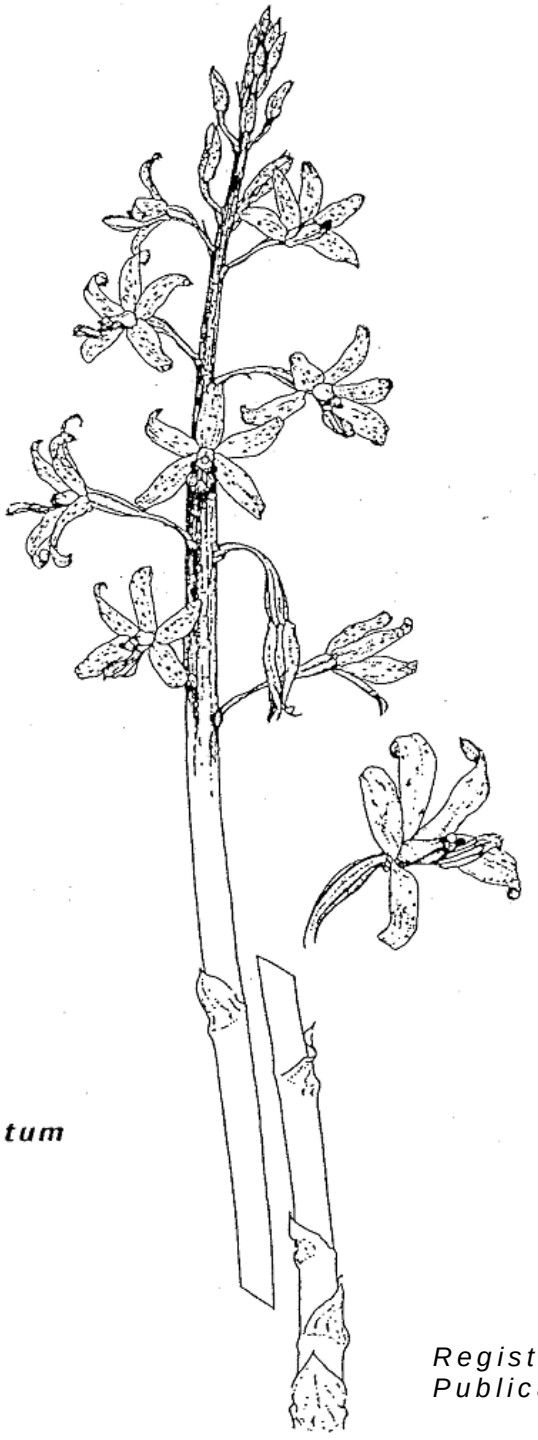
NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY

of

SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

JOURNAL



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NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

THE NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA PROMOTES THE CONSERVATION OF NATIVE ORCHIDS THROUGH CULTIVATION OF NATIVE ORCHIDS, THROUGH PRESERVATION OF NATURALLY-OCCURRING ORCHID PLANTS AND NATURAL HABITAT.

EXCEPT WITH DOCUMENTED OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, NO PERSON IS AUTHORISED TO REPRESENT THE SOCIETY ON ANY MATTER.

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NEXT MEETING

This meeting is the last for this year and is an important social event. Please bring a plate of supper and lets see every one there

Medals will be presented for the N.O.S.S.A. Spring Show.

Before supper we will have a general auction of orchids - not necessarily natives - so bring your back-bulbs, a flask, tubers, a plant, seed, or whatever (on a donation basis). If you don't have any orchids or orchid accessories to spare, then any plant or plant-related item will do. This should be a lot of fun as well as being a fund raiser. Les Nesbitt has agreed to be auctioneer for the evening so lets give him full support.

FIELD TRIP REMINDER

Visit to Leona Woolcock's property (Leona is the author of a book on Wildflowers of the Mt. Lofty Ranges) and Glen Shera Swamp, Sunday 27th November. Meet at Yankalilla P.O. at 10.00 A.M. and bring a picnic lunch.

CAMERA GROUP NEWS

The next meeting for the Camera Group will be at 7.30 P.M. Wednesday 7th December and will be held at the home of Arthur and Beryl Winkler, 12 Highfield Avenue, St. Georges. Bring photos taken on the 30th October practical session.

OCTOBER MEETING

Les Nesbitt, Reg Shooter and Ted Chance talked about and showed slides of the 11th Australian Orchid Conference held in September, which they attended. Although it is our Bicentennial Year, the venue was considerably less than ideal and the conference was somewhat marred by this. Nevertheless, there were some very high quality plants and displays to be seen.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY

22 species/hybrids representing 7 genera of terrestrial orchids and 22 species/hybrids of epiphytes (total of 44 species) were benched. Les Nesbitt provided the plant commentary on the epiphytes while Bob Bates provided the commentary on the terrestrials.

