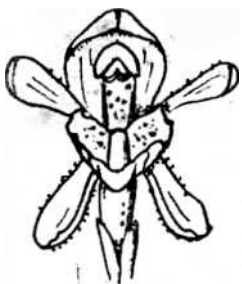


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NEW ZEALAND NATIVE ORCHID GROUP
Newsletter no.12
December 1984



Dear Member,

Another year completed, they seem to get shorter all the time! Enclosed please find your subscription renewal, notice, the jump to \$5.00 includes affiliation fee to the New Zealand Orchid Council - \$1.00 per member. I think we must join the National Body together with the other 43 orchid societies in the country, before the International Orchid Conference in Wellington, October

Gordon Sylvester, a keen member handy to Wellington has agreed to oversee the Native orchid display at the conference, Please support him with any help you can give. He will need photos, paintings and drawings, as many as possible so he has a range to choose from, as soon as possible so he can start his planning, could you send any material him:

Mr G Sylvester,
22 Pencarrow Crescent,
Wainuiomata.

We must show the thousands of expected visitors, many from overseas, that New Zealand does have native orchids.

Please send in reports of your summer 'finds', I can't produce a newsletter without your contributions. Anything will be appreciated!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Dorothy Cooper,
14 Avalon Crescent,
Lower Hutt.



A Trip to Swampy Summit.

George Gee,
South Dunedin,

Starting from the Whare Flat end of the Pineapple track, a trip to Swampy Summit (2600') entails travelling in convoy as permission must be obtained to go up to Swampy Summit through a locked gate.

Caladenialyallii is found at the side of the road - smaller plants than those on the Pineapple track a few hundred feet lower. Lyperanthus antarcticus is found at the edges of peat swamps and sphagnum moss areas, and at the edges of a tarn when traversing Swampy Summit. Going down the other side are more Caladenia, on a north-facing slope and in different vegetation, these are larger than those on the southern side. Pterostylis montana and Aporostylis bifolia are also to be found in this area but not in great numbers. All these can be difficult to find as the sheltering vegetation is fairly dense.

Lyperanxbus was in bud on 17th December 1963, and well in flower on Jan. 15th 1984.

On the way down the hill two plants of a Thelymitra were found, perhaps T. pulchella?

Swampy is a great place to visit as there is a wide range of native plants including the sundews.

(See also articles on this area - "A Diary from Dunedin" Ian St. George, Newsletter no.3. and an article by M.L. Young, Mosgiel, Newsletter no.2, 1962.



Mr Bartlett Lists:

Dendrobium cunninghamii

Bulbophyllum pygmaeum

Earina mucronata

Thelymitra longifolia

T. pauciflora

T aemula (rare)

T. caesia (fairly common)

T. imberbis (scarce)

Orthoceras strictum (common)

Microtis unifolia (common)

Prasopphyllum colensoi (rare)

P. pumilum (fairly common)

Corybas trilobus (uncommon)

C. macranthus (uncommon)

Pterostylis banksii (uncommon)

Pt. graminea (common)

Pt. trullifolia (common)

Pt. trullifolia var. alobula (uncommon)

Pt. trullifolia var. gracilis (uncommon)

Pt. nana (syn. puberula) (uncommon)

Pt. barbata (uncommon)

Acianthus sinclairii (common)

Caladenia carnea (syn. minor) (common)

C. carnea var. bartlettii (uncommon)

Chiloglottis cornuta (fairly common)

Gastrodia sesamoides (rare)

Corybas aconitiflorus (fairly common)

C. oblongus (fairly common)

Summing it up:

It is possible to see, within eight or ten chains of my home Pt. barbata and Pt. nana growing alongside one another with Pt. trullifolia and Pt. graminea nearby while Th. caesia and Th. imberbis bloom alongside the rare and dainty Caladenia carnea var. bartlettii and the dainty little Prasopphyllum pumilum together with the more common orchids while dotted through the scrub is the famous Phylloglossum, the (I am told not common) Lycopodium laterale, L. densum, Epacris pauciflora, Drosera binata and D. auriculata ... I live in dread that some day the Crown will resume ownership of the property and the scrub and its interesting plant life will go up in smoke and be over run by crawler tractors in the name of progress. Possibly the DSIR might do something in the matter and save some of New Zealand's rarest plants from destruction.

Frank W. Bartlett 5-4-48

(For more recent names and synonyms of some of the above plants see "Flora of New Zealand" Vol 2 by L.B Moore & E. Edgar, Orchidaceae p. 102 - Ed.)

We have not lost all our commoner orchids in this part of North Auckland. Today (7/10/84) a small party of us spent a couple of hours in rather scruffy looking second growth and saw at least ten species half of them in colonies of one to two dozen plants:

Pterostylis banksii (fl.)

Pterostylis alobula (fr.)

Corybas rivularis (fl.)

C. oblongus (fl. some on fern tree trunks)

C. macranthus (fl.)

C. aconitiflorus (fr.)

Chiloglottis cornuta (fl.)

Acianthus fornicatus var. sinclairii (fr.)

Thelymitra (leaves only)

Earina mucronata (fl.)

We've seen three other Pterostylis flowering this season, Bulbophyllum pygmaeum and Drymoanthus adversus occur hereabouts. Acianthus reniformis var. oblongus is flowering now and leaves of Caladenia begin to show. The true gumland vegetation with some rarer orchids is fast disappearing.

L.B. Moore



SIMPLE KEY TO Thelymitra

Dorothy Cooper Lower Hutt

To identify species first look at colour of flowers and whether it has stripes or spots, then look at column and identify further characteristics. Remember that flowers do not develop colour in their segments until a day or so before opening, so if prising open a bud do not rely on colour for identification.

For further details refer to "Flora of New Zealand" Vol.2, Moore & Edgar "A Field Guide to New Zealand Native Orchids" Dorothy Cooper; "Native Orchids of New Zealand" John Johns & Brian Molloy.

Flowers white	<u>T. longifolia</u>	
Flowers blue		
with spots	<u>T. decora</u>	tubercles on top of post-anther lobe
	<u>T. ixioides</u>	finger-like processes on top of column, distinct side lobules
with stripes	<u>T. dentata</u>	yellow cilia, hooded top to column
	<u>T. pulchella</u>	flat 'seaweed-like' arms
	<u>T. venosa</u>	no cilia
no stripes or spots	<u>T. carnea</u>	no cilia; pink, cream, blue
	<u>T. formosa</u>	sidelobules; pale mauve-blue; low notch in post-anther lobe; filament-like cilia yellow or white.
	<u>T. hatchii</u>	truncate top to column; violet-blue cilia clumps yellow sometimes white
	<u>T. intermedia</u>	thickened top to column; pink/blue: white cilia
	<u>T. pauciflora</u>	cleft in top of column, lilac-blue; white cilia clumps

Basic shapes, variation common:

