



Committee Members

President:	Bill Ferris	0428 639 778
Vice-President:	Andrea Robold	0418 241 694
Treasurer:	Bob Forrester	0402 353 773
	treasurer@canberraorchids.org	
Secretary:	Jenny Cooke	0419 497 078
	secretary@canberraorchids.org	
Committee:	Krysia Szkiela	0421 636 324
	Brenda Thomson	0414 979 764
	Jane Wright	0406 379 054

Other Roles

Public Officer	Peter Coyne
Bulletin Editor	Geoff Dyne
Web Master	Bill Ferris
Conservation Officer	Derek Corrigan
Scientific Advisor	Mark Clements
Photography & Art	Zoe Groeneveld
New Member Coordinator	Jacqui Bannerman
Meetings Entry Table & Door Prizes	Yvonne Day
Popular Vote	Audrey Rough
Coordinators	Jane Wright
Benching Officer	Jacqui Turner
Judges Choice	Mark Fraser
	Robyn Noel
	Krysia Szkiela
	Jane Wright
Librarian	Andrea Robold
	librarian@canberraorchids.org
Social Media	Jane Wright
Sales Table	Bob Forrester
	Brenda Thompson

Society meetings

While not in lockdown, meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Ainslie Football Club, 52 Wakefield Ave, Ainslie, at 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start. Visitors are welcome.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 6th July – Stanhopeas!

Karen Groeneveld will talk on stanhopeas with an emphasis on their pollination. Bill Ferris will cover phylogeny and Jacqui Turner will discuss how she grows her *Stanhopea* plants.

Wednesday 3rd August – Peter Coyne on Australian Native orchids.

Upcoming Events

- 2-3 July – Milton Ulladulla Show
- 8-9 July – Eurobodalla, Shoalhaven Shows
- 12-13 July – Sapphire Coast Show
- 12-14 August – National Orchid Extravaganza, Cymbidium Club of Australia and the Paphiopedilum Society of NSW, Arena Sports Club, 140 Rockwood Rd, Yagoona
- 19-21 August – St Ives Orchid Show

www.canberraorchids.org
 Email: info@canberraorchids.org
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instagram.com/canberra_orchids

Orchid Society of Canberra, Inc
 PO Box 221 Deakin West ACT 2600
 Australia
 ABN 34 762 780 850

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Contributions to the next Bulletin

Contributions to the Bulletin are welcome and should be emailed to Geoff Dyne at gdynes@home.com.au.
Deadline for September - October edition is 22 August 2022

From the President

Winter is here with the 'Sandy' mountains experiencing one of the best starts to the ski season in many years. At this time of year many of our orchids need extra care, whether you're an inside-the-house grower, a shade-house grower or a hothouse grower. For the warm loving orchids, keep an eye on the operation of heaters, especially with power uncertainties. Generally you're best to keep the plants somewhat drier than in summer, but with artificial heating (and therefore extra drying) you may need to actually water more. Observe your plants and let them tell you what they need.

Unfortunately, COVID is still active so please take appropriate precautions, if that is possible. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery for anyone affected and we hope you do not suffer long COVID.

The new committee is settling in. Bob Forrester has picked up the reins as treasurer and is already proficient with the accounting software and the credit card facility. Thanks again Bob for taking on these responsibilities. Jane can't stand being idle so will take up the social media responsibilities. Jane has also proposed that we run Zoom meetings at various times for the benefit of those members who cannot make our Wednesday night meetings (members who make Wednesday nights will, of course, be welcome to join in). Any suggestions on the contents of the Zoom meetings are welcome. Further information is in this *Bulletin*.

Thanks to members who filled in Krysia's survey on what topics they would like to hear at the meetings. This is very helpful to the committee in planning the meetings.

Organisation of our Show in September is underway – it actually seems that hardly any time has passed since the Show last year. We will be seeking member support and involvement closer to the date.

Bill Ferris

Cultural tips for July-August

- Check your growing location daily to make sure your plants are getting appropriate moisture, warmth and light.
- Continue to be sparing with water for plants that prefer a drier rest over winter. This includes soft cane dendrobiums, catasetums and tropical deciduous species. While dormant, keep them dry until after new growth begins.
- Many cymbidiums and native dendrobiums will be producing flower buds. Ensure spikes have room. Start staking early to get the best display. Keep an eye out for slugs and snails, which love to munch on buds!
- Monitor for pests, including scale and mites for plants grown in greenhouses or indoors. They thrive in the drier warm environment.
- All Australian terrestrials should now have leaves. If any pots have not grown, don't throw them out as the tuber can still make a replacement for next year. You should aim to keep them moist (but not sodden) until spring.
- Check out the Society's book 'Growing Orchids in Cool Climate Australia' for more cultural tips.

