NOSSA

Native Orchid Society of South Australia



A strange flower

Meeting orchids

Musings of an orchid novice





Macro-photography explained

Recent Orchid sightings







JOURNAL

JULY 2021

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Dipodium in the news again!

Marg Paech

The weather being rather unseasonable saw lots of orchids appearing quite early. On the Fleurieu Peninsula reasonable rainfalls were recorded in December, January, February and even March—those months that can often be very dry. On 14th June when I was walking through our scrub a small flash of pink caught my eye so I went back to investigate. It

was a very strange looking flower.



Thelma Bridle, one of our Conservation Officers said she was not aware of *Dipodium* acting like this, but the freak weather conditions saw the tuber send up flowers - just one flower on top of each stem.

There had been four flowers with only one still somewhat recognizable when I found it.

The tuber could be seen in the cracked ground near the flowers which were in moss at the base of a *Thelymitra leaf*.

Thelma said that she has some Japanese orchids in her garden which have done the same thing this year - just short stemmed flowers low to the ground and out of season!

What's Out There?

Errol Shepherd reported that he found *Acianthus* flowering at Nelshaby. *Caladenia latifolia* has leaves a-plenty but no sign of buds again this year,

but the Linguella are flowering. They have had a very long dry period which has affected the start of the orchid season.

At Blackhill, the *Diplodium robustum* are flowering. For the record, *Corunostylis* pods are still intact. At Wadmore Park there are lots of *Linguella* rosettes. The orchid season is underway!!

Front cover photo - *Anzybas unguiculatus* Also known as the pelican orchid. Central Photo: Lillian Camphausen **Top Left:** Photo: Lindsay Ames. Notice the leaf, how it seemingly drapes over whatever is under it much like a chamois cloth. Unlike most orchid leaves, it doesn't have a stiffness of its own - it has a 'floppy' feel. **Top right:** Photo: Lindsay Ames. Notice the close-up of the lip.

Lower Right: Photo: Wendy Ness. Lovely side-front view. **Lower Left:** Photo: Lillian Camphausen. View from behind—notice the little white flared bits. Anzybas are particularly difficult to find and sometimes what appears to be two white parallel lines on the back of the flower is what catches ones eye. Being cherry-red otherwise, and among Nemacianthus leaves makes them hard to find. They often can be found growing on the side of the mound created by the reedy-type grass that grows in the heavy sand.



June Niejalke and Macro-Photography! John Eaton

The Guest speaker for our June meeting, **June Niejalke**, attracted an attendance not seen since before the pandemic. June had come all the way from Pinnaroo to speak to us about the Art - and Science - of **Macro-photography** – with a special focus on *orchid* photography.

June is currently working with Bob Bates on a new orchid book which includes many of June's exceptionally detailed orchid photographs. She provided us with some tantalising glimpses of what to expect in that publication. So save your pennies!

The challenge of orchid macro-photography is *depth-of-field*: getting the whole flower in focus. June described the technique of photo stacking – more fully described as "*Macro focus stacking*" as a way of ensuring that the whole orchid will be not only in focus, but in such exceptional detail that the finished photo appears to have a three-dimensional quality about it. Many photographers will be familiar with the concept of taking multiple shots and combining them together with software like Photoshop or Microsoft's Image Composite Editing (ICE) to produce a panorama or superwide shot – as much as 360°. With stacking we need to think vertically. This means combining multiple images taken at different focus distances to give a resulting image with a greater depth of field (DOF) than any of the individual source images.

Stacking takes more effort, but will be made easier by investing in photo-stacking software (around \$100) to automate the process which, with the right smartphone, synched with the right camera, mounted on the right tripod - will also allow photographers to have much less impact on the flora they might wish to photograph (echoes of Rosalie's warning to orchid photographers at our Members Night last November about the impact of uncaring boots on the next two generations of orchids!?)

