



Native Orchid Society Of South Australia Inc. Journal



Thelymitra grandiflora ssp. *exposa*

Photo: R. Bates

**November 2015
Volume 39 No. 10**

Native Orchid Society of South Australia



PO Box 565 Unley SA 5061 Website: www.nossa.org.au Ph: 8294 8014 Nov 2015 Vol. 39 No. 10

President

Robert Lawrence

Email: nossa.membership@gmail.com

Vice President

Kris Kopicki

Secretary

Rosalie Lawrence

Email: nossaorchids@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Gordon Ninnes

Email: nossa.treasurer@gmail.com

Editor

Lorraine Badger

Email: nossa.editor@gmail.com

Committee

Michael Clark

Bob Bates

David Hirst

Sandra Penny-Dimri

Other Positions

Membership Liaison Officer

Robert Lawrence

Ph: 8294 8014

Email: nossa.membership@gmail.com

Botanical Advisor

Bob Bates

Conservation Officer

Thelma Bridle Ph: 8384 4174

Field Trips Coordinator

Rob & Jenny Pauley

nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com

(J) 0402 281 781 (R) 0419 843 845

Librarian

Pauline Meyers

Registrar of Judges

Les Nesbitt

Show Marshall

Vacant

Trading Table

Vacant

Tuber Bank Coordinator

Jane Higgs

Ph: 8558 6247

Email: jhiggs@activ8.net.au

Website Manager

Rosalie Lawrence

Email: nossa.enquiries@gmail.com

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 of the management committee, no person may represent the Society on any matter. All native orchids are protected in the wild; their collection without a written Government permit is illegal.

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Mr H Goldsack†

Mr R Robjohnst†

Mr J Simmonst†

Mr D Wells†

Mr L Nesbitt

Mr G Carne

Mr R Bates

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Patron: Mr L. Nesbitt

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia, while taking all due care, takes no responsibility for loss 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 committee. We condone the reprint of any articles if acknowledgment is given.

Front cover - photo Robert Bates, Sept 2014 A newly named subspecies.

Thelymitra grandiflora* ssp. *exposita R.J. Bates.

This new subspecies of Australia's largest sun orchid (restricted to South Australia) is limited to high, rocky exposed parts of the Flinders Ranges which begin more than one hundred km north of Adelaide. This rare taxon extends for 250 km from near Laura in the south of the Range almost to Arkaroola in the north and is conserved both in national parks and native forest reserves.

Bates, R (2014) A New Subspecies of the "Giant Sun Orchid" *Thelymitra grandiflora* ... *Australian Orchid Review* Vol 79 No 6 p. 52



The Native Orchid Society of South Australia meets every fourth Tuesday of the months February to November at St Matthew's Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington. Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. Doors to the hall open from 7:15 pm to allow Members access to the Library, Trading Table and Grower's Forum.

Date	Event
Nov 21, Sat	Field Trip – Scott Creek CANCELLED
Nov 24, Tues	General meeting - Paul Bertrame - Kildare college's Orchid Trip Report
Dec 1	Committee Meeting @John & Lorraine Badger's in Craighburn Farm
Dec 4, Fri	Articles for December Journal due Email: nossa.editor@gmail.com
Dec 5, Sat	Annual Christmas BBQ – see below for further information
Jan 2, Sat	Taliska - Dipodium or Hyacinth Orchids – details on booking
Feb 2, Tues	Committee Meeting
Feb 5, Fri	Articles for February Journal

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- Margaret Johnson of Hope Valley
- Robin Soerges of Parafield Gardens
- Alan Braggs of Kensington Gardens

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING 2015

Tues Nov 24 General Meeting: – Paul Bertrame - Report on Kildare College's Orchid Trip, where they met up with Helen Richards, Noushka Reiter etc.

