



# VICTORIAN CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY Inc.

June 2006

No. 80



*Drosera pygmaea*



*Utricularia tenella*



*Drosera glanduligera*



*Utricularia aff. dichotoma*



*Utricularia aff. dichotoma*



*Cephalotus follicularis*



*Drosera peltata*



*Drosera auriculata*



## Annual Subscriptions

**Australian membership**      \$20.00  
**Overseas membership**      \$20.00

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## Correspondence

Please forward all correspondence regarding subscription, change of address, articles for the journal and back issues to:

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**P.O. Box 201**  
**SOUTH YARRA 3141.**  
**AUSTRALIA**

Journal articles, in MS-Word, ready for publication, may be Emailed to the Editor or Secretary.

## Meetings

Most VCPS meetings are held in the hall at the rear of the Pilgrim Uniting Church on the corner of Bayview Road and Montague Street, Yarraville – Melway map reference 41K7. These meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 8 PM.

However, some meetings may be at the home of members during a weekend. Details of meeting dates and topics are listed in each journal.

If unsure of the location or date of any meeting, please ring a committee person for details.

The VCPS Annual General Meeting, usually held at Yarraville in June, provides substantial benefits for each and every member able to attend.

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## Issue No. 80

**June 2006**

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***Utricularia dichotoma* with a triple flower head.**

Photo: Sean Spence

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## FRONT COVER:

*D. auriculata* found growing in tufts of moss on Mt. William at the Grampians N.P. Photo: George Caspar.

## BACK COVER:

### Clockwise from top left:

■ *Drosera pygmaea*, Red Rock Rd, Grampians N.P. Photo: Sean Spence.

■ *Utricularia tenella*, Glenelg River Rd, Grampians N.P. Photo: Sean Spence.

■ *Drosera glanduligera*, Glenelg River Rd, Grampians N.P. Photo: Sean Spence.

■ *Utricularia aff. dichotoma*, Mt. William, Grampians N.P. Photo: Sean Spence.

■ *Drosera peltata*, Wonderland Range, Grampians N.P. Photo: Sean Spence.

■ *Cephalotus follicularis*. Photo: David Banks.

■ *Utricularia aff. dichotoma* colony, Mt. William, Grampians N.P. Photo: Stephen Fretwell.

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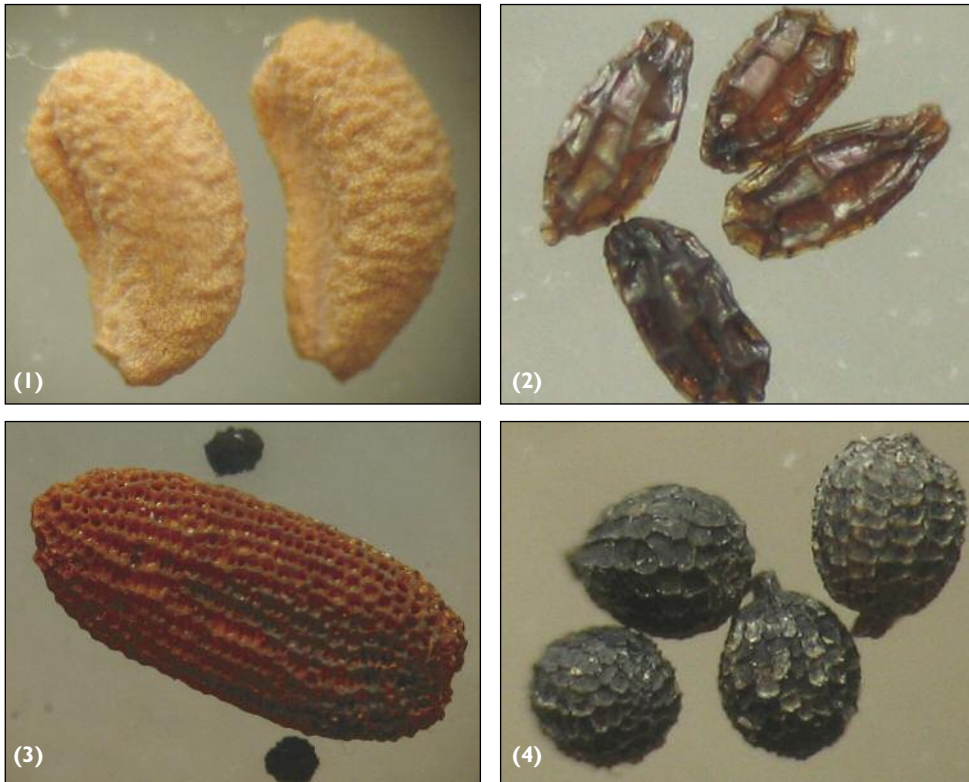
## MEETING TOPICS & DATES for 2006

