

# AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

## SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

### COMING EVENTS

**October 4th  
Saturday**

**Rhododendron promotion at Bunnings Rosny Park**  
Lesley Eaton to be our spokesperson.  
See more below.

**October 25th  
Saturday**

**Bus Trip to WAG Walker Heritage Rhododendron Gardens**  
Please note: Some Members have chosen to drive to the Granada Tavern pick up point rather than find parking in the City. We have no problems with this but **PLEASE** make sure you let us know your plans. If you have already sent your form in and wish to change, please ring Lorraine on 6247 7774.  
Further **update** of plans for the day at bottom of page 4.

**October 30th**

**Committee meeting** Ken and Lesleys  
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston 6229 2351  
6pm Beachside Hotel, Kingston Beach

**November 9th**

**Meeting and Garden Gathering**  
At Neil and Sandra Hardwood's  
38 Hilton Road, Claremont  
Time: 2pm  
Please bring something for afternoon tea  
More details next month.



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### **RHODODENDRON PROMOTION BUNNINGS ROSNY PARK 4th October - between 10am and 2pm**

Our President, Lesley Eaton was approached at short notice by a Bunning's representative to participate in a promotion for rhododendrons between 10am and 2pm on Saturday 4th October. As there was little time to think about it Lesley gratefully accepted the offer and committed herself to the day. We are therefore calling any Members who may be able to assist Lesley with this activity. Blooms for the display would be appreciated. If you don't have blooms, but have the time to assist, may be collecting from another Member's garden would help. Bottles may also be needed. Lorraine is updating our joining application form and growing information will also be available for distribution. If you are able to help please ring Lesley on **6267 9961**. Lesley is waiting in anticipation!!

## IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

These few days in late September when temperatures reached into the 20 degrees, definitely denoted that Spring was here, although there will again be periods of cold when we wish for more sunshine but our gardens need an adequate amount of rain as well as the warmth of the sun to keep our plants happy. Trouble is the lawns keep growing then need a cut. This week I raked up the clippings on the lawn which Ken has cut and he removed three barrow loads which go onto the garden as mulch.

Our golden display of Daffodils is done for another year although a few clumps of late flowering pink ones are still blooming. *Tecophila* are also done for the year but I see a few seed pods are setting. *Chionodoxa forbesii* is in bloom. It is very much like *C.sardensis* but a little taller with a white centre. In the same bed at the front of the house is a small group of *Primula denticulata*. Known as the Drumstick Primula, we have the mauve-pink form only. At Longley we also had a reddish one and a white form. *Anemone x seemannii* puts a bright creamy yellow splash of colour nearby.



*Fritillaria* are at their best now. We have a bright orange form of *F.imperialis* in flower for the first time and a light orange form also. This last mentioned is the only one left from four we had last year. It is a tricky bulb to keep happy. *F.carica* is a sweet little one only about 20cm high with clear light yellow flowers. We saw this growing in the wild in Turkey years ago near the top of a mountain ridge. There are several *F.meleagris* with chequered mauve, pinkish and white flowers in the rock garden where Ken scattered them two years ago. *F.tuntasia* and *F.obliqua* are very similar with their blue-black bells. *F.obliqua* has a bloom on the outer petals and the leaves twist and twirl from the stem.

*Erythronium californicum* has produced its creamy white flowers. They have pretty lemon markings inside the petals and a white throat. *E.revolutum* is a favourite with pink flowers and lemon yellow markings inside the petals. There is a mixed group of these two forms planted near the creek where they have made a colourful display. *Trillium ludlowvicianum* has opened its purple majenta flowers with pretty marbled trifoliate leaves. *T.chloropetalum* is a few days later in opening. They are similar in colour and habit. *T.erectum* has not shown up yet. It will be nice to see it again when it comes up. A few minutes ago I saw a flower of The American Bloodroot – *Sanguinaria canadensis*. It has a small white flower and a pretty glaucous leaf. Lamentably we no longer have the double form which is superior.

There is a *Daphne tangutica* flowering in the rock garden and another in the garden near the house. *Aubretia* are looking bright this year with light purple-blue masses of flowers. The ones in the retaining wall below the garage are also in flower.