While it takes more effort, the image quality achieved from stacking will dramatically improve the final product with:



- very sharp photos of the whole flower
- 3D photos with a large depth of field
- very fine detail such as the tiny hairs on a correa flower
- All the flower is in focus
- Photos can be enlarged more
- The very blurred background providing more focus on the flower
- And gives the flower a 3D effect.



June Niejalke's talk on photo stacking has been put on YouTube with the link https://youtu.be/4Yr4jK5eIQ4

Is there something you'd like to learn about?

John Eaton, our Guest Speaker co-ordinator is looking for future speakers. If you have some ideas, suggestions, subjects, leads or are willing to offer please contact John on joneaton@bigpond.net.au

He can follow up leads if you give him some!!



NEXT MEETING: 27TH JULY

Our speaker will be **Les Nesbitt.**

Les' talk is entitled

"Where Have All the Growers Gone?"

This will also include a brief history of NOSSA and the important role that NOSSA's growers have played in Orchid Conservation work.

Musings of an orchid novice

Lillian Camphausen

On Saturday June 26, eight intrepid orchid hunters braved the BOM forecast and started off on another exciting field trip down south.

Hardys Scrub

It was intended to be a quick visit just to see the flowering *Bunochilus viriosus* which we had seen in bud on the field trip last month, but of course nobody could keep their blinkers on and we all took lots more pictures of the *Urochilus sanguineus* (blood greenhood) and *Acianthus pusillus* (mosquito) flowers, as well as the many leaves promising a magnificent spring exhibition along with lots of interesting and colourful fungi. As we were about to leave, someone spotted big patches of the veined helmet Orchid (*Corysanthes diemenica*). On looking up the species list for the area, I could only find mention of *Corybas dilatatus* (*Corysanthes dilatata*) [this is the old name for *C. diemenica. Ed.*] and *C. despectans*, so which one was it? I will have to return to the site to have a closer look at these plants! That's the problem with these orchids — I take photos, go home and read about them, discovering a whole lot of things I didn't notice or look for and then have to go back for another look. My "Places to re-visit" list is getting ridiculously long! Not to mention the places I haven't yet visited.

Mount Billy

Thanks to Lisa's thoughtful and considerate driving, we managed to keep our convoy of 6 cars together despite the weekend traffic for the 45min drive down to our next site, Mt Billy CP where we were met by Marg and Diana. Marg showed us the very special *Diplodium bryophilum* (syn.*Pterostylis bryophila*), which is endemic to the Hindmarsh Valley. The specific name (Lat bryum = moss, Gk philo = loving) made it relatively easy to find. Many plants had been marked by tags but were no longer visible, presumably chomped by roos. However, we did manage to spot several still flowering proudly as well as many sterile rosettes. There were many leaves of various other orchids making it hard to know where to put our feet. We found a patch of *C. diemenica* with open flowers and flowering *Acianthus pusillus*. I have seen these so many times already but never stop being delighted by the mini heart-shaped leaves at the base of each individual tiny flower which echo the main leaf at the base of the whole plant. I wonder if there is an evolutionary advantage for that shape?

Myponga for lunch

Then it was on to Myponga. Everybody must have eaten their vegies the night before because the weather gods were kind to us. It rained while we were in the car but they graciously granted us a 1/2 hour pause while we enjoyed our lunch outside the Myponga Hall overlooking the Reservoir. In case anyone thought of lazing any longer, the wind and rain whipped us back into our cars again for the 5 minute drive down to Nixon-Skinner CP.







