



the Rhododendron, Camellia & Magnolia group

Bulletin 106 / July 2011 / www.rhodogroup-rhs.org



CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Andy Simons - Chairman

Chairman's Report to the AGM
4th June 2011

After many months of effort and in, some aspects, years of work we have now secured a new constitution for the RCM Group. The amount of work required to achieve this seemingly minor update has been genuinely surprising, perhaps not in its volume but the degree of process and rigour necessary to assure that it has been implemented correctly. Those involved should be congratulated by the entire group membership as organising and collating postal votes of the membership is not an enjoyable undertaking. Although used in this effort the internet must be the dominant way forward for such activities. It now falls to the group committee to enact this new constitution moving forward. Beyond the new constitution, progress in actually aligning the RCM group with the core RHS and in particular the RHS Rhododendron and Camellia Plant Sub-Committee has been slow. The RHS has commenced a significant review into the nature and organisation of its plant committees. It had been my intention to wait until the RHS review of plant committees had concluded before attempting to formally join the RCM Group and RHS Plant committees. It should be noted that the two committees have met jointly on an informal basis for some time.

I was concerned that if we implemented a formal arrangement we would be at risk from any changes that the RHS need to make to the plant committees, in particular the Woody Plant Committee and consequently the Rhododendron and Camellia Sub-Committee which falls below it. However I am now convinced that we must make a move to introduce a merged committee sooner rather than later. It makes no sense for two committees to exist in this relatively narrow space even if the functions do not overlap, with the group committee focussed on enabling the interests of the membership and the plant committee dealing with the more technical issues and those concerning the RHS overall.

I do not consider it necessary to re-open the constitution issue having achieved success so recently; my proposal is that the group committee will continue with its existing constitution but with an additional annex detailing the extra plant committee functions that need to be conducted during meetings. These will include plants for award, nominations for cups and prizes, administration of the relevant aspects of the Award of Garden Merit (AGM). I will produce this annex in due course and forward it to the RHS Plant Advisory Committee for consideration and further staffing as necessary.

As an additional implication of this merger it will be necessary for the plant committee functions pertaining to Magnolias to be transferred to the new committee. This will form part of the



The massive bloom of *R. maddenii* Polyandrum group at Achamore Gardens
Photo: Roger Hayward

proposal to the Plant Advisory Committee and may require an increased or changed staffing of the committee.

All of this governance work reflects a failure in a commitment I made last year. I had indicated that we should not become overly absorbed by the governance work at the expense of the 3 genera and the work to support them, I regret that it did take more time than expected to achieve the changes. However it is now essential that we focus on plant matters in the coming year.

I am increasingly concerned by the group membership numbers; we are standing at around 760 members at the moment. We have seen a definite decline in members over recent times; this decline is slow and when compared to other similar organisations may be considered insignificant in the present economic conditions when even the

RHS is struggling to maintain memberships. However I do not share that view. It is important for us to understand why we are not gaining membership rather than losing it. In the coming year we must make extra efforts to publicise the group and invest accordingly, the recent acquisition of high quality and professional folding display panels are an excellent start.

However I do not consider that publicity is simply the answer, I propose that more tangible support to the regions is necessary in order that greater benefits are available to the members. If we can demonstrate the added value group membership delivers then increased membership should follow, if it does not we will need to carefully consider how the group operates. On the publicity front the 'Toxic Rhododendron' issue seems to have faded from the media's mind. A problem driven by questionable issues is that of the horticultural use of Peat. You will know I recently

Continued on page 2

**It is important for us to understand why
we are not gaining membership
rather than losing it**

requested the group consider the FERA consultation paperwork concerning the use of Peat, this issue will now be addressed by the RHS as an overarching issue, however the group will be remiss if we do not maintain a careful and considered long term eye on this issue. No real alternative is available for many of our plants and we must ensure that we do not become squeezed by hype and efforts not to rock the boat of assumed public opinion.