FIELD TRIPS

Bookings Essential: Contact Rob or Jenny Pauley
nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com OR phone: (J) 0402 281 781 (R) 0419 843 845

- ~~Nov 21, Sat – Scott Creek~~ **Cancelled**
- **Jan 2 Sat - Taliska** – Dipodium or hyacinth orchids.

Meeting location and other information will be provided following registration.

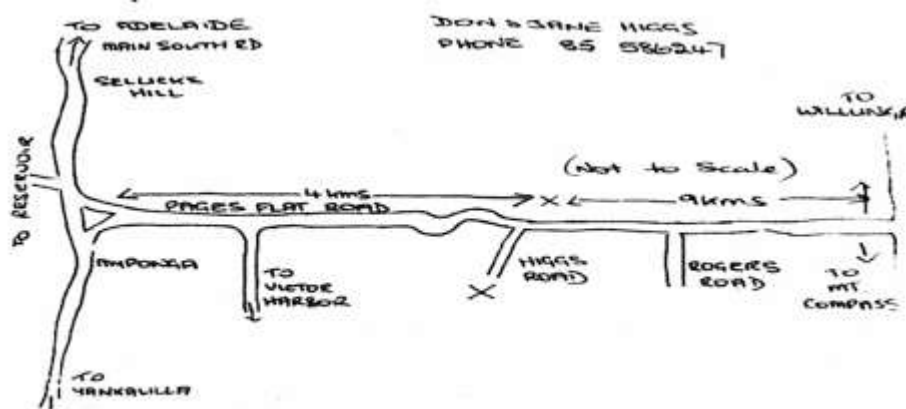
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BBQ



Saturday 5th December The venue for the BBQ will be Jane and Don Higgs property at Myponga. (see map below) NOSSA will provide the meat.

NOTE: This event is open to **ALL** members of NOSSA. Both new and long-time members are more than welcome. Come and get to know one another. For catering purposes **RSVP** to Rosalie Lawrence *no later than Nov 28th* nossa.membership@gmail.com or phone 8294-8014.

Please bring: a salad or dessert to share and \$2 donation per person. Also bring cups, plates, utensils and drinks other than tea-bags, coffee, milk & sugar. Chairs and tables will also be provided.



ARTICLES FOR NEXT JOURNAL

Due to reach editor (nossa.editor@gmail.com) no later than Friday Dec. 4th NOTE: Articles can be sent any time prior to that date.

FOR THE 2016 DIARY

The 11th F J Rogers Seminar
'Native Terrestrial and Epiphytic Orchids'

Hamilton Victoria

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th October 2016

Program:

Saturday – Full day conference
Formal dinner

Sunday – Bus tours

Registration of interest:

Contact Mr Kevin Sparrow

Post: 35 Swann St, Warrnambool Vic 3280

Email: ksparrow93@gmail.com



FOR THE 2016 DIARY CONT.

8th Australian Native Orchid Conference and Show

In association with
Kempsey Speciosum Spectacular
Thursday 1st Sept to Sunday 4th Sept 2016.



Hosted by the ANOS Mid North Coast Group (Inc.)

Contact Details: John Zietsch PH;

(02) 6554-9733 or 0408-034-633.

Email: jzi01935@bigpond.net.au

<http://www.anos.org.au/conference>

Conference Registration Form and Conference

Program can be obtained by clicking on the Links in the above website to download Program

October Meeting - Sarc Show



Sarc Zoe 'Crimson' x Fizzy Dove x Rosella



Sarc fitzgeraldii



Sarc Dove 'Good' x Karla 'Red'

From the President

Robert Lawrence

Field Coordinator Role

Our thanks go to Rob and Jenny Pauley for taking on the role of coordinating field trips for 2015.

They have done above and beyond for the role, not only coordinating the trips, but also checking the sites prior to the visits. We now have the need for a new coordinator for 2016. The Pauley's have left us with some guidelines, so it should be straight forward for the next person taking on the role. If you are at all interested, please contact me or another member of the NOSSA management committee.



website. There are links to these in the NOSSA website.