### VICTORIAN CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

This year we have scheduled the following discussion topics, and events:

<b>January</b>	<b>(14th)</b>	New Year BBQ, <i>Darlingtonia</i> , <i>Dionaea</i> .
<b>February</b>	<b>(22nd)</b>	<i>Sarracenia</i> species and hybrids, beginners night.
<b>March</b>	<b>(22nd)</b>	<i>Nepenthes</i> and <i>Heliamphora</i> .
<b>April</b>	<b>(26th)</b>	<i>Drosera</i> , video and information night.
<b>May</b>	<b>(24th)</b>	Growing conditions, pygmy <i>Drosera</i> gemmae collection, 'best' and 'worst' plants.
<b>June</b>	<b>(28th)</b>	AGM, plant give-away, any CPs.
<b>July</b>	<b>(26th)</b>	Seed growing, tissue culture and potting demonstration, any CPs.
<b>August</b>	<b>(23rd)</b>	Tuberous/Winter growing <i>Drosera</i> , show preparation, displays, and companion planting.
<b>September</b>	<b>(27th)</b>	<i>Cephalotus</i> , <i>Brocchinia</i> , <i>Catopsis</i> and swap night.
<b>October</b>	<b>(29th)</b>	Field trip to Triffid Park (Sunday afternoon, commencing with barbecue lunch) <i>Pinguicula</i> and pygmy <i>Drosera</i> .
<b>November</b>	<b>(22nd)</b>	<i>Byblis</i> , <i>Drosophyllum</i> , <i>Genlisea</i> , <i>Roridula</i> , <i>Utricularia</i> .
<b>December</b>	<b>(TBA)</b>	Annual show at Collectors Corner.

**Please note:** All meetings, other than those where a specific venue is given, will be on the **FOURTH WEDNESDAY** of the month in the hall of the **Pilgrim Uniting Church** in Yarraville – corner Bayview Road and Montague Street, Melway Map Reference 41K7.



Photographs taken under a microscope of seeds from different genera. (1) *Sarracenia psittacina*, (2) *Utricularia beaugleholei*, (3) *Roridula dentata* and (4) *Drosera callistos*. Photos: George Caspar

# Seed structure

GEORGE CASPAR

Seed structure is a helpful tool in identifying which species of plant you are growing. This is particularly true with *Drosera*. Although many species are closely related, a number of the more common species that contaminate pots in collections have distinct seed structures.

I first became interested in seed structure when I was beginning to expand my *Drosera* collection. I found that a number

of seeds sown as a particular species matured into a different plant. At the same time I noticed a great deal of variation in the appearance of the seed I was sowing. I had a look on the internet to investigate the seed of different species only to find that there were virtually no references for seed appearance. This motivated me to begin creating such a resource, mainly for my own use.

I use a standard dissecting microscope to view seed and then use my digital

camera to take pictures through the eyepiece. This method is unsophisticated but works quite adequately.

Observations made have shown that different groups of *Drosera* have characteristic seed structures. A close look at the seed you are about to sow could save you many hours trying to work out why your plant doesn't look like it should, and what it actually is.

The most commonly mislabelled plant in collections would have to be *Drosera spatulata* (see fig. 1a). Various forms of this plant are being circulated under a wide variety of names. This can occur due to a number of factors such as when a stray *D. spatulata* seed lands in another pot. If the intended species fails to germinate the *D. spatulata* generally will. The seed from the mature *D. spatulata* is then passed on as the species that was supposed to be in the pot, usually due to the ignorance of the grower. Unfortunately *Drosera spatulata* seed is very similar to a number of other species, however close examination of the seed will allow you to rule out a large number of these species.

Adding to the confusion is the situation where plants are simply mis-identified. A reason for this is that there are many species that have very similar appearances that can easily be confused. A good example are the species *Drosera burkeana* and *D. capillaris*. *D. burkeana* is from Africa whereas *D. capillaris* is from the Americas. Both plants look very similar. A quick look at the structure of the seed shows that these species are quite distinct (see fig. 1b & c) and easily identifiable when seed is examined.