Plant conservation is an area the group has been indirectly involved in since its inception even if the members at that time would not have recognised the modern language. It is important to understand what plants we have in cultivation, where they are and how "safe" the population is.

In Scotland the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group is making a concerted effort to catalogue major collections in order that they can be adequately understood and protected, we in the RHS RCM Group support and congratulate them on these efforts. Committee member Eric Annal is liaising with the RSCG in order that our group can at least contribute to the effort in some meaningful way. Unfortunately the RCM Group is not structured to emulate the activities of the RSCG across England, Wales and Northern Ireland; however that does not mean that we do not or cannot help in some form or another.

As will be reported by our most efficient Treasurer Alastair Stevenson the group's finances have again improved with a reserve in the region of £35,000. As stated last year the continued dependency on the seed list to provide the group with a surplus when added to publications cannot be assumed forever. Although we are in a financially sound position an increase in subscriptions is inevitable, although not in the forthcoming year. Efforts to modernise the collection of subscriptions through the use of Direct Debits have foundered on the inability of a small organisation to secure the relevant facilities through any high street bank, however the committee are still actively investigating Direct Debit as a method of payment and I expect that in the next year or two Direct Debit will become the preferred method for subscriptions.

I am very glad to repeat myself over the continuing quality of the yearbook, the 2011 volume was again spectacular and without peer in similar journals. The sheer all around quality is amazing with balance across the 3 genera being maintained yet again through skilful forward planning; even an item basically illustrated with paintings was integrated beautifully. The time and effort applied by Pam Hayward continues to be unbelievable. To repeat myself further the journal's value already far exceeds the subscription.

The relentless timetable of the yearbook is only matched or possibly exceeded by the bulletin, dealing with a tardy Chairman and other contributors is a constant headache for John Rawling, however he always seems to manage it and generate a useful and informative set of information. As stated last year the yearbook and bulletins are our public face and it is essential that the entire membership get behind both of our editors in order that the burden of producing high quality content is minimised.

It is clear that despite the fine efforts of our webmaster Graham Mills we are not making the best use of our website. In these days, committee, entire group and regional activities should be viewed first and foremost via the web with other channels supporting those members without access. We need to give adequate resources to the website and provide Graham with content in order that it can be adequately presented. The RHS itself is about to appoint new IT providers and this may complicate matters in the short term.

In particular committee business already dominated by internet communications will need to be even more directed through this path as the cost of travel is becoming a significant issue for the committee.

I wish to formally thank Mr Chip Lima who has acted so efficiently as convenor of the Seed List under the most trying of circumstances and welcome Margaret Miles to the committee as his successor. The seed list remains an important facility for the group members and we will defend it for as long as possible.

Judy Hallett has again organised 2 very successful events for us this year. The Autumn weekend 2010 was a break from tradition that some members had difficulty understanding, however it was a spectacular success in the form of a mini-conference with a trip to Westonbirt for autumn colour. A series of lectures covering the 3 genera and beyond were of a quality expected at an international event and perfectly matched by the accommodation and other arrangements. This format should not be an every year event but must be repeated. The 2011 spring tour of Scotland was an equally resounding success - even the sight of some significant rain was praised in this driest of springs.

The RHS plant competitions continue to be a struggle following yet another difficult winter and strangely hot early spring. The quantity of entries was down however the quality was very good. Magnolias just failed in their attempt for a 4th bumper year in a row, undone by timing and the warm weather, Rhododendrons fared better and the Main Rhododendron Competition had a group entry of 'Loderi's that has surely not been matched in decades if ever, Camellias were worst hit with some collections being decimated by the protracted cold. The Main Rhododendron Competition and South West regional show continues to be strong not least due to the efforts of the South West branch; it now appears that the Main Rhododendron competition will remain at Rosemoor for the foreseeable future until other venues have been adequately tested.

I would finally like to thank all those who have assisted me in the last 12 months, the Branch Regions, Vice Chairman Philip Evans and our ever willing and efficient committee secretary Pat Bucknell.

