

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com/>



Vol 35 No 8 January 2024



Anne O'Callaghan Award December 2023

Barkeria lindleyana

Siva

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 13 February

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

12 December 2023 7.45pm

Present: 22 members as per register.

Apologies: 6 as per register.

Visitors: 1 as per register

New members: Nil

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

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: The financial report was tabled. The balance at 30 November was \$7,019.84. Acceptance of financial report moved Lee-Anne, seconded John. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Committee - draft committee & GM minutes, draft committee & GM agenda, display plant photos
- Paul – updated membership spreadsheet, newsletters and photos
- Orchids WA agendas, reports for AGM, draft and final minutes
- Lee-Anne – ideas for SOSWA
- Gary – corrections to species orchid identification.
- City of Canning—2024 hall bookings

Outwards:

- Committee – draft GM minutes, draft committee minutes, draft GM agenda, committee and general meeting minutes.
- Paul – PDF newsletter and display plant photos for website
- December newsletter to members
- Reimbursement for stationery, copy paper and flasks.
- Mich - name badges

Acceptance of correspondence report moved Arnold, seconded Lynn. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

Appointment to Committee

Members were advised that Lee-Anne has accepted appointment to the committee to fill the Vice-Presidential vacancy.

Members thanked Lee-Anne.

Orchids WA AGM

The Orchids WA AGM and GM were held on 19 November. Orchids WA Members have been asked to provide feedback about several matters:

Perth Orchid Fair

Future management and organisation of the Perth Orchid Fair be undertaken by Orchids WA. Committee discussed proposal at its recent meeting and recommends endorsement by SOSWA members. Profits previously shared by coordinating societies that provided seed funds will go to Orchids WA. Orchids WA has capacity to fund a substantial promotional campaign and participation of interstate and international vendors and speakers.

Inter Society Orchid Display and Workshop (ISODW)

The future for this event was discussed, and a diversity of views were expressed by member delegates at the AGM. To date, no society or club has expressed an interest in hosting 2024 or 2025. Bunbury Orchid Society has written to Orchids WA expressing interest in hosting a major event in Bunbury in 2026. Committee agreed that

ISODW had been a valuable activity to bring city and country members together, and that its abandonment might be detrimental to maintaining relationships between city and country societies and their members. Although regional society participation at ISODW events in the city has been low in the past, it was suggested that this event could take place in alternate years (rather than every year) provided a host club could be found. The requirement for financial support from Orchids WA was recognised.

Australian Orchid Council (AOC)

Orchids WA member clubs and societies have been asked to provide feedback on the AOC strategic planning exercise being undertaken under the guidance of Bruce. AOC is at a financial crossroads as their principal source of revenue, the printed Orchids Australia magazine is no longer financially viable. Income from orchid club and personal membership is also declining as both question the benefits of membership.

Orchid Hub project

Delegates were advised about the constraints and issues experienced in negotiation with Department of Biosecurity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) about the Orchid Hub Project. Lotterywest instructed Orchids WA to consult with DBCA before the grant application could be considered. The very substantial workload likely to be associated with management of the project should the grant application be successful was identified. Delegates passed a motion that Orchids WA discontinue the Lotterywest grant application, and the commitment to the Orchid Hub project.

Election of officers

Rick continues to 2024 as Chairperson. Diane was re-elected as Secretary, Ken re-elected as Treasurer, and Bruce re-elected as Events Manager, and elected as Assistant Secretary. AOC Delegate

Bruce assumed the role of AOC delegate following Trevor passing and is presently assisting the AOC and AOC Board of Management with their strategic planning.

International Flask Importation

The creation of a co-operative international flask importation scheme as a benefit for Orchids WA members was proposed. Ken will draft a discussion paper for the next GM in February 2024.

Annual Membership Fee

Orchids WA membership fee for 2024/25 to remain at \$50.

Flask Purchase from Foliage Plus

We received flasks from our order from Paul. We still have 5 flasks - 1 @ *Dendrobium canaliculatum*, 2 @ *Grammatophyllum citrina*, and 1 @ *Dendrobium teretifolium sulphurea*.

December meeting

The December meeting followed our practice of many years, and every member attending received a species orchid. Thank you to those members who donated orchids for this purpose and brought food to share.

Next Home Visit

Members were reminded about the Ezi-Gro Orchids visit at 10.00am Saturday 20 Jan 2024. Members attending were

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

Vice President: Lee-Anne

Treasurer: Adrian

Secretary: Ken Jones

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Editor: Ken

Committee: 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

asked to bring either a salad or dessert to share as Kevin will provide sausages and rolls.

