

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com/>



Vol 35 No 7 December 2023



Anne O'Callaghan Award November 2023

*Microcoelia aphylla*

Paul & Andrea

# NEWSLETTER

**NEXT MEETING Tuesday 12 December**

**Contents**

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 2. November meeting minutes             | 8. Plants displayed |
| 4. Noticeboard                          | 12. About us        |
| 5. Notes from your Committee            |                     |
| 6. The Subtribe <i>Pleurothalidinae</i> |                     |

Proudly supported by



# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

14 November 2023 7.50pm

**Present:** 22 members as per register.

**Apologies:** 7 as per register.

**Visitors:** 1 as per register

**New members:**

**Minutes:** Acceptance of minutes from October meeting moved Arnold, seconded Graham. Carried.

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Financial Report:** Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at 31 October was \$7,073.62. Acceptance of financial report moved Ian, seconded Lynn. Carried.

**Business Arising:** Nil.

**Correspondence:**

**Inwards:**

- Committee members – additions/ amendments to draft agendas and minutes,
- Gary Yong Gee – identification of misidentified species orchids displayed
- Adrian – monthly display plant photos
- Orchids WA AGM and GM papers
- Members - identification of misidentified species orchids displayed
- Murray – correct e-mail address.

**Outwards:**

- Committee – draft GM minutes, draft committee minutes, draft GM agenda, committee and general meeting minutes, proposed November monthly sale plant, amended date for November committee meeting.
- Paul – PDF newsletter and display plant photos for website
- November newsletter to members
- Committee - Flasks purchased from

Foliage Plus, Ten Shin Gardens lists

- Reimbursement claim – Flasks from Foliage Plus, stamps.

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

Carried.

**Business Arising:** Nil

**General Business:**

**Perth Orchid Fair feedback**

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

However, event promotion expenses and venue hire and some incidental costs were higher than 2022, while income from vendors reduced.

The result was a reduction in the profit able to be distributed to participating societies. SOSWA has received payment of \$483.51 including the refund of \$300 provided as seed funding.

**Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award**

Members were reminded that the new process for selecting the Anne O'Callaghan award was trialled at the October meeting and seemed to work well.

Adrian advised that based on feedback, the voting will take place after the plant description by members displaying plants to allow members to be better informed when choosing a plant for their vote..

The Secretary will collate the votes while the raffle is being drawn.

**General Meetings**

Adrian again reminded members that the

committee is seeking ideas and suggestions to make our meetings more interesting for members.

### **Orchid Flask purchases.**

Ken advised members that we had received the first part of our order from Paul Smith, Foliage Plus.

We received two flasks of each *Dendrobium canaliculatum*, *Dendrobium discolor* var *broomfieldii* and *Dendrobium teretifolium* sulphuria (syn. *Dockrillia sulphurea*) and *Grammatophyllum citrina*.

We are still waiting for *Dendrobium trilamellatum* and *Dendrobium johannes*.

Ken asked members to assist with deflasking and growing on these species as presently, he and Adrian are responsible for much of the culture of sale and raffle plants.

Ken also advised members that Guy Cantor had offered to bid for him at the recent Manly-Warringah Orchid Society auction. Ken had identified a number of plants listed that would be suitable for raffle and other prizes, but all his bids were much too low to win any plants. This underscores the difficulties now encountered when attempting to purchase species orchids at prices where we can still return a small profit on our raffle, and we are cognisant that the supply of plants we were able to acquire at very reasonable prices from past members including Chris Cabassi and Noel Verweirder and divided is now reaching the end. Committee will discuss this at our next meeting later this month.

### **2024 Home Visit Program**

We have no more visits scheduled for 2023 or 2024 other than the visit to Ezi Gro Orchids on Saturday 21st January.

Members were asked to consider hosting a home visit, usually held on the 4th Sunday of each month. If you can host a visit,

please let Mavis Watkinson know as she is now compiling our 2024 program.

Remember, 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, please let a committee member 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. Adrian offered to host a home visit in March and suggested making it bring a plant to repot or mount if you have something that requires it. He and Dee will provide sausage sizzle.

