



Invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting of



The Australian Orchid Foundation

**to hear the guest speaker
Dr Heidi Zimmer**



Heidi grew up in East Gippsland, Victoria and, inspired by her love for the outdoors, undertook a Bachelor Environmental Science at Monash University. She started her research working on native grasslands in western Victoria and completed a Master of Forest Ecosystem Science, including a dendrochronological (tree-ring) study of the high-elevation forests of Papua New Guinea. She returned to full-time study for her PhD at the University of Melbourne, her thesis the ecology of the Wollemi Pine. She then spent a year working with the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences in Hanoi before joining the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage to work on threatened species. Heidi is now based at the Australian National Herbarium, where her research focuses on orchid taxonomy and conservation. She has been the recipient of several AOF grants including working with Ian Hutton on the orchids of Lord Howe Island

Her topic: Orchid taxonomy in practice

The talk will cover a potted history of orchid taxonomy, from Linnaeus to Darwin, from morphology to molecules, including a gentle introduction including modern methods using DNA. We will dig into cases of orchid taxonomy in action, investigating name changes, splitting and lumping.

Venue: City of Whitehorse Horticultural Centre

82 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill Vic. 3131

Date: Saturday, 18th October 2025

Time: 2 pm for AGM followed by Heidi's presentation.

Attendance at this meeting will also be possible by Google Meet link.

Afternoon tea provided Plant sales and book sales

PLEASE EMAIL:

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FOR THE LINK TO THE MEETING