Terrestrials: *Caladenia tentaculata, Diuris aequalis, D. brevifolia, emarginata, D. punctata, D. punctata* 'Old Vic', *D. punctata* var. *alboviolacea, D. sulphurea, D. venosa* (yellow), *D. venosa x D. abbreviata, D. venosa x P. sulphurea, D. brevifolia x D. lanceolata, Lyperanthus nigricans, Microtis rara, Pterostylis biseta, P. excelsa, P. rufa, P. woollsii, Spiranthes sinensis, Thelymitra cucullata, T. nuda.*

Epiphytes: *Cadetia taylori, Cymbidium canaliculatum, C. suave, Dendrobium atroviolaceum, D. beckleri D. x gracillimum, D. lichenastrum, D. linguiforme, D. monophyllum, D. prenticei, D. tetragonum, D.* Ella Victoria Leaney (white and also purple forms), *D. Hastings x D. ruppianum, D. Hilda Poxon, D. teretifolium x D. linguiforme, D. teretifolium x D.* Black Pam, *Sarcochilus ceciliae, S. fitzgeraldii, S. hartmannii, S.* Lois x *S. fitzgeraldii, S.* Lois x *S. hartmannii, S. Weinhart.*

POPULAR VOTE
Epiphyte: *Sarcochilus hartmannii* grown by Les Chambers.
Terrestrial *Diuris punctata* 'Old Vic' grown by Les and Kay Nesbitt.

COMMENTATOR'S CHOICE
Epiphyte Species: *Sarcochilus hartmannii* grown by Les Chambers.
Epiphyte Hybrid: *Dendrobium Hastings* x *ruppianum* grown by Peter. Barnes.
Terrestrial. Species: *Diuris punctata* 'Old Vic' grown by Les and Kay Nesbitt.
Terrestrial Hybrid: *Diuris brevifolia* x *lanceolata* grown by R. Bates.

N.O.S.S.A. NEWS

TUBER BANK 1988. This is an important aspect of our Society so please do everything you can to provide tubers for the bank. See October's Journal for details.

LIBRARY. Please return all library books to the Librarian on Tuesday's meeting in order that a year end inventory might be taken. Books may be borrowed over the summer break.

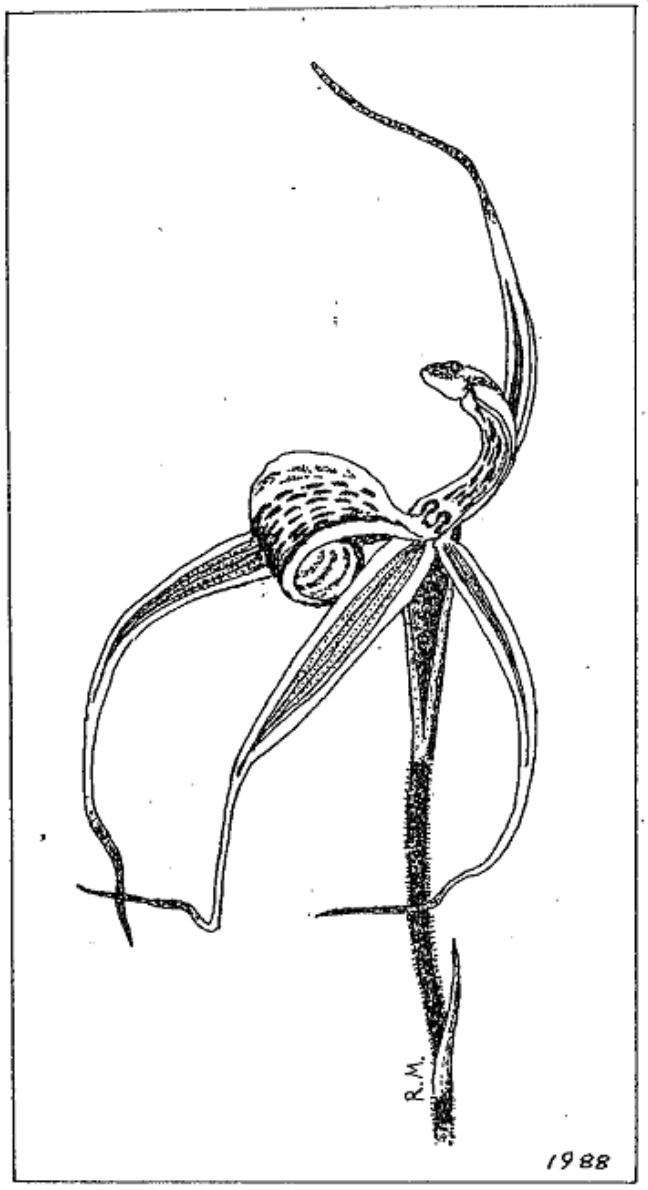
LIBRARIAN WANTED. This is a very easy way to participate in your Society. Very little work or time is involved and you will get to know your fellow members much better. Please see a committee member if you might be interested or call Gerry Carne at 332 7730.

TRADING TABLE. There will be no trading table at the November Meeting.

VISITORS. We were honoured to have Doug McCrae from New Zealand and Peter Kuhlmann from Bathurst visit with us. Both were very interested in seeing S.A. orchids and Doug brought an excellent suite of slides of New Zealand orchids which several members were fortunate to see. We sincerely hope to see both back again soon.

NEW MEMBERS
The Society takes great pleasure in welcoming as new members Mr C. Brenton of Berowa Heights, Mrs. J. Warin of Crafers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ashton of Westbourne Park, Mr D. McCrae from New Zealand, Ms. A Lester of Norwood, Mr E. Shepherd of Port Pirie and Mr. and Mrs. J. Williams of Salisbury Park.

CALADENIA AUDASII FOUND NEAR STAWELL - VICTORIA by R. J. Markwick.