Orchid Books

John advised that a member of South Eastern Orchid Society had contacted him to see whether SOSWA might be interested in a library of hard-cover orchid books that belonged to a member who had passed away. They were offered free of charge and included 5 volumes of *Lindenia*. John will follow up and obtain a list of the books.

Vote of appreciation

Arnold moved a vote of appreciation to the committee for their management of the club during 2023, and acknowledged the support provided by Magaret, Ian and our raffle ticket sellers Dee and Mavis and any other members who helped at meetings. Members expressed their appreciation.

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- **Next meeting**

Committee has agreed that the January meeting be cancelled. It was reinstated following COVID as some regular meetings were cancelled during the year. The next meeting will be the February general meeting on Tuesday 13 February.

- **Help needed at meetings**

As you will all know, Adrian as our President and Treasurer has been working hard for our club for many months taking on additional responsibilities such as photographer following Tony Watkinson's passing. He is in need of a rest and will be taking a break from meetings for a while. This means that we will need some helpers to do some of the jobs that Adrian has been doing at meetings including taking photos, setting up the PA, helping set out tables and chairs, and the raffle as Dee will also be absent. If you can help, please let Ken know at the Ezi-Gro visit.

- **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 December)



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



In situ photo source: <https://floradesantacatarina.wordpress.com/orchidaceae/stelis-papaquerensis/>

Stelis regina Luer & Hirtz 2002 comes from Ecuador where it grows as a small to medium sized, cool growing epiphyte in very wet, montane cloud forests at 1,800m. Slender erect ramicauls basally enveloped by 2-3 loose, tubular sheaths carry a single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute to subacute leaf. Flowering takes place on an erect, distichous, loose, 15-18cm successively single, several flowered, racemose inflorescence. Its common name is the Queen Stelis in reference to the size and beauty of the flower.

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



Stelis santiagoi Luer & Hirtz 2002 comes from SE Ecuador as a small to just medium sized, hot growing epiphyte in rainforests at around 800m. Ascending erect stout ramicauls enveloped by 2-3 basal, loose, tubular sheaths and another below the middle carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute leaves. Flowering takes place in summer on an erect, congested, distichous, 20-30cm simultaneously many flowered inflorescence. Its common name is Santiago's Stelis named for an Ecuadorian collector of species.



Photo source: <https://www.orchidroots.com/detail/information/?role=pub&pid=267060>

Stelis tridentata Lindl. 1859 is found in Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador as a miniature to small sized, cold growing epiphyte in rainforests at 2,000 – 2,600m. Prolific, erect ramicauls are enveloped by 2-3 tubular sheaths and carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptical-oblong, obtuse, tridenticulate leaves. Flowering in late summer and early autumn occurs on 1-2 racemose, distichous, 17-15mm several flowered inflorescences with wide floral bracts. Its common name is the Three Toothed Stelis from the tridentate apex of the leaf. Synonyms are *Stelis elliptica* Ames & C.Schweinf. 1925; *Stelis ferax* Luer & Hirtz 2002; *Stelis leptophylla* Schltr. 1923



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

Stelis tristyla Lindl. 1838 comes from Brazil, Venezuela and Ecuador as a small sized, cool growing epiphyte at 1,500 – 1,700m. Erect stout ramicauls are enveloped by loose tubular sheaths below the middle, and carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse leaves.

Harry

- Cattleya grandis*
- Cattleya purpurata*
- Cattleya tenebrosa*
- Lycaste x groganii*

Murray & Arni

- Cattleya tenebrosa*
- Lycaste aromatica*
- Renanthera monachica*

Graham & Margaret

- Dendrobium macrophyllum*
- Encyclia diurna*
- Lycaste aromatica*

Ken & Chris

- Acianthera spp.*
- Bulbophyllum echinolabium*
- Cattleya purpurata*
- Encyclia atrorubens*
- Encyclia diurna*

- Encyclia seideli*
- Lycaste aromatica*
- Maxillaria tenuifolia*
- Oncidium maizifolium*
- Paphiopedilum callosum*
- Schomburgkia atropurpureum*

Adrian & Dee

- Maxillaria marginata*
- Pelexia maculata*
- Saccolabiopsis armitii*

Helen

- Encyclia belizensis*

John

- Cattleya purpurata*
- Cattleya tenebrosa*

Siva

- Barkeria lindleyana*
- Cattleya purpurata*

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED Dec. 2023



Cattleya grandis
Harry



Dendrobium macrophyllum
Graham & Margaret



Renanthera monachica
Murray & Arni



Pelexia maculata
Adrian & Deanne

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED Dec. 2023



Maxillaria marginata
Adrian & Deanne



Cattleya purpurata
Harry

Flowering in spring and early summer takes place on erect, congested, distichous 25 cm mostly simultaneously many flowered inflorescences. Its common name is the Three Pillared Stelis for the three lobes of the column - two stigma and the rostellum. Synonyms are *Stelis casanaensis* Schltr. 1929; *Stelis trianguliflora* Schltr. 1929; *Stelis zonata* Rchb.f. 1883. The following photos demonstrate some of the colour variability of this species.



