



Rhododendrons South Australia

Australian Rhododendron Society Inc. South Australian Branch

Issue 94 – December 2015

Celebrating a Great Gardening Year

This year has seen our society grow with additional members and a number of new events which have contributed to a more vibrant and enthusiastic group. Nataliya and I thought it would be a good idea to end the year with a brief overview of some of the significant events and to extend the Season's Greetings to all our members. We hope that you have all enjoyed your association with the society and are looking forward to an even better gardening year in 2016.



Bronwyn

November Meeting – setting a precedent

The meeting in November showcased a different approach. The business part was brief and was followed by an interactive quiz designed by our President, Rob Hatcher. Rob supplied a number of photos of rhododendrons requiring identification by groups of enthusiastic members. The photos were somewhat challenging, but with the expertise in amongst the teams many were able to identify at least some varieties. Congratulations and a prize was awarded to the winning team led by Barb Field.



photos of rhododendrons requiring

enthusiastic members. somewhat challenging, the society divided were able to identify at least some varieties. Congratulations and a prize was awarded to the winning team led by Barb Field.



During the quiz, members were invited to participate in a silent auction for three Irroratum Polkadot rhododendrons. The successful bids were placed by Milton Bowman, Rob Field and Ian Smylie. Let's hope that the plants thrive and we can acquire cuttings in the future.



Following the quiz many members anxiously awaited the opening of the pot luck stall in order to vie for the numerous rhododendrons available for sale. Many treasures were competed for and purchased. Again, we hope that we may see some arrive as struck cuttings to future meetings.



Late flowering rhododendrons were showcased by the members.



The Hottest Break up in the Hills!

Despite the mercury climbing into the high 30's a large number of members attended the breakup at the home of Janie and Ian Smylie. Everyone enjoyed the delightful and immaculately tended garden and spent many hours sitting beneath the mature rhododendrons partaking of the sumptuous food displayed on the table. Our thanks must go to Ian and Janie who, undoubtedly had worked very hard to prepare their garden and to Janet and David Rice who generously lent chairs for the occasion.



Some Pre-Christmas Garden Pictures

Even on the hottest days there is still some colour in the garden. The Vireyas are putting on a wonderful show highlighting their value as a good variety of rhododendron for any time of the year and the Liliams are adding to the spectacle.



Vireya Peach Dream



Vireya Jupiter Mist



Vireya Irianjaya



Lilium Purple Diamond



Lilium Honesty



Lilium Lankon



Flanders Field Poppy



An experiment with coffee grounds!

Interesting Facts & Useful Resources

Alert SA provides the official South Australian Government Website (<https://www.alert.sa.gov.au/map>) and Mobile App for access to timely, relevant and personalised event and warning information sourced from a wide range of emergency service Agencies, Government and Community Partners.

The Website and Mobile App collect and display data from (but not limited to) the following sources:

- South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS)
- Metropolitan Fire Service
- State Emergency Service (SES)
- SA Police
- SA Health
- Department for Education and Child Development (DECD)
- Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA)
- Department of Transport Planning and Infrastructure (DPTI)
- Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR)
- Bureau of Meteorology (The Bureau)
- Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
- SA Power Networks
- SA Water
- Department for Community and Social Inclusion – State Recovery

The Website and Mobile App use the information obtained from these sources to provide event summaries and warnings to keep you up to date and help you make informed decisions about your safety.

Alert SA aims to provide you with the most comprehensive view of event and warning information in South Australia. Further data sources may be added as they become available over time.

