

## THE RHODODENDRON NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY 2009

Published by the  
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*HAPPY NEW YEAR*

### **FEBRUARY**

#### **FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> General Meeting, Nunawading at 8.00pm**

**SPEAKER: DR. GREG MOORE-** 'Trees & Garden Management during Climate Change'. Dr Moore is the former Principal of Burnley Horticultural College, Member of Greening Australia, & Sustainable Gardening Aus. & on the National Trust 'Vic Register' Significant Trees Committee. He is an excellent knowledgeable and entertaining speaker. Friends are always welcome to all of our meetings.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> – Plant Collectors & Garden Expo at Ferny Creek Hort Soc. Hall at 100 Hilton Rd Sassafras Mel: 66 E 12.** The ARSV will have a display of vireyas & information about our activities. There will be over 20 wholesale nurseries and other related garden groups.

### **MARCH**

**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> , 10.30am Vireya Group.** We will meet at Michael and Mary Hare's garden at 8 Grandview Rd., Warrandyte. Ring Simon Begg to confirm 9751 1610 or Mike Hare 9755 2176.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup> Garden Living Expo'.at Tesselaars Tulip farm in Silvan.** The ARSV will have a stand selling vireyas. Volunteers are required to help on the Friday to set up and to man the stand Saturday and Sunday. Please ring Marcia Begg if you can help.9751 1610. Andrew Raper will be giving a talk in the marquee.

#### **FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> General Meeting Nunawading 8.00pm -**

**SPEAKER: JOHN ARNOTT, 'A Journey Through Three Great Gardens'** Former Director of both Geelong and Wilson Botanic Gardens, presently Director of Cranbourne Botanic Gardens. The ARSV supplied many rhododendrons to the Wilson Botanic Garden in its early stages.

### **APRIL –**

**MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> (Easter Monday): SOCIAL OUTING.** Keep this date free to have a picnic and visit a couple of wholesale nurseries. Information in the March issue.

**FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> General Meeting Nunawading.8.00pm SPEAKER:**

**SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> 2.00PM Vireya Group** at Simon Begg's 12 Mernda Rd Olinda. A combined meeting with the Ferny Creek Rhododendron Group.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

I hope all of you had a very good Christmas and New Year. Rainfall over November and December was very encouraging (300 mm in the Dandenongs) and gave visions of a possible end to the drought. Alas January rainfall has been almost zero and the hot weather is really starting to bite. Let's hope for more rain and cooler weather in the very near future.

The committee has been planning the syllabus for 2009. We are focussing on improving the interest level in the Friday evening talks and in so doing are looking beyond just Rhododendron related talks. We are also planning some excursions to worthwhile gardens and nurseries with hopefully the promise of acquiring plants at wholesale prices. Please make an effort to look at the topics and come to the talks and excursions. You might just find that you enjoy the experience. We are doing our best to provide interesting and entertaining speakers on worthwhile topics but it is not very encouraging for a speaker to turn up and find his audience is just a handful of people. If members put no effort into the society they get nothing out of it and the society will fade away.

In January we held the Lilium and Vireya show in conjunction with Ferny Creek. This is probably the first time since the split in 1959 that the two societies have done something together and it was an enormous success. I remember on the Wednesday evening being worried we would not have enough entries to fill the hall. By Thursday evening I was just as worried we would not have any space in the hall for entries still to come. We ended up with 211 lilium entries and 73 vireya entries plus 6 businesses selling plants and bulbs. On the day, the hall was full of flowers and colour and the perfume from all the lilies was divine. The show was open from 11 am to 4.30 pm and in that time we had about 500 people through the doors. It was a happy show with much friendship and good will in evidence and we received many very favourable comments from visitors.

A worthwhile profit was made to be shared between the two societies and the show is now planned to be repeated next year but run over two days instead of one. There is some work in setting up and running such a show but there is also great camaraderie, friendship and shared purpose not to mention the opportunity for artistic expression in designing the hall setup, floral arrangements and the like. Why not think about being part of it next year?

A lot more is also going on; from the Tuesday Olinda gardening group to planning for the 2010 Rhododendron conference, to persuading AQIS to allow us to import new Vireya and Asiatic rhododendron species seed as well as the usual propagating activities. Please be part of it all and see how much you have to gain.

