

July 2021

Rhodo News

Newsletter 442



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



Take an armchair trip to Japan with Murray Giles, on Sunday July 11th. Avoid the queues and covid and sit back and relax at the Garden for your tour. See inside for details.



And don't forget Christmas in Winter! (see inside)

Calendar

Sunday 11th July
Armchair Trip to Japan
1.30-3.30 EVRG

Saturday 17th July
Xmas in Winter
EV RG @ 1pm

Sunday 7th November
40th Birthday Bash

Saturday 13th November
40th Family Day Celebration

See us at: emuvalleyrhodo.com

General Manager's Report

I think I might have upset one of the ancient gods of time. It just seems as if June has only just kicked off — not be nearly over.

The good news is that our garden & tea room is open to the public again on July 1. Fingers crossed we will not have to close next June. Numbers were not huge but there were disappointed people from around the state and interstate.

We now have a new storage shed which frees up the garage / workshop, painting of the outside of the building is near completion, the coffee machine and new cash register have been ordered and Beth Lockett and her team have cleaned up the tea room and kitchen for re-opening.

It was great to have two weddings in the garden during June. We really are becoming known as a *garden for all seasons*.

Volunteers are urgently needed in all areas. Please, if you can help out either contact Sophie in the office or myself. The catering team are working on a new menu for the Tea Room whilst we are hoping to set up rosters which will not burn people out.

New members, old members — you don't have to be a member to volunteer — everyone is welcome with open arms. Cheers Geoff 0427 722060 // geoffreywood@me.com

Armchair Travel To Japan: Sunday, 11 July 2021 1:30 to 03:30 PM

We are fortunate to have Murray Giles present the entertaining Armchair Travel To Japan.

Murray, who is retired from the University of New England has travelled to Japan 46 times, leading small groups who wanted to undertake a specialised study tour.

\$5 members \$10 non-members — includes afternoon tea

For catering and COVID numbers, email enquiries@evrg.com.au and pay on the day.

Christmas in July

Saturday 17 July 1 pm to 4 pm

Our dedicated catering volunteers have devised a mouth-watering Christmas Buffet for your enjoyment. It will be a completely themed event and everyone is welcome. Arrive early, wander the garden for free and build up your appetite!

**\$35 per head Adult, \$25 for children under 16
(kinder-aged kiddos are FREE)**



To book:

online — <https://www.trybooking.com/BSEAK>

or call into the office

If all else fails — call Geoff!

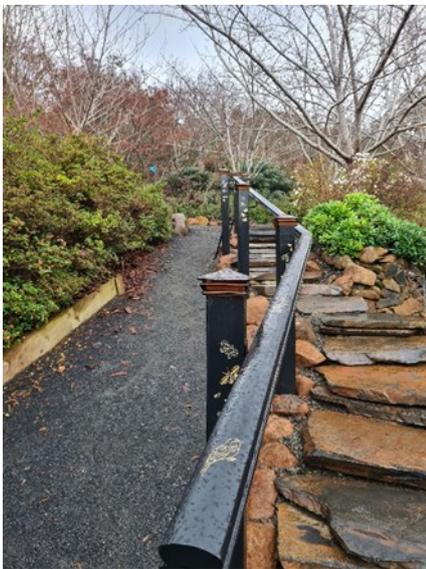


Around the Garden

I hope you are still out and about in the garden whenever you have a chance and the weather is being kind, allowing you to potter outside. I guess no matter if it's rain, hail or shine, the weather won't stop those keen gardeners as there is always something to do in a gardeners world.

We have all been busy in the garden over the past month and here is a small snippet to fill you in.

- Eric has been busily building another path and rock wall which comes off part of the Noel Sullivan drive and winds up towards the spectacular *Abies densa*, fir from Bhutan. Not quite completed but not far away now and looking great.
- Gabion cages made from scratch are being created and we will use them in different areas of the garden. These are not only useful as a containment barrier / wall, but they are attractive and use the smaller paddock rock that we have laying around, easy to build and cost effective as well as an effective form of rock edging, just to break it up a little around the garden.
- Our gorgeous steps created from donated slate that made a mention in last month's newsletter are now complete and are absolutely fantastic! It is so satisfying knowing that we now can open up this once chained off section and it looks amazing! Updated picture below:



- And just to bring you up to date on the project for our fun loving platypus at the garden: We have all been busy digging trenches to run power to the cameras both in North America and over at the main gazebo. This project has been made possible by Business North West with funding from West by North West through the State Government Tourism grants. Exciting times ahead and I can't wait to share our camera loving creatures to the world....literally!

Keeping it short and simple (a bit like the Tiges footy match at the weekend) this month so happy gardening everyone. *Neet*



Events/Social Report

I don't have too much to tell you this month, what with the garden closure in June and my trip to the big island, (where I never want to go back to). The arrangements for our two main events in July are well underway, decorations for both the Japanese travel talk and Christmas in Winter, have been discussed and prepared. Geoff has expanded on both of these events.

As Christine has left her position in the tearoom, I would like to thank her for the help she has given the events committee with the various stalls we have run. Her jams and gifts from her needles have been very well received.

On a sad note, vale Doreen Stratford, a smiling face which will be sorely missed. Marilyn van Drueten 0423 784 431 email: davmar678@gmail.com



R dielsianum var dielsianum

In the early days of the development of the garden, 1984 in fact, we decided to see if we could successfully grow vireya rhododendrons in our cooler climate. First we tried the hybrids and found that they grew well under the cover of the tall blackwoods.

Next we decided to plant a number of species to test their ability to grow in our climate, plants of R. dielsianum were one of many planted - these also grew well.

R. dielsianum grows to a shrub to 1.5m in its native Papua New Guinea, growing epiphytic on tall trees even in dense shade or terrestrial in grassland and along roadsides. The small elliptic leaves are produced in tight pseudowhorls towards the end of the branches from where the rather small single or paired pale pink flowers appear once a year usually early winter.

At Emu Valley we find it quite easy to grow in the ground and it strikes well from cuttings. *Maurie*

The Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden is proudly sponsored by:



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