NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

COMING EVENTS

June 12th General meeting

Neil and Sandra Harwood's

38 Hilton Road, Claremont (6249 2023) Neil and Sandra will give a presentation of 'Gardens we have visited whilst overseas'.

More details in p. 4

June No committee meeting - No July Newsletter

July 10th Mid-year luncheon

Venue: Huon Manor Restaurant (licensed)

Main Road, Huonville. \$30 pp 2 courses tea and coffee extra

Please advise any specific dietary requirements

Time 12 noon - Partners welcome.

RSVP to Lesley Eaton by **6th July** on 6267 9961 (evenings best)

or email lesley.eaton@bigpond.com

July 28th Committee meeting

Ken and Lesley's

1 Willowbend Road, Kingston 6229 2351 6pm Harmony Chinese - Channel Court

August 14th AGM and general meeting

Time: 2pm

Kerry and Harry van den Berg's 2040 Huon Road, Longley

More details in August newsletter



Garden Gathering at Crawleighwood May 15th

Despite the very inclement weather around 15 Members made the visit to Crawleighwood. It seems Penny was expecting that we might cancel but weather is never an excuse for we gardeners. A beautiful garden in all seasons.

Raffle: R. Lockington Handsome Lad was won by Pat Mavromatis. *You must be getting quite a collection Pat.*

IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

There seems to be little of interest in the garden now that late autumn turns to early winter. The drought in this south east corner of Tasmania continued till at last the rain finally came but only in small showers. This has been enough to gradually penetrate the parched gardens. So much more will be needed to reach the subsoil.

Ken moved three *Allysum saxatile*, from the rock garden extension, which had been planted together they grew so well that they started to smother nearby treasures. Also, he moved three *Pulsatilla vulgaris*, and a *Linum dolomitum* for the same reason. They have been planted in the main garden with difficulty. When Ken started to dig a hole to replant them he found the rain had only penetrates to a small depth, so he dug the hole, filled it with water, left it to be absorbed and planted next day.

Our plant of *Weldenia candida*, which is herbaceous, had clover in it but when Ken dug it up he could not find the clover, so rather than destroy the plant by tearing it apart he has left it and replanted. The flower of three glistening white petals is very pretty. *Protea cynaroides* in the front garden has its lovely large flower half open. It is a majestic pink bloom when fully open and can stand a dry sunny position. Nearby is a plant of *Protea* 'Pink Ice'. This is a hybrid of *P.nerifolia* with pretty bright pink flowers and the usual fringed tips to the petals. We purchased *Correa* 'Annabel' a short time ago. It has grown well and has very pleasing pretty pink bells.

Kens collection of *Lilium* species has suffered where they grew under one of the Cherries. He has salvaged most of them and replanted in the side garden. This involved removing soil, replacing with a mix of good soil and mulch, then planting them and making up more permanent labels.



Weldenia candida



Correa 'Annabel'



Protea Pink Ice



Protea cynaroides





R roxieanum







R Lori Eichelser

R ericoides

I guess many gardens have had damage caused by the strong winds.

Cistus 'Bennets White' was blown out and Ken staked it up but there was no hope for it. He quickly put in cuttings of it, so hopefully we will still get another plant going. The lovely large white blooms brighten the garden.

We purchased a few *Rhododendron* from Red Dragon Nursery prior to it closing. R.roxieanum has speckling on the white flowers and the slightly narrow leaves have an intense dark indumentum under them. The name of *R*.'Carpet of Snow' is virtually descriptive of its colour and habit. *R*.'Lori Eichelser' has bright red flowers and makes a neat spreading mound. *R.ericoides* is a favourite of mine. We had this years ago in the Longley garden. I saw one hanging flower on the stock plant at Red Dragon and we purchased one from Andrew. It has a small bright orange-red tubular flower about 2cm long. The foliage looks like an *Erica*. *R*. 'June Bee' is one of the Bee named hybrids bred in and named in USA. It has white flowers and grows to about 45cm. *R*.'Yakpak' I fell in love with the foliage when I saw it. It has a silvery look to the upper surface of the leaves and good dark indumentum under them. The flowers are white flushed pink.

Several plants have died in the four years we have been here. Ken blames fungus in the soil. He dug a hole in the side garden so he could plant another *Rhododendron* and found a barrow load of broken house bricks plus old bits of plastic. Sometimes gardening can be quite frustrating

GENERAL MEETING June 12th

Venue: Neil and Sandra Harwood's

38 Hilton Road, Claremont (6249 2023)

Neil and Sandra will give a presentation of 'Gardens we have visited whilst overseas'.

Time: 2:00pm - 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 Kerry.
- Peoples choice your selection from the competition blooms.
- Main talk: Presentation of 'Gardens we have visited whilst overseas'. by Neil and Sandra
- Auction we always have an interesting selection thanks to Members' generous donations.
- Raffle

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM will be in August and all executive positions will become vacant. We would love to see some new faces take on any of the positions listed below. Some changes may help generate fresh new ideas. Anyone interested can contact our President on 6267 9961.

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

Single Membership \$20.00

Family Membership \$25.00

YOUR EXECUTIVE

| President | Lesley Eaton | 6267 9961 |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| | lesley.eaton@bigpond.com | |
| Vice President | Doreen Gill | 6239 1124 |
| | tdgill@bigpond.net.au | |
| Secretary | Gill Fitzgerald | 6234 4752 |
| - | gillfitzgerald@bigpond.com | |
| Treasurer | Lorraine Grewcoe | 6247 7774 |
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| Librarian | Rhondda 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 |
| Rhondda Bull | 6239 6416 |
| Doreen Gill | 6239 1124 |
| Anne Cruise | 6244 2965 |

Kerry van den Berg 0448 007 525