The study of seed raises a number of questions. I have received *Drosera madagascariensis* seed from two different and distinct populations. The seed were very different (see fig. 2), which could indicate there are

Fig. 1

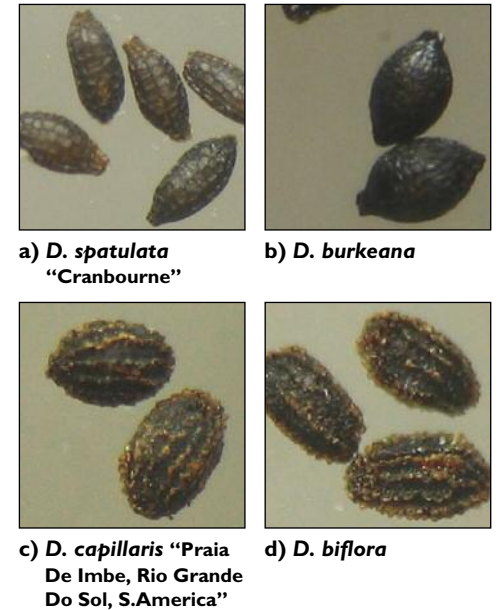


Fig. 2



*D. sp. madagascar* and *D. madagascariensis* in fact two taxa being considered. This cannot be substantiated though, as they have not been studied on a taxonomic level. It should be noted that the structure of seed is merely one consideration in separating one species from another. Other factors such as the phenotype and DNA sequence of a particular plant can be of equal importance.

The difference in seed appearance is prominent in the Northern hemisphere temperate *Drosera* species; *D. rotundifolia*, *intermedia*, *capillaris*, *anglica*, *linearis* and *filiformis*. All have distinct seed, in fact the



Fig. 3



*D. rotundifolia*



*D. intermedia*



*D. anglica*



*D. capillaris*, Charlotte County, Florida



*D. linearis*



*D. filiformis*  
*ssp. filiformis*

Fig. 4



Two forms of *D. indica*.



only seed that can be confused is that of *D. linearis* and *D. intermedia*. Fortunately these are very different plants which can be easily distinguished when in active growth.

*Drosera rotundifolia* has filiform seeds. *Drosera intermedia* seeds are covered in a mass of fine raised bumps. *Drosera capillaris* has longitudinal ridges. *Drosera anglica* has larger, black, erratically shaped seed. *Drosera filiformis* has barrel shaped seeds that are covered with bumps. *Drosera linearis* seed is similar in shape to *D. filiformis* but the seeds have a much finer seed coat. (see fig. 3)

Seed is not always a foolproof method of identification. When we again consider *Drosera capillaris* and other closely related species we will notice that a number of these species have seed that is very similar. I grow *Drosera capillaris* and *D. biflora* (see fig. 1c & d). Although these plants look slightly different, the seed is almost indistinguishable. The same problem exists with *Drosera sessilifolia* and *burmannii* which are very closely related even though they are from different continents. Even some pygmy *Drosera* that have entirely different looking plants, for example *Drosera pygmaea* and *D. pulchella*, have seed that are very similar.

The opposite can also occur where there can be huge variation within one species. Different forms of *D. indica* can have very distinct seeds. (see fig. 4)

The end result of gaining a familiarity with the structure of seed from different species is the ability to know what to expect from your seed. Have you got the rare plant you expect or simply another packet of *Drosera spatulata* seed? This is not the holy grail of plant identification, but seed can be as distinct as the plants themselves, thus are a valuable tool, especially when it comes to saving time and pots.



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*Cephalotus follicularis* thriving eight months on.

Photos: David Banks

# Searching for *Cephalotus*

DAVID BANKS

It's great to finally be able to restart my CP collection! I started as a kid, about 20 years ago, when I stumbled on some really strange looking plants in the garden store of our local shopping centre. The guy who owned that store had a great range too, all the *Sarracenia* species, and as a bonus sundews grew in every pot, he even had cobras. It was here that I also bought my first books on the subject, one of them was Gordon Cheers' book called "Carnivorous Plants of the World". In that book I read about his various field trips around the world looking at CP's in their natural habitat. My favorite was the trip to discover *Cephalotus follicularis* in WA, mainly

because it was here in Australia. I planned to one day make the trip myself.

I rediscovered my passion for CP's on a relatively mild summer's day during a visit to my local Bunning's store. There, tucked away in the section for indoor plants, was a display of what looked like a brand new shipment of various CP's. I was instantly hooked. I found a really nice example of *Sarracenia minor*, an *S. rubra* hybrid, *S. purpurea* with the biggest traps I had ever seen with what remained of a flower, along with the required pot of VFT's. My new collection was born!

But that wasn't enough! I bought more books, joined the VCPS, and re-read those books I already had. It was then I remembered my desire to follow

Gordon's footsteps and visit *Cephalotus* in the wild. I rang a friend who also found CP's to be fascinating and asked him if he wanted to join me on my trip to Albany, it would be a 5 hour drive before we would get anywhere close to seeing *Cephalotus* in the wild. He agreed!

Our first stop was Walpole to have lunch and visit the information centre to ask if they might know of some likely spots we might find *Cephalotus*. Following one lead which, after much searching, ended in disappointment we headed back onto the highway to Albany and King River as described by Gordon. When we finally reached King River, we again asked directions from some of the locals. After much searching along the river, following the directions given, the only carnivorous plants we managed to find were a type of pygmy *Drosera* which grew in carpets along the edge of a clearing that looked like a sports oval.

