



The **Rhodoholic**



Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

Volume 26:1 February 2015

President's Message

It is very hard to believe spring is still eight weeks away. As much as I enjoy working in the garden in this lovely weather, I can honestly say I am feeling a little cheated. As winter arrives I look forward to those days that allow you to browse through garden books or review those millions of photos that I have been meaning to organize or maybe even get caught up on a few sewing projects. Of course with weather like this my conscience would never allow such a thing. The gardening must be done. I know many of you are thinking, careful what you wish for! I am generally cured of the winter wish after watching the weather reports for the East Coast.

We are revving up in preparation for a very busy spring. When I do get to those photos, I hope to pick out a few to forward to the ARS Photo contest



**This week Wednesday
Rhodo Panel - 7:30 pm
Bring your rhodo questions!
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for the 2015 Rhodo Convention. The photos are eligible if they have been taken between April 15, 2014 to April 15, 2015. The entries have to be submitted by midnight PST, April 26, 2015. All contest rules can be found on the convention website www.2015rhodo.ca. As you are aware our Chapter is responsible for the plant sale and we will require many volunteers to assist with this activity. In the event you missed the sign-up list at the November meeting we will circulate another at the February meeting. If you have not registered for the 2015 Convention there is still time to take advantage of the early bird fee.

On the early bird note, the electronic version of the Journal of the American Rhododendron Society (JARS) is available prior to the hard-



copy arriving in the mail. For those of you interested in accessing JARS on line you will require your membership number. This number is available on the address label of the hardcopy of your JARS and if you do not have one to refer to contact me for your number. If you register to access the electronic version you will continue to receive your hardcopy in the mail.

A few representatives from each of the Chapters in District One meet twice a year and share information on our Chapter's activities as well as discuss other matters that are of concern to our society as a whole. In fairness to all Chapters we rotate hosting the meeting from area to area. CVRS will be hosting the meeting in the Cowichan Valley in March. Please consider providing me with questions or suggestions you want me to bring to the meeting table.

The photos I have attached to this letter were taken at Whitney Nursery, April 2014. This will hopefully inspire you to sign up for the April 16 joint meeting with the Juan De Fuca Chapter in Port Angeles. We will be going to Whitney Nursery and Gardens on an excursion as well as Hurricane Ridge, Far Reaches Farm Nursery, and Chicom (a species garden)

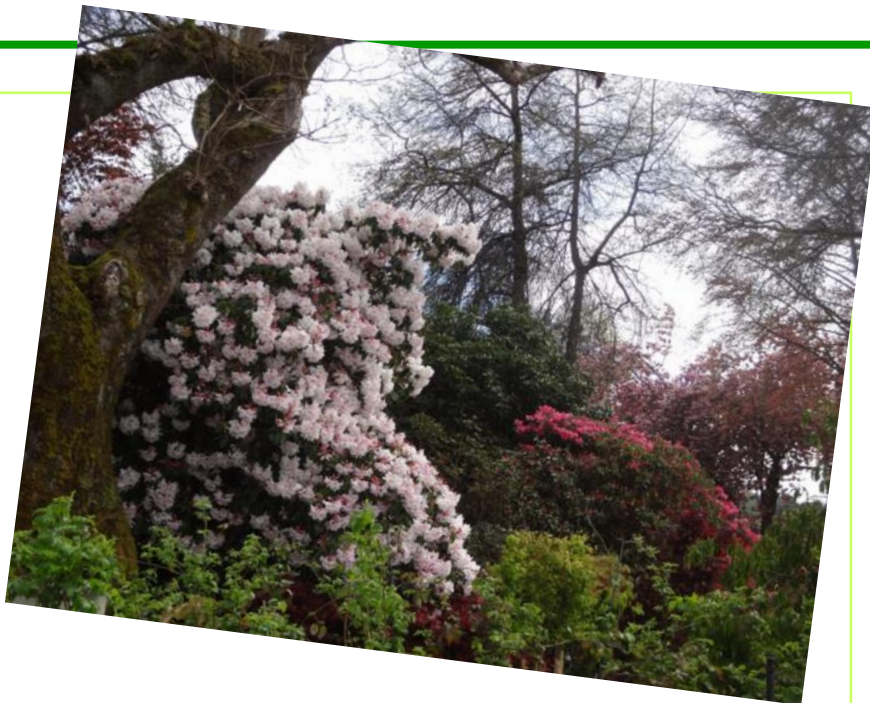


during our overnight visit to the Olympic Peninsula. It will be important to inform Bill by March 1 of your intention to attend as he is arranging transportation and accommodation.