Andy Simons

EDITOR'S NOTES

John Rawling

I have received a few requests for a new supply of Binders for the copies of the Bulletin. I am therefore investigating the current cost, based on the style of the Binders I was able to supply some years ago. The new version will accommodate up to about eight years of Bulletin issues! (25 issues). It would be helpful to have a guide to the number of members interested.

Please let me know if you are interested – to the address below.
'We heartily congratulate David Millais on his large colourful stand of rhododendrons at the Chelsea Flower Show, where he was awarded a Gold Medal – and this for the third year running!'

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

I need your letters, reports from branches, articles, future events etc, to keep the members up to date!

So, please send me your letters and copy
for the November 2011 Bulletin

By 7th OCTOBER 2011.

Please send to: John Rawling, Hon. Bulletin Editor,
The Spinney, Station Road, Woldingham, Surrey, CR3 7DD.

E-mail: jr.eye@virgin.net or Tel: 01883 653341

Deaths

It is very sad to have to report the death of Ambrose Congreve at the age of 104. He died in London on the night of the first day of the Chelsea Show.

He was keen that his world famous garden of some 110 acres in County Waterford should remain open to the public, and agreement was made for it to be passed to the state.

A fuller obituary should be published in the next issue of the Bulletin.

TOURS

Judith Hallett

The ICS and the RC&M Group, AUTUMN GET-TOGETHER in Jersey September 28th to 2nd October 2011

Based at The Shakespeare Hotel, on south coast of Jersey
Costs: Per person sharing: £340 per person, single: £370.

Itinerary:

Assemble at the Shakespeare Hotel for dinner on Wednesday 28th September. (Private transfer to hotel from airport or ferry terminal is included).

Thursday 29th Sept:

Visit the west & north of the island, including visit to the Lalique Glass church. Lunch (incl.).
Three private gardens.
Return to the Hotel for dinner.

Friday 30th Sept.

Visit the Centre of the island, including the Eric Young orchid collection. Lunch (incl.).
Afternoon Option 1: Manor House at Samares and its gardens.
Afternoon Option 2: Low-water beach walk (£14.50 supplement)
Return to the Hotel for dinner.

Saturday 1st October.

Visit to Radier Manor, private gardens of Lord Jersey
Royal Showground - Jersey Show
Lunch (incl.)
Return to the Hotel for dinner.

Sunday 2nd October

disperse and transfer to airport or ferry.
Please note that because of the printing timetable for the Bulletin, the latest Tour details could not be sent in the last edition. Booking forms and any additional details are available from Pat Short and deposits of £50 per person should be sent as soon as possible to:

Pat Short – bookings by email: patricia-short@btconnect.com
or send to: 41, Galveston Road, East Putney, London SW15 2RZ
(Tel. 020 8870 6884).

The closing date for the Tour (if space still available) and the payment of cost balances will be 31st August 2011.

TOUR REPORT

Tour of Scottish Gardens - May 2011

It is eight years since the group has visited the Scottish gardens so it was certainly time to revisit the glorious gardens of Argyll. On Monday 9th May twenty seven members collected at The Erskine Bridge Hotel to meet our garden guide for the tour, Maurice Wilkins, the curator of Arduaine Gardens.

We were extremely fortunate to have the benefit of his botanical, and local, knowledge for the duration of the tour. We were also delighted to welcome members from Finland and Japan who gave a truly international flavour to our group.

After breakfast the following morning (Tues. 10th May) we set off to visit the first garden of our tour:

1. Glenarn, the home of Mike and Sue Thornley. Mike and Sue have worked tirelessly to restore this garden to its former splendour since their arrival in 1983.

The garden was originally created by the Gibson brothers who lived at Glenarn from 1927. The two brothers collected a huge range of choice plants from the plant hunting expeditions of Kingdom Ward and Ludlow and Sheriff, as well as from other major Scottish gardens.

