



Pukeiti NEWSLETTER

Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust Inc.

www.pukeiti.org.nz



R. 'Eric's Triumph'

2017—A Good Year

Another year is nearly over but this has been a good one for the members of Pukeiti. We had several very successful members' activities and then to finish off, for both the Spring Members' Day and the Christmas BBQ we have again got facilities to use at Pukeiti, albeit in the Rainforest Pavilion (the newly renovated Gatehouse). Next year will bring another exciting development with the opening of the new Lodge and with it the provision of attractive, modern facilities for all members.

We also had the wonderful trip to Xinjiang that 37 members were fortunate to enjoy. Unlike every other PRT trip we have organised for our members, not one

Rhododendron was seen – but the sights we were treated to every day were often so totally unexpected and awe-inspiring that they could have been from a completely different locale if not a different planet.

This newsletter includes an invitation to all members to attend the annual Christmas BBQ on December 9th up at Pukeiti. We hope many of you can attend. Please remember to RSVP to Diane by Thursday, December 07 so we know how much meat to buy.

The other date members might want to black out on their calendar is February 10th 2018. Following the very successful garden party we had at Tupare earlier this year we decided to repeat the event in 2018 but, this time it will be on the Founders' Lawn at Pukeiti. This will take place before the next newsletter so we

will e-mail or do a ring-around of local members to give further details closer to the date. Should you be interested in coming but are not contacted, please ring or email either Heather (06) 757 2460 / h.robson@xtra.co.nz or Diane (06) 752 2800 / jordy@primowireless.co.nz.

Your Members' Committee hope you all have a safe and very happy Christmas and holiday period. We hope to see many of you up at Pukeiti next year, especially so over the weekend of the opening of the new Lodge.

*Heather Robson -
Members' Committee Chair*



The Lodge foundations are laid

Have you paid your subscription??

If this has been over-looked it would be appreciated if early payment could be arranged.

We delete from the mailing list the names of members whose subscriptions are not paid, along with those of Members in Perpetuity who are no longer with us.

Café Furniture

The furniture in the former Gatehouse is no longer required and will be offered for sale/auction by Quinns Auctions, Hawera.

If you are interested in purchasing any item please contact Quinns Auctions (06) 278 6513

Xinjiang Tour

A full report of the Pukeiti Tour will be included in the 2018 Rhododendron Journal.

A great year winds up with the foundations of the future well laid.

Good progress is being made on the rebuilding of The Lodge. Foundations have been laid and where possible the stonework at the base of the old Lodge has been retained. A footpath has been constructed at the lawn's edge at the base of the stone wall in which the flags were erected each Members' Day. This wall will be retained and the new Lodge will sit in a garden edged by this, and accessed by steps leading up from the path into a covered entrance. The Lodge interior will feature an entrance hall open to the public in which the history of the Trust will be displayed.

When finished The Lodge will be a great home for the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust Inc. which will maintain the lease from the TRC. The building will house a studio apartment, a members' lounge, boardroom and library all for members' use; a large function room available for hire, and will be serviced by a kitchen and include public toilets.

Interior finish and the furnishings are presently being planned, for which the Board has agreed to provide \$200,000, the result of members' generous contributions.

To mark the completion, an opening ceremony is being organised, and special events to coincide with the Spring Members' Day and AGM will be held.

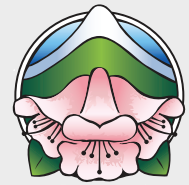
The Trust is grateful for the on-going work the TRC has approved and undertaken. The next project will see a redevelopment of the former pond area on the Matthew's Walk. A culvert will be constructed under the crossing between the two wetland areas which will highlight special plantings.

The work already done has captured the imagination of visitors. During the month of October 12,000 people were hosted, making numbers for the year-to-date almost 35,000. This compares with 10,000 visitors in the last year of the Trust's operation when a charge of \$10- \$12 was levied. During negotiations, which led to the present partnership, the TRC made it clear that as the garden would be in the ownership of the Council, i.e. public ownership, entrance would be free to the citizens of Taranaki and their guests.

