

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

COMING EVENTS



August 1st

Annual General Meeting - 7.30 pm

Legacy House, 159 Macquarie St., Hobart

General Meeting - 8.00pm

Short talk: Doreen Gill to research a favourite rhododendron.

Main talk: Ken will talk on some of the early to mid flowering rhododendrons. Discussion is welcomed.

August 11th

Garden Gathering will be at Debbie Farmilo's,

133 Hackford Drive, Kingston (6229 3001)

Time 2pm. Please bring a plate

There will be a mini auction. Hope you have something to contribute..

August 29th

Committee meeting Ken and Lesley Gillanders

1 Willowbend Road, Kingston Ph 6229 2351

6pm at Beachside Hotel, Kingston Beach

**September 8th
(Sunday)**

Meeting and garden gathering

At Ken and Lesley Gillanders

1 Willowbend Road, Kingston Ph 6229 2351

Time: 2pm

(See page 3 for more details)

MEETING Agenda - 1st August 2013

Annual General Meeting - 7.30pm

Apologies

Minutes from the 2012 Annual General Meeting

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Election of Office Bearers and Executive Committee

All positions are vacant. If no written nominations are received then nominations will be taken from the chair at meeting.

(Nomination forms were printed in our May Newsletter or will be available at meeting)

IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

As Ken and I sit in our lounge confined for the time being by ill health, we watch with frustration and boredom for the early spring bulbs to send through the tips of their leaves and silently urge them to reach further to the elusive sun.

Eventually there are just a few who have responded to our urging and now after probably 40 or more years we have a small clump of *Narcissus cantabricus* with maybe six bulbs encouraging us to be patient. We have imported it in earlier days, then lost it but now a batch of seedling have started to produce 1 or 2 flowers. Alas, the first bud succumbed to a slug or snail. We protected the second bud with snail bait – to no avail. Now there are 2 more buds opening and success is with us so far. The flower is a clear bright yellow which opens to a flat disc and is only about 15cm high.

A pretty little hybrid Ken produced a few years ago had 2 flowers open a week ago and now has 10 of its bright yellow slightly reflexed flowers open. It is a hybrid between *N. cyclamineus* and some other small Daffodils we had in the garden at Longley, therefore its pedigree is unknown. Ken calls it *N. 'Lesley'*

About 3 or 4 *Cyclamen coum* have their tubby little flowers open. A few days of warmer weather will bring out a few more. The *Cyclamen* growing in our troughs are in full leaf with just a few flowers starting to show through. *C. mirabile* has pink markings on the young leaves as they are starting to come through. There are several selected forms of *C. hederifolium* with very pretty marbled leaves and flowers varying from white to pink. *C. libanoticum* is a favourite with white flowers enhanced by a pink mark on the nose of the flower which resembles a bird in flight. *C. persicum* and *C. graecum* have the most spectacularly marbled leaves.



Dimorphanthera alpina

Our garden here at Kingston is in a frost hollow and this holds the growing period back although all of Tasmania experienced severe frosts at the time I started to write these notes. We finally had a bout of milder weather and the garden responded quickly. At the front of the house we have a very shaded cool garden planted with several of Ken's favourite plants. The greatest thrill for him was to see flowers on *Dimorphanthera alpina*. This species comes from the Highlands of New Guinea and Ken was pleasantly surprised to find it grew well but also produced clusters of waxy tubular white bells which aged to having pink edges.

This bed also has a nice group of *Eranthis hiemalis* with their bright yellow cups opening despite all types of weather. A few *Galanthus* make a good contrast here with white Snowdrop flowers. At the back of the house, a patch of *G. caucasicus* with large white flowers tipped green, have finally opened to sway in any slight movement of air. Nearby *G. 'Ophelia'* with slightly smaller flowers is also opening, while along in another bed *G. woronowii* with bright green leaves and stems only 10cm high are brightening up that area.

