

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

COMING EVENTS



November 10th

Meeting and garden gathering

Nicole and Stuart Clutterbuck's
173 Redwood Road, Kingston (6229 2287)
Time: 2pm. Please bring a plate.

December

Christmas function

Time and place to be determined at our meet on the 10th November.
Details will be published in our December Newsletter

2014

February 27th

Committee meeting at Anne Cruise's
70a South Street
Bellerive

March 9th

Meeting and garden gathering

MEETING - GARDEN GATHERING PROCEDURE 10TH NOVEMBER 2013

There will be a short meeting conducted within the first half hour.

We will have our last **blooms competition** for the year, after which all results will be collated and the perpetual trophies will be presented at our Christmas function. If possible blooms for the competition would be best set up prior to 2pm. You can bring up to (3) blooms for each section ie. Rhododendrons and/or Blooms other than Rhododendrons. Please remember to bring your own vases/bottles just as we did at our evening meetings. We will also continue with Peoples Choice.

We welcome any **blooms for display**. We will also have a **raffle** and our regular **auction**. A contribution towards the auction would be appreciated. Books from the Library are available by contacting Rhondda on 6239 6416.

RUSTICA \$2.50 per kg - Available at meeting this Sunday

IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

Pics by Ken Gillanders

What an unpredictable climate we have in Tasmania. We had a lovely sunny spring day and we brought out the summer clothes with a sigh of relief, then hastily bundled them away as winter returned with a cold blast of hail and snow. Undeterred, the garden pressed on with determination and flowers started to appear along with fresh young leaves and new growth.

The rock garden developed spots of colour as *Pulsatilla vulgaris* and *P. halleri* produced purple, white or reddish flowers. Some of the small bulbs of *Fritillaria meleagris* which Ken had scattered through the rock garden gave us either purple chequered or white flowers. *Cyclamen persicum* held their flowers for a long time and there will be a nice lot of seed later. Also, *C. libanoticum* has set a few fat pods. *Allium cristophii*, once called *A. albopilosum* has opened their metallic pink flowers. They are quite spectacular and will last for years in indoor dried flower arrangements. *Babiana stricta* is a common little South African bulb which multiplies well. It has deep blue flowers with a nice contrasting white centre. A few plants of *Lewisia cotyledon* are tucked into well drained crevices in pleasing pinks and apricots colours.

Paeonia peregrina has produced two brilliant red flowers. We saw many plants of this desirable species growing in an area in Greece on one of our trips there. We were a little early for a profusion of



Babiana stricta

flowers but it was a lovely sunny day and our botanical group enjoyed a picnic among the flowers. The red flowers of *P. peregrina* clash slightly with the red of *P. delavayi* but, who cares? It is colour and we are not purists who must have everything in its correct place.

Looking out from our lounge room window I see a very pretty area of colour with flowers open on *Helianthemum* 'Pink Gem'



Arisaema serratum



Arisaema dahaiense

and one which is unnamed but has a prolific amount of bright yellow flowers. *Ranunculus cortusifolius* has joined the medley of colours with large bright green leaves and brilliant shining yellow flowers towering over a prostrate *Thymus longicaulis ssp. chaubardii* with pinkish flowers. Our little group of *Cyrtanthus angustifolius* has finally won its battle with the slugs and has 10 strong flower stems with intense orange tubular bells. A couple of years ago we saw, in a friend's garden, a plant of *Boronia* 'Purple Jarad' and obtained some rather poor cutting material. Ken managed to strike one cutting and now we have a good compact plant which covered itself with typical fragrant bell-shaped flowers but it has a purple flush in the brown and a pale centre. There will be a lot of cuttings put in this season as we would like several more plants around the garden.

In the top garden I see the sun shining through the lovely red young leaves of *Acer* 'Hana Natoi'. *Rhododendron orbiculare* in the side garden has its pretty pink bells open even though the plant is still small and *R. 'Oban'* in the rock garden opened its pink flowers a couple of weeks ago and as they are finishing *R. calostrotum* 'Gigha' has a few of its flat red flowers open while nearby *R. 'Lochearn'* has a truss of apricot buds opening to lemon.



R. calostrotum Gigha

Clematis 'The President' with large deep blue blooms is twining its way through a picket fence which divides the front and back gardens. In this side garden *Cantua buxifolia* in both the red and bicolour forms have been open for several weeks. Several *Arisaema* species have their hooded flowers open. *A. serratum* is one of the most striking with intense black stripes on the green flowers. *A. dahaiense* is brownish with an extremely long tip extending like a mouse tail. *A. ringens* with large curled hoods set amongst the leaves is quite a satisfying feat to grow – it is a little bit “rare”

Garden Gathering at Fern tree

On 13th October we visited Sue Wallbank of Pen-lan Plants at Fern Tree and despite despicable weather of gale force winds, rain, sleet and snow with a dash of sunshine, 23 Members and visitors braced themselves against the conditions and marveled at Sue's amazing collection of auriculas. The time and patience that Sue devotes to raising many of these special treasures from seed is astounding but the results are exquisite. Beautiful stone walls are a feature in Sue's garden and have helped provide suitable garden beds for many interesting and rare alpine plants. Sue welcomes visitors but you must phone first to make an appointment. Ph: 6239 1678 evenings please.



Pics by Dorothy Lane



Library

Rhondda Bull has kindly volunteered to caretake our library. You received a list of books held in our library last month. Please keep your list handy. If you decide there is a book that interests you please give Rhondda a call on **6239 6416**.



2014 CALENDAR

Garden Clubs of Australia Inc. have available a 2014 calendar titled *Beautiful Gardens of Australia*. There are 12 stunning gardens featured with plenty of room to note your busy schedules. Also includes Jan - April 2015. Cost \$10. This is a good practical calendar - please contact Lorraine Grewcoe 6247 7774 for your purchases ASAP.

BLOOMS COMPETITION

For October

Rhododendron section - Joy Stones

Blooms other than Rhododendron section -

Ann Pyke

Peoples Choice was won by Joy Stones with a beautiful specimen of R. Kalista
The raffle was won by Peter Boyd

OTHER EVENTS

Christmas Garden Party Sunday 1st December, 2013

2.00 - 4.30pm.

You and all Club Members are invited to join Garden Clubs in the Celebration of Christmas

Narryna Heritage Museum
103 Hampden Road
BATTERY POINT

Wander around the old-fashioned gardens. View the rustic areas and machinery. Go back in history to see the nursery and other rooms.

Enjoy socializing with each other and have afternoon tea/coffee

Please bring a plate for Afternoon Tea to share

Cost: \$5 per head

RSVP: Rosemary van Emmerik - 6278 1916

YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE

President	Lesley Eaton	6267 9961
	<i>lesley.eaton@bigpond.com</i>	
Vice President	Doreen Gill	6239 1124
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
Ken 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