Glenarn is home to a large number of choice plants in a relatively small area; on the day of our visit the gentle rain displayed the garden at its best. Sue and Mike guided us through the network of Victorian paths which have provided the structure for the plants. There was so much to admire but perhaps the stars of our visit were:

- A beautifully shaped *R. grande*.
- *Magnolia rostrata* in bloom.
- The yellow form of *R. zaleucum* var. *flaviflorum*.
- A large form of *R. meddianum*.
- Many interesting varieties of *R. yakushmanum* grown from 1950's seed.
- A cross of *R. hodgsonii* x *R. sinogrande* by the Gibson brothers named 'Ronald'.
- A magnificent *Crinodendron* hedge.
- Huge specimens of *Magnolia sprengeri* 'Diva' and *M. campbellii*.
- And the much admired lily-white, highly scented *R. lindleyi*.

Our visit ended with excellent refreshments in their magnificent conservatory before we reluctantly bid farewell to our generous hosts.

Judy Hallett

2. Benmore – Tuesday pm.

The 120 acre gardens of Benmore is one of four belonging to the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh. They include over 11,000 catalogued plants of which more than 300 are *Rhododendron* species. We were shown around by Peter Baxter who has spent 16 years at Benmore, and as the curator.

We entered the garden down the magnificent avenue of *Sequoiadendron giganteum* which was planted in 1863 and already contains a 167ft tree. We then passed, what was for me one of the highlights in the form of *Davidia involucrata* at the peak of its 'flowering'.

The gardens are being continuously renewed and improved with lorry loads of material grown at the RBGE from collected seed.

A recently planted seven year old from seed of *R. decorum* is typical of the quality of these plants.

The wildlife highlight of the walk was a Red Squirrel who obligingly sat on a tree stump to be admired.

Although most of the species rhododendrons had finished flowering, the *Magnolia wilsonii* were at their floriferous and perfumed best. Other highlights included *Malus sikkimensis* in flower and a magnificent cut leaf beech, *Fagus sylvatica* 'Aspleniifolia'.

Roger Newton

continued overleaf

3. Baravalla Gardens (11th May) were set up in 1968/1969 by Peter Cox and Sir Peter Hutchison, in 20 acres of woodland (later enlarged to include a stream and bog) by West Loch Tarbert, with a mild Atlantic climate, as a site for growing on young plants from seed collected from numerous trips to the Himalaya, Tibet and China. Peter Cox took most of us on an extensive tour of the different areas planted with magnolias, rhododendrons and other shrubs and trees, with a personal commentary about a great many of the plants. These included a lot of detail as to whence they came, growth habit in situ, how they had flourished or failed here, and their strengths and weaknesses; he knew every plant - would that we had been able to record all of his detailed recollections! These notes cannot possibly relate all of the comments proffered for our benefit. Sir Peter Hutchison led a few members on an alternative route, and certainly these members gleaned equally valuable information, Sir Peter's focus being sometimes slightly different, such as on *R. maddenii* and related hybrids.

The species and variants to be seen were many and various; one example was a descending, informal avenue of white blooms on *R. decorum* plants from different sources, with minor variations in form and habit, splendid in their combined effect. All around us were fine trees and shrubs, such as a *R. yunnanense* 17 feet tall covered in flowers, and beside it an *R. lutescens* at 18 feet with a wonderful display of new red foliage. Peter pointed out a very good clone of *R. griffithianum* which had come from Arduaine, and a pink *R. cinnabarinum* hybrid - was it 'Lady Rosebery'? We learned that *R. cinnabarinum* Roylei Group tends in the orange form to get mildew, whereas the red form is more resistant.