As the day progressed I started to get less and less excited and more and more concerned that we would not find what we came to see. As a last ditch effort I decided we should try a bit closer to the coast. So heading east we passed a sign for a local nursery specialising in Australian natives. Thinking this may be our best chance to get good directions we decided to turn up the drive and head inside only to find no one about. Eventually we bumped into the owner who, much to our relief, in fact not only knew where we might find a few plants but actually agreed to show us exactly where they grew as he had them growing on his property.

We followed him through thick patches of grasses and paper bark trees that grew sparsely to about seven or eight feet tall. After stopping here and there to tell us about some of the local flora we reached a clearing. Right in the middle were a few small



A cluster of *Cephalotus* pitchers.

patches of *Cephalotus* growing in a sandy peaty soil. The largest plant had only 4 or 5 traps and some of the smaller plants looked as though they had sprouted from runners off the main rhizome and had one or two small green/burgundy tinged traps. I was satisfied that the trip hadn't been a complete bust but was still a little disappointed we had not found the large groups that Gordon had talked about, maybe next time.

Just by chance I asked the nursery owner if he had any *Cephalotus* for sale and to my delight he did, so after looking at my choices I ended the day buying a small pot of *Cephalotus* that looked the healthiest. My plant had only one mature trap but had no less than three traps emerging from the rhizome. It had also been potted up in the local soil and contained some of the local grasses which I have kept to help shade the plant during the summer.

Eight months on and my Ceph had grown so much that the pot was bulging at the sides. I was forced to cut the rim down to allow the top of the plant to grow and the runners to spread. Just recently I have repotted the plant into a mix of peat, long fibre sphagnum and perlite, leaving about half the original soil closer to the rhizome to reduce root disturbance.





*U. aff. dichotoma* found along the Wonderland Range track at the Grampians. Photo: Sean Spence

## VCPS fieldtrip 2005 – Grampians National Park

SEAN SPENCE

In November 5th-7th last year a group of 5 VCPS members travelled to the Grampians National Park for a 3 day fieldtrip. The main aim of the trip was to locate populations of the different forms of *Utricularia dichotoma* that inhabit the area as well as find areas in which *Drosera binata* grew. I had been to the area many times over the past 20 years and despite my efforts had never managed to locate a single plant of *D. binata*.

On the Friday morning, Steve, George and Peter met up at my house for the 2.5 hour drive in Georges' car. It was a miserable morning and dark clouds engulfed

the sky. We were hoping that the conditions would improve, but sadly this proved not to be the case. We were to meet Julian at Halls Gap before checking into our caravan park and then heading into the National Park in search of CPs.

During the trip to Halls Gap many colonies of *Drosera peltata* var. *foliosa* could be seen out the window growing in paddocks out in the open. The distinctive lime green colouration seemed to glow as we drove past. No time to stop though as we wanted to spend as much time as possible at the Grampians.

We arrived at Halls Gap early in the afternoon and met up with Julian at the caravan park. After unloading the cars

we dropped into the visitors centre to pick up some maps of the National Park. After a quick coffee we jumped back into the cars and headed south to Mt. William.

Mt. William is the tallest peak in western Victoria and is roughly 1000 meters high. Snow is not uncommon on the upper peaks of the Grampians during cold spells in winter. We didn't encounter any snow but it was very cold and wet. The mountain, and all others within the Grampians ranges are composed of granite and sandstone. The views and landscapes are spectacular, the flora and fauna is incredibly diverse. We first pulled over at a spot about halfway up the mountain.

From the car we had seen small colonies of a montane form of *Utricularia dichotoma* that grows in moss upon the granite rocks. The colonies were small and had not quite reached their peak. Each plant was around 10cms tall with a very pale purple flower. This form differs from the common typical form of *U. dichotoma* in that it is smaller in all its parts. The flower colour is much paler and it grows exclusively as an annual in nature. For the purposes of avoiding confusion in this article, I will refer to this form as *U. aff. dichotoma*. It only grows high up on the various ranges of the National Park, whereas the typical form grows exclusively in the lowland swampy areas.

Also found within this area were many plants of *Drosera pygmaea*, *D. whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans*, *D. peltata* var. *peltata* and *D. auriculata*. These species grew in the moss as well as a light coloured clay soil, all within 10 meters of the roadside.

We then headed further up the mountain and into the clouds where visibility was extremely low. Along the side of the road we began to notice increasingly larger colonies of *U. aff. dichotoma* growing in the drainage gutters and up onto the bitumen.



Steve photographing *U. aff. dichotoma* on the side of the road at Mt. William. Photo: Sean Spence

As we turned one corner the left hand side of the road literally glowed due to the profusion of the small purple flowers.

