

# AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

## SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004



### COMING EVENTS

**October 5th & 6th** **Plant Fair** to be held at Woodbank Gardens  
More details page 3.

R. President Roosevelt

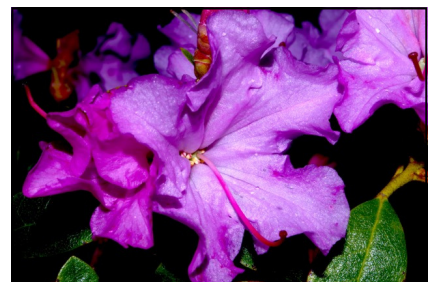
**October 20th** **General meeting**  
Fintan Downham's garden  
369 Woodbridge Hill Road, Woodbridge  
Parking near main building.  
1:30 to set up for blooms competition.  
More details page 4.

**October 31st** **Committee meeting** at Ken's  
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston  
**Time:** 2 pm

**November 8th/9th** **Rose and Iris Show**, Hobart Town Hall

**November 10th** **General meeting**  
Peter and Maruta Boyd's garden  
354 Summerleas Road, Kingston  
**Time: 3:00 pm**  
The time has been changed to allow Members (including Peter and Maruta) to attend the Woodbridge Garden Trail event.  
More information November Newsletter.

**December 15th** Our Christmas function will be at:  
Brookfield  
1640 Channel Highway, Margate



R. emasculum

**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

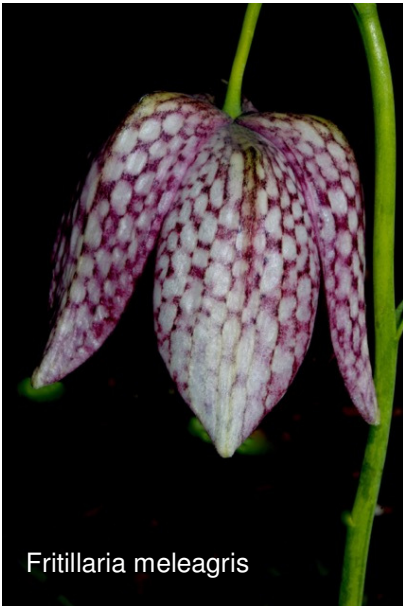
Payment can also be made by Direct Deposit to **BSB: 067000 Account No. 28026437**  
**Account Name:** Australian Rhododendron Society. Include your surname. Please send an email to Lorraine advising that you have made the payment. [lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au)

**Single Membership \$20.00**

**Family Membership \$25.00**

## In My (Adopted) Garden by Jenny Skinner

The few days of warm weather that we had a few weeks ago brought all the magnolias out into full bloom. Although I must have discovered and mapped them all over the past two years, until they are all in bloom at the same time, you don't realise their impact on the garden. The trees stand out like beacons of pink and white in which ever direction you look. Although this is a great spectacle I think I still prefer the flowers in bud. This month was also the time for bulbs of many species to make their appearance. My particular favourites are the Fritillaria species, *F. crassifolia* and *F. meleagris*, the Snakes Head Fritillary, being the only two I'm confident (?) about identifying. The interior of the flower is just as beautiful as the exterior. I've included a photo of my own purple form of the *Akebia quinata* (the flower I brought to the last meeting) to compare it with the white form, growing at Woodbank. You can clearly see that each raceme of blooms has separate male and female flowers. If you're lucky these are followed by sausage shaped fruits but I have yet to see any, maybe because the right pollinator is not around. The plant is a native of Japan, China and Korea but has become naturalised (read pest species) in some parts of the USA because of its rampant habit. The glorious *Rhododendron macabeaenum* has just started to flower, although it doesn't look as though there are as many blooms as last year. The strange *Rhododendron emasculum*, with its hidden stamens, on the other hand, is covered in pink blooms. Another early flowerer is *Rhododendron Theodore Roosevelt*, with its striking variegated foliage. All this and it's only the beginning of spring!



*Fritillaria meleagris*



*Fritillaria crassifolia*



All photos  
by Jenny



*Akebia quinata* - two forms

## Hypertufa pots

At our September meeting Ken introduced us to making hypertufa pots and although he had made many hundreds in the past he still went to a great deal of trouble with the preparation in readiness for his demonstration - even experimenting with a couple of different shapes in the week prior. These were later added to our auction. He also researched some of the different mediums now being used but the basic principles still apply. Was great to have this practical demonstration along with all the tips and tricks to achieve the desired product, including how to add colour and texture. Many left anxious to get started on their own projects. Thank you Ken for the work you put into this exercise. Ken's recipe and a lighter mix is an attachment with this newsletter.



At left is one of Ken's 40 yr.old troughs still going strong.



### GCA Plant Fair

October 5th and 6th 2019  
Woodbank Gardens - Longley

At the Plant Fair the Rhododendron Society will have an information display. Joy is co-ordinating this activity and has prepared the following information.

We will have 2 tables in the glasshouse.

There will be displays of rhododendrons, demonstrations of propagation using the Joy Box and information leaflets on how to plant and maintain rhododendrons.

Those who have volunteered to help on the stall will receive further information/confirmation of the time they are required and other relevant details.

A reminder too that (in case you intend making purchases on other stalls) there will be no eftpos access available at the venue. Cash transactions ONLY.

We would like to see Members attend even if you have not been able to commit to lending a hand. Bring your friends and enjoy the day wandering this extensive garden and browsing the stalls. You may even get to meet the Governor who will be attending Sunday AM.

The Gardens are open from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Saturday and Sunday. Entry is \$10 (includes tea/coffee). Children free. Free parking on site which will be to the right when you enter the gate.

## GENERAL MEETING - 20th October

**Venue:** Fintan Dowhham's garden  
369 Woodbridge Hill Road, Woodbridge

**Time:** 1:30 to set up Blooms Competition - please bring something for afternoon tea.

**Parking:** Near main building

◆ **Blooms competition:**

This will be prepared in the usual manner with 3 rhododendron blooms and 3 companion blooms. Don't forget your own bottles/vases for setting up the blooms.

◆ **Peoples choice** - for the blooms competition. Judges - Ken Gillanders and Joy Stones

◆ **Demonstration by Joy**

Using separate tables Joy will demonstrate how to enter blooms in Rose and Iris Show for classes 282 to 287. The six classes are 1 - larged leafed, 2 - small leafed, 3 - vireya, 4 - deciduous azaleas, 5 - fragrant and 6 - evergreen azaleas.

Please bring LOTS of extra rhododendrons to use for the demo. Some can be picked from Fintan's garden. (Permission has been granted). Some extra bottles would be useful too.

◆ **Auction** - please bring a contribution

◆ **Raffle**

◆ This will be an interesting day - you will get to see Fintan's garden in bloom, learn lots about preparing your blooms for display and it will help those members who might like to have a go at judging for our blooms competition but don't quite have the confidence.



## 2020

There will be an International Rhododendron Conference held at Emu Valley Rhododendron Gardens

**Watch this space for further information**

### EXECUTIVE FOR 2019/2020

President: Karina Harris <i>telozea44@gmail.com</i>	0419 903 312	Treasurer: Lorraine Grewcoe <i>lgrewcoe@bigpond.net.au</i>	6247 7774
Vice President: Jenny Skinner <i>jenke@slmember.on.net</i>	6266 4678	Newsletter editor: Dorothy Lane <i>djlane67@bigpond.com</i>	0408 127 189
Secretary: Gill Fitzgerald <i>gillfitzgerald7@gmail.com</i>	6234 4752	Librarian: Wendy Ebsworth <i>wendyebsworth@yahoo.com.au</i>	6266 4716

### Committee

Joy Stones	0419 351 002	Doreen Gill	6239 1124	
Kerry van den Berg	0448 007525	Lesley Eaton	6267 9961	
Ken Gillanders	6229 2351	0418 867 457	Anne Cruise	6244 2965