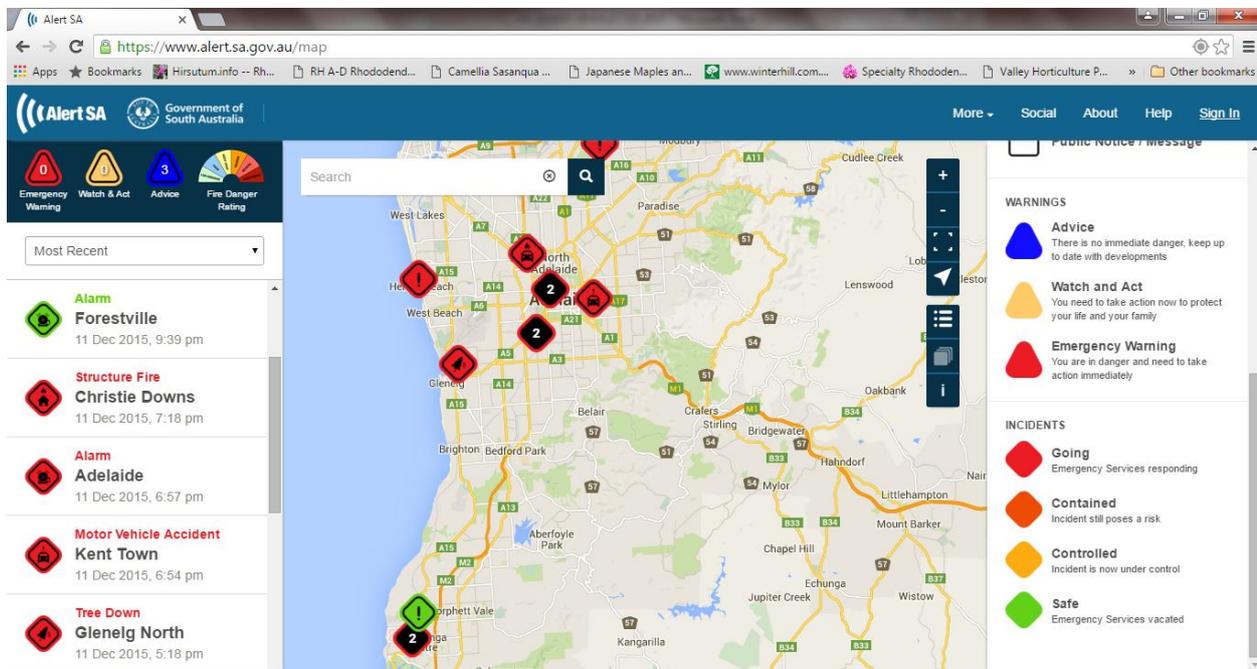
The screenshot displays the Alert SA web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Alert SA logo and the Government of South Australia name. Below this is a search bar and a list of recent events. The main area is a map of South Australia with various warning icons overlaid, including fire danger ratings (Low, High) and incident markers. On the right side, there is a 'Layers' panel with checkboxes for different types of warnings and incidents. The bottom of the screen shows a date overlay for Wednesday 9th Dec 15.

Recent Events List:

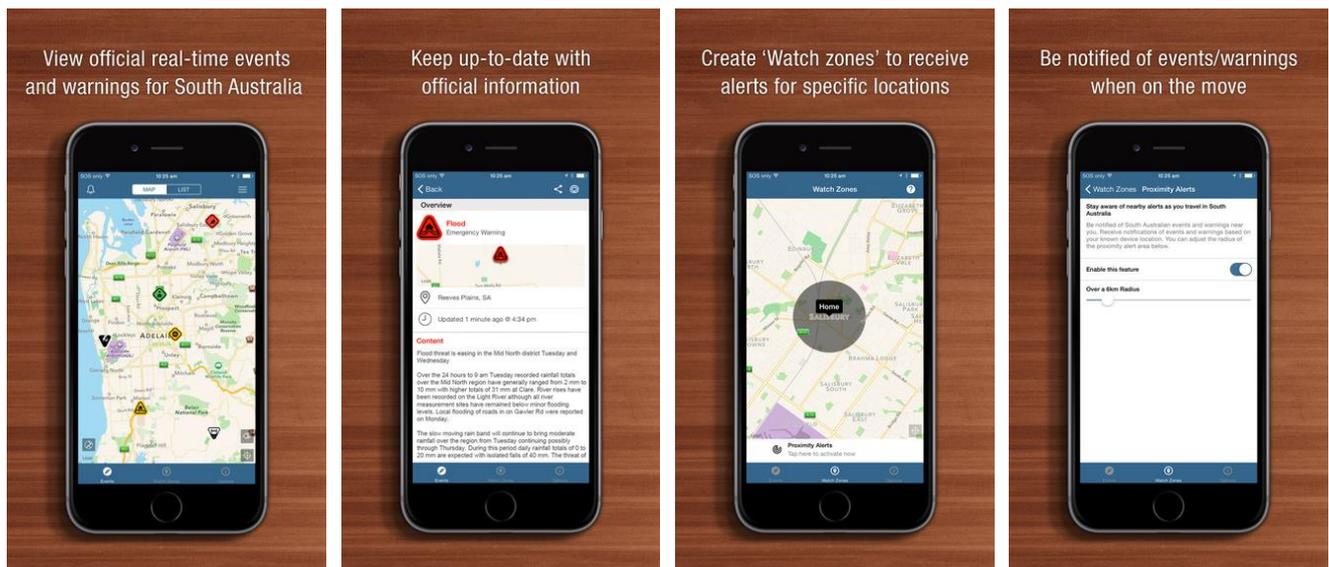
- Road Infrastructure Adelaide** (09 Dec 2015, 6:00 pm)
- Alarm Adelaide** (09 Dec 2015, 11:37 am)
- Alarm Clarence Gardens** (09 Dec 2015, 11:37 am)
- Building Damage Albert Park** (09 Dec 2015, 11:36 am)
- Alarm Malvern** (09 Dec 2015, 11:19 am)
- Incident Dudley Park** (09 Dec 2015, 11:07 am)