Regards

**Michael Hammer**  
President ARSV

## THE SPECIES COLUMN

*cumberlandense* -Subsection Pentanthera. [Photo page ]

*Rhododendron cumberlandense* is one of the American deciduous azaleas and was formerly known as *bakeri*. Unfortunately, the original plant was found to be a natural hybrid and did not qualify as a species, so new plants were selected from the wild and re-named *cumberlandense*. This species is quite an attractive compact plant with bright red flowers which appear very late in the season (late December at Olinda)

### **Name:**

The name refers to the Cumberland mountains in West Virginia. (South East U.S.A)

### **Distribution:**

West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia, mostly along ridges and mountain tops above 900 metres. Also in forests at lower elevations.

### **Characteristics:**

This species forms a low twiggy shrub, usually below 1 metre high. The new growth appears in November, but the flower buds do not open until late December. I was able to take cuttings and photograph the flowers on the same day. *cumberlandense* can be identified by a dense covering of hairs on the outside of the flowers and also some sticky glands near the base. Small insects often become stuck on the glands.

Other species which could be confused with *cumberlandense* are:

*prunifolium*.—Also a late flowering red, but lacks the hairs on the corolla.

*calendulaceum*.—Flowers about a month earlier, usually orange flowers but sometimes red with a yellow blotch.

*periclymenoides*.—Earlier flowering pink. (November)

*prinophyllum*.—Also earlier, deep pink.

### **Hybrids:**

This species has been used in the development of the Knaphill and Exbury deciduous hybrids, particularly the late-flowering dark reds. “Royal Lodge” is said to resemble *prunifolium*.

### **Where to See These Plants:**

We found two plants labelled *bakeri* in the middle of the Maddenia Walk, which were identified as *cumberlandense*. They made an impressive show of bright red flowers about a week before Christmas, when there were few other species in flower.

**Alan Kept.**

## VIREYA SPECIES COLUMN

***R inconspicuum*** [photo page ]

Section VII Euvireya- Subsection iv: Malesia [according to classification proposed by Dr. George Argent *rhododendrons of Subgenus Vireya* RHS 2006]. This is a subsection of 53 species found from Vietnam to New Guinea and most places in between.

### Source and Name

The name derives from the Latin *inconspicuous* – inconspicuous. It was, according to Argent, named from a herbarium specimen prepared with formaldehyde and, thus, totally brown. Nevertheless the flowers are very small so the name has a point. It is widespread in both West New Guinea and Papua New Guinea from the Vogelkop Peninsula, Arfak Mountains in the west along the Main Range to Mt Dayman in the Milne Bay District in the east. It grows at from 1800-3400 m in mossy forest or forest openings, *Vaccinium* shrubbery and, commonly, on old landslides and gully edges in full sun. Argent's verdict is that the flowers are not at all showy and it is grown more for curiosity as a species than for its beauty. Why write this species up? As it so happens, as I write this, Dr Argent is on his way to West New Guinea to the Wissel lakes area near Enoratali West New Guinea [see maps on page 9] to collect vireya seed. This species is among 19 species he knows are to be found there. Of these species, 7, including *inconspicuum*, are listed on ICON's 'permitted list' so that their seed may be imported, 3 are not 'permitted' but are already in Australia and 9 are not known to be in Australia and are not 'permitted'. Coincidentally one of my plants of *inconspicuum* has just flowered for the first time.

### Description [taken, though not completely, from Argent]

An erect tree or shrub with a height of up to 5m occasionally 10m; internodes 1.5-4cm with leaves in loose pseudowhorls at their upper end or arranged spirally in their upper half. **Blade** 10-35 x 6-20 mm, elliptic, ovate elliptic or ovate; apex broadly tapering, obtuse or rounded, dark green above, much paler and often yellowish green or brownish beneath densely scaly initially on both sides, early glabrescent but densely marked with blackish minute pits above, more persistently and densely scaly beneath. **Petiole** 1-3 x 1.5-5mm, grooved above, densely scaly. **Flowers** 3-7 in an open umbel, half hanging to hanging; **Corolla** 11-16 mm shortly tubular, pink to red, densely covered with thick, sub-stellate, yellow scales outside glabrous inside.

Argent says this species is easily confused with *R yelliottii* (Section *Albovireya*) which is very similar in appearance. The distinction is in the leaf scales on the under surface of mature leaves. Though the under surface of leaves of *R inconspicuum* are densely scaly there are gaps between the scales. In the case of *R yelliottii* the scales are denser without the gaps. But the two species hybridise naturally which, Argent says, blurs the distinction! Also both species are found over a wide range in New Guinea.

