



Journal
of the
Native Orchid Society
of
South Australia Inc



Caladenia latifolia

NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

POST OFFICE BOX 565 UNLEY SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5061

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia promotes the conservation of orchids through the preservation of natural habitat and through cultivation. Except with the documented official representation from the Management Committee 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.

PRESIDENT:

Bill Dear
Telephone: 82962111

SECRETARY:

Cathy Houston
Telephone: 8356 7356

VICE-PRESIDENT

Bodo Jensen

COMMITTEE

Peter McCauley
David Pettifor

Thelma Bridle
Malcolm Guy

EDITOR:

David Hirst
14 Beaverdale Avenue
Windsor Gardens SA 5087
Telephone 8261 7998
E-mail hirst.david@saugov.sa.gov.au

TREASURER

Iris Freeman

LIFE MEMBERS

Mr R. Hargreaves
Mr L. Nesbitt
Mr R. Robjohns
Mr D. Wells

Mr G. Carne
Mr R. Bates
Mr R Shooter

Registrar of Judges:

Reg Shooter

Trading Table:

Judy Penney

Field Trips & Conservation:

Thelma Bridle Tel. 83844174

Tuber Bank Coordinator:

Malcolm Guy Tel. 82767350

New Members Coordinator

David Pettifor Tel. 0416 095 095

PATRON: Mr T.R.N. Lothian

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia Inc. while taking all due care, take no responsibility for the loss, destruction 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. We condones the reprint of any articles if acknowledgement is given.

Journal cost \$2 per issue. Family or Single Membership with subscription \$15.



**JOURNAL OF THE
NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY
OF
SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
SEPTEMBER 2002 Vol. 26 No. 8**

2002 - NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA - 25 YEARS

CONTENTS THIS JOURNAL

Title	Author	Page
Diary Dates		77
August Meeting		78
For Your Information - NOSSA News		79
Annual Spring Show		80
How its done	Reg Shooter	81
Yorke Peninsula conservation weekend	Thelma Bridle	82
Southern Flinders Ranges weekend - 30/8-1/9/02	Thelma Bridle	84
Orchids in Italy		86

NEXT MEETING 24 SEPTEMBER 2002

Tuesday, 24 September, St Matthew's Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington. Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. Doors to the hall will be open from 7:15 p.m. to allow Members access to the Library and Trading Table. There should be lots of orchids flowering so bring these in to fill the display table.

Our speaker for September is Kevin Western who will teach us all there is to know about Lab Culture and more.

DIARY DATES

21-22 September N.O.S.S.A. Spring Show
 23-28 September Kangaroo Island Field Trip.
 5 October Meadows & Mt Billy CP-
 6 October Battunga Golf Course & Kuitpo Forest
 7 October Hardys Scrub & Manning Scrub
 24 November George Abell: Sarcochilus special
 1 December Annual BBQ
 18-21 Sept. 2003 16TH Australian Orchid Council Conference Adelaide hosted by O.C.S.A.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 2nd Oct. at the home of David & Rosemary Hirst. Meeting commences at 7:30 p.m.

AUGUST MEETING - Plants Benched

Terrestrial Species:; *Corybas diemenicus* (2 plants); *Corybas dilatatus*; *Corybas ?incurvus*; *Cyrtostylis reniformis* (2 plants); *Cyrtostylis reniformis* (Guntawang NSW); *Cyrtostylis robusta* (2 plants); *Diuris conspicillata* (2 plants); *Diuris* sp; *Lyperanthus suaveolens*; *Pterostylis concinna* (yellow); *Ptst. curta* (5 plants); *Ptst. curta* (variegated, Hastings Vic.); *Ptst. curta* (Mt Gambier); *Ptst. cynocephala*; *Ptst. longicurva*; *Ptst. nana* (2 plants); *Ptst. procera*; *Ptst. plumosa*; *Ptst.* sp.

Terrestrial Hybrids: *Pterostylis* Dunkle; *Ptst.* Goblin; *Ptst. furcata* x *ingens*; *Ptst.* Joseph Arthur; *Diuris* Spring Delight.

Epiphyte Species: *Dockrillia teretifolia* (2 plants)

Epiphyte Hybrids: *Dendrobium* Bicentennial Rose x Ku-Ring-Gai; *Den.* Brinawa Charm x Aussie Victory; *Den.* Brinawa Sunset; *Den.* (Gillian Leany x Zip) x Candice (now registered as *Den.* Cheeky); *Den.* Golden Glory x *falcorostrum*; *Den.* Hilda Poxon x Ellen (now registered as *Den.* Jannine Banks); *Dendrobium* Northmead (2 plants); *Den.* Zip x *gracillimum*; *Sarcochilus* Melba.

