

November 2020

Rhodo News

Newsletter 435



Official Newsletter of the

Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden Inc

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Patrons: (International) Kenneth Cox, (Tasmania) Her Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, Kate Warner

Trash & Treasure—Saturday 14th November



There will be no Social Get Together in November, but come along on Saturday the 14th to our Trash and Treasure Market. Wander around the garden at this magic time of year, catch up with friends and you might even pick up a Christmas gift or two! Then our December Get Together will be on Sunday 20th December, starting EARLY at 1 pm for our famous Barbeque & Refreshments.

Calendar

Saturday 14 November
Trash & Treasure
EVRG 9am-3pm

Sunday 15 November
*No Social meeting
this November*

Sunday 20 December
Social Get Together
BBQ & refreshments from 1pm

See us at: emuvalleyrhodo.com

General Manager's Report

Each year Christmas seems to suddenly be on us. I think this year with all the turmoil in the world it is even more so.

Thinking of Christmas Gifts??

Here are a couple of suggestions:



An EVRG Golden Dream Book - we sell them for \$15. No matter where you live in Australia if you want one or more simply email Sophie in the office enquiries@evrg.com.au with your name, number of books required and address you want them sent to. We will cover the cost of postage anywhere in Australia!

or

Join someone up as a member — \$30 single // \$50 Double // \$100 Family.

As with the books email Sophie with all details.

Payment for either of the above can be made to —

Commonwealth Bank 067 400 28047242

Please ensure you include your name with the online payment. To receive in time for Christmas it is advised that requests be made by 10 December.

What Next ?

One of the most frequently asked questions of me when I meet visitors is along the line of “How do you manage to keep the garden going?” The answer easily comes — “Two paid employees who work far more hours than they are paid for and perform tasks well outside of what their actual positions require. This and our wonderful bunch of volunteers and members from around Australia.”

The past two months have certainly been stretching everybody. It has been fantastic to have so many visitors from around the state, function bookings starting to build, and with Tasmania gradually re-opening its border the future is looking a bit brighter.

Thank goodness we held the two day Spring Festival instead of the one day Cherry Blossom Celebration. The weather gods were not kind to us on the Saturday, but the sun shone on the Sunday and it was a top day. It was great seeing our new children's area being so popular (Thanks to Neet and her team).

There are so many things planned for the coming few months — Trash & Treasure / Stalls both within the garden and Farmers Market / Evenings in the garden during summer / +++++

We ARE going to keep forging ahead and not only recoup what we lost due to COVID19 but get into a better financial position. It will not happen overnight but we will get there.

Sponsors

Hearing Australia jumped on board with EVRG in 2019 and it is great to be able to confirm that they will continue, with an increased sponsorship for the coming twelve months. Added to this is Australian Hearing's 600+ venues nationwide that will see our name!!!



03 6432 6500 Burnie /// 03 6421 3200 Devonport
134432 Australia Wide

We are always on the lookout for organisations to partner up with us. It does not just have to be within Tasmania. There are many ways sponsorship can benefit. Any suggestions?? — Just let me know.



Another company that works with us is Armstrong's Insurance Brokers. They are part of our Sponsorship Family.

For all Insurance—business or personal—you will not only get competitive rates, but advice on best options. Contact for EVRG members, family and friends is:

Paul Holmes, Senior Account Manager **Phone: (03) 6331 5455 Mobile: 0497 094 319 Fax: (03) 6331 5488**

Cheers, Geoff 0427722060 /geoffreywood@me.com

Around the garden

'Oh we're from Tigerland, a fighting fury, we're from Tigerland...' sorry but it wouldn't be the end of the footy season without one more mention about the mighty Tiges, what a win!



Still on a similar topic (animals), the amount of wildlife that we have within the garden is just amazing this Spring. The platypus continually show off in all 3 lakes and are loving the visitors as well as the cameras. Prickles the echidna has been busy exploring the 'Hybrid Hideaway' area and was spotted having a game of hopscotch.

The tiger snakes have been out and about catching some rays, sunning themselves on the lawn and more recently in the tops of the azaleas on the way down to our Japanese section. I was lucky enough to see all of these special critters during the week as I was marking out the new man fern loop, short, medium and long walking trails with different coloured arrows. A new map is also in the final stages of completion, just need to finalise a few minor details which will

complement all of the garden structures and the new walking trails. The aim is for this to be easy to read and follow, uncomplicated overlay of the garden with a basic legend to suit. Watch this space. 😊

Keeping it short and sweet this month, I'd like to mention a massive thank you to all who helped in the lead up, and as well as on the day, including our fabulous stall holders for the Spring Celebration weekend. We couldn't have done it without you. To the visitors we had supporting us and local businesses in rain, hail or shine, you are wonderful and thank you for your continual support and encouragement. Although the weather was not kind to us on the Saturday, it sure made up for it on the Sunday.

Overall, the garden is looking amazing, so much colour around and all of the new growth coming on which means cuttings are just around the corner. With a lot more plants now named and tagged, it will make this process a lot easier!

All of us here have lists as long as our driveway, and slowly but surely we are starting to tick a few things off and it's a really great feeling! Keep up the great work everyone and happy gardening! Neet 😊

October Social Meeting

Due to the Spring Festival no meeting was held on October 18th. however, we ran a stall in the function room on both days selling a variety of products including jigsaw puzzles, books, crafts, raffle tickets and our famous jam. I am delighted to report we raised around \$800.

Our Christmas get together is happening, but with function bookings and everything else we are trying to do, Geoff and I came to the conclusion that we just cannot hold a November social get together.

The Trash and Treasure day is going ahead on November 14th with all details on our Facebook page. We will also be running a Christmas pop up shop on Saturdays from 14th November 14th until December 19th. This will be next to the plant shed, selling gift lines and Christmas decorations.

Thanks to everyone who helped me with the organization that has been a huge job. Til next time, *Marilyn*



Rhododendron pachypodum

This rather delightful member of the Maddenia Subseries grows well here at Emu Valley. In bud this bush opens from a very nice apricot pink to become large white flushed pink flowers with a lemon-yellow blotch covering the bush from mid October, and the perfume is delightful.

George Forrest first collected pachypodum in August 1913 growing in open scrub and among pine forests on the western slopes of the Tali Range, Western Yunnan and introduced it to Western gardens in the same year, where it was found to grow to 1-1.5 meters in sheltered areas. Other collectors

were later to discover it in Guangdong in China and in Upper Burma.

As with most plants position plays a large part in growth habit. At Emu Valley they are grown out in the open and form compact shrubs to 1.5 metres. Plants can be found along the Noel Sullivan walk in the Yunnan area and along the Bob Malone drive in Upper Burma. *Maurie*

The Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden is proudly sponsored by:



Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden Inc.
PO Box U33 Upper Burnie, Tasmania 7320