

Tasmanian Rhododendron and Rare Plant Group Inc.

PO Box 80, Battery Point 7004

Newsletter - November/December 2020

COMING EVENTS

November 8th

General meeting and garden visit - Time 2:00pm

Neil and Sandra Harwood's new garden
4 Katana Court, Austins Ferry - see directions below
Please bring something for afternoon tea

REMINDER - have you Paid
your subs. Please check.



Short talk - about the garden and any unusual plants.

Blooms competition - judges this month - Jenny Skinner and Peter Boyd.
You can bring up to three (3) rhododendrons and three (3) companion plants.
As a reminder there should only be one (1) plant variety in each vase.

A rhododendron should be a single truss only, apart from the smaller varieties
that have multiple flowers - in this case, a single stem.

Don't forget your own bottles/vases for setting up the blooms.



Peoples Choice - from the blooms competition

Auction - plants or produce always welcome to support this popular activity.

Raffle



Directions to 4 Katana Court, Austins Ferry

Our street is parallel to Sunshine Road, with access from either end - either
Tavistock Rd or Alexa Drive. It is a very narrow street, so is best if parking is on one
side (our side) only. The easiest way is to drive out the old Main Road and just before
St. Virgil's School, turn left into Tavistock Rd. Then cross Sunshine Rd - an off-centre
intersection and then turn left into Katana Court. We are the fourth house along. It is
not possible to park opposite each other as then there is not room for other vehicles to
get through.

November 6th/7th

Rose and Iris Show, Hobart Town Hall

We remind members that anyone is welcome to enter flowers. Due to Covid
there have been some changes this year. However, we still have a small
section allocated to rhododendrons.

For those interested in entering blooms the categories are as follows: -

- 1 truss rhododendron
- 1 container vireya rhododendron
- 1 spray azalea

Entries can be staged between 6 and 9pm on Thursday 5th Nov. Own bottles
required.

December 6th

Christmas function

Phil Cooper has kindly offered his home for this gathering.

37 Glenlusk Road, Berriedale

See page 4 for details

R. polyandrum in my garden.
It has an exquisite perfume.



MEMBER'S GARDEN FEATURE

by Ken Gillanders

Paulownia kawakamii Sapphire Dragon

We planted this Paulownia kawakamii Sapphire Dragon about 7-8 years ago. It started flowering from about 4 years and has improved each year. It is a native of China and is very quick growing and in China is logged after 10 years. The common names of this tree are Empress or Princess tree and Foxglove tree. An interesting feature are the huge leaves produced in juvenile plants. The same thing occurs in Rhododendron Sino-grande with leaves up to 60cm long but are about half that on mature specimens. There are other plants that behave in a similar manner - have attached some photos showing this.



Below are some pics taken by Jenny in Karina's garden on her Open Day

A variety of tree peonies and a scene down the garden path.





We had a really good display of blooms at our last meeting and as you can see judging is serious business! For our Rhododendron section we had three on equal points. **Karina Harris, Anne Cruise and Joy Stones**

Karina won the Companion plant section plus Peoples Choice - surprise, surprise! It was a beautiful specimen of a Cornus.

Barry Davidson won the raffle and took home a choice plant that he was invited to select from the Crawleighwood Nursery.



A collage of photos taken in the Crawleighwood garden which is maturing rapidly and constantly evolving. It is immaculately maintained and looking spectacular. Photos are by Jenny and Dorothy.



Christmas function

Sunday 6th December 2020

Venue: Phil Cooper's
37 Glenlusk Road,
Berriedale

Time: 12 noon



Phil will prepare a spit roast and members are asked to bring either a **salad or a dessert**. Please advise Karina what you intend to bring when you RSVP. Karina's contact details are below. Please reply by Tues 1st December. There will be soft drinks available or BYO preferred beverage. Partners welcome.

There will also be:

- ◆ **Blooms Competition** (as a separate identity from our usual monthly competition). Just a single bloom in your own bottle/vase. Anything special from your garden - named if possible. There will be a small reward for the winner.
- ◆ **Auction** - we've had some big auctions this year. Bring along those plants you've been hoarding and make this one the biggest.
- ◆ Presentation of shields. These were originally awarded at our prestigious annual Rhododendron Shows, the main shield for the Grand Champion Rhododendron and the Essie Huxley Memorial Shield was awarded for the best Bulb, Perennial or Shrub exhibit. At our monthly Blooms Competition scores are allocated for each bloom submitted, the criteria being: (1) quality of bloom (2) degree of difficulty in growing conditions and rarity of the particular genus. The scores are tallied to reveal our successful participants.
- ◆ **Raffle**

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

Single Membership \$20.00

Family Membership \$25.00

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