### **Where to see these plants**

There is no shortage of small plants, a number of members have it. However, as yet, larger ones are scarce.

### **Propagation**

I find propagation easy

### **Verdict**

A collector's item.

**Simon Begg**

## **REPORT ON LILIUM AND VIREYA SHOW JANUARY 2009**

What a day!

Fantastic weather, beautiful flowers, sweet fragrance and happy people all conspired to make the FCHS and ARSV Lilium and Vireya show a success.

The concept of the show was conceived by Mike and Inge Hammer plus Marcia and Simon Begg. Marcia and Simon wanted to promote Vireyas and their interest was prompted by the demise of the ARSV annual Vireya show at Mt Waverley Community Hall. Mike and Inge wanted to promote liliums and their interest was prompted by the demise of Ron and Marina Moodycliffe's lilium and bulb group itself prompted by the demise of the Australian Lilium Society.

With the above in mind, FCHS rhododendron and camellia group leaders Norm Brown and Ian Wallace were approached . The concept was discussed, accepted and a date set. There was not much time to do all the required arranging. It was a trial event hence the one day opening, the very modest entry charge of \$2 and only afternoon teas being made available to the public.

We were all concerned as to whether the large hall at Ferny Creek could be filled. That was solved by approaching plant vendors 7 of whom accepted and supported our efforts. So the joint venture of the ARS and FCHS was born.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January, visitors to the show were assailed by the heady perfume and visual spectacle of nearly 300 liliums – 211 entries and other non competitive displays and floral arrangements. Tall to small liliums covered two of the large tiered benches. The vireyas similarly held their own with many huge vireya plants in full flower on the floor, hanging from the ceiling and on benches (mostly provided by Simon Begg with some from Bill Taylor and the ARS collection) while 73 competitive entries filled the centre bench and spilled over onto the rear tiered bench. Simon also provided some 30 pots of different vireya species.

Added to this were massed hostas, floral arrangements, hydrangea flowers and potted annuals. Clematis flowers mixed with daylily flowers filled two bird baths used as part of the display all adding to visual display. Otto Fauser contributed a huge pot of flowering Paris Polyphylla plus other material.

The season was late because of cool weather in December and early January so there were very few oriental liliiums in flower but this was made up for by masses of trumpets and we even had some species such as lankongense, superbum, pardalinum, auratum, longiflorum, davidii, regale and henryi. We also had many interspecific liliiums such as Leslie Woodriffe, Orania, Yelloween, Back Beauty and Silk Road just to mention a few.

The best liliium in show was won by Adrian Vankampen with a truly spectacular yellow edged red trumpet stem.

The vireyas were in many shades of pink, red, orange, white and cream and ranged in size from less than 1 cm to more than 8 cm for each floret. A very good cross section of foliage and type was available to the discerning observer such as the very small flowers of *pauciflorum* to the large creamy yellow flowers of “Gardenia Odyssey”. Species were well represented with *jasminiflorum*, *kawakamii*, *rarum*, *lochiae*, *viriosum* and *sessifolium* among many others.

The best vireya in show was won by Simon Begg with a large bush of “Littlest Angel” in full flower.

The vendors had a great selection of material to choose from. It included variegated pieris, amorphophallus Konjak, liliium Nepalense, potted trumpet liliiums in flower, cool store liliium bulbs, Zantedischias in a range of colours, small agapanthus, Uginiea maritimum, apriocot Brugmansia and much more.

ARSV was selling some of Andrew Raper’s vireyas which were walking out the door in a steady stream and FCHS was doing great business with their propagated plants. Cut flowers were also run off their feet with customers.

The atmosphere at the show was very happy and friendly and many complimentary comments were received and a profit was made for both societies. The event will be repeated next year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who helped so effectively both during the setup and on the day itself. Your assistance was invaluable and very greatly appreciated.

**Michael and Inge Hammer**

PS For archival purposes, we’d appreciate any digital images of the event.

