

Annual Field Trip Report for 2025

Lisa Incoll

We enjoyed a great year of field trips in 2025. There were 8 field trips in total, with 29 different people attending during the year and an average of 15 people per trip. There was a core number of NOSSA members attending the field trips, with 12 people who attended 5 field trips or more for the year. We had some new members join us and it was great to get to know them! A special mention goes to Cindy Anderson, Greg Thornton and Kathy Tyrell for attending all the field trips for the year – a great effort!

Please see the table below for a summary of our field trips for 2025

Date	Location
29 March	Mark Oliphant CP
3 May	Cox Scrub CP
31 May	Rocky Creek Hut Nature preserve and Mt Bold Reservoir
28 June	Rocky Creek Hut Nature preserve Mt Bold Reservoir and Ironbarks Picnic area (Kuitpo Forest)
26 July	Cancelled due to wet weather
30 August	Monarto CP and Ferries McDonald CP
27 September	Parra Wirra CP
25 October	Mark Oliphant CP and Belair National Park
29 November	Hardy's Scrub, Knott Hill, and Chookarloo Campground

Some highlights of the year:

In May, we went to Mt Bold Reservoir, which was a new location for our field trips. We saw some *Diplodium sp.* which after discussions was thought most likely to be *Diplodium sp.* Southern lofty (Blunt nose greenhood). Other orchid leaves were seen including possible *T. grandiflora*. This prompted some members to visit in springtime which confirmed they were *T. Grandiflora* plants!

Always a favourite, we travelled to Monarto and Ferries McDonald in August. The highlights included the *Diplodium erythroconchum* (Red Shell), an abundance of *Caladenia capillata* (White wispy), the elegant *Caladenia stellata* (*C. sp.* Mallee Murray) (starry spider), the *Caladenia cardiochila* (heart-lip spider) and 100's of *Pheladenia deformis* (Bluebeard) with many colour variations and some quite pale, nearly white ones, they were glorious!



Caladenia capillata (White wispy)



Pheladenia deformis (Bluebeard)

We had a very memorable visit to Mark Oliphant in October. We were treated to a stunning display of *Prasophyllum Elatum* (Tall Leek); both the dark and green colour variants. These are not seen very often as they usually need a fire to flower and there had recently been a prescribed burn in the park. An added bonus to the day was seeing 20+ *Thelymitra grandiflora* (giant sun) flowering in mauve and blue tones with a standout pink flower.



Prasophyllum Elatum (Tall leek)



Thelymitra grandiflora (Giant sun)

Another highlight for the year was our visit to the Mack Creek Boundary Track in Parra Wirra CP where we saw the elegant and impressive *Caladenia behrii* (pink lip spider) and a majestic patch of *Caladenia rigida* (rigid white spider), amongst other spring beauties such as *Caladenia reticulata* (veined spider), *Glossodia major* (purple cockatoo) and *Thelymitra antennifera* (lemon sun). The day finished off with seeing a magnificent carpet of *Diuris behrii* (cowslip) with lots of flowers, so people could spread out and have their own group of orchids to photograph.

For the final trip of the year, we had a full itinerary with 3 different locations finishing with a coffee at Meadows. We visited Hardy's scrub for the *Orthocercus strictum* (crucifix/horned) and Chookarloo Campground for the *Gastrodia sesamoides* (Cinnamon Bells). We saw *Caleana major* (large duck), including some double headers and *Paracaleana minor* (little duck) at Knott Hill, with some members being very excited to see them for the first time.

Thanks to all the people who helped me with organizing and scouting for the field trips, I couldn't have done it without you. After starting in April 2019 and organizing 55 field trips, this ends my time as NOSSA Field Trip Coordinator. It has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience and I have made so many wonderful friends! I leave you in the capable hands of Cindy Anderson who is now the Field Trip Coordinator. If you are interested in field trips, learning about orchids and meeting like-minded people who are passionate about orchids, please contact Cindy on nossa.fieldtrips@gmail.com.



Caleana major (Large duck)



Diuris behrii (cowslip)