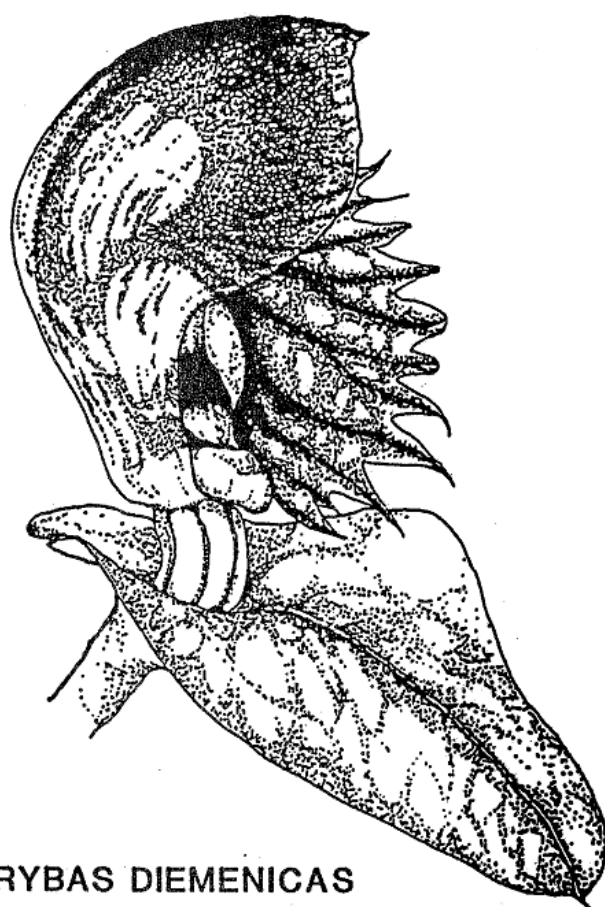
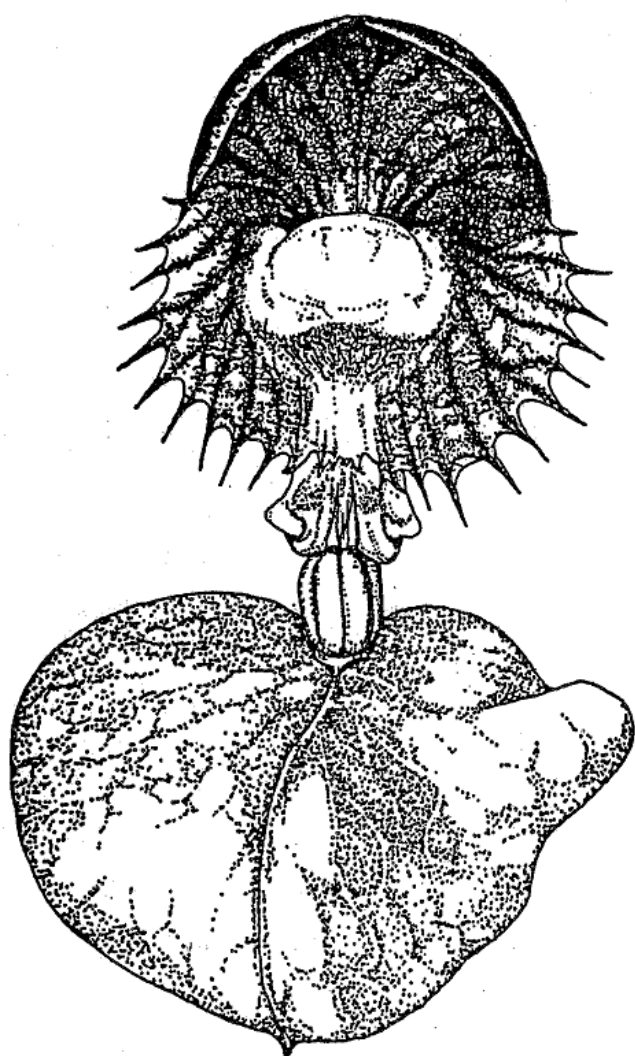


NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY
of
SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
JOURNAL



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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.

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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 23rd May 1989 at 8.00 pm, St. Matthews Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington.

We will be showing a fine collection of slides of South African Orchids supplied by a South African Orchid Society. Narrated by George Nieuwenhoven.