We jumped out of the car and could not believe how many plants were present in this stretch. For around 100 meters the plants were flowering on masse. Growing amongst the *Utricularia* were maroon coloured *D. auriculata* and colonies of the Grampians Triggerplant *Stylidium soboliferum*.

After taking countless photos, we headed back down the mountain and cut through to a different part of the National Park. We passed the Silverband Falls car park and decided to stop and have a look. The track down to the falls was around 500 meters and slowly undulated through tall *Eucalyptus* forest with a limited understorey consisting mainly of bracken fern (*Pteridium esculentum*). Large green specimens of *D. auriculata* were common but no other CPs could be found.

The falls themselves were bizarre. They were around 30 meters tall and dropped in a single thin cascade. The water dropped onto a pile of shale and disappeared directly under-



Pictured from left: The bizarre Silverband Falls, *D. auriculata* growing in heavy clay on Mt. William and *D. pygmaea* growing along the side of Lodge Road. Photos: Sean Spence

ground. There was no pool of water or stream leading from the base of the falls as you would normally expect. With no other CPs to be found we continued our search.

We headed for the Wonderland Range and a spot where I had seen colonies of *U. aff. dichotoma* growing over many years. We found the spot where the *Utricularia* grow on thick pads of moss with water trickling through. The flowers were not nearly as abundant as the Mt. William site, but plentiful none-the-less. Growing with these we also found many plants of the maroon *D. auriculata*, *D. whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans*, *D. peltata* and a small number of ageing *D. glanduligera* rosettes. This rocky area had recently been burnt and plants were very easy to locate. At this point it began to get dark so we headed back to Halls Gap to get some food, alcohol and settle in for the night.

Several games of cards and several bottles of beer and bourbon later we retired for the night (or should that be collapsed) – the local wildlife will never be the same again. At this point it is probably worthwhile mentioning that if you do plan on visiting Halls Gap, bring your own food, drinks and alcohol. The

prices are extreme and it was explained to us that most of the shops in the main street are owned by one person who deliberately overprices because he knows that travellers have no choice but to pay them.

The next morning we woke up to the sound of screeching corellas and headed straight for the Victoria Valley region. The Victoria Valley is an expanse of flat swampy land bordered by the Serra and Victoria Ranges. To get there we travelled back through the Wonderland Range to an obscure dirt road. After travelling down the road for a few kilometres we met a roadworks sign that declared that the road was closed. As we had received a substantial amount of rain over the past few days, I assumed that the reason was because one of the low creeks had burst its banks. We decided to move the sign aside and head down to take a look and backtrack if we could travel no further.

The dirt track was one that I had travelled many times before and winds around the mountain peaks as it gradually descends into the valley. Part way around the side of one of the mountains we realised why the

road was closed. Due to the heavy rain part of the road had broken away and slid down into the valley. We eased our way around the missing piece of road and continued on-hoping that conditions would improve- how wrong we were!

As we reached the base of the range the road turned incredibly boggy. Both cars struggled to maintain a steady course as they slid all over the place. Georges' car struggled in 4 x 4 mode and Julians' new, sporty hatch barely made it through at all. Luckily though, we eventually made it to our first stop of the morning – Flat Rock Crossing.

Flat Rock crossing is an area located at the base of the ranges where the terrain flattens out. A wide, shallow creek flows across, not surprisingly – a flat rock, which is bordered by dense mats of live sphagnum. We were hoping to find *D. binata* amongst the moss and *Gleichenia* fern as the area appeared to be a suitable habitat. After a period of time searching we realised that *D. binata* was not in this area, only many large specimens of *D. auriculata* and *D. whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans*.

The loamy soils around the creek proved to be an ideal substrate for various small native terrestrial orchid species which were flowering. These orchids included species such as the Nodding Greenhood



*U. dichotoma* (left) and *U. lateriflora* found growing on the side of Lodge Road.

Photos: Sean Spence

(*Pterostylis nutans*), Tall Greenhood (*P. melogramma*), Dwarf Greenhood (*P. nana*), Gnat Orchid (*Cyrtostylis reniformis*) and Bronze *Caladenia* (*Caladenia iridescens*).

As we were about to leave the rain set in, so we quickly bundled ourselves into the cars and headed off. Our route was along Red Rock Road which verges into Lodge Road and is the known habitat of many CP species including immense colonies of *D. pygmaea*, *U. tenella* and *D. glanduligera* as well as strange variants of *D. peltata*. Other species such as the typical lowland form of *U. dichotoma* as well as *U. lateriflora* and *D. auriculata* are also present.