Judging results

Terrestrial Species

- 1st *Corybas diemenicus* grown by Les Nesbitt
- 2nd *Pterostylis curta* grown by Peter McCauley
- 3rd *Diuris conspicillata* grown by Peter McCauley

Terrestrial Hybrids

- 1st *Pterostylis* Joseph Arthur grown by Les Nesbitt
- 2nd *Pterostylis* Goblin grown by Malcolm Guy
- 3rd *Pterostylis* Dunkle grown by Malcolm Guy

Epiphyte Species

- 1st *Dockrillia teretifolia* grown by Graham & Jan Burford
- 2nd *Dockrillia teretifolia* grown by Bill Dear
- No 3rd

Epiphyte Hybrids

- 1st *Dendrobium* Northmead grown by Bill Dear
- 2nd *Dendrobium* Brinawa Sunset grown by Russell Job & Edda Viskic
- 3rd *Dendrobium* Bicentennial Rose x Ku-Ring-Gai grown by Bodo Jensen

Plant of the Night

Corybas diemenicus grown by Les Nesbitt

Popular Vote Results

Epiphyte Species: *Dockrillia teretifolia* grown by Graham & Jan Burford

Epiphyte Hybrid: *Dendrobium* Brinawa Sunset grown by Russell Job & Edda Viskic

Terrestrial Species: *Corybas diemenicus* grown by Les Nesbitt

Terrestrial Hybrid: *Pterostylis* Joseph Arthur grown by Les Nesbitt

Commentary on Epiphytes by Noel Oliver

Commentary on Terrestrials by Les Nesbitt

Judging Classes: Next Judges meeting: Saturday 5th October.

AUGUST SPEAKER

Dean Nicolle gave a very informative talk at the August meeting on Australian Eucalypts noting first that they were not restricted to Australia but that some species extended into New Guinea and as far as the Philippines and also that more Eucalypts were being planted overseas than here in Australia. Some Eucalypts had been transferred to other genera, *Corymbia* and *Angophora*. A few species had a very restricted distribution and were known to occur only at a single locality. Dean considered willy-willies travelling over burnt areas had the potential to distribute seed [possibly the same phenomenon could spread orchid seed-Ed.]. Dean's interests extended beyond Eucalypts and the slide show included a few orchids. It was a very entertaining evening.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION - NOSSA NEWS

FIELD TRIPS FOR OCTOBER

October Long Weekend on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

Sat 5/10 and Sun 6/10

Meet: Kuitpo Headquarters, Willunga-Meadows Road at 10am

Mon 7/10 - Hardys Scrub & Manning Scrub

Meet: Chapel Hill Winery, Chapel Hill Road at 10am.

Sun 13/10 - Scott Creek Thelymitras.

Meet: corner of Dorset Vale Road from Cherry Gardens at 10am.

Sat 19/10 - Clare area Thelymitras.

Meet: Sevenhill crossroads, turn left off Main Road at 10am.

Sat 19/10 - Friends of Halbury are holding an information day at Halbury Hall.

This will highlight some of the recent conservation achievements in the area as well as illustrating orchid species of the Reserve. All welcome.

12 noon - 3pm.

Sun 20/10 - Grange Golf Course *Pterostylis arenicola* weeding.

Meet: Golf course car park at 10am.

Please note: Melrose weekend 16-17/11/02 will be postponed due to the dryness of the area and the consequent unlikelihood of finding orchids in flower at this time.

ANGOVE CONSERVATION PARK

Friends of Angove Conservation Park are celebrating 10yrs of the group on 29th September with guided walks from 11-12am followed by show & tell sessions. The orchids should be out. The park is located on Bowen Rd off Hancock Rd.

TREASURER. We are still in need of a Treasurer.

NEW MEMBERS

The committee and members warmly welcome Robert Coveny (National herbarium, Sydney), Sofia Hadiak, and Andrew & Melinda Moriarty as new members

"Intrigue in an endangered sexually deceptive orchid" is the title of a talk Dr. S. TOPA PETIT is giving at Mawson Lakes campus of the University of South Australia on November 21st at 6:30pm. All welcome. (There will be a poster in the October Journal)

Xmas Raffle

Members can bring their donations to the September & October meetings: The raffle will be drawn at the November meeting. Tickets will be one dollar each.

