

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com/>



Vol 35 No 6 November 2023



Anne O'Callaghan Award October 2023
Dendrobium goldschmidtianum
Adrian & Dee

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 14 November

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

10 October 2023 7.50pm

Present: 17 members as per register.

Apologies: 7 as per register.

Visitors: 2 as per register

New members: Chantelle, Matthew

Minutes: Acceptance of minutes from August meeting moved Lee-Anne, seconded Ian. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at 30 September was \$6,032.11.

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

Business Arising: Nil.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Committee members – additions/ amendments to draft agendas and minutes, proposed hall booking dates/ times 2024
- Lee-Anne – expression of interest in joining committee.
- Adrian – monthly display plant photos
- AOC annual reports
- Paul, Adrian – updated membership list
- Graham & Margaret – apologies for absence from Kings Park orchid walk
- Steve – draft Perth Orchid Fair financial statement for review
- Lee-Anne, Graham, Adrian re October monthly sale plant

Outwards:

- Committee – draft GM minutes, draft committee minutes, draft GM agenda, committee and general meeting minutes.
- City of Canning – hall booking for 2024

- Paul – PDF newsletter and display plant photos to be added to website

- October newsletter to members

- Reimbursement request – copy paper

Acceptance of correspondence report moved Lee-Anne, seconded Arnold.

Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

Perth Orchid Fair feedback

Members were advised that the event was successful with members sales of nearly \$8,000, and marginally higher public entry, raffle and kitchen sales.

Event promotion expenses and venue hire costs were higher than 2022 and income from vendors was less than 2022.

The result is a reduction in the profit to be distributed to participating societies.

Members were advised that Steve, Bill and Ken are meeting with Bruce tomorrow to finalise the POF financial report which will be circulated to societies along with repayment of seed funding and their share of profit.

Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award

Ken reminded members that as discussed at the September general meeting, members will vote to select the orchid and grower to receive the monthly Anne O'Callaghan award.

Each plant displayed will be numbered and members can collect a voting slip to record their vote before the meeting commences.

The Secretary will collate the votes to determine the winner.

Discussion with members suggested that it might be more useful to hear members talk about their display plants before selecting the award winner. Alternative arrangements will be discussed at the November Committee meeting.

General Meetings

During discussion at the September meeting about ways to meetings more interesting to members, Lee-Anne asked whether it would be possible to conduct a deflasking demonstration at the next meeting as she has 12 flasks from Singapore to deflask. This will take place after general business tonight.

While it is simpler to do this at a home visit, none are planned in the immediate future. Members were asked to consider hosting a home visit in 2024 as they are appreciated by all, especially new members (see item 2024 Home Visit Program).

Terrestrial orchid visit

Graham & Margaret were thanked for showing us the terrestrial orchids at Wandoo National Park on Sunday. While the overcast skies early in the morning were of concern, by the time we met at the Lakes Roadhouse, the sky was blue.

Like our visit to King's Park, we were one or two weeks too late and saw many orchids that had been pollinated and finished flowering. However, it was pleasant day out and we saw lots of large, freshly flowering pink enamel orchids (*Elythranthera emarginata*) and some other species while enjoying one another's company.

2024 Home Visit Program

We have no more visits scheduled for 2023 or 2024 other than the visit to Ezi Gro Orchids on Saturday 20th January.

Members agreed that home visits are an enjoyable and instructive element of the

society's activities. If you are willing to host a home visit usually held on the 4th Sunday of each month, please let Mavis know as she is working on our 2024 program.

If there is some aspect of orchid culture that is proving difficult for you, or you are uncertain about how to grow and flower your orchids, let us know as we may have members who had the same or similar problems and can show members how they solved them at a home visit. This can be very beneficial to new or less-experienced members.

Deflasking demonstration

Adrian & Ken demonstrated deflasking with one of Lee-Anne's flasks, *Bulbophyllum fascinator* semi-alba. The majority of the 40 or so well grown plants were potted into individual tubes, with some smaller plants compotted. The agar media was washed off in warm water, and the seedlings soaked in Esi Root (root promoting hormone) and Envy (anti-transpirant). The media used was fine pine bark and coarse perlite.