Judges Choice (Hybrid), June meeting



Rlc Shinfong Unique 'Water' grown by Rob Rough (photo: Zoe Groeneveld)

Minutes of General Meeting, 4 May 2022

Present: 37 members

Apologies: 4

Visitors: 4

Meeting held at Ainslie Football Club and commenced at 7.35pm.

President Bill Ferris opened the meeting by welcoming all members to the first meeting of the Club's financial year 2022/23. Bill enquired about the health of members since the last meeting commenting on the continued impact of COVID in the community and the need to be careful in crowded situations such as airports, concerts and even orchid society meetings.

Bill welcomed John Allen as the night's guest speaker and advised he would be talking on lycastes and provide some views on climate and orchid growing.

Presentation by John Allen, Bathurst - the Lycaste Alliance (A brief look - with diversion to climate considerations for orchid growing)

John provided an overview of the most popular members of the alliance including *Lycaste*, *Anguloa* and *Sudamerlycaste (Ida)* together with discussing their primary hybrids. He noted the similarities in climate between Bathurst and Canberra and the approach he adopts for growing lycastes.

John explained how the lycaste group is found across a wide variety of climatic types – from sea level up to 3000 metres above sea level with an analysis of climates and growing conditions indicating that they select a 'location' which suits regardless of local climate. For example, at lower altitudes they prefer a cool, shaded, moist location while at higher altitudes they prefer a more open, sunny location protected from cold and frost. This means that you can create a suitable micro-climate almost anywhere.

John's presentation covered some of the history of breeding lycastes including both in Australia and Japan and how *Lycaste skinneri* (also known as *Lycaste virginalis*) was used as the basis for judging standards in Australia. His presentation showed different forms and shapes of lycastes and hybrids: a copy of the presentation and notes is available on the members' page of the website.

Conservation report

Derek Corrigan provided an update on the work of the Conservation Group.

- Goorooyarroo - The Conservation Group is in the process of finishing off survey work and the next step is to prepare a report.
- Bluett's Block - Molonglo Estate. The Group has applied for another grant to conduct a survey. Submission placed and awaiting outcome.
- Informal - smaller groups have also been doing some work outside of the ACT including at Bango and Captain's Flat.

Other matters

- Treasurer's report - Jane noted that there was a full sales table tonight. A range of plants from members of the society were available as were other products and plants from John Allen.
- Bill advised members that wire hangers and twin hooks were now being made by Heath Myers - further details available under the first item in Categories on the Member page of the website. Bill suggested that members order direct through Heath noting that the Society does not intend holding stock of these items.
- Bill noted that Jane would also be accepting membership renewal payments during the break: \$25 for single; \$30 for family; and \$5 for students and juniors.

Bill advised that the next meeting in June would include the AGM. There would be several items on the agenda - reports from the President and the Treasurer including presentation of the accounts, proposal of life membership for Karen Groeneveld (further information and motion previously circulated to members) and election of committee members and office bearers. Election nomination form is in the Bulletin and on the website.

July-August 2022

Nominations are to be emailed to the secretary@canberraorchids.org seven days before the meeting, however he encouraged earlier submission if nominating.

Upcoming events

Bill also advised of various upcoming Orchid Shows and events.

Jane noted that the Society would be submitting an entry into the Southern Orchid Spectacular reprising its mountain display. Jane encouraged everyone to consider going along to the show in Sydney.

Next Meeting

7.30pm on 1 June at the Ainslie Football Club.

Meeting concluded at 9.30 pm.

Some miscellaneous matters

Bags and small boxes and needed for the show

The Society sales table will need bags and small boxes for folks to use to take away their purchases. If you could save bags, small boxes and/or flattened wine boxes (which we can reassemble at the venue), that would be a great help.

Weekend Zoom Meeting 23 July 2022

The Committee is aware that while many of our members are unable to attend normal evening meetings, they did participate in the Saturday Zoom meetings earlier during the pandemic. For the benefit of those members particularly, we'd like to investigate the possibility of doing semi-regular weekend Zoom meetings. The first one will be at 2pm Canberra Time on 23 July. The main aim will be to discuss the format, dates/times and topics that would be suitable. We'll also be delighted to see what flowers you have in bloom. A Zoom link will be sent around by email closer to the time. If you'd like to participate, but can't on that day, please contact Jane Wright with your suggestions or feedback on the proposal.

