

# Native Orchid Society of South Australia



## JOURNAL

**SEPTEMBER  
2018**

Volume 42 No.8

# Native Orchid Society of South Australia Journal September 2018

PO Box 14, Kensington Park SA 5068 Website: [www.nossa.org.au](http://www.nossa.org.au) Phone: 0439 214 106

**NOSSA PHONE**  
0439 214 106



## President

Gordon Ninnies

Email: [nossa.membership@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.membership@gmail.com)

## Vice President

Robert Lawrence

Email: [nossa.membership@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.membership@gmail.com)

## Secretary

Lindy McCallum

Email: [nossa.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.secretary@gmail.com)

## Treasurer

Christine Robertson

Email: [nossa.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.treasurer@gmail.com)

## Editor

Marg Paech

Email: [nossa.editor@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.editor@gmail.com)

## Committee

Bob Bates

Craig Humfrey

Les Nesbitt

Thelma Bridle

Rosalie Lawrence

Marg Paech

## Other Positions

### Botanical Advisor

Bob Bates

### Conservation Officer

Thelma Bridle Ph: 8557 6553.

### Field Trips Coordinator

Michael Clark

[nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com)

### Librarian

Pauline Meyers

### Membership Liaison Officer

Robert Lawrence

Email: [nossa.membership@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.membership@gmail.com)

### Registrar of Judges

Les Nesbitt

### Show Marshall

Craig Humfrey

### Speaker Coordinator

John Eaton

### Trading Table - *Vacant*

### Tuber Bank Coordinator

Jane Higgs

Ph: 8558 6247

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

### Website Manager

Rosalie Lawrence

Email: [nossa.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.enquiries@gmail.com)

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.

## Life Members

Mr R Hargreaves†

Mr H Goldsack†

Mr R Robjohns†

Mr J Simmons†

Mr D Wells†

Mr L Nesbitt

Mr G Carne

Mr R Bates

Mr R Shooter

Mr W Dear

Mrs C Houston

Mr D Hirst

Mrs T Bridle

## 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 reprints of any article with full acknowledgment.

## Contents

| TITLE / SUBJECT                   | AUTHOR              | PAGE  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| August Committee Meeting Notes    |                     | 88    |
| Seed Grower Lab Report            | Christine Robertson | 88    |
| Field trip to Wilmington—1st Sept | Ros Miller          | 89    |
| Genus Plumatochilos               | Leo Davis           | 90-91 |
| Thelymitra column features        | Rosalie Lawrence    | 92    |
| Aug Guest Speaker—David Hirst     | John Eaton          | 93    |
| GoPro Tool                        | Chris Davey         | 93    |
| Winning Photo                     | Rosalie Lawrence    | 94    |
| Benched Orchids                   | Les Nesbitt         | 95    |
| Field Trip photos, species list   |                     | 96    |
| Orchid sightings around the state |                     | 96a   |

**Front cover** - Photo: June Niejalke, This consistently deep pink large flowered *C. carnea* type was found in a survey last year on the Coorong. It has been confirmed as a new species.

## Bulletin Board / Date Claimers

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia meets every 4th Tuesday of the months February to November at St Matthew's Hall, Crn Wellington street & Bridge Street, Kensington (just off Kensington Road). Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. Doors to the hall open from 7:15 pm to allow Members access to the Library and Trading Table.

| DATE             | EVENT   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>September</b> |   |
| 11th             | Committee Meeting— 7.30pm venue 4 Cleo Court, Brooklyn Park—all welcome.  |
| Wed 12th         | 9.30am Weeding at <b>Grange Golf Course</b> — <i>Pterostylis arenicola</i> Please contact Tim Jury (TPAG) for further information or any late changes 7127 4166 |
| Sat/Sun 15-16th  | NOSSA Spring Show   |
| Sat 29th         | Field Trip  |
| <b>October</b>   |   |
| Mon 1st          | (Public Holiday) Mt Lofty Botanic Gdns Walk—11am to 12 noon—see below   |
| Sat 6th          | 9.30 am— <b>Belair NP</b> - Long Gully weeding for <i>Pterostylis cucullata</i> .   |
| Sat/Sun 6-7th    | APS Spring Show   |
| Wed 10th         | Mt Lofty Botanic Gdns Walk—11am to 12 noon—see below—bookings necessary   |
| Sat 27th         | Field Trip See below  |
| <b>November</b>  |   |
| Sat 3rd          | Mt Lofty Botanic Gdns Walk—11am to 12 noon—see below—Bookings necessary   |



### FIELD TRIP

Field trips will generally be held on the Saturday following the General Meeting each month. See page 81!

Next Field Trip will be on September 29th. As previously, please contact Michael Clark to book your place and get further information at [nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com)

### ARTICLES FOR NEXT JOURNAL

Articles / Reports must reach the Editor **no later than Thurs 4th October**. Early-bird articles -so appreciated! Please send all articles to [nossa.editor@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.editor@gmail.com) ☺

### NATIVE ORCHID SALE

With an entrance fee of just a gold coin this has to be a good day out! Come to the St Bernadette's Church Hall on Cnr South Road and Walsh Avenue at St Marys on Saturday and Sunday, 15th & 16th September any time from 10 am til 4 pm. Any help would be appreciated—see p88.

### MOUNT LOFTY BOTANIC GARDENS WALK

Come and discover the native orchid treasures of this Botanic Garden with a guide. Great place for a picnic and being during the holidays, children will love the outing.

