

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004

COMING EVENTS

- October 9th** **General meeting and garden visit**
12:30 to 1:45 Cascade gardens visit
2:00pm Jubilee Gardens, Cascades
More details p. 4
- October 23rd** **Additional garden visit**
Kaye and Gordon Hagan's
Time: 2:00pm
38 Kunama Drive, Kingston Beach
Please bring something for afternoon tea
This is a garden visit only and a chance to view Kaye's magnificent display of vireyas. Gordon has an impressive collection of orchids too.
- October 27th** **Committee meeting**
Ken and Lesley's
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston 6229 2351
6pm Harmony Chinese - Channel Court
- November 6th** Visit to Kerry and Harry van den Berg's 'Woodbank Gardens'
2040 Huon Road, Longley
Kerry has an open garden this weekend but you are welcome to wander the garden, you may even be able to assist Kerry in some way. Her contact number is 0448 007 525
- November 13th** **General Meeting**
Peter and Maruta Boyd's garden
354 Summerleas Road, Kingston
More details next newsletter
- December 11th** **Christmas function**
At Phil and Di Cooper's
37 Glenlusk Road, Berriedale
More details next newsletter



IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

Pics by Ken Gillanders

This month I am happy to be writing at home where I can see the garden and be inspired by so many precious flowers from bulbs to alpines and some trees. Our little bulb bed near the greenhouse has so many flowers open, that if I listed them, it would just be a litany of plant names and no room to add a brief description of each. Perhaps the most outstanding bulb is *Fritillaria imperialis*. We have only one bulb left which has survived over the last four years. It can be difficult to keep. In contrast to its large orange bell shaped flowers is *F. persica* with



Fritillaria aurea

numerous smaller black flowers up the stems.

A special surprise for Ken was when he recently discovered that after four years *F. aurea* had finally produced its first flower. It had a lovely clear yellow bloom and then a second one was also produced. Just behind it is *F. bucharica* with small white flowers. By contrast to these single stemmed beauties *F. meleagris* is prominent all over the rock garden, Some are typical chequered pink-purple, some paler, others white with greenish tessalations. Ken found one stem with six large white bells on it.

Erythronium californicum in cream and mixed with *E. revolutum* with pink flowers are in a little strip bed against the front porch. *Eranthus hiemalis* is in full shade near the front door. It has started to produce seed but must be gathered quickly when ripe or the seeds disappear into the leafage. Along the bed at the front of the house is a group of *Chionodoxa forbesii*. Not unlike *C. sardensis* and perhaps not as prolific in producing flowers but it has made a nice clump which will be divided later and some can be planted in a sunny spot.

Anemone blanda is a precocious little bulb with brilliant little daisy-like flowers. They set a prolific amount of seed and have gradually established mass displays of deep blue, paler blue, and even a few white ones here and there throughout the garden. They contrast well with the little pink *Trillium rivale*. We have a number of clumps of *Pulsatilla vulgaris* throughout the side garden and in the top beds. They normally have deep purple flowers but there are also paler shades, apart from a couple of white ones and a pretty red one. Another attraction with this plant is the fluffy seed heads which gradually ripen and disperse in the wind.

Helleborus orientalis also makes numerous clumps. There is a broad range of colours from pale green to red edged ones. A clear yellow is also desirable if you can find one. Out in the side garden is a pretty plant of *Fothergilla monticola* with clusters of yellow and cream flowers. The best aspect of this plant will be in the intense colour of the autumn foliage. Nearby are two clumps of *Ranunculus cortusifolia*. The flowering stems have elongated to 40cm and the shining enamel-like flowers will open to a brilliant gold.



Trillium rivale



Ranunculus cortusifolia

Weigelia middendorffiana is along from these with creamy yellow tubular flowers. Our Cumquat had a prolific quantity of fruit this year. Strangely, they set on only one half of the bush. Naturally they were harvested, then cooked briefly in a sugar syrup, drained and dried briefly in the oven and when cold dipped in dark chocolate.

Right outside our lounge there is a splendid plant of *Viburnum carlesii* 'Aurora'. The deep pink buds have opened into pale pink balls of fragrant flowers. Beside it is our plant of *Boronia* 'Purple Jarrad'. Just as well Ken has propagated a few extra plants of this specimen. It is a hybrid of the scented *B. megastigma* and *B. heterophylla*. The brownish bells have a pretty purple interior. The plant is getting old and I fear it may not last much longer.

