

Admin Focus Group by Lindy McCallum

Have you heard of this team before? Do you know what it does? 🙋

This group is a high energy group with a never-ending list of tasks that need attention at the direction of the Management Committee. The group meets for 2-5 hours every 3 weeks on a Friday from 10:00am. At the moment, this group is managing:-

1. Secretary role by splitting the role into separate tasks, 📞
2. Membership Liaison, has recently been taken by Ky Wadmore (Thank you, Ky), 📄
3. The celebrations of 2027 from where and what is happening. We are looking for activity leaders to manage a single activity. 🎬
4. Coverage and reporting on events as they occur, 🎤
5. Government paperwork – ACNC and DGR, 💻
6. Strategic Directions work, 🚦
7. Unexpected things, like the opportunity to send a video for National Volunteering Week (May 18–24) Yep, that is in hand, despite the short Timeline. 📺

More people on the Admin Focus Group would help! 👥 Do you know someone that may help? Do they need to be current members – **No**, but they will need to join NOSSA. We are willing to adjust the roles for individual needs. We like people attending the face-to-face meetings but this is optional - though a report may be needed, and volunteers can provide their time constraints. 🕒 Our meetings usually start by asking attendees for their finishing time for the meeting and thus work towards being finished by the earliest time reported.

What skills are required – just about any clerical-type skills!

- . marketing skills, 🗣️
- . publishing skills, 💻
- . sales skills, 💰
- . organisational skills for events/fairs/etc, 🎪
- . organisational skills for 2027 50th anniversary celebrations, 🎉
- . IT/software skills, 🖨️
- . secretarial skills, 📄 . editorial skills, 📅
- . email/communication/scheduling skills, 📅
- . Rules of Association, 👮
- . rule writing, 🧑🎓
- . strategic direction, 🌟

2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4

. writing skills, ✍️

. hybrid zoom meeting management. 📞

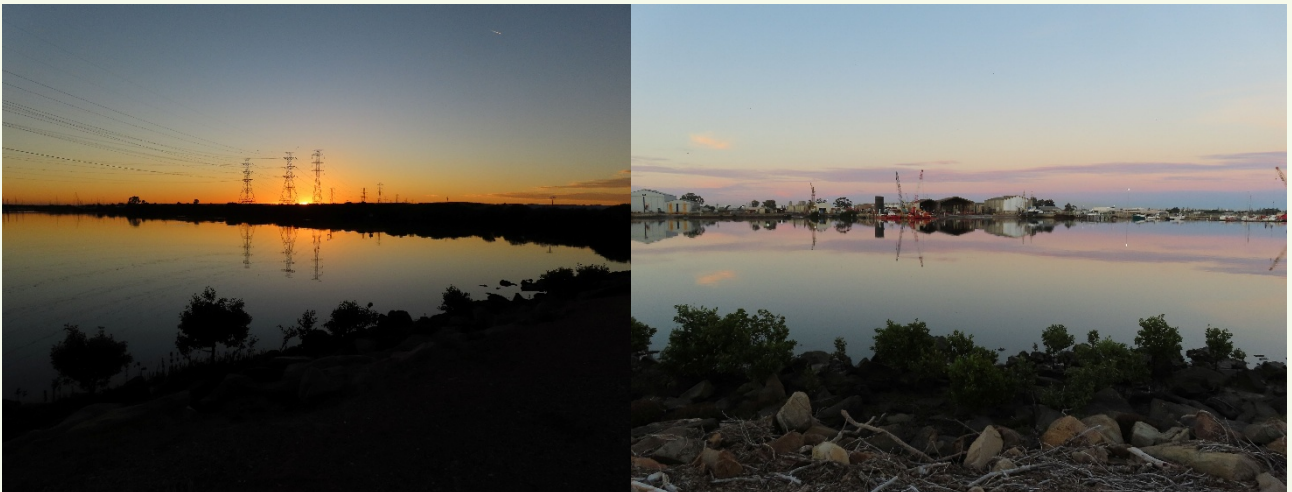
Don't think its all dry work, we do discuss and work on solutions which are then recommended to the Committee, have the odd laugh and often get the tasks done/partially done, or at least a clear outline of what needs to be done, on the day. We like ideas.