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

Photo source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/erikas_bilder/23251199086



Photo source: https://www.orchid-nord.com/Stelis/Stelis_tristylis/st_trist.htm

Some of the other genera in this sub-family that have not been covered in more detail are: *Pabstiella* (138 species), *Platystele* (110 species), *Restrepia* (55 species), *Scaphosepalum* (50 species), *Specklinia* (100 species), *Trichosalpinx* (123 species), *Trisetella* (24 species) and *Zootrophion* (26 species).

In concluding this article, I will cover one or two of each of these species over January and February to provide a more comprehensive treatment of the subfamily, however there are at least another 25 genera that have not been written up. As you will have realised from the number of synonyms, taxonomists continue to work with

Pleurothallidinae and as a result, the accepted genus and species names are constantly evolving. I will follow this article with a list of botanical terms used in orchid description and explanations of what these terms mean.

Pabstiella ephemera (Lindl.) Luer 2007 can be found in French Guinea, Surinam, Brazil and Bolivia as a miniature sized, warm to cool growing, caespitose epiphyte in foothills.

Erect ramicauls enveloped by 1 to 2 tubular, acuminate sheaths carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous elliptical leaves. Flowering occurs in autumn on an erect 3cm fractiflex, successively single few flowered inflorescence. Its common name is the Fleeting *Pleurothallis* referring to the short life of the flowers.



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

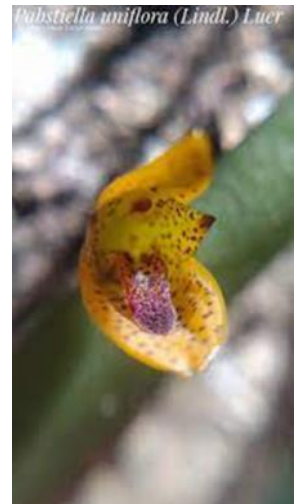
Synonyms are *Effusiella ephemera* (Lindl.) Campacci 2011; *Effusiella ochracea* (Porsch) Baptista Baptista 2011; *Humboldtia ephemera* (Lindl.)

Kuntze 1891; *Humboldtia longirostris* (H.Focke) Kuntze 1891; *Humboldtia rostriflora* (Rchb.f.) Kuntze 1891; *Pleurothallis ephemera* Lindl. 1836; *Pabstiella ochracea* (Porsch) Luer & Toscano 2011; *Pabstiella rostriflora* (Rchb.f.) Luer 2007; *Pleurothallis longirostris* H.Focke 1843; *Pleurothallis ochracea* Porsch 1905; *Pleurothallis ornithorrhyncha* Hoehne 1929; *Pleurothallis rostriflora* Rchb.f. 1850; *Specklinia ephemera* (Lindl.) Luer 2004; *Stelis ephemera* (Lindl.) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2001; *Stelis rostriflora* (Rchb.f.) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2001.

Pabstiella uniflora (Lindl.) Luer 2007 comes from French Guiana, Surinam, Guyana, Venezuela and northern Brazil at elevations of 100 to 740 meters as a mini-miniature sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with a short, erect, ramicaul enveloped basally by 2 to 3 close tubular sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic, obtuse, gradually narrowing below into the narrow sulcate base leaf that blooms at almost any time of the year on a suberect 4.5cm, successively single flowered inflorescence. Its common name is the Single Flowered *Pleurothallis*.

Photo source: <https://orchidroots.com/detail/photos/373862/?gen=145095&pid=373862&type=species&role=>

Synonyms are *Humboldtia leontoglossa* (Rchb.f.) Kuntze



1891; *Humboldtia uniflora* (Lindl.) Kuntze 1891; *Lepanthes punctata* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Lepanthes striata* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Lepanthes umbrosa* Barb.Rodr. 1881; *Pabstiella punctata* (Barb.Rodr.) Luer & Toscano 2011; Lindl.; *Pleurothallis guttulata* Cogn. 1896; *Pleurothallis leontoglossa* Rchb.f. 1850; *Pleurothallis striata* (Barb.Rodr.) Cogn. 1896; *Pleurothallis umbrosa* (Barb.Rodr.) Cogn. 1896; *Pleurothallis uniflora* Lindl. 1837, *Specklinia leontoglossa* (Rchb.f.) Luer 2004; *Specklinia uniflora* (Lindl.) Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 2001



