

THE RHODODENDRON NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2008

Published by the
Australian Rhododendron Society, Victorian Branch Inc.
(A5896Z)
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FRIDAY APRIL 18th 2008

General Meeting at Nunawading at 8 pm
Barry and Gaye Stagoll: Gardens of UK

SATURDAY APRIL 19th and SUNDAY APRIL 20th

Ferny Creek Horticultural Society AUTUMN SHOW

SUNDAY APRIL 20TH 2008.

PICNIC AT GEMBROOK AND VISIT TO PETER GENEAT'S NERINE NURSERY.
11.30am: Meet at JAC Russell Park, Main Rd Gembrook (next to Puffing Billy station)
for a picnic lunch. BYO everything, BBQ available. Melway 312 K10 (ed. 28)
2.00pm Drive to Peter Geneat's Nerine Farm/Nursery 164 Gembrook-Tonimbuk Rd
Gembrook. Melway 299 D12

Peter is a cut flower grower and 4th generation nerine breeder. He has offered to show us
his 16 acre farm. This is an excellent time of year to see and buy Peter's hybrids and
many other nerines in flower.

Enquiries: Marcia Begg 9751 1610

FRIDAY MAY 16th 2008

General Meeting at Nunawading at 8 pm
Surprise; bound to be good. To be Announced.

FRIDAY JUNE 20th 2008

General Meeting at Nunawading at 8pm
Parks Victoria Representative.

SATURDAY JUNE 14th 10am-Noon

Vireya Group at "Beechmont" 12 Mernda Road Olinda
Followed by BBQ lunch; BYO everything

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to my second report, though I use the word report with my tongue in my cheek. It is more like a rambling dialogue than a report, hence no capital letter at the beginning of the word, report. Please bear with me in my attempt to become a reporter.

A small group of members enjoyed the annual Australia Day barbecue at Olinda. The weather was mild after a couple of warm days and it was relaxing sitting under the trees enjoying a glass of wine and chatting. I like these barbecues, the ladies get to sit, sip and chat while the fellas do the cooking. Of course we ladies have to do the preparation both before and after the barbie, but hey, you can't have it all ways.

The Branch website is now up and running thanks to some wonderful work from Daniela Hammer, Tom Noonan and Mike Hammer. Our very special thanks for their efforts. The site can be visited at www.vicrhodo.org.au regular updates and changes will be made to ensure the site is kept up to date.

In addition to the website, the Branch has moved further into the technology age with the purchase of a laptop, digital camera and mobile phone. Changes within Telstra forced Committee to seek an alternative to the listed 0500 number and after much discussion and running around, it was decided to go with a mobile. This should work well as it can be handed on to others when necessary. The new contact number is 0438 340 240.

Andrew Rouse has donated to the Branch a collection of both hybrid and species Vireya as well as Asiatics. These plants came from American seed which was raised by Andrew, as well as some from his own collection. Thank you very much, Andrew. I have it on good authority they will be looked after.

I would like to wish all members who have had problems with their health over the past month, a speedy and full recovery. There have been quite a few and at the risk of forgetting someone, I will just say "Get well soon" to all.

The Society will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary during 2010 and the Victorian Branch will be playing host to the National Council Annual General Meeting in October of that year. It has been decided to make the occasion something special and a Sub-Committee has been formed to plan the event. If any member feels they have something to contribute, whether it be historical data, ideas etc. please contact me on 0359681027.

Carole Quinn.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Marcia and I will be in Europe throughout May. So, the next Newsletter will be during June. We will bring back our account of "Rhododendron 2008" held at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

SWB

THE SPECIES COLUMN.

MORE RARE SPECIES IN THE RHODODENDRON GARDEN.

These species are all rare in Australia, and are uncommon in Europe, so it is important to protect what we have at Olinda. We are propagating these as far as possible.

dendrocharis --Subsection Moupinensia.

This is a recently introduced species from China which looks like a smaller version of *moupinense*. It is epiphytic with small leaves and widely opening pink and white flowers. It should be a good parent for hybridising.

From W. Central Sichuan at 1800 to 3200m.

Only two small plants in the garden, and a few more in the shade-house.

elegantulum—Subsection Taliensia. [Photo page 14]

This species was rare in the past but is now being propagated extensively.

The foliage is exceptional, with dark glossy leaves which are orange to reddish brown on the underside. The pink to white flowers are freely produced on a compact shrub of 1-1.5 m.

From S.W. Sichuan at 3600-4000m.

We have propagated this species from seed and now have 10 plants in the garden.

forrestii v. Repens— Subsection Neriiflora.

This remarkable species forms a prostrate ground-cover with tiny leaves and crimson flowers. It grows on rocky slopes and deep gorges, and is hardly suitable for the average garden. It has been successfully used in hybridising to produce compact reds such as “Elizabeth” and “Carmen”

From Yunnan, Tibet, and Upper Burma, 3000-4600m.

Only one plant in the garden. Alistair Watt, at Laver Hill, also has one. [Photo p 14]

fulgens—Subsection Fulgensia.

This species does not fit into the Barbata or Fulva Subsections, so has been given its own subsection. It has excellent oval foliage with brown indumentum, and round trusses of blood-red flowers. Flowers late Winter to early Spring.

From Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan, and Tibet, 3200-4300m.

Only one plant in the garden.

lukiangense— Subsection Irrorata.

This is said to be common in the wild but rare in cultivation, possibly due to being frost-tender. The flowers are rose to lilac with red spots or blotch. The foliage has long narrow glossy leaves like many others in the Irrorata Subsection.

From Yunnan and Tibet, 2400-4000m.

One plant in the garden.

pachysanthum— Subsection. Maculifera. [photo page 14]

This species was only introduced in 1972 but has been extensively propagated since then, but I have included it because it is not well-known in Australia. This is an

outstanding foliage plant, with a persistent brown indumentum on both sides of the leaf. The flowers are also attractive, and are white or pink in compact trusses.

From Central Taiwan, 3000-3200m.

Ten plants in the garden.

rufum— Subsection Taliensia

Another fine species from the Taliensia Subsection, this is a slow-growing plant with attractive foliage, glossy green above with a reddish-brown indumentum below. The flowers are white or pink with red spots.

From Sichuan and Gansu, China, 2400 –4000m.

One plant in the garden.

tsariense.— Subsection Lanata. [Photo page 14]

This is an excellent species from the Lanata Subsection with indumentum on both leaf surfaces. The flowers are white flushed with pink. There is a group of these plants just uphill of the Maddenia walk which will be very impressive in the future. .Not difficult to grow, at least in Olinda.

From Tibet and Bhutan, 3000-4400m.

Seven plants in the garden.

vesiculiferum---Subsection Glischra.

This species is listed as very rare in cultivation, and is related to *R glischrum*. The leaves and stems are very bristly, and the flowers are white to pink or purple with a deep blotch in the throat.

From Yunnan and Burma, 2400-3400m.

Only two plants in the garden.

Alan Keperť.