We work on the 'many-heads-make-light-work' principal 🌟, and it works! 🙌 Come and experience the group. If you would like to be a part of this group, in any form, contact nossa.secretary@gmail.com



LNOFF May 2026 Report by Lindy McCallum



Doesn't this beautiful sunrise photo, caught at just the right moment, at the gates to Torrens Island facing NE, look magnificent? Then Rod turned and took the 2nd photo facing SW of the gates. The water is reflecting the port structures on the other side of the river. The lighting looks so different but its within minutes of the last photo. It moved from the orange and darkness to the pastels and early light so fast.

We both enjoy the slow drive to the NOSSA site and observing the change of light as we drive to the NOSSA site on a Wednesday morning. Daylight saving has been a little confusing as we were often seeing the other side of the river lit up in the darkness but now its simply in early light and the lights are not noticeable.

Well after that intro. The good news is that we have finished the painting in the first 4 priority rooms and have started working on the ceiling in the wider of the two halls. Plus, we have pulled up the carpet in the central room, and the glue is being scraped off, slowly! It will take a few weeks.

In between tasks Rod takes his trusty camera out to take photos and he captured this Black Shouldered Tern sitting on the Norfolk Pine at the site with the clear sky behind it. Perfect!

2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4

Then it's back to work. Some of cupboard shelves has been contacted, and Rod fitted a cupboard into the stove area of the kitchen. At the moment it looks like the perfect place to keep the pizza oven!

On the last day of April (the year is flying by) Gordon and I met with the volunteers at City of Marion to plant some *P. curta* in their revegetation site. This site was created where once a driver training centre stood, by bringing in a lot of land-fill, so that it is now a space of native vegetation and lakes. They can be proud of what



they have created there but we found, with the lack of rain, that the clay soil to be extremely hard! We tried a trowel, a bulb planter, a battery powered drill auger, and finally a crowbar and filling the cup-like holes with water, which soaked away v e r y slowly! The outcome was that we only planted 8 of the 20 plants but the volunteers saw how to plant them and the rest got planted the following week. The Marion people are very excited to get these orchids and have them as part of their revegetation project. It was good seeing some NOSSA orchids being planted into such a lovely site by such enthusiastic people.

Thank you

PS Hope the NOSSA mothers had a lovely day on Mother's Day.

photos by Rod Seager including the raptor - *Elanus axillaris*, a black shouldered kite above.

Les Nesbit Orchid Propagation Facility & working bee & NOSSA dates:

LNOFF Open/Working Day at Torrens Island
Committee Meeting
LNOFF Open/Working Day at Torrens Island
Admin Working Group
LNOFF Open/Working Day at Torrens Island
General meeting
LNOFF Open/Working Day at Torrens Island
NOSSA Field Trip
LNOFF Open/Working Day at Torrens Island
LNOFF Open/Working Day at Torrens Island
Admin Working Group

Wednesday 3 June 2026
Tuesday 9 June 2026
Wednesday 10 June 2026
Friday 12 June 2026
Wednesday 17 June 2026
Tuesday 23 June 2026
Wednesday 24 June 2026
Saturday 27 June 2026
Saturday 27 June 2026
Wednesday 31 June 2026
Friday 3 July 2026

Put these dates on your paper calendar, paper diary, iCal or Google calendar and set an alert.

Planting at Oaklands Wetlands by John McCallum



2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4

The Marion Council, Friends of the Sturt River and NOSSA members planted *Pterostylis curta* at the Oaklands Wetlands, off Warradale Road, east of the Army Barracks. A few problems were struck as the result of the very dry autumn experienced this year. The remaining orchids were then planted out the following Thursday. Photos by John McCallum.

The Gathering at APS by John McCallum



The Gathering is an event that takes place at the Australian Plant Society (APS) hall on the first Sunday of each month (March – November) from 11am to 3pm. NOSSA usually has a small stall and many like-minded groups do the same. These cover things like Birds SA, Butterflies, COOTS, Glenthorne Farm, books and this time there was a coffee site too.

There were often people giving talks in the hall, while the stalls were outside. Due to the weather, we were all inside for the May event. It's a friendly event and a good way to get some great bargains, good advice, and to get to know other people from other kindred groups. If you would like to attend it is 11am –

3pm on the first Sunday of the Month at the APS hall which is at 21A Richards Terrace, Goodwood, just to the east of the Goodwood Railway Station.
photos by John McCallum

Looking for *Leporella* sp. at Cox Scrub by Sue Bray

Cox Scrub Conservation Park was the venue chosen for the field trip on 2nd May 2026, with *Leporella fimbriata* (Fringed hare orchid) being the target species. Despite the ominous weather forecast, a small group of six NOSSA members met in the main car park at Gate 1, off Bull Creek road, ready for the challenges of the day.