The winners and runners up in each section were as follows

class	description	1st	2nd
1	Vireya species >4 cm	M&D Saunders	S Begg
2	Vireya specis < 4 cm	A Rouse	S Begg
3	Vireya hybrid > 4 cm	A Rouse	S Begg
4	Vireya hybrid < 4 cm	M&D Saunders	A Rouse
5	3 trusses of distinct species	S Begg	A Rouse
6	3 trusses of distinct hybrids	S Begg	A Rouse
7	Container of Vireya foliage	S Begg	S Begg
8	Potted plant of species Vireya	S Begg	S Begg
9	Potted plant of hybrid Vireya	S Begg	L Lucas
10	Single oriental liliun flower	I Hammer	J Faull
11	Single trumpet flower	G Hepworth	P Rumkopf
12	Single interspecific flower	J Rutherford	J Faull
13	Oriental stem	O Howard	P Rumkopf
14	Trumpet stem	A VanKampen	A VanKampen
15	Interspecific stem	A VanKampen	P Rumkopf
16	Pot of liliums	Aust Bulb Co	P Alsop
21a	Any other lilium stem	I Hammer	I Hammer
21b	Any other lilium flower	J Faull	J Faull

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Although the weather was cool thirty members and friends gathered at Mike and Inge Hammer's garden for a slap-up BBQ lunch. Mike demonstrated his original method for lighting a wood fired BBQ by using a leaf blower! Though it took some time to encourage the rather large pieces of wood to light the final result was impressive!

During the lunch our new President, Mike Hammer, presented our former President, Carole Quinn, with a gift of appreciation for the excellent job she had done during the year.

Presentations of trophies were made to Andrew Rouse's daughters for their winning entries at the November Show. Greg Noonan's daughters had also won trophies and these were presented at a family function by their grandmother Joan Noonan as they could not attend the BBQ. We hope they will all be encouraged to enter again this year.

Mike and Inge guided us around their extensive garden where liliums and vireyas have pride of place in specially constructed beds. Their collection and knowledge of liliums was the driving force that produced the inaugural Lilium and Vireya Show in January this year. They are collectors of many species of plants and their garden is a delight to explore.

Our thanks to them for providing their home and garden for the BBQ.

Bill Taylor was not present at the BBQ so a presentation was made to him in recognition of the many years he had served on the committee as President and committee member at a Tuesday meeting at the Rhododendron Gardens.





