

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com/>



Vol 35 No 3 August 2023



Anne O'Callaghan Award July 2023
Gomesa recurva
Siva

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 15 August

Contents

- 2. July meeting minutes
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- 6. The Subtribe *Pleurothalidinae*
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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

11 July 2023 7.50pm

Present: 23 members as per register.

Apologies: 6 as per register.

Visitors: Nil

New members: Nil

Minutes: Acceptance of minutes from June meeting moved Ray, seconded Lynn. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at 30 June was \$7,062.78

Acceptance of financial report moved Ray, seconded Graham. Carried.

Business Arising: Adrian apologised for the omission of June GM raffle proceeds.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Committee members – additions/ amendments to draft agendas and minutes
- Paul – advice on Microsoft not-for-profit application
- Adrian – display plant photos
- Curtin FM – receipt for payment of annual charge
- Murray Baker – cutoff date for Barrita Orchids pre-orders is 22 July
- Harry Ashton – species plants on Barrita Orchids list
- Murray Baker – passing of Ian Duncan and funeral details.
- Margaret Bowden – photo of Peter Masters

Outwards:

- Committee – draft GM minutes, draft committee minutes, draft GM agenda,

committee and general meeting minutes, proposed Barrita Orchids order.

- Peter Masters auction catalogue e-mailed to members
- Flask pre-order Paul Smith, Foliage Plus
- Barrita Orchids – e-mail re quantity of species orchids available from website listing
- Mich Lee re club apparel
- July Newsletter to members

Acceptance of correspondence report moved Ray Taylor, seconded Lee-Anne Mair. Carried.

Business Arising: Ray noted that the monthly plant information was omitted from the July newsletter. Ken apologised for the oversight and will distribute the notes as an attachment with the August newsletter, explaining that he had used the June newsletter as a template, and had included the Vale for Peter in July that overwrote the monthly plant notes (see notes from your Committee on page 5).

General Business:

Inter Society Orchid Display and Workshop – 5/6 August 2023

Adrian asked members to advise the Secretary of any orchids that they expect to have for the SOWA display before the end of the month so that name tags can be prepared. At present, Ken only has information from a few members so the display will be small. Assistance in staging our display would be appreciated – please let Adrian or Ken know if you are able to help.

Harry asked why the event name had been

changed from the original Interclub Challenge to the current Inter Society Orchid Display and Workshop.

Members were advised that the change was made to enable host clubs to apply for Lotterywest funding.

Adrian advised members that he and Paul had worked on the display props last weekend and that they were now ready for set up at ISODW.

Perth Orchid Fair -2/3 September 2023

Set up will be in the afternoon of Friday 1st and open to the public on Saturday and Sunday. Promotional flyers are available for distribution.

Adrian told members that the event will be widely promoted to the public as an opportunity to purchase flowering size orchids. If you are planning to sell orchids, please see Ken to get plant sale sheets. Members were encouraged to prepare sale as well as display plants for this event.

If you will have plants for the display, please provide details to Ken by 25 August to allow him to prepare name tags.

The volunteer roster will be at the August meeting so that you can let us know when you are available, and what you can do to help us make this event a success.

SOSWA apparel

Adrian thanked Mich Lee for providing information about SOSWA apparel that had been e-mailed to members. Paper copies are available for members who do not have access to e-mail.

Adrian noted that while some members may have joined after the initial purchase, other members might be interested in purchasing additional garments.

If you wish to participate in an order for apparel, Mich's cover sheet in the information

package e-mailed sets out the process that we will follow .

Monthly Plant purchases

Adrian advised members that SOSWA has taken advantage of the ISODW opportunity to purchase orchids from Barrita Orchids and has ordered \$1,200 worth of species seedlings for use as future monthly sale plants.

We received a 20% orchid club discount, and the plants will be delivered to us at the ISODW at no freight or postage charge.

Adrian reminded members that if they wished to take advantage of Scott Barrie's offer to bring plants to WA, an order must be placed by 22 July.

Library

Mich advised that the RHS is no longer publishing the monthly journal, although it can be accessed as on-line publication for any member interested in doing so. RHS are publishing a 2023 yearly review which she will order for the library.

