

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY



SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

COMING EVENTS



- September 9th** **General meeting**
Karina Harris's garden
2025 Huon Road, Longley
More details page 4.
- September 27th** **Committee meeting** - Ken and Lesley's (to be confirmed)
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston
Time 2:00 pm
- October 14th** **Garden visit**
Penny and Pav's 'Crawleighwood' nursery and garden
51 Underwood Road, Nicholls Rivulet
Entry \$8
- October 18th** **Committee meeting**
Venue and time to be advised
This date has been brought forward as most committee members will be unavailable due to the North West garden trip to Burnie.
- October 24th/25th** North West garden trip - page 2.
- November 2nd/3rd** Our Society would like to make an effort to promote the Rhododendron by entering a display in the Hobart Horticultural Show. (Rose, Iris and Floral Art Show). We are seeking members who are prepared to assist with this project. Please contact Joy Stones on 6223 2116 for more information.
- November 11th** **National Council meeting** - to be held at Woodbank Gardens
More information next newsletter.

August Blooms Competition

Kaye Hagan won the Rhododendron section
Joy Stones won Blooms other than Rhododendrons
Gill Fitzgerald won Peoples Choice

Raffle winner

Rhododendron 'Florence Mann' was won by Mary King

NORTH WEST GARDEN TRIP
Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th October 2018

We are very pleased to advise that 18 Members have committed. Those travelling as groups will need to make their own arrangements re pick up times etc.

In our next newsletter we will have an itinerary for the gardens we will be visiting ie. Emu Valley Rhododendron Gardens and Kaydale Lodge. We will also include a list of other gardens/nurseries you may like to visit if you are extending your trip.

Best Western Murchison Lodge at Somerset is your accommodation for Wednesday 24th and also where we have booked for an evening meal. Phone: 6435 1106 if you wish to confirm your booking.

For any queries contact Lorraine on 6247 7774 or lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au

IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

It was a relief to see the garden slowly waking up from its winter sleep. There are three plants of *Daphne bholua* in the garden and there are two honeyeaters diligently feasting on the nectar. *Daphne genkwa* is called 'D.Blue Daphne' due to the lavender -blue which open up the stems and held in clusters like *Daphne odora rubra*'.

Magnolia 'Star Wars' seemed to take ages to open. The large pink blooms on bare branches are quite eye catching. *M.'Black Tulip'* has deep purple black goblets shaped blooms. While '*Michaelia doltsopa*' with large white blooms has had a name change and is now classed as *Magnolia doltsopa*. Ken bought a *Eucalyptus caesia* last year but the plant died and this week was able to purchase another one, so hope it will survive. It has an attractive white bark and enormous pink flowers.

Many years ago Ken produced a batch of seedling *Rhododendron* while we were at Longley. He planted several of these hybrids in the garden and called them *R. 'Woodbank Hybrid'*. This was a cross between *R.'Little Glendoe'* and *R.aureum*. They flower in early August and even though frost ruins the blooms, it produces more as spring takes hold. *R.'Ptarmigan'* is a small plant in the rock garden with small white flowers. *Enkianthus serrulatus* with large creamy white bells on deciduous branches is one meter high. It is in a shaded bed at the front of the house



Crocus The Bishop



Romulia monodelpha



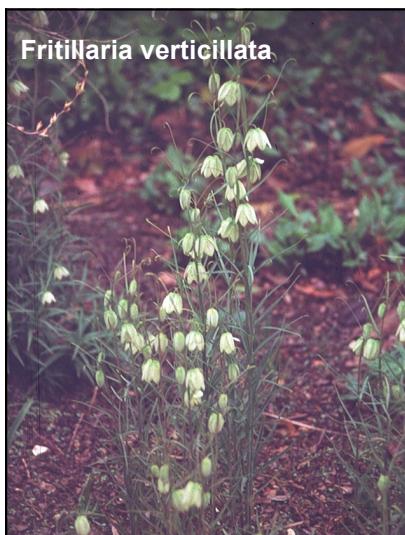
Some *Crocus* have already finished flowering but many more will open. *C. vernus* 'The Bishop' has large deep purple flowers. *Anemone seemani* is a prostrate plant growing in a cool moist position. It has golden yellow flowers. South Africa has a wide distribution of bulbs. *Romulea* are some of the most colourful bulbs *R.bulbocodium* has lavender pink flowers, *R.citrina* has yellow flowers. *R.monophylla* has red flowers. All of them only open in the sun. *Geissorhiza radicans* flowered for the first time last year. The flood washed a lot of them away but we have a few that survived and are in flower now. The centre of the flower is bright scarlet edged with a thin white line and the outer petals are deep purple.