Judges Choice (Species), May meeting



Pterostylis concinna grown by David Judge
(photo: Zoe Groeneveld)

Popular Vote Results May 2022

#	Class Name	Plant	Owner
OPEN			
2	Australian Terrestrial	<i>Corysanthes hispida</i>	David Judge
	<i>Others Benched: Diplodium obtusum; Diplodium longipetalum; Diplodium truncatum; Diplodium laxum; Diplodium repandum; Pterostylis concinna</i>		
4	Laeliinae	<i>Rlc.Sanyung Ruby 'Kuang Long'</i>	Rob Rough
	<i>Others Benched: Cattleya bowringiana</i>		
8	Pleurothallidinae	<i>Pleurothallis phalangifera</i>	Geoff Dyne
	<i>Others Benched: Pleurothallis bivalvis; Masdevallia macrura ; Restrepia sp 'A'; Restrepia brachypus; Restrepia sanguinea 'Fulcher'; Porroglossum muscosum</i>		
9	Exotic Dendrobiinae	<i>Aporum elevator</i>	Karen and Zoe Groeneveld
	<i>Others Benched: Durabaculum dalbertisii</i>		
10	Coelogyinae	<i>Dendrochilum macratham</i>	Geoff Dyne
11	Bulbophyllinae	<i>Bulbophyllum Jersey</i>	Geoff Dyne
		<i>Bulbophyllum levyae</i>	Mark Clements
13	Exotic terrestrials	<i>Stenoglottis longifolia</i>	Bill Ferris
		<i>Stenoglottis Venus</i>	Karen and Zoe Groeneveld
		<i>Others Benched: Stenoglottis longifolia</i>	
14	Any Other Orchid	<i>Ceratostylis rubra</i>	Karen and Zoe Groeneveld
		<i>Others Benched: Gastrochilus sp.</i>	
OPEN Orchid of the Night		<i>Corysanthes hispida</i>	David Judge
Judges' Choice - Species		<i>Pterostylis concinna</i>	David Judge
Judges' Choice - Hybrid		<i>Stenoglottis Venus</i>	Karen and Zoe Groeneveld
Judges' Choice - Specimen		<i>Corysanthes hispida</i>	David Judge

Popular Vote, Open Orchid of the night and Judges Choice - Specimen

Corybas hispidis aka *Corysanthes hispida* – the Bristly Helmet Orchid, grown by David Judge



David: Corysanthes hispida, commonly known as the bristly helmet orchid, is a species of orchid endemic to eastern Australia. It ranges from south-east Queensland, down to sheltered sites in far north-eastern Victoria. It is commonly found in the ACT, including on Black Mountain. This clone comes from Mt Hamilton in Wulgulmerang, Victoria which is the same place the type specimen for this species was located. *Corysanthes hispida* flowers much earlier than other helmet orchid species.

This is an easy species to grow and multiplies very quickly. It would be the easiest of the Helmet orchid species to grow and great for beginners. I grow this species cool and very shady. I grow it in Debco seedling and cutting mix which is very well drained. I add a bit of blood and bone to the mix when I replot annually. This species grows naturally in a moist environment, so it is important not to let it dry out too much while it is actively growing. When the leaves die down later in the year I reduce watering, but I don't let it dry out completely like I would with greenhoods. This species likes high humidity, especially when the flowers are developing. If the atmosphere gets too dry, the buds can abort. As a result, I grow them in a fish tank until they have finished flowering.

Judges Choice - Hybrid



Stenoglottis Venus 'Big Lip' X *Stenoglottis* Venus 'Darkest Purple'
grown by Karen and Zoe Groeneveld

Karen: I purchased this hybrid *Stenoglottis* from Tinonee Orchids some years ago. Like the South African *Stenoglottis* species from which it derives, it's a terrestrial orchid that tolerates our Canberra conditions quite well. I grow it in a cold GH (min. 3 °C – max. 33°C), but (like our native terrestrials) it will happily grow in a protected position on a balcony, patio or shade-house. I grow it the same well-draining soil that I use for native terrestrials – a good quality seed-raising mix with plenty of sand in it. Regular watering during the growing season, less watering in late autumn and winter.

Annual General Meeting, 1 June 2022

Present: 35 members, 2 visitors

Apologies: 11

Meeting commenced 7:40pm.