[Each of these species appears on AQIS 'permitted list' of rhododendron species whose seed may be imported into Australia without a permit. See page 16 Ed.]

VIREYA SPECIES COLUMN

R radians [photo page 14]

Section VII: Euvireya- Subsection iii: Solenovireya [according to the classification proposed by Dr. George Argent *Rhododendrons of Subgenus Vireya* RHS 2006]. This subsection has 35 species in two geographical areas, West Malesia [Malaysia, Sumatra, Celebes, Borneo, the Philippines, Sulawesi and Maluku] and New Guinea. The subsection includes *R tuba*, *R rhodoleucum*, *R loranthiflorum* and *R jasminiflorum*, all well known and commonly grown in Australia, and particularly at Olinda.

Name

Latin, *radians* –spreading or rotating out from a common centre- referring to how the flowers are arranged.

Description [taken, though not completely, from Argent pp. 169-170]

Shrub. Though it seems, from Argent's narrative, though not explicitly stated, to be wholly terrestrial *R radians* is also epiphytic. My two original plants came to me from Lyn Craven as 'BCJR 114' in 2005. Lyn later advised it was *R radians*. His collection was epiphytic, from Sulawesi hills south of Palu in 2002 by Brown, Craven, Juswara and Ramadhani. Both my original plants are, now, 550mm tall x 500mm wide and multi branched. Their growth habit resembles *R jasminiflorum*. Such progress from a cutting from a wild collection in less than six years promises a worthwhile plant! Judging by an internode length of 100mm, 2m height at Olinda is possible. This species was first discovered in 1913 but seems, though Argent does not say so, to have only recently been introduced into cultivation. Sleumer describes single collections. Argent describes three varieties, var. *radians*, var. *minahasae* and var. *pubitubum*. The discrimination between the varieties turns on hairs on the corolla and scales. Elizabeth Xipell brought a flower to a General Meeting in 2007. My plant, now in ground, flowered for the first time in December 2007. I did not examine it closely enough to make any guess as to which variety Lyn has.

Leaves 5-12 in tight pseudowhorls, blade 25-55 x 12-25mm [mine is top of range in length and bottom in width] ovate to elliptic, sub-sessile apex shortly obtusely pointed, sometimes [like mine] almost rounded; margin entire, narrowly but distinctly revolute. Petiole 1-2 x 1-2mm weakly grooved laxly scaly and shortly hairy.

Inflorescence an open umbel of 7-20 radially distributed flowers [horizontal or slightly hanging]

Corolla 50-75 x 25-30 mm, white or very lightly flushed with pink at the lobes [mine is white]; tube 55-72 x 5-6 x 4-5 mm. Compared with the photo in Argent [p 169] my lobes [p14] are not turned back as far as is common in *R jasminiflorum*.

Origin

Indonesia; Sulawesi Central Celebes, Mt.Sinadji. From 1500-2000m.

Hybrids

None stated.

Verdict

Argent does not comment. My limited acquaintance reveals a quick growing, easy to propagate, trouble free plant with very distinctive and attractive flowers. I now have a number of struck cuttings. I give it a definite tick of approval.

SWB

WILL THE TRUE RHODODENDRON STEVENSIANUM PLEASE STAND UP!

Rhododendron stevensianum was first collected in March 1973 by Peter Stevens and Lou Searle near Kundiawa, Eastern Highlands, PNG. It is a compact, spreading shrub with neat ovate leaves, often in two distinct sizes and has single (occasionally two) hanging pinkish-purple flowers with a curved tube and widely spreading lobes. The stamens are distinctly gathered together at the inside top of the flower. RBG Edinburgh record it flowering through the year under glass but not particularly showy. (Argent: 'Rhododendrons in subgenus *Vireya*' 2006)

I first saw *R. stevensianum* in August 1983 growing on the Sirunki grassland at 8400 feet, Tambitanis, Kundiawa District, PNG. Tom Reeve was the Forest Officer who took us into the area and we were lucky to find the one diminutive plant with a solitary flower amongst the tall grasses. We were with the second Australian Rhododendron Society visit to PNG organised by John Womersley, Chief of Forestry Division. Cutting material was gathered by several of us but we failed to root this at Pukeiti so did not establish the species in New Zealand.

I was back in PNG in August 1986 on another tour with vireya and orchid enthusiasts and at the Mt Gahavisukar Botanical Sanctuary high above Goroka, Norman Cruttwell, that extraordinary botanical Cleric or should it be Clerical botanist, showed us much of his collection gathered over the years. Included was a plant labelled *R. stevensianum*. This looked to be much more vigorous than the one I had seen before and Norman admitted that although collected in the wild it could be a natural hybrid. Os Blumhardt and I both got cuttings and successfully introduced it into cultivation in New Zealand, where it has been spread amongst enthusiasts. This plant is larger growing with similar shaped but larger leaves. The key differences from the type species are that it has bright pink flowers in trusses of 4-6 and the corolla tube is basically straight with hairs and scales present. The stamens are spread all around the corolla mouth. It is a showy shrub and flowers at any time of the year. It is not the true species as described by Sleumer but deserves some recognition if only to clear up the confusion.

I understand that the true species is growing in Australia (and Edinburgh) and I wonder if the 1983 collection was successfully cultivated by Graham Snell, who was on that tour. If not perhaps Lou Searle brought it in as he did introduce much new material from his time in PNG. It would be interesting to know of the origin

I propose to call the natural hybrid 'Kundiawa' after the area that the species was first recorded and will arrange to have it registered.

Graham Smith.

graham@pukeiti.org.nz

Postscript. I have retired from my position as Director of Pukeiti after 39 years. I am now contracted to establish a new Plant Database for the garden and will be working on this part-time over the next two years. I look forward to being in Victoria again in October 2008.

VIREYA GROUP

The Vireya Group met at Mike and Inge Hammer's house in Sassafras on Saturday 8th March. It was a very productive meeting. Welcome to two new attendees, Joe Wilson and Heather Morris. Welcome back to Olive Howard. A dozen were present during the meeting with Marcia Begg and Inge Hammer present at the beginning and end.

Mike took us on a tour around Mike and Inge's extensive garden. After some considerable time of viewing their considerable collection of rare plants, but few vireyas, we came across the vireya collection planted in ground. Mike and Inge have a good mix of species and hybrids all carefully labelled and thriving. I noted a very nice plant of *R*

acuminatum and a number of hybrids in flower. We returned from the tour with *peony* seeds.

Mike's fogger was not currently operational because it was connected only to mains water. He explained he had to connect it to an alternative water supply.

Joe and I each brought vireyas to distribute. There is was some reluctance among members to take on small plants with current water restrictions and a week of extreme heat expected.

I had supplies of two species: *R rhodoleucum*, and *R retusum* plus *R planecostum* x and reasonably common hybrids R 'Sunbird', R 'Irianjaya', R 'Tropic Fanfare' and R 'Gold Coast'. Joe had R 'Pink Delight' and two or three other hybrids. I found takers for all save a few of my plants and all of Joe's. Next meeting I hope to have further plants to distribute.

It will take some time before I have sufficient quantities of rarer hybrids and species to distribute to everyone but, in the case of some varieties, I have numbers of plants in 75 mm pots and some 150 mm pots. Judging by the loss rate from previous plant distributions it seems advisable to grow the plants on to the 150 mm pot stage before handing them out.

Over afternoon tea we made some decisions.

First, as Ferny Creek has a small, but enthusiastic, group of Vireya growers it seemed sensible to try to pool resources. Mike had tested Ferny Creek reaction and reported interest. We had accidentally picked the day of Ferny Creek AGM for our meeting so no one from Ferny Creek, who was not also an ARSV member, came along.

We decided to coordinate meeting times and dates to try to suit both groups.

Second we discussed what time, morning or afternoon, and day, Saturday or Sunday to hold the next meeting. Inevitably there were differences of availability. It was left to Marcia and I to fix the next meeting date and time for June. Not May as both Mike Hammer and I will be overseas in May. We have settled on **Saturday morning 14th June from 10am to noon at Marcia's and my house, 'Beechmont', 12 Mernda Rd Olinda**. This is to be followed by BBQ lunch, BYO everything, BBQ provided. This is the day of the next Ferny Creek General Meeting. Ferny Creek members, including those who are also ARSV members, can then go on to the Ferny Creek meeting in the afternoon. Saturday morning was generally popular, more so than Sunday and there are a number of dual members.

Third we decided to encourage Vireya entries at the Ferny Creek Autumn Show, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th April. I explained that I had been assured that the Vireya classes now distinguished Vireyas by species and hybrid and by flower sizes, similarly to ARSV, and not by colour alone as was previously the case. With this change I said I could now ask Vireya Group members to take the trouble to enter. I am to ensure non Ferny creek members receive show schedules. I pointed out that Ferny Creek has very rigid entry procedures which require entries to be phoned in on the Wednesday or Thursday before the show with no late entry for that truss that opens at the last minute! A good Vireya show bench should encourage show attendees to buy Vireyas. I was to investigate the feasibility of a Vireya stand at the Show.

Fourth we decided to cooperate with Ferny Creek in the holding of a December Vireya, Lilium and Hemerocallis [Day Lilies] Show. Mike reported that Ferny Creek was receptive to such an idea. At this stage a lot of details need to be worked out, including date, plant sales and show schedules. Watch this space for progress! To make the

proposal a reality the main details will need to be finalised before Mike and I leave for overseas in April.

Finally, as a matter of interest Josie Rutherford won the large Vireya Hybrid section at the March General Meeting with, the consensus was, R 'Eastern Zanzibar'. She said it had been supplied to her, in Vireya Bank I assume, as R 'Solar Flare'. I was luckier. My 'Solar Flare' is flowering for the first time. A photo is on the Society picture site under Vireya Hybrids.

SWB

ARSV WEBSITE
www.vicrhodo.org.au

Our Branch has a Website. Those with Internet access will find it at www.vicrhodo.org.au. The creation of a Website has been on ARSV's wish list for a couple of years. Attempts have previously been made to establish the Website but it was generally the lack of a suitable Website designer that stalled progress. Apart from a couple of technical issues, the Website is now complete. The Website will now go into an evolutionary stage as we gain experience in managing a site.

Early last year, the committee considered an offer from Daniela Hammer, daughter of members Mike and Inge, to design a Website. Daniela is currently studying at Monash University and has had some experience in Website design in her course. The committee delegated me to contact Daniela and investigate various issues upon which the committee needed information prior to it making a decision to proceed.

Things discussed included:

- An assessment of Daniela's ability to design the Website.
- Basic structure of the Website including colour, navigation buttons and themes for each page.
- A fee that Daniela considered appropriate for the work to be undertaken.

Following this discussion, Daniela produced a printed specification for the proposed Website and this was presented to the committee in the middle of 2007. The committee accepted the proposal and I was given the go-ahead to work with Daniela to design the Website.

As work proceeded, comment was sought from members and a number of valuable suggestions were received. These suggestions were considered in the context of not necessarily responding to what individuals sought but to deal with them within a spirit of producing a result that had wide appeal. Feedback that I've received seems to indicate that this has been achieved. The Website, as currently presented, can and probably should be changed in the future. Others who have a different vision for the Website might have an opportunity to contribute in the future. It's my opinion that members should be happy with the result which, from my knowledge of market rates for Website design, represents very good value for the money spent.

Thanks go to those who provided comment, to Daniela for the excellent work she has done and to Mike Hammer who is the author of most of the words in the Website.

A couple of aspects of the Website are worthy of further comment:

- The “Events” page will be kept up to date by reflecting the calendar that is published in the Branch Newsletter.
- The pictures, including those in the “Gallery” page, can be changed periodically. The “Gallery”, in particular, provides the opportunity for members who are interested to provide a number of photographs in a theme, eg. Vireyas, Garden Vistas, Home Gardens etc.

People seeking information these days invariably turn to the Internet for a result. Our Branch is now out there in Cyberspace for people seeking information on who we are and what we do.

Happy Browsing,
Tom Noonan

CULTURAL NOTES MARCH 2008

With the continuing lack of rain, the message seems to be “Water, Water and Pray”. It’s hard getting up in the dark mornings but keep up the good work.

Plants in the ground need deep watering **not** just a spray on top. Make sure the water goes into the roots. Watering spikes, made by Gardenia, although not cheap, force water down into the sub-root area.

Mulch has a tendency to form a crust and pack down, preventing the water from penetrating.. Go around with an hoe and keep the mulch loose.

It’s hard in this weather to keep the water up to plants in pots. If they dry out, just watering on top might not be enough. Dried out pots need to be dunked.

An application of water absorbing granules is a help to all plants when the soil is so dry.

It’s not too late to do some cuttings of both Asiatics and Vireyas. Just follow the test of making sure the cutting is not too soft or hard.

Plants like a little dose of fertiliser going into Winter. Now is a good time.

Look for any seed you may want to put down. Sow straight away before it gets too cold.

Don’t forget your grey water for watering in-ground plants.
WT & TN

BENCH DISPLAY

16th November 2007

This report is not mentioning the quality of the blooms, as the reporter of these points was not present at the meeting.

Once again the majority of places in the Vireya class were taken out by Simon Begg with wins in all classes. Elizabeth Xipell, Alan Walker and John Quinn were the other only exhibitors to gain points.

The Azalea section had entries in 3 classes, evergreen hybrid, deciduous species and deciduous hybrids. Inge and Mike Hammer won all 3, very good to see them enter all these classes.

Rhododendron section had 3 point scorers with Alan, Simon and John being the recipients.

One of the big problems we are having at present is so many entries carrying the "Name Wanted" tag. It appears that so many of the blooms in the Azalea and Rhododendron classes are so similar that it takes a very knowledgeable Rhododendron grower to correctly identify flowers.