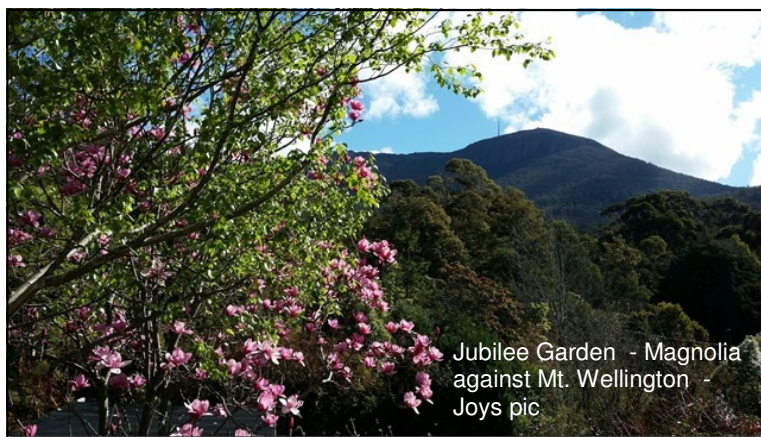
Our two large trees of cherries - *Prunus* 'Mount Fuji' just out from the kitchen are opening their first few blossoms and in another week will be a mass of white flowers. Up at the side garden *Edgeworthia papyrifera* is covered in yellow and cream flowers, while nearby for contrast is the brilliant red rhododendron *R.* 'Lady in Red' and the deeper red *R.* 'Bibiana'. *Cyclamen repandum* has appeared in several areas where they are unexpected but colourful. One spot where seed obviously found a home has produced a mixture of *C. repandum*, *C. libanoticum* and *C. persicum* ranging in colour from pale pink to red.



R Bibiana



Weigelia middendorffiana



Jubilee Garden - Magnolia against Mt. Wellington - Joys pic



Fritillaria in Ken and Lesley's garden at our last garden meet Pic by Dorothy

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GENERAL MEETING 9th October Including Cascade Gardens visit

Cascade Gardens visit between 12:30 and 1:45pm then on to Jubilee Gardens.

If you wish you could take a picnic lunch to have in the gardens, however there are no areas to shelter from inclement weather.

Directions: It is suggested that you use the bottom parking area in Mc Crobies Road which is first turnoff after the badminton centre in Cascade Road. Car park is on left. The top car park closest to the brewery apparently becomes quite congested.

Meeting Venue: Joy Stones and Ted Cutlans'
Jubilee Gardens, 69 Jubilee Road, Cascades 6223 2116

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

There will be:

- ◆ A brief meeting
- ◆ Blooms competition (please remember to bring your own bottles/vases)
- ◆ Blooms on display - since our competition restricts you to only 3 blooms for rhododendrons and 3 blooms for companion plants this gives everyone an opportunity to showcase extra blooms.
- ◆ Peoples choice - your selection from the competition blooms.
- ◆ Auction - contributions please.
- ◆ Raffle

Note from Joy

Welcome to Jubilee Gardens

Joy and Ted's garden is now split into two parts, their garden near the house and an acre further down the hill. The new owners have given permission to look at the lower garden. It is a mature garden which includes rhododendrons, deciduous trees, maples, rare and exotic shrubs, bulbs and lots more. Parts of the 30 year old garden are being rejuvenated. Everything seems to be flowering at once and early so there is a lot of colour.

Directions Travel up Cascade Road into Strickland Avenue past the brewery (do not turn right into Old Farm Road). Travel further on and go over the bridge to the right. Two more bends then turn right after bus stop 24 down Marlyn Road. Go to bus stop 27 and find a park on the bitumen after this stop. Jubilee Road is round to the left after the bus stop then left again on to the dirt road, 2nd house on the right.

The only parking at the front of the house is for people having difficulty walking and as a drop off point.

As we try not to wear shoes in the house you may like to bring slippers for cold feet. (I have a few pairs). There will be tables set up downstairs for flowers. One table for your THREE competition rhododendrons and one table for your THREE competition companion plants. Any extra blooms for display can go on other tables around the downstairs room. Names of the plants would be useful.

At our last committee meeting we discussed the fact that many interesting plants are brought along by Members for our Blooms Competition and Blooms on Display. We feel there is little time given to learning more about these treasures and as a result we have decided to replace our Short Talk with discussion on some of these plants. They will not necessarily be winning blooms.

September Blooms Competition

Joy Stones won both Rhododendron and Blooms other than Rhododendrons

Raffle - R. Kimbeth was won by Gail Yellowley
Peoples Choice - equal winners were Peter Davies and Joy Stones

RUSTICA

Will be available at our meet at Jubilee Gardens
\$2.50 per kg