Journal of the Native Orchid Society of South Australia Inc

Caladenia latifolia

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NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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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.

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JOURNAL OF THE NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

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NEXT MEETING 25 FEBRUARY 2003

Tuesday, 25 February, 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. Bring your plants for the display table. Cathy Houston and Thelma Bridle will be speaking on Conservation and Field Trips.

DIARY DATES
25 February 2003 First meeting for 2003
25 March 2003 Annual General Meeting
18-21 Sept. 2003 16TH Australian Orchid Council Conference Adelaide.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday 29th Feb. at the home of David & Rosemary Hirst. Meeting commences at 7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER MEETING
The November meeting saw many people enjoying the annual auction, the drawing of the Christmas raffle and supper. There was some very keen bidding for many items. Reg and Les again were the auctioneers while Iris and Joan kept tally of the monies, many thanks to them, to those who brought in items and also to those who helped out during the night.

Plants Benched

Terrestrial Species: *Caleana major* (Tas.); *Caleana minor* (Cooroborree Hill); *Diuris drummondii; Pterostylis baptistii; Pterostylis biseta; Pterostylis curta; Pterostylis pedunculata; Pterostylis rufa.*

Terrestrial Hybrids: *Pterostylis* Jumbuck x ovata.

Epiphyte Species:. *Cymbidium maddidum; Cymbidium suave; Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii.*

Epiphyte Hybrids: *Plectorrhiza tridentata x Sarco*. Mavis (Registered as *Plectochilus* Lynore); *Sarcochilus* Cherie Snow (2 plants); *Sarcochilus* Lois x *ceciliae*.

Judging results
Terrestrial Species
1st *Pterostylis rufa* grown by Les Nesbitt
2nd *Diuris drummondii* grown by Les Nesbitt
3rd *Caleana major* grown by David Pettifor

Terrestrial Hybrids
1st *Pterostylis Jumbuck* x *ovata* grown by Les Nesbitt
No 2nd or 3rd

Epiphyte Species
1st *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* grown by Wally Walloscheck
2nd *Cymbidium maddidum* grown by Les Nesbitt
3rd *Cymbidium suave* grown by Les Nesbitt

Epiphyte Hybrids
1st *Sarcochilus* Cherie Snow grown by Wally Walloscheck
2nd *Sarcochilus* Cherie Snow grown by Wally Walloscheck
3rd *Sarcochilus* Lois x *ceciliae* grown by Wally Walloscheck

Plant of the Night
Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii grown by Wally Walloscheck

Popular Vote Results
Epiphyte Species: *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* grown by Wally Walloscheck
Epiphyte Hybrid: *Sarcochilus* Cherie Snow grown by Wally Walloscheck
Terrestrial Species: *Caleana major* grown by David Pettifor
Terrestrial Hybrid: *Pterostylis* Jumbuck x *ovata* grown by Les Nesbitt

Commentary on both Epiphytes and Terrestrials by Reg Shooter

Note to Exhibitors
A member has complained about the judges removing the white plant labels from his pots to read the name of the plant for recording purposes. The judges do not like having to do this either as they realise the risk of damaging tubers and roots, however if there is no other label on the pot they have no option but to do this.

This matter was discussed at the last judges meeting and it was agreed that to prevent damage being done to tubers or roots, from now on judges will not be removing these labels from the pots to ascertain details.
In future all plants benched for judging must have a separate label showing, name of plant and owner's exhibitor's number. Any label can be used that is not too large. An ideal size is 3cm x 10cm. If this label is not on or near the pot at time of judging it will be assumed that that plant is not for competition and will not be judged. Reg Shooter

FOR YOUR INFORMATION - NOSSA NEWS

TREASURER. We are still in need of a Treasurer.

LIBRARY BOOKS
Please remember Library Books are to be borrowed for one month only.

NOVICE TROPHY
Margaret Fuller has donated a new trophy, carved by Don Wells, for any novice displaying outstanding plants and who has not previously won a prize. More on this in the February 2003 Journal.