### **December meeting**

The December meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 December, and will be our Christmas Party. There won't be any raffle and monthly plant sale, however, we will continue our tradition of providing members with free plant.

Ken asked members to donate a plant if they are able to do as we are now nearing the end of our inventory.

### **Other General Business:**

Nil

### **Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award:**

Awarded to Paul for *Microcoelia aphylla*

**Badge Prize:** Lina

**Raffle:** Bruce, Lee-Anne, Ken, Helen, Lina, Joshua

**Meeting closed: 9.10pm**

# NOTICEBOARD

## FORTH-COMING EVENTS

### Home visits:

January - Ezi-Gro Orchids. Evandale Road, Lansdale  
10.00am, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January.

## MARKETPLACE - FOR SALE/WANTED

Harry would like to buy plants of *Cattleya neokautskyi*. Contact Harry on 0412 403 696 or [hjaashton@gmail.com](mailto:hjaashton@gmail.com).

Lynn would like to purchase *Section Latouria Dendrobium* orchids.  
Contact Lynn on 0414 922 923 or [contrarymiss@hotmail.com](mailto:contrarymiss@hotmail.com).

**President:** Adrian

**Vice President:** Lee-Anne

**Treasurer:** Adrian

**Secretary:** Ken Jones  
210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines  
6069. Phone: 9296 1765  
e-mail: [kcjones@tpg.com.au](mailto:kcjones@tpg.com.au)

**Editor:** Ken

<b>Committee:</b>	Lee-Anne
Murray	Paul
Graham	Mavis
Maxine	

### 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

- **December meeting**

Our final meeting for 2023 will again be our end-of-year celebration, and will follow the successful format of the last few years. Every member (individual or family) will be given a free raffle ticket which when drawn will enable them to select an orchid. As we are rapidly using our stock of raffle plants, we ask that those members who are to donate an orchid do so. We will also have packs of WA orchid species note cards to give to members that were originally produced for sale at major orchid shows. Thanks Mavis for packaging these up for us.

We encourage members to bring in their flowering species orchids, although there won't be a raffle or monthly sale plant. Please bring festive food to share for supper and we will provide soft drink, white, red and sparkling wine, and our usual tea and coffee.

- **Welcome to our new committee member**

Lee-Anne has been co-opted onto the SOSWA committee until the next AGM to fill the Vice-Presidential vacancy. Lee-Anne who has been a member for some years has recently become more active in the society and offered to join the committee. We are delighted to have her as a member, to enjoy the benefit of access to her ideas for the future of the society and her help in planning and staging orchid displays.

- **Library**

SOSWA has a large and comprehensive library of specialist species orchid periodical magazines and hard and soft cover books. Regrettably, this collection is not well used. Lee-Anne has offered to present a brief book/journal review at each meeting to promote awareness and use of this valuable asset.

- **Flasks ordered from Foliage Plus**

8 of the flasks ordered from Paul Smith were sent to me in October. Lynn and Adrian have taken some to deflask and grow on, but we still have five to find homes for. With more to be supplied in early 2024. If you are able or would like to help with deflasking and growing on some of these, please see Ken.

- **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 November)

*Stelis hirtella* (Garay) Luer 1981 comes from Ecuador and Peru where it grows as a miniature sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte in high montane forests. Erect ramicauls enveloped by 1 to 2, fibrous, dilated sheaths carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptic-oblong, sub obtuse, tridenticulate leaves. This species flowers in winter on 1-3 racemose, distichous, sparsely several flowered inflorescences that have broadly cucullate (hood-shaped) apiculate (sharply-pointed), dorsally carinate (keel-like ridged) floral bracts that envelope the pedicel. Its common name is the Bristly Stelis, and

synonyms are *Apatostelis hirtella* Garay 1979; *Stelis hirta* Lindl. 1859.