NEW MEMBER. Mr P. Hocking of Victor Harbour.

NEXT FIELD TRIP 'Corybas unguiculatus Special'

Saturday June 25th. Meet Kangarilla Store 12.30. This excursion will be little more than a pleasant stroll but be prepared with umbrellas! Besides the orchids we should see some fascinating fungi.

LAST MEETING

Port Pirie member Bruce Mules spoke on "Growing *Dendrobium speciosum* in South Australia".

Taxonomy: Bruce quickly dismissed the taxonomy of this complex by telling us there has been "a lot of mucking around" with the different forms of *D. speciosum* but for the time being growers still used Clemesha's varietal names.

CULTURE

Benching: Bruce grows his plants on Weldmesh benching to improve air movement, his orchid house floor of gravel is covered with growing plants: ferns and orchids in particular to give more constant humidity.

Mix: He recommended a media of 4/5 quality bark (fine and medium grade mixed) and 1/5th gravel. On top of this Bruce puts an "icing" of fine bark and pebbles.

Pots: He is fussy about pots and goes for good terra cotta and squat uncoloured plastic pots.

Watering: is by overhead misting for an hour a night in Summer and once a week in cooler weather.

Fertiliser: Hoof and horn and all purpose fertiliser such as Formula 20 and in addition Epsom salts is used.

Light: Bruce opts for high light intensity i.e. 50% shade-cloth which at sunny Port Pirie is still bright.

PROBLEMS

1. Sour compost - remedy is to tip out plant cut off dead roots wash plant and soak in Fongarid before repotting.

2. Heatwaves - increase humidity to combat and after the heatwave (often 45 (at Port Pirie) dose with Formula 20 but cut off destroyed roots first.

3. Pests luckily *Dendrobium* beetles cannot survive in S.A. but there are borers. Bruce removes these manually as his first choice but will resort to using Rogor for difficult cases. Argentine ants are a nuisance at Port Pirie but the product Antex stops them! Flower pollinators are a nuisance as they pollinate flowers the day they open and then the flowers close straight up. Bruce would like to hear from anyone with a solution to this one. Black fungus is unsightly but not many plants are susceptible. Those which are do not get overhead watering.

4. Inducing Flowering - Simply move plants to brighter light, this may cause some defoliation but the new growth will be stronger. To make flowers last, keep conditions very even you may need to shift plants under cover if frost or cold rain threatens and under a verandah if hot conditions eventuate.

5. Flowers size and colour - plants with strong root systems will have bigger flowers so expect small flowers 1st year after repotting. During a cold spring flowers may be paler than usual.

6. Keikis and old canes: don't throw these away but dip in Keiki paste and keep not too wet until roots develop.

7. Seedlings - Bruce being just a young chap likes to grow some *D. speciosum* seedlings.

8. Obtaining plants - it is best to get local.

PLANTS BENCHED.

TERRESTRIALS.

Pterostylis alata
 " *angusta*
 " *truncata*
 " *aff parviflora*
 " *abrupta*
 " *pulchella bicornis*
 " *x toveyana*
Corybas fimbriatus
Eriochilus cucullata

Prasophyllum morrisii
 " *parvifolium*
Acianthus exsertus

EPIPHYTES.

Dendrobium Hilda Poxon
 " *fleckeri*
 " *speciosum* x *tetragonum* var. *giganteum*
 (syn. *D. capitisyork*
 " *bigibbum* ssp. *compactum*
 " White Wine x White tower
 " Theodore Tukiguchi x *johannis*
Liparis *reflexa*
Sarcochilus ceciliae
Sarcochilus hartmannii x *parasarcochilus hirticalcaris*
Parachilus Riverdene

Popular Vote.

Terrestrial: *P. truncata* grown by D. Wells.

Epiphyte: *D. White Wine* x *White tower* grown by R. Job.

Commentary Epiphytes Reg Shooter
 Terrestrials D. Wells.

Their Choice.

P. truncata, *P. x toveyana*: *D. bigibbum* ssp. *compactum*, *D. White Wine* x *White Tower*.

OBITUARY.

Vale Harold Goldsack.

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of life member Harold Goldsack on April 25th. Our sympathies to his family.

Harold was born in East Bengal, India. on 27th June 1908. He once told how he could remember epiphytic orchids blooming outside the bedroom window of his childhood home.