NOTICEBOARD

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

Home visits:

January - Ezi-Gro Orchids. Evandale Road, Lansdale
10.00am Saturday 20th January.

MARKETPLACE - FOR SALE/WANTED

Harry would like to buy plants of *Cattleya neokautskyi*. Contact Harry on 0412 403 696 or hjaashton@gmail.com.

Lynn would like to purchase *Section Latouria Dendrobium* orchids.
Contact Lynn on 0414 922 923 or contrarymiss@hotmail.com.

President: Adrian

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Editor: Ken

Committee: Lee-Anne

Murray Paul

Graham Mavis

Maxine

Quiet Achievers

2013 Ian

2014 Chris (dec'd)

2015 Margaret

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)

2016 Tom & Pat

2017 Charly & Gerda

2018 Paul

2020 Adrian & Deanna

2021 John

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- **Orchids WA**

The Orchids WA AGM and GM has been deferred to 19 November 2023. Unfortunately there was some confusion about the date and the booking was made for the wrong date. However, as we have had some unplanned delays in getting information to members, deferring the meeting a few weeks will give societies the time to consider the reports and to have a discussion on the agenda items.

- **Flasks ordered from Foliage Plus**

12 of the flasks ordered from Paul Smith in June 2023 are now ready and were sent to me on 23 October. We have ordered Australian Epiphytes. If you are able to or would like to help with deflasking and growing on some of these, please see Ken at the next meeting.

- **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.

Terrestrial orchids seen on our visit to Wandoo National Park



Elythranthera emarginata



Thelymitra villosa

MONTHLY PLANT

Oncidium sotoanum

Country of origin: Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama

Description: Small sized epiphyte with oval pseudobulbs.

Difficulty: Cool-warm growing species OK for shadehouse culture

Cost: \$10.00



Photo source: <https://www.orchidroots.com/detail/information/?pid=463750&role=>

Oncidium sotoanum R.Jiménez & Hágsater. This species was purchased from Barrita Orchids, and comes from humid forests up to 1,500m elevation. For some 200 years, this species was known as *Oncidium ornithorhynchum* which was subsequently found to describe a yellow flowered species from Andean South America.

The small, highly fragrant pink flowers in autumn and winter are said to be reminiscent of vanilla, grape, baby powder, spicy, cinnamon, cocoa and candy are long-lasting

This species is suitable for slab mounting if you are able to maintain higher humidity during the hot dry summer period, and prefers a semi-dry winter rest. As it has very fine roots, pot culture requires small bark or media - it would probably do well in a good quality coir, perlite and charcoal media but may need some modification of your culture.

I have found that this species and many of the other small *Oncidinae* are seemingly attractive to insect pests like mealy bug and hard and soft (cotton) scale that can rapidly infect and set back or kill the orchid. Plenty of fresh air movement is an important part of culture to minimise to risk of insect attack.

The Subtribe Pleurothalidinae (cont'd from October)

Stelis argentata Lindl. 1842 comes from Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Guyana, Surinam and Brazil as a miniature sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte in in tropical rainforests at 120 – 2,200m. Clustered, lightly complanate (having a flattened or compressed aspect) ramicauls enveloped by a large, sub inflated tubular, scarious (dry, thin, membranous and not green) sheath and a single, apical, oblong, slightly tridentate, coriaceous leaf. This species flowers year-round on erect 10cm racemose inflorescences carrying several to many flowers with minute floral bracts. This is a colour variable species and comes in many colours and sizes but with consistent labellum structure. It is similar to *Stelis agatha* but can be distinguished by the crowded, distichous raceme of large flowers with five-veined dorsal sepals, thick, fleshy petals and a rounded lip with a minute, marginal apiculum.