Photo source: <http://orchidsinbloom-ron.blogspot.com/2016/09/stelis-hirtella.html>



In situ photo source: <https://myorchidjournal.blog/2017/02/16/stellis-hirtella/>



*Stelis kefersteiniana* (Rchb.f.) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2002 comes from Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia where it grows as a miniature sized, hot to cool growing, caespitose epiphyte in wet montane forests at 350 – 1900 m. Basally enveloped erect ramicauls carry single, narrowly elliptical, acute leaves. Flowering throughout the takes place on a 17cm flexuous successively single flowered inflorescence with short floral bracts holding the flowers well above the leaves. Flower colour and shape is highly variable.



Luer 2000 writes "Variable in size and color with the ramicauls distinctly shorter than the narrowly elliptic leaves. A long loose, flexuous raceme bears successively gaping flowers that are densely villous within. The color of the hairs varies from white to bright purple and the flower color varies from purples to yellow to nearly black. The petals are spatulate (broad rounded end) and the small lip is longitudinally three lobed with a midline callus and it is unguiculate (narrow, stalk-like petal base). There are 2 distinct variations , one bears small flowers, with grey and black sepals .24" [6 mm] long with white hairs, the other bears larger flowers with purple spotted sepals .48" [12 mm] long, with purple hairs. In the small flowers the longitudinal carinae (keel-shape) of the lateral lobes of the lip are near the margin and partially intramural and the apical lobe is suborbicular with a constriction between the lobe and the lateral lobes. In the large-flowered variation the carinae are about halfway between the central callus and the margins and the apical lobes is ovate and indistinctly demarcated from the lateral lobes." Its common name is the Bent Inflorescence Pleurothallis, and synonyms are *Effusiella flexuosa* Luer 2007; *Humboldtia flexuosa* (Poepp. & Endl.) Kuntze 1891; *Humboldtia kefersteiniana* (Rchb.f.) Kuntze 1891; *Humboldtia kefersteiniana* (Rchb. f.) Kuntze 1891; *Pleurothallis elachopus* Rchb. f. 1884; *Pleurothallis kefersteiniana* Rchb. f. 1852; *Pleurothallis remotiflora* C. Schweinf. 1952; *Specklinia flexuosa* Poepp. & Endl.

1835; *Stelis flexuosa* (Poepp. & Endl.) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2001; *Stelis tolimensis* Schltr. 1924.

Photo source: <https://powo.science.keew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:1195078-2>



In situ photo source: <http://www.globalorchids.info/abc/soort.php?soortid=1541>

### Harry

*Cymbidium canaliculatum sparkesii*  
*Cymbidium maddidum* (2)  
*Cattleya mossiae*  
*Dendrobium abberans*  
*Phalaenopsis japonica*  
*Miltonia phymatochilum*  
*Sarcochilus ceciliae*

### Graham & Margaret

*Anacheilium bacculus*  
*Ansellia africana* (2)

### Diane

*Bulbophyllum basisetum*  
*Dendrobium thysiflorum*

### Maxine

*Eria floribunda*

### Ken & Chris

*Anacheilium bacculus*  
*Cymbidium bicolor*

*Encyclia seideli*  
*Guarianthe aurantiaca*  
*Maxillaria variabilis*  
*Miltonia regnellii alba*  
*Paphiopedilum appletonianum*  
*Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum*  
*Paphiopedilum victoria-regina*  
*Phalaenopsis japonica*  
*Phalaenopsis mariae* var. *fasciata*

### Adrian & Dee

*Brassavola tuberculata*  
*Dendrobium secundum alba*  
*Encyclia seideli*  
*Eria xanthocheila*  
*Vanda lamellata*  
*Vanda tricolor* var. *suavis*