ANNUAL SPRING SHOW 2002, 21-22 SEPTEMBER

The NOSSA Annual Spring Show 21st -22nd September at Centennial Hall, Wayville Showgrounds in association with APS Spring Flower Show and Plant Sale.

Reminders

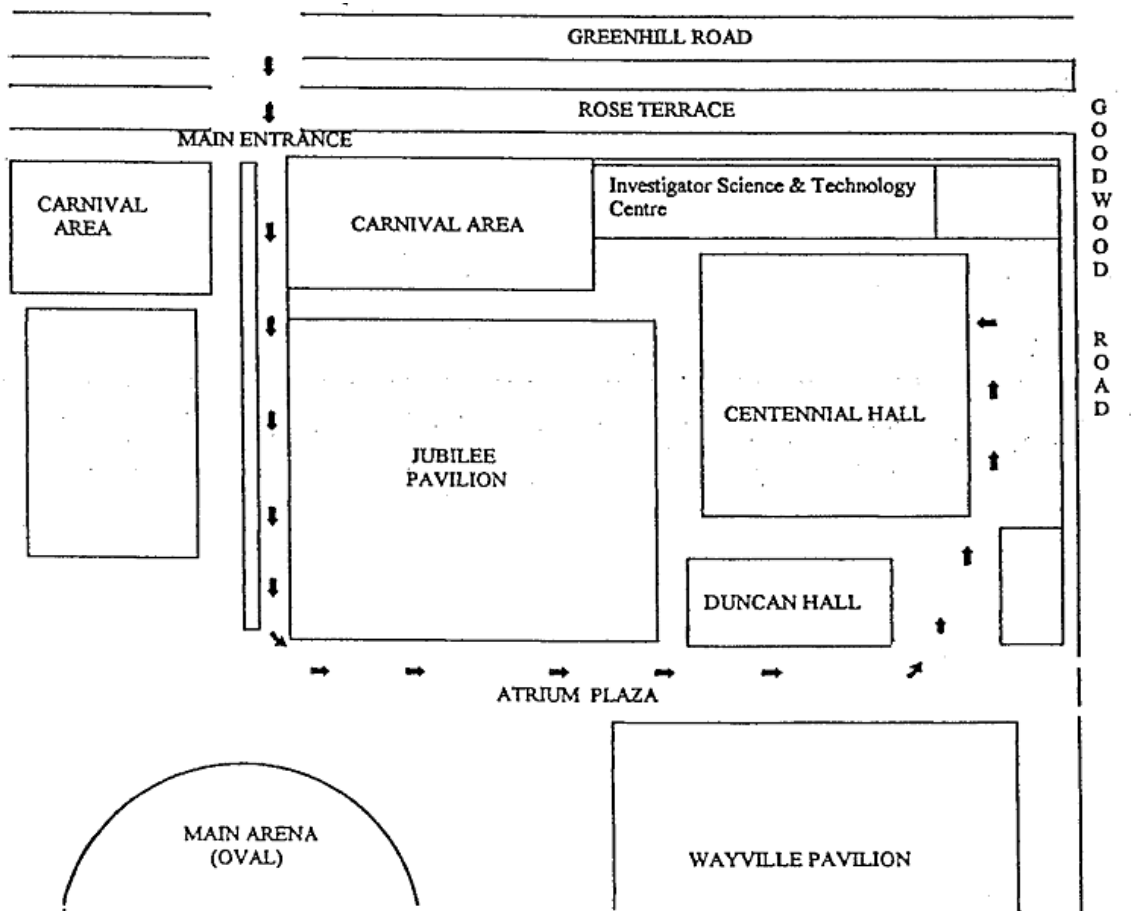
Exhibitors and volunteers on the Trading Table will need to bring their own favourite folding chair.

Plastic shopping bags are required for the Trading Table

If you have not yet volunteered to help on the trading table or selling raffle tickets don't worry- you can offer to give those who have volunteered a break even if it is short. It will be appreciated.

Set-up for the show and judging details were in the August journal.

Exhibitors unloading or loading is on Goodwood Rd side of Centennial Hall (see map)



HOW ITS DONE Reg Shooter

There was a good benching of orchids at the August meeting when one considers the number of orchid shows currently running.

In the epiphyte section we are starting to see some of the spring flowering types.

