

# AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

## COMING EVENTS

**September 13th**

**Garden gathering**

A special vireya treat at Kaye and Gordon Hagan's

Time: 2pm

38 Kunama Drive, Kingston Beach

Raffle only

Please bring something for afternoon tea

**Directions:**

From lights at Kingston take Beach Road towards Kingston Beach.

At lights keep right into Roslyn Avenue (C623) - 950m

Turn right into Tanina St. - 110m

Turn right onto Kunama Drive - 50m

No. 38 on left - the one with the gorgeous garden

**September 24th**

**Committee meeting**

Venue: Lesley and Ken Gillander's 7:30pm

Dinner: 6pm Kingston Hotel

Cnr. Channel H'way and Beach Road

**October 11th**

**General meeting**

Dorothy and Robin Lane's

86 Betts Road, Neika

More details later

**October 29th**

**Committee meeting**

**November 1st**

**Additional garden visit**

Alexi and Rick's garden

73 Chambers Road, Franklin

An interesting garden in the hills at Franklin featuring rhododendron

Directions - next newsletter

**November 8th**

**General meeting**

Kerry and Harry van den Berg

2040 Huon Road, Longley

More details later

**December ?**

**Christmas function**



## August meeting

Blooms competition

**Pat Mavromatis** won Blooms other than Rhododendrons

**Dorothy Lane** won Rhododendrons

**Sally Duncan** won Peoples Choice

**Pat Mavromatis** won the raffle which was R. Ruth Motley

## IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

On this bright sunny day in late August I was able, with the help of a stick, to walk around the garden looking for inspiration to write on any plants in flower at this time. Above the creek is a garden which tries to compete with an enormous *Eucalyptus*. There is not much moisture left after the tree takes more than its

share, so any shrubs planted there must be able to compete. Ken has a pink *Protea* in bloom but the name appears to be lost.

*Leucodendron salignum* is coming on well. Both are tolerant of a dry position. Further along this bed is *Grevillea* 'Gold Strike' with bright golden yellow flowers. Growing nearby is *Rhododendron cilpinense*. This is one of the first in this genus to flower with light pink buds opening white.

In the bed against the front of the house *Enkianthus serrulatus* is looking most attractive with large cream flowers. We had a *Lapageria rosea* nearby but it started to die and when Ken lifted it, so he could plant it in a pot in the hope it would survive, he found the roots had gone down and were sitting on a concrete block. Another one with double flowers is going the same way so that will also be taken out. *Anemone x seemannii* is here with bright yellow flowers with more to open over the next week or so.

Near the greenhouse and growing in poorer soil are several



*Cyclamen* which have accidentally grown from stray seeds. When they first came up two or three years ago we left them there. They are in full bloom now. *Cyclamen persicum* in white, pale pink, a deeper shade of pink and an intense almost magenta colour. They all have the typical carmine nose and a lovely perfume.

*C. libanoticum* with large pink flaring flowers is also there plus *C. repandum*. It makes quite a colourful corner.

In our little bulb garden *Scilla biflora* has increased

well. As I passed by today the bright deep blue flowers were being pollinated by a bee, so there will be a good lot of seed later. *Fritillaria assyriaca* has one brownish flower open. There is a narrow bed at the side of the house where Ken planted a collection of bulbs raised from seed over the last three years. We are seeing a few coming into flower for the first time. *Fritillaria pinardii* has dark chocolate flowers. *Crocus* 'Blue Pearl' in a soft blue and *C. scepusiensis* in a blue-purple colour are both open.

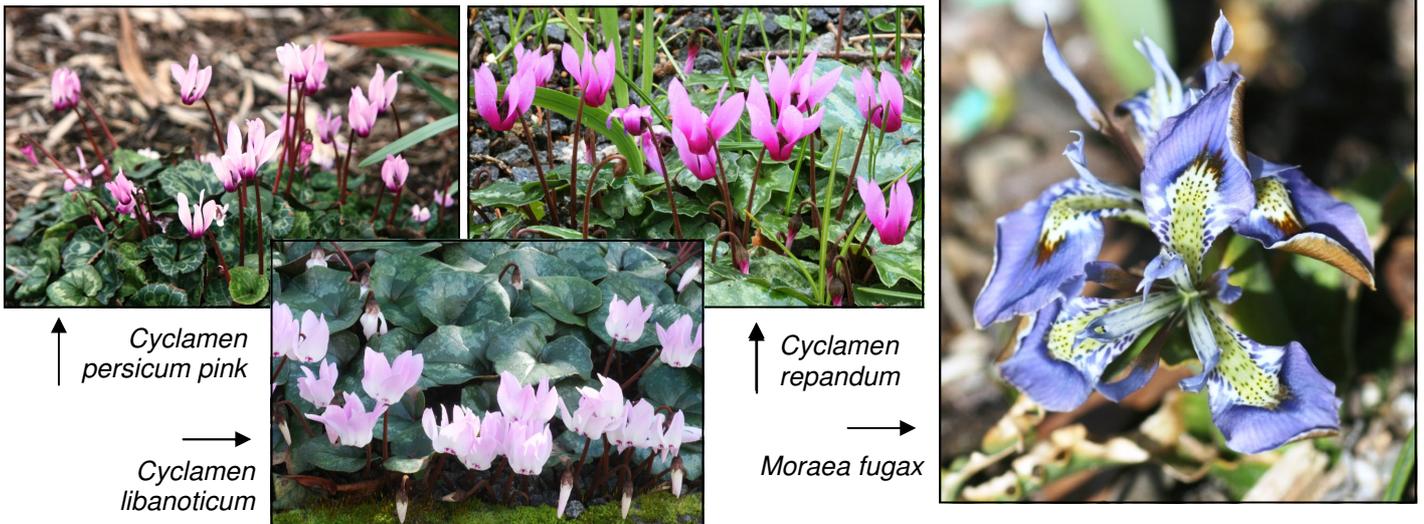
The side fence has finally been constructed. This has given space for one more section of garden. Ken ran the rotary hoe over it then has planted it, installed an edge, also sprinkler system and planted it with some shrubs. The final mulch has just been spread over it.