On Saturday 11th September, Chris Hall and I met with Everett Foster (President of the Geelong Group of A.N.O.S.), his wife Margaret, and other members of the Geelong Group, to look for orchids near Stawell. Stawell is probably best known for the "Easter Gift" footrace, and is promoted as one of the "Gateways to the Grampians" which are only 25 km away. The surrounding country, consisting largely of lightly wooded bushland on auriferous loam clay, is known among the orchid fraternity as an excellent habitat for numerous orchid species, some of them uncommon to rare and surviving only in relict populations.

In my account of last year's trip to the Grampians I noted how dry the country was (mid October), this year it couldn't have been more different The weather was miserable. We experienced rain and gale force winds with occasional fine breaks between the heavy weather. There was minor to significant flooding in several areas around Stawell and I didn't dare drive on any of the Grampians forest tracks. Although most people went home rather than stay for another day, the weather couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of the group while they were occupied in searching for orchids in the scrub.

Everett and Margaret stayed the next day to visit some very interesting areas in the Southern Grampians with Chris and me, and we were lucky enough to find an early flower of the *Caladenia patersonii x C. clavigera* hybrid discovered last year. Everett was particularly pleased to see this plant because it was my report of its discovery in this Journal which prompted him to write to me telling of the discovery of another hybrid between the same two parents at Lake Fyans. We exchanged photographs for the sake of comparison, and it was interesting to note that Everett's plant had closer affinities to *C. Patersonii* than to *C. clavigera*, while the reverse was true for the plant seen by Chris and me. Although both exhibited fringing to the margins of the labellum (similar to that of *C. patersonii*), in other respects the flowers were quite dis-similar. This observation is significant in the context of the discovery and determination of a plant found on Saturday 11th, which I believe is the rarely encountered species *C. audasii*,

Back to Saturday morning! After only a short drive from Stawell, we entered an area of bushland where many orchids were found. In fact, we had to move with great care to avoid treading on them. The species seen were numerous and I will not mention them all. Notable, however, were beautiful large specimens of dark red, *C. magnifica*, an albino form and numerous other

colour forms of *C. patersonii* (many displaying suffused shades of red and pink probably from hybrid influence involving *C. magnifica*) and plants best described as *C.* affiin. *reticulata*, closely resembling the Adelaide Hills *C. reticulata*. Other notable plants were *Thelymitra x macmillanii*, the very rare *T. mackibbinii*, a freak multiple flower of *Glossodia major* with 3 labella and three columns (2 of the columns were under-developed and stood sentinel-like on either side of the principle column), and last, but very definitely not least, *C. audasii* discovered by Gregg Kerr who was visiting with the Geelong Group.

Nobody knew what to make of Greg's strange *Caladenia*. It appeared to have affinities with *C. patersonii* and *C. clavigera*, but looked nothing like the hybrids between those seen by Everett, Chris and me. The plant differs from *C. patersonii* in having an almost entire labellum, a longer column, and central red striping along the perianth segments. Overall, the plant and flower is not quite as large as the *C. patersonii* types seen in the area. It is easily distinguished from *C. clavigera* by its larger size, the colour of the flower, and also by the six rows of flattened calli on the labellum (eight rows near the proximal end). Its closest affinities are with *C. patersonii*,

The identity of this plant remained a mystery until I showed slides to Bob Bates, who suggested that it might be *C. audasii* On referring to literature, I found that *C. audasii* had been named by Dr. R. S. Rogers in 1927 from a single specimen collected in 1896 at Mt. McIvor near Bendigo (the plant's common name is the McIvor Caladenia). Rogers' description fits our plant almost exactly. Willis (1970) includes this plant with *C. patersonii*, noting that it appears to be no more than a mutant form of this species. Earlier (1930), Ewart suggested that it was possibly a robust variety of *C. clavigera*. I find myself unable to agree with either of these two opinions. I am inclined to the belief that the plant is a true species, albeit a very uncommon one. Interestingly, Ewart has *C. audasii* flowering in December. Rogers recorded that the date of collection of his specimen was not known. It had been forwarded to him by J.W. Audas whose name it now bears.

James Audas was on the staff of the Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium, Melbourne, when he sent the unknown *Caladenia* to Dr. Rogers for determination. He had travelled extensively in Australia and was an assiduous collector of Australian plants. No doubt Rogers named this *Caladenia* after him as a tribute to his efforts in furthering the science of botany. Audas wrote a number of books, including "One of Nature's Wonderlands - the Victorian Grampians" and "The Australian Bushland", the latter a marvellous book written with infectious enthusiasm for his subject, wherein, among discourses on many other widely scattered Australian bush localities, he waxed lyrical about his many excursions in and around the Grampians.

The finding and recognition of *Caladenia audasii* near Stawell has, I believe, caused a good deal of excitement among our friends across the border.

REFERENCES:

Ewart A. J. (1930) Flora of Victoria, 347.51:295.

Markwick R. J. (1987) "Some Observations in the Grampians", Journal of the Native Orchid Society of South Australia, 11:103.

Rogers R. S. (1927) "Contributions to the Orchidology of Australia", Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of South Australia.

Willis J. H. (1970) Handbook to Plants of Victoria. Vol. 1, Second Edition 387.

VISIT TO STONY RANGE FLORA RESERVE - DEE WHY, NEW SOUTH WALES by R. Shooter

In September 1988 Jill and I attended the 11th Australian Orchid Conference in Sydney. Among the many papers in the registrants satchel was a pamphlet advertising a day hosted by the Warringah Orchid Society at the Stony Range Reserve in Dee Why. This offered the opportunity to view Australian orchids in their natural habitat and to meet members of the Society. This was an offer too good to refuse, so on the appointed day, in company with Ted and Marjorie Chance, we proceeded to Manley by ferry, thence to Dee Why by bus.