*R. cumberlandense*  
Alan Kepert photo December 2009



*R. inconspicuum*  
Chris Callard photo



FCBS and ARSV Lilium and Vireya Show January 2009



Katherine Noonan with  
prize

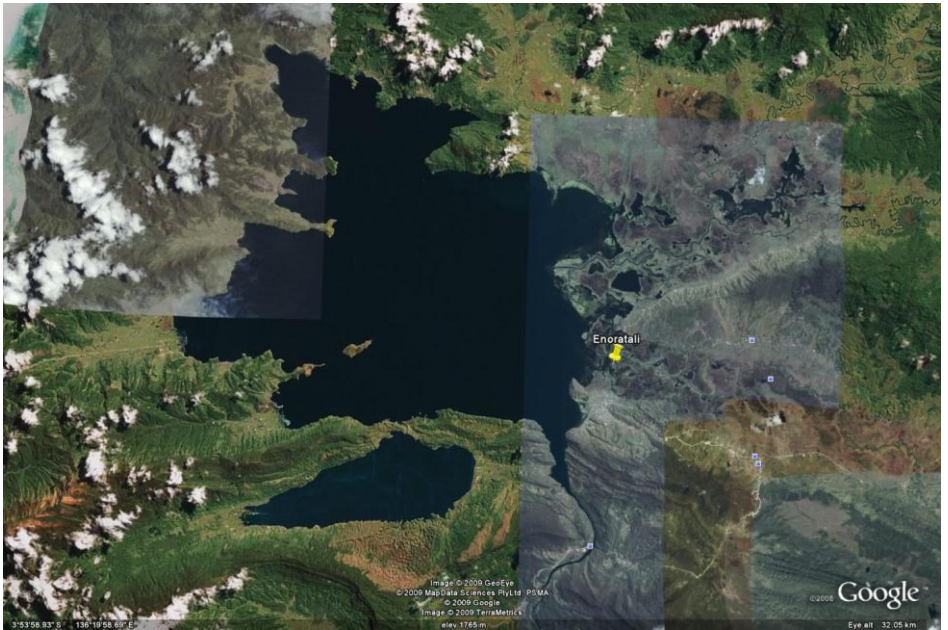


Sarah Noonan with prize

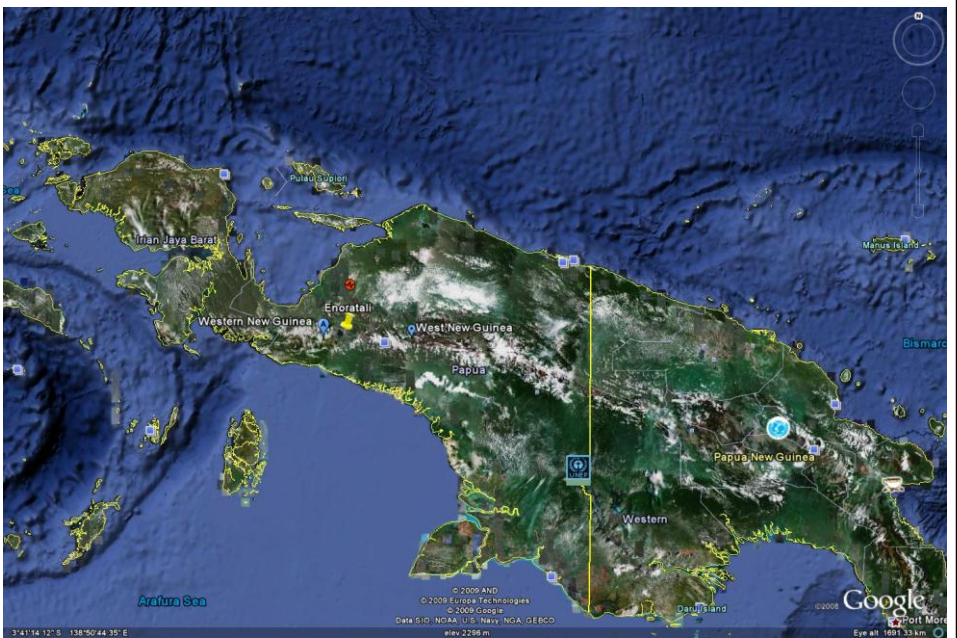


Charlotte Rouse  
prizes





**Enoratali [yellow marker] on the shore of Wissel Lakes  
West New Guinea. Below smaller scale.**



## **PERMITS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF RHODODENDRON SEED**

This is a recurring topic in *Newsletter*. In September 2008 *Newsletter* published two articles. One was an overview of the approval process prepared by Owen Harrod, Biosecurity Australia, reproduced with the kind permission of Biosecurity Australia and the Garden Plant Conservation Association of Australia at whose meeting the overview was delivered. I wrote the other to set out how far I had got along the path of obtaining permits for seed of all rhododendron species not included in ICON's 'permitted' list. This article is an update.

The essence of the task is to prove that the species in respect of which application is made score low on weediness test program "WRA". After publication of September *Newsletter* I researched the "Climate" programs Biosecurity Australia recommended to compare the climatic conditions at the species' place of origin with those in Australia. I discovered that their use required considerable technical expertise, at least greater expertise than I possessed. Mostly computer skills it seemed. There was also a preliminary problem. Cost. Use of the first program I investigated required payment of a licence fee of \$2500 for use of the program on a PC. I did not feel disposed to pay, nor, rationally, could I suggest ARSV pay. The next program was developed by ANU but I failed to get an entree to any expert there who I might hope would run it for me for free.

So I thought, perhaps the best way forward, was to ask for Biosecurity Australia's help. So I did. By then I had a paper that listed all the non 'permitted' species I could identify in 4 categories

1 Non Vireyas already in Australia ("Category 1")

2 Vireyas already in Australia ("Category 2")

3 Non Vireyas not known to be in Australia ("Category 3")

4 Vireyas not known to be in Australia ("Category 4")

I embellished this by including against the name of each species reference to an 'authority' which described it, Argent for Vireyas and Cox for non Vireyas.

My Biosecurity 'consultant' asked that I send the paper, which I did. The immediate response was that Biosecurity had no procedure in place for assessment of multiple species. It would have to confer. But then the response was positive. Biosecurity would require a 'New Plant Introduction Form' covering all 4 categories be sent to AQIS, copy for BA with a letter from ARSV confirming the presence in Australia of species in Categories 1 & 2. These could speedily be added to ICON 'permitted' list. It would be 'helpful' if ARSV could prioritise its application- which species it wanted dealt with first.