Other General Business:

Nil

Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award:

Awarded to Siva for *Gomesa crispata*

Raffle: Jordana (3), Diane, Mavis, Tara

Badge Prize: Lynn

Meeting closed: 9.05pm

NOTICEBOARD

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

Home visits:

At 10 am on Sundays. Please bring chairs and food to share. The next home visit is scheduled for:
Date TBA

MARKETPLACE - FOR SALE/WANTED

Karl would like to purchase a plant of *Ceratocentron fessellii*. If you have a plant for sale, please contact Karl on 0432 956 885 or e-mail karl.khlee@gmail.com.
Harry would like to buy plants of *Cattleya purpurata* var. *werkhauseri* and *Cattleya neokautskyi*. Contact Harry on 0412 403 696 or harry.ashton@live.com.au.
Lynn would like to purchase *Section Latouria Dendrobium* orchids.
Contact Lynn on 0414 922 923 or contrarymiss@hotmail.com.

President: Adrian

Vice President:

Treasurer: Adrian

Secretary: Ken Jones

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Murray Paul

Graham Mavis

Life Members

Graham & Margaret

Chris (dec'd.)

Barry (dec'd)

Gordon (dec'd)

Maxine

Ken & Chris

Adrian & Deanna

Joan (dec'd) & Ted (dec'd)

Trevor (dec'd)

Neville (dec'd)

Noel (dec'd) & Eva

Tony (dec'd) & Mavis

Barry (dec'd)

Quiet Achievers

2013 Ian

2014 Chris (dec'd)

2015 Margaret

2016 Tom & Pat

2017 Charly & Gerda

2018 Paul

2020 Adrian & Deanna

2021 John

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- **July and August monthly sale plants**

The notes for the July monthly plant, *Cattleya luedemanniana* and the August monthly plant which will be one of the seedlings purchased from Barrita Orchids will be e-mailed to members following collection of the plants at ISODW.

- **Perth Orchid Fair**

The Perth Orchid Fair at John Septimus Roe College 2-3 September, with set up on Friday 1st afternoon on is now approaching. Members are requested to prepare plants for the SOSWA display. This is likely to be a good opportunity to sell your surplus orchids as it is open to the public on both Saturday and Sunday. Plant sale sheets are available from the Secretary. A volunteer roster will also be at the meeting and members are asked to support this event as SOSWA shares in the profits generated by this event. Last year, SOSWA received nearly \$450 as it share of the event profit.

- **Monthly sale/raffle plants.**

If you have species orchids that are surplus to your needs, or have successfully grown species orchids from flask that you wish to sell, the Society needs monthly sale plants (minimum of 20 plants) and raffle plants. Please us know if you have plants for sale.

- **Annual Membership**

Individual member \$20, family \$30. You can pay the Treasurer at a meeting, or transfer payment by EFT to the Society's account at Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-000, account 122491988 including your surname.

The Subtribe Pleurothalidinae (cont'd from July)

Physosiphon punctulatus Rchb.f. 1866 can be found in Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and Colombia as a miniature sized, cool growing epiphyte in humid seasonally dry oak forests at 1,800-1,900m. Subterete ramicauls basally enveloped by scarious, tubular, carinate, apiculate sheaths and carry single, apical, erect, elliptic to oblanceolate, round, mucronate (sharp pointed), sulcate, very succulent, rigid leaves. Flowering in summer and autumn occurs on elongating, erect-arcuate, eventually hanging, filiform 5-19cm inflorescence with up to 50 flowers.



Its common name is the Spotted Physosiphon. Synonyms are *Lomax punctulata* (Rchb.f.) Luer 2006; *Physosiphon cooperi* Ames 1922; *Physosiphon minor* Rendle 1900; *Pleurothallis minor* (Rendle) L.O. Williams 1950; *Specklinia minor* (Rendle) Luer 2004; *Stelis punctulata* (Rchb.f.) Soto Arenas 2002 publ. 2003.

Photo source: <http://www.orchidspecies.com/phympunctulatus.htm>

Physosiphon tubatus [Lodd.]Rchb.f 1861 is found in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua as a small sized, cool to cold growing epiphytic species on oaks in wet or dry forests at 1,800-3,500m. Erect or ascending, clustered, terete pseudobulbs subtended by scarious, tubular sheaths carry a single, apical, suberect to erect, elliptic-oblanceolate, fleshy, obtuse and minutely retuse (rounded apex) leaf. Flowering in

summer occurs on a terminal, arcuate, simple inflorescence that is longer than the leaf, 7-35cm many [up to 100] flowered raceme that has scarious, tubular spathaceous bracts and simultaneously opening flowers.