Layers Panel:

- Warnings:** Agency Warning Areas (checked), Weather Warning Areas (checked), Mitigation Mapping (unchecked), Prediction Mapping (unchecked)
- Incidents:** Fire (checked), Natural Disaster (checked), Other (checked), Incident Areas (checked), Cordoned Areas (checked)
- Outages / Closures:** Power (checked), Public Facility / Area (unchecked), Public Transport (unchecked)



The Alert SA mobile application is available for Android and Apple devices.



- For Android devices, the Alert SA app requires an operating system of version 4.0 and above.
- For Apple devices, the Alert SA app requires an operating system of version 8.2 and above.

Download here:  

The app is not currently available on Microsoft Windows or Blackberry operating systems.

The Alert SA Website and Mobile Application are managed by [The South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission \(SAFECOM\)](#).

Notice Board

2016 – Coming Event

2015 saw the first of the cutting days run by the society and members decided that it should continue next year. It was a very successful event, both from an educational perspective and a social one. The date has not yet been set for 2016 but Milton has again, kindly offered Forest Lodge as the venue. We will notify members of the final date and arrangements early in the New Year but in order to prepare boxes and propagating mix if you have not yet let Bronwyn and Richard know of your request for box or boxes (first one supplied by the society - extras at cost to members) please do so before Christmas. We have received requests for about 20 boxes.

If you are the one who gets excited when seeing healthy new growth on rhododendrons, you might enjoy testing your luck in raising rhodies from cuttings or perhaps perfecting your propagation skills (undoubtedly we have Rhododendron experts to learn from!) or simply enjoying participating in an interactive social gathering of garden enthusiasts, PLEASE COME and JOIN us at 2016 CUTTING DAY in March!

Preparation, preparation, preparation – key to your success...



You might be lucky to get a promising result...



Final THANKS from the Editors

Nataliya and I would like to express our sincere thanks to a number of members who have assisted us with the newsletter.

First and foremost to *Michelle and David Woolford* who have presented an informative and colourful production for the last two years and for their help in the transition period.

To *Bill Voigt* for his educational and invaluable culture notes.

To *Chris Thomas* for his regular Bird of the Month article and for the preparation of numerous name labels for members.

To *Milton Bowman* for his monthly report from Forest Lodge. It is always interesting to compare what "falls" at Forest Lodge with our area in the hills.

To *Ann and David Matison* for their articles on the library and especially for the review of books which have inspired members to come and borrow - but please remember to return them.

And to all members who have supported the society by attending meetings and providing feedback on the newsletter. As always, it would be wonderful to have articles and photos contributed by members - especially about their gardens, travels, garden experiments, problems and successes.

We hope that all of you have a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and we look forward to renewing our friendships in the New Year.

Nataliya and Bronwyn

NOTE from the President

I would like to add my thanks to those of Bronwyn and Nataliya to everyone that has contributed to this past year and to *Ian Smylie* in particular as outgoing President, for his three years of service in that position and his positive approach and great sense of humour all the way along.

I wish all of you a happy and safe Christmas and New Year and hope to see you again at the monthly meetings when they begin again in March.

Best Wishes

Rob Hatcher

