



**NOSSA Journal – October 2017**

**Volume 41 No. 9**

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The Native Orchid Society of South Australia promotes the conservation of orchids through preservation of natural habitat and 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 written Government permit is illegal.

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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 reprints of any article with full acknowledgment.

**Front cover** – Celebrating 40 years - Lorraine Badger with the help of Adrian Ward, using the NOSSA logo.

On 22 March 1977 at an inaugural meeting NOSSA was formed and the committee called for members to "submit designs for consideration of a logo for letterheads, badges, signs, car stickers, etc." The winning entry, Chris Butler's *Caladenia menziesii* (*Leptoceras menziesii*) commonly known as Rabbit Orchid was announced in the June journal 1977 Vol 1 No 5. This distinctive and attractive design in colours of red and white on a green background has changed very little and is still in use today.

## Bulletin Board

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia meets every 4th 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.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>Oct 24<sup>th</sup> Tues</b>	<b>Special Meeting</b> prior to General meeting at 7:50
<b>Oct 24<sup>th</sup> Tues</b>	<b>General Meeting</b> – Sarcophilus show
<b>Oct 28<sup>th</sup> Sat</b>	<b>Mt Lofty Walk</b>
<b>Oct 28<sup>th</sup> Sat</b>	<b>Bio blitz</b> – Oakland Wetlands
<b>Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> Thur</b>	<b>Journal articles due</b> – late entries not published
<b>Nov 4<sup>th</sup> Sat</b>	<b>Field trip TBA</b>
<b>Nov 14<sup>th</sup> Tues</b>	<b>Committee meeting</b>
<b>Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat</b>	<b>NOSSA Christmas BBQ</b>



### TO NEW MEMBERS

Peter Haltis SEACOMBE HEIGHTS

Lindy & John McCallum WINDSOR GARDENS

Val & Keith Heritage CLOVELLY PARK

Ken & Lorraine Schurgott BEULAH PARK

Cheryl Foggo NORTH BRIGHTON

Karin and Mark Sefton PANORAMA

### FIELD TRIPS

- 4<sup>th</sup> Nov to be advised

**REMEMBER:** Field trips must be booked through Michael Clark our field trip co-ordinator - [nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com)

### COMMITTEE MEETING

Next committee meeting is on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov  
*The Badgers*

**NOTE:** Committee meetings now on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Onlookers welcome.

### NEXT GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY OCT 24<sup>TH</sup>

**Sarcophilus Show meeting**

### FOR THE 2017 DIARY

### NOSSA CHRISTMAS BBQ DEC 2 HIGGS PLACE

Further information in next journal

### NATIVE ORCHID WALKS – MT LOFTY

*Dates: Saturday 28 October Time: 11am to 12pm*

*Where: Meet at Lower Car Park, Mount Lofty Botanic Garden*

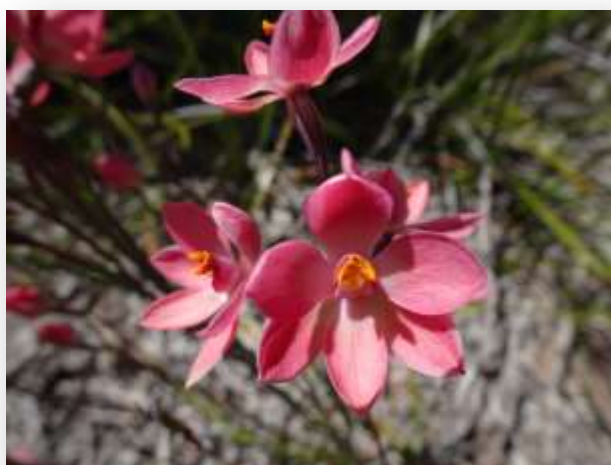
*Cost: Free*

*Bookings: Call 0488 159 357 or email [nossa.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.enquiries@gmail.com)*

### ARTICLES FOR NEXT JOURNAL

Articles / Reports must reach the Editor ***no later than Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November***, Thank you.

**NOTE:** Please send all articles **directly** to [nossa.editor@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.editor@gmail.com) even if you have someone proof reading the article. The proof reader can send on any changes to the editor.





## From the President

*Robert Lawrence*

### Notification of a Special General Meeting - November 2017

In accordance with the NOSSA Rules of Association, the Management Committee has called a Special General Meeting to determine the amount of the annual subscription. The meeting is called for 7:50 pm on Tuesday 28 November 2017, this being prior to the routine general meeting.

