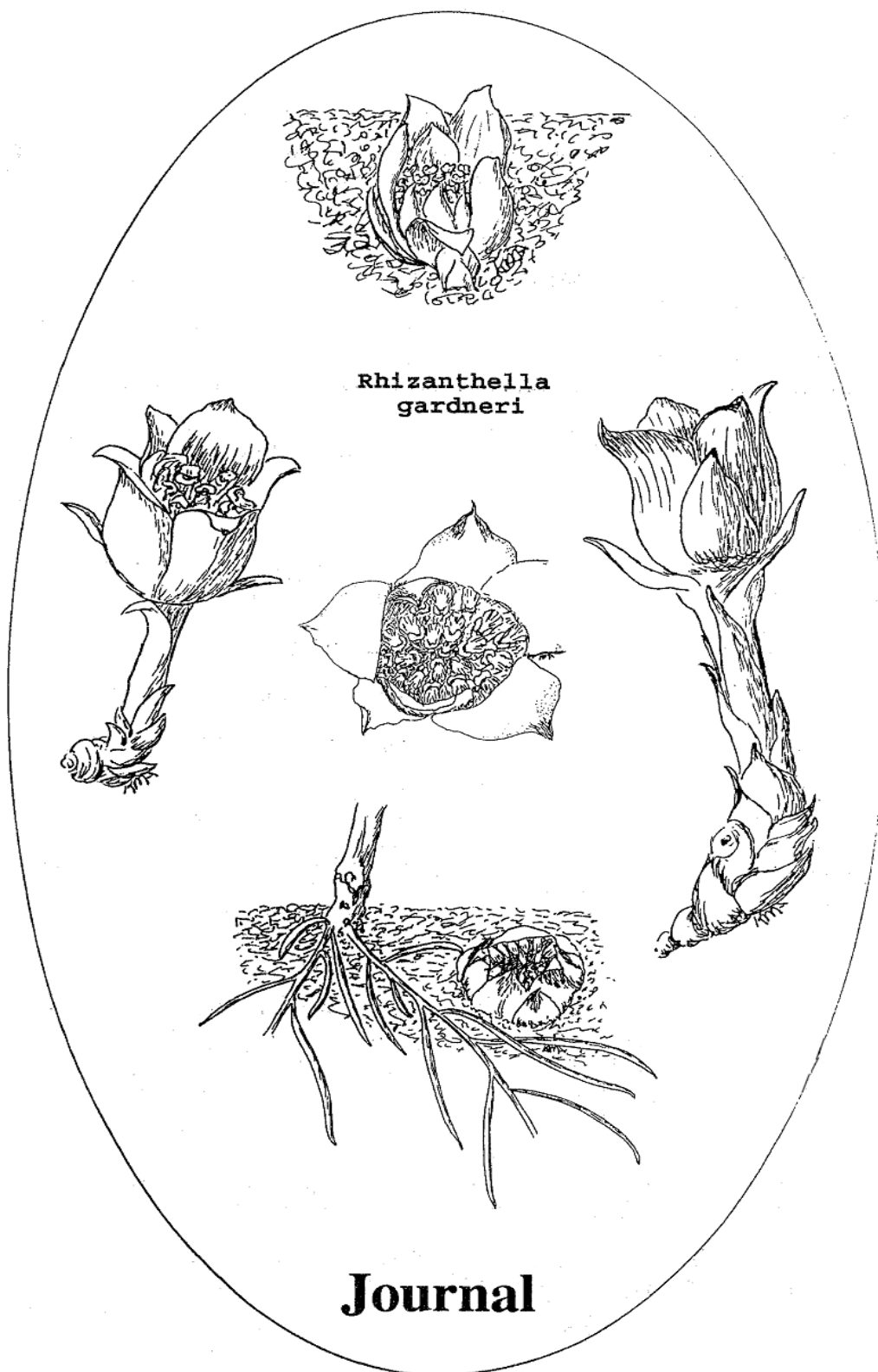


Native Orchid Society of South Australia Inc.



NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

P.O Box 565,
UNLEY S.A 5061

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 the 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.

All native orchids are protected plants in the wild. Their collection without written Government permit is illegal.