Bill Ferris, President, welcomed all attendees to the meeting and advised the order of proceedings- AGM followed by General Meeting, including popular vote. He then declared the AGM open.

Bill Ferris commenced the meeting by seeking acceptance of the 2021 AGM minutes. Rob Rough proposed acceptance of the minutes, Karen Groeneveld seconded and the minutes were accepted.

President's Report

Bill Ferris presented his President's report, outlining the highlights for the year including:

- Challenges faced in keeping Society functioning due to COVID-19 uncertainties.
- Regular general meetings continuing throughout the year, with virtual meetings held in September, October, November 2021 and February 2022 and the remainder held at the Ainslie Football Club.
- Ainslie Football Club venue for meetings working quite well, featuring a range of presenters and topics.
- The Society's virtual show held in September 2021 and he recognised the efforts of the judges in assessing plants under such circumstances and the ongoing support of Society members.
- New members David Rudgley, Bailey Dunn, Yi Yu, Angela Braniff, Megan Lech, Trish Dollinson, Lorraine Wilson and Robert Gibbon were welcomed to the Society during the year, their interest in the Society partly attributable to Derek Corrigan and his work in conservation of local native orchids.

Thanks to Committee members and others who had supported the operations of the Society over the past year.

Sandra Corbett moved the President's report be accepted, seconded Krysia Szkiela and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Jane Wright presented the audited accounts. She commented on another atypical year with a members-only show (i.e. no show income), higher venue costs, higher IT costs (e.g. zoom subscription) balanced with great success in securing Conversation Grants from the ACT Government. Jane also noted that the basic costs of running the society remained.

Jane advised that overall, the Society is in a good financial position given the extra expenses incurred due to the impact of COVID-19. Overall, the Society improved its financial position by \$6,421.38 due largely to receiving \$12,701 in grants for conservation projects, with most of the funds as yet unspent. Major expenses were \$600 on the show because it was not practical to open to the public so there was no sponsor or sales income, \$2,744 on increased meeting expenses and about \$1000 for subsidising the Christmas party. These expenses were expected and approved by the committee as they were seen as important activities for members.

Looking to the year ahead, Jane noted the ongoing added expense for the meeting venue remained however this was expected to be met largely from the Society's show which is always profitable.

Audrey Rough moved the treasurer's report be accepted, seconded by Robyn Noel and approved.

The accounts are a supplement to the Bulletin.

Motion: Award of Life Membership to Karen Groeneveld

Bill Ferris advised that he had separately circulated details of a motion to award Karen Groeneveld life membership to the Society. The motion read:

Background and justification for award

The constitution of the Orchid Society allows for the awarding of only one life membership in a financial year. Since inception of the Society there has been 12 life awards, the last in 2018. The list of life members is on the website.

Karen has been active in most of the activities of the Society for some fourteen years.

Karen has featured prominently in the awards at the benching of plants at our general meetings, our show and other shows where the Society has participated. She has won numerous show championships and on ten occasions, our annual popular vote. In some part engineer husband Peter has assisted by building excellent greenhouses.

Karen has benched a wide range of orchids, many exotic and less common. In recent years she has grown many native terrestrials and run workshops on repotting them.

Karen has also contributed to the executive operations of the Society, serving on the committee from 2010 to 2021. During this period Karen served as a committee member, secretary and vice President. Also, between 2020 and 2021 Karen was editor of the Bulletin and her role was much appreciated. Added to this is the input of Karen (and Peter), to the design and construction of our exhibits at regional shows.

It is not only the growing of orchids for which Karen is recognised. Along with daughter Zoe, Karen did an excellent job in organising the catering for our shows and regular meetings when such services were required. Karen was very fastidious in abiding by the health regulations.

In recognition of Karen's extensive involvement in the Society's activities she deserves being made a life member.

Claire Turner moved the motion be accepted, Andrea Robold seconded the motion.

Karen thanked the Society for this award commenting on the valuable work of the Society and her particular interest in the environmental work being done.

Bill Ferris proposed that as the only reward for life membership is exemption from membership fees and as partners often also make a significant contribution to the society, the membership fees exemption be extended

to the partners. Attendees accepted this proposal.

Election of Committee

David Judge, on behalf of the public officer, announced that the number of nominations received was equal to the number of positions. The elected members are:

President: Bill Ferris

Vice President: Andrea Robold

Treasurer: Robert Forrester

Secretary: Jenny Cooke

Ordinary Committee: Jane Wright, Krysia Szkiela and Brenda Thomson.