Its common name is the Tube-Forming Physosiphon.

Photo source: <https://www.ecuagenera-europe.com/en/orchids/masdevallia/1186/physosiphon-tubatus>



Synonyms are *Epidendrum emarginatum* Ruiz & Pav. 1798; *Humboltia emarginata* Pav. ex Lindl. 1830; *Physosiphon carinatus* Lindley 1838; *Physosiphon guatemalensis* Rolfe 1891; *Physosiphon lindleyi* Rolfe 1893; *Physosiphon loddigesii* Lindley 1838; *Physosiphon moorei* Rolfe 1896; *Physosiphon ochraceus* A Rich & Gal. 1845; *Physosiphon tacanensis* [Solano & Soto Arenas] Archila & Szlach. 2018; *Pleurothallis emarginata* Lindl. 1830; *Pleurothallis tubata* [Lodd.] Steud. 1841; *Specklinia tubata* (Lodd.) Luer 2005; *Stelis emarginata* (Lindl.) Soto Arenas & Solano 2002 publ. 2003; *Stelis tacanensis* Solano & Soto Arenas 2002 publ. 2003 and *Stelis tubatus* Lodd. 1830

Pleurothallis (1,200 recognised species??) is the largest genus within the Sub-tribe.

In their research *Pleurothallidinae: How Many Genera?* published in *Academia*, Wesley E Higgins (Centre for Tropical Plant Research and Conservation, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens) and Norris H Williams (Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida) review the recent research on this incredibly diverse orchid population. In their research paper, they say that the *Genus Pleurothallis* is about half of all members of this sub-tribe and can be found from Mexico through Central America and South America (to southern Brazil and northern Chile) and West Indies, with the highest concentration of species in the high Andes in Colombia and Ecuador. However in 2022 the World Flora Online plantlist recognised only 522 species, and more than 800 synonyms with another 88 species unplaced. About half of the recognised members of this genus were transferred to other genera in 2004.

Pleurothallis was first described by Robert Brown in 1813. He named the genus from the Greek pleuron (rib) and thallos (short, branch) in allusion to the many rib-like stems which arise in tufts seen in many of the species. Identification and description of members of this sub-tribe generally, and *Pleurothallis* specifically have led to many years of debate between taxonomists and researchers, further complicated by the availability of DNA sequencing tools now used to identify species (phylogeny).

Identification work on the members of this genus is made more difficult by the similarities between members of the genus, and the diverse environments in which they are found. Many species originally identified as *Pleurothallis* have been transferred to other genera as DNA sequencing is applied by taxonomists.

In 2017, I attended a lecture at the Ecuador WOC by Dr Adam Karremans, Director of the Lankester Botanical Garden during which he suggested that there are most likely to be many more species in the sub-family that have not been identified or recorded, and perhaps just as many that have become extinct due to environmental disasters including fires, adverse weather events and floods, and man-induced habitat destruction.

This article will cover some of the more unusual or exceptional members of this genus.

Harry

Cattleya wittigiana
Dendrobium moniliforme
Epidendrum elongatum

Graham & Margaret

Laelia anceps
Paphiopedilum gratixianum
Prasophyllum parvifolium
Pterostylis vittata

Ken & Chris

Anathallis linearifolia
Brasiliorchis schunkeana
Coelogyne formosanum
Coelogyne saccolabium
Maxillaria cucullata
Mormolyca ringens
Paphiopedilum fairrieianum
Pleurothallis tuerckheimii
Zelenkoa onusta

Bruce

Laelia anceps

Adrian & Dee

Dendrobium goldschmidtianum
Laelia anceps
Paphiopedilum gratixianum
Paphiopedilum spicerianum
Paphiopedilum wardii

Joel

Masdevallia triangularis

Siva

Gomesa recurva

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED July 2023



Gomesa recurva
Siva



Paphiopedilum fairrieianum
Ken & Chris



Masdevallia triangularis
Joel



Maxillaria cucullata
Ken & Chris

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED July 2023



Epidendrum elongatum
Harry



Laelia anceps
Bruce

Pleurothallis allenii L.O. Williams 1940 comes from central Panama where it can be found as miniature sized, warm growing epiphyte at 550 – 1,000m. Slender, basally enveloped erect ramicauls carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, acute, sessile leaves. Flowering occurs through spring, summer and autumn on erect single flowered racemes holding the flowers at mid leaf.