The reason for reviewing the annual subscription is to cover increased costs, particularly of postage. In January of 2016 Australia Post increased the cost from \$0.70 to \$1.00 per item (or \$1.50 for delivery in less than 5 days). The cost of providing the hard copy version of the Journal has risen close to \$2.20 per issue per subscription, which covers costs of printing, courier, envelopes and postage. This amounts to a little over \$24 for the eleven issues over the year. The current annual subscription for members who have elected to receive a hard copy by mail is \$25. The subscription also needs to cover such things as monthly hire of hall, storage, maintenance and replacement of equipment, interstate guest speakers transport costs, advertising and purchases, including books for the library.

At this meeting we can talk about keeping the costs down for producing the Journal, including the steps that have already been taken and the volunteer contributions such as by John and Joan Peace preparing the printed journals for postage.

We do need to determine reasonable subscriptions for the email version as well as for the printed version. So please come along and share your perspective so that we can get the balance right. If you are a member who is unable to attend this Special General Meeting, you are entitled to appoint in writing a person, who is also a NOSSA member, to be a proxy and attend and vote on your behalf.

### NOSSA Spring Show

The Spring Show is the main event in the NOSSA calendar. This year it was held on the weekend of 9 and 10 September 2017. This proved to be too early for many of our orchids to flower. A booking has

already been made for the weekend of 15 and 16 September 2018, a week later in the month.

We issued 248 tickets as people went through the doors. It has been many years since tickets were issued so we don't know how this compares with recent years. It did seem that people were more willing to return to look at the displays when they had tickets to display.



Sales were down about \$2500 compared with last year, but this seems to have been consistent with other shows at this time. We think that the early date clashing with the end of the Royal Adelaide Show and possibly

less work on promoting the show were reasons for this. We did get the impression that having EFTPOS this year could have increased sales with a third of sales using this.

It was considered necessary to start planning the 2018 show in February and that issues arising from this year's show could be considered further then. We urgently need a show marshall to work with the committee on planning and implementing procedures.

### Orchid surveys

Spring orchid surveys have been in progress. While they can be discouraging when numbers are lower, or none of a target species can be found, usually there are some exciting finds. It is always a privilege to count orchids of a species that most people don't even see. We get to go to different places and see different habitats. There are the added benefits of working alongside others, getting to know the experts and, of course, the physical exercise.

### Wild Orchid Watch

In my last report I said there would be more to say on this, and now I am able to do so. In collaboration with Ben Sparrow of the Terrestrial Ecosystems Research Network, we were successful in with our application for a Citizen Science grant for \$484,770 from the federal Department for Industry, Innovation and Science. The project is entitled, "Wild Orchid Watch - providing insight to environmental change." The feedback that I have received from interstate is that this project is what orchid

enthusiasts have wanted, but nobody had managed to do. It has the potential to have a profound effect on organisations such as NOSSA and it will depend on the involvement of members for their expertise

and for photographs. The project is still early in the planning process. A PhD supplementary scholarship has already been advertised.

## Report on Meeting, 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

*John Eaton*, Speaker Coordinator, NOSSA

On the night, 25 members attended. Les Nesbitt spoke on the propagation of native terrestrials using *Thelymitra rubra*, *Diuris behrii* and *D. pardina* as examples and covered such aspects as deflasking *Thelymitra rubra* and Growing Terrestrial Orchids.

Les demonstrated deflasking, potting-on and hand-pollination. Two brave members - eager to learn - were given an opportunity to try hand-pollination under Les's watchful and expert eye.

He also covered increasing the *D. behrii* tuber numbers by the removal of the daughter tuber during the growing season and re-planting.

Also discussed were hazards such as browsing by kangaroos and loss of biodiversity which was adversely affecting the survival of native terrestrial species. This loss of habitat and the loss of species further emphasises the need to maintain and extend our tuber bank.



## Can you help?

*John Badger*

Over the last couple of years, John Badger has been checking, correcting and retyping old journals that have been scanned so that they can be added to the NOSSA website. He is missing a few journals and has the following request :

*Does anyone have the 2004 NOSSA Journals for September and/or October? I also need the orchid picture on the front cover of the 2002 and also 2003 journals. If I could borrow any of these copies I can scan them and return them. Please contact me on 8278 5265 or via Editor Email: [nossa.editor@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.editor@gmail.com) Thank you.*

## *Monadenia bracteata* – An understatement

Reprint from NOSSA INC. JOURNAL, Vol. 10, No. 6. July, 1986, p 59

*Monadenia*: (Disa) Although introduced from South Africa *M. bracteata* has often been grown, but from its poor showing is unlikely to ever become a weed in South Australia.