These highlighted projects have been driven by Joe Quarmby, who has been the Threatened Flora Ecologist within Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges. Joe has taken a year of leave from the start of July this year and his position is being ably filled by Rick Davies.

NOSSA greatly appreciates the contribution of this position towards the conservation of our

native orchids.

Along with these media items I am aware of the invaluable contribution of volunteers in the many projects supporting the conservation of native orchids. This has included on-ground weed control and regular monitoring at a number of sites.

I would like to see more of these people acknowledged, knowing that they do not do it for the recognition. They are passionate about orchids and their conservation and doing what they love. Amongst the people I know, it is the volunteers who live the most rewarding lives and have the greatest experiences.



Sarc Cream Cake x
fitzgeraldii



Sarc Fitzhart x Velvet
Chocolate



Sarc Melba



Sarc Wandjina 'Cheerful' x
hartmannii 'Perfection'

Vale Colin Jennings

Colin passed away on Friday 6th November 2015. He had a long association with NOSSA from chairing the inaugural NOSSA meeting to assisting with procedural and judging matters over the years. He also held executive positions at the Australian Plant Society. He was very involved in the orchid growing community throughout Australia but more particularly as a senior judge for the Australian Orchid Council. Colin was the AOC National Registrar of Judges for a long period leading up to his recent illness. His wide knowledge of orchids and native plants gained over a lifetime in Australia and overseas, including a stint in New Guinea, will not be replaced.

Peter Hornsby noted that Colin "epitomized quiet efficiency, and his stoical and meticulous approach characterized everything he did - orchids, native plants, teaching, and even jam-making", whilst Les commented "We have lost a true gentleman."

A celebration of Colin's life and his funeral was conducted at St Wilfrid's Anglican Church, Tea Tree Gully on Wednesday 11 November. Our sincerest thoughts go to Myrnie, who in recent years was always by his side, and also to the other members of his family.

Thank you to Allan & Kate Jennings (Colin's sister) along with Les Nesbit and Peter Hornsby, fellow NOSSA pioneers, who provided this information.

Vale Graham Eakins

Graham passed away one day before Colin on the 5th November 2015. He too was a long-time member of NOSSA and an orchid judge. Despite his disabilities he was always ready to help in any way he could at orchid meetings and shows. His health had been up and down in recent years but he always recovered on previous occasions. The judging panel has lost another valued member. Our sincerest thoughts go to his family.

Les Nesbitt

How Much Fertilizer Do I Need For My Australian Terrestrial Orchids?

Reprint from: <http://nossa.org.au/category/growing-terrestrials>

The short answer is very little to none at all. As long as there is some organic matter in the soil mix terrestrial orchids will grow and flower without added fertilizer.

For fungus dependent orchids, such as *Caladenia*, a fresh layer of leaf litter added in summer to the top of the pot is all that is required. These orchids are seldom repotted.

Growers who show their non-fungus dependent orchid plants for judging want strong superior plants. They add a pinch of blood & bone fertilizer to each pot during the

annual summer repotting. Vigorous orchids like the colony forming greenhoods will respond to weak foliar feeding in the early growth stages, (April to July). If fertilizing is overdone the plants can burn or produce multiple flowers that grow into one another and ruin the spectacle of flowers.

Other factors are more important than fertilizer. Strong light in winter, constantly moist potting mix, excellent drainage, good air movement and a pest free environment are more important.



NOSSA Field Trip – Belair National Park

Saturday 24th October 2015

Michael Clark

The group of 10 members who met at the Pines Oval car park for the field trip to Belair National Park were joined by David Toop, a Canadian visiting Australia for four weeks. The day was warm and cloudy and ideal for orchid hunting but we were not anticipating seeing many orchids due to recent weather being unsuitable for flowers. A popular spot behind the Pines Oval had been chosen as the possible best location.

