, weed infestation, inappropriate timing of slashing, etc. Another factor is lack of pollinator. Bob stated he has seen a male sawfly pollinating flowers (the labellum resembles a female sawfly) in New South Wales but no-one has seen it happening here. He also added that no-one has ever seen a naturally occurring seed-pod. It is suspected that the pollinators no longer live in South Australia. Thus it is important that the plants are not disturbed.

The survival of the duck orchids is made even more precarious by their popularity. This seems to be the orchid that people most want to grow in cultivation. Sadly, some people attempt to remove them from their native habitat. Tragically, when this does happen they inevitably die; no one, not even experienced growers, have been able to grow them in cultivation. It is important to concentrate on protecting its habitat if we are to continue to enjoy this unique species.

References:

Caleana major, Adelaide Mount Lofty South Australia Threatened Species Profile DEWNR 2007

South Australia's Native Orchids 2011

Atlas of Living Australia
<http://bie.ala.org.au/species/Caleana+major>
 accessed 6/12/13



Patsy Love's winning large duck orchid picture



The other large duck orchid entries

NOSSA TUBER BANK FOR 2013/2014

JANE HIGGS

Available to financial members only! Closing date for orders is the last mail on the 6th January 2014. Tubers will be posted during the week beginning the 13th January 2014.

I thank all growers who have generously promised tubers, which need to reach me during the first week of January.

NOTE; 20 lots in all

Circle each lot number that you wish to order & mark 'Sub' by any that you would like if your first choice is not available. Lots will have from 2-10 tubers depending on supply & demand. Tubers in short supply will be issued on a first come first served basis. Please record the provenance of tubers you receive if known.

Price per lot is \$1.00. An additional charge of \$7.00 for postage & handling costs applies.

	Subs	Name	Comments/Provenance
1		<i>Corybas diemenicus</i>	
2		<i>Corybas hispidus</i>	Dark form vic.
3		<i>Diplodium. Laxum</i>	Bungonia NSW
4		<i>Diuris orientus</i>	Kuipto SA
5		<i>Diuris orientus</i>	Langwarren VIC.
6		<i>Diuris sulphurea</i>	
7		<i>Microtis unifolia</i>	
8		<i>Microtis parviflora</i>	Loch Sport vic.
9		<i>Ptst. curta</i>	
10		<i>Ptst. curta</i>	Lake Paramatta NSW
11		<i>Ptst. curta</i>	North Warrandyte
12		<i>Ptst. pedunculata</i>	
13		<i>Ptst. pedunculata</i>	Kuipto SA
14		<i>Ptst. pedunculata</i>	Marble Hill
15		<i>Ptst. Bantam</i>	
16		<i>Ptst. Dusky duke</i>	
17		<i>Ptst. Dusky duke</i>	Tasmania
18		<i>Ptst. Hoodwink</i>	
19		<i>Ptst. Nodding grace</i>	
20		<i>Serapias lingua</i>	European terrestrial

Tuber Bank ORDER FORM

Name:			
Address:			
.....			
State.....		Postcode.....	
#.....lots	(Price per lot \$1.00)	\$.....	
	Postage & packing	\$ 7.00	
	Total of order	\$.....	
Cheque/Money Order to be made payable to N.O.S.S.A.		(in Australian Dollars)	

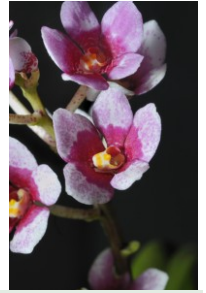
POST ORDER: J Higgs
P.O.Box 134
Myponga S.A. 5202



Dendrobium cucumerinum



Sarcochilus Elegant Flamingo



Sarcochilus hillii



Bulbophyllum auranticum



Sarcochilus Pinkhide





Cymbidium canaliculatum v.
Gladstone



Dendrodium canaliculatum



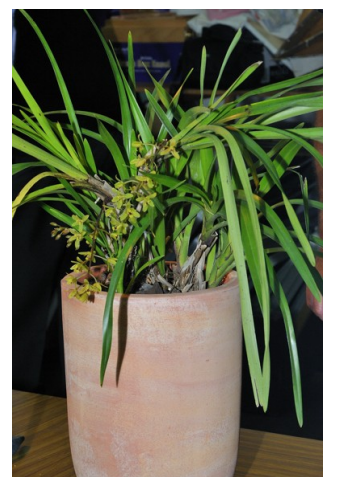
Cymbidium madidum



Cymbidium canaliculatum v. *alba*



Cymbidium suave



TROPHY PRESENTATION



Jane Higgs receiving her trophy from Noel Oliver



Geoff Borg and Graham Zerbe



Roy Hargreaves' daughter presenting the Hargreaves trophy



John Gay received two trophies



Geoff Borg presents a trophy to Bub Wells



Helen Lawrence gives the results of the photo competition