The website for our Cowichan Valley Garden Fair is up and running at cowichanvalleygardenfair.com. Bill is accepting vendor and grower applications for our May 2 Plant Sale. The forms are available on the Garden Fair website. Please inform interested persons and businesses. We expect the spaces will fill up quickly as word is out regarding the good time had by all in previous years.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the February Meeting this Wednesday. Our very popular expert panel will be answering all of your Rhodo questions. Come prepared with your questions and take advantage of their generosity in sharing their knowledge. Don't forget to bring an interesting item from the garden for show and tell. See you Wednesday.

Sandra Stevenson



This month we are featuring in the Rhodoholic
Rhododendrons of the Year 2015
as selected by the ARS.
Enjoy!



Deciduous Azalea:
R. prinophyllum



Deciduous Azalea: Gibraltar



Evergreen Azalea: 'Delaware Valley White'



**Evergreen Azalea:
R. yedoense var. *poukhanense***

Expert Panel Ready for Those Tough Rhodo Questions at Wednesday's Meeting at 7:30 pm

We have assembled a panel of rhodo experts for our meeting on Wednesday – a not to miss event where you can get answers for those rhodo questions you have always wanted an answer to. Our panel includes the following:

Ken Webb: member of the Victoria Chapter
associate member of Cowichan
ARS Bronze Medal recipient
presently ARS District 1 Director
as of the ARS Board Meeting to take place at the Spring Convention in Sydney, will become ARS Western Vice President

Sean Rafferty: member of the Victoria Chapter
past Executive member of the Fraser South Chapter
past Vice President of the Vancouver Chapter
ARS Bronze Medal recipient
Vice President of the Rhododendron Species Foundation

Chris Southwick: President of the Nanaimo Chapter
ARS Bronze Medal recipient
Granddaughter of Ted and Mary Greig of Royston Nursery fame and themselves ARS Gold Medal recipients

Garth Wedemire: member of the North Island Chapter
Associate member of Cowichan
past Executive member of Fraser South Chapter
past ARS Director of District 1
ARS Bronze and Silver recipient
Board Member of the Rhododendron Species Foundation

Ken Gibson Granted CVRS Honorary Membership

At a recent meeting CVRS executive granted Ken Gibson, Honorary Membership along with a new CVRS vest.

"Painted mountain", the rhododendron garden of Ken and Dot Gibson, began taking root on the hill in Tofino British Columbia some fifty years ago. Over the ensuing years Ken's garden has become a destination world renowned within the rhododendron community.

Ken's membership in the American Rhododendron Society was routed through the Vancouver Chapter as this was the only Chapter in British Columbia at the time. With the expansion of Chapters within the newly appointed District One of the A.R.S., the Mount Arrowsmith Chapter in Qualicum Beach eventually became the Gibson's home Chapter, all the while maintaining associate memberships with other Chapters in the District including the CVRS.



Ken's first persistent dedication to the study of the cause and effect of powdery mildew on rhododendrons and sharing this knowledge became, and still is, widely recognized and appreciated. His sought after presentations on the propagation of rhododendrons via grafting is always well received by the many Chapters.

In 1997 Ken was awarded, jointly with his wife Dot, the A.R.S. Silver Medal. The medal dedication reads in part "...your leadership helped stimulate the tremendous growth in District One membership ..."Ambassadors Extraordinaire'...". This honorific remains genuine today as it did in 1997.

As rhododendron gardeners you do yourself a disservice if you have not visited the hill top garden in Tofino and had the 'Ambassador' lead you on a tour through his domain.

Al Campbell

History of CVRS Rhodo Donations

For the past few years the CVRS has donated rhodos to community organisations as follows:

- 2010 Lake Cowichan Rhodo Garden
- 2011 Vancouver Island University - Duncan Campus
- 2012 Shawnigan Lake Community Centre
- 2013 Gerry Smith Park - Chemainus
- 2014 Cairnsmore Place - Duncan
- 2015 Snipe Fountain, Chemainus; Crofton Museum; BC Forest Discovery Centre



PJM

ARS International Convention

May 6 to 10 in Sidney - REGISTER NOW!!

Folks- don't miss this opportunity to attend a first class international rhododendron conference close of your home! The ARS Annual Convention is in Sidney this year and will attract hundreds of delegates who will be impressed with presentations from 7 top notch speakers from around the world. As well there are tours organised for 28 local private and public gardens on southern Vancouver Island. You can also sign up for a visit to Tofino and central Vancouver Island rhodo tours after the conference. Go to:

www.2015rhodo.ca

to register and sign up for this great conference. Our club is responsible for organising the convention plant sale where there will be thousands of excellent rhodos and companions plants available for sale. Please let Ian Efford know if you can help with staffing of the sale as we need lots of volunteers over the 4 days of the plant sale.