Then came Nixon-Skinner!!

https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/nixon-skinner-conservation-park-south-australia?tab=species

This place is a little gem which I had not even heard of before. We were there to see the Anzybas but actually spotting at least 12 other species within about 300m of our cars. Along the track into the site we already oohhed and aahhed over the many patches of Corysanthes diemenica. "Oh my gosh, I knew it was small, but THAT is tiny!!!" It brought us all to our knees, some of us even lying down on the track to take photos! I was seeing helmet orchids for the first time today and found them at first hard to spot. The buds and flowers looked like slugs, snails, stones, seed pods of other plants, fungi, drops of water glistening on something dark, anything but an "orchid"! How happy it makes me to see such large numbers of these orchids in what most park visitors might consider a "boring bit next to the track". Into the bush itself and we again had the problem of where and how to tread safely. Stringybarks and Pink Gums provide a canopy for such a richly diverse mid- and understorey that it was hard to concentrate on looking "only" at orchids! The Anzybas unquiculatus (the name comes from ANZ, referring to the distribution of this genus) we were looking for were even harder to find than the Corysanthes, but Marg, Lisa and Lindsay knew roughly where to look, and Lisa would have got a bellyache from all the Minties she would have won for spotting new ones! I learnt to tell the difference between these and the Corysanthes we had seen earlier. Their leaves are more elongated, a more bluey, paler green; they are not in colonies, (I think we saw 3 open flowers, several buds and about a dozen or so leaves); their flowers are more tubular rather than "hooded". They also have the white 'wings' called auricles - bits on the back of their "necks"!

Check the species list on page 72a for the other varieties of orchids we saw at each of the locations, and also more photos on pages 72b and 72b.

This, my first, year of orchid-observations makes me wonder; the autumn flowering orchids all seem to be small, greenish/brownish, better camouflaged, harder to spot. Warmer weather brings the bees, moths, flies and wasps and the more colourful orchids. Does floral colour have anything to do with the colour vision of pollinators? Or do plants need the warmth or longer daylight hours to make col-

our? Do these autumn-flowering species rely more on self-pollination or vegetative reproduction (tubers)?

Thanks, Lisa, for organizing this field trip, and to all the more experienced members who so generously shared their knowledge. Everything I learned has thrown open a floodgate of questions. I know I won't find all the answers, but while searching, I'm having a ball discovering all kinds of things I hadn't even thought or asked.



Lillian Camphauser









1 Cyrtostylis robusta -

Shane Graves 2 Thelymitra epipactoides - Meningie John Fennell

3 Thelymitra epipactoides - Meningie John Fennell

JUNE Competition



June's Winner! Cat 1 John Fennell

The Metallic Sun Orchid (Thelymitra epipactoides) is endangered in South Australia but was once widely distributed. It occurs now in the southern Murray lands and South East. It is also in Victoria where it is rare. The specimen photographed was growing to the east of Lake Albert. Flowering occurs from late August through to early October.

Its name, epipactoides or "Epipactis-like" refers to the supposed similarity of the plants to some European Epipactis orchids. A photo of Epipactis atrorubens taken in the UK is shown for comparison, and en-mass are a sight to behold.

June's Cat 2 Joint Winners Karin Sefton



Pterostylis - they have such personalities! Whether it's a little pedunculata trying to get Mummy's attention while she's chit-chatting to her friend, or a field of Dwarf greenhoods excitedly emerging from the earth at the beginning of the season, keen to find out what their friends have been up to underground, I love imagining their conversations.

Shane Graves was the photographer of Caladenia macrostylis,

commonly called the leaping spider orchid and the joint winner of Cat 2. It is found between August and November in the south west corner of Western Australia— Albany to Bindoon growing in forests and woodlands. It was first found near Mount Barker WA in 1867, getting its name because of the broad column wings (not easily seen in this photo, but on either side of the dense cluster of calli on the labellum. The wings have red stripes. If you have a copy of the Field Guide to the Orchids of Western Australia by Andrew Brown, Kingsley Dixon, Christopher French and Garry Brockman you will notice the photo in there shows the wings very clearly.



Caladenia macrostylis - Leaping Spider Orchid-W.Australia

VOTING

for July Photo Competition. Please send your vote for this month's Photo Competition to the editor by 5 pm Monday 26th July Email: nossa.editor@gmail.com

SMS: 0427 440 316

August Photo Competition

Please send all entries to the editor by 5 pm, Monday 26th July



NOSSA News

Would you like to be our next president?

