



**AUSTRALASIAN NATIVE ORCHID
SOCIETY (VICTORIAN GROUP) INC.**

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BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2022

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Visit our web site at: <http://www.anosvic.org.au>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/anos-vic>

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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER AT 8.00PM

GLEN WAVERLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

700 WAVERLEY ROAD, GLEN WAVERLEY

Melway Map 71 / C4/5 (Opposite Allen Street)

**Entry / Parking: Central Reserve - Community Centre / Bowling Club,
west from Springvale Road.**

**Just because an activity is advertised in this *Bulletin*,
there may well be limits on the number of members who may attend the activity.
You MUST register with the activity organiser or person listed to find out whether
you may attend and to be kept up to date of any last minute changes.**

IF YOU DO NOT BOOK YOU WILL NOT BE NOTIFIED.

**Don't forget to provide your name and phone number when booking
with the person listed within the Activity or Meeting notice.**

ITEM OF THE EVENING

**Appreciation & Cultivation of *Dockrillia striolata* & *Dockrillia nugentii*
by Tony Clark**

Note: This speaker will be at the meeting "in person"! No Zoom this month.

**All welcome at the general meeting whether booked or not;
but if not booked you will not be notified if there are last minutes changes.**



Dendrobium Australian Tiger.
Photographed by John Varigos.

**The Australasian Native Orchid Society promotes the conservation
of native orchids through cultivation and through preservation
of their natural habitat.**

**All native orchids are protected plants in the wild; their collection is
illegal. Always seek permission before entering private property.**

ANOS VIC MEETINGS AND COVID 19

If you or your close contacts have any symptoms, no matter how mild, please **DO NOT COME**.

If you show any symptoms within 2 weeks following the Meeting you **MUST** contact the Secretary immediately:

E-mail: secretary@anosvic.org.au
Ph: 0438-517-813

ANOS Vic requirements as at May 2022

ALL WELCOME

whether you have booked or not.
BUT we do prefer you to book your attendance EARLY providing your name(s) and phone number(s)

with the Acting Secretary
secretary@anosvic.org.au

(Only if you do not have e-mail phone 0438-517-813).

Only those registered will be notified of any cancellations or changes that may not necessarily relate to COVID 19. Plus registering will assist in catering for the supper.

❖ **MUST** register via attendance sheet for insurance purposes.

ALSO

❖ There will be space for plant display.

❖ Tea, coffee, water and cordial will be available, and back to the usual supper.

❖ There will be a raffle and sales table. (NOTE: Orchids must be **Australasian** natives.)

❖ Membership payments will be accepted by credit card and cash.

❖ The Library – please order your books via Andrew's e-mail:

a.s.gibbons@bigpond.com
from list

http://www.anosvic.org.au/ANOS_Vic_Library_Catalogue.pdf

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL CONSERVATION & TERRESTRIAL STUDY GROUPS ACTIVITIES

Register with the activity leader as early as possible with

* Your name and current contact details.

* Mobile phone number on activity day.

* Emergency contact - name and contact details.

* Confirmation of Up To Date COVID vaccination.

Registrants will be e-mailed ANOS Safety Sheet for the activity and kept up to date with the latest information.

Activities may be cancelled at short notice due to changes in COVID Regulations, lack of flowers, inclement weather, declaration of Total Fire Ban, etc.

Please be advised that anyone volunteering for Parks Vic on Parks land (and possibly RBG Cranbourne and DELWP) must have a working with children check. You can apply online and the organisation requiring the check is the one you are volunteering for i.e. Parks Vic, RBG Cranbourne or DELWP. ANOS Vic is not the organisation requiring the check.

REGISTERING FOR EPIPHYTE STUDY GROUP MEETINGS

Please register with
Susan Whitten (Acting Secretary)
as soon as possible.

Give your name and your current contact details. Only those who have registered will be contacted if the activity has to be cancelled.

To make your booking, register with Susan via e-mail – secretary@anosvic.org.au
(Only in the event you don't have e-mail, you should phone Mob: 0438-517-813.)

CONSERVATION/TERRESTRIAL WEEKEND 1ST & 2ND OCTOBER BENDIGO/MALDON AREA

We will be searching the Box-Ironbark Forests around Bendigo on the Saturday, as part of a conservation project, looking for Spider-orchids with particular focus on *Caladenia audasii* and *C. sp. aff. fragrantissima*. On the Sunday we will be exploring some sites around Maldon such as the Muckleford Forest and Mt Tarrenhower where we are hoping to see a wider range of orchids. Leaders are Garry French on first day and Cathrine Harboe-Ree for the Sunday.

Anyone interested in registering for one or both days please contact Garry French for meeting places, times and to register:

gjfrench@bigpond.net.au Mob:0407-292-514

TERRESTRIAL CULTIVATION & SEED PROPAGATION GROUP SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER FROM 1.00PM

at the home of

**MARION & RICHARD THOMSON,
2 McGAHY STREET, LOWER
TEMPLESTOWE.**

Seed sowing and terrestrial cultivation discussion.

COVID rules will apply.

Richard Thomson Mob: 0427-046-414
richardthomson2@bigpond.com

TERRESTRIAL STUDY GROUP EDENHOPE, KANIVA, LITTLE DESERT SATURDAY 8TH TO WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER

The aim is to visit both burnt and unburnt areas around Edenhope on Saturday and Sunday before heading up to Kaniva on Monday. Wendy and Alan Bedgood will be scouting the area in coming weeks. Tuesday sees us searching an exciting block of land ... Lemon Springs ... and recording orchid finds. Bill Kosky is organising the search. We will then spend a day somewhere in the Little Desert. Accommodation / camping is available at the Edenhope Lakeside Tourist Park for the first few days. For the Northern sector there is the option of staying in Kaniva or camping at Billy's Gully or Yanipy. For further information or to register, contact Marie-Josée and Len Carrigan (03) 9383-4125 lcarrigan1@bigpond.com (Reg. requirements top of page 3.)

EPIPHYTE STUDY GROUP SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER BBQ – 12 NOON, MEETING -2PM at the home of

JOHN & CAITRIONA YOUNG, 80 POUND ROAD, WARRANDYTE

Look for the artfully rusting letterbox with '80' on it (plus a few birds) as Pound Road nears the Yarra. Parking on Pound Road can be difficult; but four or five cars should fit into the drive way or you can park down the hill or around the corner. The topic for discussion this month is *Dockrillia striolata*. Bring along any plants of this species that you wish to discuss (or any other Australasian native epiphyte orchid you want to talk about). Bring a folding chair if you have one, and a plate of afternoon tea to share. We encourage new epiphyte growers to join our group - they are always most welcome.

We have decided to continue with registration so that, if necessary, we can easily contact you.

See olive green notice - top right this page. You are welcome to attend without registering; but if you don't register you will not be informed of a cancellation or change of plans.

