

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

COMING EVENTS

**November
5th - 6th**

Kerry and Harry van den Berg's 'Woodbank Gardens'
2040 Huon Road, Longley
Kerry has a public open garden this weekend. If anyone has a couple of hours to spare on either day, some assistance would be very much appreciated. Kerry's contact number is 0448 007 525

November 13th

General Meeting
Peter and Maruta Boyd's garden
354 Summerleas Road, Kingston
Meeting details page 4.



December 11th

Christmas function
At Phil and Di Cooper's
37 Glenlusk Road, Berriedale
More details page 4.

**February 23rd
2017**

Committee meeting
Ken and Lesley's
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston 6229 2351
6pm Kingston Hotel (near Shiploads)

March 12th

General meeting
Propagation day at Woodbank Gardens

Raffle winner

Rhododendron 'Yakka Angel' was
won by Dorothy

October Blooms Competition

Dorothy Lane won the Rhododendron section.
Gill Fitzgerald won Blooms other than Rhododendrons.
Gill Fitzgerald also won Peoples Choice

There were some interesting plants brought along for display and the competition which generated good discussion. We hope this will continue.

On page 2 are some photos of maples, all taken in Joy and Ted's garden on our visit in October. What an amazing range of colour and texture and this is only a selection of photos. In Autumn these same maples will provide yet another different colourful display.



IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

As I write these notes today, it seems ridiculous to say thank goodness the rain has stopped but at least the garden has benefited from the past few wet weeks. Now we are enjoying a little taste of spring and our garden has so much colour, it is hard to know which plants to mention. One of the simplest and common plants are *Dianthus*. There is one un named plant in the side garden which is a mass of pink flowers with a carmine red eye. It has grown into a silvery grey dome shape. Nearby is a little *Viola* with pretty pansy flowers of creamy yellow with a mauve edge. It has seeded across the garden with a variety of different shades, even a blue purple. The pleasing thing is it seems to be perennial as we have had it for a number of years.

There are ground cover alpine *Phlox* making a carpet of colour. We have *P.*'Daniel' a vigorous bright pink, *P.*'G F Wilson' in a soft blue mauve, *P.*'Temiscaming' is a rosy red, *P.*'subulata alba' is a clear white, *P.*'Amazing Grace' is also white but with a pink eye and *P.*'Tamonagalei'. This last one we brought back from a nursery in Japan several years ago. It has pretty pink and white flowers but after some time and selling it in the nursery we eventually lost it, but recently we located it being sold locally and have it again.

The *Hippeastrum papilio* which Ken raised from seed 10 years ago had one flower last year but this year there are four heads of flowers. Slugs have ruined one but the other three are now protected with pellets. The large creamy flowers with dark red markings are most attractive. Ken has just removed a very pretty pink *Thymus longicaulis* which is in full bloom, from where it was hanging over the wall beside the ramp at the back of the house and transplanted it to another part of the garden. In its place he has planted *Clematis* 'Sweet Hart' It has a mass of white flowers and will quickly spill over the edge. We imported this plant many years ago from a friend who has a nursery in the south of New Zealand but after selling it in the nursery for a long time, we eventually lost, so we were pleased to find another one at a local nursery.

An interesting *Viburnum* in flower at present is *V.sargentii* 'Onondaga'. The centre of the posy like flower is the fertile part, this is surrounded by sterile florets. Nearby on the edge of the garden is *Deutzia* 'Nakaiana'. This is a dainty little shrub covered with a



Paeonia peregrina



1. R. Point Defiance
2. R. Wee Bee
3. R. Unique Marmalade
4. R. R. Loders White
5. Viburnum Onondaga
6. Mr. Rosemary (Mmm... We'll believe you Lesley)



Photos by Ken



Our collection of *Rhododendron* has been increasing for some time and finally we are seeing most of them in bloom. *R.*'Saffron Queen' is a good yellow, *R.*'Point Defiance' is spectacular with huge pink and white trusses, *R.*'Spring Joy' has pretty pink flowers, *R.*'Goldfinger' is a golden colour, *R.*'Unique Marmalade' is an orange. *R.*'Loders White' has large conical trusses of white blooms. Then there are the small ones in the rock garden *R.*'Wee Bee' - pink, *R.*'June Bee' - white, *R.**campylogynum* - pink, *R.*'Curlew' - yellow, *R.*'Intrafast' - violet.

Near the side fence are two *Cantua buxifolia*. They were severely damaged by frost last year but have recovered and have produced a copious number of flowers. One is a bicolor of white and creamy yellow, The other is the brilliant rosy red form. We saw this growing in its native habitat in Bolivia, of which it is the national flower. *Paeonia peregrina* has its beautiful single red goblet shaped flowers open. They last a long time on the plant. Next to it is *P. delavayi* with smaller dark red flowers.

Ken planted a specimen of *Magnolia* 'Gold Star' in the top garden. As he had two plants of it, he planted the second one on the other side of the creek where we put some other surplus plants. This one produced a more pleasing display of flowers than the one in the house garden.

The rock garden and extended area are a mass of colour with pink *Aethionema*, purple *Aubretia*, blue *Lithodora*, various colours of *Lewisia*, a red *Gladiolus* species with small flowers to mention a few plants. At the top of the ramp is *Rosmarinus officinale*. There is one branch hanging over the edge which looks like a little man walking up the ramp. We call him Mr Rosemary. Who knows how many other "Little People" live in the garden !

GENERAL MEETING 13th November

Meeting venue: Peter and Maruta Boyd's garden
354 Summerleas Road, Kingston
Time: **2:00pm** - Please bring something for afternoon tea.

There will be:

- ◆ A brief meeting
- ◆ Blooms competition (please remember to bring your own bottles/vases)
- ◆ Blooms on display - since our competition restricts you to only 3 blooms for rhododendrons and 3 blooms for companion plants this gives everyone an opportunity to showcase extra blooms. Anything a little unusual will be subject for discussion as part of the meeting.
- ◆ Peoples choice - your selection from the competition blooms.
- ◆ Auction - contributions please.
- ◆ Raffle

PLEASE NOTE

For those concerned about parking difficulties, Peter has had some major work carried out and has made an area available for parking. However it might still be a good idea to take a passenger or two if possible.

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION Sunday 11th December

Please RSVP to Gill Fitzgerald by the
Wednesday 7th December
Ph: 6234 4752
gillfitzgerald@bigpond.com

Venue: Phil and Di Cooper's
37 Glenlusk Road, Berriedale (6249 87187)
Phil and Di will provide a **spit roast** and Members are asked to bring a **salad** or a **dessert**.
There will be some wine and soft drinks available or BYO preferred beverage.

Time: From 12 noon - allowing time for pre-luncheon drinks and a chance to view the garden before lunch at 1pm.

There will also be:
A Blooms Competition (as a separate identity from our usual monthly competition) with a small reward for the winner.
An **auction** - all contributions are appreciated but something a little special makes for feisty bidding.
Presentation of shields. These were originally awarded at our prestigious annual Rhododendron Shows, the main shield for the Grand Champion Rhododendron and the Essie Huxley Memorial Shield was awarded for the Best Bulb, Perennial or Shrub exhibit. At our recent monthly Blooms Competition scores have been allocated for each bloom submitted, the criteria being: (1) quality of bloom (2) degree of difficulty in growing conditions and rarity of the particular genus. Scores for the year are tallied to determine the winners.

YOUR EXECUTIVE

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