There are many species and hybrids of *Narcissus*. Most people have '*N.'King Alfred'*' and '*N.'Fortune'*', two old varieties with tall stems reaching to 60cm. One that grows prolifically is '*N.'Jetfire'*' a vigorous hybrid to 40cm which have increased quickly after dividing them last year. They will need to be divided again. *N.bulbocodium* a popular species known as Hoop Petticoat daffodil grows well and a selected form is *N.b.obesus* with a flared trumpet. These days there are numerous new varieties.



Leucodendron 'Devils Blush' is a plant with attractive creamy yellow bracts with red tips. The flowers are a small tight cluster in the centre. Ken has planted it in a dry spot near other *Leucodendron*, *Leucospermum* and *Proteas* not far from a large *Eucalyptus*.

There are two *Fritillaria* open at present. Both have lost their labels, so a search is on to try to identify each one. They are most interesting, both being black. We have a number of books to check through, so hopefully we will track their names correctly. Now is the time to enjoy other species. *F.verticillata* a lovely creamy colour, *Fritillaria uva ursi* is easy to grow with yellow and brown flowers, *F.meleagris*, the Snakes Head Fritillary, *F.imperialis* known as the Crown Imperial, with either orange or yellow flowers. In England, there are specialist groups mainly interested in *Fritillaria* associated with Rock Garden Clubs.



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

Payment can also be made by Direct Deposit to **BSB: 067000 Account No. 28026437**
Account Name: Australian Rhododendron Society

Single Membership \$20.00

Family Membership \$25.00

GENERAL MEETING 9th September

Venue: Karina Harris's garden
2025 Huon Road, Longley

Time: **1:30pm for 2:00pm meeting** Please bring something for afternoon tea.
(Hard copies of the previous meeting will be available for your perusal prior to our meeting).

There will be:

- ◆ **Blooms competition: WITH A CHANGED FORMAT**
You can bring up to 3 rhododendrons and one (1) only companion plant. The setting up process will be the same using your own vases/bottles.
The aim is to concentrate on rhododendrons and to ease congestion on the display table. Judges this month will be **Lorraine Grewcoe** and **Ken Gillanders**.
DON'T FORGET, we would still like you to bring flowers for show and tell. It can be a bunch, a basket/box full or one single stem. Anything of interest that might generate discussion. You may even simply want a plant identified. These plants do not need to be in water. Discussion generated from this can be an interesting part of a meeting.
- ◆ **Peoples choice**
- ◆ **Main talk:** A garden 'walk and talk' with Karina and Joy.
- ◆ **Auction** - please bring a contribution.
- ◆ **Raffle**

OTHER EVENTS 2018

Hobart Horticultural Society - 7th & 8th September - Daffodil, Camellia & Floral Art
2nd and 3rd November - Rose, Iris & Floral Art

Dover Flower Show - 22nd & 23rd September, Dover History Rooms.

More information and schedules available from Helen Lindsay 0439 672 331 (for above)

Blooming Tasmania Event - 22nd and 23rd September - Albert Hall, Launceston

NEW EXECUTIVE FOR 2018/2019

President: Kerry van den Berg 0448 007 525 Treasurer: Lorraine Grewcoe 6247 7774
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Committee

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Jenny Skinner	6266 4678	Barbara and Peter Davies	6239 6802
Ken and Lesley Gillanders	6229 2351	Anne Cruise	6244 2965