Our present office holder will be stepping down at 2022 AGM in April. We are inviting anyone who would like to see if this job is for them, to come along to Committee meetings and observe. The good thing is that Gordon intends to remain on the committee so would be there as a resource for the incoming president. Please consider this opportunity to help guide our society in the years to come.



SAROC Fair - NOSSA Display

Below: Photo taken by Robert Lawrence during the set-up time on Friday—before the opening on Saturday morning.



Les Nesbitt

Above: Photo taken by Lillian Camphausen

Jan Adams and Gordon Ninnes answer questions from members of the public.

A lot of work goes into setting up these displays—thanks to all involved.

Propagation Report for May & June

May was disappointing with only two people attending. June however, was better with seven people on site. Seed of *Pterostylis curta* and *robusta* was sown in flasks. Flasks of *Ptst. nutans, Caladenia latifolia, Den. speciosum, teretifolia* & hybrid#1619 were replated. Some contamination is being encountered but there are many healthy seedlings developing as well. A group reminder is being considered as there are regular flask maintenance jobs that are best done on a regular schedule. The next propagation day will be July 17th, a week later than the usual second Saturday, due to a clash with the OCSA winter Show.

Welcome to a New Member!

Peter Grieger, Waikerie, SA

Vale Peter Wallace

Sorry to hear that Peter Wallace has passed away. He has been a long-time member of NOSSA.

He was an electrical engineer involved with wind farms and came to SA on several occasions in this capacity.

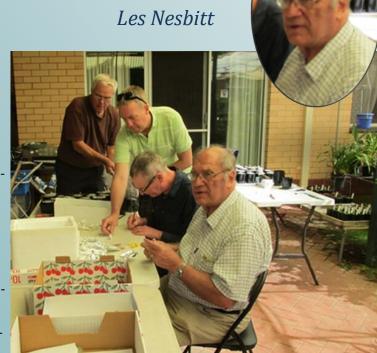
He ran the ANOS-Vic tuber bank for a number of years and supplied spare tubers to the NOSSA tuber bank.

Helping with flasking seed and fungal cultures, he volunteered at Noushka Reiter's laboratory at the Victorian Royal Botanical Gardens and when NOSSA had a working bee to put together the seed kits he came over to help. (See photo.)

He visited Adelaide regularly and would occasionally turn up at a NOSSA meeting unannounced. His wife continues as a member of NOSSA, despite living in Victoria.

An all round good bloke always ready to assist with anything to do with native orchids.





One for the Calendar!



Help

This is one of our biggest (usually) annual fundraisers. Without it our membership fees would need to be increased substantially but unfortunately most of the work seems to fall on the same few people.

If you can spare an hour or so on that weekend—helping set up or finish off after the show is finished, or help during the show you will be welcomed with open arms!

It can be for just as long as you can spare. No need to worry about not knowing what to do! There are others who know what needs to be done and can work with you.

Contact our secretary in the first instance and she will put you in touch with the right person if she can't help or direct you herself:

Lindy McCallum nossa.secretary@gmail.com





Found on Fleurieu Pen. on 4/7/21

Orchid Season reminders

With the beginning of a new orchid season, it is good to reflect on what processes and procedures we take when out in the field which will help to ensure that what we see can be seen by those who follow us - both this year and in many years to come. It is so easy in the heat of the discovery to excitedly take photos without thought of the cost to the surrounding environment.

Some have been asked to collect orchids—suspected new species often, for and on behalf of known orchid identities. How many collectors are aware of the law in regard to this practice? Rangers seem to have a greater presence in the parks than ever before. If a ranger asks to see your permit as a native plant collector, there is a heavy fine if one cannot be produced on the spot. Claiming to be collecting for someone else, no matter who they are, will not suffice. The one in possession of plant material must have their name on the official papers.