I emailed and faxed the required material, including a letter from our President confirming species in Australia, on 20 January 2009 and mailed hard copies a day later. By then I had conferred widely to try to ensure the accuracy of my paper as to which ‘authorities to which to refer Biosecurity Australia and the completeness, so far as possible, of the species I had included in Categories 1 & 2 (the ‘in Aus’ categories) With many helpful comments, my paper had been substantially updated. I obtained, also, advice from Dr George Argent and Dr David Chamberlain as to their views on the weediness of rhododendron species. I included this. Finally, having discovered that Dr Argent was leaving for the Wissel Lakes area near Enoratali, West New Guinea [see maps on page 9] on 14 January 2009, I ‘prioritised’ the species for which permits were sought as being those which George hoped to collect which were not already permitted and not already in Australia. 9 of these. I included my email correspondence with George identifying his prospective collections.

AQIS has responded to my application saying it is already undertaking the task of verifying the correctness of the plant names included in my 4 categories to pass on to Biosecurity.

I received great help with the ‘authorities’ from a number of members but particularly Andrew Rouse. I started my paper with Andrew Rouse’s versions of Categories 1 & 2 and both he and Alan Keperter have added extra items. Norm Brown and Ian Wallace, between them, found an additional 14 Category 1 species. Our President has been very supportive. If errors come to light, as surely they will, or if additional species are found to include in Categories 1 & 2 I see no problem in making corrections or additions.

**Simon Begg**

### **BENCH DISPLAY NOVEMBER 2008**

Our display was again quite good, although it was disappointing to only have 9 contributors. The Vireya section was well represented with Simon Begg winning most of the points, he won 4 classes with *haematodes* [small species], PennyWhistle [small hybrids], *rarilepedotom* [large species] and *laetum* x *javanicum* [large hybrids]. The remaining exhibitors - Elizabeth, Daniel, Alan, Andrew and Len won 10 points. They all had plenty of entries.

As expected Azaleas were light on with Simon and Len being winners.

There was an attractive display of Asiatics with Simon and John sharing the points - Johns Asiatic won exhibit of the night—name unknown, a very good pink/yellow truss.

It is frightening the number of blooms entered that none of us knows their names. We are losing the members with knowledge and ability to name the plants and this is over all sections.

The non Rhodo section was won by Marcia Begg with a large planter of *Scilla cooperii* - there are a large number of these small Scillas.

From next exhibit night there will be a new reporter. It will be very good to have a change it should bring new fresh reporting ideas. Good luck to the new recorder.

*Ed. My thanks to Len Sloggett for his many years of reporting the general meeting bench results and sending them to me for the newsletter. Walter Lobbezoo has kindly offered to take his place.*

### **ARSV AGM NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 2008**

President Carole Quinn opened the meeting and welcomed those present. There were several apologies and announcements before the reports were read and elections for committee were finalised.

In the case of all positions for committee the number of nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies, consequently all nominees were announced elected. Nominations were then invited from the floor.

The ARSV committee for 2009 is as follows:

President: Michael Hammer Vice President No 1: no nomination Vice President No 2: no nomination Treasurer: Neil Webster Secretary: Michael Hare	Ordinary Committee Members: Simon Begg (Editor) Marcia Begg Inge Hammer Valerie Marshall Cynthia Sladen Alan Walker Elizabeth Xipell
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The remaining vacancies can be filled by the committee. Members who would be interested in standing on the committee are encouraged to contact any committee person. Their contact numbers are on the back page.

Our speaker for the evening was Cynthia Sladen who had an excellent presentation about the Harrowgate Flower Show held in the UK in April 2008.

There was a plethora of floral art, water features, food, sculptures, gardens in miniature and new releases. All exhibitors had to display some plants growing in pots. This seemed to be to prove evenness of growth, colour and form. All the exhibits had fabulous colour and original presentation. Many plant societies had displays also. The new releases of *Liliums* and *Primulas* were a particular highlight.

Cynthia had also attended the Alpine Garden Society Show held at the Great Yorkshire Showground. Once again plants were displayed in pots, mostly terracotta. Some plants grew in pots which were within another pot. Between the two pots was coarse gravel to ensure perfect drainage. Excellent examples, many not available in Australia, of *Androsace*, *Pleione*, dwarf *Rhododendrons*, *Lewisia*s, *Fritillarias*, *Meconopsis*, *Saxifraga* and of course the delicate *Primulas*. Stewards were available to answer questions from visitors.