His family moved to Adelaide in 1916 and he attended Princes College as a boarding student.

He was introduced to South Australian orchids in bushland adjacent his family's orchard at Coromandel Valley using Rogers "Introduction to the Study of South Australian Orchids" to identify these. Harold in 1924 introduced himself to Dr. Rogers and they became good friends. Harold soon began to find orchids that were new to Dr. Rogers and this fired his enthusiasm so that he began a serious study of our orchid flora.

One day in 1928 on a visit to Dr. Rogers, Harold was shown the very first collection of the underground orchid *Rhizanthella gardneri*. This was to be the subject of the last article Harold wrote over 50 years later.

With the passing of Dr. Rogers in 1942 Harold became the foremost authority on South Australian orchids corresponding regularly with H.M.R. Rupp, W.H. Nicholls and A.W. Dockrill.

His extensive collection of pressed orchids was donated to the State Herbarium in 1978. Harold wrote many articles on orchids his best known being "Common Orchids of South Australia" which appeared in the S. Aust. Naturalist in June 1944 and was used in "National Parks and Wild Life Reserves" book from 1965-1970. Harold also revised the orchid section of Black's "Flora S. Australia" in 1943.

Besides drawing and photographing the S. Aust orchids Harold developed a large personal Orchid Library and cultivated many Australian orchids which he displayed at shows including our N.O.S.S.A. shows. The first registered *Pterostylis* hybrid *Ptst. Cutie* was made by Harold and the name given to the original clone now grown by hundreds of orchid lovers is "Harolds Pride!"

His main interest was to enthuse others to see the beauty and value of our native orchids through his articles and the many illustrated talks he gave to natural history groups.

Harold was a member of the Royal Society of S. Australia.

He was a Foundation Member of the Australian Native Orchid Society. (A.N.O.S.)

Ever ready for a challenge Harold at age 64 began studying for his Engineering and Surveying Certificate gaining distinctions in Maths, then working on the surveying of the S.E. Freeway.

Harold Goldsack's name is commemorated in the South Australian endemic orchid *Prasophyllum goldsackii*, a fitting tribute to a true orchid lover.

R. Bates.

Bibliography of Papers by Harold Goldsack.

Orchids of Coromandel Valley S.A. Naturalist XIV, Nov. 1932 pp 12-15

Notes on *Caladenia Catifolia* R.Br. S.A. Naturalist XV, March 1934, pp 59-63

National Park of South Australia.	Field Naturalists Sect. of Royal Soc. of S.A. 1936 Being Vol. XVII, Nos 1 to 4 of S.A. Naturalist pp 52-54 Orchids.
Common Orchids of South Australia.	S.A. Naturalist XXII June 1944 p 1-12 with line drawings of 52 species.
New Orchid Records for South Australia.	S.A. Naturalist XXII June 1944, p.13

- National Park and Reserves Commissioners of the National Park. Sept 1953 pp 59-79 with line drawings of 52 species of Orchids. p 195. Distribution and flowering times of orchids in the Nat. Park and Reserves.
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- Blacks' Flora of South Australia. Revised edition of p 1, 1943 Assisted Rev H.M.R. Rupp and Mr W.H. Nicholls with the revision of the Orchidacea.
- Pollination of *Caladenia deformis*, R.Br. R.S.Rogers transactions of Royal Soc. of S.A. vol. IV Oct. 1931 The pollination of *Caladenia deformis* as observed by H.G. was written up by Dr. R.S. Rogers in an article for the Royal Society of S.A.
- Rhizanthella gardneri* R.S. Rogers. The Orchadian p.113 Sept 1979. A note about the discovery of this orchid.

On the Bench:

Terrestrials: Don Wells who gave the commentary was also major exhibitor. Many of us have wondered how Don manages to dominate the bench at this time of the year. Don gave us the answer. Yes he does water early (January!) You will have noticed recommendations against this in the very last journal but it can be done in Adelaide if you use Don's method of putting pots in a tent under the Cymbidium bench where there is constant humidity and no high temperatures. Of course those of us with large collections will not find room for many terrestrials under a bench.