Bill Ferris recognised the work of the outgoing Treasurer, Jane Wright.

Meeting concluded 8.03pm.

Minutes of General Meeting, 1 June 2022

Meeting commenced 8:04pm.

Present: 35 members, 2 visitors

Apologies: 11 members

Following the AGM, the General Meeting was opened.

Bill Ferris advised that several applications for membership had been received and accepted and welcomed those new members to the Society.

Krysia Szkiela advised that the Committee wished to survey members to better understand what topics they wished to see presented at the general meetings and/or their willingness to present at future meetings. Krysia circulated a survey form and requested it be completed and returned to her by the end of the night.

Bill Ferris introduced Jane Wright as the night's speaker.

Presentation by Jane Wright - Orchid gems in Peru and Ecuador

Jane provided an interesting presentation on orchid gems in Peru and Ecuador, She started with *Phragmipedium kovachii* including its history from smuggling and controversial naming to the Peru Government's actions to protect wild populations by by granting a few nurseries the right to grow from seed for commercial use.

Jane also talked of her travels in 2004 exploring various habitats where orchids naturally grow. This included *Phragmipedium besseae* which grow on steep and very damp cliff faces to *Telipogon* species that grow in dry, scrubby and dusty conditions albeit with moss growing reflecting a wet season at some time.

Jane also talked of her trek in Machu Picchu, Peru to view *Masdevallia veitchiana* – for a long time her favourite orchid. Fortunately, she found half a dozen flowers at the top of the mountain! Hopefully she will find many more interesting orchids in her upcoming return visit in August and to the Amazon.

A copy of Jane's presentation can be viewed on the Member Page of the website.

Conservation Report

Derek Corrigan and the conservation group continue to be busy. The Conservation Group has submitted an application to the ACT Government for funding to conduct a baseline orchid survey of Bluetts Block – Piney Ridge area. The area is relatively pristine and has a wide diversity and density of orchids. Further information is on the website and will be published in the next Bulletin.

Other matters

Bill advised that the committee had approved membership for Ned Johnston, Anne Gibbon, Ciaran Ernst-Russell and Joshua and Megan Phillips and welcomed them to the Society.

Bill drew members' attention to various matters including:

- Financial members would be advised by email of a change in the password to access the Member page of the website later in June. A reminder to those yet to renew their membership to avoid being removed from the mailing list.
- Library – A list of the library is in the Member page of the website. To make it easier to track library requests and borrowings, if you wish to borrow a book, please email librarian@canberraorchids.org, or click the link on the Member page.
- Southern Orchid Spectacular is on 8-9 September at Sutherland. Our Society has been allocated a 2x2 metre display. Jane and the display team have been getting organised. Jane advised that they would be using the mountain display and encouraged all to come along and have a look at the show.
- New members Ned Johnston, Anne Gibbon, Ciara Ernst-Russell and Joshua and Megan Phillips.
- Several Society members will be presenting on *Stanhopea* and its relatives at the next meeting.

Bill reminded members of the upcoming shows in the region.

Next Meeting

7.30pm on 6 July at the Ainslie Football Club.

Meeting concluded 9.10pm.

Open Orchid of the Night and Judges Choice - Species



Maxillaria kautskyi grown by Andrea Robolds

Andrea: I only bought this orchid around 15 months ago - I like maxillarias! I grow it in my greenhouse with a minimum temperature of 13 degrees. It sits on the bottom shelf in fairly bright conditions. The humidity was good this year at around 60-100%. I repotted it in spring into a clay pot. I used fairly coarse bark. I gave it slow-release fertilizer in spring, and another sprinkle - this time a high potassium slow-release fertilizer - around mid-summer. I looked at it closely about a week before our meeting and discovered it had so many flower buds!!! I'm glad you got a look at its dainty flowers.

