



## GARDEN VISITS IN THE SOUTH

SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER 2021

HIGH PEAK, TASSIE-T, SOJOURN



This day of garden visits south of Hobart includes three very different gardens and landscapes: a historic mountain retreat, a productive garden and a contemporary suburban garden. We begin at the grand gardens of High Peak on the slopes of kunyoni/Mt Wellington, then travel south to the world's southernmost tea plantation at Allens Rivulet before visiting a delightful suburban garden at Kingston.

### **HIGH PEAK, 1122 HUON ROAD, NEIKA**

High Peak is located at Neika, a sub-alpine environment on the slopes of kunyoni/Mt Wellington. Charles Grant built High Peak as a mountain retreat in 1892 and the extensive gardens were started soon after, their early establishment evidenced by the many huge old trees, especially conifers, and the old cypress hedges. The Victorian Tudor style house was designed by George Fagg, a prominent architect of the time, most known for his church buildings, including the chancel and chapel of St David's Cathedral, Hobart.

The significant gardens thrive in Neika's rich volcanic soil and high rainfall, which is twice that of Hobart. Some of the rare species include monkey-puzzle trees (*Araucaria araucana*), native to the Chilean Andes. There are also other araucarias, sequoias, spruce, cedar, Norfolk Island pine, cypress, yew and yellow holly. Many of the conifers were bought by Charles Grant from the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens about 130 years ago. The formal gardens include English box and pittosporum hedges, hydrangeas and rhododendrons.

Charles Grant's great grandson, Jim Grant and his wife Annabelle now own High Peak and are expanding the gardens with plantings which focus on Tasmanian natives, including Tasmanian conifers.

### **TASSIE-T, 3 KADINA CLOSE, ALLENS RIVULET**

Tassie-T, also known as Dry Ideas and Scientific Horticulture, began as a research project led by Dr Gordon Brown for the Department of Agriculture over 30 years ago. It is now a family business owned by Dr Brown, his wife Jane a food technologist and daughter Charlotte, a business graduate. Tassie-T grows, processes and packages their natural and pesticide-free green and black tea at Allens Rivulet.

The tea plants are *Camellia sinensis*, with the original plants being sourced from Japan. *Camellia sinensis* grows more slowly in Tasmania than in the warm, humid tea-growing regions of the northern hemisphere. Hence the yield is lower.

### **SOJOURN, 173 REDWOOD ROAD, KINGSTON**

Sojourn is a large suburban garden with a variety of unusual and interesting plants. Owners Nicole and Stuart Clutterbuck, who are donating the funds raised by our visit to charity, have provided the following description of their garden:

*Our garden is a one acre or 4 000sqm relaxed family garden. We purchased the property in September 2000 and have designed and created all that you see now. The style is mainly English but with many diverse elements.*

*All the rocks in the garden have come from friends as we had none on the property.*

*There is a computerised watering system and heavy mulching which help to combat the naturally sandy soil. We maintain the garden ourselves and enjoy sharing it with you.*

*Please feel free to walk around all the paths including those close to the house.*

*Thank you for visiting.*

### **PROGRAMME**

10.30 am	High Peak, 1122 Huon Road, Neika. Talk and garden visit.
12.30 pm	Tassie-T, 3 Kadina Close, Allens Rivulet. Talk, self-guided tour, tea tasting, BYO picnic lunch. Park in street.
2.30 pm	Sojourn, 173 Redwood Road, Kingston. Talk and garden visit. Tea and coffee available. Park in street.

### **NOTES**

- With the exception of tea and coffee at Sojourn, this is a self-catered event. Please bring your own picnic lunch to eat at Tassie-T. Chairs will be provided.
- Toilet facilities will only be available at Tassie-T.
- Please park in the street for High Peak at Neika and Sojourn at Kingston.

### **COST**

\$40 for members, \$50 non-members.

### **BOOKINGS CLOSE 8 OCTOBER 2021**

To book, please click here. <https://www.trybooking.com/BTBUS>

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: AGHS Events in 2021

- 20-21 November Longford Blooms. AGHS will have a stall, including secondhand garden books.
- 4-5 December *Adapting to the Landscape - historic properties of the South Esk region.*  
A weekend of visits to cultural landscapes and gardens in the north of Tasmania.  
This will be our Christmas event.