One that took the Judges eye was *Dendrobium* Northmead grown by Bill Dear. This hybrid is the result of crossing *D. speciosum* with *D. Ku-Ring-Gai* which means it has two infusions of *D. speciosum* in its makeup: This is quite evident in the hybrid which is a very vigorous grower but, like *speciosum*, you might have to wait a number of years before it reaches flowering size. However the wait is well worthwhile as it is very floriferous, carrying long racemes of greenish, white flowers each about 40mm long spaced nicely on the raceme. This particular clone was originally grown by Ted Chance.

Last October the club had a potting night and I was "volunteered" to repot a plant. Ted said "I have one that needs doing I will bring it to the meeting". Ted did not tell me he had had it for 5 or 6 years in the same 30cm pot. He did say it wasn't flowering too well (I wonder why?). Anyway after a lot of sweat & swearing & with help from some of the members (who spent most of the time killing the ants which had been in residence in the pot for a couple of years) we managed to break it up into several nice size pieces which Ted kindly donated to the club for sale. I think every member who purchased a piece has flowered it this year.

The terrestrial section was also well patronised this month with a large variety of species and hybrids. It seems to me that this year the *Corybas* have been particularly good with some extra special pots being benched. Last month the judges gave an award of culture to a pot of *Corybas diemenicus* grown by Bill Dear and at this months meeting there were a number of pots of the genus. The most outstanding was one exhibited by Les Nesbitt. Like most of the pots benched containing this genus it was a 180mm squat pot which seems to suit these plants. Les informs me that all the species in this genus are intolerant of dry conditions and quickly succumb if allowed even a brief drying out.

In their natural habitat they are to be found in cool moist areas often under foliage covering of shrubs. A favourite place is in close proximity to *Xanthorrhoea* species. It is a wide spread species being found in all States of Australia, China, India, New Guinea, New Zealand and many Islands in between. It is recognised as the most southerly growing orchid with one species *C. macranthus* being found in Macquarie Island just outside the Arctic Circle and some 1770 kms south of Australia.

Les exhibited a pot of *Corybas diemenicus* at the Orchid Club of SA spring show at the Royal Showgrounds for show week and although it was competing with all the exotic orchids, hundreds of Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Paphiopedilums, Australian Natives etc the judges saw fit to award it, and Les, the Grand Champion of the show. Congratulations Les.

I often hear comments at the show bench from members at monthly meetings along the lines of "I wonder how that is grown" or "What kind of fertiliser is used".

Geoff Edwards recently made a suggestion to me that it would be a good idea if members who bench plants could place a small note alongside their plant(s) giving a few details telling how they do it. The comments need not be long, just a few words would suffice. In addition to the comments I mentioned above perhaps there may be some interesting statement you wish to relate such as where the plant was obtained from, it's flowering habit or some peculiarity of growth, anything that may be of interest to the viewer. Please give this idea some consideration as I am sure it will add interest to the meeting. Reg Shooter

Seven NOSSA members accompanied Doug Bickerton on a Threatened Plants conservation exercise of marking and caging *Caladenia macroclavia* plants on Yorke Peninsula over the weekend 16-18 August, 2002.

As the weekend coincided with the Kadina Show, it was an ideal opportunity to display NOSSA poster boards, highlighting native orchids on Yorke Peninsula and advertise NOSSA.

The first site for work was at Bute, where *C. macroclavia* plants had been fenced a number of years ago. Some hand-weeding in the moist soil revealed a total of 24 leaves, six with flower buds and a number now growing outside the old cages. Whilst not all the identified orchids will be *C. macroclavia*, new cages were erected to protect all the plants and a local orchid enthusiast will continue to monitor all the individually numbered plants throughout the season. Leaves and young buds of several green comb spider orchids appear very similar, making differentiation between *C. macroclavia*, *C. tensa* and *C. stricta* almost impossible, although *C. stricta* does have a broader leaf. Larger buds show osmophore colours making identification easier.

Curramulka roadside was a little disappointing, having far fewer orchid numbers this year, and some expected species were not found. Only one possible leaf of *C. macroclavia* was marked.

A small pod of dolphins greeted our arrival at Black Point, where we stayed in a comfortable beachside shack for the weekend. Here we reverted to seabird observations as the sun sunk to the horizon.

