

## *Work Begins on Rhodo Ravine!*

For some of the board members - and the public for that matter - the words in the title of this article were a long time coming, but as you can see from the pictures here there has been a physical change in the landscape that heralds a new beginning.

The lower reach of the streambed has been cleared

while Craig Sutherland of Kerr, Wood Leidel will determine the logistics and material required. Because there is no easy access and sensitive plantings have to be avoided, this is no easy task. In the meantime, North Saanich Park's Cliff Halliday will be diverting water from the upper



Before



After



for one meter on each side for the first time in many years. Now the engineers can assess the remedial work required. For consideration are lining the streambed with rocks, adding riffles to slow the water and avoid erosion, and finally building up the lower slopes for future plantings.

The excavation work was carried out with a mini excavator by Murray Benson of Benson Excavation

reservoir. Because of seepage and nearby springs, there will still be a minor flow of water to contend with.

The work that will be accomplished this year will depend on the weather but it is hoped that the lower stretch will be complete with new plantings by the fall.

*(More pictures on page two.)*



## Saanich Peninsula Community Foundation Honours Us

David Lye, Chair of the Friends of Dominion Brook Park, was pleased to accept a grant from the Saanich Community Foundation for the second year running this past May.

The Friends were selected from a long list of applicants for our ravine project as it was seen to benefit a major portion of the residents of the area. MP Elizabeth May, David Lye, and SP-CF member Debbie Sherwood are shown left to right.



## On The Trail Again



Once again, Dominion Brook Park will be taking part in the North Saanich Flavour Trail on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We will be giving three tours, starting at 10, 11 and noon, at the Kiosk at the entrance to the Park.

Coffee, tea and cookies will be available at the picnic tables. Come meet us and learn about the park and the plans for restoration of this wonderful 1913 botanical park.

## Saltire Celebrates in the Park

On any given day the the park, visitors may be surprised by the varieties of uses to which

the park finds itself host. Besides the constant stream of dog walkers, there have been weddings,

picnics, Easter egg hunts, and many more during the one hundred plus years of the community's park.

No exception this year was a gathering of the Saltire Society of Victoria, complete with piper, Jim Ritchie. Self described as 'a bunch of old Scots' a non-political group nurturing the heritage of Scotland's diverse creativity, it is one of many groups under the umbrella of the Victoria Joint Scottish Council.



# Featured Plant

## **Eucryphia x nymansensis** **'Nymansay'**

(*E. glutinosa* x *E. cordifolia*)

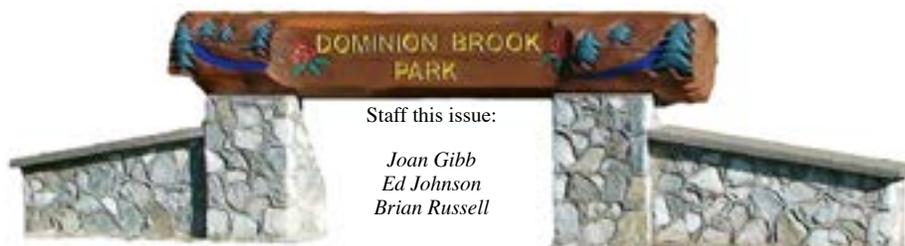
Eucryphia are one of the great glories of late summer. A genus of seven species from the temperate forests of Chile and Australia.

'Nymansay' is a well known hybrid offspring of *E. glutinosa* and *E. cordifolia* raised at Nymans in West Sussex in 1914/15.

It has cup-shaped fragrant white flowers with prominent yellow stamens against dark glossy leaves and the tree has an upright, columnar habit.

Because they also like acid soils, they are a natural companion for rhodos, kalmias and pieris. They are happiest with their feet in the shade and head in the sun, with shelter from cold winds. Bees love Eucryphia too and they are recommended by the British Beekeepers Association for ornamental planting.

Our three Eucryphias are in the North Border just past the water taps. They were acquired from Layritz Nursery in 1958.



Staff this issue:

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