Popular Vote Results June 2022

#	Class Name	Plant	Owner
OPEN			
1	Australian Epiphyte	<i>Dendrobium</i> Avrils Gold 'Pure Gold'	Richard Mayoh
	<i>Others Benched: Den.</i> Grace Robson; <i>Den.</i> Baumer's Aussie Fire		
2	Australian Terrestrial	<i>Diplodium repandum</i>	Karen and Zoe Groeneveld
	<i>Others Benched: Pterostylis baptistii</i>		
4	Laeliinae	<i>Cattleya</i> Porcia	Rob Rough
	<i>Others Benched: Rth.</i> Netrasiri Starbright; <i>Rlc.</i> Shinfong Unique 'Water'; <i>Rlc.</i> Aloha Spirit; <i>Laelia anceps</i> 'Tierra del Fuego' x 'Darkest Clare Dieta'		
6	Monopodial Vandaeae	<i>Vascostylis</i> Blue Fairy x <i>Vanda</i> <i>alcata</i>	Rob Rough
8	Pleurothallidinae	<i>Pleurothallis schweinfurthii</i>	Jane Wright
		<i>Porroglossum muscosum</i>	Jane Wright
	<i>Others Benched: Masdevallia</i> Zoe; <i>Masd</i> <i>veitchiana</i> ; <i>Dryadella hirtzii</i> ; <i>Restrepia elegans</i> ; <i>Anathallis schlerophylla</i>		
9	Exotic Dendrobiinae	<i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i> 'Blue Fairy' x <i>Dend.</i> <i>bigibbum</i> 'Sedgefield'	Rob Rough
	<i>Others Benched: Ceraia exilis</i>		
10	Coelogyninae	<i>Coelogyne fimbriata</i>	Bob Forrester
12	Maxillariinae	<i>Maxillaria kautskyi</i>	Andrea Robold
		<i>Others Benched: Bifrenaria vitellina</i> ; <i>Maxillaria praestans</i>	
14	Any Other Orchid	<i>Anoectochilus burmannicus</i>	Jane Wright
NOVICE			
15	Australian Native	<i>Dendrobium</i> Aussie Parade 'Carrot Splash' x Star Imp 'Lovely Lady'	Nick Westerink
17	Laeliinae	<i>Cattleya Florence Lin</i> 'SVO'	Richard Mayoh
	OPEN Orchid of the Night	<i>Maxillaria kautskyi</i>	Andrea Robold
	NOVICE Orchid of the Night	<i>Dendrobium</i> Aussie Parade 'Carrot Splash' x Star Imp 'Lovely Lady'	Nick Westerink
	Judges' Choice - Species	<i>Maxillaria kautskyi</i>	Andrea Robold
	Judges' Choice - Hybrid	<i>Rhycolaeliocattleya</i> Shinfong Unique 'Water'	Rob Rough
	Judges' Choice - Specimen	<i>Diplodium repandum</i>	Karen and Zoe Groeneveld



Judges Choice – Specimen: *Diplodium repandum* grown by Karen and Zoe Groeneveld



Novice Orchid of the Night: *Dendrobium* Aussie Parade 'Carrot Splash' x Star Imp 'Lovely Lady' grown by Nick Westerink

Conservation Group Report by Derek Corrigan

With Winter now upon us and snow falling in Namadgi, group activities have been more limited, with some members involving themselves with smaller scale unofficial visits to areas of interest while there are still autumn orchids to be found in flower. It is always interesting at this time of year to find many of the spring flowering species already in leaf with sometimes early buds forming. So, it is about time to start discussing and planning our spring activities. We are also collecting photos for future identification purpose. The early leaf stages of some species and in particular the different leaves of those often difficult to identify, *Thelymitra* species.



Acianthus collinus

I have recently been in consultation with the ACT Environment Department regarding how best to protect location data within ACT orchid records and how to protect from grazing some species recorded during our survey work at Gorooyarroo Sanctuary.

We have submitted an application for a grant from The ACT Government Environment Department and if successful we would conduct a baseline orchid survey of Bluetts Block – Piney Ridge area. This is a patch of remnant bush adjacent to Denman Prospect in the new Molonglo Urban development, and in part was a previous Soldier Settler block held by somebody named Bluetts. It would appear Bluetts did little if any clearing and left the bush basically intact. This area currently contains an interesting diversity and density of orchids possibly in a combination not represented elsewhere in the Canberra Urban landscape. The Conservation Group has previously made a submission regarding a developer's application for a change of management to an adjacent area.



Acianthus exsertus

The long-term future for this area of remnant bush is not currently clear and is under pressure from development, with many interested people expressing concern it could be permanently lost. A petition to get Bluetts Block – Piney Ridge on the agenda for debate at the ACT legislative assembly is out and can be found and signed at: <http://epetitions.act.gov.au/CurrentEPetition.aspx?PetId> .



Thelymitra leaf

If you thought ensuring this area was preserved as a part of the Canberra Nature Park, you may wish to log into this site and sign this online petition, for which we would be pleased in receiving your support.



Caladenia leaf