### Lee-Anne

*Bulbophyllum basisetum*  
*Chysis limminghei*  
*Epidendrum parkinsonianum*

## MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED Nov. 2023



*Maxillaria sanguinea*  
Siva



*Chysis limminghei*  
Lee-Anne



**Paul & Andrea**

*Microcoelia aphylla*

**Norm**

*Cattleya maxima*

*Epidendrum bracteolatum*

**Siva**

*Maxillaria sanguinea*

*Paphiopedilum lowii*

*Paphiopedilum philippinense*



*Eria floribunda*  
Maxine

## MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED Nov. 2023



*Anacheilium bacculus*  
Graham & Margaret  
Ken & Chris



*Dendrobium thysiflorum*  
Diane

*Stelis lentiginosa* Lindl. 1859 comes from Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and northwestern Venezuela where it grows as a miniature sized, cold growing epiphyte 2,700 – 2,900m. The basally enveloped abbreviated stems with 2-3 scarious, tubular, acute sheaths carry single, apical, erect, oblong-elliptic, subacute leaf. Flowering occurs on 10 - 14 cm 8 - 10 flowered inflorescence. Its common name is the Freckled Stelis.



Photo source: <https://www.orchidroots.com/detail/photos/196597/?role=>

*Stelis mystax* (Luer) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2001 is found in the Veraguas province of Panama as a mini-miniature sized, warm growing, caespitose epiphyte in cloud forests at 650 – 1,000m. Well-developed basally enveloped ramicauls carry single, apical, broadly elliptical, obtuse, rounded leaves. Flowering in autumn occurs on an erect, 2 flowered inflorescence with shorter than the pedicel floral bracts. Luer 1976 commented "The little secondary stems are longitudinally ribbed, but more than half the length is covered by a loose sheath which originates near the base. The little



leaf is nearly circular, and from a minute spathe at the base the fine peduncle emerges to bear an oversized flower. The flowers are dark purple with a broad white stripe down the center of the keeled sepals. The petals overlap above the long, channelled claw of the lip, and the rounded apical half of the lip protrudes from the center of the flower. At this point the underlying lateral sepals suddenly diverge in opposite directions like a handle-bar moustache beneath a bulbous nose." Its common name is the Mustached Pleurothallis, and synonyms are *Mystacorchis mystax* [Luer] Szach & Marg. 2001; *Pleurothallis mystax* Luer 1976

Photo source: <https://orchidroots.com/detail/266988/species/?tab=gal>



In situ photo source: <https://uk.inaturalist.org/taxa/1419294-Stelis-mystax>

*Stelis nitens* Rchb. f. 1854 is found in Colombia and Venezuela as a miniature sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte in cloud forests or wet scrubby dwarf forests at 1,800 – 3,000m.



Basally enveloped erect slender ramicauls with 2-3 tubular sheaths carry single, apical, coriaceous, narrowly linear-elliptic, acute leaves. Flowering take place on 10 - 12.5cm several flowered inflorescences with simultaneously opening flowers held well above the apex of the leaf.

Its common name is the Shiny Stelis referring to the flower's glossy appearance. The synonym is *Stelis caespitiflora* Rchb.f. 1855.



Photos source: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:659000-1>



In situ photo source: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:659000-1/images>

*Stelis ornata* (Rchb. f.) Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 2001 comes from Mexico, Guatemala and El Salvador where it grows as a mini-miniature cool to cold growing, caespitose epiphyte at 1,500 – 2,500m. Erect ramicauls enveloped by two basal sheaths carry single apical, erect, coriaceous leaves. Flowering takes place from winter to mid-summer on apical, erect, fractiflex (zigzagged) 4-5cm successively single, few flowered inflorescences. The pedicel floral bracts hold the flowers amid or just above the leaves. Its common name is Ornate Pleurothallis. The synonyms are *Effusiella ornata* Luer 2007; *Pleurothallis ornata* Rchb.f. 1882, *Specklinia ornata* (Rchb. f.) Luer 2004.

As readers of this article will recall, the taxonomy of this family of orchids is both complex and frustrating. As an example, prior to the more recent accepted species identification published by World Flora Online (<https://wfoplantlist.org/plant-list/taxon>), considerable confusion existed about accepted name for this species. Principally, this confusion existed as a consequence of synonymy between *Pleurothallis schiedei* and *Pleurothallis villosa*. Neither has lamellae, only long pubescence within the flower so neither can be *Stelis ornata*. Knowles & Westcott described *Pleurothallis villosa* as a plant 10cm high, a flexuous scape and at each bend bearing a woolly and purple spotted flower. Here is no mention of appendages or lamellae which most modern references show as *Pleurothallis schiedei* but are actually *Pleurothallis ornata*.