As a partner the Trust provides an annual grant of \$70,000 to assist in meeting costs, and in addition provides assistance for garden projects as well, of course, as carrying out its own programme. This presently is the *in-situ* conservation of *Rhododendron* species growing in New Zealand gardens. Ongoing support of major activities at Pukeiti will continue to be needed and for this a strong membership base is essential.

Lynn Bublitz

Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust Inc.



Invites you to a

CHRISTMAS BARBEQUE



Saturday 9 December 2017

12.00 noon, Pukeiti Rata Room

Meat will be provided but please bring a salad or small plate of finger food for dessert.

RSVP by Thursday 7 December to Diane on 06) 752 2800 or email jordy@primowireless.co.nz and also let her know if you require transport to Pukeiti.

Please invite a friend they would be more than welcome.

Thank you for your continued commitment, effort, generosity and support given to Pukeiti and the Committee over the past year. Best wishes for the festive season and 2018.

Heather Robson
Members' Committee Chair

Please mark
these dates on
your calendar

Members' Activities

2018

WORKING BEES

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24
WEDNESDAY MARCH 28
SATURDAY APRIL 28
WEDNESDAY MAY 23
SATURDAY JUNE 16
WEDNESDAY JULY 25
SATURDAY AUGUST 25
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 26
SATURDAY OCTOBER 27
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 28
SATURDAY DECEMBER 22

9am
Start
meet at
Propagation
area

Propagation Workshop

WEDNESDAY JULY 25 – 9:30AM

Meet in Propagation area. Propagating perennial plants.

Members' Committee Meetings

Tuesday January 30 – 9:30am -195 Govett Ave.

Tuesday May 08 – 9:30am

Tuesday September 04 – 9:30am

Tuesday November 20 – 9:30am

venues to be confirmed.

Board Meetings

Friday March 02 – 6:00pm

Friday June 22 – 6:00pm

Friday October 19 – 6:00pm

FRIDAY MARCH 16
Plant sale orders close

MEETINGS

SATURDAY MARCH 03

Autumn Members' Day

Pukeiti, Rata Room in the Rain Forest Pavilion for the meeting and lunch.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 IN THE LODGE

Spring Members' Day & AGM

Details later in the year

OTHER ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10

Late Summer Afternoon BBQ

A special Members' BBQ on The Founders' Lawn preceded by a guided walk around Pukeiti at 3.30pm

SATURDAY JUNE 23

Mid-Winter Lunch

Please book by Wednesday, June 20

Details later in May Newsletter

SATURDAY AUGUST 18

Large-leaf Adventure

A Walk round the Large-Leafed area followed by lunch of soup and rolls.

Details later in May Newsletter

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23

Members' Garden Tour

A selection of members' gardens which are not normally part of the festival will be open for members to visit.

SATURDAY 03 - TUESDAY

06 NOVEMBER 2018

Rhododendron Conference - Nelson.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 26 –

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 04

2018 Taranaki Garden Spectacular – *volunteers needed for assisting Pukeiti staff and hosting duties at The Lodge.*

SATURDAY DECEMBER 15

End of Year BBQ

Please book with Secretary Anne Howard - Phone 021 0831 5444



Pukeiti

Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust Inc.



Taranaki
Regional Council

Postal address: PO Box 1066
New Plymouth 4340

Location: 2290 Carrington Rd. RD4

Secretary
Anne Howard Phone 021 0831 5444
Pukeiti@Pukeiti.com

Chairperson
Gordon Bailey landscape@queenstowncountryclub.co.nz

www.pukeiti.org.nz
is worth a look!

TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL

www.trc.govt.nz

Office hours	Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm	Environmental hotline	0800 736 222
Postal address	Private Bag 713, Stratford 4352	Regional gardens	regional.gardens@trc.govt.nz
Location	47 Cloten Road, Stratford 4332	Greg Rine	Phone: (06) 765 7127 Mobile: 027 240 2470
Phone	0800 736 222 (06) 765 7127	Andrew Brooker	Phone: (06) 765 7127 or Phone (06) 752 4141 Mobile 0210 264 4060
Email	info@trc.govt.nz		