One of the more unusual species on display was *Prasophyllum morrisii* with tiny hairy luballa which flutter in the slightest breeze. This species has recently been found for the first time in South Australia. Another species displayed for the first time was *Pterostylis bicornis*, recently named by David Jones and a species which occurs naturally only on the top of a single mountain in Queensland.

Epiphytes: The most interesting hybrid shown was the very advanced *Dendrobium* White wine x D White tower with a huge circular snow white blooms. Another hybrid new to most of us was *Parachilus* Riverdene progeny of one of those inter-generic marriages this time between *Sarcochilus* and *Parasarco chilus*.

Australian Botanists of the Orchids - No.2.

Bailey, Frederick Manson (1827-1925)

Orchids named after him include *Bulbophyllum baileyi* and *Dendrobium baileyi*. Orchids named by him include *Bulbophyllum bowkettiae* and *Liparis nugentae*.

Bailey was born in England but came out to Australia in 1839 living first in Adelaide where his father John was the curator of the first botanic gardens. After an initial period as partner in an Adelaide plant nursery young Frederick led an adventurous life as a gold-miner and then a New Zealand sheep farmer, where he was involved in the Maori wars.

It was not until he went to Brisbane in 1861 that his botanical work began. He was first a seedsman and collected and pressed plants which in those days could be sent to European herbaria in exchange for money!

In 1881 he became Queensland Colonial Botanist. His enthusiasm for his work was such that when the Qld government abolished his position in 1890 he continued to work on gratis! Fortunately the government later reinstated the position.

He travelled all over Queensland on collecting trips being one of the first people to climb Mt. Bellenden Ker and trekked through the jungles of New Guinea.

His major work was the seven-volume Flora of Qld (1894-1902), but he published many scientific papers and named almost forty orchid species both epiphyte and terrestrial. Adelaide's loss was surely Brisbane's gain!