Jonathon Harrison (ESG convenor) Mob: 0490-450-974 esg@anosvic.org.au

SPEAKER PROGRAM - 2022

4th November: Daniela Scaccabarozzi
Search for Queen of Sheba

2nd December: Andrew Brown
Recently Discovered WA Orchids

**DIURUS FRAGRANTISSIMA
SUNSHINE WORKING BEES
MONDAY 10TH & MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER**

We will be hand weeding the herbicide exclusion plots and planting areas.

Pollinator surveys now that spring flowering is underway. Final thrip control treatment on the *Dianella longifolia*.

As the activity is on Railway land some special requirements apply.

If you are interested in joining in, or for more dates please contact Len Carrigan tsg@anosvic.org.au

**DIURIS FRAGRANTISSIMA & D. BASALTICA
RECOVERY - LAVERTON GRASSLANDS
TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 8.00AM TO MID-DAY**

Plan for the day is to check on the health of the *Diuris* that we recently planted, review the herbaceous plantings and undertake some weeding. Please bring your own morning tea and drinks. New participants please contact Garry for directions.

Please register with Garry French

Mob: 0407-292-514 gjfrench@bigpond.net.au

**DIURIS PUNCTATA SITE MAINTENANCE
BRAESIDE PARK
WEDNESDAY 19TH OCTOBER 9.00AM TO MIDDAY**

We will be joining the Park's Wednesday A Team Volunteers to assist them and Parks Victoria's Rangers with general maintenance of the Park's *Diuris punctata* site. Please bring knee pads, drinking water, gloves and your enthusiasm. A map of the meeting location within the park will be provided upon registration.

Please register with Garry French

gjfrench@bigpond.net.au

Mobile: 0407-292-514

and provide your contact details and those in case of an emergency on the day.

**DISA REMOVAL WITH
FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK
THURSDAY 27TH OCTOBER 9:30AM TO MIDDAY**

We will join the Friends "Thursday Activity Groups" in Eltham South surveying for and removing the South African orchid *Disa* from an area near some orchid rich habitat. More information about the meeting place will be provided upon registration.

Please register with Garry French

gjfrench@bigpond.net.au

Mob: 0407-292-514

and provide your contact details and those in case of an emergency on the day.

**CONSERVATION & TERRESTRIAL WEEKEND
SATURDAY 22ND & SUNDAY 23RD OCTOBER
DUTSON DOWNS & MOE / TRARALGON AREA**

On the Saturday we will be assisting Gippsland Water in searching some recently acquired land at Dutson Downs looking for orchids in general but with a particular focus on *Thelymitra epipactoides* (Metallic Sun-orchid) and *Prasophyllum frenchii* (Maroon Leek-orchid). On the Sunday we will be conducting a terrestrial outing by exploring some sites such as the Callignee State Forest and Boolarra Bushland Reserve to see what orchids we can find. Leaders are Garry French on first day and Cathy and Mike Beamish for the Sunday.

To register your interest and for more information on meeting places and times please contact:

For Saturday's activities Garry French

gjfrench@bigpond.net.au or phone 0407-292-514

For Sunday, contact Cathy and Mike Beamish

mcandcjb@gmail.com or phone 0447-452-755.

Cultivation of Australian Native Orchids

Book published by ANOS Vic

Members \$15.00 Non-Members \$18.00

If you want your copy mailed (within Australia), please add \$5.00 for postage and packaging.

Orders to Treasurer, ANOS (Victorian Group) Inc., PO Box 308, Boronia 3155. treasurer@anosvic.org.au

**ONE OF A KIND
CALADENIA CLIFFEA**

A fine piece of jewellery donated by Cliff Watters, through Peter and Lois Krake, will be raffled at the ANOS Vic 2022 Spring Show. Tickets are \$1.00 each and it will be drawn at around 3:45pm on Sunday 25th September 2022.

Sterling silver with 375 column and anther made from gold nugget from Rushworth, Victoria, 925 chain.

Hand crafted by Cliff Watters.

If you are not able to attend the

Show but would like to purchase some tickets please contact Susan via secretary@anosvic.org.au



**MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND TRIP
TO EAST GIPPSLAND
SAT. 29TH OCTOBER TO WED. 2ND NOVEMBER**

Tentative program:

Saturday 29th October - around Orbost/Marlo/Cape Conran (stay at Orbost/Marlo or vicinity).

Sunday 30th October - Bemm River and Cann River (stay at Cann River or Mallacoota).

Monday 31st October to Wednesday 2nd November - Wingan River, Wangarabell, Mallacoota (stay at Mallacoota).

Wednesday 2nd November - an extra day in case we need to revisit sites to see sun orchids in flower. Otherwise it will be an exploratory day to check on some sites further afield.

Intending participants may want to organise accommodation fairly soon as the Cup Weekend can get busy in this region.

A feature of East Gippsland's orchids in late spring is the number of sun orchids, *Thelymitra* spp., potentially flowering.

As these require warm, sunny days, and even then with several species flowering only in the morning, we will need to be flexible in the itinerary, and there may have to be some backtracking to take advantage of suitable weather conditions.

Note that some of the areas we plan to visit are remote and there are no facilities, also the bush regeneration is getting very thick after the fires and there may be some heavy bush and swampy ground to walk through. Most sites are accessible by 2WD vehicles if dry. If road conditions are too rough or wet we will organise car pooling. Meeting time and place to be advised.

Please register with Marie-Josée and Len Carrigan

(03) 9383-4125

lcarrigan1@bigpond.com

(registration requirements top of page 3).

NEW MEMBERS The Society has much pleasure in welcoming:

Ray & Nadine Cain - Glenrowan
Norman & Pam Gardner - Cobram
Kaitlyn McKenna - Belmont
Rob Mitchell - Frankston South.

FEEDBACK - SEPTEMBER ISSUE

1. Thanks very much for another excellent *Bulletin* and your own report.
2. Really appreciate your time each month (and year) putting our wonderful *Bulletin* together!

LAST MEETING REPORT - 2ND SEPTEMBER 2022

Written and presented by Geoff Beilby

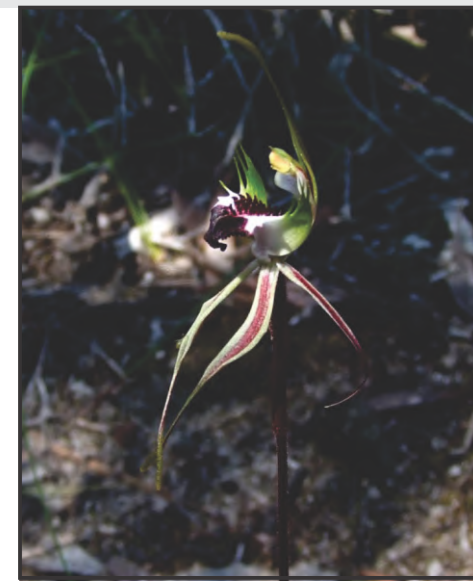
KANGAROO ISLAND
IN THE SPRING

In the last week of September 2015, Thelma Bridle of the Native Orchid Society of South Australia (NOSSA) was scheduled to monitor a population of *Caladenia ovata* in the Beyeria Conservation Park on Kangaroo Island, South Australia. *C. ovata* is a rare species with affinities to *C. leptochila* which is found to the north of Adelaide.