Field trip leader Cindy, welcomed the group and introduced a new member. Routine matters were addressed and finally, the plan for a shortened day was discussed. Due to the location of the orchids within the park, Cindy suggested we relocate further down Bull Creek road to Gate 2 for quicker access to the target species. A light shower hastened agreement to this proposal, so off we went to Gate 2.

In the few minutes it took to drive to Gate 2, showers ceased and patches of blue sky emerged through the cloud. This was a good sign as around twenty minutes later, Cox Scrub was bathed in sunshine. While the sun was enjoyed by all, the blustering wind persisted throughout the morning making orchid photography a challenge.

From Gate 2, it was not far to find the first orchid in flower, *Eriochilus collinus* (white hills bunny orchid). Proceeding further along the Emu Wren track, significant numbers of flowering *Leporella fimbriata* (fringed hare orchid) were discovered in sprawling

2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4

patches, almost hidden from view amongst trackside vegetation. Finding around a dozen or so double header *Leporella* flowers and three triple headers, were highlights of the day.

The final species spotted along the track was *Corunastylis occidua* (dark midge orchid). Mostly these were small, green and difficult to see. Very few had flowers, with the vast majority already having well developed pods. The dark variation of *Corunastylis occidua* was also seen, with only one found still in flower. Cindy measured the tallest midge she found during the morning at an amazing 34 centimetres. Surprisingly, it still had one flower on the top!

Although we experienced a morning of warm sunshine, threatening black clouds were building throughout the morning. After returning to Gate 2 for lunch, a heavy shower of rain brought an abrupt halt to a successful day. Hurried goodbyes were said and the group disbanded as rain set in. Special thanks go to Cindy for all of the work she put into scouting, organising and leading a very successful field trip.

Cindy's notes: Many thanks also to those who helped with the scouting, especially Greg. When scouting at gate 2 four days before the field trip, I counted eight *Eriochilus sp* within a short distance of the entrance, only two remained on Saturday, the rest had been eaten. A few of us ended off the day with coffee qt Meadows.

SPECIES LIST FOR COX SCRUB CONSERVATION PARK FIELD TRIP - 2nd MAY 2026

Botanical Name	Common name	Growth Stage	Distribution
<i>Corunastylis occidua</i>	dark midge	orchid buds, flowers, pods.	Cox Scrub
<i>Disa bracteata</i>	South African weed orchid	dehiscent	Cox Scrub
<i>Eriochilus collinus</i>	white hills bunny orchid	flowers x 2	Cox Scrub
<i>Leporella fimbriata</i>	fringed hare orchid	flowers, buds, pods	Cox Scrub
<i>Pyrorchis nigricans</i>	fire orchid	leaves	Cox Scrub
<i>Thelymitra sp</i>	sun orchid sp.	leaf	Cox Scrub



Cindy Anderson's photo above of *Eriochilus collinus*, centre & right of *Corunastylis occidua* and participants below



Cindy Anderson's left & photos above: *Leporella fimbriata*



Cindy's
photos of
*Leporella
fimbriata*
double
header left &
right.





Cindy Anderson's photo of *Leporella fimbriata* left and *Corunastylis occidua* above.



Cindy's photos: *Pyrorchis nigricans* leaf above & *Correa reflexa* right.

2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4



Cindy's photo of the colours of the bush



CONSERVATION UPCOMING EVENTS

We are seeking volunteers to join the events below, if you are interested in joining up the thriving Conservation group, please reach out to our Conservation Officer, Ky Wadmore on nossa.conservation@gmail.com

June 27/28, 2026: Minlaton. A weekend out at Minlaton, where we will focus our efforts on sensitive hand removal of *Freesia sp.* around the nationally **critically endangered** *Caladenia intuta* (Ghost Spider Orchid).

July 11/12, 2026: Coorong Lakes Project. A weekend involving a Biosurvey out near Meningie, collaboration event with A ROCHA, with opportunities to assist with planting native plants on site.

July 21, 2026: Halbury Parklands with Trees for Life. This will be an event hosted by Trees for Life, where volunteers will assist with removing invasive weeds around populations of *Pterostylis lepida* (Halbury Greenhood) which is **endangered** at state and national level.