In a lower and more sheltered part of the garden was a collection of large leaved rhododendrons, the shelter helping to prevent leaves being torn off in the frequent high winds; a *R. sinogrande* here had giant leaves up to 78 cm long, and the comment was also made that *R. sinogrande* is slightly tender. Peter passed the remark that many of the seedlings took up to forty years from the setting of the seed before flowering, and cited in this context a *R. fictolacteum* dating from 1981. There was much else besides, such as *R. rex* subsp. *rex*, a fine Chilean firebush (*Embothrium coccineum*), an early planted *Nothofagus*, and so on....Peter Cox made the comment that they are running out of room!



R. yuefengense

Photo: The Editor

He also made interesting comments on cultivation, particularly referring to the heavy local annual rainfall of 65 inches or so. For planting, no holes are dug, but rather any surface grass is scraped away, and plants are placed in this scrape with a generous supply of leafmould, supported by incorporating rotting logs, matured in the damp woodland over five years before use.



R. griffithianum Double Form

Photo: The Editor



R. edgeworthii. Growing to perfection at Baravalla

Photo: The Editor

Our members on the tour were most impressed by the scope of this undertaking, shown to us so kindly by these two renowned collectors of seed from wild growing specimens of the genera at the heart of the Group's interest. We would wish to take this opportunity to repeat our thanks for the chance to view this repository of material that truly reflects a working life-time of effort and thought on the part of two single-minded plantsmen and botanists.

David Ives

4. Achamore Gardens - 11 May

After lunch we were given a rather damp but warm Gaelic welcome to this garden on the small inner Hebridian island of Gigha by the irrepressible head gardener Micky Little. The garden is protected from the prevailing winds by a ridge of higher land to the west and, with the benefit of the Gulf Stream, it enjoys an Oceanic climate, ideal for growing the more tender plant species. The whole island, including the gardens, is now in community ownership and Micky has been in post for four years. The gardens extend to about 54 acres and were originally purchased by Sir James Horlick in 1944 so that he could indulge his passion for collecting, planting and propagating Rhododendrons. Peter Clough and Malcolm McNeil continued this work after his death in 1971 but latterly the garden became overgrown.

Micky's task is to restore the garden to reflect Horlick's ethos in the 1950s. This includes the removal and chipping of large areas of rampant shrubs such as *Griselinia littoralis*. Micky has exposed and restored the walled garden and is replanting using Peter Clough's notes. Plant propagation is mainly through micro propagation, although cuttings and air layering (as practised by Peter and Malcolm) is also used.

A fine example of a Montezuma Pine (*Pinus montezumae*) dominates the garden and a small planting of *Pleione formosa* was seen close to the greenhouse (in which we sheltered during a heavy shower), also the home of 'Cheeky' the garden cat and adjoining a planting of China Roses.

Highlights for the writer included *R. megacalyx* with its lovely white scented flowers, *R. griffithianum* (S Fortunea) with its stunning bark and a yellow form of *R. maddenii* ssp *maddenii* Polyandrum Group, and *R. 'Intrifast'* (Lapponica hybrid) with vivid small blue leaves and the clove scented leaves of the blue flowered *R. oreotrephes* (S.Triflorum). A beautiful plant with large white flushed pink scented flowers was believed to be a *R. lindleyi* hybrid, but Micky and our tour manager Maurice Wilkins could not agree! There were many large waves of plantings of evergreen Azaleas including *R. 'Hinomayo'*, 'Kirin' and other similar hybrids.

Other genera of particular note were the specimens of the Tasmanian Waratah (*Telopea truncata*) with its bizarrely shaped flowers, the Wych Elm (*Ulmus glabra*) and *Metrosideros umbellata*.

There were large plantings of Camellias of dubious quality which Micky intends to remove and replace. His task in restoring the gardens has been helped by the high winds which from time to time uproot some of the largest trees thus opening up areas to light and enabling more new plantings to take place. Old misshapen plants are being cut back which has caused some controversy but in most cases this has stimulated epicormic growth thus giving the plants new life evidenced by a large bank of *R. 'May Day'* (*R. griersonianum* x *R. haematodes*) regenerating itself.