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

### PRESIDENT HAS HIS OWN EMAIL ADDRESS!

Our president, Gordon Ninnis now has his own email address. If you wish to contact him this way please use....  
[Nossa.president@gmail.com](mailto:Nossa.president@gmail.com)

### GENERAL MEETING Sept 24th—8 pm start

**Guest speaker:** Bob Bates

**Topic:** NOSSA member, Bob Bates will speak anecdotally about the work of some contemporary orchid researchers and their research. Members are urged to attend as we are approaching the “apogee” of the orchid season with orchid displays in abundance and hopefully a mild night to entice you all out. Doors open at 7.15pm. Come early and check out the library.

**VENUE:**

St Matthews Hall, Cnr Wellington & Bridge St, Kensington.

### NEW MEMBERS

Peter & Karli van Rooyen TOOGOOM QLD  
Sue Willmott BELLEVUE HEIGHTS  
Lisa Incoll TEA TREE GULLY

If you'd like to learn more about terrestrials, or any orchids, feel free to ring the NOSSA PHONE .



### NOSSA'S NEW PHONE & POSTAL ADDRESS

**Please use to contact NOSSA.**

Specific contacts can be made by emailing—see list on previous page.

Mailing Address:

PO Box 14  
KENSINGTON PARK SA 5068



# Housekeeping

## NOSSA's two Facebook pages

*Native Orchid Society of South Australia* is used for sharing news items and information to the public. It promotes the society.

The other, *NOSSA Members Gallery* is available only to financial members and is a private discussion group for all things Australasian Orchids - whether it be cultivation, conservation, identification or anything else of interest. If you would like to be a member of this group please contact [nossa.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:nossa.enquiries@gmail.com) It may be a place for those members who are unable to get to the regular meetings to "meet and chat".

## Extensions to Conservation parks

Land has been added to two Fleurieu Peninsula conservation parks. At Mount Magnificent the mountain's peak has been included as part of the park. The peak has a popular summit walking trail that links into the Heysen Trail. Cox Scrub has had another 19 hectares added to it, bringing its total area to 563 hectares of mostly stringybark bushland.

## Parks Passes

NOSSA is affiliated with Friends of Parks (FoP), an umbrella group for the various park conservation groups around the state. In recognition of NOSSA's conservation work, the FoP offer free complimentary passes each year to active members of NOSSA. The pass is for recreational use.

The FoP's guideline for active members is very broad and allows each group to determine who is an active member. Our guidelines can be summarised as follows: if the committee is aware of your activities for the past year then you most likely qualify. Members who do qualify will be offered the Parks Pass information around the end of each financial year. **The pass is valid for one year.** A copy of the Guidelines for Active members is available on request from the secretary.

# August Committee Meeting Notes

## NOSSA Orchid show and Sale

The NOSSA-run Native Orchid Show and Plant Sale is coming up – on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September in St Bernadette's Church Hall at St Mary's. Craig Humfrey will be the Show Marshall – thank you Craig for stepping up! A number of members will be going to Strathalbyn to collect the plants for sale which were prepared a few weeks ago at the working bee. This will be a major manoeuvre, to get the plants from the Lab to the Flower Show venue. If you are able to spare some time to offer help in any way either before or during the show, please contact **ASAP** Les Nesbitt; president, Gordon; the Lawrences or someone from the committee (see the list on page 86). This is a major event for our club, and any help would be appreciated.

A new banner (pictured here) is being produced to advertise our presence. See photo :

## Field trip guidelines

These are still being debated and discussed. Watch this space for further updates.

## Terrestrial & Orchid Seed Growers Lab

*Christine Robertson*

NOSSA Members have been working hard at my property near Woodchester to set up laboratory facilities for the flasking of seeds and in time mericlone. The laboratory will be open for orchid growers to learn to flask their own seed pods. In time, the laboratory could help with the conservation of rare and endangered species enabling NOSSA Members to revegetate areas and also enlarge the number of plants in certain regions. Members will be able to design their own conservation projects and carry out the necessary laboratory procedures.

The laboratory is getting closer to being operational. The clearing out of the shed, removal of dust and mould etc. and sealing of gaps is completed, electrical work is all done, and construction work is almost completed. Benches for the equipment have also been acquired, as well as shelving for the completed flasks.





Recently through a fortunate conversation at a recent orchid show, we have been able to purchase a second larger laminar flow cabinet, plus more shelving with lights and boxes of plastic jars for sowing of the seeds.

The next job to be done is the painting after which time the benches and cabinets can be installed and we will be operational. There are a few other tasks to be completed: a sink to be installed; tank to be moved and installed to service the sink; autoclave to be purchased (this has already been sourced); floor to be fixed and lino laid in the plant area (laboratory area is already done); and construction work around the front door to be completed.

If anyone is handy with a paintbrush or good with plumbing (it is only a simple job), we would welcome you with open arms. It can be in your time not a regular working bee. This would speed the laboratory development up enormously. If you can help please phone me to discuss times, etc. ....Christine Robertson Phone 08) 8536 3948

## Field Trip To Wilmington area -1st Sept Ros Miller

We were just a little worried on our way to the Southern Flinders Ranges to participate in the field trip at Alligator Gorge. During our Friday afternoon travel there was wind and rain. The weather forecast for Saturday indicated a chance of rain.

The eleven participants met just south of Wilmington on the road to Alligator Gorge and it was, as predicted, drizzling. Our guides for the day, Lorraine and John Badger, told us that they had checked out the orchid situation the day before, and they thought that, unfortunately, most of the orchids had been destroyed by Friday's wild weather. We were a little disappointed. Lorraine then stated that it was to be a "field trip with a difference". That really peaked our interest. It turned out that after the bad weather that had occurred during her orchid hunt, Lorraine had discovered a café called the "Black Sheep" in Wilmington that was very cosy with a lit fire. We were to go there whilst the drizzle continued. The Black Sheep turned out to be most delightful and we took our time over coffee and cake interspersed with good conversation.