One of the featured international speakers at the Sidney Conference is Dr. Guan Kaiyun, a professor and deputy director of Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography, and also a director of Turpan



Eremophyte Botanic Garden, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). He was the director of Kunming Botanical Garden, CAS from 1995 to 2006. He is also the vice-secretary general of the International Association of Botanic Gardens, vice-president of Rhododendron Society of China.



Noyo Dream



Egret

Dr. Kaiyun has published 135 scientific research papers and 23 books or monographs, holds ten patents and registered twenty seven new plant cultivars. He was awarded as an outstanding scientist by the Chinese government. His research interest includes conservation biology and plant taxonomy with special interests in the genera of Rhododendron, Camellia and Begonia.

Dr. Guan Kaiyun was born in January 1953 in Yunnan Province, China, an area well-known for its rhododendron species. "I don't want to say anything bad about other flowers ... but rhododendrons are special," he said. "If you talk about the shape of the flower, they can be huge or tiny; the plant shape, they can be anything from 5cm to 30m; and the leaves and the colours, there's a great variation." He said rhododendrons were used for ornamental purposes in China, as well as a medicine against rheumatism and arthritis. People often ate the flowers as a vegetable.



Champagne Lace—Official Convention Rhodo

During the past 35 years, Dr. Kaiyun has explored many times to those Rhododendron distribution areas such as Yunnan, Sichuan, Tibet, Guizhou, Guangxi and Guangdong of China.

He has also visited Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar for several times to explore rhododendrons. He is very familiar with the distribution of rhododendrons in China, especially sub-alpine and alpine species. He was invited to give speeches on rhododendrons in Great Britain, Germany, Norway, Denmark, Japan, New Zealand, Australia and other countries. He is also the author or co-author (translator) of several rhododendron books such as "Rhododendrons of China" (3 volumes) and "The Book of Rhododendrons".

Dr. Guan Kaiyun will be the speaker for ARS Convention session first thing on Saturday morning, May 9th. Be sure to take in all of the planned sessions by registering early at:

www.2015rhodo.ca



Todmorden



Taurus

Lanhydrock

Magnificent late Victorian country house with gardens and wooded estate



Lanhydrock House in its landscaped setting

Lanhydrock is the perfect country house and estate, with the feel of a wealthy but unpretentious family home. It is also one of the gardens to be visited on the CVRS UK Tour in May this year.

The great house stands in extensive grounds (360 hectares or 890 acres) above the River Fowey and it has been owned and managed by the National Trust since 1953. Much of the present house dates back to Victorian times but some sections date from the 1620s. It is a Grade I listed building and is set in gardens with formal areas. The hill behind the house is planted with a fine selection of shrubs, rhodos and trees.

Lanhydrock estate belonged to the Augustinian priory of St Petroc at Bodmin but the Dissolution of the Monasteries during the 1530s saw it pass into private hands. In 1620 wealthy merchant Sir Richard Robartes acquired the estate and began building Lanhydrock House, designed to a four-sided layout around a central courtyard and constructed of grey granite. Robartes died in



1624 but work on the building was continued by his son John Robartes, 1st Earl of Radnor, a notable public figure who served as Lord Privy Seal and Lord President of the Council.

During the 18th century the east wing of the house was demolished leaving the U-shaped plan seen today. In 1881 a major fire destroyed the south wing and caused extensive damage to the central section. Of





The Imposing Lanhydrock Gatehouse

the main house only the north wing, with its 29 m Long Gallery, and the front porch building survived intact, though the original gatehouse also dates back to the mid-17th century. New sections were built behind the south wing, including a kitchen block, in the style of the original building - which was unusual at the time.

The Robartes family declined significantly during the First World War, including the heir Thomas Agar-Robartes MP, who was killed during the Battle of Loos in France, trying to rescue a colleague from no-man's land. Only one descendant survives, living in a cottage on the estate.



Tips for Beginners: Pruning Large-Leaved Rhododendrons

Warren Baldsiefen

The article appeared in the Rhodieview, Vol. III, No. 3/1991 and was reprinted from the Baldsiefen Nursery catalog. Also reprinted from the NRS Newsletter January 2015

Any rhododendron is suitable for woodland or informal use where a reasonable amount of space is available. Here it is only necessary to arrange the planting so that the robust growers do not over-crowd those of relatively restricted growth.