Up in the rock garden there are several *Romulea* raised from seed. *R.tetragona* had three flowers open in a bright pink. It has wider flat leaves than other *Romulea* which are narrow and grass-like. It was a good colour contrast against the intense golden yellow flowers of *Daphne yezoensis*. *Cornus mas* has a prolific amount of lemon yellow flowers so later I should be able to harvest a few more fruits than last year and perhaps make more than one jar of jam. *Hamamelis* 'Pallida' is looking superb with golden flowers. *Sophora* 'Dragons Gold' has several flowers. It has recovered from last years attack by caterpillars. Ken daily inspected the plant and squashed each grub last year.

There are several plants of *Helleborous* planted around the garden. *H.niger* with large creamy white flowers always looks good. *H.orientalis* raised from seed from a friends plants have produced a good collection of deep carmine, yellow, and some white ones with a red coloured edge to the petals.

We were given some pots of *Hepatica triloba* by Joan and to our delight two have flowered in their pots. One is pink and the other is blue. We have loved *Hepaticas* for years and tried unsuccessfully to grow them. These will be planted in Kens special bed inside the tiny shadehouse. We thought we had a new Iris in the bulb garden but it is *Moraea fugax*. The blue Iris-like flowers last only one day but it has a succession of blooms and a frilly edge to the leaves.



### REMINDER

**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 Tasmania Branch** and mailed to the Treasurer, Lorraine Grewcoe, Clarendon Vale House, Clarendon Vale Tas 7019.

### YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE

President	Lesley Eaton	6267 9961
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Vice President	Doreen Gill	6239 1124
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Secretary	Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752
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Librarian	Rhonda Bull	6239 6416
Social Secretary	Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752



### Committee

Debbie Farmilo	6229 3001
Lesley Gillanders	6229 2351
Ken Gillanders	6229 2351
Karina Harris	6239 6048
Rhonda Bull	6239 6416
Anne Cruise	6244 2965
Kerry van den Berg	

**AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY SOUTHERN TASMANIA GROUP  
PRESIDENTS REPORT - 2014/2015**

*A rare sea level dumping of snow greeted me this morning as I sat down to write this annual report. With the sun shining through the old cultivar, Cornubia and making a beautiful picture just glowing in the sun, made my mind race forward to all the rhododendrons flowering as spring approaches to when our beloved genus reigns supreme again.*

*So what better time than to look back at our branch's year of activities.*

*In September the first meeting of the year was held at Joy Stones and Ted Cutlans. Many members took the opportunity of perhaps seeing this magnificent garden for the last time in its entirety as the land has now been subdivided and sold. Joy gave her talk on camellias and the wonderful range this genus brings as an extra dimension to the garden.*

*October saw our members making an early start and travelling to the north of the state to visit the WAG Walker Heritage Rhododendron Garden. This old garden still shows years of neglect but the new owners are gradually transforming this once extensive collection of rhododendrons and deciduous azaleas into, what will be in time, a magnificent showpiece of grand proportions. A stop off at the nearby Red Dragon Nursery was then made and where, at the end of the visit, the plants purchased outnumbered the members on the bus.*

*The November visit was to Claremont to visit our members Neil and Sandra Harwood. The weather was perfect and beautifully showed off the rhododendrons and myriads of desirable companion plants under their skirts.*

*Once again we wound down our 2014 with our Christmas luncheon. After a guided tour around the garden Phil and Dianne Cooper provided a great spit roast with members bringing plates of salads and desserts just to make sure we didn't go hungry.*

*Our first 2015 meeting was in March which saw us all gathered in Deb Farmilo's shed, where Ken Gillanders gave a propagating demonstration. He showed us how to take cuttings, not only of rhododendrons, but also of many of those other desirable companion plants which we love to associate amongst our rhododendrons. This proved to be an extremely well attended and successful meeting and everyone seemed to relish trying cuttings of the many pieces of the various plants brought along.*

*We continued the propagation theme in April where, once again Ken Gillanders brought his extensive knowledge to the fore and showed the members how to do aerial layering.*

*A change of pace in May when a garden visit to Jo Saxon-Keith and John Keith's large garden in Lucaston. Such a tranquil garden with its large lake and many, sometimes quirky, sculptures to be discovered around every corner.*

*June saw us back at Ken and Lesley Gillander's ever changing garden. Ken took us on a refresher course and gave a well illustrated talk on rhododendrons in general and their cultivation needs.*

*The year ended with our traditional July luncheon. A bitterly cold winter's day but a good number of members braved the elements and enjoyed a good old Sunday roast around the roaring fire at Huon Manor in Huonville.*

*This past year we have seemed to make Ken and Lesley Gillander's our home base, so it would really be remiss of me if I didn't sincerely thank them both for allowing us to invade their home so many times. I know our members always enjoy wandering around their garden and gaining so much knowledge from these wonderful people.*

*I must also thank not only my secretary, Gill but all the committee for their help, support, ideas and guidance over the last year. We have seen new members joining the Society and I hope they are enjoying learning more about our wonderful rhododendrons.*

*So let's now have a great 2015/2016 year of spreading the word about our rhododendrons and not letting them become a forgotten genus.*