



Terrestrial & Epiphytic Orchids

# 11th FJC Rogers Seminar

Newsletter Issue No 4 - May 2016

Email: [fjcrogers2016@gmail.com](mailto:fjcrogers2016@gmail.com)

[apswarrnambool.org.au](http://apswarrnambool.org.au)

**Hamilton**

**Saturday October  
8th**

**Sunday October  
9th 2016**

**One Month Till  
Registrations Start**

**On Wednesday**

**June 1st 2016.**

**Full Program is on  
Our Web Site**

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and Easy On-line  
Registration System**

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[apswarrnambool.org.au](http://apswarrnambool.org.au)**

**From June 1st.**

## Rudie Kuitert - Co-Presenter

### 'Research Into Pollination Of Terrestrial Orchids'

Rudie Kuitert was born in Holland, and moved to Australia in 1964. His interest in fish began at the age of five, when his father provided him with a tiny pond for native fish he was catching. He became a keen aquarist and fisherman until he came to Australia, where he took up diving and photography.

He worked as an electronic engineer, and studied marine fish in the Sydney area as a hobby for fifteen years until he moved to Melbourne, where he extended his interest to the south-coast species. He became an associate with the Australian Museum and began working with ichthyologists in various institutes, publishing papers on taxonomy and biology of fish. At the same time he developed his own fish photography techniques. These photographs were used as popular articles in both magazines and scientific publications. The hobby turned into a profession in 1978.

He is the author of numerous publications (too many to mention including several of the current books on fish of southern Australian waters. A number of his excellent photographs have been used on the Australian Museum website. Recently he has been documenting the taxonomy of Victorian native orchids which led to the series of publications on 'Orchid Pollinators of Victoria'.

#### Orchid books by Rudie Kuitert

Orchids of Western Port and surrounds.

Victoria's Spider orchids.

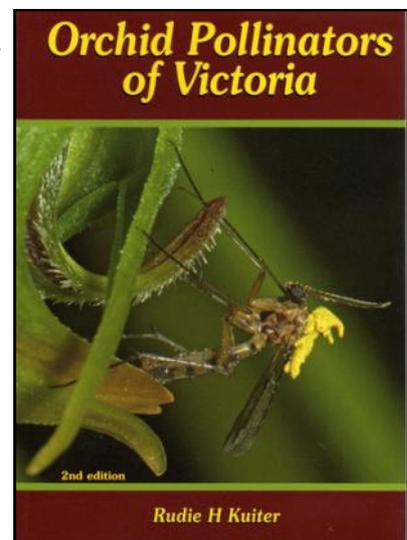
Victoria's Greenhoods and Rusty-hoods.

Victoria's Small Caladenias.

Victoria's Orchids. Quick guide.

Victoria's Cryptic Orchids.

Orchid Pollinators of Victoria. Editions 1,2,3(+ supplement), and if ready in time, Edition 4 will be released at the seminar.





## Newsletter Issue No 4 - Page 2

### Mitch Smith - Co-Presenter



#### **‘Research Into Pollination of Terrestrial Orchids’**

I have always been interested in nature for as long as I could crawl and spending time in PNG when I was very young sparked a fascination in all creatures weird and wonderful.

I have been interested in the local orchids since I was in my early teens growing up on the Sth Coast of NSW and when I moved to Victoria, I got interested in terrestrial orchids, and of course their pollinators.

Being a keen photographer, animal lover, and orchid enthusiast I could not refuse Rudie’s offer to conduct orchid pollinator research in more depth, as my observations were compounded by a lack of information on the subject. Since then I have spent large amounts of time observing and understanding, or at least trying to understand, these fascinating relationships. I have helped Rudie with field work and with some input on most of his orchid books (and a few fish publications) as well as being the main contributor (apart from the author) to the Pollinator book series.

I own and run (when I am actually there!!!) Woolenook Native Plant Nursery in Maffra after moving there about 10 years ago.

Working with local re-vegetation and restoration projects, I have accumulated knowledge and insights on many aspects of the environment. I am now spearheading, with the help of local enthusiasts and advice from Dick Thomson, a grassy woodland plains enhancement program for Gippsland, specialising in the reintroduction of rare orchids. DELWP is helping to fund and permit the initial start up operations, and are calling it the West Gippsland Threatened Orchid Program (but I’m not sure whether this name is official). I also, occasionally, am asked to advise current land managers on environmental matters, mostly to do with orchids and grassland management in our local area.

I have no formal training and am a self professed ecologist/ environmentalist who's interest is to preserve our diminishing biodiversity. Our work on pollinators has all been self taught, through first hand observations and believe it to be the most comprehensive study of Victoria’s orchid pollinators to date, with approx 150 species of orchids and their pollinators described.

I have been a member of APS for nearly 10 years and am currently an active member at APSEG. Photo Rudie (left) Mitch (right) by: Bob Lindhe

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## Newsletter Issue No 3 - Page 3

### Noushka Reiter - Presenter

#### 'Propagation: Through to Pollinators and Planting'



Noushka is a research botanist managing RBGV's newly established Orchid Conservation laboratory which has an exciting capacity for large-scale conservation projects. She works closely with community groups in both the Orchid Conservation laboratory and in the field to achieve tangible positive outcomes for threatened orchids. Noshka has a particular interest in threatened flora ecology, mycorrhizal associations and re-introductions. Her research has involved over 30 re-introductions of threatened flora and focuses on the conservation of threatened orchids. Together with various government, industry and tertiary institutions, Noshka is currently involved in a range of conservation projects including the ecology, propagation and re-introduction of over 20 federally threatened orchids.

### Helen Richards - Presenter

I have been growing Australian native terrestrial orchids for over 40 years, after joining the Australasian Native Orchid Society Victorian Group Inc. Few people were growing terrestrials at that time and I, with others, have spent the next 40 years learning as much as we can about their special requirements and at every opportunity assisting others to learn. My aim is to cultivate and propagate them to aid their conservation and to share them with others. I am an amateur 'backyard grower', but my professional qualification is as a pharmacist so I approach the subject in a logical, scientific way, always asking 'why?'



I am a life member of ANOS Vic Group Inc, Chairman of Directors of the Australian Orchid Foundation and have been honoured by my peers for my dedication to conservation by cultivation.

In my talk I shall present how I grow terrestrials in my shade-house at Yarra Glen, outlining their life cycle, various growing media, potting procedures, light and watering requirements, propagation, pests and anything else I think of to assist a beginner grower. I like to think of my talk as an A-Z of growing terrestrials.

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