It is around the foundations of the home, spots of limited area or the rockery that the choice is limited to the smaller-leaved and dwarfed types. Wise selection in the beginning will eliminate the need for most of the pruning.

There are, however, times when pruning is justified and essential.

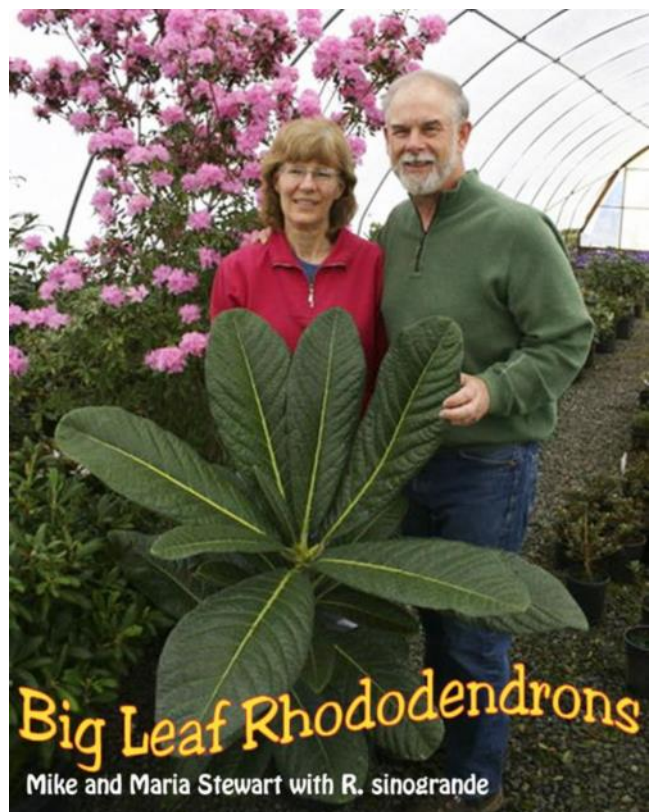
Large-leaved rhododendrons are the most difficult to prune but only for the lack of understanding. These plants put out their first growth in a flush that terminates with a rosette of leaves. Generally in the colder areas of the East and North the flush varies from 4 to 10 inches, but more often around 6 inches.

On young plants, two flushes per year are the rule. On older plants that set flowers freely, it is the rule that one flush is made followed by a flower bud. This latter is due to both a natural reduction in vitality after the juvenile stage is passed and the use of tremendous energy in blooming which delays the commencement of growth.

Large-leaved rhododendrons may be pruned anytime without harming the plant, but there are times that are more expedient. These plants, with few exceptions, retain their leaves two years. This means that on young plants there will be four rosettes of leaves and fewer on older plants. It is permissible to prune back to any of these rosettes, depending on how drastically it

is desired to prune. Always make the cut about a quarter of an inch above the rosette. The flush of growth will burst out from the auxiliary buds of the rosette.

The most favorable time to prune when there are no flower buds is in the early spring just before growth begins. If done at this time, the growth cycle is least disturbed, and bud set the same season will be uninhibited. In so pruning, it is important to cut back every terminal or watch when growth begins. The terminals left uncut commence growth earlier usually with a long single shoot. These single shoots should be pinched off when the new growing tips are about an inch long. This will encourage multiple branching from that terminal. This step is important in shaping or



reshaping a plant. Cutting back develops a heavily branched, sturdy shrub. If this is done when the plant is about 3 feet or less, it can eliminate future need for pruning.

Pruning old rhododendrons presents a different problem. When old rhododendrons become unthrifty in appearance, the cells in the vascular bundles have become hardened or plugged and no longer function normally. Any revitalizing to be accomplished must be done on new wood, supplied by drastic pruning. This is best done in the spring or early summer but spring preferred.



One method is to cut the plant down to several inches above the ground. This is more successful with those having multiple stems coming up from the ground. In hybrids, which often have one stem, they may sometimes die from this. A less drastic means is to reach down into the shrub and cut out about one-third of the old wood. Do this for a period of about three years. In this way, there remains sufficient leaf surface to supply nutrients for reestablishment of new shrubs.

Editor's note: the best time is right after flowering when new growth is beginning.

My Mary



CVRS UK Tour Includes Prince Harry's African Garden at Chelsea Show

Britain's Prince Harry will have an African inspired garden at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.



