

# AUSTRALIAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

SOUTHERN TASMANIA BRANCH INC.

PO Box 80 BATTERY POINT TAS 7004



## COMING EVENTS

**September 13th**

**General meeting and garden visit**

Gill and Blane Fitzgerald's  
43 Old Farm Road,  
South Hobart

**Meeting 2:00pm**

In order to comply with Covid rules and regulations this months meeting will be held at St. Francis Xavier Church Hall - entrance from Anglesea Street, **South Hobart**

**Items on the agenda:** Results for the deregistration of the National Body and the change of name for our group. Don't forget to forward your vote by the 10th September. Joy will also give a short talk on points to consider when judging. We hope this might encourage others to have a go, not necessarily on your own but assisting an experienced judge.

**Directions:** From Macquarie Street, if driving from the City turn left (L) into Anglesea Street (laundromat on corner). Church Hall on right (R) side before Adelaide Street.

Following the meeting we will visit Gill and Blane's garden at 43 Old Farm Road which commences behind Cascade Brewery.

Here we will have:

- \* **Afternoon tea and Garden tour** (please bring a plate)
- \* **Blooms competition** - judges this month Joy Stones and Doreen Gill  
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** - please bring a contribution
- \* **Raffle**

**September 24th**

**Committee meeting** at Kens  
1 Willowbend Road, Kingston  
Time: 2:30

**October 11th**

**Garden visit** - Crawleighwood  
More details next newsletter

**October 29th**

**Committee meeting**

**December 6th**

**Christmas function**  
Phil Cooper has kindly offered his home for this gathering.

### OTHER EVENTS

Two Open Gardens in Kingston  
18th October

Sojourn, 173 Redwood Road,  
Kingston  
Betula, 2 Bowral Court, Kingston  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
\$10 entry for both gardens

See attached brochure

A request from our President, Karina Harris

### **WELCOME TO MY GARDEN**

A call to all gardens - big and small, new and old.  
October and November is often when our gardens are showing their best.  
Would you like to welcome members to your garden?  
Perhaps you would like to show off a special plant or gain some advice.  
Chose a date which suits you  
Choose a time  
Add your name and address  
Email details to me (telopea44@gmail.com)

I will email all members with the above details.  
I envisage that garden visits may be only for a few hours and you do not need to supply refreshments etc. Only a warm welcome.

As an example - my invitation is as follows  
Saturday 24th October  
Karina Harris, 2020 Huon Road, Longley  
Garden open 2 - 4pm

### **In My Kingston Garden by Ken Gillanders**

#### **Photos by Ken**

Jenny has asked me to write a few notes on bulbs that are in flower in the garden now. They are a cheery bit of colour at this time of the year. I was pleased to flower *Colchicum szovitsii* 'Snow White'. It has taken 4-5 years from seed to put on its display. The form generally seen in the wild is pink as in the photo we took in Turkey. Several *Crocus* are putting on a good display - some have even finished by now as are most of the *Galanthus*. *Crocus sieberi* tricolor has been good this year with three colours in the flower. *Crocus tommasinianus* is out but I do not have any of the form generally seen - I have the white form and var. *pictus* which has purple tips to the petals. The *Crocus chrysanthus* are out in their many different colours of gold, lilac, purple and white and usually a combination of two colours as are *Crocus vernus* with their large blooms. Only one *Fritillaria* in flower yet more will come in a few weeks. This is *Fritillaria uvavulpis*. *Romuleas* are starting; *R. citrina* with gold flowers, *R. hartungi* with purple flowers and the most beautiful deep red *R. monadelpha*. Only one *Moraea* is out but is a nice dwarf only reaching 4 inches with its large light blue flowers with a yellowish centre.



*Crocus tommasinianus albus*



*Crocus tommasinianus Pictus*



*Fritillaria uva-vulpis*



*Romulea citrinus*



*Romulea hartungi*



*Narcissus Lesley*



*Tecophilaea cyanocrocus* taken a year ago



*Romulea monadelpha*



*Leucojum vernum carpathicum*

Galanthus have nearly finished but one hybrid is looking OK. This is G. 'Spindlestone Surprise' with its yellow ovary and sometimes a bit of yellow on the tips of the flowers. Anemone blanda is producing a lot of its blue flowers - there are other colours but I only have the blue. There are such a lot of Narcissus but I will only mention two. N. cyclamineus with its narrow little trumpet and reflexed petals and a cross I made with it in 1976. We had quite a few bulbs flower but the best we named N. 'Lesley'. This has been a slow one to increase. Over 45 years I do not have a lot but have given a few away during this time. Scillas are looking good now. Most of the species are blue (my favourite colour). S. bifolia var. taurica has increased well and looks like Chionodoxa sardensis which is coming out now. I used to have 3 troughs with Tecophilaea cyanocrocus, the wonderful blue-flowered so-called Crocus. Last summer some rat came up through the large drainage hole and ate all the bulbs. Luckily, I had a box somewhere else and I planted up one of the troughs. This morning I discovered another invasion just as they were starting to flower. I have saved the bulbs which I had to take out and replant (not good while they are in full growth) and hopefully they will survive. Leucojum vernum var. carpathicum is a great little snowdrop only growing 20cm high and very slow to increase. Finally, Cyclamen coum is flowering throughout the garden in white and many shades of pink. They are so easy to please and should be in every one's garden.



**MEMBERS GARDEN FEATURE**

Photos this month are from Gail and Richard Yellowley's garden at Birchs Bay

Left: Grevilleas are a great addition to the garden for attracting bird life.  
 Top centre: Chuquiragua jussieui - one of Ken's rare plants purchased at an auction  
 Above centre: Acacia leprosa - this is a wattle with a difference, it's flower is a strong orange. A relatively new introduction to the plant world.  
 Above right: Acer negundo violaceum

**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)

**EXECUTIVE FOR 2020/2021**

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**Committee**

Joy Stones, Ken Gillanders, Kerry van den Berg,  
 Lesley Eaton, Anne Cruise, Doreen Gill, Peter Boyd