FOR SALE ORCHIDS OF AUSTRALIA by W.H. Nicholls $300.00.
Contact Bill Dear on 8296 2111

If you are in the vicinity of the Art Gallery drop in and have a look at the exhibit of watercolour paintings of wildflowers from circa. 1880's in Gallery III. One is titled *Caladenia patersonii* though it is definitely a green-comb. They were donated by Mr Paul Hyde Thompson in memory of his grandparents William Sells and Francis Sells (nee Blyth). The painter is unknown.

On Sunday, Dec. 1st, around 30 members enjoyed a near perfect day at Wally and Shirley Walloscheck's for the Annual Barbeque. Many thanks to Wally & Shirley for their hospitality and to the cooks for doing a great job. We all had a delightful smorgasbord to choose from, of tasty salads to mouth watering desserts of mulberry crumble, trifle and pavlova etc.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR
WITH LOTS OF JOY AND GOOD CHEER
SAFE TRAVELLING AND PROSPERITY
WISHED TO YOU FROM NOSSA COMMITTEE

How it is Done Reg Shooter

At the October meeting Wally Walloscheck exhibited a pot of *Caladenia tentaculata*. The judges were very impressed with the cultivation by Wally and unanimously awarded him a cultural certificate.
The 32 or so plants were growing in a 150mm pot. There were 11 flowers and two buds carried on 500mm tall rigid stems on 14 of the plants. Both the flowers and the leaves were in excellent condition and the surface of the pot was topped with scrub detritus presenting an overall attractive plant to judge.
Wally had raised many of the plants in this pot from seed. Well done.
Caladenia tentaculata previously known as *Caladenia filamentosa* var. *tentaculata* is closely related to *C. dilatata*. It is endemic to the Mount Lofty Ranges of South Australia where it is fairly common in places preferring sandy well drained soil in light open wooded areas. The genus *Caladenia* is quite a large genus consisting of around 120 species, some are easy to grow some more difficult and some just about impossible. Species from the *dilatata* complex are among the more easier to grow and would be ideal for the beginner to start with. However it takes an expert grower like Wally to produce such a beautiful potful that we saw in October.

FIELD TRIP REPORT - CHARLESTON & ST JOHNS BUSHLAND 15/9/02

Thelma Bridle

Charleston Conservation Park is a 63ha example of the little remaining 'savannah woodland' around Adelaide. Under blue and manna gums, native shrubs, annuals and orchids make springtime an ideal season to visit. *Diuris* species are plentiful here. Of course, a less than ideal spring meant that many native orchids were still in bud, and *Diuris* numbers were fewer than usual. *Diuris behrii* were just opening, *D. pardina* were in flower and several forms of the natural hybrid between the two - *D. x palachila* were open, with or without the close proximity of one parent. *Corybas* sp. flowers were too desiccated for identification. *Pterostylis nana,* in flower but uncommon, together with *P. pedunculata* and *P. nutans* were all located. *Glossodia major* buds were still several weeks from flowering as were most *Caladenia* sp. *Leptoceras menziesii* was well represented with leaves, but no flower buds. *Thelymitra nuda* and *T. pauciflora* both had small buds, *T. rubra* buds were well developed and *T. antennifera* were almost flowering. One colony of this species numbered about 1000 plants. Another month and this park will be full of orchid flowers. There was still water in the creek, which empties into the Onkaparinga River. Bird species were plentiful, kangaroos obviously spend time sleeping in the area and several hares were sighted.