The 30-year-old royal enlisted the help of Matt Keightley to work on the garden for his Sentebale charity, which will be inspired by Mamohato Children's Centre in Lesotho. The landscape designer – who works for Maidenhead-based firm Farr & Roberts said: "He is very keen to know about the details, from the colour of the stone to which plants we're going to use, when they will be ready, and so on. He wants to make sure it is exactly right.

The design for the Hope in Vulnerability Garden which will cover a 32ft x 72 ft plot will feature traditional African building techniques as well as a poppy which is native to the country, which the prince hopes to bring to the UK for the first time.

He said: "People have tried and failed in the past to germinate them here, and we won't know until a couple of weeks before the show whether we've been successful." The designer, also 30, revealed Harry asked him to be involved with the project after seeing the garden he created for Help for Heroes last year.

Describing how the opportunity arose, he said: "Prince Harry, who had made a private visit to the Help For Heroes garden one evening last year, had requested that I design a garden for Sentebale, and it's not the sort of request you turn down.

"I went to a meeting at Clarence House with Prince Harry and the Prince of Wales, whose Prince's Foundation for Building Community is part of the project, and they liked my ideas but it was suggested I should go to Lesotho.

"I went out there last August, and it was exactly what I needed to get a starting point to make sure that what I come up with really feels authentic. I want people who see the garden to feel as if they are looking into Lesotho."

The garden has been funded by eponymous charity, the David Brownlow Charitable Foundation.



Windbeam

Propagation of Rhododendrons from Seed

by Dr. Bob Rhodes

Dr. Rhodes recently passed away and was a long time propagator from the Nanaimo Chapter. His Captain Bob hybrid is a garden favourite.



Captain Bob

Before attempting to start rhodos from seed, one will save a lot of time and future disappointment if the following points are carefully considered.

Is the seed from a wild population or from a hand pollinated truss? Do you have the patience and resources to spend time over several years (up to 18 for some species) to bring them to bloom or full foliage splendour? Do you have a friend or acquaintance who has had experience growing seed who can talk over with you your choice of seed and help you through some of the pitfalls? If you are lucky enough to own or can beg, borrow or steal a copy of one of Peter Cox's three excellent books on species rhododendrons, the topic is very well covered in all of these. For those of you who succeed, there is tremendous creative satisfaction and once in awhile, a superior plant.

The most efficient way to start seed is under artificial light with a timer and a constant room temperature of about 70 F. For beginners, there is a simpler method using a non-sunny window sill in a room at the same temperature. This is better about the end of February to get sufficient day length. Using coarse sterilized peat, a container with drainage holes that has been thoroughly cleaned and a plastic bag cover, soak the peat with boiling water, let it cool and sow the seed sparsely over the surface of the peat. Never cover the seed with peat. Seal the clear plastic with an elastic band and watch for damp-off (a foggy film over

the peat). If you see damp-off, treat it with a weak solution of Captan or other antifungal agent. After the first leaves appear, gradually allow air to the seedlings. When the seedlings are hardened off, soak them from the bottom with a weak solution of fish fertilizer. When two sets of leaves have formed the seedlings may be picked out into a flat.

Refer to books by Peter Cox:

Dwarf Rhododendrons, Batsford.

The Larger Rhododendron Species, Timber Press. 1990. 389 pages

The Smaller Rhododendrons, Timber Press. 1985. 271 pages.



Rhodo seedlings just after germination

Coleton Fishacre - The Art of Country Living

This strangely named place is one of the south Devon gardens the CVRS UK tour will visit in May this year.

In the 1920s Rupert and Lady Dorothy D'Oyly Carte were sailing along the South Devon coast in England. Looking for a country retreat, they were inspired to make this beautiful valley running down to the sea the site for an elegant home. Here they could entertain in style and indulge their passion for the outdoors. Coleton Fishacre is a property consisting of a 24-acre (97,000 m²) garden and a house in the Arts and Crafts style, situated in Kingswear, Devon, England. The property has been in the ownership of the National Trust since 1982.



Coleton Fishacre's glorious setting drew the D'Oyly Cartes here

Rupert was the son of Richard D'Oyly Carte, the impresario behind the operettas of Gilbert and Sullivan. He developed the business empire he inherited, including the Savoy Hotel and Claridges in London.

The D'Oyly Carte family lived at Coleton Fishacre until 1949, when Rupert's daughter Bridget sold it to Rowland Smith, owner of the Palace Hotel in Torquay.

In contrast to the Arts and Crafts exterior of the house, the interior of the house is dramatically 20th-century Art Deco in design. Simplicity, quality and finish is key throughout. The D'Oyly Cartes aspired to a minimalist design, with the lack of adornment particularly apparent in the corridors. The pale rooms with accents of strong colour are typical of the 1920s.