Micky has plans for further clearance and replanting and propagation which will now be possible with the arrival of another gardener and a propagator assistant. In time he hopes to be able to supply other gardens with plants from this lovely garden.

Roger Hayward

After dinner that evening Maurice Wilkins gave an illustrated talk about Arduaine garden. This provided a very useful introduction to our visit to the garden the following day.

5. Arduaine.-12th May

This day's excursion took us on an hour's travel north of Stonefield Castle, on the road to Oban, firstly to the wonderful garden of Arduaine, currently owned by the National Trust for Scotland (NTS).

Maurice Wilkins was our tour guide for all the garden visits, so it must have been quite different for him to take us around the one that he manages. This is a moist and mossy 20 acre coastal garden that is blessed with the mild Gulf Stream in close proximity. It was originally created by James Campbell in 1898 following the fashion amongst the gentry at that time for creating "Himalayan" valleys.

James realised that his key to success was to plant a very good shelter belt as it is located on a very windswept promontory. He used conifers (including many larches of which more below), Cordylines and *R. ponticum*. The 'ponticums' will all have to be removed in the near future, to be replaced by *Griselinia littoralis* and *Olearia traversii*. On the day that we were there, there was a significant breeze, but inside the garden it was amazingly calm with the noise of the wind sounding like the drone of the A3 at Wisley. Campbell's money came from tea plantations in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and they still have several large specimens of the rare *R. arboreum* ssp. *zeylanicum*, unfortunately not in flower for our visit. On this tour this was the first garden that had an herbaceous border as well as a variety of other planting styles. The primulas

and meconopsis were in full flower as well as a large *Magnolia sieboldii* and many *Maddenia* rhododendron hybrids, such as 'Princess Alice' (*R. edgeworthii* x *R. ciliatum*), giving forth their wonderful scent. In the earlier gardens we had noticed that it was the right time to see the Cinnabarina rhododendrons, but when we got to the deciduous *R. cinnabarinum* ssp. *tamaense* all covered in purple bloom, it quickly became the centre of attention for the whole group. Another rhododendron that captivated a number of us was the very unusual *R. dichroanthum* 'Böhmen', which Kristian Theqvist, the Finnish Rhododendron Group Chairman, just happened to have featuring on his visiting card! Kristian thinks that it is not a species plant but a hybrid of *R. dichroanthum* ssp. *scyphocalyx*?



R. cinnabarinum ssp. *tamaense* at Arnuaine

Photo: The Editor

Maurice is very keen on his collection of ferns and was particularly proud of his enormous 1000 year old *Dryopteris affinis* ssp. *cambrensis*.

The garden was at its peak with the Campbells in the late 1940s, but then declined until the 1970s when nurserymen brothers Edmund and Harry Wright bought it in 1971. Their devotion rescued it and they made many improvements such as in the lower garden, turning ditches into ponds, adding herbaceous plantings and expanding the rhododendron collection. When the upkeep became too much for them to manage, they donated the garden to the NTS in 1992.

As mentioned above, there are now around a thousand enormous (100ft) larches sheltering many of their large rhododendrons. Whole hillsides of larches are being felled near Arduaine, as well as in Wales, to try to halt the spread of what Maurice calls "PR" (*Phytophthora ramorum*). If Arduaine has to cull theirs it will be near impossible to protect their rhododendrons from severe damage.

If that was not enough of a worry, readers will be aware of the huge controversy that was stirred up in 2009 when the NTS announced that they were planning to close Arduaine, to save money. The furore won it a reprieve and the Arduaine Garden Support Group has now been established to promote the garden locally, raise the profile and work to increase visitor numbers. The NTS is now raising funds for a substantial endowment to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the garden. Progress towards to this goal will be reviewed again in 2012.

To summarise, if I had to limit myself to visiting just one Argyll garden, it would have to be this one.

Stephen Lyus

6. An Cala – 12th May

Elenabeich, Isle of Seil, