

AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004



COMING EVENTS

- August 13** **AGM and general meeting**
Kerry and Harry van den Berg's
2040 Huon Road, Longley
More details p.4
- August 31** **Committee meeting** - Ken and Lesley's
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston
Time: 1:30pm
- September 10** **General meeting**
Barbara and Peter Davies
Pilverata
More information in September newsletter
- September 23-24** Blooming Tasmania Flower and Garden Show
Albert Hall, Launceston
Some members may wish to independently attend this local floral extravaganza.
- October 8** John Tooth's garden
Bracken Lane, Fern Tree
- October 21-22** **Bus trip to North West**
We will visit Kaydale Lodge on the Saturday for a garden tour and afternoon tea and Emu Valley Rhododendron Gardens on Sunday morning for garden tour and lunch. There may also be some other adventures/detours along the way.
Overnight in Burnie

Around 16 members and partners attended our mid-winter lunch at Huon Manor where two large wood fires provided warm and cosy surrounds. A lovely meal in great company made for a most enjoyable afternoon. Gill had organised a cake to celebrate Ken's birthday only to discover it was also Barbara's birthday. No problems, the cake was enjoyed by all.



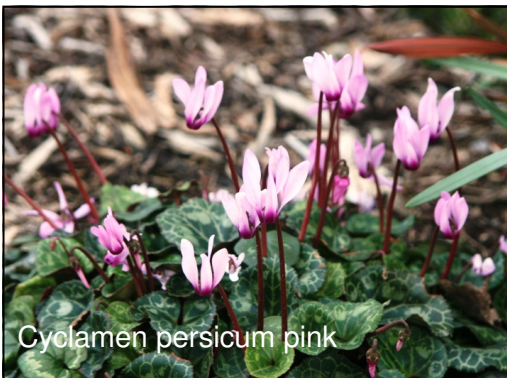
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - August 13th

Our AGM will be prior to our August 13th General Meeting. All executive positions will become vacant. **Please** if anyone is interested in taking on one of the positions listed on p.4, contact our President on 6267 9961. We would love some fresh ideas! New committee members are most welcome too.

IN MY GARDEN by Lesley Gillanders

Now we are mid winter and look forward to the promise of spring with forthcoming flowers and new foliage on the trees, which will brighten the garden as it wakes up after its winter sleep. The bright golden flowers of *Eranthus hyemale* appeared in early July. They were a good combination of colour with *Cyclamen coum* and *Cyclamen persicum*. *C.coum* has charming little flowers coloured in white, pink and carmine pink with a deep carmine pink on its nose. Under the two *Prunus* 'Mt Fuji' at the back of the house, Ken has planted a few *Cyclamen hederifolium* and *Cyclamen coum*. Now we have discouraged the blackbirds with hanging computer discs which flash as they move, the corms are not being uprooted and they have multiplied and fill the beds with hundreds of their attractive leaves.

Cyclamen coum are producing their flowers in several spots throughout the garden. *Cyclamen persicum* has produced some early blooms of white with red noses in a spot near the greenhouse. Another group of pink ones in the garden under the *Paulownia* have not appeared yet. *Tecophilium cyanocrocus* are flowering well in tubs near the warm wall of the house. This brilliant blue flowered bulb from Chile was thought to be extinct but a few were discovered some years ago in a valley there. They are protected and now increasing. There was a campaign to re introduce more bulbs from several Botanic Gardens, so they are well established now.



Right:
Viburnum x Bodnantense



Below: *Mahonia Japonica*



Below left:
Daphne Perfume Princess odora x bholua



Below:
Dimorphanthera alpina



Galanthus the true English Snowdrop are opening their snow white pendulous flowers. There are numerous named forms of the many species which vary in the size of the flowers and particularly the shape of the green markings on the inner tube. We have *G.gracilis* in flower now and there are several more species also with open flowers. *Iris reticulata* has produced several flowers in the rich purple colour of the species. There are several clumps of *Helleborus orientalis* with open flowers. One has light yellow flowers, another has black blooms and several are variously spotted on the interior.

Daphne bholua x odora rubra is an interesting cross. It has been given the commercial name of *Daphne* 'Perfume Princess'. It has a strong perfume and will flower on small plants. Nearby this plant in what we call the *Paulownia* garden is *Mahonia japonica*. It has typical spiky leaves as in all tall growing *Mahonia*. Their interesting feature is the upright sprays of bright yellow flowers followed by bunches of rich purple berries.

At the top of the garden our neighbour has a *Pandora pandoreana* growing along the fence and climbing up our *Betula pendula* 'Purpurea'. Ken has pruned it several times but last week when he went to plant something he found the roots had spread into our garden. He has removed a barrow load of roots and will have to keep checking the garden for more.

Viburnum x bodnantense 'Dawn' has clusters of pink highly perfumed flowers. It has grown well to 2m at this time. I have trouble seeing it from the house as it is behind *Azara microphylla* 'Variegata'. This small tree is most impressive with golden variegated leaves. The minute flowers are tiny clusters of stamens and quite insignificant but the aroma of vanilla chocolate is almost good enough to eat.

In the garden at the front of the house is *Dimorphanthera alpina*. It is a straggly climber cum 'leaner' and comes from the highlands of New Guinea. When Ken first planted it he had doubts that it would survive but it and two others he planted have survived and despite all the cold weather and frosts, it has produced clusters of creamy white 8cm tubular flowers. As the flowers age a tinge of pink develops around the frilly mouth of the flowers.

AGM and GENERAL MEETING August 13th

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

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

Annual General Meeting followed by General Meeting

There will also 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 this month will be Ken and Doreen.
- ◆ **Peoples choice** - your selection from the competition blooms.
- ◆ **Jenny Skinner**, ably assisted by Wendy Ebsworth, has undertaken a project to record all the plants at Woodbank. Jenny will conduct a 'show and tell' about the project.
- ◆ **Auction** - please bring plants and/or produce for our auction.
- ◆ **Raffle**
- ◆ **Library** - this will be a chance to make your choice from the 'actual' library rather than from a list on your computer.

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

YOUR EXECUTIVE



President	Lesley Eaton	6267 9961
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Committee

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