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NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC
DECEMBER 1994 VOL. 18. NO. 11 JOURNAL

*A VERY HAPPY & PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS
 TO ALL MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES
 AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!*

Best wishes from the President and Management Committee of NOSSA

FEBRUARY MEETING

Tuesday, 28th February 8.00 pm: at St Matthews Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington. Doors to the hall will be open at 7.15 pm for those wishing to borrow books from the library or take in items for the trading table.

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DIARY DATES

Jan 14 Dipodium Special Field Trip.
 Feb 12 Spiranthes Swamp Special.
 Feb 28 First meeting 1995.
 Mar 28 1995 AGM. All positions will be declared open.
 May Annual Dinner at the Walkers Arms Hotel.

COMMITTEE MEETING

To be held at 7.30 pm Friday January 27th at the home of Gerry Carne.

NEXT FIELD TRIP

Coming Field Trips:

Dipodium roseum Special: Saturday 14th January at 9 am.
 Meet at old Bridgewater Railway station Morning walk only.

Spiranthes Special:

Sunday February 12th at 10 am. Meet at Ashbourne Hall.

We should see both the pink insect pollinated species and the white self pollinated one.

We will visit Amaroo Water Gardens on the return to Adelaide. (They sell swamp and bog plants both Australian and exotic)

ON THE BENCH

Terrestrials: *Calanthe triplicata* (1.5m high, 6 spikes); *Diuris brevifolia*; *Diuris brevifolia* X *sulphurea*; *Diuris drummondii* X *punctata*; *Diuris punctata*; *Disa* species.; *Orthoceras strictum* green; *Orthoceras strictum* red; *Thelymitra pulchella* X *longifolia* (Grown by Les Nesbitt. The cross made and flaked in New Zealand by Doug McCrae)

Epiphytes: *Dendrobium helix* (PNG); *Dendrobium johannis gigantea* X *agrostophyllum*; *Dendrobium monophyllum* (plant once owned by Les Nesbitt's mum, now many years old and very large); *Sarcochilus* Empress; *Sarcochilus* Fitzhart.

POPULAR VOTE: NONE

NOVEMBER MEETING - AUCTION

Auctioneer: Les Nesbitt;

Assistants: Reg Shooter, Gerry Carne, Karen Possingham, Bill Dear and Jeff Edwards.

Over \$400 was raised. Many thanks to all members who donated or bought plants.

New Trading Table Convenor needed for 1995

John and Joan Peace are retiring after 5 years. The society is very grateful for their contribution during this time.

POPULAR VOTE CERTIFICATES

Next year certificates will be presented to the owners of Popular Vote winners. All 1994 winners were presented with certificates at the December meeting.

NOSSA FIELD TRIP TO THE SOUTH EAST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA. OCTOBER 1st to 3rd 1994
by Bill Dear

On a warm Saturday morning about twenty NOSSA members (including Victorians the Fosters from Geelong) met at Mt Monster Conservation Park just South of Keith. Considering the dryness of the year there were quite a number of orchids flowering, including *Caladenia cardiochila* and *C. colorata* plus many different coloured hybrids of the two. Although there had been no fires through the area there were plenty of flowering *Burnettia nigricans*. A new one for some of us was a single flower of the endangered species *Caladenia conferta* amongst the rocks.

After lunch we journeyed to Aberdour Conservation Park where we fought our way through dense bush to see good flowering specimens of *Pterostylis plumosa* and *Pterostylis sanguinea* and a dozen other species.

Our next stop was Kyby, to be greeted by rain and large numbers of *Caladenia fuscata* and good specimens of hybrid Caladenias. The day was topped off by plants of the very rare *Dipodium campanulatum* which should be a picture when they flower.



Jareds scrub was our first port of call on a sunny Sunday morning where we were met by *Glossodia major* and brilliant pink *Caladenia fuscata* (these two must be drought proof). There were more hybrid *Caladenias* and some red *Caladenia colorata*. Loechels Scrub was disappointing with orchid numbers reflecting the season, so as it was raining we called it a day.