The first section – Red Rock Road is appropriately named due to its composition of red lateritic stones. Along this road,

## Carnivorous Plants

Allen Lowrie

***Drosera*, tuberous *Drosera*, tropical perennial *Drosera*, pygmy *Drosera*, *Cephalotus*, *Utricularia*, CP seed, Orchids and Trigger plants.**

\*Tuberous *Drosera* sold when dormant Nov-late March.

\*Pygmy *Drosera* sold as gemmae (vegetative buds) over 3 months. May-June.

**Allen Lowrie, 6 Glenn Place Duncraig, 6023. Western Australia**

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An ephemeral swamp (left) home to a multitude of CP's and *Drosera peltata* var. *foliosa* that we found growing on the edge of this swamp. Photos: Sean Spence

which travels through open areas of river red gum woodland interspersed with ephemeral swamps, many CPs can easily be found on the road verges.

At a site where a deep stream had cut through the soft loamy soil, we stopped for another look for *D. binata*. While we could not locate any *D. binata*, we did manage to find a very robust form of *D. peltata* growing beside the road. This form was tall – over 40cms high and was setting seed. Most other forms of *D. peltata* in the area are quite small and rarely exceed 15-20cms in height. *Drosera auriculata* grew close by.

We stopped at several other places along Red Rock Road, at ephemeral swamps and managed to find *Drosera peltata* var. *foliosa* and colonies of *D. pygmaea*. These areas are known to contain large populations of *D. glanduligera* and *U. tenella* but due to the dry spring, the areas had dried out and these species had finished their growth period.

In a straight stretch where the environment opened up, became sandier and the red gums disappeared we stopped at another stream. Once again, we couldn't find any sign of *D. binata* but we did manage to find huge colonies *D. pygmaea* lining the

sides of the road. The plants were large for the species – over 2cms across and were at their peak. Had it been a sunny day the plants would have created a fantastic massed display with their tiny white flowers.

Our next location was to be the point at which Red Rock Road veers off and becomes Lodge Road. At this point the road crosses a manmade drainage ditch which is bounded by a shallow, wide swampy area which runs through dense heathland. Along the side of Lodge Road a small depression runs along the slight downhill slope, very much like a gutter. Within the depression, colonies of the typical *U. dichotoma* were found. The flowers of these plants are a deep purple and are borne upon sturdy stems over 20 cms tall. The best plants were growing submerged beneath around 5cms of water.

After stepping over the depression and heading into the low heathy swamp we began searching for any signs of *U. tenella* which had been seen growing in the area previously. *U. dichotoma* was common throughout the area, as were small plants of *D. peltata* and *pygmaea*. Eventually we found an open area where an extensive colony of *U. tenella* was located. Very few flowers

were open and it was obvious that the plants were well past their prime. After a few photos we headed back to Lodge Road.

As we were heading back to the car the rain increased in intensity. Looking down at the colonies of submerged *U. dichotoma* as we passed, we also noticed that there were other small purple flowers hidden amongst the heathland herbs. *U. lateriflora* was also flowering and many plants were found when we focussed closer at the substrate. These plants were around 5cms tall and each had 2-3 flowers about 8mm across. It was difficult to take photos of these as the rain was pelting down and the lighting was very poor. We then jogged back to the cars to escape the remainder of the downpour.

The next half an hour was spent driving through low heath and swampland until we hit the bitumen of the Henty Highway which runs the length of the western side of the Grampians. Several kilometres along lies a vast expanse of low shallow swampland which the highway cuts directly through. In the shallow water enormous colonies of the typical *U. dichotoma* form are known to occur amongst the reeds.

We had expected to find these large colonies but instead were disappointed to discover that the water in the swamps had all but dried out and the *Utricularia* were very scarce. White flowered forms of the species are also known to be common growing here and it was unfortunate that we were not able to find any. At this time, the rain began to bucket down again so we jumped back into the cars and headed south.

We gradually worked our way to the bottom of the ranges then headed back up through the Victoria valley until we found the Mirranatwa Gap turnoff. This road takes you over one of the main ranges and provides



*Drosera whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans* growing an adventitious stolon. Photo: Steve Fretwell

spectacular views – when it is not pouring with rain and enshrouded with mist. We pulled over on the side of one of the mountain cuttings to stretch our legs and relieve ourselves and found *Drosera auriculata* and *Drosera whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans* to be plentiful. Also present were a number of orchid species including a superbly coloured example of the Bronze *Caladenia* (*Caladenia iridescens*), Beard orchid (*Calochilus robertsonii*), Tall Greenhood (*Pterostylis melogramma*) and Sun orchids (*Thelymitra* spp.)