Native orchid lovers seldom miss an opportunity to get out with fellow enthusiasts – especially people who know an area – so a small group soon planned a short run around the island for that week. Peter McCauley organised the ferry crossings and set up accommodation for the nine of us in Kingscote on Kangaroo Island. Included in the group was Western Australian botanist/author Andrew Brown, who flew over for his first look around the Island. Of course Andy was interested in relating South Australian orchid species with West Australian species, as well as gaining a knowledge of the various habitats to be found on the island.

South Australian botanist/author Bob Bates caught up with us on the island, and contributed for a couple of days with the group.

All were looking forward to a pleasant ramble in mild to warm spring conditions. As it turned out, the drought in Southern Australia and extremely hot weather in late winter/spring meant conditions were not all that favourable for ground orchids or beating around the bush – in fact it was darn hot.

*Caladenia carnea.**Caladenia prolata.**Caladenia sanguinea.**Caladenia tentaculata.**Caladenia tensa.*

The ephemeral nature of our native orchids was certainly demonstrated under the conditions we encountered, especially during our observations at the *C. ovata* site. Plants were in flower or opening up when surveyed on Tuesday morning, but when Thelma returned two days later to take some extra measurements, she was too late.

Sites visited included Browns Beach, Beyeria Conservation Park, Vivonne Bay, Kelly Caves, Parndana NP, Three Chain Road, and three sites in Flinders Chase National Park - Bunker Hill, Remarkable Rocks and Rocky River.

We were able to find the species of most interest to us without any problems. *C. ovata* and *C. reticulata* were found in Beyeria Conservation Park, and *C. valida*, *C. reticulata* and *C. sanguinea* in parts of Flinders Chase National Park. *C. reticulata*, and *C. sanguinea* were also found in most of the other sites visited, along with a number of other caladenias and other orchid genera.

*Caladenia ovata.*

Other caladenias seen were green comb spiders *C. tensa* and *C. tentaculata*, finger group *C. carnea* and *C. prolata*, the other filamentous spider orchid *C. capillata*, and Heart lipped spider orchid *C. cardiophila*. The best sites for variety this year were probably those towards the southern end of Three Chain Road.

Also seen were a number of thelymitras including *Thelymitra alcockiae*, *T. luteocilium*, the ubiquitous *T. flexuosa*, and a pretty little pink *T. nuda* type. A few common greenhoods (*Pterostylis nana* and *P. pedunculata*) were still in flower, and some *P. sp. aff. plumosa* were also found in an old gravel pit off South Coast Highway near Karatta.

Diuris orientis was fairly widespread, including some dense patches beside the South Coast Highway near Seagers Road. Also along off the highway some buds of *Gastrodia sesamoides* were noted. *Acianthus caudatus* was widespread and *Leptoceras menziesii* was abundant on a couple of coastal sites. Even the odd *Pheladenia deformis* was still in flower.

At one site on Three Chain Road it was good to see some patches of a Helmet Orchid (probably *Corybas diemenicus*) sending up healthy seed capsules on stout stems despite the dryness. It is always pleasing to see some successful natural pollination in harsh conditions.

Despite the dryness we were



Caladenia valida.



Thelymitra alcockiae.



Browns Beach.



Leptoceras menziesii.



Remarkable Rocks.



Boronia filifolia.

able to see a wide range of wildflowers in bloom, and while some plants carried few flowers, many really drew your attention away from the orchid flora. The island is mainly low to taller Mallee Woodland, with extensive areas of low and medium Heathlands. There are areas of taller Eucalypt Woodland and Forest, coastal dune vegetation and some areas of saline flats, marshes and lakes. Over 70% has been alienated and mostly cleared for agriculture with some plantation forestry. Much of the Heathland and Mallee woodland is reminiscent of the Victorian Mallee with quite a number of species in common. Several species seen are even common in the Western Otways Heathlands in Victoria.

But there were numerous plants indigenous to the island, and the *Grevillea*, *Prostanthera*, *Boronia*, *Correa* and *Sterculiaceae* shrubs were certainly worth a trip to the island in spring.

The trip was a week well spent, and thanks to everyone for their company and sharing of their knowledge.

ON THE BENCH - EPIPHYTES - 2ND SEPTEMBER 2022

Commentator: Doug Lee Recorder: Helene Wild Photographers: As credited

SPECIES: *Dockrillia teretifolia*, *Mediocalcar bifolium*, *Sarcochilus falcatus*.

HYBRIDS: *Dendrobium* Aussie Parade x Star of Gold, Aussie Starlight, Australian Rhubarb Pie, Elegant Autumn, Melbourne, Star of Gold, unknown hybrid.
Den/Dock Australian Ginger, Australian Sunblessed, Rosemary Jupp, Tamara, Tamara x Australian Sunblessed, Tamara x Fiona Louise, Virginia Jupp,
Plectochilus Orkology Trimaran.

Sylvia Kappl, Chris Krolikowski, Doug Lee and Helen Robinson all benched beautifully cultivated *Den/Dock* hybrids.

It is fortunate that most of these terete-leafed hybrids are fairly easy in cultivation, provided the rats and possums don't invade your shadehouse and take a fancy to their leaves and flowers. (George, if you give him half a chance, will tell you about what they have done to his orchids!)



Above: *Den/Dock* Tamara benched by Chris Krolikowski.

Right: Sylvia Kappl's *Den/Dock* Tamara 'JD Spots'.

Far Right: Doug Lee's *Den/Dock* Tamara x Fiona Louise.

These three "Tamara" photographs were taken by Ivan Margitta.



Chris Krolikowski benched this *Den/Dock* Australian Sunblessed.

It was photographed by Ivan Margitta.

With spring in its infancy, we were given a mini showing of what we can expect to see "on display" at our Spring Show later in the month.



Above Left: *Dendrobium* Elegant Autumn belonging to Gianni Montalto.

Above Right: *Dendrobium* Melbourne 'Robbie McInnes' benched by Alan Rodgers.

Both photographs by Ivan Margitta.



There were a few Hot/Cold *Dendrobium* hybrids benched. This type of hybrid is a mix of warm growing and cold growing species. Here in Melbourne, they are not as easy in cultivation as hybrids with only cold growing species in their family tree.

Right: *Sarcochilus falcatus*

benched and photographed by Alex Wild.