At Agery Scrub on Saturday morning we found the local conservation group had cleared a great deal of the heavy infestation of bridal creeper a great effort and a marked improvement. Two members came out to assist with marking a total of 71 orchids, about 50% of which had buds. We tried to avoid marking *C. stricta*, growing in the sandier soil of the block, so there could be quite a large population of *C. macroclavia* here. Again orchids were numbered and cages made. We also managed some hand-weeding in areas where *Caladenia* sp. were grouped. The soil here was a little drier than at Bute, although still reasonably damp. Other orchid species found at all sites are listed at the end of this article, but of note were the two different types of *Eriochilus cucullatus* leaves found both at Curramulka and Agery. The common variety found throughout SA, has small, very dark green leaves, with a rough-textured surface and heavy veining. A second type of leaf was as large as a *Cyrtostylis robusta* leaf, of similar shape but ending in a pointed tip. The colour was a lighter green and the smooth surface had lighter veining. Both leaves were fleshy, pinky and smooth underneath. A butcherbird observed us during a quick lunch break, but decided an insect was more tasty than a sandwich. It flew off as we packed up to head to Muloowurtie.

A local joined us at this dry spot, where rainfall has only been half the expected. Orchid numbers reflected the dry season, but thorough searching eventually revealed 31 *C. macroclavia* possibles, 13 plants with buds and another four with buds chewed off. The plants with buds were numbered and caged. Not expecting to find many *C. macroclavia* here, the wire netting had been left with the vehicles. Ken, and eventually others, had to make several journeys to construct extra cages, as another orchid was inevitably found by the time the cage was delivered. This eventuated in some, people being asked to look up instead of down and count epiphytic orchids instead!!!

A short stop at Port Julia commenced our final day. Ten plants were caged here, only one a definite, known *C. macroclavia*. Buds were small and the tri-labellumed

freak found last year could not be located. Other orchid species were flowering (see list) and a patch of about eight *C. brumalis* x *C. conferta* hybrids made a pretty sight. A private property at Port Vincent has owners with a keen interest in orchid conservation. This limestone area, with red sandy soil supported tall broombush and some mallee eucalypts. Six *C. macroclavia* were flowering, together with 35 in bud and all these orchids were numbered and caged for monitoring through the season. Albino flowers of both *C. deformis* and *Cyrtostylis robusta* were photographed and a total of 14 orchid species recorded at the again reasonably moist site. By now my fingers were getting sore from twisting wire together.

We had invited interested YP locals to join us on an afternoon visit to Stansbury, but possibly lack of notice accounted for a no-show. We found a number of orchid species, a couple of whole skeletons (fox, sleepy lizard), a live snake and many birds, but no *C. macroclavia*. A sizable colony of *C. bicallata* had many buds but other *Caladenia* species and particularly *Thelymitra* species numbers were well down on previous years.

Although this was a working weekend we all had an enjoyable time with lovely weather and excellent company. In total we used 100m of wire netting and caged 143 orchids. Hopefully the YP locals learnt more about the orchids they will be helping Doug to monitor through the spring, so greater protection may be afforded this localised species for the future. Thanks to all who volunteered to participate in the weekend activities.

ORCHIDS ON YORKE PENINSULA				16-18/08/02						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
<i>Acianthus pusillus</i>		l		l				1 - Bute		
<i>Caladenia bicallata</i>							b	2 - Curramulka roadside		
<i>C. brumalis</i>		f			f	f		3 - Agery scrub		
<i>C. brumalis</i> x <i>conferta</i>					f			4 - Muloowurtie		
<i>C. capillata</i>			f	f				5 - Port Julia		
<i>C. carnea</i>	b					b	b	6 - Port Vincent		
<i>C. conferta</i>					f			7 - Stansbury		
<i>C. deformis</i>		f	f		f	f	f			
<i>C. latifolia</i>					l	b	b			
<i>C. macroclavia</i>	b	l	b	b	b	f				
<i>C. stricta</i>		l	b	b		b	b			
<i>C. tensa</i>	b	b								
<i>C. sp. 'Brentwood'</i>							f			
<i>Cyrtostylis robusta</i>		f	f	f	f	f	f			
<i>Diuris palustris</i>		b			f	f	b			
<i>Eriochilus cucullatus</i>		l	l	l	l	l	l			
<i>Genoplesium nigricans</i>	s			s						
<i>Microtis</i> sp.		l	l	l	l		l			
<i>Prasophyllum elatum</i>						l				
<i>Pterostylis biseta</i>	b									
<i>P. dolicochila</i>			f	f						
<i>P. erythroconcha</i>			f							
<i>P. excelsa</i>							b			
<i>P. aff. longifolia</i> (mallee)		f		f						
<i>P. mutica</i>	f	f	f	f		f				
<i>P. nana</i> (mallee)						f				
<i>P. robusta</i>		f	f	f	f					
<i>P. sanguinea</i>			f	f						
<i>P. 'rufa type'</i>							l			
<i>Thelymitra antennifera</i>							b			
<i>T. megacalyptra</i>	b	b		b			b	b		