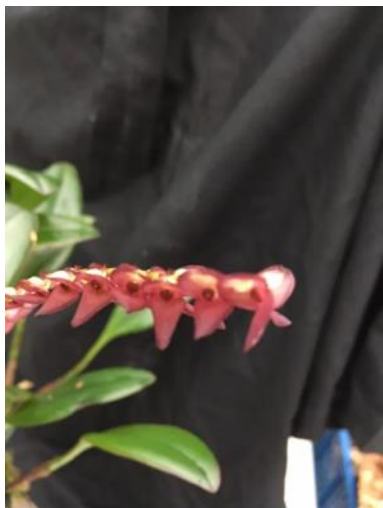
Photo source: [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Stelis-ornata-Rchbf-Pridgeon-MWChase-a-species-with-striking-appendages-on-the\\_fig16\\_337996801](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Stelis-ornata-Rchbf-Pridgeon-MWChase-a-species-with-striking-appendages-on-the_fig16_337996801)

In situ photo source: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:1089497-2>



In situ photo source 2:  
<https://www.gbif.org/tools/zoom/simple.html?src=//api.gbif.org/v1/image/cache/occurrence/3860145007/media/6c7dc7d0ac2c35d439b9af8a6f6d8dcd>

*Stelis patinaria* Luer & Hirtz 2002 comes from Ecuador as a small sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte at 1,800 -2,500m. Erect, stout ramicauls enveloped by a tubular sheath on the middle third with a further 2-3 sheaths at the base carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptical, subacute to obtuse leaves.



Flowering in autumn occurs on an erect sub-congested (spaced apart) 15 - 18 cm mostly simultaneously many flowered inflorescence.

Its common name is the Plate Stelis [referring to the shallow synsepal]

Photo source: <https://wsbeorchids.org/2017/365-days-of-orchids-day-298-stelis/>

*Stelis papaquerensis* Rchb.f. 1850 comes from Trinidad and Tobago, French Guiana, Surinam, Venezuela, Peru, and Brazil as a miniature to just medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte in rain forests at 200 – 1,500m. Erect to ascending ramicauls basally enveloped by 2 sheaths carry a single, apical, erect, coriaceous, oblong leaf. Flowering in spring takes place on 1–3, 5 -25cm many flowered inflorescences. Flower colour is highly variable in this species.

*Stelis papaquerensis* is superficially similar to *Stelis capijumensis* but it has by broader sepals that are connate (united to form a single part) to near the middle into a conical base, and shortly unguiculate petals. It is also superficially similar to *Stelis freyi* but differs in the single inflorescence that surpasses the leaf by more than twice its length. The many-flowered raceme is distichous (arranged alternately in two vertical rows on opposite sides of an axis) with most flowers opening simultaneously. The sepals are deeply connate to create a conical base to the flower. The seven-veined dorsal sepal is larger than four-veined lateral sepals. The rounded margin of the petals is broadly thickened. The lip is rounded at the apex with three small calli on the dorsum.

Its common name is the Papaquere Stelis, and the many synonyms include *Stelis barrensis* Lindl. 1859; *Stelis diaphana* Schltr. 1918; *Stelis epilithica* Garay 1954; *Stelis fraterna* Lindl. 1859; *Stelis gigas* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Stelis guttifera* Porsch 1905; *Stelis inaequisepala* Hoehne & Schltr. 1921; *Stelis juergensii* Schltr. 1925; *Stelis parahybunensis* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Stelis penduliflora* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Stelis plurispicata* Barb.Rodr. 1891; *Stelis porschiana* Schltr. 1917; *Stelis pterostele* Hoehne & Schltr. 1926; *Stelis puberula* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Stelis reflexisepala* Garay 1954; *Stelis smaragdina* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Stelis vinosa* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Stelis vinosa* var. *angustifolia* Cogn.

Cont'd in January



## 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 12 December**