Its common name is the Silvery Stelis referring to the colour of the originally described flower. Synonyms are *Stelis acicularis* Luer 1981; *Stelis dubia* Lindl. 1859; *Stelis endresii* Rchb. f. 1870; *Stelis glandulosa* Ames 1923; *Stelis heylidyana* H. Focke 1849; *Stelis huebneri* Schltr. 1925; *Stelis littoralis* Barb. Rodr. 1882; *Stelis parvibracteata* Ames 1922; *Stelis pichincae* Dodson & Garay 1980; *Stelis praesecta* Schltr. 1923; *Stelis superbiens* Lindl. 1858; *Stelis violascens* Schltr. 1923; *Stelis yauaperyensis* Barb.Rodr. 1891.

Photos source: <https://orchidroots.com/detail/information/?role=&pid=196319>

Another colour form, more often labelled *Stelis endresii*.



Harry

Bulbophyllum bracteatum
Cymbidium canaliculatum
Cymbidium canaliculatum sparkesii
Dendrobium abberans
Paphiopedilum x fanaticum
Rhyncholaelia digbyana

Graham & Margaret

Ansellia africana
Calanthe vestita
Cattleya intermedia alba

Lynn

Encyclia cordigera

Maxine

Angraecum viguieri

Ken & Chris

Ansellia africana
Cattleya quadricolor
Coelogyne cobbiana

Dendrobium aphyllum
Dendrobium hancockii
Dendrobium lindleyi
Dendrobium regium
Guarianthe skinneri alba
Paphiopedilum appletonianum
Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum
Phalaenopsis amabilis
Polystachya paniculata
Sarcochilus hartmannii

Adrian & Dee

Ansellia africana
Dendrobium goldschmidtianum
Rhyncholaelia digbyana

Helen

Cymbidium insigne

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED Oct. 2023



Cymbidium canaliculatum sparkesii
Harry



Calanthe vestita
Graham & Margaret



Angraecum viguieri
Maxine



Polystachya paniculata
Ken & Chris

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED Oct. 2023



Cymbidium insigne
Helen



Dendrobium hancockii
Ken & Chris

In situ photo source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/andreaskay/17551499066>



Stelis benzingii Luer & Hirtz 2002 comes from lowland coastal Ecuador as a miniature sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte at low elevations. Erect slender ramicauls enveloped by a loose, tubular sheathes carry a single, apical, erect, coriaceous, ovate, acute leaves. Flowering takes place on an erect, loose, distichous to secund, 15-24cm mostly simultaneously many flowered inflorescence arising from below the apex of the ramicaul with oblique, tubular floral bracts. This species differs from the widespread *Stelis argentata* by the larger, non-resupinate flowers with elongated ovaries that are loosely arranged on the inflorescence. The lip margin is sharply tridentate which is similar to *Stelis vulcanica*, but the latter has smaller and glabrous flowers.



Its common name is Benzing's *Stelis* named for an American Botany Professor and co-collector of the species.

Photo source: <https://www.ecuagenera.com/Stelis-benzingii/en>

Stelis ciliaris Lindl. 1836 can be found in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador and Brazil as a small sized, hot growing epiphyte in hot lowlands and wet premontane forests at sea-level to 1,100m. Stout sheathed ramicauls carry single, apical, linear to elliptic-oblongate, obtuse and 3-toothed erect, leathery gradually tapering leaves. Flowering in late autumn and early winter occurs on erect to arching, loosely many flowered 25cm inflorescences with obliquely tubular, reddish floral bracts and highly variable shaped flowers. Its common name is the Hairy Stelis. Synonyms are *Apatostelis ciliaris* (Lindl.) Garay 1979; *Apatostelis garayi* Dunst. 1981; *Apatostelis jimenezii* (Schltr.) Garay 1979; *Apatostelis pendulispica* (Ames) Garay 1979; *Stelis atropurpurea* Hook. 1842; *Stelis bruchmuelleri* Rchb.f 1880; *Stelis confusa* Schltr. 1918; *Stelis eublepharis* Rchb.f. 1855; *Stelis fimbriata* R.K. Baker 1968; *Stelis gratiosa* Luer 1979; *Stelis fimbriata* R.K. Baker 1968; *Stelis garayi* (Dunst.) Carnevali & I. Ramirez 1990; *Stelis jimenezii* Schltr. 1918; *Stelis micrantha* var. *atropurpurea* (Hook.) Josst 1851; *Stelis mystax-felis* Luer & Toscano 2012; *Stelis pendulispica* Ames 1934; *Stelis uhlii* Chiron 2013.