The first orchid for the day were 3 buds of *Oligochaetochilus bisetus* (rusty hood), one of which was open five days later on 29/10. From there we set off along the Carawatha track where we found a few *Arachnorchis tentaculata* (king spider orchid) still in flower, although many were well past their best.

Just off the track we found a *Prasophyllum pruinosum* (plum leek orchid) still in flower. Nearby was a *Prasophyllum fitzgeraldii* (Fitzgerald's leek orchid), which was setting seed, and also some *Microtis* sp. (onion orchids) going to seed. Returning to the track we

proceeded further up the hill where we found quite a good collection of *Thelymitra glaucophylla* (glaucous sun orchid) in flower and others in seed.

As there were not many orchids flowering,

this proved to be a very short trip in both distance and time due to the conditions. A smaller group decided to head off to Meadows Flats and Knott Hill where the flying ducks had been spotted earlier in

the week. Seeing these amazing little orchids would make this a special treat for David.

After regrouping at Meadows we moved onto the Meadows Flats area on Mallawa Road. At first glance it looked as though it was too dry for finding anything but on closer inspection we found quite a few in flower, but many were very small due to the dryness.

The group were still enjoying looking for orchids in that location when it was pointed out that the day was moving on, so we decided to move on to nearby Knott Hill to find those wonderful ducks.

Heading up the hill to the duck location we looked for *Diuris brevifolia* which can usually be found beside the track. They were not in abundance and most missed the couple which were found. After most folk had left Rosalie and Robert did find a lovely patch a little further over the hill. The large ducks were out in all their glory whilst the little ducks were just appearing.



Thanks: to those who managed to attend and also to Bevan Scholz who went out of his way to assist with planning the Belair field trip. He printed out a coloured photo sheet of orchids in October, photo copied a map of the track we were using, then he took us around the track so we could get waypoints of all sites that contained orchids. We took up three hours of his time which was greatly appreciated.
Jenny and Robert Pauley, Field Trip Co-ordinators

Our Canadian Guest

David Toop, who had contacted NOSSA seeking to attend a field trip and our November meeting was in Australia to attend a Geological Conference in Canberra where he was presenting a paper *Application of Hydro-geology for the Conservation of Cypripedium candidum* (Small White Lady's Slipper, a threatened species) of Manitoba. David is the vice president of Native Orchid Conservation Inc (the only orchid society in Canada focusing on native orchids and conservation). He explained that Canada has 34 species with a very short season, measured in weeks not months, and so he was amazed at what we have here. He naturally appreciated the importance we place on conservation. We really enjoyed his visit with us.



Despite the dryness of the season the following orchids were observed during the field trip

Belair National Park	Meadows Flats	Knott Hill
<i>Arachnorchis tentaculata</i>	<i>Corysanthes</i> – leaves only	<i>Caleana major</i>
<i>Microtis arenaria</i>	<i>Diuris brevifolia</i>	<i>Calochilus robertsonii</i>
<i>Oligochaetochilus bisetus</i>	<i>Leptoceras menziesii</i>	<i>Diuris brevifolia</i> (v. few)
	<i>Microtis arenaria</i>	<i>Nemacianthus caudatus</i>
	<i>Microtis</i> - possibly <i>frutetorum</i>	<i>Paracaleana minor</i> (just opening)
<i>Prasophyllum pruinosum</i>	<i>Thelymitra bracteata</i>	After the trip Robert & Rosalie took our guest further afield and saw in addition :
<i>Prasophyllum fitzgeraldii</i> (in seed)	<i>T. flexuosa</i> - finished flowers	
<i>Thelymitra glaucophylla</i>	<i>T. juncifolia</i>	<i>Arachnorchis tentaculata</i> (many)
<i>Thelymitra glaucophylla</i> (white)	<i>T. pallidifructus</i>	<i>Arachnorchis leptochila</i>
	<i>T. pauciflora</i>	<i>Caladenia pusilla</i> (2 flowering)
	<i>T. rubra</i>	<i>Diuris brevifolia</i> - many
	<i>T. truncata</i>	<i>Pterostylis foliata</i> - in capsules
		<i>T. cyanapictata</i>



Leptoceras menziesii



Thelymitra juncifolia



Caladenia albiflora



Caleana major

Possibility for service within NOSSA?

