

# AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

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## COMING EVENTS

- August 10th** Annual General Meeting - 2 pm  
Lesley and Ken Gillanders'  
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston (Ph. 6229 2351)
- Main Talk** - Lewisias
- August 28<sup>th</sup>** **Committee meeting** at Ken & Lesley Gillanders'  
6pm at Beachside Hotel, Kingston Beach
- September 14th** General meeting – 2 pm  
Ken & Lesley Gillanders'
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## Meeting Agenda – 10th August 2014

### Annual General Meeting

- 7.30pm Apologies  
Minutes from the 2013 Annual General Meeting  
President's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Election of Office Bearers and Executive Committee  
(see tear-off form at back of this newsletter)

### General Meeting

- 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

**Main Talk** Debbie Farmilo on **Lewisias**

***There will be the usual "blooms on display", raffle and auction. Please bring a contribution to help make these activities a success.***



## IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

At this time of year there is a distinctly winter look to the garden with deciduous trees proclaiming their lovely tracery of bare stems to be admired. The discarded leaves of the two *Prunus* 'Mount Fuji' cherries have been gathered up from the back patio where they had fallen and removed to the garden as extra mulch.

The side garden has undergone a remodel with the removal of a large *Grevillea*, an *Acacia* and a *Melaleuca*. The stumps were too hard for Ken to dig out, so a firm with a stump grinder came and within a few minutes all that was left was a nice pile of fine woodchips. Then Ken set to work – the *Cantua buxifolia*, both red and white forms, were moved back to the fence and a *Nothofagus x eugenananus* was transplanted from its temporary home in the top garden to another position near the fence. These were all duly staked so the wind would not move them.

A *Camellia reticulata* seedling is now in the centre of the garden and will produce its lovely flowers within a few days as one bud is showing colour. Another *Camellia* we have is *C. transnokoensis* which Ken raised from seed. It has a profusion of tiny white flowers which look quite charming. We could never be without *Daphne bholua* with its intensely fragrant blooms. I love the perfume as it wafts around the garden.



The former strawberry bed is in a raised triangular corner at the end of the back patio. The mixed bulbs and their surplus seed were sown here and thrived. Now it is a tight mix of *Cyclamen coum*, *C. hederifolium*, *Narcissus cyclamineus*, *Galanthus*, *Iris reticulata* and *Anemone blanda*. Ken will lift some of these out in summer and the *Cyclamen* will be planted in the bed opposite the back door. We recently received a gift of some *Helleborus* and they have been planted there. The colours are most attractive – yellow, double white, double red, double pink and some very pretty spotted singles.

At the front of the house *Eranthis hyemalis* has increased and there are 50 bright yellow blooms open with more to come. *Romulea hartungi*, in the rock garden, is a hardy little South African bulb. The purple flowers are the first to open in this genus for us. We



have several more varieties coming on which have been raised from seed. Of course when winter comes so do the Snowdrops, *Galanthus plicatus*, *G. 'Ophelia'*, *G. rizehensis* and *G. 'Magnet'* are all in flower. They close their 3 petalled blooms when it rains, then when it is fine and sunny they open again and gently swing in the wind.



When we were in South Africa on one of our trips we were pleased to see *Helichrysum argyrophyllum*. It was like meeting an old friend as we had been growing it in our own garden for many years. Our present plant is trailing over the edge of the retaining wall at the back patio. It has lovely silver foliage and small yellow papery daisy flowers.

Back in the 1980's Ken made several hypertufa troughs. These are made with a mixture of peat, sand and cement. We still have several of these and three are planted with *Sempervivum*, one with *Cyclamen libanoticum*, another with

*Cyclamen mirabile* and the best four, which are in flower now, are planted with *Tecophilaea cyanocrocus*. The intense blue flowers with a white throat brighten the days.

*Nandina domestica* has been grown for countless years. Known as Japanese Sacred Bamboo, it is a small shrub used in many landscapes. We have a form named *N. 'Richmond'* which was first discovered and propagated at Richmond Harrison's nursery in New Zealand. We have grown it at Longley but it did not set many berries as it was too shaded and cold. Here at Kingston we have it in full sun and the berries are a brilliant red with more coming.



A few weeks ago we bought a plant of *Epacris 'Pan Pipes'*. This is an *E. longiflora* hybrid with red and white flowers and a good dense habit.

Our plant of *Sophora 'Dragons Gold'* was growing well until we discovered it was being eaten by a green and black caterpillar. We squashed about 50 or so the first time and frequent checking found more till Ken sprayed it and it has recovered enough to produce some of its golden flowers.



## BLOOMS COMPETITION FOR JUNE

Rhododendron Section: Anne Cruise  
Blooms other than Rhododendron: Anne Pyke  
Peoples Choice: Anne Pyke R. "Simbu Sunset"

## RAFFLE WINNER

Ken Gillanders  
*Rhododendron ciliatum*

**Mid-year Luncheon** - Thirteen members met for lunch at the Southern Lights Hotel in Kingston where we enjoyed a most pleasant afternoon of good company on a beautiful winter day.

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

**Single Membership \$20.00**

**Family Membership \$25.00**

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### YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013/14

President	Lesley Eaton	6224 4403	<i>lesley.eaton@bigpond.com</i>
Vice President	Doreen Gill	6239 1124	<i>tdgill@bigpond.net.au</i>
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	Rhondda Bull 6239 6416
Ken Gillanders 6229 2351	Karina Harris 6239 6048	Anne Cruise 6244 2965

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### NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2014/15

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_

for the position of \_\_\_\_\_

Proposer \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to accept the nomination \_\_\_\_\_