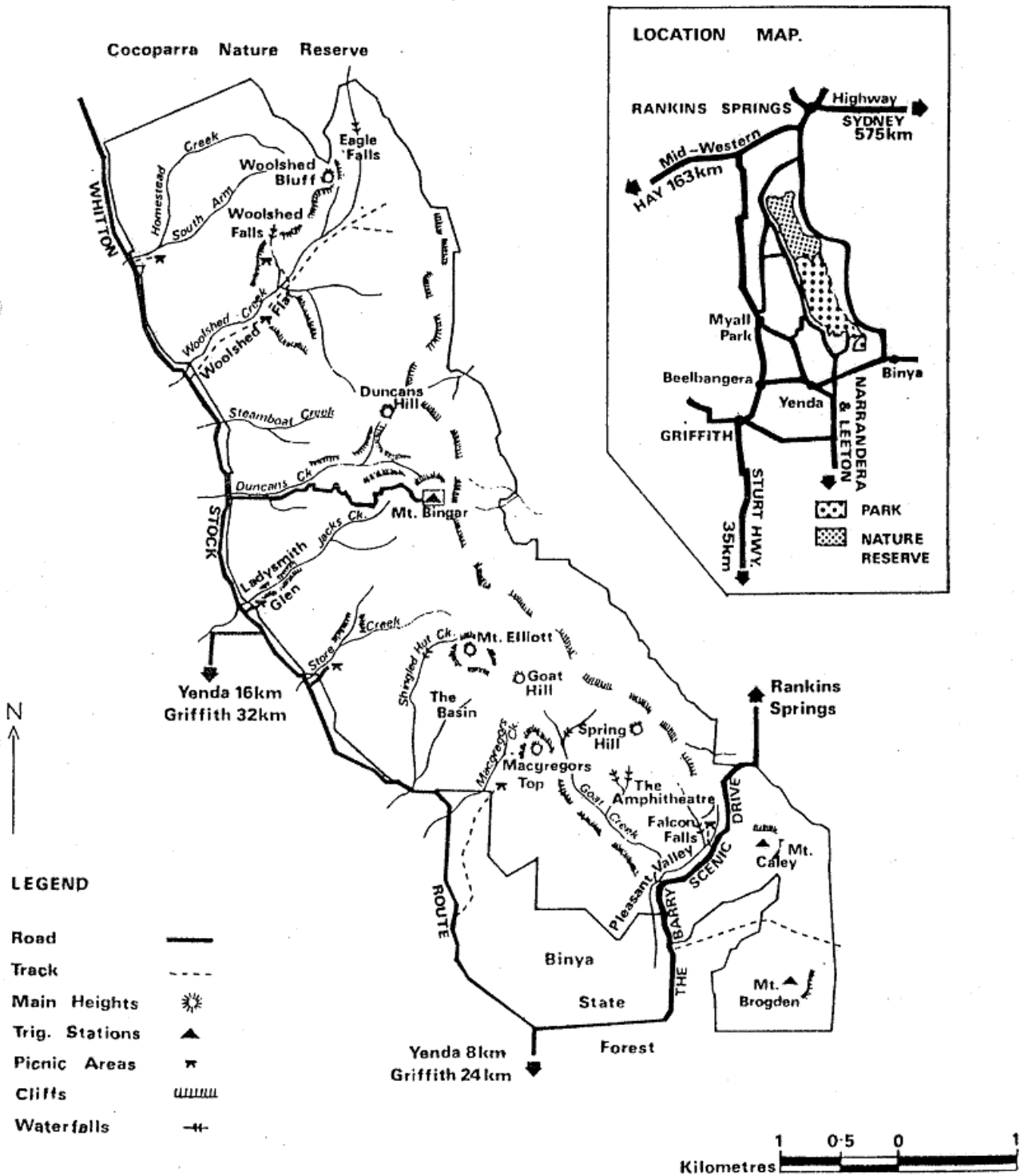
Sandy Phillips



COCOPARRA

NATIONAL

PARK



The Secretary,
N.O.S.S.A.,
P.O. Box 565,
Unley,
S.A. 5061.

Northern & Eastern Districts Orchid Society

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our Winter Show will be held on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd July in St. Philip's Parish Mall, Galway Avenue, Broadview.

We extend to your society an invitation to mount a display of Australian Native Terrestrial and Epiphytic Orchids. In the past your displays have always been of interest to our members and drawn many favourable comments from the visiting public.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Iris Freeman,
Hon. Secretary.

Orchids of Cocoparra National Park.

One of my favourite bushwalking areas is the Cocoparra Range, 20 km NE of Griffith in N.S.Wales' Riverina. This dry inland area is very much like a miniature version of our Flinders Ranges, with sandstone ridges, native pine covered slopes, narrow gorges and creeks and waterfalls which are usually dry.

The rock was laid down 400 million years ago, then folded by massive earth movements and finally eroded away to give the sharp backed sandstone ridges of today.

The wildlife is not particularly varied; goats have replaced the euros but the usual kangaroos, emus, possums and anteaters abound. Roads are good and one can drive to the top of the highest peak (Mt Bingar) for some very fine views. The fit will of course prefer the walking tracks.

When John Oxley, the first explorer to visit the area climbed Mt Caley at the southern end of the range he was moved to write of the area around " ---- should these desolate plains, ever be visited again by civilized man ---- I think there is little probability". The stock route which forms the western boundary of the park was once part of the Cobb & Co. route from Melbourne to Queensland. The best times to visit are mid-autumn and early spring but not in drought years!

In autumn the most common orchid is the giant greenhood *Pterostylis revoluta*. This forms huge colonies on practically every slope from early April to late May, and some are huge: flowers 5 cm high (see last journal for illustration of *P. revoluta*). There is a newer similar species with smaller more rounded flowers. We found this in deep gullies around Eagle Falls. This is apparently un-named. Near the top of most ridges grows a little greenhood related to *Pterostylis parviflora*. The only other common orchid in autumn is a midge orchid (*Genoplesium*) similar to *Prasophyllum rufum*. *Eriochilus* also grows here but is rare.

In spring there are more orchids, mostly rufa group *Pterostylis*. Besides *P. mutica* (dry sites), *P. cycnocephala* (rich moist soils) and 2 forms of *P. boormanii* (the red Sikhs whiskers) there are at least two un-named 'rufas'. There are two donkey orchids both from rocky sheltered sites *Diuris maculata* (or a close relative) and *D. platichila* and the purple *Diuris*, *D. cuneata* has been reported from the adjacent Binya State Forest. We found 3 spider orchids *Caladenia dilatata* (or a close relative of), *C. concinna*, and once a single plant of the deep red *C. concolor*. Other *Caladenia* present include *C. fuscata* (*C. carnea*) which occurs throughout and the blue *C. coerulea* from rich soil sites. There are only 2 sun orchids ie *Thelymitra pauciflora* with its dull flowers and *T. nuda* (megcalyptra) with big blue flowers. *Microtis* are abundant both *M. frutetorum* and *M. parviflora* occur and 2 leek orchids *Prasophyllum potens* and an un-named species. Both *Pterostylis clavigera* and *P. robusta* have been reported but so far they have eluded us.

