

NATIVE ORCHID  
SOCIETY  
of  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



*Acianthus  
reniformis*

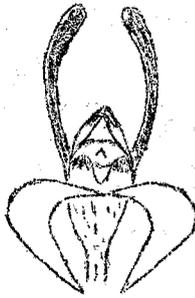
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NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

JOURNAL

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EDITOR: Mr L.T. Nesbitt

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NEXT MEETING

When: Tuesday, 22nd July, 1980 at 8 p.m.

Where: St. Matthews Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington.

Why: Reg Mason will present a talk "Orchids of Eyre Peninsula".  
Reg lived on Eyre Peninsula for a number of years and made  
a study of the orchids there.

Bring your flowering plants for the display and commentary.  
The trading table and library will be in operation and there  
will be the usual raffle.

FIELD TRIP.

Ansteys Hill on Sunday 20th July. Meet at 1.00 p.m. at the corner  
of Grand Junction Road and Perseverance Road, Vista. There will be an  
inspection of George Nieuwenhoven's collection AFTER the Field Trip.

S.G.A.P. SHOW.

This show will be staged in September this year and MOSSA will put on  
an orchid display. Set up is Friday, 26th September in the Walter  
Duncan Hall at the Wayville Showgrounds. Open to the public on 27th  
and 28th. September 1980. An out-of-season Dendrobium bigibbum is  
wanted for a display of State floral emblems.

LAST MEETING.

Attendance 59

It was one of those history making meetings which are all too rare. Kevin Western's excellent presentation of the A to Z of orchid seed-raising summarized the present state of the art in Australia. His non-stop delivery was crammed with information, from how to pollinate, fungus associations, flask-ing media, the need to sterilise everything, a demo of green pod sowing, fungal cultures, treatment of protocorms in flasks and planting out. Excellent stuff.

You may have noticed our new screen at the hall. It was bought on behalf of NOSSA by Kevin Western and hung by Roy Hargreaves.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY.

Harold Goldsack called it a magnificent display, especially the terrestrials. The highlights were three excellent pots of the robust S.A. form of Pterostylis longifolia. One of these was nominated for a cultural certificate. We saw the first caladenia for the season, Caladenia alba and an out of season Spiranthes sinensis from Queensland. Harold's own hybrid greenhood, Pt. baptistii X Pt. cucullata, had a large green and brown flower on a tall stem. The cross was made in 1973 but before the seed could be collected the pod ripened and split open. Some seed germinated in an adjacent pot of cymbidium and one plant flowered in 1976. There were two flowers in 1977 and six in 1978 showing that the hybrid multiplies rapidly. The hybrids were then separated from the cymbidium and potted up on their own. There will be 51 flowers in 1980. Roy Haese commented on the epiphytes at this mid-winter meeting.

Terrestrials.

Acianthus exsertus  
A. fornicatus  
Caladenia alba  
Chiloglottis fornicifera  
Corybas dilatatus  
C. unguiculatus  
Malaxis latifolia  
Prasophyllum parvifolium  
Pterostylis alata var robusta  
Pt. baptistii  
Pt. baptistii X Pt. cucullata

Pterostylis coninna  
Pt. longicurva  
Pt. longifolia  
Pt. nana  
Pt. nutans  
Pt. obtusa  
Pt. ophioglossa  
Pt. ophioglossa var collins  
Pt. stricta  
Pt. vitata  
Spiranthes sinensis

Epiphytes.

Dendrobium bigibbum (2)  
Oberonia palmicola  
Den. bigibbum X Den. tetragonum

Den. Hilda Poxon  
Den. Hybrid.

RAFFLE.

Bulbophyllum crassulifolium  
Sarcochilus ceciliae  
Pterostylis alata var robusta

won by Bob Markwick  
 " " Chis. Chisholm  
 " " Ian Walton

POPULAR VOTE.Terrestrials

First.	<u>Pterostylis concinna</u>	grown by Les. Nesbitt
Equal	<u>Caladenia alba</u>	" " George Nieuwenhoven
Second	<u>Pterostylis longifolia</u>	" " Bob Bates

Epiphytes

Dendrobium Hilda Poxon " " Chis. Chisholm

NOTE: The Committee disqualified the large white dendrobium because this orchid is not considered to be an Australasian native orchid hybrid because it has some exotic parentage.

CULTURAL CERTIFICATES.

The first four NOSSA Cultural Certificates were at long last presented. The recipients were Ray Haese, Bob Bates and Les Nesbitt. Our thanks go to Mr George W. Corby of Seaton for the excellent hand printing on the certificates.