Monday saw us at Bangham Conservation Park where there were the usual *Glossodia* and *Caladenia fuscata*. Thelymitra buds were plentiful (where is the sun when you want it?), our first *Caladenia necrophylla* buds and some more *Burnettia nigricans* flowers. Just up the road at Pize Hill Soak we saw more of the above and finished a good weekend with the nearly open buds of a *Pterostylis* aff. *rufa* growing under native pines.

A special thanks to Winsome and Les, Kath and Kevin and Kelvin for organising a great weekend where we saw 44 different orchids and made many new friends.

[illegible]

PLANT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Diuris corymbosa</i>	F						
<i>Diuris pardina</i>	F	F				F	F
<i>Diuris</i> sp.		F	buds				
<i>Glossodia major</i>			F	F	F	F	F
<i>Leporella fimbriata</i>			L		L	L	
<i>Leptoceras menziesii</i>	F						
<i>Microtis</i> sp.	L	L		L			
<i>Microtis unifolia</i>			F				
<i>Prasophyllum elatum</i>					L		
<i>Pterostylis</i> aff. <i>rufa</i> group							buds
<i>Pterostylis biseta</i>	buds						
<i>Pterostylis longifolia</i>		F		F			
<i>Pterostylis pedunculata</i>				F		F	
<i>Pterostylis plumosa</i>		F					F
<i>Pterostylis. nana</i>		F			F	F	
<i>Pterostylis sanguinea</i>		F			L		
<i>Thelymitra antennifera</i>	F	F	F		F	F	F
<i>Thelymitra benthamiana</i>					L		
<i>Thelymitra ixioides</i>					buds	buds	buds
<i>Thelymitra nuda</i>		F		buds	buds		
<i>Thelymitra pauciflora</i>				buds			buds
<i>Thelymitra rubra</i>	F				buds	buds	buds
<i>Thelymitra</i> sp.			buds			buds	
<i>Thelymitra</i> sp. (blue)	buds					buds	

1. Mt Monster
2. Aberdour Conservation park
3. Kyby
4. Jareds Scrub

5. Loechels Scrub
6. Bangham Scrub
7. Pine Hill Soak

FIELD TRIP REPORT: POTATO ORCHID SPECIAL

by Gary Guide

Fifteen people including some from as far away as Balaclava attended this excursion especially designed to allow photographers to capture the rare *Gastrodia sesamoides* (Potato orchid or Cinnamon Bells) on film. Few Adelaidians have ever seen *Gastrodia*, yet our first stop at the Kenneth Stirling Conservation Park was only 20 minutes from Adelaide. Here in *Eucalyptus rubida* woodland we found several good examples of the pale shiny-stemmed form of *Gastrodia sesamoides*.

After photographing these fragrant, leafless, achlorophyllous saprophytes we took a short walk through the NE corner of the park admiring the wildflowers and the usual spider orchids. The asparagus-like spikes of another saprophytic orchid, *Dipodium roseum* at one point were pushing up through the hard baked earth in the middle of the track.

From the Kenneth Stirling Conservation Park we travelled in convoy to Scott Creek oval where the larger dark-stemmed form of *Gastrodia sesamoides* formed very attractive groups in Manna gum woodland being over run by blackberries. Some members promised to return in February to spray the blackberries to give the orchids a chance as these are the only *Gastrodia* colonies occurring near Adelaide.

From Scott Creek your guide moved onto Kuitpo to look at *Pinus pinaster* plantations soon to be clear-felled. Several NOSSA members set out to determine the feasibility of an orchid rescue operation. On the way we admired some most attractive *Diuris brevifolia* (late donkey orchid) and *Caleana major* (duck orchids). The first area to be cleared had a very attractive native herb and shrub understorey so instead of marking areas for tuber removal we decided to (with the help of the NOSSA Conservation group) lobby for the area to be reserved after clear-fell and not replanted. There were large areas of *Chorizandra enodis* sedgeland and as this is an endangered plant habitat in the Southern Lofty region it should not be destroyed.

The second area visited was devoid of native plants other than millions of *Corybas*, *Acianthus caudatus* etc. so we marked areas for tuber removal.

Upon return to the cars (and after removing several *Monadenia* plants) we met more NOSSA members looking for orchids to photograph, so we headed off to a location containing various *Microtis* including *M. orbicularis* one of the most endangered of the Adelaide Hills orchids.