The day was warm and humid ahead of a change. St John's Bushland Reserve at Lobethal was our destination for an afternoon walk. The grassy hillsides of this park were a good location for late winter-flowering *Pterostylis species.P. curta, P. pedunculata* and *P. nutans* were plentiful, flowering together, but no natural hybrids were located. The terrain appeared ideal for *P. cucullata*, but despite recent findings of this orchid here, we failed to detect any, although there were 10 pairs of eyes searching. Both *Corybas diemenicus and C. incurvus* had flowers open, some positioned precariously on shady trackside banks, but on top of the banks, the flowers were drying off. Several *Thelymitra* species were found, and one peculiar flower of a *T. nuda* type was open, a large pink flower with an elongated, large ovary, and only 8cm from the ground. There were several strange plants nearby with twisted stems and bent buds. As these were on the edge of the lake, one wonders what chemical may have been added to the water at some stage.

CHARLESTON AND ST JOHNS ORCHIDS

	1	2	
Acianthus pusillus	1	1	
Caladenia tentaculata	b		
C. sp.	b		1 - Charleston CP
Corybas diemenicus		f	2 - St Johns Park
C. incurvus		f	
C. sp.	f0/l		1= leaf
Disa bracteata	s		b - bud
Diuris behrii	f		f - flower
D. x palachila	f		fo - flower over
D. pardina	f	f	s - seedpod
Glossodia major	b	b	
Leptoceras menziesii	l	l	
Microtis sp.	l	l	
Pterostylis curta		f	
P. nana	f	f	
P. nutans	f		
P. pedunculata	f	f	
Thelymitra antennifera	b		
T. nuda	f/b	b	
T. pauciflora	b	b	
T. rubra	b	b	

FIELD TRIP REPORT - FERGUSON CONSERVATION PARK 14/9/02

Thelma Bridle

Ferguson Conservation Park is on land given to the SA government in 1949. It is situated in the eastern foothill suburbs of Adelaide, where the Mount Lofty Ranges meet the Adelaide Plains. The park is an 8 ha remnant of Adelaide Plains vegetation and contains areas of native pines (*Callitris preissii*), drooping sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticilliata*) and other local eucalypt species in small numbers. Golden wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) is common and the suburb Wattle Park is named after the species, the bark of which was stripped for use in leather tanning.

In 1981, 24 species of orchids were listed for the park. Weeds and garden escapes have spread through the park, gradually decreasing available light and space for orchids. Phil and I visited the park in 1996 and it was disappointing to see how in the past 6 years the *Sparaxis* have increased rapidly at the expense of native species, especially the smaller native shrubs.

Thelymitra species, both *T. nuda* and *T. pauciflora* were the most widespread orchids, with a number of seedlings associated with mature, budding plants. Other orchids were all found around sheoaks. A patch of about 12 *Diuris orientis* had their first flowers open, with 2-5 flowers per stem. Others of this species were scattered through the area. *Caladenia tentaculata* were in bud, about 12 in various small colonies, and amongst one group, a couple of *C. leptochila* with buds. The 5 NOSSA members present felt the find of the day belonged to a small group of 5 plants of *C. reticulata* - 2 small leaves, 1 chewed flower stem, a single flower and a double-headed specimen. *Disa bracteata* was also found in the park, small numbers at present, but mature plants had dehisced seedpods.

Orchid species are struggling to survive in this small park, but with so many weeds, how much longer will we be able to see orchids flowering in the wild so close to the city?

