

# AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

## COMING EVENTS



**October 13th**

**Meeting and garden gathering**

Sue Wallbank (Pen-lan Plants)

Sue specialises in Auriculas . This follows a wonderful talk that Sue gave at our meeting last November.

636 Summerleas Road, Fern Tree

Time 2pm. Please bring a plate.

**October 31st**

**Committee meeting** Ken and Lesley Gillanders

1 Willowbend Road, Kingston Ph 6229 2351

6pm at Beachside Hotel, Kingston Beach

**November 10th**

**Meeting and garden gathering**

Nicole and Stuart Clutterbuck's

173 Redwood Road, Kingston (6229 2287)

Time: 2pm. Please bring a plate.

**November 28th**

**Committee meeting**

### MEETING - GARDEN GATHERING PROCEDURE

**13th OCTOBER 2013**

As the venue for this meeting is not the home of one of our Members the minutes of the Committee meeting and the Treasurer's report will be tabled only.

Ken and Lesley recently visited Sue Wallbank of Pen-lan Plants and reminded us not to miss this gathering as Sue has an outstanding collection of Auriculas. As it is a little hard to find Ken as volunteered to wait for 15 mins. at the driveway entrance on Summerleas Road from approx. 1.50pm. On the LHS if coming from Fern Tree or RHS coming from Kingston via Summerleas Road.

There will be our regular **blooms competition**. You can bring up to (3) blooms for each section ie. Rhododendrons and/or Blooms other than Rhododendrons. Please remember to bring your own vases/bottles just as we did at our evening meetings. We will also continue with Peoples Choice.

There will be a **raffle** but **NO** auction as Sue will most likely have plants available for sale. Will also have **blooms on display** - maybe a restricted number on this occasion. Books from the **library** are available by contacting Rhondda on 6239 6416. More details on page 4.

## IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

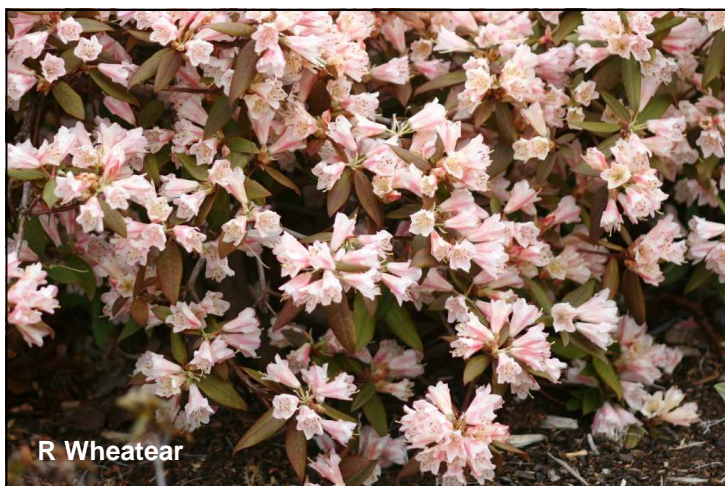
A short burst of spring early in September gave the plants in the garden the much needed incentive to start into growth after their winter sleep. After a promising few days of sunshine and warm days a cold snap came in again and for several nights the garden took on a ghostly effect as we covered each of our small plants of various Maples with a cloth to protect the young leaves from the frosts. Over the years as they grow larger we should not have to do this as their branches should be above the frost line. Sadly, the flowers on *Magnolia* 'Star Wars' turned brown with the frosts but *M.* 'Ann' did not worry and has given us some lasting colour. *Camellia* 'Sweet Jane' lost several flowers but with the profusion of buds it produces, soon looked fine again.



In the garden at the side of the house there is a specimen of *Buddleja crispa*. The silvery grey leaves are attractive and now the lavender pink flowers are open it is even better. The plant has grown well since Ken planted it just after we moved here 18 months ago and is already over one and a half metres high.

I have been missing our former *Rhododendron* collection we had at Longley and welcomed with relief the first flowers for the season on a plant of *R.* 'Bibiani' This shrub was already here in the garden but the rest of the rhododendrons in the garden have been planted by Ken and are relatively small at this stage. *R.* 'Ann Teese' has three trusses. There is one truss on *R.* 'City of Burnie' and several of the smaller growers in the rock garden have flowered – *R.* 'Wheatear' with pink and cream flowers reminds me of *R.* 'Crossbill' *R.* 'Phalarope' has mauve-pink flowers and *R.* 'Moth' has lemon-yellow flowers.

Our next door neighbour has a *Pandorea pandorana* on the fence line. It has run up and over the fence into our Silver Birch to a height of about six metre and is a mass of cream flowers. *Corylopsis willmottiae* 'Spring Purple' has lovely lemon-yellow racemes of flowers hanging along the bare stems. The young leaves are flushed purple and come a little later. The two *Prunus* 'Mount Fuji' cherries are opening their semi double white flowers in the elevated garden above the patio. One of the trees is more advanced with a lot of blooms open. *Phyllica pubescens*, although small, has an insignificant flower surrounded by hairy bracts on each stem. It likes a sunny well drained spot and the flowers will last for several years if used in a floral arrangement. For years we have admired *Serruria* but never been able to grow it as it likes a sunny well drained spot. We purchased *S.* 'Pretty In Pink' a few months ago and it has settled in well along the drive with several *Protea* and *Leucodendrons*.