Last month Gordon Ninnes provided an article entitled “**Urgent Request! New treasurer Required for 2016**” seeking to find a willing person or persons to take on the treasurer’s position as he will not be available. The ideal person would have all sorts of accounting qualifications and experience but in the real world we know that this is not going to happen. What would be perfectly adequate is someone with computing skills and a willingness to play with the basic accounting program “Cashflow Manager”. We have been using this for a year and have worked through most of the knots. The job comes with a computer complete with the program installed.

This month we add two more positions to the list – **Field Trip Co-ordinator and Journal Editor**

At the beginning of 2015 Rob and Jenny Pauley accepted the role of Field Trip Co-ordinator and they have not only conducted highly organised field trips they have documented what is required for each field trip, to simplify the role for future leaders. We wish them all the best in their proposed travels.

Like the above NOSSA members, John and I will also be travelling next year. Whilst it is possible to produce a journal on the road I would really like to hand the position of journal editor to someone else. We are currently on the road and I can attest how easily it is to be unwell, distracted, and get things wrong as has happened throughout this journal. There are also times when my health works against me and in those times I am unable to produce anything. Should no one come forward it is possible that there is someone who would be willing to assist me. I need someone who can be at meetings, field trips etc. to ensure that I am aware of what is happening and to ensure that articles are forth coming for the journal.

There are a number of other positions that need consideration. For NOSSA to be effective we do need people to put their hands up for various positions. Please do not hesitate to contact Robert Lawrence or any committee members listed on page 2 of this journal.

Australian Orchid Foundation Essay Competition

Each year the AOF have an Essay competition on a particular topic to encourage local orchid growers to share their initiatives and practices in the cultivation and conservation of orchids. Or it could be your experiences with orchids in the wild. The dead line for all entries is June 30th of each year. Three prizes ranging from \$350 to \$150 are awarded to the best essays. In 2013 a South Australian, Chris Heysen of Auldana won with her essay entitled ‘*Our Life’s Journey with Orchids*’. Last year (2014), Hayley O’Donnell, one of Trevor Garard’s students from the orchid club at Willunga High gained a special award for her essay ‘*My Favourite Orchid*’.

Hayley had chosen *Bifrenaria harrisoniae*, a native of Brazil, as her favourite orchid. Woven into her essay Hayley provides evidence of the value of teaching young folk about orchid growing and the benefits they gain. Her essay, along with other winning essays since 2012 can be found at the following website



<http://www.australianorchidfoundation.org.au/AOF%20Essay%20Prize.html>

NOVEMBER MEETING

Report on Kildare Orchid Trip to the East Coast

Paul Bertrame will be speaking about the trip a small group of Kildare College students took earlier in the year to enhance their studies in the orchid area.

October Winning Photo

Rosalie Lawrence

Again this month was a varied selection of species with Pauline Myers' *Caladenia chapmanii* (WA), Claire Chesson's *Thelymitra rubra*, Jenny Pauley's hybrid of *Arachnorchis brumalis* x *conferta*, David Hirst's *Caladenia discoidea* and the winning entry, Rosalie Lawrence's *Diuris brevifolia*.

This strikingly yellow flowered donkey orchid endemic to South Australia is listed as Endangered. Its range was once quite widespread in the southern Adelaide Mt Lofty Range region but now it is restricted to pockets on the Fleurieu Peninsula and western Kangaroo Island in Heathy Woodland, Wetland and Riparian habitats.

There is interest today in cultivating orchids for conservation or ex-situ conservation. With the reduced range of this species, can it be cultivated and thus continue to ensure its survival as a species? Some sources seem to suggest that it is an easy plant to cultivate, and some *Diuris* are easier than others, but Les Nesbitt points out that he has some plants from a rescue dig several years ago but they have not multiplied very much in that time. This suggests that they may be dependent on a specific fungi. Though it has not been hugely successful in



cultivation, it is worth noting that it has been used to produce hybrids with several other *Diuris*.