MORE BOOK REVIEWS

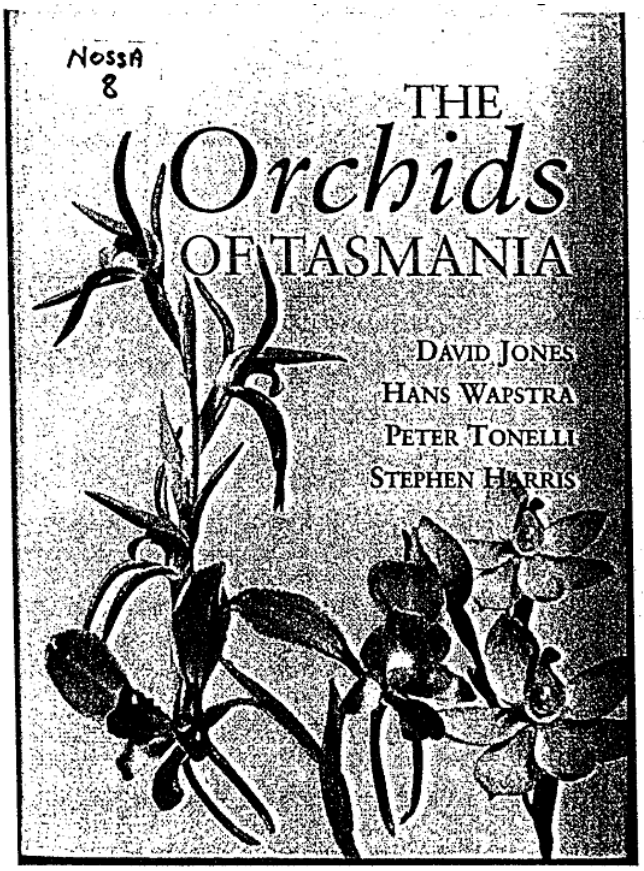
THE ESSENTIALS OF ORCHID GROWING
by Gordon C. Morrison and Mark A. Webb Kangaroo Press ISBN 0 86417 399 7 first edition 1991. Thanks to the Native Orchid Society of South Australia. for the loan of this comprehensive treatise on the theory and practicalities of Orchids and their culture. To comprehensively cover all topics simply, in 150 pages is a tour de force.
Recent discoveries (red phosphorescence) of Photosynthesis (New Scientist Oct 2002) are consistent with the facts outlined here, and the early Cretaceous origin of the Family supported by modern Geotectonics is warmly supported by other workers in this field.
The 14 Chapters comprise: Flower and Fruit Naming orchids Orchid Structure Taxonomy and Nomenclature Energy Carbon dioxide entry Photosynthesis Leaf Temperature Water Vapour Propagation Substrates and culture Glasshouse management and equipment Origin and dispersal Ecology Glossary Index Sixty Six coloured plates illustrate the species represented and good references encourage more reading. The six volumes of Arditti et al are much less accessible than this hard back edition. Kangaroo Press is known for good, value publications and the price on the inner leaf at the front of this book makes it the most economical book of its class (by far). Concerning green light, the work of Sylvania Corporation circa 1960 is confirmed. "Greenish materials should be avoided as these appear green only because they have absorbed energy in the 'red 660nm' and 'blue 440nm' wavelengths vital to photosynthesis".
If you have dreamed of having all the phytology of orchid growing in one book, buy this!
Russell Job

In the November journal I gave a review of "Orchids of Australia" by D.P. Banks and J.J. Riley which itself received some criticism as follows [Ed.];

"Dear David,
We note your comments on our book that you published in the November 2002 Journal of Nossa. We believe the illustrations of Johns are significantly several standards higher than Nicholls' but that's another issue. We are sorry that you did not like the number of species treated. However, as you would have read in the introduction, similar species have been placed together for easy comparison, with other groups and genera to be included in future volumes. We can only put 150 species in each volume (initially this was to be only 100). The illustrations take up to 50 hours work, and at the present time we do not have illustrations of all the Australian taxa. The Caladenias were treated within the original genus, because the text was written prior and during the recent upheaval of names, by Jones & Clements, Hopper & Brown and the Polish blokes. You should have noted that we refer to many of the new classifications at the end of the discussion section, including names such as Arachnorchis ... however doubtful or suspect names were not included. A point in case was that we dropped the use of the generic name Calonema - which has previously been applied to a genus of fungi. So basically we disagree with your statement "... the recent name changes to some *Caladenia* species have not been incorporated." We also disagree that "... appeal to those with only a passing interest in orchids". This work has already been critically acclaimed as one of the finest examples of botanical art ever published in Australia and possibly the world. Rarely does one see such detailed and technically botanically correct illustrations in such natural colour. It will appeal to all those with an interest in orchids, botanical art and Australian natural history. In fact, these illustrations make those of Nicholls look amateurish.
regards,
David P Banks and John J. Riley

The Orchids of Tasmania (1998)
David Jones, Hans Wapstra, Peter Tonelli, Stephen Harris.