The House was built in the Arts and Craft style

The garden at Coleton Fishacre runs down a narrow combe from the house to the sea at Pudcombe Cove. The garden, originally planted by Lady Dorothy, features rare and exotic plants, some of which are unusual in their ability to grow outside a tropical climate due to the proximity of the Gulf Stream to this part of the coast of Devon. Lady Dorothy was noted for retrieving exotic plant species for the garden during her journeys abroad. The Cartes employed a staff of six to maintain the garden, compared with a staff of four to run the house.

Coming Events-2015

February 4, 2015

CVRS Monthly Meeting-Members Question Night-Expert Panel

St. John's Church, Duncan- 163 First St. 7:30 pm
www.cowichan.rhodos.ca

February 7, 2015

Seedy Saturday – Sow the Seeds

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre - 10 am – 3:30 pm
www.qbseedsaturday.com

February 13-March 31, 2015

HELLEBORGANZA

Thimble Farms Nursery – Saltspring Island
www.thimblefarms.com/hellebore

February 22, 2015

Victoria Horticultural Society Hardy Plant Group Lecture

Salvation Army Citadel – 4030 Douglas Street,
Victoria - 2:30 pm

Plant Marriages-Exceptional Combinations of Foliage and Flower – Dan Hinkley

www.vichortsociety.org

March 4, 2015

CVRS Monthly Meeting – RHS Wisley Garden-Margaret Cadwaladr

St. John's Church, Duncan- 163 First St. 7:30 pm
www.cowichan.rhodos.ca

March 11, 2015

Mt. Arrowsmith Rhodo Society Speaker – Doug Justice

***Biodiversity in the Garden* 7:30 pm** Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

www.mars.rhodos.ca

March 30, 2015

Alpine Gardeners of Central Vancouver Island

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre 1 pm

Where to find Alpine Jewels in the Olympic Mountains-David Sellars

<https://alpinegardenersofcvi.wordpress.com/?s=Gardeners+of+Central+Vancouver+Island>

April 1, 2015

CVRS Monthly Meeting – *Rhododendron Pests and Diseases – Dr. Linda Gilkeson*

St. John's Church, Duncan- 163 First St. 7:30 pm
www.cowichan.rhodos.ca

April 16-17, 2015

Joint Meeting with CVRS and Juan De Fuca Chapters of the ARS

Port Angeles via MV Coho Ferry – 10 am April 16
Olympic National Park, Garden and Nursery Tours
See details in this newsletter

May 2, 2015

Cowichan Valley Garden Fair

Cowichan Exhibition 10 am – 2 pm
www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com

Please donate plants for the CVRS plant table

May 5, 2015 – TUESDAY

CVRS Monthly Meeting – *Marc Columbel –from France – Rhodo Expert*

St. John's Church, Duncan- 163 First St. 7:30 pm
www.cowichan.rhodos.ca

May 6-10, 2015

ARS Convention

Mary Winspear Centre, Sydney
www.2015rhodo.ca

May 14-25, 2015

CVRS SW Great Britain Garden Tour

Feb. 25 deadline for registrations – **Last Call for 2 seats!**

www.cowichanrhodos.com

June 20, 2015

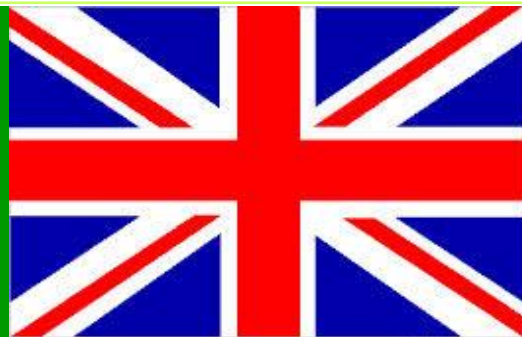
CVRS Summer Picnic and Awards/Wrap Up
11:30 am to 2:30 pm



John C. White

CVRS Southwest England Garden Tour

May 14—25, 2015



Final Call—Only 2 Seats Left!

Folks-this is it!! The English garden tour of a lifetime in the spring of 2015. In conjunction with Anderson Tours UK we are heading for Britain in the spring of 2015. Our 11 day tour includes 13 world class gardens and several historic sites in Southwest England on a deluxe coach. Starting at the Kew Botanic Garden on day 1 after your arrival from Canada we have a welcome event at the Holiday Inn M4 Heathrow hotel the first night. Many of our stops are United Nations World Heritage Sites. Local guides and garden specialists will assist where available and provide unique insights into British culture, the attractions and their gardens. Our final

garden stop is the famous Royal Chelsea Garden Show. On our last day we tour downtown London.