Last year I happened to meet a person unknown to me, but a prominent person in the orchid world locally. The first thing they said was, "I've got my papers with me for collecting," as they indicated their back-pack. That was the first time that had happened to me!! He went on to tell me that the official permit must be carried at all times if collecting.

https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/licences-and-permits/wildlife-permits/permit-types/collect-native-plant-materials

file:///C:/Users/lawre/Downloads/plant-collection-standard.pdf AND file:///C:/Users/lawre/Downloads/plant-collection-policy%20(2).pdf

In accordance with this policy, Native Plant Material Collection permit holders are responsible for: • ensuring that accurate information is provided to DEH upon application for a permit; • adhering to the conditions set on the permit; • following the DEH Native Plant Material Collection Best Practice Guidelines; • obtaining landholders permission before collecting on any land; • gaining permission from the relevant Local Government Councils where collection activities are planned; • carrying permit at all times when collecting and making it available to delegated officers upon an inspection request; and • providing accurate annual return information to DEH at the expiry of the permit.

Meeting orchids

Les Nesbitt

At the June meeting there were six pots on show.

Plant of the Night

Pterostylis robusta (Mt Lofty Ranges –SA) shown by Les Nesbitt







Terrestrial Species



Pterostylis robusta (MLR - SA) Les Nesbitt



David Hirst

Pterostylis robusta (red) Les Nesbitt

Epiphitic Hybrid





Den. Hilda Poxon Les Nesbitt

Den Graham Hewitt Gai Ellen Janet Adams





Bulletin Board / Date Claimers

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia generally meets every 4th Tuesday of the months February to November at St Matthew's Hall, Cnr Wellington street & Bridge Street, Kensington (just off Kensington Road). Meeting starts at 7.30 pm Doors to the hall open from 7:15 pm to allow Members access to the Library and Trading Table.

CALENDAR

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MEMBERS ONLY WEBSITE PAGE

Just a note to watch your emails for the new password which will be emailed out soon. If you have lost your password or didn't receive it, please contact NOSSA Enquiries Email:nossa.enquiries@gmail.com In the Members Only section you will find the Photo Competition photos — worth checking there! Just go to the tab "BLOGS", along the top . You'll be asked to enter your password then you will see the current competition photos.

FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips are held on the Saturday following the General Meeting each month. The next trip will be on Saturday July, 31st.

If you wish to be part of the next Field Trip, or just be on a list to receive information as to individual trip destinations once decided, please contact our Field Trip coordinator on

<u>nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com</u> She will keep you informed.

PROPAGATION DAY

Propagation day will again be held at the APS clubrooms.

Sat. July 17th from 1.30 – 4 pm. All members welcome. Remember to book in.



GENERAL MEETING July 27th 7.30 pm

Remember to book in at nossa.secretary@gmail.com if you want to join via ZOOM.

Guest Speaker: Les Nesbitt

Topic: Where have all the growers gone?

If you have Australasian orchids in flower please bring them to share with the group.

ARTICLES FOR NEXT JOURNAL

Articles / Reports must reach the Editor *no later than*

Wed 4th August

Early-bird articles - so appreciated! $\ \odot$

Please send all articles to nossa.editor@gmail.com



COVID REMINDER

Any events staged by NOSSA need to follow guidelines for social distancing and complete wellness. For this reason most events require prior booking, e.g. meetings, **usually with the secretary**.