Sarcochilus falcatus is one of our favourite orchids and, fortunately, it seems to like the conditions in our shadecloth covered courtyard.

Because this area does not have a solid roof, Alex' plants get watered whenever it rains. He has some of his *S. falcatus* plants in mesh pots and a pinebark mix and others on suitable mounts. Both methods have been successful, so this can really be classed as an adaptable species.

Growers should be aware that mounted plants need to be watered more frequently than potted plants - but knowing when to water comes with experience - of the species, current weather conditions and the conditions in your growing area.



Left: *Mediocalar bifolium* belonging to Sylvia Kappl. Photo by Alex Wild.

Mediocalar bifolium occurs in New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu where it is found in Montane, rain and subalpine forests and shrublands at altitudes of 1800 to 2600 metres. It is a creeping miniature sized cool to cold growing epiphyte or lithophyte, often seen growing on mossy rocks.

The small bright red and white bell-shaped flowers are long lasting.

This species is not often benched at our meetings, but the flowers are similar in shape (but not colour) to those of the more commonly seen *M. decoratum* that has a more compact growth habit.

CULTURAL CERTIFICATES 2ND SEPTEMBER

TCC591

Mike Wicks
Caladenia flava
x latifolia

TCC592

Andrew Gibbons
Bunochilus loganii

ECC928

Den/Dock Tamara
Chris
Krolikowski

ECC929

Den/Dock
Rosemary Jupp -
Chris
Krolikowski

ECC930

Den/Dock
Tamara
Sylvia Kappl

ON THE BENCH - TERRESTRIALS - 2ND SEPTEMBER 2022

Commentator: Richard Thomson Recorder: Andrew Gibbons Photographers: As credited

SPECIES: *Bunochilus loganii*, *Caladenia latifolia*, *Chiloglottis* sp. aff. *formicifera*, *trapeziformis*, *Diplodium taurus*, *Pterostylis curta*, *pedunculata*, *pedunculata* (green). **HYBRIDS:** *Caladenia flava* x *latifolia*, *Diuris behrii* x *palustris*, *Pterostylis curta* x *pedunculata*.

Right: *Bunochilus loganii*
benched by Andrew Gibbons.
Photograph by Ivan Margitta.

Last month Richard spoke about Helen Richards' *Pterostylis* (*Bunochilus*) *loganii*, which can be an unforgiving orchid to grow as it doesn't like to be over-watered and doesn't normally tuber multiply without using tuber removal.

At the September meeting I benched a pot of *P. loganii* that I received from Helen at the start of 2021. Richard asked me to speak about how I grow it. I'm growing these plants in CONA mix with an extra ½ part of sand to keep them a little drier than my other orchids and the four original plants Helen gave me are still alive and flowering. I think it's still too early to say whether they're alive because of what I'm doing or in spite of what I'm doing.



Right: *Diplodium taurus*
benched by Andrew Gibbons
with photo by Ivan Margitta.

Several colony forming *Pterostylis* were brought into the meeting including *P. curta*, *P. (Diplodium) taurus* and *P. pedunculata*. Two examples of the latter species were benched. One of these plants showed the typical dark red hood that gives *P. pedunculata* the common name of maroonhoods. The other was a green-flowered form of *P. pedunculata* and appeared to lack any anthocyanin pigments in the flowers. Richard did note one challenge with greenhoods, like *P. curta*, with big flowers on tall stems; they're quite hard to travel in a car without the flower stems arriving at all angles after being bounced around. Richard mentioned a tip that Helen Richards uses, which is to wrap the pots in a cylinder of newspaper before you put them in the car so the flowers don't sway around too much and fall over.





Diuris behrii X palustris
 benched by Wendy Bedgood.
 The photograph is by Alex Wild.

With the start of spring we are also seeing some brighter coloured flowers on the bench. Wendy Bedgood brought in a pot *Diuris behrii x palustris* which she grew from seed sown six years ago. This was the first year it had flowered and it was flowering very well considering its age.

Two *Caladenia* were brought in, *Caladenia latifolia* and a beautifully coloured example of *C. Harlequin* grown by Mike Wicks. This hybrid of *C. latifolia* and *C. flava* can be a variable in colour and Mike's plant had boldly coloured pink and yellow flowers with white-tipped sepals. Mike says that, while *Caladenia* usually prefer a more open mix than most terrestrials, he grows this plant in his general terrestrial mix and they grow well. The general recommendation for *Caladenia* is to avoid repotting them too frequently so as not to disturb the fungi. This can result in the new tubers forming deeper in the pot until they eventually grow through the drainage holes where they can desiccate. To overcome this, Mike uses deep pots and sits the pots on top of another pot of fresh media so the new tubers can grow down into the second pot without disturbing the main plant.

Right:
 Mike Wicks' *Caladenia Harlequin*.
 Photograph by Alex Wild.



Above: Claire McNabb's *Caladenia latifolia*.
 Photo by Ivan Margitta.



Wendy Bedgood's *Chiloglottis trapeziformis*
 was photographed by Ivan Margitta.



Left:
Chiloglottis
 sp. aff.
formicifera
 grown by
 Andrew
 Gibbons
 Photo:
 Ivan
 Margitta.

Two *Chiloglottis* were benched at the meeting, *C. trapeziformis* and *C. sp. aff. formicifera*. Richard said that, while a lot of *Chiloglottis* look superficially similar, when you look closer you'll see noticeable differences in the shape of the flowers and the arrangement of calli on the labellum that distinguishes the different species. *Chiloglottis* like more water than a lot of other terrestrial genera but still don't like to be over-watered but, once you get the hang of watering them, they're easy to grow and multiply quickly.

THE MAGNIFICENT *DENDROBIUM SPECIOSUM*

Jonathon Harrison

Members had the chance to hear Murray Harding speak at the ANOS (Vic) meeting in March. At the Epiphyte Study Group's September meeting, we had the opportunity to be guided by Murray through his large growing area at his Devon Meadows home.

The topic of the meeting was *Dendrobium speciosum* of which Murray has an extensive collection. It was hoped that the timing of the meeting would coincide with peak blooming time, however we were a few weeks early. A plant of *D. speciosum* 'Daylight Moon' was in full bloom and Murray explained that it had been forced into bloom early by the use of artificial light. This magnificent sight (and smell) must be a foretaste of what Murray's entire growing area will be like soon. Whilst it may have been a little early to see *D. speciosum* in full flower, ESG members were rewarded by seeing numerous other *Dendrobium* species and hybrids in full flower.

As usual, there was good conversation about cultivation and the generous sharing of ideas.



Left:
Dendrobium speciosum
'Daylight Moon'.



Right:
A section
of
Murray's
growing
area.