SOUTHERN FLINDERS RANGES WEEKEND - 30/8-1/9/02 Thelma Bridle

An early wake-up was required on Friday morning to drive the 350km to Telowie Gorge, the start of a weekend trip in the Southern Flinders Ranges. Friday was to be a conservation day, assisting Doug Bickerton in locating some rare orchid species in this, the most southerly conservation park in the Flinders Ranges. Nine NOSSA members arrived, including two from Victoria (Dick and Marion Thomson) and two Friends of Telowie Gorge. We had permission to drive on tracks in the park, so it was everyone into the two larger 4WDs to head up the steep Whites Track. This drive afforded spectacular views over the flowering wattles, across the plains and gulf to Eyre Peninsula. *Halgania* sp. was particularly abundant, the intensity of the blue flowers out-competing the bright blue of *Dampiera rosmarinifolia*. There were many spring-flowering shrubs and changes in soil type were reflected by variations in vegetation. *Grevillea lavendulacea* flowers were large and bright red/pink contrasting with white *Lasiopetalum behrii* and shrub violet, with the uncommon bottlebrush (*Callistemon teretifolius*) in bud.

The flowering season was still running late and *Caladenia* species were not open. We determined *C. toxochila* was one species found with large buds. Doug was hoping to find some *C. gladiolata* in this area, but it was doubtful the species was present. *Thelymitra grandiflora* were progressing well and some flowers of *T. nuda* would have been open if the weather had been slightly warmer.

We had hoped to locate *C. xantholeuca* on rocky ground leading down to the gorge, but despite extensive searching, this seemed to be an area devoid of orchids. Of course, possibly we didn't go into sufficiently steep terrain, were not in the right place, or the dry year had prevented appearance of the species.

After lunch we drove a short distance up BBQ track to a site where *C. macroclavia* had been reported previously. Again flowers and shrubs were particularly colourful and orchids quite numerous on the western slope. *Pterostylis rufa* rosettes, both *P. excelsa* and *P. biseta* were frequent and *Caladenia toxochila* was found in flower. Despite the unlikely terrain, a possible *C. macroclavia* bud was found and marked. As the previous report was for a single plant we had obviously found it and could leave the area with clear consciences.

Napperby Reserve had been suggested as a likely spot for orchids, being moister than the hillsides. A spring here helps feed the reservoir which once supplied Port Pirie with water. It attracts many birds when full. The area has a diverse selection of native trees and shrubs, but the understorey was too grassy/weedy for orchid survival. A drive through the beautiful Germein Gorge led us on to Wilmington, our base for the weekend.

The township of Quorn was established in 1878 and a local hillside quarry set up to provide stone for building. By 1891 the site was proclaimed a council reserve and thus received relatively little human disturbance. In 1992, the Quorn Flora Reserve was established and a walking trail, with numbered endemic trees and shrubs, maintained. The area supports a good number of orchid species and two additional species were added to the NOSSA list from 1999, *Caladenia deformis* and *C. coactilis*. A pleasant morning was spent exploring and photographing orchids.

Saturday afternoon began with a drive through the pretty Richman Valley to Mount Brown Conservation Park. This former forest reserve has plantings from the 1870s when sugar gums and other species were propagated to supply timber to the northern towns. 'Olive Grove' was built in the 1890s to provide accommodation for the forest ranger. The much visited Waukerie Falls flow only intermittently, and certainly not in 2002. There was not even a pool of water at the base, which should have served as a warning for our orchid search. A few native plants were flowering on the hillside as we toiled up the slope in the warm afternoon sun. The curry bush (*Cassinia laevisii*) was investigated and its pungent leaves smelt - has anyone tried cooking with these leaves? A tiny nest in the fork of a casuarina probably belonged to a nearby pair of red-capped robins. It was beautifully camouflaged with lichen and appeared to be lined with very soft kangaroo hair. Only a few orchid species were located - budding *Thelymitra nuda*, some *Pterostylis* 'rufa group' rosettes and a number of colonies of *P. robusta* with a few dried flowers were all that were found. Just as well the views were lovely.