There weren't any notes re. non Rhodo entries or Exhibit of Night.

16th February 2008.

As expected the small number of exhibitors displayed a good quality range of Vireyas. The wins and points were shared by Andrew Rouse and Simon Begg. Andrew's small species *salicifolium* and *phaeochitum* were 1st and 3rd with Simon splitting these with *aquabile*. *Konori*, *luralense* and *viriosum* [Andrew's] were selected in the large species class----Andrew is doing an excellent job growing and hybridising species. Simon took all places in the larger hybrid class with 'Great Scent-sation', 'Tropic Fanfare' and *lochiae x pseudonitens*. The small hybrids *viriosum x jasminiflorum* and 'St Valentine' won for Andrew and Simon was second.

The Azalea section only had 3 entries. Inge, Simon and Alan entered evergreen hybrids with Alan's getting the nod and Inge second.

Due to the night's full program, we did not have time to pick Exhibit of Night.

GARDEN EXPO AT TESSELAARS

Every year in February Tesselaars, of Tulip Festival fame, hold a 'Garden and Rare Plants Expo'. It used to be called the 'Gardener's Weekend'. This year the ARSV was very kindly invited to participate free of charge to display and sell rhododendrons. Last year over 3,000 people attended the Expo so the opportunity to put vireyas (these being the only rhododendrons flowering at this time of year) in front of the gardening public was very enticing.

We are fortunate in being able to source excellent quality plants for display and sale from Andrew Raper of Rhodo Glen Nursery. He supplied us with 30 plants to sell and 4 large plants in flower for display. When the gate opened at 10.00am the crowds poured in and the four of us on the stand were inundated with queries. What attracted them was the large basket of cut flowers of every available colour on the front table and the very large plant of 'Dixie', Andrew's latest release.

Andrew was the first speaker in the marquee and he received an enthusiastic response to his talk on vireyas. So much so that after it we sold all the plants and had to call for another load of forty! By the end of Saturday those had gone and another lot of forty were collected.

I was impressed by the number of people who already grew vireyas. They are growing them with success in Melbourne's suburbs, the Dandenongs, Blue Mountains and country areas. The bright colours, especially 'Dixie', and scented flowers were most in demand.

The two days were very successful. Advice was given, orders taken and interest stimulated. Thanks to the staff of Tesselaars, Andrew for the plants and giving an excellent talk and the ARSV members who gave their time.

MNB

GENERAL MEETINGS

February 15th 2008

Mike Hammer, our Vice-President gave an informed talk on digital photography. He first explained the importance of the number of pixels or coloured dots that make up a photo. The more pixels the better the quality of photo when it is enlarged. The primary colours of light are red, green and blue. From these three colours all other colours can be made. Mike went on to explain about the difference between digital and colour film, the importance of the ASA speed, colour tone and other technical data.

Digital cameras should be kept cool at all times as there is a sensor in the middle of the camera. The size of the lens is important and will affect the quality of the photo and the greater the zoom range the more difficult it is to get the curvature right.

March 14th 2008

Our speaker for the evening was Peter Geneat who is a fourth generation breeder of Nerines. He has 10,000-12,000 bulbs in the ground and sells cut flowers and bulbs. He lives on 16 acres in Gembrook and grows nerines in raised beds fifty yards long with a north westerly aspect. The soil is clay and gravel.

His slides showed nerines of all colours from white through pinks, purples, reds and bi-colours. Some are evergreen if kept moist. Delicate varieties need protection from frost but most enjoy an open sunny position. Professional growers encourage more flowers by burning off the stubble at the end of the season. Plants growing in the wild in South Africa will only flower every third year unless a bush fire goes through them. Species have only two to five florets and can flower from a bulb as small as a ten cent piece.

Recently Peter planted hundreds on a paddock cleared of dead wattles and was amazed that in their first year the flowering was 166%. The following year was nothing like as successful and there is rarely a 100% flowering. His bulbs are not lifted or thinned unless they become loose in the ground, even those growing in pots are left to become crowded. Fertilising is similar to Australian natives, low in phosphorous and only every two or three seasons. He uses potash as the plants are finishing flowering as this will help produce flowers in the following year. For the cut flower trade the flower stems are pulled off the bulb sideways when the first bud is just starting to open.

Some of the excellent English bred flowers are – ‘Spitfire’, one of the best reds with strong stems and large flower heads, and ‘Dunkirk’ another good red. Both these flowers are regularly used in wreaths to be placed on the memorial cenotaph in Gembrook on Anzac Day. ‘Snowflake’ is an excellent white from England but Australian conditions produce better heads of flowers.

‘Afterglow’ is a very good Australian red which usually flowers in full leaf and likes full sun. Some of Peter’s father’s hybrids are ‘Coconut Ice’ which is self explanatory, ‘Flamingo’ a delicate pink and ‘Sarah May’ which was recently wrongly named in a garden magazine.

Members and friends interested in visiting Peter's farm and buying nerines in flower can do so on Sunday April 20th when Peter has offered to show us around. MNB.

JOTTINGS

I am sure many members will relate to this ditty!

'THE COMPUTER SWALLOWED GRANDMA'

The computer swallowed Grandma
Yes, honestly, it's true!
She pressed 'control' and 'enter'
And disappeared from view!

It devoured her completely
The thought just made me squirm.
She must have caught a 'virus'
Or been eaten by a 'worm'!

I've searched through the 'recycle bin'
And 'files' of every kind.
I've even used the 'internet'
But nothing did I find!

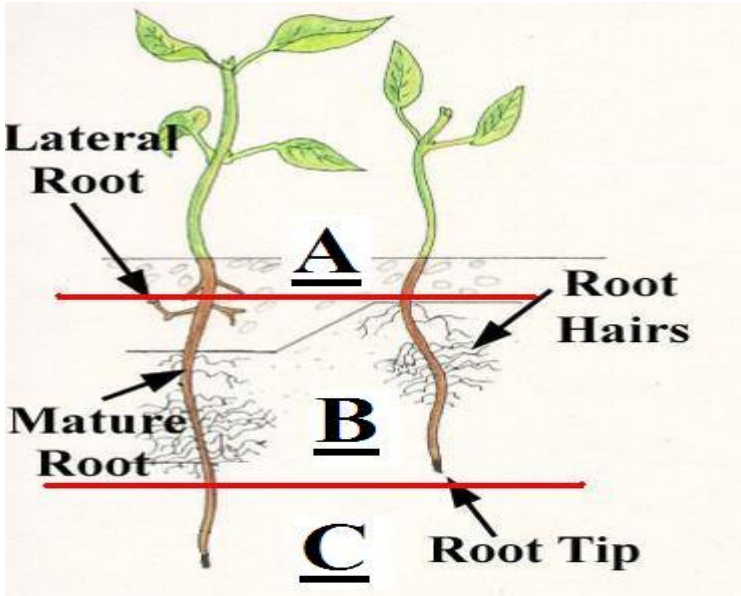
In desperation I asked Tom
My 'searches' to refine.
The reply from him was negative
Not a thing was found 'on line'!