Photo source: <http://orquideassoltas.blogspot.com/2019/09/pleurothallis-allenii.html>

Luer in 1998 wrote the species is "characterized by the small habit, narrow leaves and a single, proportionally large, gaping, purple flower with the floral parts edged in yellow. The dorsal sepal and synsepal are similar, spreading in opposite directions exposing the large, forwardly directed, minutely erose petals. The lip is red, triangular, acute and spiculate at the apex, with rounded basal lobes and a curved, pubescent callus in the centre of the disc."

Its common name is Allen's Pleurothallis named for a mid-20th century American Botanist and collector of species.

In situ photo source: <https://ecuador.inaturalist.org/photos/170391820>



Pleurothallis amparoana Schltr. 1923 comes from Panama and the Heredia, Alajuela, San Jose and Puntarenas provinces of Costa Rica where it can be found as a miniature sized, cool growing, caespitose (growing in tufts or patches like grass; arranged or combined in a thick mat or in individual clumps, tufted; having low stems) epiphyte in lower montane rain forests at 1,200 – 1,800m. Thin basally enveloped ramicauls carry single, apical, oblong-oblancoelate, conduplicate at the base leaves. Flowering in winter

and spring takes place on an apical 3-10cm racemose, laxly 6-8 flowered inflorescence with thin, infundibular, longer than the ovary floral bracts. This species can be easily identified by the narrow leaves longer than the ramicaul and surpassed by a loose raceme of relatively large, white flowers. The shallowly, saccate, long, white pilose, deeply inflated synsepal, has a resemblance to a toilet seat, broadly elliptical petals and a lip with broadly rounded lateral lobes above the unguiculate base.



Its common name is Dona Amparo's Pleurothallis named for a 1900's Costa Rican orchid enthusiast. Synonyms are *Effusiella amparoana* Luer 2007; *Specklinia amparoana* (Schltr.) Luer 2004; *Stelis amparoana* (Schltr.) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2001; *Stelis pilosa* Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2002

Photo source: <https://www.orchidsforum.com/threads/pleurothallis-amparoana.10343/>

Pleurothallis calceolaris Rchb.f 1876 comes from Antioquia State Colombia as a small sized, cold growing terrestrial at 2,200m. Erect to suberect basally enveloped stout ramicauls carry a single, apical, rigidly coriaceous, dark blue-green above, purple suffused below, ovate, acute, deeply cordate, sessile base leaves. Flowering takes place in spring on a slender 1.5-1.8cm fascicle of 2-4 simultaneous single flowered inflorescences. This species has several colour forms.



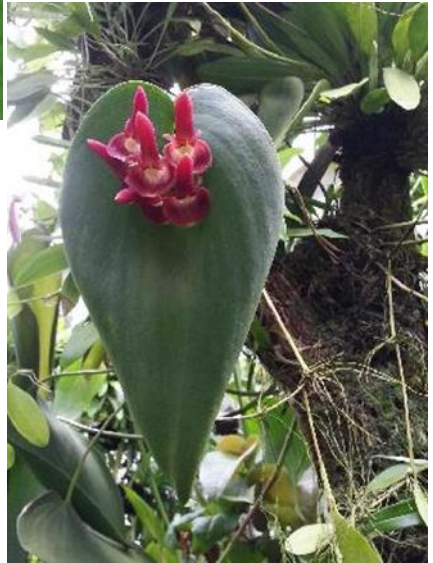
Synonyms are *Acronia calceolaris* (Rchb.f.) Luer 2005; *Pleurothallis fornix* Luer & R.Escobar 1984; *Zosterophyllanthos fornix* (Luer & R.Escobar) Szlach. & Marg. 2001

Photo source: <http://www.theorchidcolumn.com/2015/05/two-beauties.html>



Pleurothallis calceolaris Xanthina at Ecuagenera Orchids

Photo source: https://www.instagram.com/p/CE__5s5hWun/?img_index=



In situ photo source: http://v3.boldsystems.org/index.php/TaxBrowser_Taxonpage?taxid=401129

Pleurothallis colossus Kraenzl. ex Kerch. 1894 comes from Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador where it grows as a medium to large sized, warm to cold growing, densely caespitose epiphyte in wet montane forests at 900 – 2,400m. Stout, erect ramicauls enveloped large, loose tubular sheathes carry single, apical, suberect to spreading, coriaceous, broadly ovate, leaves. Flowering occurs from autumn to spring on a fascicle of 5-10, erect, 20-38cm simultaneously, sub densely many flowered inflorescences that arise through a foliaceous leaf spathe.

