

DUNEDIN RHODODENDRON GROUP Inc.

March 2015 Newsletter



Aciphylla glaucescens



Cardiocrinum giganteum
var. *Yunnanense*



Paeonia suffruticosa

WEDNESDAY 8 April 7.30 pm

Plant List Illustrated 2015

Discussion on plants which are offered in the list

Bring & Buy Plant Sale and Supper to follow

Sargood Centre, Logan Park Drive, Dunedin

Happy New Year to all members.

Your committee hopes you find in the enclosed programme a range of things you can enjoy. Our autumn gardens visit will be held on April 12th (details in the 2015 programme). Now that dryer weather is past (leaving behind an exceptional bud set) ones attention turns to getting those plants (often hard to find) to enhance or make our gardens.

Our plant list is a unique, defining feature of the group and is enclosed with this letter. Two new suppliers have been added to the list this year, Pukerau and Wake Robin nurseries (joining Hunt's, Hereweka, Hokonui, Wanaka Garden Seeds and Blue Mountain nurseries). Pukerau is strong on NZ natives while Wake Robin has perennial treasures that one might have purchased from specialist nurseries, such as Southwell, in the past; these will give you contrast in season and texture with rhododendrons.

Come along to our talk on April 8th to see photos of the plants available for purchase, and be involved in an exchange of views on this year's offering. Growers and members of the group will be invited to talk about their plants.

We also hope to put up some pictures of the plants on our new **Facebook** page '[Dunedin Rhododendron Group](#)'. You don't have to be a member of **Facebook** to look at these, but can sign in to join in the conversation.

Please note the change of venue for collecting your order, and remember, plants have to be collected on the day.

Mark Joel ph 477 9642

Tannock Glen

The garden has been kept in good shape and continues to draw favourable comment. The level of general donations by visitors is over \$700 for the six months to mid-January, which compares with under \$500 for the whole of the previous financial year. An arborist has been employed to remove some sycamores and cut back other trees along the boundary with the houses on Warden Street. The huge holly which had overgrown the garden shed and interfered with desirable trees and rhododendrons, is gradually being cut back and removed a bit at a time on our monthly working bees, with the intention of removing it totally. The shed roof has rusted through and is to be renewed.

We are pleased to be able to report that the Botanic Gardens have arranged with us to use Tannock Glen as part of the training for one of their apprentices. A third-year apprentice will prepare a management plan for the garden and spend half a day per fortnight working on it and following the progress of the garden. We will still need to have our regular working bees on the morning of the second Monday in each month, but will liaise with the apprentice and record what work has been done by us and by her.

Brian Newall has been regularly mowing the lawns at Tannock Glen for many years. We are sorry to have received his resignation from that job, but wish to thank him for the great service which he has done for the Group. In the meantime we have a roster of people sharing the task of mowing the lawns and would appreciate the offer of two more people to help.

- Remember **Tannock Glen** is open at all times and at no charge to members.

John Henderson ph 467 9665

DUNEDIN RHODODENDRON GROUP Inc.

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A membership form for any potential new members can be downloaded from the website.

Facebook: '[Dunedin Rhododendron Group](https://www.facebook.com/DunedinRhododendronGroup/)'



R. Marquis of Lothian



Angelica gigas

(photo by Paul Mason)



R. Ed Hillary



Hepatica nobilis Blue