The Stony Flora Reserve is situated right on the Pittwater Road just a dozen paces or so from the bus stop, but those dozen paces involve crossing the road, one of the busiest in the area. Once through the gates of the reserve, however, peace and tranquillity prevail.

We were met at the gate by Norman Hilliger, Jackson Sussman and Reg Angus, members of the Warringah Orchid Society. Over a cup of tea they explained how and why this little patch of natural bushland existed in the heart of a busy residential and commercial area.

In 1956, the Lands Department of N.S.W. placed the 3.5 hectares of Hawkesbury Sandstone in trust to the Warringah Shire where it is managed by a voluntary committee which includes the Warringah Orchid Society. Development began in 1957. The first task was to remove noxious weeds and other evidence of years of neglect, then begin planting with original native flora of the vicinity.

The Reserve was opened to the public in 1961. As you would realise not a great deal can be achieved in regenerating an area in four years and the work continued and is continuing to this day upgrading and stocking the Reserve.

The reserve has been divided into 18 walks ranging from a 10 minute stroll through rainforest, fern and orchid glen to the full tour, taking in pools, heathland and sandstone habitats. This takes about 50 minutes, depending on the walker. Norm Hilliger was our guide and we spent about 3 hours wandering around taking photographs, looking at the flora and of course talking orchids.

All the orchids in the reserve are epiphytes, although Jackson Sussman and Reg Angus did have an interesting display of potted terrestrials adjacent to the front gate, *Calochilus robertsonii, Caleana major* and *Pterostylis daintreana* among them.

Species of epiphytes that we saw were *Dendrobium speciosum* var. *speciosum*, *D. speciosum* var. *hillii*, *D. gracilicaule, D. kingianum. D. falcorostrum. D. teretifolium, D. beckleri. D. linguiforme* and *D. x delicatum*. I asked where the plants had come from to stock the reserve and was surprised to learn that many still grow naturally in the Warringah Shire.

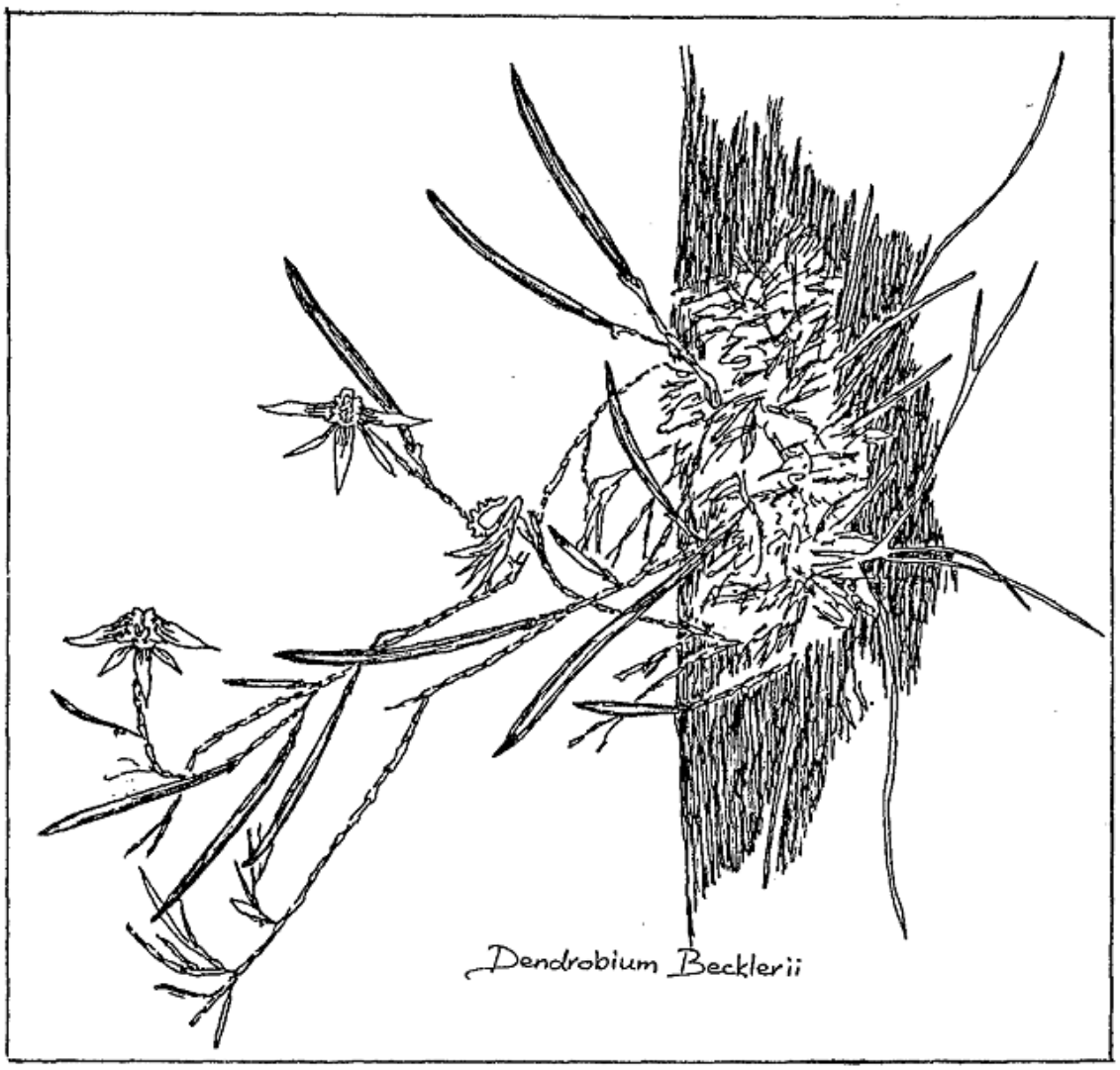
Jackson Sussman has subsequently provided me with a list of orchids growing in the Shire as at 1.9.88. It is appended at the end of this article. During our

conversation I mentioned the work being done in South Australia with bananas to promote flowering in some shy flowering species. This was received with much interest because Reg Angus has been experimenting with a different method which is showing promising results. He has been encouraging enzyme action in the compost by way of dissolving half a tablet of 'Actizyme', a proprietary brand of drain cleaner, in a cup of warm water and pouring it into the pot once a week. (It occurred to me that even if the orchid doesn't flower, at least the pot will be clean!!).

Like all good things this day had to come to an end so after farewells all around we again took our lives in our hands and ventured into the Pittwater Road for the bus ride back to the hustle and bustle of Sydney.

Listed below is a summary of orchid Genera, Species and Varieties identified as growing naturally in Warringah Shire. A small group of A.N.O.S. Warringah Group have been going out Spotting at least once a week since April this year. All the orchids on the list have been spotted and identified by them.

Warringah Shire has many natural resources including 18 fine ocean beaches and a large stretch of inland waterway. Approximately 2/3 of the Shire's 264 square kilometres is bushland, a fair percentage of which is scrub woodland with a mixture of shrubs, under-shrubs, low-growing trees and numerous colourful plants, creepers and terrestrial orchids. Among some of the creeks are still to be found small stands of sub-tropical rainforest. Here a few epiphytic orchids can be found but these are becoming scarce due to over-collecting. The name Warringah is an aboriginal word said to mean 'Sign of Rain' and this is apt because Warringah Shire is noted for its high rainfall



ORCHIDS OF WARRINGAH SHIRE AS AT 1/9/88

Acianthus caudatus
Acianthus exsertus (green form)
Acianthus exsertus (red form)
Acianthus sp.(red flower & labellum)
Acianthus fornicatus (small green form)
Acianthus fornicatus (small red form)
Acianthus fornicatus (large green form)
Acianthus fornicatus (large red form)
Acianthus fornicatus (red labellum, green apex)
Caladenia carnea
Caladenia carnea alba
Caladenia carnea var. *minor*
Caladenia caerulea
Caladenia catenata
Caleana major
Calochilus campestris
Calochilus paludosus
Calochilus robertsonii
Chiloglottis reflexa
Corybas undulatus
Corybas unguiculatus
Cryptostylis erecta
Cryptostylis subulata
Dipodium unctatum
Dipodium variegatum
Diuris aurea
Eriochilus cucullatus
Genoplessium baueri
Glossodia major
Glossodia minor
Orthoceras strictum
Prasophyllum elatum
Prasophyllum fimbriatum
Prasophyllum pumilum
Prasophyllum striatum
Prasophyllum sp.
Pterostylis acuminata
Pterostylis baptistii
Pterostylis curta
Pterostylis daintreana
Pterostylis erecta
Pterostylis grandiflora
Pterostylis longifolia
Pterostylis nutans
Pterostylis parviflora
Pterostylis pedunculata
Rimacola elliptica
Spiranthes sinensis
Thelymitra carnea
Thelymitra ixioides
Thelymitra nuda
Thelymitra pauciflora
Cymbidium saliva
Dendrobium aemulum
Dendrobium linguiforme
Dendrobium speciosum var *speciosum*
Dendrobium teretifolium
Liparis reflexa
Plectorrhiza tridentate
Sarcochilus hillii

The above list was provided to Reg by Jackson Sussman. Jackson is interested in obtaining tubers from South Australian orchids and may be able to provide tubers from New South Wales to those who are interested. His address is:

15 Paxton Street
French's Forest
N.S.W. 2086

BANANA TREATMENT OF ORCHID TUBERS by Les Nesbitt

It is almost time to carry out the banana treatment on all those shy flowering terrestrials to induce flowering next Spring. Species which flower well only after bushfires are the ones to get the treatment. What is the banana treatment and how does it work?

Ripening fruit, including bananas, gives off ethylene gas as it decays. This gas is thought to cause a chemical change in the tubers which induces them to flower the following season. It only works for one year. Another effect of the treatment is that plants produce leaves twice the size of normal leaves, especially *Caladenia*.

METHOD

Place one or more banana skins in a plastic bag. Knock out your terrestrial pot and pick out all of the tubers. Put the tubers in a saucer or shallow dish and place the saucer in the bag on top of the banana skins. Close the top of the bag tightly with a rubber band. Place the bag in a cool dark room for 2-3 weeks. Remove the tubers and pot up in your normal mix. The skins will be quite rotten and the tubers will rot also if in direct contact, hence the saucer to keep them separated.

N.O.S.S.A. members have found the treatment to be highly successful for flowering *Caladenia menziesii*. Other terrestrials to respond are *Diuris longifolia*, *Lyperanthus serratus*, *Microtis rara* and several species of *Prasophyllum*. *Caladenia latifolia* does not flower although the leaves increase in size. We have not found annual treatment of *Caladenia menziesii* to be detrimental as the large leaves mean that large, robust tubers are produced as well as the flowers. We have been carrying out the treatment for 3 consecutive years.

If you want to be scientific, give half of your tubers the treatment and treat the other half normally to see the differences next growing season.

TERRESTRIAL ORCHID CULTIVATION CALENDAR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER by Sandy Phillips

By now most of your terrestrials will have become dormant. There will be seed pods to harvest. Pick and place these on tissue for a few days when they start to change from green to yellow brown, then shake the seed into small paper envelopes and store until next year. Do not put pods in envelopes as they will go mouldy and the seed is ruined. Watch out for green grubs which bore into the pods and eat them out.

Now is the time to pull tubers off late growing species such as *Diuris venosa* and *D. punctata*. Store the tubers and repot the plants by new year. They will have formed new tubers for you.

Repotting can begin any time now. Repot only when plants are completely dormant. Many greenhoods may look dormant above but if you have not allowed the soil in the pots to dry out, the roots will still be fleshy and tubers not hardened off. By now you should have organised fresh mix for repotting: washed river sand, bush soil and leaf litter. Most of this year's mixes should be re-usable but if there was any sign of disease on your plants or if the tubers are black and cracked, you know the mix used was unsuitable and must replace it completely. If you find slugs, slaters, etc in the mix try using wire mesh cut in circles and placed in the base of the pots to cover drainage holes and keep these pests out. After repotting, water thoroughly and place pots in a cool and dark place, perhaps under old hessian bags. Place pots of hardy species back on benches during any cool spell but autumn blooming greenhoods, Queensland species etc. should not spend mid-summer on benches unless covered.

Species which are fire stimulated ought to be given the banana treatment. If you are not repotting then the whole pot - soil, tubers and all - can be placed straight into a garbage bag with banana skins. Some growers continue to drop banana skins around the orchid house throughout the year. These also make good sites for placing snail pellets. Do not do the banana treatment with *Pterostylis*, *Thelymitra* or *Corybas*.

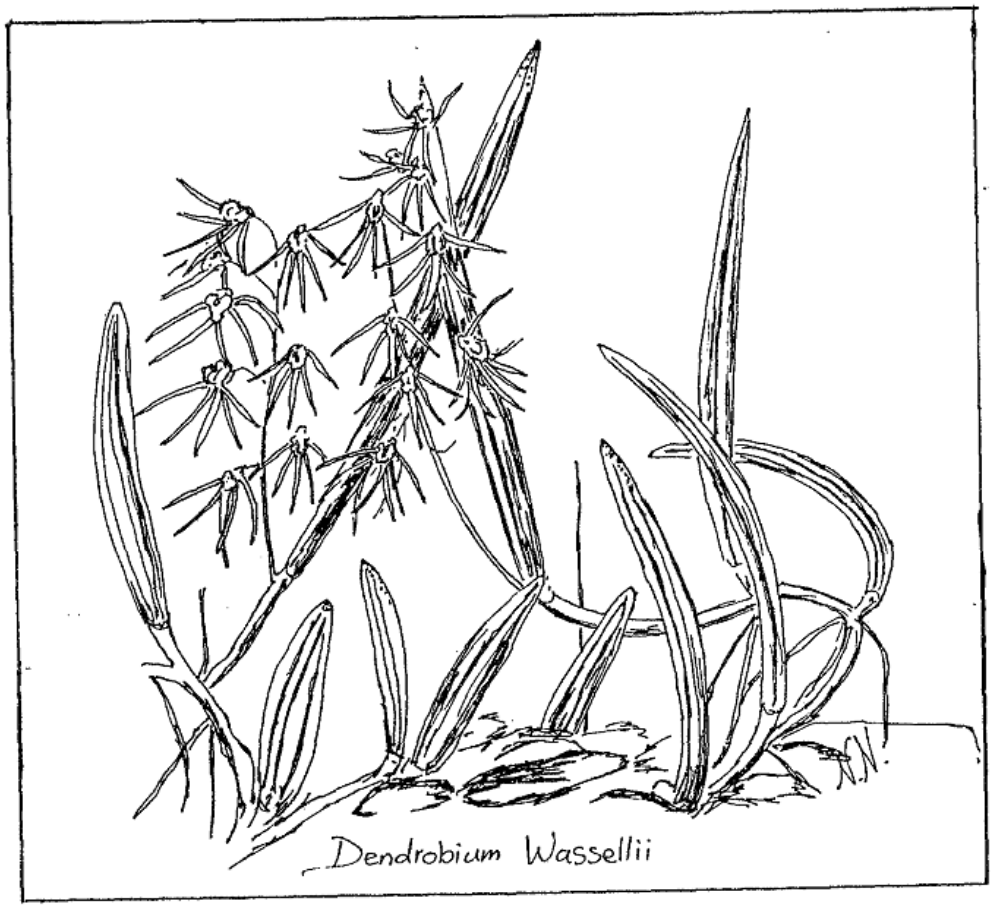
Many swamp species will be in flower in the Adelaide Hills now as well as *Gastrodia, Orthoceras, Caleana* and *Paracaleana. Dipodium* will soon be flowering.

Happy tuber harvesting!

DENDROBIUM WASSELLII by George Nieuwenhoven

Dendrobium wasssellii is an uncommon plant not often seen in collections. The leaves are almost cylindrical, upright with several longitudinal grooves. The rhizome is creeping with a length of about one inch between the leaves. Thin roots emanate from the rhizomes.

Dendrobium wassellii flowers in its native habitat from May to June. In Adelaide it seems to flower during late spring. A raceme approximately 100 mm in length is produced from the base of its leaves, closely packed with small white feathery flowers, a delightful and delicate sight indeed. It is said to hail from the McIlwraith Range in central Cape York Peninsula of north Queensland. This of course means that it needs some heat during our cool Adelaide winter to survive, a minimum temperature of 15 degrees would suit it admirably. A reasonably well lit position is required. Although in nature it no doubt grows as a epiphyte, in cultivation it will grow quite well in a shallow pot with extra air-holes drilled in the sides and filled with a course bark mix - 12 mm pieces will suffice. Regular watering during its growth cycle will soon result in a reasonably sized plant although they never seem to grow into a very large specimen.



Plants are occasionally available from interstate nurseries, otherwise growing from seed or obtaining a piece from a known collector will have to be resorted to.

GLOSSADENIA X *TUTELATA*: A FURTHER NOTE by Bob Bates.

In your last Journal there was a misprint in my article titled "A Note on the First Observation of *Caladenia* x *tutelata* in South Australia for Thirty Years". Where the alternative name was given as "Glossodia tutelata" (Editor's error) this should have read *Glossadenia* x *tutelata*. Where a hybrid occurs between species in two different genera the generic name of the hybrid should be formed from syllables in the two prominent genera. Therefore a cross between species of *Glossodia* and a species of *Caladenia* should be given a hybrid generic name such as *Glossadenia* or "Calasodia". As the name *Glossadenia* has been in use for many years this is obviously the most appropriate. *Glossadenia* x *tutelata* is based on *Caladenia* x *tutelata* R Rogers, the holotype of which is at the state Herbarium in Adelaide. It was collected by Mr. Edwin Ashby on 24/8/1907 at Blackwood, now an Adelaide suburb!

Glossadenia x *tutelata* has since been collected in Victoria and Tasmania. In my last article I wrote "I hope I don't have to wait twenty years before seeing *C.* x *tutelata* again". In actual fact I had just twenty days to wait before finding another flower (in Bangham Conservation Park, also in the South-East).

Reference: R. Rogers (1907) "A new South Australian Orchid" Trans. R. Soc. S. Aust. 31:211

REPORT ON FIELD TRIP TO SCOTT CREEK CONSERVATION PARK ON OCTOBER 15th. by Bob Bates

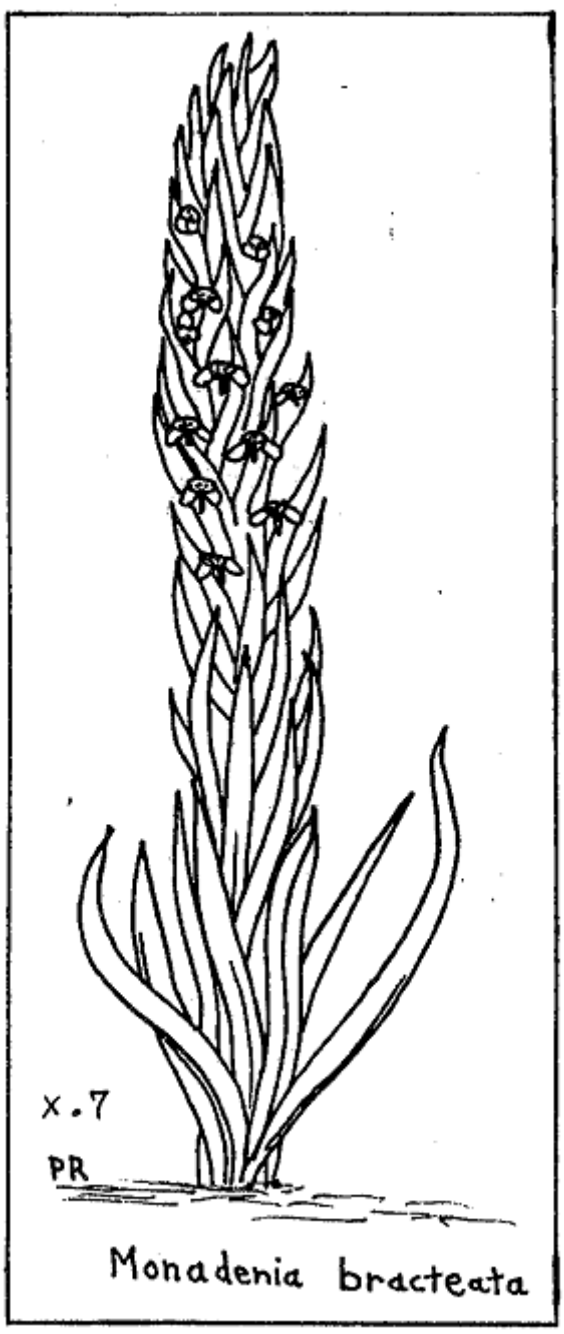
(See previous reports dealing with the N.O.S.S.A. surveys of this park).