The meeting finished with the new President reminding members about the Christmas lunch to be held at his house on December 7<sup>th</sup> and wishing all a very happy Christmas.

**Marcia Begg**

## **AUSTRALIA DAY BBQ**

Held not on Australia Day but Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January! A hot evening so we decided against walking around the Rhododendron Garden and had a leisurely drive instead! The usual twenty or so members and friends turned up despite emails being sent out to members a few days before. Perhaps the Australian Tennis Open is to blame! It was good to see Joan Taylor and Marion Morris out and about after severe health issues.

Parks kindly lent us their BBQ so we could gather on the Cherry Lawn where the wood ducks and kookaburras kept a close watch on the left overs.

The gardens were still looking fresh and green though it may be a little different after a few days in the 40's! Impressive new rock walls and steps have been built just below the Cherry Lawn in preparation for the new 'Sensory Garden'.

By 8.30pm after a pleasant tea most of us were back in front of the TV watching the tennis!

**Marcia Begg**

## **JOTTINGS**

**Is it all a bit of a tease?** The traditional advice of teasing out the roots of potted plants to aid establishment is being questioned. A light prune removing 10mm of fine roots and growing media on all sides of selected cultivar root balls is more beneficial according to an RHS-funded study by the University of Reading.

*A detailed report can be read in 'The Plantsman' Sept 2008.*

**Hard or soft?** A new government rule in the UK requires anyone wanting to cover more than 5sqm of front garden with a non-permeable surface to obtain planning permission- a potentially costly and time consuming process. Almost a quarter of front gardens in northeast England have been paved over. This has a negative effect on wildlife due to the loss of living plants, and can cause problems with flooding and pollution from uncontrolled runoff of rainwater. Gravel, permeable blocks, grass reinforcements or porous asphalt are good compromises where lawn and garden needs to be replaced.

**Which green is greener?** Scientists are studying the effect, if any, of bagged lettuce leaves compared to fresh lettuce leaves. Does the bagging process destroy some of the nutritional content, especially the anti-oxidants. Volunteers are undertaking a blind test. One group will eat fresh baby lettuce leaves and the other will eat bagged baby lettuce leaves. A blood test will determine the difference, if any!

*The above articles are from the RHS 'The Garden' magazine Nov 2008.*

**Odd job!** A young girl needs to have more money to supplement her pocket money so she decides to take on odd jobs by door knocking in the local neighbourhood. The first house she goes to she knocks on the door and it is answered by a middle-aged man. She asks whether he has any odd jobs and the man says that the porch needs painting and how much would she charge? Fifty dollars, she replies. He agrees, thinking how lucky he is and tells her the paint is in the shed. Inside the house his wife is very surprised at the low price also and asks if the girl realises how large the porch is. It will take 3 days says the wife.

Not long after there is a knock on the door. The girl has finished and asks for the money. 'I had enough paint to give it 2 coats,' she says. 'But it is not a porche, it's a lexis!!!!!!'

**Marcia Begg**



## 2009 PROGRAMME

Some dates/speakers to be confirmed. Social activities to be added.

**JANUARY** - : **SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> VIREYA & LILIUM SHOW** – competitive show, display and wholesale nursery plant sales, light lunches. **Ferny Creek Horticultural Soc hall** – 11.00am-4.30pm 100 Hilton Rd Ferny Creek, Mel 66 E12. This is a new event organised by ARSV and Ferny Creek. Please enter vireyas and liliums and come along to support the event. Enquiries – Inge & Mike Hammer, 9755 2176 or Simon & Marcia Begg, 9751 1610.

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> Australia Day BBQ from 5.00pm. at National Rhododendron Gardens BYO everything except tables, some seating available. We will picnic on the Cherry Lawn with a portable BBQ. Garden walk.**

**FEBRUARY** - **FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> General Meeting** Nunawading– 8.00pm **SPEAKER: DR GREG MOORE**, former principal of Burnley Horticultural College, Member of Greening Australia, Sustainable Gardening Aus., National Trust ‘Vic Register’ Significant Trees. He is an excellent and entertaining speaker. His topic will be ‘Trees and Garden Management during Climate Change. Bring along a friend.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm Nunawading

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> – Plant Collectors & Garden Expo at Ferny Creek Hort Soc.** The ARSV will have a display of vireyas & information about our activities.