**Editor:** Wishful thinking? This invasive weed has now spread from WA to Tasmania!



## Electranet Station near Mt Bold field trip Saturday 23rd September

Judy Sara

The Electranet Station near Mt Bold site had been placed on the excursion list for 2017 after an inquiry by the company asking about possible rare orchids that might be found there. The September excursion timing was great as 18 species of orchid were identified, most of them from flowers.

The bakery at Clarendon was an enticing meeting spot and most people enjoyed coffee and/or cake as they waited for everyone to arrive. The convoy of cars then travelled to the station. As we could not find an easy way in, we had to climb over the fence. Buckets and a sturdy box were placed each side of the fence and we helped each other over. The forecast rain did not fall but timing was important for those taking photos, as it was quite windy.

One of the most common Adelaide Hills orchids, the purple cockatoo, (*Glossodia major*) was amongst the first flowers to be seen. Many other plants of this species were seen in bud. There were a few flowers of the white form of the pink finger orchid (*Petalochilus carneus* sometimes called *Caladenia carnea*).

Six sun orchids were found. The dark brown column tips and yellow petals identified *Thelymitra antennifera*. One pink sun orchid was studied in detail and as the column arms were finger like without tufts rather than smooth, we came to the conclusion that we had seen *Thelymitra rubra* not *Thelymitra carnea*. *Thelymitra luteocilium* was also seen. This pink sun orchid had tufted hairy column arms. (There is a good article "Clues to Orchid Identification- Columns" on the NOSSA website.) The other sun orchid plants were in bud not in flower: *Thelymitra bracteata*, *Thelymitra brevifolia* and *Thelymitra grandiflora*. Some of the *Thelymitra* species are self-pollinating. This usually results in successful fertilisation of all the flowers on the one plant and hence all the capsules form. We saw a number of these.

Many colonies of the Mosquito Orchid (*Acianthus pusillus*) were found. There were lots of flowers and many plants with swollen capsules, indicating successful fertilization. Colonies of Mayfly Orchids (*Nemacianthus caudatus*) were also sighted. These were interesting as the plants were variable in size, with those found in drier areas smaller than those found in the wetter areas. It was mid flowering time for this species as we found plants with buds, some in flower and others had finished flowering.



A number of species were recorded from leaves only: Midge Orchid *Corunastylis* probably of the rufa complex, the Robust Gnat Orchid (*Cyrtostylis robusta*) and *Microtis* (not enough information to take this to species level).

The flowers of two species of spider orchids were observed: King Spider Orchid (*Arachnorchis tentaculata*) and the Narrow-lipped Spider Orchid (*Arachnorchis leptochila*). The Maroon-hoods (*Pterostylis pedunculata*) had just started flowering and many were identified by leaf only. The flowers of the Blood Greenhood (*Urochilus sanguineus*) were past their best. The other green hood seen was the dwarf greenhood, *Linguella* sp. *Hills nana*.

The colourful yellow and brown donkey orchids were easy to find. We saw Wallflower Donkey Orchids (*Diuris orientis*) and the Spotted Donkey orchid (*Diuris pardina*). There were also some *Diuris* hybrids.

There were so many orchids to see and photograph that it was quite late when we climbed the fence back out to the cars. After wandering further along the fence line Rosalie found a gate! We huddled between the cars to protect ourselves from the wind as we ate our lunch and discussed what a great excursion it had been.



## NOSSA TUBER BANK

Jane Higgs

South Australia has numerous native terrestrial orchid species and the aim of the tuber bank is to preserve them and keep them from extinction. One way this is done is with anyone who has excess tubers donating them to the tuber bank. The tubers are then offered for sale at \$2 per lot for members of NOSSA around Australia to purchase and grow. Hopefully, this low price encourages members to buy lots, grow them on and when they multiply, donate them back to the tuber bank and so on. This method is especially good with endangered species because it ensures that they are kept in existence, or at least gives them a chance they wouldn't otherwise have.

Another way to help preserve these orchids is with rescue digs in areas where road works or clearing for housing etc. is about to occur. For example, a few

### Urgent Call for Tubers

Tubers (or at this stage promise of prospective tubers) are urgently needed for the Tuber Bank. Could you ***please let Jane Higgs know as soon as possible so that she can complete a list before December.***

Jane Higgs

Phone no 08 8558 6247

PO Box 134 Myponga, SA 5202

Email: [jhiggs@activ8.net.au](mailto:jhiggs@activ8.net.au)

years ago, at Kuitpo Forest, they were about to spray, plough and re-plant one of the areas where the pines had been cut down. This area was full of native terrestrial orchids, many of which would have been lost. NOSSA was given a license to carry out rescue digs in this area over a set period of time, so members went with spades, pots, boxes etc. to dig up and collect tubers. Loads of these tubers were later donated to the tuber bank and distributed to other members and thereby given a chance of survival.