The Orchids of Tasmania is a result of two recent studies. The first is the 1996 Orchid Atlas of Tasmania initiated in 1991 by Tasmanian parks and wildlife. The second a detailed investigation of Tasmanian orchids by David Jones published in 1998 in Australian Orchid Research. These publications along with many individual contributions have provided a much needed update to the range of orchids that can be found in Tasmania.



This book has a comprehensive introduction including a history of orchidology in Tasmania, a summary of habitats, notes on the orchid family and most importantly a summary of conservation strategies. As with other areas of Australia, Tasmania faces an uphill battle to identify and protect endangered populations.
The book covers 195 taxa about a third of which are endemic to Tasmania, each genus is preceded by a dichotomous key for identification. Each species has a full page with an excellent photo, detailed distribution map, description, habitat, flowering period, list of confusing species and specific notes.
Two interesting inclusions are a key to orchid leaves for identifying orchids down to generic level outside their flowering period, and two full pages of *Thelymitra* columns. The variable columns of *Thelymitra* are the main structure used for identification and these photos are particularly useful for that purpose.
The size and weight of this book precludes it from being a practical field guide, however it is a comprehensive guide to the orchids of our island state and a must when taking an orchid trip to Tasmania
Whether you just want to look at the pictures or make a serious effort to identify orchids 'The orchids of Tasmania' will deliver. Joslin Darby

Did you know that Dendrobiums are among the plants that close their stomata during the day in dry seasons to conserve water. Carbon dioxide is taken in at night instead of in the day and stored in acid form to be converted back during the day to carbon dioxide, then together with sunlight, into sugars and oxygen.

CONSERVATION THEMES

Tim Flannery on Introduced plants (originally in Gumnuts No. 42, the on-line magazine of the Australian Plant Society but reprinted here from Australasian Native Orchid Society Illawarra Bulletin, March 2002).

On 23 January, Dr Tim Flannery, director of the South Australian Museum, delivered the annual Australia day address (organised by the Australia Day Council) at the Conservatorium of Music in Sydney. The address was wide ranging but its theme was the interrelations of Aboriginal and European cultures and the still common colonial vision of many white Australians in trying to "remake the continent in the image of Europe".

The following extract from the address will strike a chord with many readers...

"Nothing seems to rouse the passions of some Australians so much as disparaging roses, lawns, plane trees and the like. Yet I really do think that they are a blot on the landscape. I used to joke that I'd shout beer all round at my local pub the day someone brought me a plane tree leaf that an insect had actually taken a bite out of. The fact is, that as far as Australian wildlife goes, plane trees are so useless that they may as well be made of concrete. Australia is home to 25,000 species of plants, as opposed to Europe's 6000 or 7000. Surely amongst that lot we can find suitable species that will provide shade, and food for butterflies and native birds as well. To be honest, there is another reason I dislike many introduced plants. If gardens are a kind of window in the mind, I see our public spaces a passion for the European environment that indicates that we are still, at heart, uncomfortable in our own land. If we can see no beauty in Australian natives, but instead need to be cosseted in pockets of European greenery, can we really count ourselves as having a truly sustainable, future adapted to Australian conditions.

ASPARAGUS WEED (bridal veil)

Bridal veil (*Asparagus declinatus*), not to be confused with bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*), has been targeted for control measures in the Southern Mt Lofty District by the Asparagus Weeds Steering Committee as it has the potential to become a greater threat to the native environment than bridal creeper. Grubbing has been the most effective control to date with herbicides requiring repeated applications over several years. The aim of the AWSC is to prevent further spread of bridal veil from the areas of severe infestation. The public are asked to help by ensuing the plant is not growing on their property or in your local area. The tubers can withstand dry periods and the seeds (berries) are spread by birds. Contact the AWSC if you find any plants c/o Fleurieu District NPWSA Office, PO Box 721, Victor Harbor SA 5211; phone 08 8552 0308, Fax 08 8552 3950 Email: petaurus@ozemail.com.au

The introduced 'large earth bumblebee', *Bombus terrestris*, has been of some concern in Tasmania over the last few years. It has been found to occur in remote areas thus is not reliant on introduced garden plants and has the potential to enhance seed production in introduced weeds. It is believed it is only a matter of time before the bumblebee finds its way across Bass Strait and onto the mainland.