The total cost is in the range of about \$3000 (not including air fares which are your responsibility) per person for double room. Single accommodation is available for about \$800 extra.

We still have two seats on this private tour for CVRS and ARS members and members of Garden Clubs that are registered with the BC Council of Garden Clubs.

Participants should be in good physical condition as there is a fair amount of garden and site walking on this tour but no vigorous hikes. Final 4 and 5 star hotel selection is now completed and our final hotel for the last three days of this tour is the Novotel Heathrow, very close to Heathrow airport.

To confirm a seat on this tour you must send a cheque for \$650 to Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society c/o 995 Hutchinson Road, Cobble Hill, BC V0R 1L4 by February 25. The balance is payable by March 15, 2015. Please provide your full name, address, phone, email address (mandatory), any plans for early arrival or late return, single or double accommodation, any dietary restrictions, whether you are already an RHS member, your affiliation, i.e. CVRS or other garden club, organisation.

Contact Bill Dumont:
wedumont@hotmail.com
250 743 9882

The CVRS is not liable for unexpected costs or expenses arising out of situations on this tour beyond our control or Acts of God. Our liability is limited to the return of the balance of tour payments that have not been paid on behalf of participants if the tour does not fully proceed due to unforeseen or unexpected events or circumstances.

Want to Have that Big Rhodo Removed from your Garden?

Each year the Cowichan Rhodo club makes a donation of rhododendrons to various worthy community projects or sites. We normally purchase these plants from the vendors at our annual plant sale in May. However, we also accept donations from existing private gardens where a rhodo may have grown too large for the site. If you have some rhodos you can donate for our community projects we will arrange to have your plants moved to a new home. Please let Sandra know if you have some plants we can re-purpose. pinchofherbs@shaw.ca



Christmas Party A Big Success

The CVRS had a great party to celebrate the Christmas season on December 3. More than 40 members and guests attended the annual due at St. John's Church hall in Duncan. Lots of good food, great gift draw items and good fellowship was part of the event. A total of \$156 was raised for the local Salvation Army and a large container of donated food items was given to the local Food bank.



The photo contest attracted lots of interest and best picture was won by Shirley Efford with her shot of Lanhydrock Garden in Cornwall UK with a close second by Ian Efford for his photo of the beautiful Prince Abkhazi rhododendron.

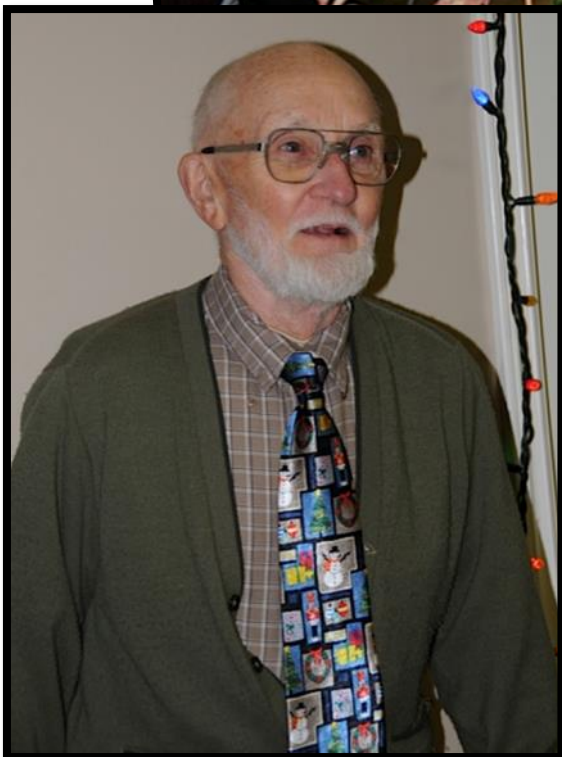
**Lanhydrock Garden Cornwall
Shirley Efford Photo**



**Prince Abkhazi Rhodo
Ian Efford Photo**

Our Storytelling contest was also won by Shirley Efford who took home a nice bottle of champagne for her satirical tale that included the 5 key words required-

Rhododendron, Christmas, Vice-Squad, Committee, Scandal





The Cowichan Valley's Largest Garden Event

Saturday May 2, 2015

10 am – 2 pm

Cowichan Exhibition Grounds Duncan

Free Coffee and Donuts for first 200 customers

- Free admission-lots of free parking
- Doors open at 10 am sharp, come early for best selection!
- High quality plants from 14 nurseries on island and mainland
- More than 2000 rhododendrons for sale
- Rare, hard to find rhodos available
- Many Companion and other beautiful plants for sale
- Truss (flower) display of local rhodos in bloom
- Variety of unique vendors and garden suppliers
- CVRS Plant table and excellent draw table
- Planting, growing, maintenance advice from experts
- Many excellent buys on quality plants
- We'll help load your plants
- Cash/cheque only please – ATM on site

Please pot up at least 10 nice plants for the CVRS members table at the Garden Fair in May and consider donating something for the raffle and don't forget to bring your spectacular trusses for the truss show!