UNDERGROUND ORCHIDS.

A group of members of the W.A. Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group have found several plants of Rhizanthella gardneri in the same area as last year's discoveries. The news made the front page in Perth.

ORCHID FESTIVAL.

Preliminary arrangements have been made for a native orchid festival on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st September, 1980.

The programme is:-

Saturday	a.m.	Warren National Park
	Lunch	Barbeque at Kersbrook
	p.m.	Morialta National Park
Sunday	a.m.	Field Trip
	Lunch	Peter Hornsby's

This weekend has been arranged in return for the trip to Parrakie last year as guests of the local SGAP group. It is also hoped that some of our country members can come to town and join us for this week-end. If you are interested and do not normally attend meetings, please let the Secretary know.

ROYAL SHOW.

Closing date for entries is Thursday July 24th. In the orchid sections there are six sections for native orchids and native orchids are also eligible for some of the Australian Native Plant classes. Class lists and entry forms are available from the R.A.H.S. office at the Showgrounds. Royal Show dates are August 29th to September 6th, 1980.

Exhibitors get a pass into the Show and may drive into the Showgrounds in the early mornings to stage plants. Thousands of people see the Royal Show so we should make an extra effort to display Australian orchids.

THE CULTIVATION OF PTEROSTYLIS X INGENS.

R. Bates.

This hybrid possesses the vigorous growth rate of one parent (P. nutans) and the large blooms of the other (P. falcata). At least three clones are being cultivated in Adelaide and one, originally from East Gippsland is far superior to the others. When obtaining plants it would be wise to check if you are getting this special clone as another clone from near the Victorian South Australian border is so inferior that it might be best to send these plants back to the swamps they came from.

I began with three tubers of P. x ingens in 1976. These have multiplied to over 100 plants. Plants do not flower well however if crowded in a pot, so it is necessary to repot the species each summer with 12-15 tubers in a 30 cm. diameter pot as rosettes are up to 10 cm. across. Flower stems are about 60 cm. tall and blooms 5-6 cm. in galea length.

If watered too early in Autumn, flower spikes are produced in mid-winter and will be spindly and weak unless extra heat is given. Grown cold they should not be watered until April to ensure Spring flowering.

Any soil mix seems to suit them. I grew one potful in pure bush soil and another in Cymbidium mix enriched with horse manure and plant size was the same. I have used foliar fertiliser but am not convinced that it had any effect (no control pot was used).

Certainly there are few species easier to grow than this one. Plants never rot off unless kept really soggy. Aphids may distort the flowers and there is a virus which causes warts on the blooms and stems but it does not appear serious.

P. x ingens is likely to be in most Adelaide collections within the next five years, they will even thrive in a pot of Cymbidiums.

PLANT OF THE MONTH.

G. Nieuwenhoven.

Caladenia deformis, common name, Bluebeard Caladenia

We are now almost into the time of the year where we can expect to see the first of the caladenia in flower and Caladenia deformis is one of our earliest. It has an almost smooth narrow leaf, 5-6 cm. long and approximately 4 mm. wide, which right now should be showing well advanced flower buds. It usually produces one flower per stem, although one can be excused for thinking they have many flowers per plant at times. They sometimes form into small clumps or tufts, possibly either by natural increase or the tuber or by many seedlings forming in one spot, thereby forming a bunch.

Flower colour is deep blue inside with the outside being a much paler colour. The dominant feature of the flower is its labellum, it is 10-15 mm long when extended and 5-8 mm wide, the lower two thirds erect, with the rest recurved. It looks quite bristly, this is due to the four to six irregular rows of slightly clubbed calli on the lamina which extend not quite toward the tip. The species occurs in all states except Queensland and Northern Territory.

In cultivation it is one of the easier caladenia to grow, in common with most caladenias it should be planted in a clay pot using a crumbly hills soil with no sand or peat added, soil used should preferably come from an area where other caladenias grow to assist the appropriate fungi living in symbiosis with the orchid. 10 plants to a 125 mm pot is not too many. Place the tubers about 25 mm below the surface, fill the rest of the pot with more soil and top up with partly decayed bush litter. Sow any seed into this approximately in May, seedlings appear early in spring, Caladenia deformis is relatively free from any diseases.

THE ASCENT OF MOUNT PLANTAGENET.