What had been planned by your guide as a short morning walk had become an all day affair. With a total of 20 orchids seen it had been quite an exciting day.

FIELD TRIP REPORT: DUCK ORCHID SPECIAL

by Gary Guide

There were two groups of NOSSA members who met at Kuitpo on the afternoon of December 4th 1994. With the temperature at 37°C and the brilliant sun reflecting mercilessly off the white sand it seemed we were either mad dogs or Englishmen especially considering that the area had had its driest 12 months on record and we were actually looking for delicate little orchids!

Well the orchids were there - a sorry sight to behold perhaps but there were a few survivors. Within a few metres of the cars *Microtis pauciflora* was in flower, not a fresh looking green but green and brown. Twenty metres further on was a lone *Diuris brevifolia* with a single insect chewed bloom on top.

Once into the white sand we looked for the duck orchids *Caleana major* and *Paracaleana minor*. We found both, the larger duck orchids were no longer shining but had a burnt matt-black look about them. They were black ducks all right. The *Paracaleana* were worse, most had shrivelled up, just one was in condition good enough to please the photographers.

We walked through an area where we had found *Orthoceras* last December but there were none this year. The little duck orchid patch on the lower track had fared worst of all, not only was there a deep-trodden horse track through the middle of it and evidence of vehicles bogging in the dry sand adjacent to it but every single plant had been pulped by a mower cutting to within 5cm of the sand. It was sad to see how we treat our endangered species in South Australia. The only joy on the way back was in finding a *Calochilus* or bearded orchid in full bloom. There has been some consideration that these summer blooming plants are actually *Calochilus gracillimus*, certainly the flowers looked like the *C. gracillirnus* in Nicholls' "Orchids of Australia".

After this walk we drove down to where several members were rescuing orchid tubers from a *Pinus pinaster* plantation soon to be harvested and replanted.

The result of all this is that your NOSSA Conservation Committee will approach Primary Industries (Woods & Forest) about management of all the endangered flora in the Knott Hill Area.

SOME THOUGHTS ON SPIDER ORCHIDS

by Winsome & Les McHugh

Whilst being relatively new to growing Terrestrials I have found them rewarding if grown well. I believe they require attention to detail and dedication to get the best results.

Growing conditions are important; while Naracoorte has only a 600 mm rainfall our winters are long and cold. Our home is very exposed to wind from any direction and these two factors have led us to use white fibreglass on the roof and three sides of our terrestrial house. The eastern side being shade cloth allows good ventilation. We have unrestricted sunlight from dawn to late afternoon, promoting strong, straight flower stems. As with most new growers our potting mixture is always changing, add a bit of this or that seems to be the most common approach. With all the different combinations

one constant seems to work for. us. That is using the grey coastal sands from the old foreshore sandhills. These can at times be hard to keep wet. I find adding a percentage of terra rosa soil to the non-wetting grey sand cures it of this habit and also makes it more likeable to most orchid genera especially *Caladenia*. For *Caladenia* I use a mixture of two parts grey sand and one part terra rosa always growing them in a small terracotta pot (5" standard maximum). Terracotta pots tend to breathe and dry out quicker and I believe they suit *Caladenia* as they are always cool to the touch. *Caladenia* tend to have their tubers deep in the soil in nature where it is a cool and constant temperature. They, like all terrestrials, require consistency in watering, keeping them damp in their growing season not drowned. I have tried using Canunda shell and have not had good results as the shell tends to hold too much moisture. Furthermore newly emerging shoots have become trapped in the shell making the shoot struggle to push up through the mixture.

During their dormant season I store the pots in styrofoam boxes with slots for ventilation and drainage. A layer of styrofoam over the top of the pots helps keep them cool.

I have found leaf litter from under *Astroloma* bushes to be good topping as it gives good seed germination indicating mycorrhizal activity.

Some Tips for Good Growing:

- Good air movement essential
- Morning to midday sun shaded to suit genus
- Sandy potting mixtures
- Small terracotta pots
- Water sparingly during the dormant season and keep damp in the growing season.