Native Orchid Society of South Australia July Journal



The Committee

President

Gordon Ninnes

Email: nossa.president@gmail.com

Vice President

Robert Lawrence

Secretary

Lindy McCallum

Email: nossa.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer

Ros Miller

Email: nossa.treasurer@gmail.com

Ordinary Committee Members

Craig Humfrey Rosalie Lawrence

Tony Miller

Editor

Marg Paech

Email: nossa.editor@gmail.com

Conservation Officers

Thelma Bridle Ph: 8557 6553

Paul Gentles

Email: nossa.conservation@gmail.com

Other Positions

Field Trips Coordinator -Lisa Incoll

Email: nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com

Librarian

Pauline Meyers

Show Marshall

Craig Humfrey

Speaker Coordinator

John Eaton

Trading Table - Craig Humfrey

Tuber Bank Coordinator

Vacant

Website Manager

Rosalie Lawrence

Email: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.

If you are collecting orchids it is a LEGAL REQUIREMENT: you MUST carry a paper copy of the permit, should you be asked to produce it. YOU also must be named as a collector on the permit.

Life Members

Mr R Hargreaves†	Mr L Nesbitt	Mrs C Houston
Mr H Goldsack†	Mr G Carne	Mr D Hirst
Mr R Robjohns†	Mr R Bates	Mrs T Bridle
Mr J Simmons†	Mr R Shooter†	Mr John Eaton
Mr D Wellst	Mr W Dear	

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.



PRIVATE FACEBOOK PAGE

This is open to any of our NOSSA paid-up members but not your non NOSSA friends. It is a place for discussing orchid issues and photos, and allows for more detail than we would share openly for the general public. Email:nossa.enquiries@gmail.com to join.

BANKING DETAILS



On ineBanking BSB 105 011,

12 month's membership Account no 073 181 741 Add your name and NOSSA Membership number for correct



INFORMATION AND MAKING CONTACT

All contact details including who to contact in our NOSSA team are in the panel on the left. If you don't know who to direct your enquiry to, send it to the Secretary who will re-direct it if necessary.

allocation of funds, particularly when paying membership.



MOBILE PHONE

0439 214 106

Leave a message and someone will return your call.

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 14 **KENSINGTON PARK SA 5068**

Just \$20 for

WEBSITE:

NOSSA.org.au

More Field Trip Photos and Species List.

Botanical name	A common name	Growth stage	HS	MB	NS
Acianthus pusillus	mosquito	flowers	√	√	✓
Anzybas unguiculatus	pelican	leaves, buds, flowers			✓
Arachnorchis leptochila	thin lipped spider	leaves			√
Arachnorchis tentaculata	king spider	leaves	✓	√	√
Bunochilus viriosus	tall greenhood	flowers	✓		
Corunostylis sp	midge	leaves			√
Corysanthes diemenica	veined helmet	Leaves, buds, flowers	✓	√	✓
Diplodium bryophilum	Hindmarsh Valley greenhood	rosettes, cauline stems, flowers, capsules		√	
Eriochilus collinus	parsons bands	leaf			√
Glossodia major	Purple cockatoo	leaf	√	√	√
Leporella fimbriata	fringed hare	leaf, spent flowers, capsules			√
Nemacianthus caudatus	mayfly	leaf, buds	√		√
Pterostylis nutans/ pedunculata	nodding greenhood maroonhood	rosettes(R), buds(B)	R	R	R, B
Pyrorchis nigricans	fire	leaves	√		√
Thelymitra sp.	sun	leaves	√	√	√
Urochilus sanguineus	blood greenhood	sterile rosette(R), cauline stem (C), flowers	F		R, C





Photo Competition details

Refer to page 66 for corresponding photos.

- 1 Anzybas unguiculatus SE of SA
- 2 Leporella fimbriata Scott Conservation Park -
- 3 Pterostylis cucullata hybrid -
- 4 Diplodium sp Yorke Peninsula—June 2021
- 5 Plumatochilus sp. Kangaroo Island SA
- 6 Anzybas unguiculatus Nixon Skinner, SA—June 2021
- 7 Leporella fimbriata Adelaide Hills area—April 2021
- 8 Diplodium aff alatum sp Hills Scott Conservation Park—12/6/21
- 9 Diplodium sp Yorke Peninsula—June 2021



More Field trip photos