R. Bates.

The treeless plains eas. of Hawker were a deep green from abundant winter rain as we sped towards the 1000 metre peak of Mt. Plantagenet, glowing orange in the last rays of the setting sun. About 10 km. from the summit the road entered a steep-sided gorge, crossing and re-crossing a rushing creek.

Camp was made in semi-darkness and first light showed that we had made a fine choice of camp-site. The view was superb. We were overlooking the gorge and plains below, while along side a 20 metre tall pinnacle of shining quartz jutted out of a limestone ridge. A curious euro was standing not 10 metres from the camp.

The summit looked rather distant so breakfast was hasty to allow an early start. We immediately began to find rosettes of a Pterostylis of the 'Rufa' group. They were not in flower but later proved to be an undertermined species which is possibly the true P. mitchellii. A crack in the quartz harboured several P. mutica, each with 3-4 tiny green flowers. The vegetation for the first two kilometres was stunted mallee, the soil powdery and calcareous. Our first real find was a group of Prasophyllum patens. The delicate white blooms showed them to be of the form Rogers Prasophyllum album.

The terrain became more rugged and we followed the creek. The giant red gums with their green, red and white trunks glistened in the early morning sunshine. The Pterostylis rosettes here were larger with few narrow leaves. They later proved to be P. Boomanii.

A waterfall blocked our pathway along the creek so we headed along a limy ridge. A small leafed Dodonea was collected here and it turned out to be D. tepperi, a species so rare that until the discovery of the few plants here, it was known from only one existing plant 500 km. away at Monarto.

The end of the ridge gave a fantastic view framed by tall yaccas (Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata). Between us and the summit was a valley densely forested with native pines. In the moss under these P. mutica were numerous, P. rufa were almost in flower and small groups of the dry-land spider orchid, Caladenia dilatata var concinna were all in the deeper soil pockets. Pterostylis rosettes here were up to 10 cm across with 20 or so leaves. They later were shown to belong to P. biseta, the commonest of the "Rufa" group species in South Australia.

From here to the summit the way was steep and rocky. For this exciting and somewhat dangerous part of the climb junior promptly decided to go to sleep on my shoulders. The rock loving Hybanthus mitchellii was everywhere here. On a broad slope of rock, 100 metres below the summit, a tangled thicket of Acacia pravissima sheltered a colony of Pterostylis robusta (syn. alata var robusta and scabra var robusta) with large green and brown flowers which were just finishing.

The final grassy slope to the summit was dotted with the blue buds of Thelymitra longifolia. The tree-less isolated peak of Mt. Plantagenet affords a tremendous view. North-west, 100 km. distant, could be seen the unmistakable cone of Mt. Patawarta. About half that distance away rose the precipitous Rawnsley Bluff. To the south-west, Devils Peak, near Quorn, was clearly outlined and to the east, the rugged Bibliando Hills, the target for the following day. Six hundred metres below was a station road and because the hour was late we slid and stumbled towards it, making camp just on twilight.

In these often dry mountains I would have considered it fortunate to find

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,

In an attempt to compile a complete check-list of W.A. terrestrial orchids, their habitat, range of distribution, flowering period and so on, I have come up against a problem regarding the correct naming of some of our species.

It appears that several species that are already named in S.A. also occur in W.A.

Examples are Prasophyllum patens var patens (formerly odoratum), Corybas despectans and Corybas fordhamii. All three are thought to occur in W.A. with no direct known locality as Corybas unguiculatus.

On going through "A Check-list of Orchidacea of South Australia" by J.Z. Weber in the N.O.S.S.A. journal Vol. 5 No. 6, June 1979, I note that there are several new combinations and reductions which should also apply to Western Australian material.

They are:-

<u>Caladenia filamentosa</u> var <u>tentaculata</u>	= <u>filamentosa</u> var <u>filamentosa</u> .
<u>Pterostylis scabra</u> var <u>robusta</u>	= <u>alata</u> var <u>robusta</u> .
<u>Thelymitra nuda</u>	= <u>longifolia</u> .
<u>aristata</u>	= <u>longifolia</u> .
<u>grandiflora</u>	= <u>aristata</u> .

However little has been done in W.A. and until Western Australian specimens are compared with those in S.A. they will have to be left under their former names.

A good example of the confusion caused is Caladenia filamentosa var tentaculata which in S.A. has been reduced to C. filamentosa var filamentosa. According to "George, Nuytsia, Vol. 1, No. 2, 1971." no material from Western Australia quite matches the typical form of C. filamentosa and so far as we are aware tentaculata is still a good variety in W.A. It is certainly different from our other filamentosa in that it has a much smaller labellum and very fine segments.