Its common name is the Giant Pleurothallis. It is probably the largest plant within Pleurothallis, although *Pleurothallis excelsa* and *Pleurothallis Gargantua*, are also large plants. A mature plant can be up to 1m tall with leaves the size of dinner plates. It always has several inflorescences arising through a spathe on the same leaf with small, white, purple spotted, simultaneously opening flowers. Synonyms are *Pleurothallis hirtzii* Luer 1980; *Pleurothallis praegrans* Ames 1923; *Pleurothallis saccata* Ames 1923



Pleurothallis colossus flower and plant
Photo source: <https://www.ecuagenera.com/Pleurothallis-colossus/en>



In situ photo source:
Pleurothallis colossus Kraenzl.
ex Kerch. 1894

Pleurothallis crossota Luer & Dalström 1996 comes from Ecuador as a small to medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte at 1,300 – 1,800m. Slender, erect ramicauls with a tubular sheath carry a single, apical, spreading, coriaceous, ovate, acute, acuminate, sessile, deeply cordate leaf. Flowering in summer takes place on a fascicle (a fascicle is a bundle of leaves or flowers growing crowded together) of 2 - 3 mm successive, single brown flowers arising through a spathe.

Very similar to and part of the *Pleurothallis cordata* group, it is distinguished by the large cordate leaf, the medium sized, flower, the 5 veined dorsal sepal, the long-ciliate fringed petals and a proportionately large, 5 veined, ciliate, cordate-shaped lip which is more than 1/2 as long as the synsepal. Its common name is the Fringed Pleurothallis.

Synonyms are *Acronia crossota* (Luer & Dalström) Luer 2005; *Zosterophyllanthos crossotus* (Luer & Dalström) Szlach. & Kulak 2006

Photo source: <http://www.orchidspecies.com/pleurcrossata.htm>



In situ photo source: <https://botany.cz/cs/pleurothallis-crossota/>



Contd. next month

ABOUT US

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at Wilson Community Hall, Braibrise St, Wilson commencing 7.45 pm. Usually, the short formal meeting is followed by plant descriptions given by members. Supper follows to allow member's time to socialise and discuss orchids. All visitors are very welcome

Membership Fees

Family \$30 pa. For first year only, new family members will need to purchase two name badges. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$14.00 or magnet fastening \$16.00 [*Please indicate preference*]

Single \$20.00 pa. For first year only, new members will need to purchase a name badge. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$14.00 or magnet fastening \$16.00. [*Please indicate preference*]

New members who don't live in Perth will not require name badges, therefore membership cost will be at the renewal fee only

Monthly Home Visit

On the weekend following the fourth Thursday of each month (generally on the Sunday morning), a home visit is held at a member's home. This gives members an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship that our mutual interest provides, and to see how others go about growing their orchids.

Monthly Plant Display

Given that the prime objective of the Society is to promote the cultivation of species orchids, only species or natural hybrids are acceptable for display. Since we all may be uncertain about the identification of a plant from time to time, we encourage

members to bring plants along about which they are unsure since someone may be able to identify them. There is no competition nor restriction on flower count, quality or length of ownership. We want members to be able to see species plants in flower. So even if your flowers are a bit past their best, bring them in as others may not have seen that species in flower.

Plant Sales

The Society provides an opportunity table for members to sell surplus plants and equipment, and for the Society to sell product from time to time.

Plant Purchases

The Society endeavours to obtain a different species seedling for sale at each meeting, usually costing between \$6.00 and \$15.00. The Society makes a small profit on these sales which is invested in benefits to members. As it is always difficult to get new or different species, should members have 20 or more plants of one species which they feel might be suitable as a monthly plant, please contact a Committee member.

Raffle

The Society conducts a raffle each meeting and at home visits as a means of generating funds. If you have spare species orchids that you wish to sell to the Society for raffles, please advise a committee member.

Management

In accordance with the Rules, the Annual General meeting is held in May each year at which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.

If unclaimed, return to
The Editor
210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines WA 6069

Next meeting Tuesday 15 August