A Comprehensive Calendar of NOSSA Events:-

Online at:- <https://nossa.org.au/members-area/yearly-calendar-of-events/>

Please note: members will need the NOSSA password to enter the members' area to view this calendar. Hopefully this calendar will make it easier for members to plan another exciting volunteering event. There are plenty from which to choose. Email nossa.enquires@gmail.com to request the password.



SWAMPED WITH Sth Oz ORCHIDS from nossa.org.au blog.

In 2017, Mark Bachmann of Glenelg Nature Trust spoke at NOSSA on 'The Hydrological Restoration of Glenshera Swamp, Stipiturus Conservation Park'. See the article of his talk from the online blog. On 2025, Ben Taylor also from Glenelg Nature Trust gave a talk with an update of the restoration work at Stipiturus. See Ben's talk from the online blog. These talks were both encouraging but it begs the question of what is happening to orchids in the swamps? The first question is – what orchids are there?

(Left) *Thelymitra cyanea*

2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4

In the blog on Mark's talk, three swamp orchids were mentioned in the article but there are many more swamp species, as Bob Bates points out in the quote below from 'South Australian Native Orchids 2011 indicates':-

'In general, the orchid flora of bog, swamp, marsh or morass will be highly specific and although there is less than 0.1% of the state which could be termed swampy, some 20% of our orchid species are confined to such wet habitat. Put simply: all of the orchids of swamps are highly threatened as the swamps are either much sought after for grazing and cultivation or they are drained, as in hundreds of square kilometres of the South East. Some 20 different classes of swamp can be recognised and some orchids are confined to just one microhabitat in these. For example, the tiny swamp helmet orchid *Anzbas aff. fordhamii* has only ever been seen on the mossy edges of small mounds in peat bogs! The genus *Hydrorchis* only frequents the sedgy edges of winter wet waterholes. It is something of a paradox that our driest state should have one of the world's few aquatic orchids!'

Some of the types of swamps Bob mentions in his disc are hanging bogs (perched on the sides of hills), sphagnum bogs, peat swamps, limestone swamps, sand swamps, tea-tree swamps, etc. So it is not surprising that the types of orchids associated with these

habitats are also quite varied.

20% or one fifth seems a high figure for wetlands but depending upon the taxonomic classification it is feasible. A perusal through both Bates 2011 and June Niejalke's 2022 *Native Orchids of South Australia* yields an interesting list of about 49 swamp associated species out of about 300 species.



(Left) *Cryptostylis subulata* (moose orchid)

As can be seen most genera are represented in

the swamp/margins list. Although two noticeable exceptions not represented were from the dryland *Pterostylis* segregate genera *Hymenochilus* and *Oligochaetochilus*.



(Left) *Diuris palustris*

As a curiosity, it should be noted that one species *Diuris palustris* whose Latin name *palustre* suggests it should be swamp dwelling, is in South Australia not found in our swamps but instead is associated with grassland, heath and mallee. In contrast, in the eastern states, it is found in swampy

2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4

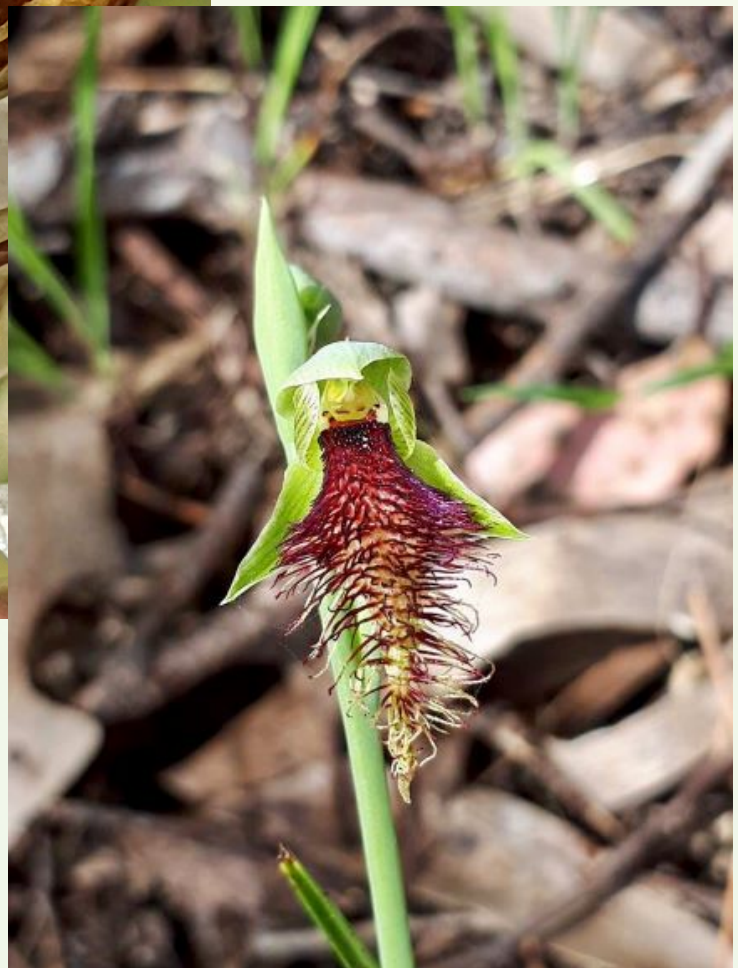
depressions. This is in contrast with some South Australian swamp orchids, such *Cryptostylis subulata*, which in the eastern states, are found in low open forests. As is the case for *Thelymitra cyanea*, found on heathy hillside in Tasmania.