N.O.S.S.A. TUBER BANK FOR 2002-2003 M. GUY

Available to Financial Members only! Closing date for orders is the last mail on the 1st January 2003. Tubers will be posted on the 20th January.

I thank all growers who have generously promised tubers which need to reach me by the 10th January. NOTE: 46 lots in all. See below/over for listing.

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

Price per lot is $1.00 An additional charge of $3.00 for Postage and handling costs applies.

POST ORDER TO M. GUY
15 Naomi Terrace
PASADENA Sth Aust. 5042

Price per lot $1.00
lots = $ Name :....
Plus $3.00 Postage & packing Address

Total of Order $ Post Code ....:

Cheque/Money Order to be made payable to N.O.S.S.A.

Sub	GENERA	SPECIES	LOCALITY DATA
1	Pterostylis	baptistii	Davies Creek, Sth Qld
2	Pterostylis	baptistii	NSW
3	Pterostylis	curta	Mt Gambier
4	Pterostylis	curta	Tas.
5	Pterostylis	curta	Adelaide Plains
6	Pterostylis	curta	KEL
7	Pterostylis	collina green	Talyai Range
8	Pterostylis	collina green	Copeland, NSW
9	Pterostylis	coccina	
10	Pterostylis	x conoglossa	Toukely, NSW
11	Pterostylis	x Dunkle	
12	Pterostylis	decurva	Bullock Hill, Tas
13	Pterostylis	x Dusky Duke	

14	Pterostylis	x furcillata	
15	Pterostylis	x Hildae	
16	Pterostylis	hispidula	Dungog, NSW
17	Pterostylis	x ingens	Sth Trafalgar, Vic.
18	Pterostylis	x Joesph Arthur	
19	Pterostylis	x Jack Warcup	
20	Pterostylis	laxa	Bungonia, NSW
21	Pterostylis	longicurva	Stanthorpe, Qld
22	Pterostylis	nutans	Carrum Downs, Vic.
23	Pterostylis	nutans	
24	Pterostylis	aff. obtusa	
25	Pterostylis	ophioglossa	Redbank Plains, Qid
26	Pterostylis	pedunculata	Marble Hill, SA
27	Pterostylis	pedunculata	Adelaide Hills
28	Pterostylis	pedunculata	Wynyard, Tas
29	Pterostylis	robusta	
30	Pterostylis	revoluta	Biragambil Hills, NSW
31	Pterostylis	reflexa true	Kentlyn, NSW
32	Pterostylis	reflexa	Fern Bay, NSW .
33	Pterostylis	truncata	Yo Yangs, Vic.
34	Pterostylis	torquata green	Ebor Falls, NSW
35	Corysanthes	fimbriata (ex Corybas)	
36	Corysanthes	incurva (ex Corybas)	Lake Leake, Tas.
37	Corysanthes	incurva (ex Corybas)	
38	Corysanthes	hispida (ex Corybas)	Qld
39	Corysanthes	diemenica (ex Corybas)	
40	Cyrtostylis	reniformis	
41	Thelymitra	Melon-Glow	
42	Thelymitra	rubra	Lyndoch, SA
43	Diuris	sulphurea golden dragon	
44	Chiloglottis	platyptera	Barrington Tops, NSW
45	Chiloglottis	trapeziformis	Cravensville, Vic.
46	Chiloglottis	truncata	Anduramba, Sth Qld
47	Chiloglottis	truncata	Goombungee, Qld