ANOS VIC AT THE OSCOV MELBOURNE ORCHID SPECTACULAR 2022

Susan Whitten

The OSCOV Show was back after three years and the word was it was very successful. Many of the sellers sold out on the first day and returned with more stock. Most of them packed up early on the Sunday as they had again sold out. Three of us – George Dimos, Andrew Gibbons and I turned up on the Wednesday to do the ANOS Vic stand set-up. There were a total of six members who provided plants for the display – George Dimos and Fran Byrne-Dimos, Andrew Gibbons, Jonathon Harrison, Doug Lee, Lilanga Balachandra and myself. The stand was a bit sparser than previous years but our efforts received a "Third Place" for a small stand.

George & Fran received second places for their *Dockrillia* Tarallab and *Dendrobium toressae*. Andrew Gibbons received first places for his *Pterostylis* Richard Thomson and *Diuris corymbosa* and a second for his *Chiloglottis* sp. aff. *formicifera*.

I was there for the four days, handing out our Show flyers and trying to give visitors information about our display plants. Keith Stringer came along and also assisted visitors with information. Also Sylvia Kappl and John Hodges and I assisted with our "volunteer roles" on the Friday afternoon. A big THANK YOU to the few who assisted; very much appreciated.

Editor: More photographs of ANOS Vic plants on page 14.



CALADENIA ROSELLA REINTRODUCTION AT SMITHS GULLY

Garry French

On 20th July Josée and Len Carrigan and Garry French joined the Nillumbik Threatened Orchid Recovery Team at a site in Smiths Gully to create a new population of *Caladenia rosella* where 280 plants were available for planting. The project was funded by Shire of Nillumbik, DELWP - Port Phillip Region and Trust for Nature with the reintroduction site being chosen a few years ago after vegetation matching, a pollinator study and vegetation quality assessment being completed. Council organised for the site to be fenced in preparation of the plantings. On the day we were joined by members of the Smiths Gully Landcare Group, representatives from Trust for Nature, DELWP and some Council staff. After all the standard data and measurement gathering plants were taken into the fenced enclosure to plant into the already set out locations. Being typical of Box-Ironbark country, the ground wasn't very easily dug into, but it didn't prevent us from getting the plants into their new homes.

It turned out to be a long day as after planting the locations of all plants needed to be measured with reference to the fence in case their tags disappear, tree guards installed for Chough protection and all plants were well watered into their new homes. This reintroduction supplements the one undertaken in Panton Hill last year and further helps to ensure this species long-term viability by having it spread across multiple sites that each contain a self sustaining population size.



Morning briefing for *Caladenia rosella* planting.



Noushka & Josée preparing for planting.



Some good looking plants waiting to go in the ground.



Len planting out *Caladenia rosella*.



Newly installed *Caladenia rosella* plants.



Josée & Len measuring locations of each plant.

THE WILD ORCHID PROJECT

PLANTING ORCHIDS IN THE RIVERINA

Garry French

During the second and fourth weeks of July ANOS Vic participated in the planting of some 6,000 orchids across the Riverina area of New South Wales. During the first week we had 14 people participating while there were 18 people in the second week.

The Wild Orchid Project was devised over ten years ago to contribute to the long-term viability of three endangered orchid species being *Caladenia arenaria* (Sandhill Spider-orchid), *C. concolor* (Crimson Spider-orchid) and *Diuris callitrophila* (Oaklands Diuris). Wild populations of these species were being monitored and it was clear that without intervention their viability wasn't assured. The plan was for new populations to be created by propagating new plants from seed, controlling invasive grasses and other weed species, thinning Cypress Pine at some remnant sites, fencing out rabbits and stock, limiting disturbance at wild sites and undertaking research into the pollinators which guided the locations of potential reintroduction sites.

The New South Wales Department of Local Land Services and the Department of Planning and Environment developed the project and prepared the chosen sites for reintroduction, even down to marking out the individual locations of each orchid proposed for planting. Orchid planting was scheduled to commence in 2020 and be spaced out over three years, but unfortunately due to COVID all plants needed to be planted out this year. A call was put out to our Society for assistance due to our track record with orchid reintroductions, to which we responded. The task ahead was now huge with the planting of three year's worth of orchids over a two week period.

The areas that we worked in were between Corowa and Urana for the main with the *Caladenia concolor* being planted north of Albury. We broke into two teams with one working out of Urana with the other team tackling the planting sites closer to Corowa due to the limitation on accommodation at Urana. Both groups started with *C. arenaria* into prepared sites at Urana on Crown land and near Coreen in State Forest after which we moved onto the *Diuris* within a Travelling Stock Route near a wild population and a new site on Crown land north of Oaklands. The *Diuris* sites presented some interestingly tough soil to dig into. This was quickly resolved with a crew from Parklands Albury Wodonga arriving and punching slots into the ground to get planting locations started for us, what a difference that made. The Corowa crew started the second week in Albury planting out a new site for *Caladenia concolor* in Woomargama National Park with both crews continuing activities around Urana on crown land with a private property use for some of the *C. arenaria*. There were also a number of local volunteers from Albury, Beechworth, Corowa, Narrandera, Rutherglen and Wodonga who joined us over the two weeks and assisted with the plantings. Both crews very quickly developed efficiencies over the first couple of days which made the process of planting very effective, thus good numbers of



Planting team at work with *Caladenia concolor*.



Parklands Albury Wodonga Crew taking a break.



Caladenia arenaria awaiting planting.



Lunch break at Woomargama National Park.



Both crews having lunch together on the last day.



Anna, Bill, Bec, Judy & Josée.



Shanna keeping watch over the planting team.



Janet, Tilak, Richie, Michael, Bill & Judy.



Diuris callitrophila in its new home.

plants were able to be planted each day. In return for our work, we were looked after very well with lunches being provided each day, hot water for tea/coffee on hand, fresh fruit, snacks and the most important thing a portaloos at each site, what a "relief" that was. They also showed their appreciation by gifting everyone a book *Jewels of the Bush – Wild Orchids of the Murray Region* as well as reimbursing our accommodation and vehicle costs. It was a pleasure to work with our friends from across the border on their project and being but a small part of the significant outcome where over 4000 Oaklands *Diuris*, about 1700 Sandhill Spider-orchids and around 250 Crimson Spider-orchids have found new homes while importantly providing some security to these three endangered orchid species.

LAVERTON HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PLANTINGS

Garry French

The Society was successful in 2021 in our bid for a grant from DELWP's Community and Volunteer Action Grants under the Biodiversity On-ground Action and Stewardship stream which included engaging a Contractor to undertake weed control over a 6ha area and to purchase a range of grassland herbs to plant out to improve the habitat for *Diuris fragrantissima* (Sunshine Diuris) and its pollinating insect.

From the end of May through to mid-August we planted close to 5,500 tube stock and plugs of 20 different species, from a range of Daisies, Rice-flowers, Flax-lilies, Bluebells, Speedwells, Bindweeds and Rock-lilies to provide food for native bee pollinators. Kangaroo Grass and Tussock Grass was also planted to fill in the areas where the grassy weeds had been removed.



