

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

COMING EVENTS



May 14th

General meeting

Fintan Downham's
369 Woodbridge Hill Road, Woodbridge
Time 2:00 pm
Please bring something for afternoon tea
Full details including directions page 4.

May 25th

Committee meeting - Ken and Lesley's

1 Willowbend Road, Kingston

Time: **1:30 pm**

Note the time change - to avoid the cold winter nights.
A little something to go with our cuppa would be nice.

June 11th

General meeting

Ken and Lesley Gillander's

1 Willowbend Road, Kingston

A DVD presentation of Kaydale Lodge Gardens at Nietta

Time 2:00 pm

More details in the June Newsletter.

June

No committee meeting - No July Newsletter

July 9th

Mid-year luncheon

Venue: Huon Manor Restaurant

More details in the June Newsletter.

July 27th

Committee meeting

August 13th

AGM and general meeting

RUSTICA

Will be available at our
gathering at Fintans
\$2.50 per kg

IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

As autumn proceeds towards winter I ask myself what is there to write about in the garden. The deciduous trees are gradually turning gold or red. The first to turn was *Nyssa sylvatica*. For a few weeks we enjoyed its brilliant orange-red colour before the leaves fell away. This was followed by *Rhus typhina* 'Dissecta' which turns the same brilliant red as the *Nyssa*. This is a suckering shrub but can be easily kept under control by removing any pieces not wanted. Years ago when we lived in Boronia in Victoria, the house we moved into had a pretty garden with a *Rhus succedanea* in it. When it turned red in the autumn Ken cut it out as he discovered it was known to have toxic sap and we did not want it near the children. I saved some pieces to place in a vase but both Ken and myself broke out in a dreadful rash on the arms, so every piece was destroyed. At that time the nurserymen banned the plant for sale. *R.typhina* 'Dissecta' is quite safe although in the same family.

Fothergilla major is another shrub with good autumn colour. This plant turns first from green to a dark red then slowly lightens to a paler red. *Malus ioensis* a flowering apple from USA. It has pale pink to white clusters of flowers with the fragrance of almonds and now in autumn we can enjoy seeing their leaves turn golden.

Most gardens have a Maple or two. When we came to this garden at Kingston there was a weeping one on a 1m high standard. It is an *Acer dissectum* with dissected green leaves. Ken has planted another *A. dissectum* with red foliage which now turned a deeper red. There are many hybrids of *A. dissectum* and they are all worth growing. In the garden at Longley we had many species of Maples. *A.campestre*. *A.cappadocicum*, with lovely golden foliage which contrasted with *A.platanoides*'Crimson King' which grew nearby. Also *A.japonicum* 'Aconitifolium' which coloured a magnificent red. There are many more there which are looking lovely in these autumn days.



1. *Rhus typhina* Dissecta
2. *Fothergilla major*
3. *Nyssa sylvatica*



Acer dissectum



Lardizabala biternata



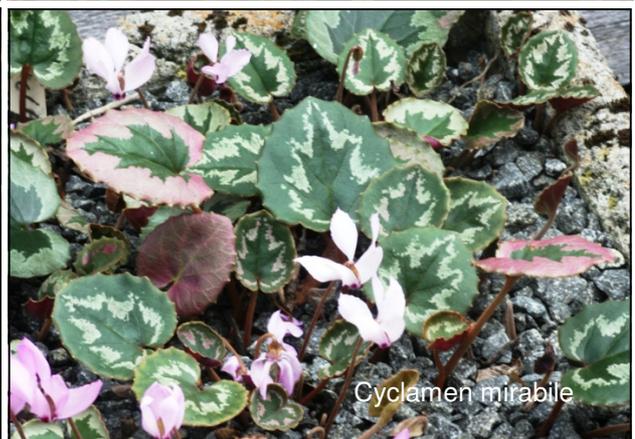
Nerine hybrids



Crocus goulimyi



Crocus mathewsii



Cyclamen mirabile

An unusual climber is *Lardizabala biternata* with dark brown racemes of flowers highlighted with striking white stamens. They are most attractive flowers. If anyone would like some seed please let us know. You would be most welcome to try and grow it.

At this time most of the Nerines have passed their best and some are setting seed. When we were in New Zealand a few years ago, a nurseryman friend who specialized in hybridizing them gave us 6 bulbs of different colours from the hundreds he was producing. We grew them at Woodbank at Longley and finished up with only 5 as someone stole the best colour form of salmon pink. The remainder set seed which Ken sowed while fresh and gradually built up a large collection of mixed colours which he planted out in various areas where they flower very well. When we moved here we brought a few bulbs with us and they are now in flower with reds, whites and pink blooms. They flower later than the larger species and hybrids.

Autumn flowering *Crocus* are always a welcome sight. I mean the real species with dainty flowers and narrow leaves with a central silver stripe. The first one to open was *C. pulchellus* then *C. mathewii* with pretty markings, followed by *C. goulimyi* a soft lavender. *Cyclamen graecum* has incredibly attractive leaves. They look like dark green velvet with deep green markings. The pretty flowers are typical of the genus with pink blooms which have a deeper pink colour on the nose. *C. mirabile* is special for having pink markings on the leaves. We have a trough full of corms grown from seed but only 3 appear to have pink colouring on the leaves and one has a distinct blush of pink covering the entire leaf.

The passionfruit is covered with dozens of green fruit. I will have to limit how many pavlovas Ken can make, now he knows how, when they ripen.

GENERAL MEETING May 14th

Venue: Fintan Downham's

369 Woodbridge Hill Road, Woodbridge

Directions - take the Channel Highway (B68) to Woodbridge, turn right into Woodbridge Hill Road (in the township) (C27), travel 3.6 km, destination on left hand side. Quite a long driveway to the function centre.

Time: 2:00 pm - please bring something for afternoon tea.

There will be:

- ◆ **Blooms competition** There are two sections (a) Rhododendrons and (b) Blooms other than Rhododendrons. You can bring up to three (3) blooms for each section. Blooms for the competition are best set up prior to 2pm. Please remember to bring your own vases/bottles. Judges will be Lorraine and Karina.
- ◆ **Peoples choice** - your selection from the competition blooms.
- ◆ **Main talk:** Fintan will tell us about the history of the garden and bring us up to date with where it is now. No doubt Fintan will take a guided tour of the garden for those up to the challenge. Solid footwear is recommended.
- ◆ **Auction** - please bring plants and/or produce, the rarer the better. Makes for feisty bidding especially when Fintan is present. (Maybe we should each just take a pansy!! That wouldn't be half as much fun though would it??)
- ◆ **Raffle**



YOUR EXECUTIVE



President	Lesley Eaton	6267 9961
	<i>lesley.eaton@bigpond.com</i>	
Vice President	Doreen Gill	6239 1124
	<i>tdgill@bigpond.net.au</i>	
Secretary	Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752
	<i>gillfitzgerald@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	Rhonda Bull	6239 6416
Social Secretary	Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752

Committee

Ken and Lesley Gillanders	6229 2351
<i>gillwoo@bigpond.com</i>	
Karina Harris	0419 903 312
<i>telozea44@gmail.com</i>	
Anne Cruise	6244 2965
Kerry van den Berg	0448 007 525
<i>kerry.vandenberg@utas.edu.au</i>	
Kaye Hagan	6229 3719
<i>k.ghages@bigpond.com</i>	
Wendy Ebsworth	6266 4716
<i>wendyebsworth@yahoo.com.au</i>	