With the ever-increasing clearing of native scrub, rescue digs and the subsequent distribution of the tubers through the Tuber bank are one way to save these native orchids and ensure that they are not lost forever.

# FIELD TRIP TO MORIALTA AND HORSNELL GULLY CONSERVATION PARKS

2<sup>nd</sup> October 1977

Reprint from Native Orchid Society of South Australia Newsletter

Volume 1, No. 7 October 1977

The day dawned dull and wet after 12 mm of overnight rain, so the organiser lowered the pressure in his tyres, put 30 litres of water in the boot of his car to hold the tail end down on the wet track and set off. He need not have bothered, since only he and his assistant (who had no option) turned up at the 10.00 a.m. rendezvous. Obviously our orchid-viewers are only fair-weather venturers - the orchids were still there. Who knows, they might even have found *Thelymitra luteocilium* in flower. Just for the record, a brief survey of the Morialta venue showed the following in flower: *Diuris longifolia* (*Diuris orientis*) and *D. maculata* (*Diuris pardina*); *Caladenia dilatata* (*Arachnorchis tentaculata*) and *C. leptochila* (*Arachnorchis*);

*Glossodia major*; *Thelymitra antennifera* and *T. rubra*; *Pterostylis pedunculata*. In addition non-flowering examples of *Lyperanthus nigricans* (*Pyrorchis nigricans*) and *Microtis* sp. were also seen. Not to be outdone, we also waited in vain at Horsnell Gully at 2.00 p.m. but again nobody came. An even briefer survey of the upper end of the Park revealed *D. maculata* (*Diuris pardina*), and a large number of *Thelymitra* sp. (non-flowering) in the burnt-out patch. It is hoped that this visit may be resumed a week later on October 9, the Sunday of the October long weekend, which will be too late for inclusion in this newsletter. Should it eventuate, further details will appear in the November newsletter.

## RESUMED FIELD TRIP

9 October 1977

Reprint from Native Orchid Society of South Australia Newsletter

Volume 1, No. 8 November 1977

Fortunately, two families saw the notice in the local press concerning this revised trip, and so a small but select band eventually set forth. What a day we had! The organiser celebrated by depositing litter in various parts of the countryside. For reasons best known to himself, he left a shoe somewhere on the outing, and followed it up by losing a lens cap later in Theda. Anyway, we started with a short halt to see a spot where *Dipodium punctatum* may be found later in the season. At this stage, all we found was a couple of stray *Diuris longifolia* (*D. orientis*), and one *Caladenia dilatata* (*A. tentaculata*) in flower, together with a big patch of *Caladenia menziesii*, none of which looked like flowering this year. From there we moved to the main patch at the back of Morialta. Here we found places where the ground was a veritable carpet of *Glossodia major*. It is amazing how much local variation these show. They ranged in colour from a deep purple through to the very palest of tints, while some were strongly tinted with pink. They ranged in size from some scarcely more than 15 mm across to truly magnificent

specimens, and occasional plants had two flowers. At one spot, we also located a patch of nine plants with pure white flowers. Overall, *G. major* were so plentiful that we soon became quite blasé about them, and turned our attention to other species. The second most striking find was *Diuris*. We found big clumps of *longifolia* (*D. orientis*), and occasional odd examples of *maculata*, though for the most part these have finished flowering by now. What we also found were patches of plants that are almost certainly natural *maculata* x *longifolia* hybrids; big robust plants with large flowers, mainly yellow but tinted brown. The temperature reached 29.0°C the previous day, but for us the best was about 21°C early, and by the time we got there, there was a light cloud cover, and a cold wind blowing, while it tried to rain. This meant that we were not treated with any real displays of *Thelymitras* but we did find one *antennifera* that had forgotten to close...