So, if inside you 'in box'
My Grandma you should see
Please 'copy', 'scan' and 'paste' her
And send her back to me!

PICNIC AT KURTH KILN PARK. A small group of members met in Gembrook on Wednesday, March 12, to travel out to the back of Gembrook to the Kurth Kiln Park. The evening was one of those balmy Autumn nights and the atmosphere was wonderful. A gas barbecue was provided but no-one remembered to bring matches! After many attempts to light the barbecue from a car lighter and strips of paper and bark, we finally got underway with the cooking. Unfortunately, the fellas had worn themselves out with the effort of lighting the barbie so we girls had to do the cooking! Naturally, we surpassed ourselves.

After dining luxuriously (washed down with some particularly fine Merlot), the children in the group tried their hand at yabbing. Unfortunately, we must have been too noisy (probably the fault of the Merlot) because the yabbies weren't biting. Anyway, after exploring unsuccessfully in the bush for giraffes, the group finally made it's way back to the Quinn Hacienda for coffee and other suitable goodies. All in all, a very relaxing and pleasant evening. Carole Quinn

WATER PENETRATION LEVELS.



“A” indicates surface watering.

“B” indicates water retained say last winter.

“C” indicates water retained in a good wet year.

Prior to the drought we would have months in winter where we might get between 5 to 8 inches for a month. Over the past two years these have been around 2 inches. So, little water into “B” and virtually nothing into “C”.

If “B” has dried out for some months do the roots in “B” die, or just lie dormant?

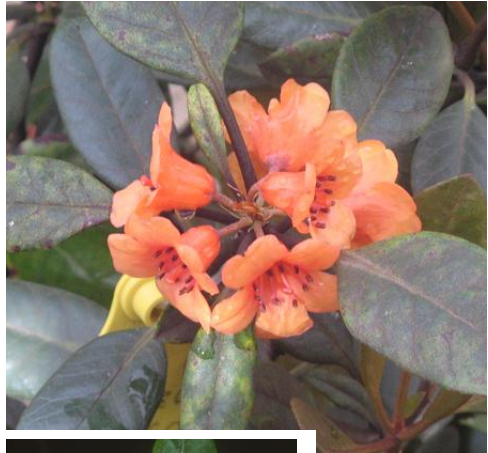
Are many of our plants surviving on roots in area “A” only and will have to grow a new deep root system again?

(Article copied from the Newsletter of the SA Branch of ARS, March 2008)

GROUP TOURS: Do you belong to a social or fund raising group that goes for bus or car trips? What about bringing your group to the National Rhododendron Gardens and showing them your special interest. Guides are available and the Gardens have year round attractions. Autumn and spring are particularly beautiful. During spring there is a twenty-two seater bus to take people around in style. Come on a Tuesday and the Volunteer Group of ARSV members will take your group on a guided tour of the glasshouse and nursery where they can buy rare rhododendrons at wholesale prices (prior notification needed). Bring a picnic lunch or go to one of the many cafes/restaurants in the hills. Combine the trip with a visit to another garden, the villages, William Ricketts Sanctuary, Mont de Lancey Homestead, Puffing Billy, Beechmont Garden, Cloudehill Nursery, Ferny Creek Horticultural Society Garden, Sherbrooke Forest, a winery or any of the other attractions in the area.



R. radians, "Beechmont"



Above
R. aequabile
Andrew Rouse
March 2008



R. forrestii v *Repens*
Alistair Watt, Lavers Hill
November 2005



Left
R. elegantulum

ARSV
archives



R. tsariense
ARSV archives 1964



R. pachysanthum
ARSV archives 1997



ARSV Stand at Tesselaars' Garden Expo February 2008



**R "Solar Flare", Beechmont March 2008
What Josie Rutherford's winning R 'Eastern Zanzibar' was labeled
when she acquired her plant!**

AQIS RULES: IMPORT OF RHODODENDRON SEED INTO AUSTRALIA

AQIS, Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, administers whether and under what conditions, plant material, including seed may be imported into Australia. Relevant AQIS data is publicly available information searchable on line and downloadable.

When I searched, via Google, on 6 March 2008 under the heading ‘Rhododendron’ there were a number of downloadable publications coverings rhododendron seed and other rhododendron plant material. Each publication works in the same fashion:

*First a list of what plants are permitted without permit

*Second a list of what plants are currently prohibited and require further assessment.

There then follows conditions. The restrictions apply to the importer. This is important in reassuring overseas suppliers.

What appears here is ‘seed for sowing’ sourced from **any country** current as at the search date. AQIS provides no warranty as to completeness [there could be other restrictions, for example at a State level, or, unlikely, permissions] and the information can change without notice. In the case of accompanied luggage and mail AQIS need not be notified as is the case with freight or unaccompanied baggage. But in the case of accompanied luggage seed must be declared. In that case, and for mail, seed must not be mixed and must be clean [there are elaborate rules as to what this means but senders like RHS and RSF no doubt comply]. In both cases the packet must be correctly labeled with the seed’s botanical name [best it repeat exactly what is permitted even if misspelt or an outdated name is used]. A number of packets can be contained in one envelope or container with a complete list on its outside. For valuable seed separate packages seems the safer course even though more postage cost is incurred.

There are sister publications covering plant material **other than seed**. Both the material and the conditions vary according to the source country. From New Zealand, for example, only tissue culture is permitted in addition to seed. This appears also to be the case for other countries that have sudden oak death *phytophthora*. Here it is only necessary to state that there is no blanket ban on non seed. However the permitted listed plants, at a very quick look, seemed to be the same as for seed. As a consequence there are few permitted hybrids. And the conditions are formidable.

PERMITTED RHODODENDRON SPECIES SEED

These species may be imported subject to conditions. The text of these conditions is not reproduced here. Note that many listed items are not, in fact, species. This list has been edited only by highlighting Vireyas and adding any relevant page reference to Argent *Rhododendrons* of subgenus *vireya*. Similar page references appear in other lists that follow. AQIS’ misspellings and other obvious errors remain.