After admiring what we could see of the view we headed back towards Halls Gap. On the way we noticed the Mt. William turn-off so decided to pay another visit to the roadside colonies of *U. aff. dichotoma*. The previous visit had been a little dark so we hoped the sun would appear and give us a better opportunity for photos. Unfortunately, as we arrived at the area, the rain became even heavier than it had previously. We attempted another few photos then headed back to Halls Gap for dinner and a much quieter night than the previous one.

We awoke the next day to discover that the weather had finally improved. We stepped outside to be greeted by sunshine



**Pictured from left: Glistening *D. auriculata* growing on granite outcrops found along Reids Lookout**  
 Photo: Sean Spence. **A large flowering colony of *U. aff. dichotoma* growing on Mt. William and a small bird Orchid, *Chiloglottis valida* found alongside the track at Reids Lookout.** Photos: Steve Fretwell

and blue skies for the first time in the trip. We thought that we would take advantage of the sunlight and head straight back to Mt. William for the final time. We again stopped at the *Utricularia* and took plenty of shots in the bright sunshine before heading for the summit of the mountain.

The road to the summit ends in a car park that is a few kilometres short of the peak. The final couple of kilometres are a sealed road and can only be traversed by foot. The incline is incredibly steep and after a short while lethargy set in. It wasn't the most enjoyable of walks, actually it was extremely exhausting. At one stage I feared that Julian was going to collapse and roll down the mountain – I wouldn't have been far behind!

The side of the road was bordered by granite rocks upon which thousands of plants of *D. auriculata* grew. These were the smaller growing maroon coloured plants and they often grew in tufts of many plants. *Drosera whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans* was also found sporadically, as were the mountain form of *U. aff. dichotoma*.

As we approached the summit we

noticed large mats of *U. aff. dichotoma* leaves growing submerged in run-off ditches in heavy shade. None of these plants had flowers but the leaves were very robust compared to those growing on the rocks and in other areas. We eventually did find a few flowers and these were slightly larger and a deeper purple than the other pale flowers. This form appeared to be a later flowering variant that had become more robust to cope with the cooler sub-alpine conditions of the mountain.

Another plant of interest was another orchid, the Mountain *Caladenia* (*Caladenia lyallii*) which was growing in moss on the rocks. After reaching the summit and a quick look, we headed back down to the cars and then off to our penultimate location.

The walk through the Wonderland Range is probably the most popular of all walks in the Grampians as well as the most scenic and spectacular. Luckily, it is also home to several species of CPs. Nothing different to anything we had already seen, but the walk alone makes the visit to this spot worth the effort.

The walk is around 5kms in length and

passes through a range of different ecosystems from deep granite gullies, open granitic areas of low shrubs with dense moss patches to cypress pine woodlands. Along the path we saw many plants of *D. auriculata*, *peltata* var. *peltata*, *whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans* and *U. aff. dichotoma*. After spending a couple of hours in the area we headed back to visit our final location for the weekend.

The final stop was at Reids Lookout, another very popular tourist location. The walk from the car park is along a well sealed path. Alongside the track in moss patches formed in concrete gutters were some great colonies of the montane *U. aff. dichotoma*. On a flattened area of granite the sun shone through large populations of *D. auriculata* and *D. peltata* var. *peltata*. Near the lookout, *Drosera whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans* grew in large concentrations under dense vegetation. These were probably the healthiest specimens we had seen during the trip. After a

rest at the lookout – also known as the Balconies, we headed back to the cars and took off for home.

We didn't manage to find *Drosera binata* or other species known to occur in the area such as *D. spatulata*, *D. macrantha* ssp. *planchonii* and *Utricularia beaugleholei* but we did manage to locate a total of 13 distinct species or forms of CP including a range of *U. dichotoma* variants. Whilst the weather was deplorable, the trip itself was fantastic and well worth the time and effort. Another trip will be planned in the future to track down those species which proved to be elusive on this occasion.

**Species or forms of CP seen on the trip:**  
*D. peltata* var. *peltata*, *D. peltata* var. *foliosa*, *D. peltata* var. tall form, *D. auriculata* "tall typical form", *D. auriculata* "small montane maroon form", *D. pygmaea*, *D. glanduligera*, *D. whittakerii* ssp. *aberrans*, *U. lateriflora*, *U. tenella*, *U. dichotoma*, *U. aff. dichotoma*, *U. aff. dichotoma* robust form.

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You are most welcome to visit Triffid Park, but please organize this with us first,  
as sales and inspection are by appointment ONLY.

## NEWS

**Triffid Park's annual open day is on again.**

**Don't miss this fantastic day**

**DATE:** Sunday 29th October 2006 (Colin's 65th birthday)

**TIME:** 12pm – 5pm

**PLACE:** Triffid Park, 257 Perry Road, Keysborough, Vic

**Days Proceedings:** Wander through our growing houses, admire our vast range of  
wonderful plants with the opportunity to purchase while you are here.  
Chat with other members of the Victorian Carnivorous Plant Society.