The plan was to check out three sites. At the **first site**, near the Lodge, there was still some drizzle, so we donned our rain gear and the hunt was on! We were astonished - *Pterostylis nana* (dwarf greenhood orchid) and *Pheladenia deformis* (blue beard orchid) were spotted. Not only that, after a short time it stopped drizzling. We were delighted. Horn beeps sounded – time for the second site.

*Pterostylis nana* and *Pheladenia deformis* were also seen at the **second site** at Blue Gum Flat. We were excited to see some more species of orchid - *Diuris palustris* (cinnamon donkey orchid), *Bunochilus viriosus* and *Plumatochilis*. sp. Woodland (bearded greenhood orchid). We were on a roll! And the sun was now shining. In fact the rest of the day was fine and sunny.

Horn beeps again – time for lunch at Alligator Gorge's lookout area which conveniently had a picnic table that accommodated all of us. More discussions over lunch. Robert wandered off during lunch and arrived back stating that he'd found an "Alligator Gorge Hopping Orchid" (namely a kangaroo!!!).

At the **third site** near the Lookout John sighted a patch of *Arachnorchis* sp. (spider orchid). Wow. We were all really thrilled. Further on some *Caladenia saxatilis* (star spider orchid) were found. This orchid is near threatened in South Australia. It was such a pleasant surprise. There were also patches of *Cyrtostylis reniformis* (gnat orchid), *Urochilus sanguineas* (banded greenhood), *Pterostylis robusta* (common green shell orchid), *Hymenochilus nemoralis* (swan headed tiny shell orchid) as well as groups of *Pterostylis nana* and *Pheladenia deformis*.

We had been blessed. We finished on a high with afternoon tea back at the lookout area's picnic table. During this, John Fennell was presented with a block of chocolate as the first to find a spider orchid - he kindly shared the chocolate with us. What an amazing day we'd had – it definitely was a field trip with a difference.



Photo: Ros Miller

# Genus *Plumatichilos*

Leo Davis

Back in 1990 Bates & Weber placed all greenhood orchids in genus *Pterostylis*<sup>(1. pp118-143)</sup> where all Australian State Herbaria and others, certainly Janes & Duretto<sup>(3. pp260-269)</sup> would have them still be. In 2001 Szlachetko erected the genus *Plumatichilos*. In his Guide<sup>(4. pp286-339)</sup>, Jones divided the greenhoods into 16 separate genera, these in two groups, each of eight genera. One group all have the **lateral sepals directed downwards** (including *Bunochilus* and *Urochilus*) and the other eight all have them **directed upwards** (deflexed, as in *Diploidium* and *Pterostylis*). Even those who reject the splitting and creation of the extra genera will concede that those placed in *Plumatichilos*, which have **downward directed** and **partly fused lateral sepals** (forming a **synsepalum**), are strikingly different in appearance to any other *Pterostylis* species. The most obvious distinguishing features are the **unique labellum** and the **two openings** to the galea.

I had known just two species of *Plumatichilos*, both of which were undescribed. I could recognise and distinguish them essentially because they grew in very different habitats and locations. I used Bates' tag names, Mallee Bearded Greenhood (*Plumatichilos* sp. Mallee Bearded Greenhood)<sup>(3. pp913-4)</sup> and Woodland Plum or Bearded Greenhood (*Plumatichilos* sp. Woodland Bearded Greenhood)<sup>(1. pp915-916)</sup>. In recent weeks both (along with two other South Australian species) have been formally described. They are now, respectively, *Plumatichilos multisignatus*<sup>(5. pp33-35)</sup> (Fig. 1) and *P. foliaceus*<sup>(5. pp30-32)</sup> (Fig. 2). But, to a large extent, I still identify them more by the locations in which I find them than, to my eye, clearly discernable physical features.