**Deciduous Azalea -
Strawberry Ice**



**Deciduous Azalea -
Totally Awesome**

Joint Meeting

Cowichan Valley and Juan De Fuca Chapters



April 16/17, 2015 in Port Angeles

We are planning to meet jointly with the Juan De Fuca ARS Chapter in Port Angeles in April

Thursday, April 16:

- 10: 30 am Depart Victoria on MV Coho - walk on - lunch enroute
- 12 noon Arrive Port Angeles, check in to Red Lion Hotel near ferry
- 1 – 3 pm Joint Meeting with Juan De Fuca Chapter – PA Library
Guest Speakers: Sue Milliken & Kelly Dodson of Far Reaches Farm in Port Angeles - this entertaining couple will share their passion for plants and plant hunting trips with Steve Hootman to the Himalayas
- 3:30 pm Depart by Bus to Hurricane Ridge in Olympic National Park and stop at the Park Visitor Centre
- 5:30 pm Return to Red Lion Hot - Supper at the Crab House or other loc.

Friday, April 17:

- 7 am Breakfast at Crab House, check out of hotel. Luggage onto bus
- 7:45 am Depart by charter bus for Far Reaches Farm Nursery and Whitney Gardens and Nursery in Brinnon Washington*
- 1 pm Return to Port Angeles - lunch near ferry terminal
- 2 pm Depart on MV Coho for return to Victoria
- 3:30 pm Arrive Victoria

*Includes plant buying opportunities with later shipping of purchases with phyto certificate.

Approx. Costs:

Walk on to Coho Ferry in Victoria - about \$45 return (US\$35) per person - self pay

Special box lunch on ferry - \$12.00

Hotel- special rate at Red Lion Hotel Port Angeles – single or double no view including breakfast Can \$125 - with view Can \$150

Bus Costs – to Hurricane Ridge on Thursday and to Brinnon Gardens on Friday– about Can \$55

Supper April 16 and Lunch April 17- self pay



**PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR BOOKING WITH BILL DUMONT NO LATER
THAN MARCH 1 - 250 743 9882 OR WEDUMONT@hotmail.com**



2014-2015 Executive

- President: Sandra Stevenson
(pinchofherbs@shaw.ca 250-748-5570)
- Past President: Ian Efford
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- Secretary: Verna Buhler
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- Treasurer: Bill Dumont
(wedumont@hotmail.com 250-743-9882)
- Membership: Marie Jacques
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- Newsletter Editor: Bill Dumont
- **Members at Large:** Joe Hudak, Elaine Kitchen, Siggie Kemmler, Alan Campbell

Convenors

- Sunshine: Mary Gale
- Tea: The Team
- Raffle: Hilda Gerrits
- Club Liaison: Alan Campbell
- Library: Joyce Rodger
- Program Co-ordinator: Alan Campbell, Sandra Stevenson
- History: Ian Efford
- Garden Tours: Alan Murray
- CV Garden Fair: The Team
- Facility Liaison: Roy Elvins
- Christmas Party: The Team
- Bus Tour: Bill Dumont
- Species Garden Reps: Siggie Kemmler, Alan Campbell

New Executive Wanted

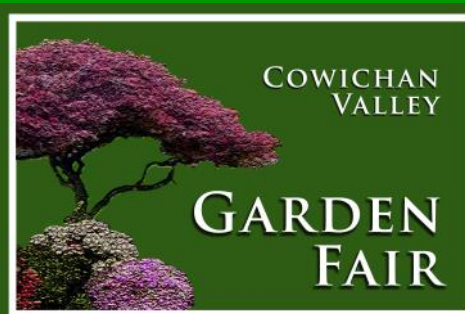
Please consider serving on the CVRS Executive for next year. The Nominating Committee will be contacting various members for executive positions that will be available in June this year. It would be great to hear from members interested in leading our group. Contact our President Sandra if you can help out.



Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

A Chapter of the American
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www.cowichanvalleygardenfair.com

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