Bring your lunch and enjoy it in our undercover pool area.

Our BBQ will be hot if you want to cook on it.

**V.C.P.S. General meeting held at 3pm in pool area.**

**Special event: 2.30pm – learn how to take *Nepenthes* cuttings.**

**Everyone receives a free plant.**

**GIFT VOUCHERS** are now available. With Christmas fast approaching,  
tell your friends and family, that they can purchase you a gift voucher to Triffid Park  
for use on plants, books or anything else in our large range that we sell.

**WANTED:** *Cephalotus follicularis* Teratological (abnormal) leaves  
These are a throw back to their early evolution when they did not look like today's plants.  
They can often still be found on *Cephalotus* today, we just haven't looked for them.

## SEEDBANK LIST June 2006

### VICTORIAN CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

*Cephalotus follicularis*

*Darlingtonia californica*

*Dionaea muscipula*

*Drosera*

• *admirabilis* - Ceres, RSA.

• *admirabilis* - Palmiet River, RSA.

• *aliciae*

• *andersoniana*

• *arcturi* - Lake Mountain, Vic.

• *arcturi* - Falls Creek, Vic.

• *auriculata*

• *auriculata* - Langwarrin, Vic.

• *auriculata* - Waterworks, Hobart, Tas.

• *auriculata* - Yarra Glen, Vic.

• *biflora*

• *binata*

• *binata* - Langwarrin, Vic.

• *binata* var. *dichotoma* (small form)

• *binata* var. *multifida*

• *binata* var. *multifida*, (cross of 2 clones)

• *burmanii*

• *burmanii* - (green form)

• *callistos*

• *capensis*

• *capensis* - 'Albino' (alba)

• *capensis* - (broad leaf, pink flower)

• *capensis* - (narrow leaf)

• *capensis* - (mini red)

• *capensis* - (pink flowers)

• *capensis* - (small red)

• *capensis* - (typical)

• *capensis* - (thick)

• *capillaris*

• *collinsiae*

• *coccicaulis* (=venusta)

• *dielsiana*

• *dielsiana* - (large green)

• *dielsiana* - (robust form)

• *ericksoniae*

• *filiformis* ssp. *filiformis*

• *intermedia*

• *leucoblasta*

• *macrantha* ssp. *planchonii* - Anglesea, Vic.

• *macrantha* ssp. *planchonii* - Langwarrin, Vic.

• *macrantha* ssp. *macrantha* - (white flower)

• *macrophylla* ssp. *macrophylla* - Wongan Hills. W.A.

• *natalensis*

• *nidiformis*

• *nidiformis* - (red form)

• *nitidula* ssp. *omissa*

• *peltata* - Riddles Creek, Vic.

• *peltata* - Anglesea, Vic. (pink flower)

• *peltata* var. *foliosa*

• *peltata* var. *foliosa* - Fountain Gate, Vic.

• *peltata* var. *foliosa* - Jamieson, Vic.

• *pulchella* - (pink flower)

• *pygmaea* - Lysterfield, Vic.

• *pygmaea* - Tamboon Inlet, Vic.

• *pygmaea* - New Zealand (green form)

• *ramellosa* - Cape Arid, W.A.

• *rotundifolia* var. *furcata*

• *rotundifolia* - LakeWohink, Oregon.

• *rotundifolia* - Zary, Poland.

• *spatulata* - Cranbourne, Vic.

• *spatulata* - Beenak, Vic.

• sp. *Vim da Serra de Roraima*

• sp. aff. *peltata* (*foliosa*?) - Jamieson, Vic.

• *stolonifera* ssp. *rupicola*

• *stolonifera* ssp. *porrecta*

• *stolonifera* ssp. *stolonifera*

*Drosophyllum lusitanicum*

*Genlisea*

• *hispidula* - Transvaal, RSA (purple flowers)

*Sarracenia*

• *alata*

• *alata* x *leucophylla*

• *flava*

• *flava* var. *flava* - mixed clones

• *oreophila*

• *rubra*

• *purpurea* ssp. *venosa*

*Utricularia*

• *bisquamata*

• *dichotoma* - Langwarrin, Vic.

• *dichotoma* - Enfield, Vic.

• *dichotoma* - Jamieson, Vic.

• *lateriflora*

• *lateriflora* - (small dark form)

• *lateriflora* - Anglesea, Vic.

• *lateriflora* - Cranbourne, Vic.

• *lateriflora* - Creepy Crawley Walk, Tas.

• *tenella* - Langwarrin, Vic.

**All seeds cost \$1.00 per packet**

**Please add \$2.00 for postage and packing.**

**Order seeds from Ron Abernethy, VCPS seedbank administrator.**

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