Editor: To read more of this field trip go to the Nossa website at <https://nossa.org.au/journals/journals-1977-to-1986/>



## 2017 SPRING SHOW RESULTS

Les Nesbitt

The **Grand Champion** of the 2017 Show (NOSSA Trophy) was Les Nesbitt's *Cyrtostylis reniformis*

### 2017 NOSSA Spring Show Trophies

- ❖ **Roy Hargreaves Trophy** for Champion Terrestrial Species

*Cyrtostylis reniformis*      **Les Nesbitt**

- ❖ **Kay Nesbitt Trophy** for Champion Terrestrial Hybrid

*Pterostylis* Dusty Duke      **Don & Jane Higgs**

- The Wells Trophy** for Champion Epiphyte Species

*Sarcochilus falcatus*      **Les Nesbitt**

- ❖ **AOC Trophy** for Champion Epiphytic Hybrid

*Dendrobium gracillimum*      **John & Bev Gay**

- ❖ **Champion AUSTRALASIAN Orchid**

*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*      **Kris Kopicki**



### 2016 NOSSA Nominations for other awards

- Reg Shooter nomination for *Australian Native Orchid Hybrid*:  
**John & Bev Gay's** *Pterostylis* Dusty Duke
- Bill Murdoch Trophy nomination for *Champion Australian Native Orchid Species of the Year*  
**Les Nesbitt's** *Cyrtostylis reniformis*
- Les Nesbitt Award nomination For Australian Native Orchid Species grown by South Australians  
**Les Nesbitt's** *Cyrtostylis reniformis*
- G Herman Slade Trophy nomination –

**Kris Kopicki's** *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*

no award

### Other prize winners

- Champion Floral Art - – Shoulder Spray  
Rosalie Lawrence
- Novice Epiphyte (Margaret Fuller Trophy)      no award
- Novice Terrestrial (Margaret Fuller Trophy)      Kildare College's *Caladenia latifolia*



## Spring Show Thank you.

Our show has been and gone. Thanks to all those who helped out with our Annual Show. We are now looking for a Show Marshall for next year commencing in February. Not sure what is required of a show marshall? Ask Gordon or Les at the next meeting or contact the Secretary at [nossa.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.secretary@gmail.com).

# Photographic Competition September 2017

## Theme: Hybrid Orchids

Rosalie Lawrence

Natural hybrids are both fascinating and challenging. Fascinating because they don't occur readily, (although of all the plant families, orchids have one of the greatest propensity for hybridising). Challenging, because of the difficulty in determining the parents unlike the manmade hybrids where we can track the parents being used.

Obviously, the hybrid will share characteristics of both parents and this is the case of John Fennell's winning photograph this month, *Thelymitra x truncata*. In the South Australian setting, a spotted orchid hybrid suggests that one of the parents will be *T. ixioides/juncifolia* and because it is blue it is most likely that the other parent will also be blue, from either the *T. pauciflora* or *T. nuda* complexes. This is true also for *T. x merraniae* as there is no naturally occurring blue pigment. Whereas a pink or yellow parent and a blue parent will not produce a blue hybrid. Consider *T. x chasmogama*, *T. irregularis* and *T. x macmillanii* which are never blue.



Finally, it is fitting that this should be the winning photograph as this is the centenary month (September 2017) of its presentation to the Royal Society of South Australia, by Dr R S Rogers who also named this hybrid. The other hybrids entered were Jane Higgs' *Caladenia* Harlequin and *Diuris* Earwig, both cultivated plants; Pauline Meyers' *Caladenia falcata* X *Drakonorchis barbarossa*; John Fennell's *Caladenia x idiastes*, *T. x irregularis*; Rickey Egels *T. x macmillanii* along with Lorraine Badger's *Caladenia roei* hybrid, and *Caladenia* X *ericsoniae*.

### Reference

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/109628#page/353/mode/1up>  
<https://nossa.org.au/2017/07/28/2017-june-winning-picture/>  
<https://nossa.org.au/2014/09/26/thelymitra-x-irregularis-beautiful-but-only-a-hybrid/>  
Bates, R. J., ed. (2011). *South Australian Native Orchids*. Electronic version, NOSSA

## Orchid Photo Theme for October 2017

Six or more flowers in the photo

### Rules of entry:

The subject matter must have something to do with Australian orchids.

### How to enter:

Email [nossa.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.enquiries@gmail.com) – jpg as large as possible, preferably A4 ratio for printing

Post: PO Box 565, Unley, 5061

## September 2017 Benched Orchids

Photos: David Hurst



Pterostylis curta

Diuris behri



Diuris Earwig



Diuris orientis



Caladenia latifolia



Caladenia Harlequin

Chiloglottis platyptera



Cyrtostylis robusta



Chiloglottis x pescottiana





## September 2017 Benched Orchids

Photos by David Hirst

*Diuris palustris*



*Glossodia majora*



*Dendrobium Brolga Autumn*



*Corysanthes*



*Dendrobium aemulum*



*Den Donovan Opelesence*



*Caladenia Fairy Floss*



*Den Star of Riverdene*