The best orchid areas are in the north of the park around Woolshed Bluff, but other recommended areas include Ladysmith Glen which is the deepest gorge in the park and has almost permanent water and Falcon Falls just off the 'Barry Scenic Drive' in the south of the park. The best camping areas are in Woolshed flat. (See map) In winter it is too cold for orchids and in summer too hot and dry.

Altogether 30 different orchids have been reported for the park but we could not locate all of them.

M. Phillips.

ORCHID CAPERS IN THE CONONDALE RANGES.

On a day trip in September 1988 the Glasshouse Mountains were an impressive sight rising like an Ozzie Stonehenge from the plain just north of Brisbane. The Conondale Range lies north of there and is host to some beautiful native orchids with both terrestrials and epiphytes finding niches within the various strata of biomass coexisting so lavishly. The subtropical climate that enshrouds the higher slopes with cloud mists encourage the *Dendrobium*, *Bulbophyllum*, *Cymbidium* and smaller genera to flourish on the rocks and trees.

Nearby in the Kenilworth State Forest, areas of rainforest have been marked with walking trails to enable close encounters of the Botanic kind. Australia's largest terrestrial orchid, *Phaius tancarvilleae*, grows here in the leaf litter on the higher slopes. The plant stands about 1.2 m tall and has attractive green foliage. It was locally abundant in the area under the well shaded tree canopy.

Calanthe triplicata and *Geodorum neocaledonicum* also occur in this area on margins between the rainforest and wet sclerophyll.

These fringe areas are also favoured by the floriferous, grassy clumps of *Cymbidium suave* which likes Bloodwoods and Brushbox as hosts. While the strap like leaves of *Cym. madidum* prefer growing in forks of thick fibrous barked Eucalypts or Casuarinas in the bordering forest. Its lime green and yellow flowers are easily pollinated and many develop into fat seedpods. In the more open forest *Den. linguiforme* has transited from the rainforest and grows on black rocks and trees. On the upper drier reaches of the forested hills grow many terrestrials like the pink and white forms of *Caladenia carnea*. The sweet fragrance of the creamy coloured flowers of *Gastrodia sesamoides*, the Potato orchid reveals a colony of the dainty bells dangling from single stems in the grass.

On the rocks and cliffs of the escarpments *Den. speciosum* var *grandiflorum* syn. *D. rex*, *Den. kingianum* were growing in proximity to *Den. x delicatum*, its natural hybrid grew in bright lit, cool, humid conditions among the mossy leaf litter. In the lower reaches along palm edged streams on rocks were plants of *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* forming colonies in the shady, dense rainforest. While its lithophytic relative *Sarc. hartmannii* grew in more exposed locations like bases of fibrous trees and cycads.

Bulbophyllum globuliforme crept over the lichen encrusted top branches of hoop pine, *Araucaria cunninghamii*, which also hosts *Den. schneiderae* that grows in the bright light. *Bulb. minutissimum* also enjoys this habitat preferring *Ficus* spp. hosts. *Den. Schoeninum* was found in the rain forest margins in the stream-bank vegetation. The older plant clumps dangle untidily downwards. Smaller erect plants grew on cliff faces and boulders. Another similar species found here is *Den. teretifolium* which has strongly fragrant flowers in open bright positions along creek edges hanging high overhead from mossy branches. *Den. pugioniforme* similarly forms tangled masses forming roots where the dagger leaved stems touch moist hosts.

In the moist rainforest gullies *Oberonia titania*'s iris like pinkish leaves were distinguished while *Ob. muelleriana* preferred more open areas in the forest both colonising trunks and branches. Other delights like *Liparis coelgynoides* growing in compact clumps were also encountered on rocks and trees. The Malaney magic unfolded many orchid treasures in its crown that day and the lights of Brisbane twinkled through the Glasshouse Mountains as we wound our way back down to Caloundra from whence we'd started that morning.

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