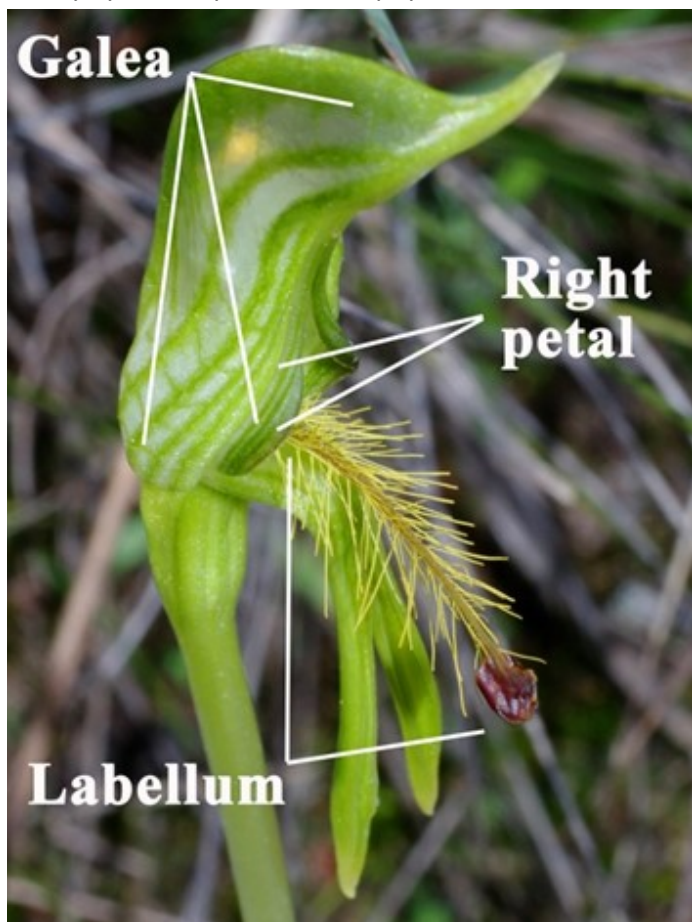


Fig. 1 *Plumatichilos multisignatus*. Monarto. Sept 10, 2012

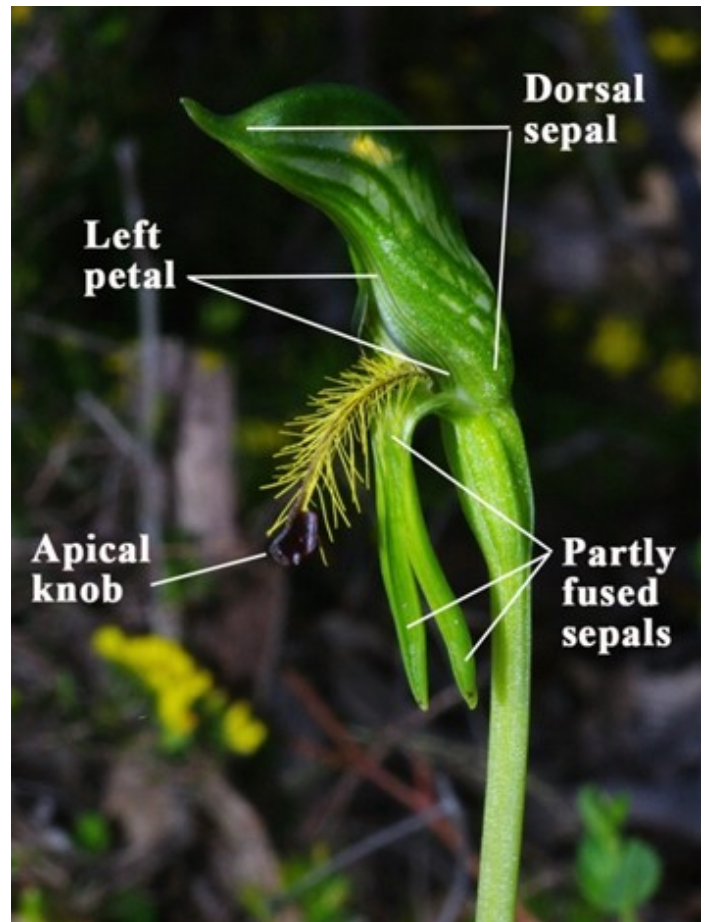


Fig. 2 *Plumatichilos foliaceus*. Para Wirra. Sept 11, 2013

I had no idea what 'barrier trichomes' were but I saw that Jones listed them as the last of 13 dot pointed characters of genus *Plumatichilos*<sup>(5. p26)</sup>. Trichome simply means a hair growing from a plant epidermis. They can be unicellular or multicellular and branched or unbranched. The 'barrier' refers to its capacity to block and direct a pollinating insect to an exit path that puts it in the right posture to transfer a pollinium to the stigma (sticky receptive female part of flower).

Janes & Duretto, who reject the splitting of genus *Pterostylis*, divide it into two subgenera using the **absence** (subgenus *Pterostylis*) or the **presence** (subgenus *Oligochaetochilus*) of **barrier trichomes** on the column wings<sup>(3. pp262)</sup>. They place what I call *Plumatichilos* in the section V, *Catochilus*, of subgenus 2 *Oligochaetochilus*<sup>(3. pp266)</sup>, and, yes, I see your eyes glaze over. To them the Adelaide Hills 'plum' would be *Pterostylis*, subg. 2 *Oligochaetochilus*, Sec. V. *Catochilus*, species *foliaceus*. Learning what 'barrier trichomes' are had me go back searching my photo library and I found images of the barrier trichomes in *Bunochilus* flowers that I had not previously spotted. (see Fig. 3—sent to me by June Niejalke).



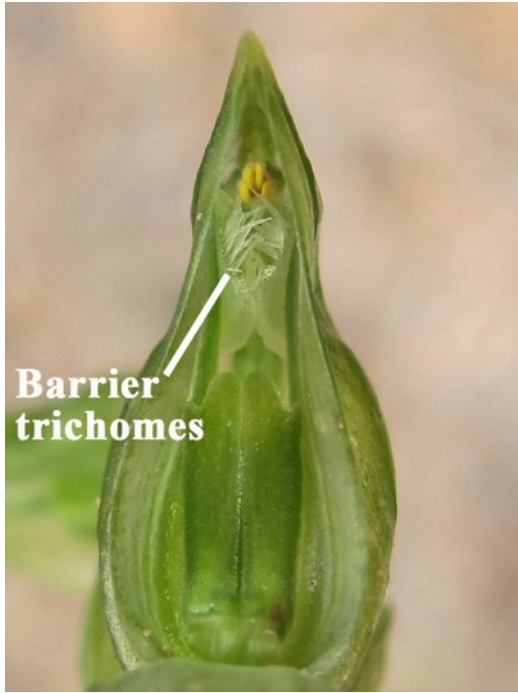
Genus *Plumatichilos* *Contd.*

Fig. 3 *Bunochilus prasinus*. Sherlock (Type location for the species). Photo by June Niejalke.

As with all 'true' *Pterostylis*, the **dorsal sepal** and the **two lateral petals**, of the upside down flowers, are formed into a **galea** or cap (Fig. 1). They are fused so closely that it can be hard to discern the join between the sepal and the comparatively small petals, especially in some less clearly striped flowers. (Figs. 1 & 2).