*Magnolia yunnanense*  
Scented Pearl



*Weigelia middendorffiana*



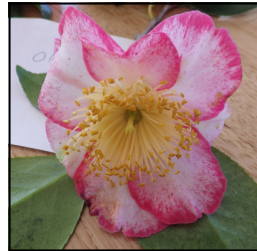
Pics by  
Ken Gillanders      R Bibiani  
→

*Rhododendron* 'Golden Bee' in the side garden is still only small but has produced several delightful little golden flowers. It is near a perennial plant of *Epimedium* 'Cherry Tart' with pink flowers. *Rhododendron* 'Bibiani' is covered with rich red flowers. It is at the top of the rock garden where it looks out of place as it is two metres high now but it will not be moved as we do not observe strict rules re a rock garden of small shrubs and groundcover plants only. In the garden near the creek, *R.* 'Ann Teese' is just opening her white heavily flushed pink, scented flowers. Nearby is *Magnolia yunnanense* 'Scented Pearl' with lovely white flowers.

I have never been overly enthusiastic with *Buddleja* but there are exceptions. *B. crispata* has silvery leaves and light blue-mauve flowers. It looks particularly pretty at present at about two metres high and is a mass of colour. *Weigelia middendorffiana* although only about 45cm high at present has produced several bright yellow flowers. We have two plants here as it is a favourite. We could not grow it well at Longley but it is quite happy here in the warmth of Kingston. We imported it many years ago when we had the nursery in operation

### Jubilee Gardens visit

16 Members and 2 visitors enjoyed a sunny afternoon at Jubilee Gardens. As Main speaker for our meeting, Joy had prepared an amazing display of camellias, all from the garden. Joy explained the virtues of each flower and their value in the garden and answered a number of Member's questions. Whilst the bottom half of the property has been sold we were still able to take a walk in that part of the garden. The lucky last may be. Joy and Ted have recently completed a major extension to their home and a large section of the garden was dug out to allow the work to proceed. There is little evidence of this now and whilst the garden may be smaller, there is still a large collection of extremely interesting plants. Thank you Joy and Ted.



Camellias - subject for Main Talk



Top left: C. Okan Centre: Joy's selection from garden  
Bottom right: C. Annes Delight Pics by Dorothy

### WINNERS

Rhododendrons: Anne Pyke  
Companion plants: Anne Pyke  
Peoples choice: Pat Mavromatis  
Raffle: R. Simona- won by Pat Mavromatis

### YOUR NEW 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

Debbie Farmilo	6229 3001
Lesley Gillanders	6229 2351
Ken Gillanders	6229 2351
Karina Harris	6239 6048
Rhonda Bull	6239 6416
Doreen Gill	6239 1124
Anne Cruise	6244 2965

# DAY BUS TRIP TO THE NORTH EAST



**SATURDAY  
25TH OCTOBER 2014**

The Committee has arranged a day excursion to the W.A.G. Walker Rhododendron Reserve at Lalla. This property was originally established in the early 1900s as a nursery to propagate apple and pear trees. Over the years it expanded to include exotic tree species, rhododendrons and commercial cut flowers. It became known locally as the Flower Farm. From 1982 to 2007 the property was leased to the Tasmanian Government for use as a public reserve. Over this period many Tasmanians visited the 'rhododendron gardens at Lalla' to enjoy a family picnic and to absorb the breathtaking beauty of the rhododendrons in full bloom. In 2007 Chris and Margy Dockray bought the 44ha property and began the massive task of restoring the garden to its former splendour. It was once again opened to the public in the Spring of 2012. The garden has a long history and it will be exciting to partake in exploring the next phase of its future life.

Whilst in the area we will visit the Red Dragon Nursery at Karoola.

**Cost:** No charge for Members however there will be a garden entry fee of \$8.00 which will be collected on the day.

**Confirm:** To confirm your booking by **Friday 3rd October**, please complete the attached application and post to Lorraine Grewcoe, PO Box 88, Rokeby 7019 OR simply email Lorraine the required details. [lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au)

Please do not delay your decision as we plan to extend an invitation to other garden clubs.

**Departure Times:**

6.30 am	Woodbridge High School
7.00 am	Huon Highway (A6)/Summerleas Road, junction
7.15 am	Campbell Street, opposite Grand Chancellor
7.45 am	Granada Tavern Claremont

**Car parking:** For those who may need to park in the city, the Argyle Street and Market Place car parks are open late (the latter overnight). To check costs phone HCC on 6238 2780

**Lunch:** Please bring your own lunch including the thermos if you wish. There will be a comfort stop at Campbell Town - both ways.

If you have any queries please phone Dorothy on 6239 6671 or 0408 127 189 or Lorraine on 6247 7774

**Update:** It is anticipated that we travel direct to the Red Dragon Nursery before moving on to the Rhododendron gardens where we will have lunch. This will allow maximum time to view the garden at your own pace. As there are no toilets at the nursery we are attempting to arrange a comfort stop north of Launceston before going to the nursery.