It is bad enough having such a large number of un-named species and varieties in W.A. but it is even more annoying to have the same species with one name in W.A. and another in S.A.

Hoping that some-one can clean up these inconsistencies,

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Brown  
131 Langford Ave.,  
LANGFORD. W.A. 6155.

THE ASCENT OF MOUNT PLANTAGENET.

(Continued)

one or two orchid species. We were more than pleased with our score of nine.

This trip was made in late August 1979. The area is seldom visited by tourists. This is surprising as it is a mere hours drive from Hawker, the gateway to the Flinders - and the spectacular scenery and excellent walking conditions really do make it worth a full day visit.

BY-LAWS

The Management Committee have, in accordance with the powers vested in them under the Constitution, adopted certain By-Laws for various purposes including:-

- Awards.
- Judging Panel and Judges.
- Judging for Awards.
- Shows.
- Management Committee Meetings.

For the information of members it is proposed to publish them in the Journal over the next few issues using the last two pages in order that they may be detached and filed separately, if desired, and up-dated as and when new By-Laws are adopted.

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NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA. - BY-LAWS.

INTERPRETATION AND DEFINITIONS.

1. All By-laws shall be read with reference and subject to the Constitution of the Society and in their interpretation the singular shall include the plural and the masculine shall include the feminine.
2. Unless otherwise stated in the Constitution of the Society or in these by-laws or in a schedule of the Society the following words and phrases shall have the meaning hereunder assigned to them.
  - (1) "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the Society.
  - (2) "Registrar" shall mean the officer appointed by the Management Committee to record the awards of the Society and carry out such duties as are set out in these by-laws, and shall include his Deputy.
  - (3) "Exhibitor" shall mean a person being a financial member of the Society, or an affiliated Society, who benches a plant at any show or meeting of the Society in accordance with these by-laws or a schedule of the Society.
  - (4) "Committee" shall mean the Management Committee of the Society.

NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA. - BY-LAWS.

AWARDS.

1. The Society shall make awards to any exhibit of sufficient merit in accordance with the rules and within the scope of the definitions contained in the Australasian Native Orchid Society's Judging Standards as prescribed for Australian Native Orchids and Australian Native Orchid Hybrids.
2. The following certificates may be granted for exhibits which satisfy the standards required by the Judging Panel from time to time.
  - (1) First Class Certificate.
  - (2) Award of Merit.
  - (3) Highly Commended Certificate.
  - (4) Award of Commendation.
  - (5) Certificate of Culture.
3. A Certificate of Culture shall be granted to the grower of a plant which shows evidence of great cultural skill over an extended period. When applying for such an award the grower must supply to the Registrar or Secretary a signed certificate to the effect that the plant has been in his possession for at least two (2) years, together with a written comprehensive account of the mode of culture used in the preparation of the plant.
4. The Registrar shall submit to the Committee for ratification all recommendations and awards approved by the Judging Panel.
5. The Committee shall have the power to ratify or reject any recommendation of a Judging Panel, and to make a decision on any objection to an award being granted.
6. The Secretary shall forthwith notify the owner of the exhibit, in writing, after ratification or annulment of an award.
7. The owner of any exhibit to which an award has been made, or a grower awarded a Certificate of Culture, shall be presented by the Society with a suitable certificate, subject to compliance with Rule 10.
8. Each Certificate of award shall be signed by the President, Secretary and Registrar and shall be inscribed with the name of the owner and the name and variety of the plant, which is the subject of the award.
9. Every award granted shall be recorded by the Registrar, stating the name of the owner, name and variety of the plant, date of the award and the registered number of the award. These details shall be published in the journal of the Society.
10. Full frame colour transparencies of an acceptable quality shall be provided by the owner to the Society of all plants awarded. These transparencies shall include:-
  - (1) Single flower.
  - (2) Inflorescence.
  - (3) In the case of a Certificate of Culture - the whole exhibit.
11. Written descriptions and measurements of plants which have been awarded shall be made by the Registrar on a form to be provided and such form shall be affixed to the colour transparency and kept in the records of the Society.
12. A plant which has gained an award issued by the Society shall not be re-eligible for the same award.
13. Exhibits for National Awards must be submitted to the Registrar of the Orchid Club of South Australia Inc. by the Registrar of the Native Orchid Society of South Australia for recognition. Any fees and other requirements must be met by the exhibitor.