# DUNEDIN RHODODENDRON GROUP Inc.

# November 2014 Newsletter

#### Dear members

At the Annual General meeting, held on September 10, the following members were elected to the committee.

### Office Holders:

President Mark Joel
Vice President Geraldine Cooke
Secretary Elizabeth Stuart
Treasurer John Henderson

### **Committee:**

Leonie Day Ingrid Emerson Viki Galland Mary O'Connell-Grimmond Yvonne Joel Chris Read



Heaton Rutland hybrid featured at Tony and Bron's garden, 7 September 2014

**Colin Clarke** and **Noelene Ombler** were both made life members of the group in recognition of their long and distinguished service. **Alan Edwards** was awarded the President's Spade. Thanks to **Sandra Dalziel** and **Graeme Hunt** who retired from the committee.

You will receive the **Dunedin Rhododendron Group's Bulletin** with this letter. This represents a massive effort by our editor, **Alan Edwards**, to maintain one of the unique features of our group. Thanks also to all those who contributed by way of articles, garden write-ups or images.

Your Committee is keen to get feedback as to what activities you would like to have provided by way of garden visits, speakers or any other matters. We plan to start a facebook group, a no cost forum for members, that we hope will help us engage with the younger generation. Please contact any of us with your thoughts. We value your input.

# Mark Joel ph 477 9642



Rhododendron sinonuttalii Tannock Glen, 21 October 2014

#### DUNEDIN RHODODENDRON GROUP Inc.

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Website: <a href="www.rhodogroupdunedin.org.nz">www.rhodogroupdunedin.org.nz</a>
A membership form for any potential new members can be downloaded from the website.

## Tannock Glen

The group's garden was visited by delegates from the **International Rhododendron Conference** on 21 October and was looking pristine, thanks to much work carried out by John Henderson and other members over the last few years.

The delegates appreciated the new labels which now extend to most species plus some hybrids and trees.

**Steve Hootman** (<u>Rhododendron Species Foundation</u>, <u>Washington USA</u>) was impressed by the range of our collection and was able to identify rare species for us. **Hartwig Schepker** (<u>Bremen Botanic Garden</u>, <u>Germany</u>) liked the way our hybrids showed their parentage as first crosses between species.

The Markby family have installed a plaque and tree to commemorate the late **Ralph Markby**. Ralph was central to the founding of the group in 1970 and shortly after, Tannock Glen. This memorial is an apt tribute to his vision. Ralph's family joined us for afternoon tea during our visit on September 7th.

The Plant Auction held at the New Zealand Rhododendron Association Conference raised \$850 which they donated to Tannock Glen. We are very grateful for their support.

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

## **Garden Visits**

Next and final garden visits for the year are on Sunday 16 November

- 1.30 Mark Joel 9 Meadow Street Mornington
- 2.30 Ann and John Barsby 14 Royal Terrace (afternoon tea here)
- 3.30 Jo Dodd 17 Royal Terrace