(left) *Prasophyllum australe* – Kuitpo, January 2021

Swamps are significant for many different reasons. But considering that we are losing so many of our orchid species, losing swamps means losing a significant number of our orchids. It is therefore encouraging to see the work of Glenelg Nature Trust in restoring swamps. Will it benefit our orchids? We hope so.

(below) *Calochilus robertsonii*



2026 NOSSA journal notes May #4

GENUS	IN SWAMPS	MARGINS (but not in)
Caladenia		<i>C. congesta</i> <i>C. dilatata</i> <i>C. riparia</i> <i>C. venusta</i> <i>C. vulgaris</i>
Calochilus	<i>C. paludosus</i>	<i>C. robertsonii</i> <i>C. herbaceus</i>
Corybas	<i>C. fordhamii</i>	<i>C. aff. diemenicus</i> (syn <i>Corysanthes arcana</i>)
Cryptostylis	<i>C. subulata</i>	
Diuris		<i>D. inundata</i>
Eriochilus	<i>E. paludosus</i>	
Genoplesium		<i>G. nudum</i>
Microtis	<i>M. atrata</i> <i>M. oblonga</i> <i>M. orbicularis</i> <i>M. rara</i>	<i>M. arenaria</i> <i>M. parviflora</i>
Prasophyllum	<i>P. murfetii</i>	<i>P. austale</i> <i>P. frenchii</i>
Pterostylis	<i>P. falcata</i> <i>P. lustra</i> <i>P. tenuissima</i> <i>P. uliginosa</i>	<i>P. melagramma</i> <i>P. nutans</i>
Spiranthes	<i>S. alticola</i> <i>S. elytra</i>	
Thelymitra	<i>T. aristata</i> <i>T. circumsepta</i> <i>T. cynea</i> <i>T. holmesii</i> <i>T. hygrophila</i> <i>T. lucida</i>	<i>T. abrupta</i> <i>T. antennifera</i> <i>T. cyanapicta</i> <i>T. flexuosa</i> <i>T. ixiodies</i> <i>T. x merraniae</i> <i>T. mucida</i> <i>T. orientalis</i> <i>T. pauciflora</i> <i>T. peniculata</i> <i>T. polychroma</i> <i>T. rubricaulis</i>



Photos from the NOSSA General Meeting held 28th April.

Thank you Leo Davis for your photos of exhibits from the previous general meeting. Les provided comments on these species.

There are no recorded notes on Leo Davis's presentation on duck orchids for the general meeting held on 28th April. This was due to the sensitivity surrounding the location of the orchids. Those who attended enjoyed a very informative presentation. It is worth attending these monthly presentations.



David Hirst's photos of *Pterostylis truncata* below and other *Pterostylis* sp.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHID FAIR 2026



**Campbelltown
Community Centre**
172 Montacute Road,
Rostrevor

Saturday 6th June

9.00 am - 4.00 pm

Sunday 7th June

9.00 am - 4.00 pm

- Orchid Displays by SA's Orchid Clubs
- Raffles of Orchids and related products
- Sales from Leading Orchid Growers from SA and Interstate
- Free advice from experienced growers
- Re-potting demonstrations
- Light Lunches, Devonshire Teas, and Refreshments available



ENTRY by \$7.00 donation

[\$5.00 for Campbelltown Residents

This includes a free cup of Tea or Coffee

[Free admission on Sunday for members of SAROC Clubs wearing their club badges.]

Proudly supported by the
Campbelltown Council's
Community Grants Program