Phyleca pubescens



R Phalarope



Myosotidium hortense

Along the creek our plant of *Myosotidium hortense* has produced three lovely flower stems. Known as the Chatham Island Forget-Me-Not, it is quite an eye catching plant with individual blue flowers clustered in rounded heads. The flood in the creek we had a few weeks ago did not, as we thought, wash away all the *Erythronium* Ken had planted on the bank. There is a pink *E.revolutum* and cream *E.californicum* just opening in the batch of seedlings.

*Fritillaria imperialis* had only one flower stem this year. We must have lost the other two which were there last season. *F.rhodocanakis* had one

reddish brown edged cream flower, *F.tuntasia* has a black bell with a glaucous bloom and several checkered flowers of *F.meleagris* are

opening through the rock garden. *Trillium rivale* are always reliable in producing their little pink speckled white flowers. Ken had a styrene box full earlier and has planted them out in several places around the cooler garden beds where they are now in full flower.

*T.ludlovicianum* and *T.chloropetalum* are also open with reddish majenta flowers and an odd white flower mixed in with some of the clumps.

I have wanted *Muscari* 'Valerie Finnis' for some years after seeing it in flower in UK on one of our trip there. It has pretty light cambridge blue flowers like a Grape Hyacinth. We obtained some bulbs this year and were rewarded with two flowering stems. The English Primrose '*Primula vulgaris*' has developed into a compact plant with numerous creamy flowers alongside a pretty *P.stolonifera* with lilac pink flowers.

**As a matter of interest** - has anyone noticed the ***Pandorea pandorana*** on the wall of the Coles complex in John St. It is FANTASTIC!

### GARDEN VISIT & AFTERNOON TEA

On **Saturday 19th October** there will be a garden visit and afternoon tea at the home of Pat Mavromatis, in aid of Quaker Service Australia. **All welcome** from 2pm onwards. There will be a trade table so donations of plants will be welcome, and hopefully buyers too!! Afternoon tea by donation, all money collected goes to Q.S.A's projects overseas.

Address: 55 Carlton Street, New Town  
Ph: 6228 3229

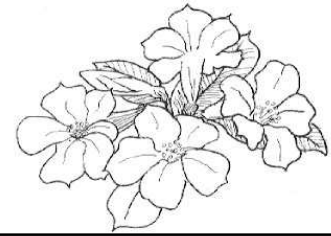
### BLOOMS COMPETITION for September

Rhododendron section - Anne Cruise.  
Blooms other than Rhododendron section - Pat Mavromatis.  
Anne Pyke won Peoples Choice and Maruta Boyd won the raffle which was R. Susan Wells

**RUSTICA - \$2.50 PER KG**  
Available at meeting

## Library

Rhondda Bull has kindly volunteered to caretake our library. You received a list of books held in our library last month. Please keep your list handy. If you decide there is a book that interests you please give Rhondda a call on **6239 6416**.



## HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THIS???

### 2013 Australian Rhododendron Society Convention

We have had a request from Rob Hatcher, National President of the Australian Rhododendron Society, to remind Members of this forthcoming event to be held in South Australia on Friday 18th October to Sunday 20th October. It will include a wonderful weekend of garden visits. More information is available on the SA Branch website [sarhodo.org.au](http://sarhodo.org.au)

[Mr Steven E Hootman](#) will be the keynote speaker at the conference dinner.

Steve Hootman is the Executive Director & Curator of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington where he is responsible for development, maintenance and integrity of world class rhododendron and a companion plant collection. He has participated in or led over one dozen expeditions into the remote regions of Asia looking for rare and new taxa of rhododendrons and other plants and is considered one of the world authorities on the genus. He is also an active collector, authority and promoter of related genera in the Ericaceae including genera such as Vaccinium, Agapetes and Gaultheria

## YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE

President	Lesley Eaton	6267 9961
	<a href="mailto:lesley.eaton@bigpond.com">lesley.eaton@bigpond.com</a>	
Vice President	Doreen Gill	6239 1124
Secretary	Debbie Farmilo	6229 3001
	<a href="mailto:mdwj@bigpond.com">mdwj@bigpond.com</a>	
Treasurer	Lorraine Grewcoe	6247 7774
	<a href="mailto:lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au">lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au</a>	
Public Officer	Phil Cooper	6249 8717
Newsletter editor	Dorothy Lane	6239 6671
	<a href="mailto:djlane67@bigpond.com">djlane67@bigpond.com</a>	
Librarian	Rhondda Bull	6239 6416
Social Secretary	Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752



### Committee

Gill Fitzgerald	6234 4752
Lesley Gillanders	6229 2351
Karina Harris	6239 6048
Rhondda Bull	6239 6416
Doreen Gill	6239 1124
Anne Cruise	6244 2965

**Annual Membership** is now due. This can be paid at the Annual General Meeting or by posting a cheque, payable to **Australian Rhododendron Society Inc., Southern Tasmania Branch** and mailed to the Treasurer, Lorraine Grewcoe, Clarendon Vale House, Clarendon Vale, Tas. 7019

**Single Membership \$20.00**

**Family Membership \$25.00**