Rhododendron aberconwayi	Rhododendron abietifolium p199-200	Rhododendron acrophilum p 206-7
Rhododendron acuminatum p 111	Rhododendron adenogynum	Rhododendron adenophorum
Rhododendron adenopodium	Rhododendron adinophyllum p42-3	Rhododendron aequabile p129
Rhododendron aganniphum	Rhododendron alabamense	Rhododendron alabamense x flammeum
Rhododendron albiflorum	Rhododendron alborugosum p162-4	Rhododendron albrechtii
Rhododendron album p130-1	Rhododendron alutaceum	Rhododendron alutaceum var. russoinctum
Rhododendron amagianum	Rhododendron amaurophyllum	Rhododendron ambiguum
Rhododendron amesiae	Rhododendron anagalliflorum 147-8	Rhododendron annae
Rhododendron anthopogon subsp. hypenanthum	Rhododendron anthosphaerum	Rhododendron anwehense
Rhododendron aperantum	Rhododendron araiophyllum	Rhododendron arborescens
Rhododendron arboreum	Rhododendron arboreum subsp. cinnamomeum	Rhododendron arboreum subsp. cinnamomeum var. cinnamomeum
Rhododendron arboreum subsp. delavayi	Rhododendron arboreum subsp. nilagiricum	Rhododendron arboreum subsp. zeylanicum
Rhododendron arboreum var. campbelliae	Rhododendron arboreum var. nilagiricum	Rhododendron archboldianum 177
Rhododendron arfskianum p309-10	Rhododendron argipeplum	Rhododendron argyrophyllum
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Rhododendron atlanticum	Rhododendron atropurpureum	Rhododendron aucklandii
Rhododendron augustinii	Rhododendron augustinii subsp. augustinii	Rhododendron augustinii subsp. chasmanthum
Rhododendron augustinii subsp. hardyi	Rhododendron augustinii subsp. rubrum	Rhododendron augustinii var. chasmanthum
Rhododendron aureum	Rhododendron auriculatum	Rhododendron aurigeranum 299-300
Rhododendron aurigeranum x laetum	Rhododendron auritum	Rhododendron austrinum
Rhododendron austrokiusianum	Rhododendron baenitzianum 320-1	Rhododendron bagabonum 213-4
Rhododendron baileyi	Rhododendron bainbridgeanum	Rhododendron bakeri
Rhododendron balsaminiflorum	Rhododendron barbatum	Rhododendron basilicum
Rhododendron beanianum	Rhododendron beyerinckianum 75-7	Rhododendron blackii 310-11
Rhododendron bloembergenii 288-9	Rhododendron boothii	Rhododendron borneense subsp. angustissimum
Rhododendron borneense subsp. Villosum45 bryophilum 77	Rhododendron brachyanthum	Rhododendron brachyanthum subsp. hypolepidotum
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Rhododendron brookeanum var. gracile 246-7	Rhododendron brookeanum var. kinabaluense 245-6	Rhododendron bullatum
Rhododendron bureavii	Rhododendron burmanicum	Rhododendron burtii 200-1
Rhododendron buxifolium 202-3	Rhododendron caeruleum	Rhododendron caesium
Rhododendron calciphilum	Rhododendron calendulaceum	Rhododendron caliginis 78
Rhododendron callimorphum	Rhododendron calophytum	Rhododendron calophytum var. openshawianum
Rhododendron calostrotum	Rhododendron calostrotum subsp. keleticum	Rhododendron calostrotum subsp. riparium

Rhododendron calostrotum var. calostrotum	Rhododendron caloxanthum	Rhododendron camelliiflorum
Rhododendron campanulatum	Rhododendron campanulatum subsp. aeruginosum	Rhododendron campanulatum subsp. campanulatum
Rhododendron campbelliae	Rhododendron campylocarpum	Rhododendron campylocarpum subsp. caloxanthum
Rhododendron campylocarpum subsp. caloxanthum	Rhododendron campylocarpum subsp. campylocarpum	Rhododendron campylogynum
Rhododendron campylogynum var. cremastum	Rhododendron campylogynum var. myrtilloides	Rhododendron camtschaticum
Rhododendron canadense	Rhododendron canescens	Rhododendron canescens var. candidum
Rhododendron cantabile	Rhododendron capitatum	Rhododendron carneum
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Rhododendron cephalanthum	Rhododendron cerasinum	Rhododendron chamaecistus
Rhododendron chameunum	Rhododendron championae	Rhododendron chapmanii
Rhododendron charitopes	Rhododendron charitopes subsp. tsangpoense	Rhododendron chartophyllum
Rhododendron chasmanthoides	Rhododendron chasmanthum	Rhododendron christiana 306-7
Rhododendron christii 301-2	Rhododendron chrysdoron	Rhododendron ciliatum
Rhododendron ciliicalyx	Rhododendron ciliicalyx subsp. lyi	Rhododendron ciliipes
Rhododendron cinnabarinum	Rhododendron cinnabarinum subsp. xanthocodon	Rhododendron citriniflorum
Rhododendron citrinum 197-8	Rhododendron clementinae	Rhododendron coelicum
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Rhododendron concatenans	Rhododendron concinnum	Rhododendron concinnum
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Rhododendron cyanocarpum	Rhododendron dalhousiae	Rhododendron dalhousiae var. dalhousiae
Rhododendron dalhousiae var. rhabdotum	Rhododendron dasycladum	Rhododendron dauricum
Rhododendron davidi	Rhododendron davidsonianum	Rhododendron decandrum
Rhododendron decorum	Rhododendron decorum subsp. diaprepes	Rhododendron degronianum
Rhododendron degronianum subsp. heptamerum var. hondoense	Rhododendron degronianum subsp. yakushmanum	Rhododendron degronianum var. heptamerum
Rhododendron degronianum var. hondoense	Rhododendron degronianum var. kyomaruense	Rhododendron degronianum var. yakushmanum
Rhododendron delavayi	Rhododendron deleiense	Rhododendron dendricola
Rhododendron dendrocharis	Rhododendron dianthosmum 79-80	Rhododendron diaprepes
Rhododendron dichroanthum	Rhododendron dichroanthum subsp. apodectum	Rhododendron dichroanthum subsp. scyphocalyx
Rhododendron dielsianum	Rhododendron dilatatum	Rhododendron dilatatum var. satsumense
Rhododendron diphyocalyx	Rhododendron discolor	Rhododendron eastmanii
Rhododendron eclecticum	Rhododendron edanoi subsp. pneumonantherum 161	Rhododendron edgeworthii
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Rhododendron eximium	Rhododendron fabri	Rhododendron facetum
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Rhododendron fastigiatum	Rhododendron ferrugineum	Rhododendron ficolacteum
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Rhododendron flinckii	Rhododendron floribundum	Rhododendron formosanum
Rhododendron formosum	Rhododendron formosum var. formosum	Rhododendron formosum var. inaequale
Rhododendron formosum var. johnstoneanum	Rhododendron forrestii	Rhododendron forrestii subsp. forrestii
Rhododendron fortunei	Rhododendron fortunei subsp. discolor	Rhododendron fulgens
Rhododendron fulvoides	Rhododendron fulvum	Rhododendron galactinum
Rhododendron gardenia	Rhododendron genestierianum	Rhododendron giganteum
Rhododendron glaucophyllum	Rhododendron glischroides	Rhododendron glischrum subsp. rude
Rhododendron goodenoughii 181	Rhododendron gracilentum 151-2	Rhododendron grande
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Rhododendron heliolepis	Rh heliolepis var. heliolepis	Rhododendron hellwigii x konori
Rhododendron hemitrichotum	Rhododendron hemsleyanum	Rhododendron henryi
Rhododendron herzogii	Rhododendron hidakanum	Rhododendron himantodes 117-8
Rhododendron hinnewellianum var. rockii	Rhododendron hippophaeoides	Rhododendron hippophaeoides var. hippophaeoides
Rhododendron hirsutum	Rhododendron hirtipes	Rhododendron hodgsonii
Rhododendron hongkongense	Rhododendron hookeri	Rhododendron horlickianum
Rhododendron houlstonii	Rhododendron hunnewellianum	Rhododendron hyacinthosmum 87-8
Rhododendron hymenanthus	Rhododendron hyperythrum	Rhododendron hypoleucum
Rhododendron impeditum	Rhododendron impositum 291-2	Rhododendron inaequale
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Rhododendron insigne	Rhododendron intranevatum 272-3	Rhododendron intricatum
Rhododendron inundatum 64-5	Rhododendron irroratum	Rhododendron irroratum subsp. pogonostylum
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Rhododendron japonicum var. glaucophyllum	Rhododendron jasminiflorum 158-60	Rhododendron jasminiflorum var. copelandii 159
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Rhododendron macrosepalum	Rhododendron maculiferum	Rhododendron maculiferum subsp. maculiferum
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Rhododendron microgynum	Rhododendron micromalayanum 123-4	Rhododendron microphyton
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Rhododendron molle subsp. molle	Rhododendron mollicomum	Rhododendron montroseanum
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Rhododendron prinophyllum	Rhododendron prinophyllum x mollis	Rhododendron prostratum
Rhododendron proteoides	Rhododendron protistum	Rhododendron protistum var. giganteum
Rhododendron prunifolium	Rhododendron przewalskii	Rhododendron pseudochrysanthum
Rhododendron pseudochrysanthum var. nakotaisanense	Rhododendron pubescens	Rhododendron pulchrum var. phoeniceum
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Rhododendron thomsonii subsp. thomsonii	Rhododendron tomentosum	Rhododendron tosaense
Rhododendron traillianum	Rhododendron traillianum var. dictyotum	Rhododendron trichanthum
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Rhododendron venator	Rhododendron vernicosum	Rhododendron vesiculiferum
Rhododendron vilmorinianum	Rhododendron virgatum	Rhododendron virgatum subsp. oleifolium
Rhododendron virgatum subsp. virgatum	Rhododendron viridescens	Rhododendron viscidifolium