References:

Bates, R. J. (2011) South Australia's Native Orchids NOSSA DVD, Adelaide

Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges South Australia Threatened Species Profile Fact Sheet - *Diuris brevifolia*

Nesbitt, L (2015) Personal communication

November's photographic theme - Hybrids

2nd *Caladenia chapmanii* [WA] (P.M.)



3rd *Caladenia discoidea* (D. H.)



Equal 4th *Thelymitra rubra*, (C.C.)



Equal 4th *A. brumalis* x *conferta* (J. P.)

2015 SARCOCHILUS SHOW

OCTOBER MEETING

Section	Place	Orchid	Grower	POPULAR VOTE (Tied)
Sarcochilus hartmannii	1 st 2 nd	Sarco hartmannii Sarco hartmannii 'Boomba'	D & J Higgs Kevin Western	Sarcochilus weinthalii (Photo not available)
Sarcochilus falcatus	1 st 2 nd	Sarco falcatus Sarco falcatus	Kris Kopicki Kevin Western	
Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii	1 st 2 nd	Sarco fitzgeraldii Sarco fitzgeraldii	J & B Gay Kris Kopicki	
Other Sarcochilus sp	1 st 2 nd	Sarco olivaceus Sarco australis	D & J Higgs Kris Kopicki	
Other Sarcanthinae sp		Nil		
Other allied sp.		Nil		
Sarcochilus Fitzhart	1 st 2 nd	Sarco Fitzhart 'Finnegan' -----	D & J Higgs	Sarcochilus (Photo not available)
Sarc. Hybrid predominantly white	1 st 2 nd	Sarco Purity 'Moonshine' Sarco Melba	D & J Higgs Les Nesbitt	
Sarc. Hybrid Pink/Red	1 st 2 nd	Sarco cenudra Sarco [Heidi x (Cherie) x Yvette]	D & J Higgs D & J Higgs	
Sarc. Hybrid Yellow/ Green	1 st 2 nd	Sarco Burgundy or Ice x Velvet Sarco Nugget 'Gold Rush'	Trevor Garrard D & J Higgs	
Sarc. Hybrid Any other colour	1 st 2 nd	Sarco Shooting Star Sarco 'Western Surprise'	Kevin Western Kevin Western	
Allied Intergeneric Hybrid	1 st 2 nd	Rhinochilus Lava Burst 'Red Apple' Nil	J & B Gay	
AWARDS				Champion of Sarc Show
Best Seedling Sarc – 1st flowering	1 st 2 nd	Sarco Purity 'Moonshine' Sarco Nugget 'Gold Rush'	D & J Higgs D & J Higgs	Photo not available
Best Specimen Sarcochilus	1 st 2 nd	Sarco Fitzgeraldii Sarco Nabiae x Fitzgeraldii	J & B Gay D & J Higgs	
Champion of Sarcochilus Show	1 st	Sarco Purity 'Moonshine'	D & J Higgs	

October Benched Orchids 2015

Epiphytes: - None benched - Sarc Show

Terrestrials: Open Division

Species:

1st *Caladenia tentaculata*

Les Nesbitt

2nd *Diuris drumondii* 'Boltery'

Les Nesbitt

3rd *Phaius tankervilleae*

Les Nesbitt

Hybrid

1st *Pterostylis cutii* X *baptistii*

Les Nesbitt

2nd *Caladenia spiderman*

Les Nesbitt

3rd Nil

Popular Vote:

OPEN DIVISION Terrestrials

Species: *Caladenia tentaculata*

Les Nesbitt

Hybrid: *Caladenia spiderman*

Les Nesbitt

Photo: Courtesy of David Hirst

Terrestrials for Night