The typical *Pterostylis* galea has a **single opening** but in *Plumatichilos* there are **two**, a lower one, from which the uniquely formed **labellum** protrudes (and through which the pollinating male gnats enter) and an upper one (through which the pollinators exit)<sup>(4. p335)</sup>, guided by the barrier trichomes (Fig. 4). Through this upper opening you can observe the top of the **column**, including parts of it, the **pollinia**, the **barrier trichomes**, **column arms** and sometimes the stigma. Two crossed filaments, in front to the **pollinia**, are **column arms**.



Fig. 4 *Plumatichilos foliaceus*. Scott Creek C.P. Sept 2015

The **labellum** (the modified third petal) (Figs 1, 2 & 5) is unlike that of any other *Pterostylis* sp. It has a slightly flattened filament having a reddish-brown apical knob and two or three types of hairs along its length. Jones describes the labellum of *P. foliaceus* as having **three** types of hairs<sup>(5. p30)</sup>. You may be able to see the short white ones (1 mm) at the base of the labellum in Fig. 5. The longer (5-7 mm) yellow ones along the most of the length of the labellum are easy to see. I am not sure that I can distinguish the shorter proximal (near point of attachment) yellow ones (1.5 mm). In *P. multisignatus* Jones describes just **two** types of labellum hairs<sup>(5. p33)</sup> with the white basal ones absent, and two sorts yellow hairs, proximal ones to 1.2 mm and longer ones 5-8 mm. To my eye, this character, **two or three types of labellum hairs**, is the only objective, rather than subjective, distinguishing feature between the two species that I see regularly.



Fig. 5 *Plumatichilos foliaceus*. Scott Creek C.P. Sept 26, 2015



Fig. 6 *Plumatichilos foliaceus* in early bud. Scott Creek C.P. August 29, 2018.

In Fig. 5, I think that you can see that the hairs arise, in two parallel rows, not paired, from the **sides of the flattened shaft of the labellum filament**.

Another generic character is 'leaves sessile (no stems), ascending to erect, often with **whitish or yellowish interveinal areas**.'<sup>(5. p26)</sup> You may need to look very closely, in Fig. 6, to see these 'windows', mainly at the bases of the stemless leaves.

1. Bates, R.J. (2011). South Australian Native Orchids, DVD Issued by the Subediting Committee (NOSSA) on behalf of the Native Orchid Society of S. A. Incorporated.
2. Bates, R.J. & Weber, J.Z. (1990). *Orchids of South Australia*, A. B. Caudell, Government Printer, South Australia.
3. Janes, J.K. & Duretto, M.F. (2010), A new classification for subtribe Pterostylidinae (Orchidaceae), reaffirming Pterostylis in the broad sense. *Australian Systematic Botany*, **23**, 260–269.
4. Jones, D.L. (2006), A Complete Guide to the Native Orchids of Australia, Reed New Holland, Australia.
5. Jones, D.L. (2018), Six new species of *Plumatichilos* (Orchidaceae: Pterostylidinae) from South-eastern Australia and a new species from New Zealand, *Australian Orchid Review* 83(4): 26–44.

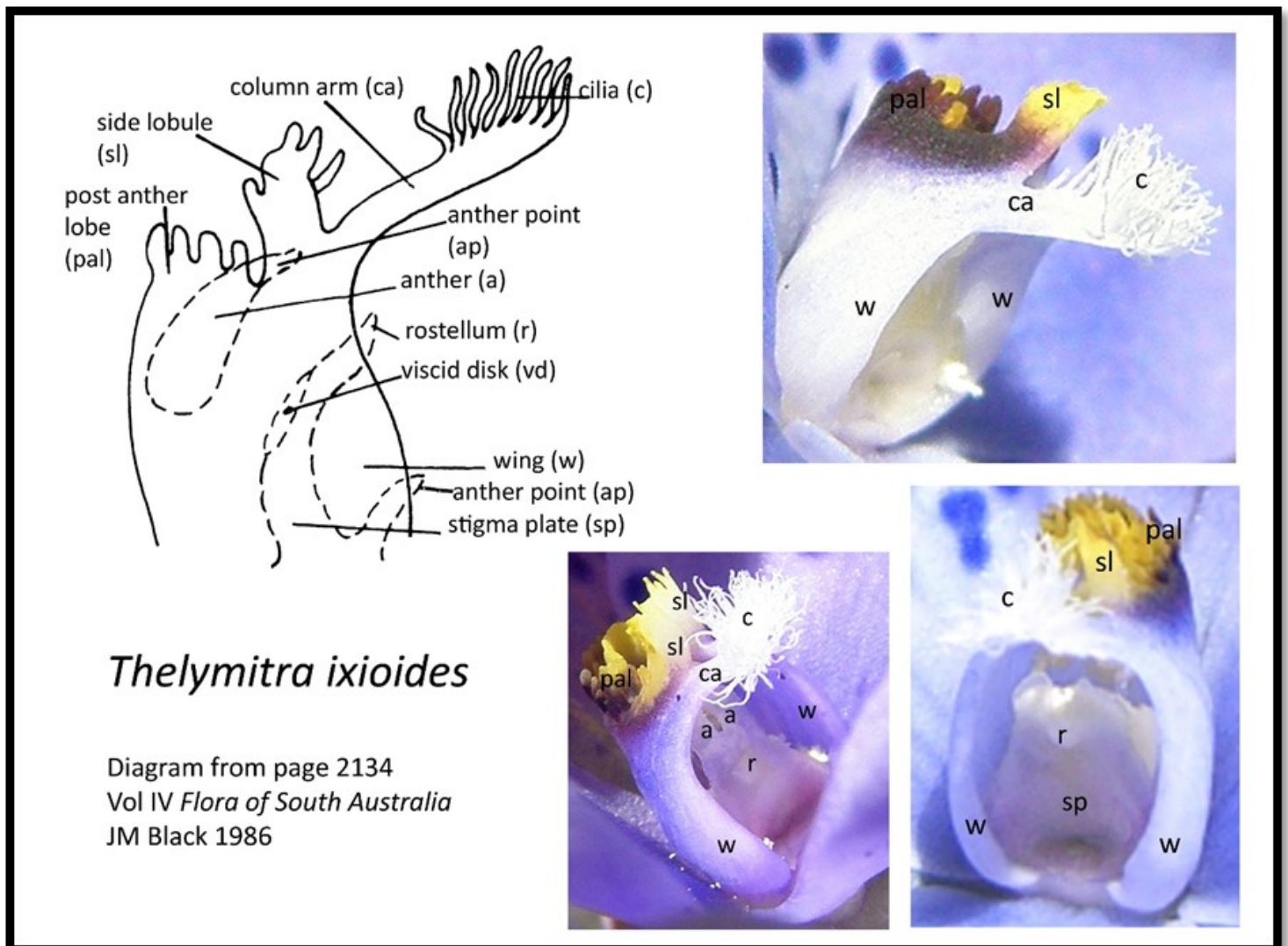
# *Thelymitra* (Sun Orchid) Column Features