Rhododendron viscosum	Rhododendron viscosum f. rhodanthum	Rhododendron viscosum var. glaucum
Rhododendron viscosum var. nitidum	Rhododendron wadanum	Rhododendron wallichii
Rhododendron wardii	Rhododendron wardii var. puralbum	Rhododendron wardii var. wardii
Rhododendron wasonii var. wenchuanense	Rhododendron websterianum	Rhododendron wentianum 313-4
Rhododendron weyrichii	Rhododendron wightii	Rhododendron williamsianum
Rhododendron williamsii 279-80	Rhododendron wiltonii	Rhododendron womersleyi 150-1
Rhododendron wrayi	Rhododendron wrightianum 231-2	Rhododendron x azaleodendron
Rhododendron x coriifolium	Rhododendron x fragrantissimum	Rhododendron x intermedium
Rhododendron x konori	Rhododendron xanthocodon	Rhododendron xanthostephanum
Rhododendron yakushmanum	Rhododendron yakushmanum subsp. makinoi	Rhododendron yedoense
Rhododendron yedoense var. poukhanense	Rhododendron yellottii 138-9	Rhododendron yongii 265-7
Rhododendron yungningense	Rhododendron yunnanense	Rhododendron zaleucum
Rhododendron zeylanicum	Rhododendron zoelleri 322-3	Rhododendron zollingeri 131-2

SPECIES REQUIRING FURTHER EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT

These species are currently prohibited entry because insufficient information is available on their risk status.

Rhododendron mendumiiae

VIREYAS NOT INCLUDED ON PERMITTED LIST BUT KNOWN TO BE IN AUSTRALIA

Recently AQIS has changed its plant import regime from one where everything was permitted, subject to conditions, unless listed on a prohibited list, to one where everything is prohibited, unless listed on a permitted list, and then permitted only subject to conditions.

To make the change AQIS compiled a ‘permitted species list’ with respect to each genus. The underlying principle on which such lists were said to be compiled was that species already in Australia were permitted and others had to be assessed. Obviously AQIS consulted with people and organisations it recognised as being interested in each genus to identify what should be on the permitted list. Unfortunately it failed to consult with ARS in compiling its new permitted rhododendron species list. As a result the initial AQIS permitted list of rhododendron species listed very few of many rhododendron species known to be in Australia. After representations from Vice President Bill Taylor, AQIS agreed to augment its rhododendron species permitted list with others ARS could list as being in Australia. ARSV members including, in particular, Vice President Bill Taylor, Murray McAllister, Andrew Rouse Alan Kepert, Tom Noonan and Lyn Craven, compiled a list of Rhododendron species in Australia which was submitted to AQIS. The rhododendron species permitted list was augmented late last year in response to this submission. However the list omits a number of species included in the ARSV submission. Errors do happen!

Andrew Rouse supplied me with his compilation of ‘Rhododendrons in Aus’ which I

have compared with the rhododendron permitted list above. Using Argent *Rhododendrons of subgenus vireya* I added page references for the permitted listed *Vireya* species and compiled two further lists from those *Vireya* species not on the permitted list. The first extra list sets out those *Vireya* species Andrew has identified as already in Australia. The extra second list sets out the remainder of *Vireya* species in Argent. They are those *Vireya* species **not** known to be in Australia. Some might be here, but their presence is not established. In compiling these two additional lists it is probable I have made mistakes. Armed with a comprehensive Rhododendron Species text someone with energy and persistence could compile two extra lists for non *Vireya* species. What I hope is that someone will review my work, correct its errors and undertake the non *Vireya* task. Then, I hope, that ARSV can persuade AQIS first, to correct its omissions and, second, to treat the 'risks' of import of rhododendrons on a whole genus or, subgenus basis rather than individually. None, in Australia, presents a weed hazard similar to *R ponticum* in the UK and Ireland.