There is not much happening with the trees and shrubs. Most are waiting for the call of spring but *Camellia 'Sweet Jane'* is on the way for us with its rich pink tipped buds opening to white flowers. *Hamamelis mollis* is definitely in flower with its tiny strap-like petals and fragrant Witchhazel perfume.

There has been a new path formed through the garden at the edge of the creek. It goes through the garden for a short distance then follows the edge of the creek above a steep bank before the water disappears into a huge pipe that runs under the road. This last section needs a protective rail so Ken constructed a small fence around it. It should be safe now for friends walking along it.



Narcissus Lesley



BLOOMS COMPETITION
CONGRATULATIONS TO
Pat Mavromatis who won the Rhododendron section and to **Karina Harris** who won Blooms other than Rhododendrons section. **Karina** also won Peoples Choice. The raffle, R. Lochern was won by **Doreen Gill**.

RUSTICA
\$2.50 PER KG
 Available at meeting - see Ken

MEETING AND GARDEN GATHERING
(Sunday September 8th 2013)
To be held at Ken and Lesley Gillanders

At our May meeting we discussed the possibility of dispensing with our monthly night meetings held at Legacy House and combine our meeting activities with our garden visits. The idea was well accepted and our first meet will be on the 8th September at Ken and Lesley Gillanders at Kingston. For the moment we will continue to have our Committee Meetings at night and we still have some issues to resolve such as the library and what to do with our belongings stored at Legacy House. We hope to have this sorted by December, earlier if possible.

Since moving into 1 Willowbend Road just over a year ago, Ken has completely remodelled the garden and come spring it will be ready to explode. Come along and see a REAL 'MAKEOVER'. We hope that this venture will allow those not so keen to travel at night, the opportunity to participate in our regular activities.

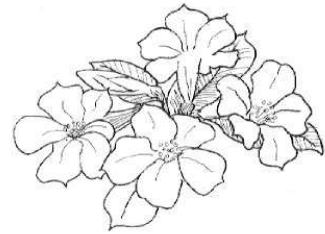
The procedure will be the same as our General meetings.

There will be:-

A short meeting, guest speaker/main talk, short talk (which could include practical gardening issues), blooms competition, blooms on display, auction, raffle and afternoon tea. Eventually we hope to be able to have our library available also.

General Meeting - to follow AGM

Apologies
Minutes of the last general meeting
Matters arising from previous minutes
Correspondence
Treasurer's report
Question time - any problems in the garden?
Other business



Short talk: Doreen Gill - favourite rhododendron

Main talk: Ken Gillanders - early to mid flowering rhododendrons

Please bring along any blooms you may have to support Ken's talk and to help generate discussion.

Blooms competition - You can bring up to (3) three blooms for each section ie. Rhododendrons and/or Blooms other than Rhododendrons. We will also continue with Peoples Choice.

Blooms on Display - should be some spring bulbs and/or perennials bursting into life now.

There will also be our usual **raffle and auction** and of course supper.

Don't forget too, the great selection of books in our **library**.

YOUR EXECUTIVE



President	Lesley Eaton	6267 9961
	<i>lesley.eaton@bigpond.com</i>	
Vice President	Ken Gillanders	6229 2351
Secretary	Debbie Farmilo	6229 3001
	<i>mdwj@bigpond.com</i>	
Treasurer	Lorraine Grewcoe	6247 7774
	<i>lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au</i>	
Public Officer	Phil Cooper	6249 8717
Newsletter editor	Dorothy Lane	6239 6671
	<i>djlane67@bigpond.com</i>	
Librarian	Rhondda Bull	6239 6416
Social Secretary	Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752

Committee

Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752
Lesley Gillanders	6229 2351
Karina Harris	6239 6048
Rhondda Bull	6239 6416
Doreen Gill	6239 1124

Annual Membership is now due. This can be paid at the Annual General Meeting or by posting a cheque, payable to **Australian Rhododendron Society Inc., Southern Tasmania Branch** and mailed to the Treasurer, Lorraine Grewcoe, Clarendon Vale House, Clarendon Vale, Tas. 7019

Single Membership \$20.00

Family Membership \$25.00