Marion brought out the weekend general knowledge crossword at afternoon tea, hoping we could help her complete it! We jointly managed a few answers, but seemingly only orchid would fit for 'purple colour which is also the name of an exotic flower'. A check in the dictionary later, proved that answer to be correct, seemingly derived from British orchids, many of which are purple. You can learn a lot on an orchid trip! As we left 'Olive Grove' we saw a large flock of galahs gathered at an old water tank beside a windmill, perched on all possible claw-holds and noisily chattering whilst having their evening drink. From news reports we had expected to see some of the many emus which have come south, but obviously they are not visiting the Quorn area.

Orchids in Alligator Gorge were fewer than last year, later flowering and some had smaller flowers. A single *Caladenia tensa*, just opening as we started along the Ring Route track, was more suitable for photography after a couple of hours in the warm sun. Brilliant blue *Caladenia deformis* were frequent, with an occasional albino. A patch of *Cyrtostylis reniformis* had just one flower fully open, and *Diuris palustris* seemed to be favouring the track as a suitable habitat. Despite searching, not one *Pterostylis plumosa* flower was open. A colony of *P. nana* was particularly impressive with large, shiny-leaved rosettes and stems sufficiently tall to have up to four stem bracts and even double flower-heads. On the hillside a single *C. woolcockiorum* was tantalisingly in bud, with brick-red sepal tips splitting. *C. gladiolata* was flowering, fewer than last year and, as previously noted, some with smaller flowers. The broad bayonet-shaped sepal ends with golden-brown osmophores, make this species immediately recognisable. Grading and widening of the track had destroyed a number of plants of this species, which last year were found lining the track edges all up the hill. The track had generally been left in a very poor state and left us thinking that perhaps it was just as well the season was dry. The population of the northern form of *C. stellata* in this area has been increasing steadily in the last few years and there were about 20 mature plants this year. It seemed to be too dry for the *C. arenaria* population though and not even a leaf was located.

Lunch at Blue Gum Flat completed the weekend and thanks to Beryl, who supplied a delicious cake to mark the event. A few members continued with some conservation work, on Sunday afternoon with Doug, and during Monday on the way home. See next month's Journal for a report.

Orchids seen in the Southern Flinders Ranges
30/8 -1/9/02

	<u>Telowie Gorge CP</u>	<u>Quorn Flora Reserve</u>	<u>Mount Brown CP</u>	<u>Alligator Gorge</u>
<i>Acianthus pusillus</i>	l			l
<i>Caladenia capillata</i>		f		
<i>C. carnea</i>	f			
<i>C. coactilis</i>	f	f		
<i>C. deformis</i>	f	s		f
<i>C. gladiolata</i>				f
<i>C. macroclavia?</i>	b			
<i>C. stellata</i>				f
<i>C. tensa</i>				f
<i>C. toxochila</i>	f	f		
<i>C. woolcockiorum</i>				b
<i>C. sp.</i>	l			
<i>Cyrtostylis reniformis</i>	l			f
<i>Diuris palustris</i>	f			f
<i>Microtis sp.</i>	l	l		l
<i>Prasophyllum occidentale</i>		f		
<i>Pterostylis biseta</i>	b			
<i>P. cycnocephala</i>	l			f
<i>P. excelsa</i>	b	b		
<i>P. mutica</i>	b			b
<i>P. nana</i>	f			f
<i>P. plumosa</i>				b
<i>P. robusta</i>	f		fo	
<i>P. 'rufa group'</i>	l	b	l	
<i>P. sanguinea</i>	f/s			f
<i>Thelymitra grandiflora</i>	b			b
<i>T. nuda</i>	b/f		b	b
<i>T. pauciflora</i>				b
<i>T. sp.</i>	l			

b - bud, f - flower, l - leaf, s - seed

Orchids in Italy

Seems that in Italy the orchids are under threat just as they are here in Australia. A recent study (finalised in 2001) by Giorgio & Michela Decarli Perazza over 13 years in the province of Trento in northern Italy found orchids to be regressing in some localities because of the disappearance of the scanty, dry or humid meadows where they live. Some species have been placed in the vulnerable or endangered category. Distribution mapping by the authors of the article included not only the horizontal map with which most of us are familiar but a vertical distribution map as well.