Julia, Caroline, Rick & Lance planting out some grassland herbs.

To get all these plants in the ground was a substantial task for which all the volunteers who turned out, on some very cold days to assist. They should be extremely satisfied with this outcome.

Come this spring and early summer the Laverton Grasslands should become quite colourful with its wildflower display through this work and that of previous years that will provide plenty of food for the insects that call these grasslands their home and which, in turn, will assist in natural pollination of *D.s fragrantissima* where around 880 plants are now recorded for this site.



Planting team at work.



Josie, Rick, Len & Lance planting out.



Lance & Janet sorting through the plants.

DIURIS FRAGRANTISSIMA PLANTINGS AT LAVERTON GRASSLANDS

Garry French

This year we had 420 *Diuris fragrantissima* plants available for planting, so we organised two planting days. The first was on 28th June with the second on the 4th July.

While being blessed with good weather on both days, which is always a benefit within a grassland environment, we also had a good number of people turning out for these events. After setting up and the completion of briefings, our production line commenced with plants being turned out of their pots and consigned a numbered tag, then the plant's leaves and tubers are measured after which the tubers are weighed. The plants were then taken out into the grassland for planting. Once in the ground their tags were located a short distance north of the plant as this allows each individual plant to be monitored in future years with certainty so that the plant's history can be tracked over time.



Diuris fragrantissima plants waiting to go into the ground.



Measuring and recording plants.



Morning briefing underway.



Garry & John in quiet contemplation before planting begins.

Tasks were swapped around over the days and it is extremely satisfying to have ended up with 420 orchids being planted to supplement this important population of a nationally listed species which brings it closer to a self sustaining population. On day one we installed 206 plants with a further 214 plants being placed on our second day.

Thanks to everyone involved on these days; and thank you also to Karen Lester (DELWP) for all the "backroom" work she did to enable these plantings to go ahead.

SOME WINTER-FLOWERING HELMETS FROM THE OUTER EAST AND NORTH EAST

Wendy Probert

It is quite a good year for *Corybas* species. A friend from Mt Toolebewong Landcare had been liaising with a Ranger over a restricted area in the Yarra Ranges that was once rich in orchids. It had declined in recent years, due to kangaroos grazing and an overgrowth of Burgan (*Kunzea ericoides*) but a management burn was conducted last year. My friend and I had the opportunity to survey the orchids. We checked old records, noting that *Corybas aconitiflorus*, listed as 'Rare', had last been sighted in 1990. So, on 28th June we were let through the locked gates and shown areas where orchids might be found. After a couple of hours, we had located eight small colonies (two - four flowering plants plus leaves) growing in the burnt area, amongst grasses and *Gahnia*, not in the damper mossy unburnt areas with Burgan. We even found them growing in thick patches of *Dichondra repens* which we had initially avoided. We hope that another survey may be conducted later in the year with both MTL and ANOS Vic.

A second unexpected find for me was *Corybas fimbriatus* in the North-East suburbs, where it is something of an outlier. There are about 26 different patches of bush including roadsides, the fringes of sports ovals, small out-of-the-way bushland reserves, and the much larger Plenty Gorge Park within striking distance of my home which I visit from time-to-time to check for orchids. Since reading that *C. fimbriatus* was last seen in Plenty Gorge Park in 1992, before a track eradicated it, I had been trying to find another colony for years. My favourite *Corybas* spot in Plenty Gorge, which has lots of *C. diemenicus* and *C. incurvus*, usually requires a walk of 5-7km. I have clocked up so many kilometres over the years looking for the elusive fringed helmet without success. Last year, I saw a patch of *Corybas* leaves where I had never seen them before, but with no sign of flowers. The site is outside the gorge and is visited by the occasional dog walker and teenage kids who unfortunately discard cans of alcohol and smoking equipment there. Last year I picked up a small, discarded bag of rubbish and put it in the boot of the car. Sometime later, I remembered to pull it out and while sorting through the various bottles for recycling, discovered I had been carrying around a bong and lighters, plus some suspicious brown stains in plastic glad wrap. Oops! Into the bin. I checked the site again, in mid-June this year – not a leaf to be seen. But in July, all the leaves were up and there were about a hundred *C. fimbriatus* in flower. They bloomed *en masse*, then collapsed quite quickly in the days afterwards, with little evidence to show of it. I have been left wondering whether they needed a few years of relatively good rain, whether the below zero temperatures this year stimulated them, or was it the illicit smoking? That meant I needed to check a few other sites where my records say '*Corybas* sp. leaves' but so far, they are all *C. incurvus*. I guess the message is that persistence pays off. Other Helmet orchids flowering well this year are *C. diemenicus*, *C. grumulus* and *C. incurvus* at various sites in the North-East suburbs and Yarra Ranges.

*Corybas aconitiflorus* Healesville.*Corybas fimbriatus*.*Corybas diemenicus*
Yarra Ranges.



Corybas grumulus Yarra Ranges.



And the first *Caladenia* seen in flower.
Christmas Hills, Friday 12th August
Caladenia caerulea and *C. praecox*.



JEANNE DUNN



Our congratulations to Jeanne Dunn whose magnificent
Docrillia teretifolia
was awarded
Champion Australian Native Species
and
Champion Native Specimen
at the recent OSCOV Show at Skye.

JOHN CLATWORTHY

More *Pterostylis nutans*. I tried to see if there was any distinct differences I could find after processing the photos. I find it difficult to distinguish at the time the photo is taken. Different or same parents produce offspring that look similar. I suppose orchid plants would never evolve if all offspring are the same.



JOHN CLATWORTHY

Inside my shadehouse at the moment at Alexandra Hills in the Redlands near Brisbane.



L-R: *Dendrobium* Sarah Jane 'Purvis' x *speciosum* var. *curvicaule* 'Dave's Moon #2', *D.* (Tie Dye 'Wangi' x June Mac) x *speciosum* var. *speciosum* 'Dorothy', *D.* Australian Artist - Cobber 'Violet Gold x *speciosum* 'Windermere'.



L-R: *Dendrobium* (Candace x Lusty) x *speciosum* var. *curvicaule* 'Daylight Moon', *D.* Australian Artist '3', *D.* *speciosum* collection, *Pterostylis curta* X2.

KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST ANOS VIC NEWS

ANOS Vic web site: <http://www.anosvic.org.au> Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/anos-vic>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ANOSVIC> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ANOSVictoria>

Did you notice that we now have four sites listed on page 1 of our monthly *Bulletin*?

RAY & ROBYN FORD



Clockwise from top left: *Caladenia peisleyi*, *Corbyas incurvus*, *Pterostylis tunstallii*, *P. X ingens*.



AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 OF THE
 AUSTRALIAN ORCHID
 FOUNDATION**
 to hear the guest speaker
Phil Spence

It is impossible to summarise Phil Spence's lifetime with orchids into a few words. He is an authority on the orchids of PNG; he has been a major producer of new orchid hybrids, especially *Dendrobium*; he is an Honorary Research Associate of the Herbarium of the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney; he was the recipient of the AOF Award of Honour in 2013. In addition, he has lectured around the world and has just completed a new book on *Dendrobium* section *Latourea* which will be released shortly.

His topic: *Dendrobium* Sect. *Latouria*

Phil will speak about his *Latouria* book which is being published by the American Orchid Society and sponsored by the Australian Orchid Foundation. Phil will introduce the book to us, its contents including some species which are new to science and give us some background information on its writing and production.

**City of Whitehorse Horticultural
 Centre**

**82 Jolimont Road,
 Forest Hill Vic. 3131**

Saturday, 22nd October 2022

2.00pm for AGM

followed by Phil's presentation

Attendance at this meeting will also be possible
 by Zoom link.

Afternoon tea provided.

Plant sales and book sales.

PLEASE EMAIL:

AOF@AUSTRALIANORCHIDFOUNDATION.ORG.AU
FOR THE ZOOM LINK TO THE MEETING

PAUL PIKO

Here are some photos from around Dalyenong on Sunday 28th August.

L-R:
Caladenia cretacea,
C. cruciformis,
Pterostylis smaragdina
 and
Caladenia deformis.



ALEX WILD



Dendrobium falcorostrum.

WENDY PROBERT

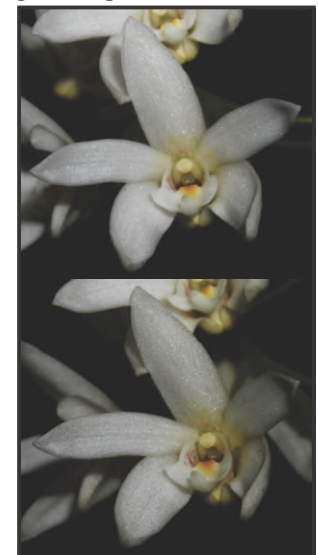
Here are some more photos taken over the two search days at Dalyenong, and further west of St Arnaud on the way home.

Top Row
 L-R:
Caladenia caerulea,
C. cretacea x
cruciformis,
C. cruciformis,
C. deformis.
 Bottom Row L-R:
C. fuscata,
C. reniformis,
Diuris palustris
 - they were tiny.



One of our favourite epiphytes. The specific name, *falcorostrum*, is in reference to the hook at the end of the labellum as being reminiscent of the beak of the falcon, that feature usually being carried over to its progeny.

D. falcorostrum has a glorious perfume.



GARY BACKHOUSE

Out orchiding with Bill and Judy Ashcroft along Wangarabell Road north of Genoa yesterday (end of August), with abundant greenhoods in flower including *Pterostylis concinna*, *P. curta*, *P. grandiflora*, *P. nana*, *P. nutans*, *P. pedunculata*, *P. striata*, *P. tunstallii* (and a single *P. melagramma* at Gypsy Point earlier in the day) plus *Caladenia caerulea*, *C. catenata* and *C. fuscata* just starting to flower, with a couple of tiny *Acianthus caudatus* for good measure.

The most interesting orchid we found was a cauline *Pterostylis* (or *Diplodium*) species that most closely resembles *Pterostylis atrans* but has a taller, more slender flower, the hood narrower than in *P. atrans*. It is also flowering in winter, with *P. atrans* usually flowering from summer to autumn. Rosette leaves on non-flowering plants were rather large for a cauline greenhood, although the small colony had been mostly covered by a fallen branch, with only a couple of single leaves visible. Just the one small colony with a single flowering plant was found, despite our search of the hillside which had plenty of other greenhoods in flower. The only other cauline greenhoods flowering nearby were *P. grandiflora* and *P. striata*, both just about finished for the season. The new greenhood doesn't appear to be a hybrid, but just what it is had us perplexed.

We finished the day by finding a nice white-flowered *Hardenbergia violacea*.



MARION & RICHARD THOMSON

*Caladenia deformis*

ALEX WILD



Mediocalcar decoratum flowering in mid September. A charming little species from PNG that likes our conditions. Alex has it in a mesh pot and sphagnum moss and it quickly grew into a nice specimen. To my eye, the small flowers look like little berries that have burst open to reveal their innards.

NONI & GARY



We were out searching for orchids in the Grampians today. Quite a range of orchids were in bloom including *Pterostylis nana*, *P. nutans*, *P. melagramma* and *P. smargadyna*; *Caladenia deformis*, *C. fuscata* and *C. caerulea*; *Glossodia major*, *Corybas incurvus* and *C. diemenicus* as well as golden moths. The most interesting species was *Caladenia oenochila* / *grampiana* ? that was represented by two colour variants. Great place to spend a few days.

Top Row L-R:
Caladenia deformis,
C. caerulea,
Pterostylis melagramma,
Caladenia sp.?
 Right:
Caladenia sp. ?



BUYING ORCHIDS ON eBay

Phil Ritchie

Many of us will have had experiences with buying orchids on eBay. Prices for divisions of a particular plant can vary widely from time to time as the people bidding for the plant vary. This is in line with other auctions involving collectibles. Since buying at an on line auction differs from that of a physical auction to the extent that a physical examination of the item is not possible, my experience of eBay has been very positive overall and the eBay systems are good. To ensure purchase of an item given the time limit on eBay auctions (a major point of difference compared to a physical auction run by say Leonard Joel or Christian McCann), it can be advantageous to insert an upper limit bid. Obviously, if another person has put in an upper limit bid below yours, but still well above the progressive bidding then you can wind up paying more than you intended for the item. That hasn't happened to me yet.

Some things that I have noticed which you have to watch out for:

- ❖ A mounted orchid which has not been established on the mount for at least one growing season. It has just been tied onto the mount.
- ❖ Image of a flower (or flowers) which are not those of the actual plant on offer. You have the ability of course to e-mail the vendor before the auction time line ends, but answers can be unsatisfactory. I have had that experience a couple of times and

have therefore not entered a bid.

- ❖ Image of a flower (or flowers) only with no image of the plant being offered! This is remarkable and logic would say that the vendor could not hope to achieve a good price. I saw an instance of that very recently.
- ❖ The annoying use of code names for vendors. eBay should not do this – the vendor's name and/or business name and business location should be clearly stated.
- ❖ Having made that previous point, you can determine, with some digging, who is behind a particular offering. Knowing the vendor and their reputation is very important information to have to avoid disappointment. I don't place a lot of credence on the feedback rankings you see against the vendors. As I said at the beginning though, with two or three exceptions, my experiences have been positive. On line sales, particularly of highly collectible species and hybrid examples, will increase fuelled in part by the closure of many orchid nurseries which is occurring at the moment. This is an area where people's experiences will differ and it would be a good topic for an Epiphyte Study Group discussion. Of course, the selling of orchids on eBay is the flip side – another area worthy of discussion.