***Vireya* species already in Australia include at least those following.** I have almost half of them myself.

<i>R alticola</i> 298	<i>R apoanum</i> 112	<i>R asperrimum</i> 74	<i>R asperum</i> 74-5
<i>R brassii</i> 223-4	<i>R celebicum</i> 287-8	<i>R x coriifolium</i> 263	<i>R culminicola</i> 308-9
<i>R dielsianum</i> 80-1	<i>R hellwigii</i> 84-5	<i>R lamrialianum</i> 118-20	<i>R durionifolium</i> 113-4
<i>R mendumiae</i> 277-8, NB the only rhododendron prohibited by name is already here!			<i>R nervulosum</i> 263-4
<i>R pudorinum</i> 133-4	<i>R pulleanum</i> 54-5	<i>R quadrasianum</i> var. <i>rosmarinifolium</i> 53	
<i>R radians</i> 169-70	<i>R renschianum</i> 254	<i>R rugosum</i> var. <i>rugosum</i> 261-3	<i>R x schoddei</i> 108
<i>R x stevensianum</i> ['Kundiawa']	<i>R subcrenulatum</i> 232-3	<i>R truncicola</i> 105	<i>R x variolosum</i> 126-7
<i>R versteegii</i> 139	<i>R verticillatum</i> 256-7	<i>R villosulum</i> 302-3	
<i>R viriosum</i> 324-6; Australian native unlisted!		<i>R vitis-idaea</i> 217	

VIREYAS NOT ON PERMITTED LIST NOT NECESSARILY IN AUSTRALIA

<i>R amabile</i> 169	<i>R angulatum</i> 296	<i>R apiense</i> 261	
<i>R arenicola</i> 132-3	<i>R asperulum</i> 30	<i>R baconii</i> 267	
<i>R banghamiorum</i> 195-6	<i>R becarrii</i> 253	<i>R brachygynum</i> 281-2	<i>R brachypodarium</i> 171-2
<i>R brevipes</i> 318	<i>R bullifolium</i> 77-8	<i>R buruense</i> 292-3	<i>R buxoides</i> 46
<i>R caespitosum</i> 141-2	<i>R calosanthes</i> 233	<i>R capellae</i> 149-50	<i>R carrii</i> 178-9
<i>R carstense</i> 172-3	<i>R cernuum</i> 130	<i>R chevalieri</i> 191	
<i>R ciliilobum</i> 61	<i>R cinchoniflorum</i> 66-7	<i>R cinerascens</i> 173	<i>R coelorum</i> 144
<i>R commutatum</i> 271-2	<i>R comparabile</i> 312	<i>R comptum</i> 137-8	
<i>R cornu-bovis</i> 219	<i>R correoides</i> 135-6	<i>R cuneifolium</i> 47-8	<i>R curviflorum</i> 303-4
<i>R cuspidellum</i> 319-320	<i>R cyrtophyllum</i> 60-1	<i>R datiandingense</i> 35	<i>R delicatulum</i> 79
<i>R densifolium</i> 33	<i>R detznerianum</i> 58	<i>R disterigmoides</i> 147	<i>R edanoi</i> ssp <i>edanoi</i> 160
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<i>R giulianettii</i> 136-7	<i>R glabrifilum</i> 314-5	<i>R glabriflorum</i> 294-5	<i>R habbema</i> 66
<i>R haematophthalmum</i> 83-4	<i>R hameliiflorum</i> 58-9	<i>R hartleyi</i> 180-1	<i>R hatamense</i> 218-9
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<i>R kawir</i> 107	<i>R kemulense</i> 259-60	<i>R kerowagiense</i> 87-8	<i>R lambianum</i> 165-6
<i>R lamii</i> 229-30	<i>R lampongum</i> 129-30	<i>R leptobranchion</i> 289-90	<i>R leptomorphum</i> 212
<i>R leyense</i> 282-3	<i>R lindaeanum</i> 59-60	<i>R loboense</i> 283-4	<i>R loerzingii</i> 253-4
<i>R lomphense</i> 293-4	<i>R macrosiphon</i> 173-4	<i>R melantherum</i> 91	<i>R microphyllum</i> 143-4
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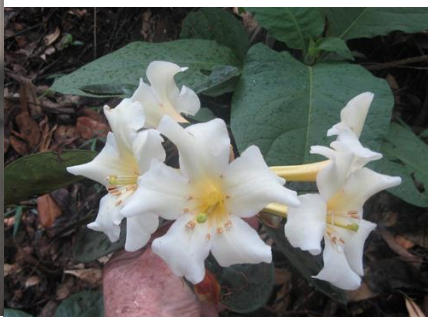
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Mt. Tamborine Botanic Garden Bromeliads



**Fogger at Beechmont
Doors Closed**



**R “Gardenia Odyssey”?
at Mt. Tamborine Botanic
Garden**



**Fogger at Beechmont
Doors Open**



**Vireya Species Shadehouse
“Beechmont”**

ANTICIPATED PROGRAMME FOR 2008

.APRIL:

FRIDAY 18TH 8.00pm General Meeting Nunawading. Barry and Gay Stagoll. Gardens of UK.

MAY

FRIDAY 16TH 8.00pm General Meeting Nunawading.

JUNE

SATURDAY 14TH, Vireya Group. At 'Beechmont', Simon and Marcia Begg 12 Mernda Rd Olinda 10am-Noon followed by BBQ, BYO everything

FRIDAY 20TH 8.00pm. General Meeting at Nunawading. Representative from Parks Vic

JULY:

SATURDAY 12TH, Vireya Group 10am- Noon; Ring Simon Begg to confirm. 9751 1610

FRIDAY 18TH 8.00pm General Meeting Nunawading. Grafting workshop.

AUGUST:

FRIDAY 15TH General Meeting – Ian Wallace, Big Leaf Rhododendrons.

SEPTEMBER:

SALE DAY Sunday 14TH, Olinda Hall

SATURDAY 13TH, Vireya Group Ring Simon Begg to confirm. 9751 1610

FRIDAY 19TH 8.00pm General Meeting at Nunawading. Hybridising/pollinating. Speaker on Vireyas

OCTOBER:

FRIDAY 3RD, SAT 4TH AND SUN 5TH ABC GARDEN SHOW @ CAULFIELD RACECOURSE

SATURDAY 4TH & SUNDAY 5TH AZALEA DISPLAY in Hall

FRIDAY 17TH 8.00pm General Meeting and National Council AGM at Nunawading.

NOVEMBER:

FROM SAT. 1ST TO TUES. 4TH, RHODODENDRON SHOW in Hall.

SATURDAY 8TH – Vireya Group Ring Simon Begg to confirm. 9751 1610

FRIDAY 21ST 8.00pm AGM at Nunawading. Speaker to be advised.

DECEMBER:

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION – 1ST OR 2ND weekend.

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Australian Rhododendron Society Vic Branch Committee 2007-8

President –Carole Quinn Ph 5968 1027	Inge Hammer-Ph: 9755 2176
Vice President No- 1 Mike Hammer Ph: 9755 2176	
Vice President No- 2 Bill Taylor Ph: 9754 8275	Marcia Begg, Ph: 9751 1610
Treasurer – Neil Webster, Ph: 9859 3622	Elizabeth Xipell-Ph: 0959 9934
Secretary – Val Marshall, Ph: 9803 4434	John Quinn – Ph: 5968 1027
Simon Begg – 9751 1610 (Newsletter Editor)	Alan Walker-Ph: 9726 8836
Len Sloggett – Ph: 9808 6484	Mike Hare- Ph: 9844 2232

SOCIETY PICASAWEB SITE

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

Additions since the November 2007 Newsletter are :

- More Vireya Species arranged alphabetically
- Asiatic species at NRG arranged alphabetically
- Vireya Hybrids
- Mt Tamborine Botanic Garden
- “Bolobek” Mt Macedon

For the latest on the “Beechmont” Picasaweb site visit

<http://picasaweb.google.com/simonwbegg>

SWB