BOOK REVIEW - THE GRAMPIANS IN FLOWER (I.R. MCCANN, 1994) by R Bates

This colourful 20 cm X 10 cm glossy publication has some 400 colour photos of the more interesting Grampians wildflowers including almost 100 orchids ie one quarter of the plants illustrated are orchids!

Some species never previously having their photo published include: *Caladenia audasii*, *Caladenia fulva*, *Caladenia fuscata*, *Caladenia versicolor*, *Gastodia procera*, *Genoplesium ciliatum*, *Prasophyllum subbisectum*, *Pterostylis planulata*, *Thelymitra X mackibbinii*. The book is worth having just to see these species. The photography is excellent, especially of the non-orchid plants, but it is disappointing that there is no text to accompany the pictures (other than a brief caption).

Ian McCann is a local it seems and a number of species illustrated were first found in the Grampians by him which is commendable in itself.

The Grampians is a wonderful area botanically with over 100 endemic species. I would like to see a more comprehensive book showing all one hundred with a detailed text. Nevertheless "The Grampians In Flower" is a must for anyone interested in the plants of the Grampians. It is available for about \$18 either from the Victorian National Parks Association, 10 Parliament Place, East Melbourne 3002, or from NP&W Service, Halls Gap.

Other books in this series include: The Alps in Flower; The Mallee in Flower and the Coast and Hinterland in Flower. It would be nice to see a similar series on South Australian wild flowers.

AUSTRALIAN DENDROBIUMS NO. 7

by Sandy Philips

Dendrobium calamiforme Ladd.

The name *calamiforme* means reed-like - a reference to the narrow rigid leaves.

In its natural habitat on rainforest trees this species can form huge tangled pendulous masses to 2 metres across, looking much like chandeliers. The fragrant flowers of white, yellow and lilac are only 1 cm across but occur in dense clusters of 8 to 14. The whole plant is similar to *D. teretifolium* but larger with less widely opened flowers which are of a deeper colour.

D. calamiforme is a cool growing species from high mountains in NE Queensland. It has actually been known to invade fruit trees in gardens in Queensland and it is likely it would establish on fruit trees in Adelaide and frost-free parts of the Adelaide Hills but I have not seen it in Adelaide yet. On a recent trip to Queensland we saw superb examples on the upper slopes of Mt Spec on branches overhanging the Mt Spec Creek.

1994/1995 TUBER BANK ORDER FORM

EASY SPECIES:

1. *Cyrtostylis reniformis*
2. *Chiloglottis X pescottiana*
3. *Chiloglottis trapeziformis*
4. *Corybas dilatatus* (Kuitpo)
5. *Diuris amplissima*
6. *Diuris corymbosa*
7. *Lyperanthus suaveolens*
8. *Pterostylis angusta* (WA)
9. *Pterostylis curta* (Belair)
10. *Pterostylis curta* (Bendemeer)
11. *Pterostylis curta* (Mt Lofty)
12. *Pterostylis curta* variegated
13. *Pterostylis curta X pedunculata* (Belair)
14. *Pterostylis pedunculata*
15. *Pterostylis procera* (QLD)

16. *Pterostylis robusta* (Coromandel Valley)
17. *Pterostylis truncata*
18. *Thelymitra pauciflora*
19. *Thelymitra nuda*
20. *Leptoceras menziesii*
21. *Pterostylis Bantam*

DIFFICULT SPECIES

22. *Acianthus apprimus*
23. *Corybas fimbriatus*
24. *Cyrtostylis rotundifolius* (NZ)
25. *Pterostylis furcata*
26. *Pterostylis biseta*
27. *Pterostylis maxima*
28. *Diuris pardina*

Circle those lot numbers that you wish to order. Mark [subst.] against those lots you would like if your first choice is not available. Lots will have from 1 to 10 tubers, depending on supply and demand. Tubers that are in short demand will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Closing date for orders is the last mail 20th January. Tubers will be posted 23rd January 1995. Post to: Mr Philip Matthews, 1 Jet Road Highbury SA 5089

Price: \$1.00 per lot. Cheque / Money Order (made payable to N.O.S.S.A.) is enclosed:

\$----- for----- lots.

[] I will be on holidays and wish posting to be delayed.

Please post after: -----(date)

NAME -----

ADDRESS-----

-----P/C-----

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