Rosalie Lawrence

The columns in a *Thelymitra* (Sun Orchid) may be one of the main identifying features of a sun orchid and so this article looks at those features that botanists will often refer to in their descriptions.

Though we cannot physically dissect an individual flower, we can make use of photographs to spot various features.

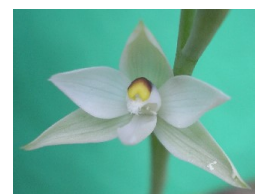
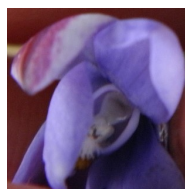
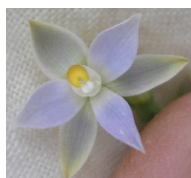
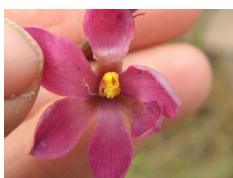
The diagram below is that of *T. ixioides* (based on the taxonomy of 1984) column whilst the photographs are that of *T. juncifolia* column (as *T. ixioides* is now considered to be limited to the eastern states). The column of these two are similar. One photograph will not give all of the features hence in this article the three photographs show all of the features except the viscid disk where the pollinia is stored. The stigmatic plate is sticky and receives the pollen for fertilization.



Photos: Robert Lawrence

Most of the variations between the *Thelymitra* columns occur within the upper portion of the column. The post anther lobe can be quite varied. For instance, with *T. ixioides*/*T. juncifolia* the post anther lobe is not hooded. Some with hoods may have deep splits, whilst others form a broad fringe. Yet again, others have variations within the column arms such as having no cilia.

Articles will appear in future journals, to help identify one *Thelymitra* from another. Watch for the next informative article about *Thelymitra* columns.





## Aug NOSSA Meeting guest Speaker

John Eaton

David Hirst presented members with a PowerPoint of his anecdotal observations re species decline and loss of biodiversity as an 11 year old - commencing with his observations on the family's 40 acre family farm at Two Wells.

From there the Hirst family moved to a 1500 acre (607 ha) scrub block near Kingston SE situated on Baker's Drain. Once a permanent supply of water, a new drain to the south has degraded Baker's Drain reducing it to a series of water holes - causing water reliant species such as ducks, tortoises, catfish golden bell frogs and crustaceans such as yabbies to decline or disappear. David also described the habitat destruction and consequent species decline was caused by the establishment of the farm near Kingston. He also photographed the effects of "prescribed burns" at Mark Oliphant Conservation Park in 2008 on its fauna (southern Brown Bandicoot) and flora biodiversity and the time it has taken for species to (partially) recover to their current levels in 2018 - raising issues about optimal burn rates for fire hazard reduction in the Adelaide Hills. This was set against the backdrop of NASA's 'global warming' satellite data showing the expansion of thermal bands as climate change causes land masses to become hotter, drier and therefore more prone to burning and species loss - globally.

Drawing on his own special, professional knowledge and interest in Arachnids, he quotes Prof. Andrew Austin (University of Adelaide's Centre for Evolutionary Biology and Biodiversity), who points to a sharp decline (up to 90%) in trapdoor spider numbers, some populations having completely disappeared.

David also pointed to observations by Prof. David Paton on the decline of SA's woodland birds due to woodland habitat loss even though clearance has slowed appreciable since 1984. David has predicted the loss of 50 species of woodland birds should this loss continue at current rates and this is despite clearance rates of woodland habitat having slowed appreciably<sup>1</sup>.

He reminded us of the importance of old, even *dead* trees as habitat for spiders, birds, and small mammals. Such trees in an urban setting are cut down as they are considered dangerous.

The degradation of small trees such as Mulga in the semi-arid and arid regions of SA in the outback, commenced with the rabbit plague, cattle foraging from mulga bark during drought and sheep browsing on native vegetation.

It was not all about "*gloom and doom*". David ended his talk by emphasising the importance of preserving old growth Mallee such as Gluepot Bird Sanctuary and the conservation work being undertaken by volunteers at Calperum Station, part of the Australian Landscape Trust – *Riverland Biosphere Reserve* which also includes Taylorville Station and Danggali Conservation Park.

It left me pondering whether we *homo sapiens* are wise enough and smart enough to face up to the implications this has for our own long-term survival and viability as a species and make the hard social, political, and economic – indeed ethical and moral choices needed to reverse the huge loss of biodiversity we have caused. We humans are not about to fly off at the speed of light *and* in biologically viable numbers, to discover, colonise (and begin destroying?) another planet any time soon.