In situ photo source:
<https://orchidroots.com/detail/photos/373862/?gen=145095&pid=373862>

Platystele peruviana Rizo-Patrón. The type specimen for a new species was observed during a field trip in montane forest in the Gramazú area in Oxapampa, Pasco, Peru along a creek. The plant was located on a small branch (diameter 3 cm) about 1 m from the ground and was covered by moss. The low light habitat area was close to forest floor and was very humid due to the nearby creek. The temperature range was 4°C to 28°C. It was growing as a caespitose epiphyte, with slender 1mm ramicauls covered by thin tubular sheaths. The plant had 8-9 leaves that were leathery, elliptic in shape and upright about 4mm in length. The flowers were flat with sepals and petals pale yellow to transparent towards the margins and darker towards the midvein and covered with glandular hairs carried on an erect 12 mm raceme, with successive flowers. The labellum was red with an orange tip and with whitish- hairs.

To date, this species has not been found anywhere apart from Oxapampa, Pasco, Peru. This finding was published PATRÓN ET AL.114 • Phytotaxa 564 (1) © 2022 Magnolia Press. The specific epithet was chosen to honour Peru where the type specimen was found. *Platystele peruviana* is similar to *Platystele psix* Luer & Hirtz, but differs from the lateral parallel falcate sepals (vs. oblique not falcate), its ovate elliptic lip (vs. ovate lanceolate), and a large circular glenion (the circular structure or callus at the base of the labellum compared with the medium semi square glenion of *Platystele psix*).



Photo source: <http://novataxa.blogspot.com/2022/09/platystele.html>



In situ photo source: <https://wenbochenphoto.tumblr.com/post/615558992243081216/peruvian-miniature-orchid-platystele-sp-%E6%A0%91%E7%B2%BE%E5%85%B0%E5%B1%9E>

Platystele umbellata P. Ortiz 1978 comes from Colombia as a miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte at 600 -1,600m. Erect, slender, ramicauls basally enveloped by 2 to 3 thin, ribbed, imbricating sheaths carry single, apical, erect, coriaceous, elliptic-spathulate leaves. Flowering in winter and spring occurs on a very congested, umbellate, simultaneously 5-9 flowered 1.1-1.6cm racemose inflorescence arising from above the middle of the ramicaul and has loose, imbricating, oblique, as long as the ovary floral bracts.

Luer 1990 wrote "The umbel is composed of several, overlapping, minute, simultaneous flowers, one of the smallest of the genus. The tiny, obtuse sepals and petals are ciliate and the ovate,



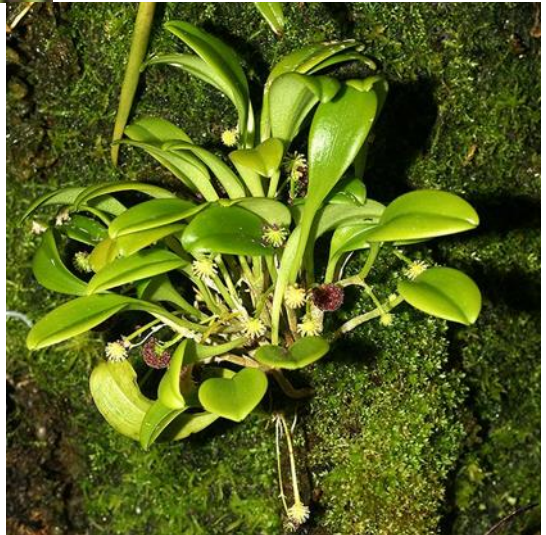
cellular-glandular lip is a trifle larger than the lateral sepals, the margins are not revolute, and the apex is rounded.”

Photo source: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:652097-1>

This species is similar to *Platystele beatricis*, *Platystele dasyglossa* and *Platystele ortiziana* as they all have umbellate inflorescence.

Its common name is the Umbellate Platystele referring to the inflorescence.

In situ photo source: https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Platystele_umbellata_Orchi_007.jpg



Restrepia contorta (Ruiz & Pav.) Luer 1996 comes from Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador as a small sized, cool to warm growing epiphyte in cloud forests at 1,300 – 3,200m. Erect basally enveloped ramicauls carry single, apical, erect, often suffused with purple beneath, elliptical-ovate twisted petiolate baseleaf. Flowering in spring through to autumn occurs on a terminal, fascicle wiry 4 - 8cm inflorescence that arises from the back side of the leaf with successive single, few flowered inflorescence with a thin, tubular pedicel floral bract. Its common name is the Twisted Restrepia.

Photo source: www.orchidspecies.com/restcontorta.htm

Cont'd in February

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 13 February 2024