Photo source: <https://orchidroots.com/detail/information/?pid=196402>

In situ photo: https://www.google.com/search?q=stelis+ciliaris&client=firefox-b-d&sca_esv=575073539&tbm=isch&source



Stelis dapsilis Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 2002 comes from Ecuador and Colombia as a large sized, cool to cold growing, densely caespitose (growing in clusters or tufts) epiphyte or terrestrial at 1,000 – 2,300m. Fasciculate, stout, erect ramicauls enveloped by a loose tubular sheathes above the middle carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptic-ovate, subacute to obtuse base leaves. Flowering in winter and early spring takes place on a fascicle of up to 30 simultaneous 15-30cm racemose, densely and simultaneously many flowered inflorescences with a broadly infundibular (conical), as long as the ovary. floral bracts. This species is "Similar to the multi-flowered *Stelis batillacea* and *Stelis fonsflorum* but is distinguished by the sub petiolate leaves and single veined petals. It is also similar to the single veined *Stelis galeata*, but *Stelis maxima* differs in the sub petiolate leaves and much longer racemes as well as the absence of a distinct callus on both lateral and apical lobes." Luer 1998.



Synonyms are *Pleurothallis maxima* Luer 1976; *Stelis maxima* (Luer) Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 2001

Photo source: <https://www.orchidroots.com/detail/information/?role=&pid=266873>

In situ photo source:
<http://www.orchidspecies.com/orphotdir/pleuromaxima.jpg>



Stelis hirtzii Luer 2002 is found in northwestern Ecuador forests as a miniature sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte at 1,400 – 3,200m. Ascending, erect, slender basally enveloped ramicauls carry single, apical, coriaceous, erect, narrowly elliptical-obovate, subacute to obtuse leaves.

Flowering throughout the year takes place on 6 - 11 cm distantly 4 to 5 flowered racemose inflorescences arising from an annulus below the apex of the ramicaul. Flower colour is highly variable. Its common name is Hirtz's Pleurothallis named for a German engineer, and Ecuadorian orchid enthusiast and collector.



Photo source: https://maqui.ucdavis.edu/Images/Orchids/stelis_hirtzii.html



Photo source: <https://guatemala.inaturalist.org/taxa/709647-Stelis-hirtzii>



In situ photo source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/andreas_kay/18414405483

Stelis genychila Garay 1956 can be found in Cauca, Colombia as a small sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte in wet montane forests at approx. 2,300m. Erect ramicauls enveloped by 2 sheaths carry single, apical, erect, semi-coriaceous, elliptic-oblong leaves. Flowering in autumn occurs on a much longer than the leaf, 17.5cm densely many flowered raceme almost to the base of inflorescence with infundibular-cucullate, almost as long as the ovary, floral bracts.



Its common name is the Sharply Bent Lip Stelis.

Photo source: <https://www.ecuagenera.com/Stelis-genychila/en>

Stelis grandiflora Lindl. 1837 comes from Guyana and Brazil as a mini-miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte at 900 – 1,000m. Erect ramicauls enveloped by 3 light sheaths carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, narrowly obovate, leathery, faintly conduplicate leaves. Flowering in spring takes place on a slightly bent 1.5 - 2cm 25 to 30 flowered inflorescence. In common with other members of this genus, flower colour is quite variable. Its common name is the Large Flowered Stelis.

The synonym is *Stelis grandiflora* var. *tweedieana* Lindl. 1837



Photo source: <https://www.orchidroots.com/detail/information/?pid=196535&role=>

Contd. in December

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 14 November