### Reference:

1 Loss of insectivorous birds has also seen an increase in dieback amongst eucalypts as re-plantings have often ignored or underestimated the importance of the natural understory that accompanies woodland tree species.



## September Guest Speaker—Bob Bates - Sept 24th

See page 87 for more details.

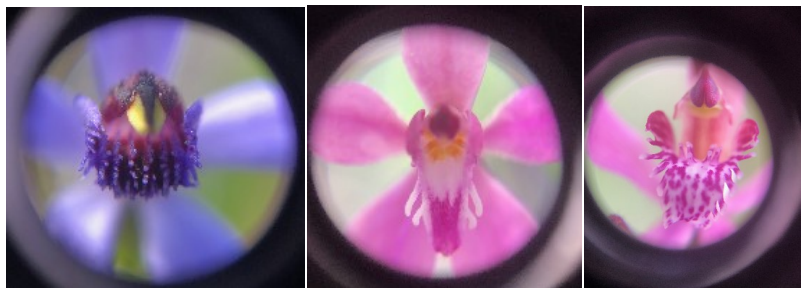
## Go-Pro

Chris Davey

At work, I have been utilising a new tool that snaps onto your smart phone to take close up photos of insects, diseases, cereal grains etc.. It is called a GoMicro and is basically a magnifying glass that allows close up photos of small objects.

I tried it today on some native orchids on our family walk through the old farm scrub. Some of the images are below. I found it very easy to be able to identify orchids by being able to look more closely at their flowering parts.

If interested in learning more about this interesting tool, contact the editor.



# Winning Photo—August

Rosalie Lawrence

This month's winner was Jenny Pauley's photograph of a *Corybas incurvus* (syn *Corysanthes incurva*).

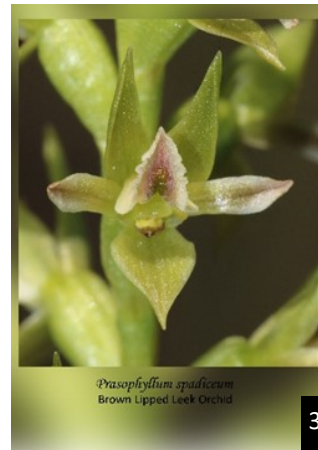
Before looking specifically at the species, it might well be worthwhile looking at the features that distinguish the *Corysanthes* (Toothed Helmet Orchid) group from *Corybas* (Spurred Helmet Orchid). The major difference appears to be in the flowers. The *Corybas* flower is dominated by the dorsal sepal which hides the labellum whereas with the *Corysanthes* the dorsal sepal and labellum are equally prominent although sometimes the dorsal sepal may be the less dominant. A less obvious difference occurs in the leaves. *Corysanthes* leaves have a fine point but this is absent in *Corybas*. Based on this, only *Corysanthes* (Toothed Helmet Orchid) occurs in South Australia.

*C. incurva*, as part of the *Corysanthes* group, is interesting because the flower does not appear flared or toothed. But though the labellum curves in, it does initially start to flare, and it does have fine short teeth. In fact, in the early stages of the flower opening it can be possible to confuse it with the opening bud of *C. diemenica*. One of the differences between these two species is that the flower of *C. incurva* sits on the leaf with no clearly visible stem whilst *C. diemenica* is raised above the leaf with a visible stem (see photo).



*Corysanthes diemenica* \*Note stem

Other entries were:



- 1 *Jonesiopsis capillata* Pauline Meyers
- 2 *Glossodia major* Lindy McCallum
3. *Prasophyllum* sp Gum Lagoon John Fennell
4. *Spiranthes alticola* John Fennell
5. *Arachnorchis tentaculata* Lindy McCallum
6. *Petalochilus* sp. Matilda Chris Davey [This photo was very cleverly revealed at the meeting and I am told took everyone by surprise! Well done Rosalie. Ed.]

Reference: Jones, D. L., A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia Including the Island Territories. 2006, Reed New Holland

**What we see depends mainly on what we look for.....**  
*unless it is orchids (they hide!)*





# Benched Orchids for August

Les Nesbitt -Registrar

Commentary for the night provided by Steve Howard (Epiphytes) and Jane Higgs (Terrestrials)

## Open Division Epiphyte Species

- \*\*1st *Dendrobium teretifolia* Steve Howard  
2nd *Dendrobium teretifolia* Les Nesbitt

## Epiphyte Hybrid

- \*\*1st *Den. Mem. Alicia x speciosum* Steve Howard  
2nd *Den. Touch of Class* Steve Howard  
3rd *Den. Jonathan's Glory* Les Nesbitt

## Second Division Epiphyte Species

- \*\*1st *Sarochilus falcatus* Peter Lukeman  
2nd *Den. aemulum* Peter Lukeman

## Epiphyte Hybrid

- 1st *Den. Balnarring* Peter Lukeman  
\*\*2nd *Den. Star of Riverdene* Janet Adams  
3rd *Den. Tweetas X teretifolium* Peter Lukeman

## Open Division Terrestrial Species

- 1st *Diuris palustris* Don & Jane Higgs  
\*\*2nd *Pterostylis curta* Steve Howard  
3rd *Cyrtostylis robusta* Les Nesbitt

## Terrestrial Hybrid

- \*\*1st *Pterostylis Elegance x pedunculata* Les Nesbitt  
2nd *Pterostylis Aussie Spirit* Les Nesbitt

## Second Division Terrestrial Species

- \*\*1st *Chiloglottis trapeziformis* Rosalie Lawrence  
2nd *Pterostylis curta* Rosalie Lawrence