This excursion was planned specifically to allow an accurate survey of *Thelymitra* species in the park. Unfortunately, the weather was against us as the day was cold and dry. *Thelymitra* (sun orchids) require warm humid conditions before opening their flowers. Nevertheless we recognised no less than 15 species and were fortunate in having with us Doug McCrae, an expert on New Zealand *Thelymitra*. Doug was able to tell us how some of the species we saw differed from their New Zealand counterparts. Altogether we managed to see some fifty different orchids on the day.

Most interesting finds included a very tall, large flowered form of *Thelymitra mucida* growing on dry ridges. This form is quite distinct from the true *T. mucida* which is a swamp plant. This Adelaide Hills form will probably be described as a separate subspecies.

Our survey clearly showed that there are two distinct species presently included under *T. pauciflora* which are common in the park: one with usually white flowers, a slender, green, channelled leaf, single stem bract and yellow tipped, slightly notched column mid-lobe; the other with

blue/violet flowers, a broad red tinted, flat leaf, two stem bracts and red, deeply divided column mid-lobe. Both species were common, very consistent in form and grew in most habitats. It is suspected that there are other species in the park which flower later and grow in swampy places.



The most magnificent species seen was *Thelymitra grandiflora*. Doug was asked for his opinion of this species and he replied that it was, as we suspected, clearly different from *T. aristata*, a species he had seen a lot of the previous week while in Victoria. Both are indeed grand orchids but the leaf and bracts of *T. grandiflora* are covered with a powdery bloom, the flowers are differently coloured, more globular and with a uniformly coloured, rounded column mid-lobe.

Several plants of *T. x truncata* were seen - these are hybrids between the self pollinated Adelaide Hills form of *T. ixioides* and one of the forms of *T. pauciflora*, but the plot thickens as growing near the *T. x truncata* were the two 'T. pauciflora' mentioned previously, *T. mucida* and *T. nuda* - all of which hybridise with *T. ixioides*!!

Two forms of *Microtis unifolia* were seen - the common large forest form with long bilobed labellum and the smaller creekside form with short unlobed labellum. Doug told us that it is this latter form which matches best with true *Microtis unifolia* from New Zealand .

We visited the known location of the orchid weed *Monadenia bracteata* in the S.W. corner of the park but later Doug showed he truly has the 'orchid eye' by spotting plants on the roadside in the N.E. corner of the park: an example of multiculturalism as we now had a New Zealand botanist locating a South African orchid in Australia!

During the year we had marked several places where leaf rosettes of rufa group *Pterostylis* occurred, but as we visited each in turn we became more and more frustrated for all the flower spikes had been chewed off. Finally we came to the last patch: here we were successful in finding just three plants in flower - apparently an undescribed taxon very similar to *P. aciculiformis*, an eastern states species.

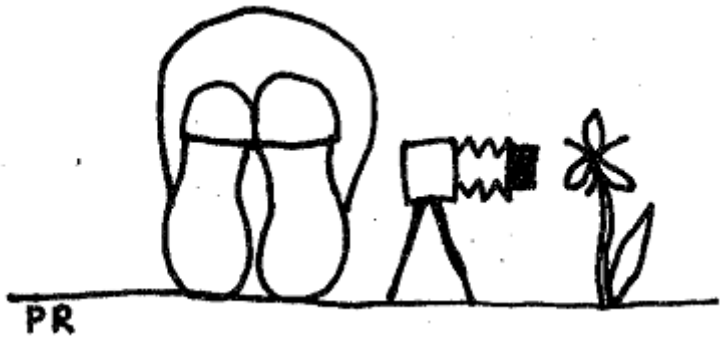
All in all a most successful day.

SPECIES SEEN (only species not listed in previous reports are given).

Caladenia pusilla F,S. *
C. patersonii (large white flowers) F
C. carnea F
C. carnea 'var. *minor*' F *
C. leptochila F
C. tentaculata (prev. dilatata) F
Microtis unifolia F
M. frutetorum F
M. parviflora F
Pterostylis aff *aciculiformis* F *
Thelymitra carnea F *
T. benthamiana L
T. flexuosa S
T. ixioides F
T. mucida F *
T. pauciflora F
T. aff. *pauciflora* F *
T. nuda F
T. ? *holmesii* B
T. x truncata F *

Species with asterisks are those which were not on the official park list.

N.O.S.S.A. CAMERA GROUP MEETING OCTOBER 5 1988 by Paul Reece



Eight people met at Roger and Rhonda Biddell's home at Park Holme and displayed some of their work. There was so much discussion among the group that we ran short of time, the meeting closing at 11.00 pm after a delightful supper thanks to Rhonda.

Subjects discussed ranged from whether or not the background should be out of focus to which brand of film we use. Each person present seemed to have a slightly different idea of their perfect photo. Some wished to show the bizarre shapes of the orchid flowers to advantage whereas others desired a botanical record. Lighting was discussed at length. Flash seemed to require some fill-in without total loss of shadows. Diffused sunlight from high, thin clouds seemed to solve several problems, a slide of *Caladenia dilatata* (now *C. tentaculata*) gave witness to this.

The meeting resolved that there was much to be discussed and that to get together and see each other's work was a great idea. Agreed also was to choose an orchid subject for the group to photograph at a particular time and later compare the results at a future meeting. This will give a clearer comparison between each other's style and method and the meeting might conclude a little earlier too! Roger displayed a group of his wall mounted 20x30 cm prints lit by ceiling level spot-lights. They looked very effective together.