JESSICA SAMBELL

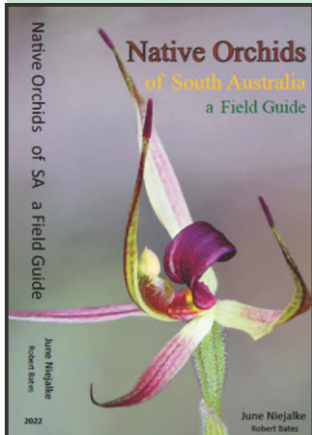


Images from my recent trip to the Stawell area. *Caladenia caerulea* – Eastern blue fairies, *Caladenia fuscata* – Dusky fingers images not included as file was too large with other images, but these were in excellent numbers in the region. *Caladenia deformis* – blue beards, *Caladenia caerulea x deformis*, *Caladenia cardiochila* – heart lipped spider orchid, *Caladenia xanthochila* – yellow lipped spider orchid, *Caladenia cretacea*– Stuart mill spider orchid, *Caladenia fulva* – Tawny spider orchid, *Diuris chryseopsis* – Golden moths, *Diuris palustris* – Swamp donkey orchid, *Pterostylis cycnocephala* – Swan greenhood.

BOOK REVIEW

NATIVE ORCHIDS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA A FIELD GUIDE BY JUNE NIEJALKE (WITH ROBERT BATES)

Reviewed by Bill Kosky



Many ANOS members will be familiar with June Niejalke's brilliant orchid photos which are included in many orchid books such as David Jones' grand tome *A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia including the Island Territories* (2021).

More than anything June's *Native Orchids of South Australia a Field Guide* is a showcase for South Australia's impressive orchid species that are, more often than not, overlooked by those passing through on their way west. For example, the

range of spider, sun, and onion orchids, *rufa* and other greenhoods, is very impressive.

June is refreshingly catholic when it comes to species names, sometimes including the Jones /Clements genus names followed by the older genus names favoured by this reviewer and others. Sometimes the other way around, plus common and former names. What more can anyone ask?

Field guides are usually a compromise between the need to limit size and weight, and a desire to include as much information and detailed photography as possible to aid identification. June's 24x17cm 417 page Field Guide does a very clever job of meeting both requirements. Most species are contained on one or more pages, arranged by genus and following a genus description. Often there are extra pages recording the range of species variation encountered in the field. The latter a very useful real world feature.

There are short notes on the species taxonomy, the type specimen, and the species author(s). Followed by a short, compressed description of the species; its habitat, similar species, and its main distinguishing features. Each has a distribution map and bar showing the months it flowers.

The photos are exquisite, typically four or five for each species, more when identification is difficult, usually showing the flower from one or more angles, the whole plant, leaves, and fine detailed photos useful in identifying the particular species be they, calli, sepal clubs, hairy flower stems, sun orchid columns, details of difficult to identify *Microtis*, etc.

Robert (Bob) Bates is acknowledged as secondary author of the guide partly by way of a tribute to his extensive field work, discovery, research and naming of South Australian orchids over many years.

The price \$55 plus \$15 postage. and requesting she send you an account with her preferred method of payment on it.

E-mail June at jniejalk@bigpond.net.au with your address and telephone number.

Thelymitra aristata Great Sun Orchid

Nangwarry, SE Topperwein, SE Nangwarry, SE

Taxonomy: Name, from 'aristatus' awned, refers to the floral bracts, abruptly contracted into long-acuminate points. **Type:** Tas, Wilcorne River, Nov 1837 R.C.Gunn. **Author:** *Thelymitra aristata* Lindl., Gen. sp. orchid. pl. 521 (1840).

AKA: *T. murdockiae*.

Description: Height to 100 cm; stem robust with 1-4 large fleshy stem bracts. **Leaf:** Large, green, lanceolate, fleshy. **Flower:** Up to 40, lilac or blue faintly veined; sepals and petals all similar. **Column:** Cream to white to pale blue with the mid-lobe narrowed into a slender sparsely toothed yellow hood, usually with a black collar, not hooding; hair tufts white. **Pollination:** By native bees. **Notes:** Flowers better after a fire; many flowers open at once. Flowers last for several weeks.

Habitat: Track sides and slashed sandy woodland amid low heath and bracken near swampy thickets.

Similar Species: *T. grandiflora* is a plant of dry ridges in SL.

Distinguished Features:

- very tall, to 100 cm, very robust, fleshy Sun Orchid
- flowers many, clustered, large, lilac or blue, faintly veined
- leaf and stem bracts large, fleshy and glaucous
- column apex flat, narrow, elongated, yellow-toothed with a nearly black narrow collar
- grows along swampy margins in the SE.

Status: Very rare in SA. Also, in Vic, Tas, and NSW.
SA status: Endangered. Australia EPBC: -

Flowering Time
J F M A M J J A S O N D

ALEX WILD



Two forms of *Sarc. falcatus*. We love them and find them easy to grow at our place.

GOLD RUSH

Ian Taylor & Gordon Leckie

Embarking on a 630km tour on the 5th of September that stopped for coffee in an old store with a gold field history, we visited several sites in the St. Arnaud and Stuart Mill area.

This rewarded us with 14 different species that embraced lots of Pink (mainly white), Dusky (with prominent side lobes) and Blue Finger orchids (*Caladenia carnea*, *C. fuscata* and *C. caerulea*), sporadic Blue Beard (*C. deformis*), the Swan, Dwarf (in abundance) and Nodding Greenhoods (*Pterostylis cynocephala*, *P. nana* and *P. nutans*) and robust specimens of the Leopard Orchid (*Diuris pardina*).

But with the best yet to come, we found the Red Daddy Wax Lips (*Caladenia filamentosa*) either single, clumped or in bud, occasional white Daddy Long Lips (*C. capillata*), the Red Cross Spider (*C. cruciformis*) in various shapes and colours, the Stuart Mill Spider (*C. cretacea*), a probable hybrid between these two, and finally the highlight - the rare Douglas's Spider (*C. douglasiorum*) with clubbed sepals and petals. Thanks again to Gary Backhouse for help with identification. What a day!



Caladenia carnea, *C. fuscata*, *C. caerulea*, *C. deformis*.



Diuris pardina, *Pterostylis nana*, *P. cynocephala*, *Caladenia capillata*, *C. filamentosa*.



Caladenia filamentosa, *C. cruciformis* x *cretacea*, *C. douglasiiorum*, *C. cretacea* (X2).



Five photos of *Caladenia cruciformis*.