## \*\*Popular Vote winners

Leader: Steve Howard (E) Les Nesbitt (T)

Judges for the night were: Mei Weibel  
Les Nesbitt  
Steve Howard  
Graham Zerbe  
J & D Higgs



## Plant of the Night

*Den. Mem. Alicia x speciosum* -Steve Howard

All photos on this page: David Hirst



*Den Touch of Class*



*Sarochilus falcatus*



*Den. Aemulum*



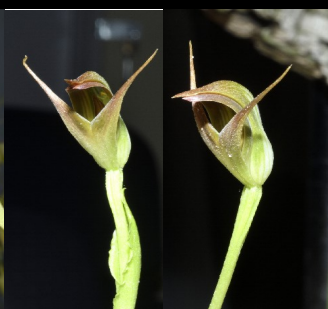
*Pterostylis curta*



*Den. Jonathan's Glory*



*Den Balnarring*



*Pt. Elegance x pedunculata*



*Pterostylis Aussie Spirit*



*Pt. robusta*



*C. trapeziformis*



# From the Field Trip

## Species list from Robert Lawrence:

*Acianthus pusillus* – some spent flowers  
*Arachnorchis saxatilis* – mostly flowering  
*Arachnorchis* sp. – small plants in bud  
*Bunochilus* sp. – flowering plants either still in bud or fertilised with capsules forming – seedlings were present (which I've never seen in the Adelaide Hills)  
*Caladenia latifolia* – leaves only  
*Cyrtostylis reniformis* – some with flowers  
*Cyrtostylis robusta* – some with flowers  
*Diplodinium robustum* - 4 flowers, 150 sterile rosettes  
*Diuris palustris* – flowering  
*Linguella* sp. – some flowering  
*Microtis* sp. – leaves  
*Oligochaetochilus* – some plants in bud  
*Pheladenia deformis* – many flowering  
*Plumatichilos* sp. – mostly in bud, but one flowering plant  
*Thelymitra* sp. – some could be *T. luteocilium*  
*Urochilus sanguineus* – some flowering



All field trip photos: Ros Miller

## And from Lorraine Badger:

**Blue Gum Flat:** *Diuris pallustris* (a few flowers); *Hymenochilus* poss *nemoralis* (a few flowers); *Oligochaetochilus* sp (leaves & buds); *Pheladenia deformis* (flowers); *Plumatichilos* sp Woodland (a few flowers, plenty in bud); *Pterostylis nana*? (old flowers and seed pods);

**Look-out Track off Car Park:** *Acianthus pusillus* (seed pods); *Bunochilus* (poss *viriosus* flowers); *Caladenia latifolia* (in bud); *Cyrtostylis reniformis* (flower); *Diplodinium robustum* (flowers); *Hymenochilus nemoralis* (a few flowers); *Oligochaetochilus* sp (buds); *Pheladenia deformis* (flowers); *Pterostylis nana*? (flowers and seed pods); *Plumatichilos* sp Woodland (a few flowers, plenty in bud); Spiders.



THE AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY'S

# 2018

## Spring Expo

### Native Flower Display & Plant Sale

**SATURDAY**  
**6<sup>th</sup> October**  
 10 am to 5 pm

**SUNDAY**  
**7<sup>th</sup> October**  
 10 am to 4 pm

**ADELAIDE SHOWGROUNDS**  
 WAYVILLE  
 follow the signs from the Rose Terrace entrance

**Entry \$3**

Save Water with Australian Native Plants  
 Largest Range - All Grown in SA  
 Books - Free Soil pH Testing - Advice  
 Demonstrations - Children's Activities  
 Check the website for further information  
[www.australianplantsociety.asn.au](http://www.australianplantsociety.asn.au)



# Orchid Sightings around the State

Observations from Myponga Conservation Park 24th August Carolyn Eden



*Acianthus caudatus*, Mayfly orchid in flower

*Pterostylis nana*, Dwarf greenhood – 9 flowers and at least as many rosettes not in flower

*Pterostylis nutans*, Nodding greenhood – about 20 flowers

*Pterostylis sanguinea*, Red banded greenhood – 3 flowers and one with the flower head eaten.

Field observations from Yorke Peninsula 2nd September

Chris Davey

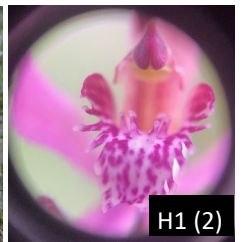


I came across 3 separate areas where I found *Arachnorchis/Caladenia brumalis x latifolia* hybrid orchids in flower. They seem to be spreading, which I think is a great thing as I find them very attractive!

The point that I took interest in today was the differences in colour of the petals and reproductive parts. I have attached a range of photos from my camera and the GoMicro on my phone. I have called them "1", "2" and "3", so you know what photos are of what colony/plants.

Other orchids in flower:

Matilda added to the photos with her little dollies. [Thanks for sharing your Father's Day Bush walk with us, Chris. Ed.]



Observation from Parsons Beach 1st Sept.



*Caladenia latifolia* was flowering, although many were stunted probably due to lack of rain.

*Diuris orientis* were flowering, and *Thelymitra antennifera* looked like they had been open though conditions were probably not right at the time I was there. Another *Thelymitra* species was very close to flowering—probably an early pink one. One patch of *Linguella* also had flowers.

*Arachnorchis* leaves were in colonies, buds still not very far advanced. The photo shows one budding *Arachnorchis* which appeared to have a double bud.

Lots of lovely native flowers—non-orchid were out in brilliant colour including *Thysanotus pattersonii* in large numbers.

Please email your observations or interesting experiences for this page to the editor.