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**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> , 10.30Am Vireya Group.** We are hoping to visit Andrew Raper’s wholesale nursery. Ring Simon Begg to confirm. 9751 1610

**FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> 8.00pm General Meeting** Nunawading- **SPEAKER: JOHN ARNOTT**, Former Director of both Geelong and Wilson Botanic Gardens, presently Director of Cranbourne Botanic Gardens. He will present a tour through three great gardens. The ARSV supplied many rhododendrons to the Wilson Botanic Garden in its early stages.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**APRIL** – **MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> (Easter Monday) : SOCIAL OUTING.** Keep this date free to have a picnic and visit a couple of wholesale nurseries.

**FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> 8.00pm General Meeting** Nunawading. **SPEAKER:**

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup>** 2.00pm **Vireya Group**. This is a combined meeting with the Ferny Creek Horticultural Society Rhododendron and Camellia Group at "Beechmont" 12 Mernda Road Olinda to see species Vireyas growing and a presentation of Dr George Argent's RBGE Vireya collection as at May 2008. Some 90+ species in flower.

**MAY** - **SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>**, Vireya Group. No May meeting; held early on 18<sup>th</sup> April.  
**FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup>** 8.00pm **General Meeting** Nunawading. **SPEAKER: ANDREW RAPER** – SASANQUA CAMELLIAS. Andrew will bring plants to display and sell.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**JUNE** – **FRIDAY 19<sup>th</sup>** 8.00pm. **General Meeting** at Nunawading. **SPEAKER: PETER RALPH**, Peter had a wonderful trip to Bhutan and has some fabulous photos to show.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**JULY** – **SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>**, Vireya Group Ring Simon Begg to confirm. 9751 1610

**FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup>** 8.00pm General Meeting Nunawading.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**AUGUST** – **FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>** General Meeting – LESLIE EATON?

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**SEPTEMBER** – SALE DAY TO BE ADVISED

**SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup>**, Vireya Group Ring Simon Begg to confirm. 9751 1610

**FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup>** 8.00pm General Meeting at Nunawading.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**OCTOBER** – **FRIDAY 2<sup>ND</sup>, SAT 3<sup>RD</sup> & SUN 4<sup>TH</sup> ABC GARDEN SHOW @ CAULFIELD RACECOURSE**. The ARSV will probably have a stand to advertise our society. Volunteers will be needed. Ring Marcia Begg 9751 1610.

**SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> & SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> AZALEA SHOW in Hall at National Rhododendron Gardens. Saturday is also members' day at 2pm**

**FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup>** 8.00pm General Meeting at Nunawading.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> TO SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> ARS CONFERENCE AT SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**NOVEMBER** – **FROM SAT. 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER TO TUES. 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER, RHODODENDRON SHOW in Hall at National Rhododendron Gardens**

**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup>** – Vireya Group Ring Simon Begg to confirm. 9751 1610

**FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup>** 8.00pm AGM at Nunawading. Speaker to be advised.

**Committee meeting** 5.00pm at Nunawading

**DECEMBER** – **SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS FUNCTION**

**FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>** – **Committee Meeting** at Olinda 8.00pm



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## **ARSV COMMITTEE 2009**

The new committee was elected in November 2008 for the following year. There are vacancies on the committee and members who would be interested to be more involved would be made very welcome. The committee meets at Nunawading at 5.00pm before the Monthly General Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday.

**PRESIDENT:** Michael Hammer Ph: 9755 2176

**VICE PRESIDENT No 1:** Vacant

**VICE PRESIDENT No 2:** Vacant

**TREASURER:** Neil Webster, Ph: 9859 3622

**SECRETARY:** Michael Hare, 9844 2232

Simon Begg (Editor) & Marcia Begg, Ph: 9751 1610

Inge Hammer, Ph: 9755 2176

Valerie Marshall, Ph: 9803 4434

Cynthia Sladen, Ph: 9561 8874

Alan Walker, Ph: 9726 8836

Elizabeth Xipell, Ph: 9859 9934

## **SOCIETY PICASAWEB SITE**

Visit <http://picasaweb.google.com/ARSVic> for the latest pictures.

Additions since the November 2008 Newsletter are :-

\* Vireya and Lilium Show January 2009

For the "Beechmont" Picasaweb site visit <http://picasaweb.google.com/simonwbegg>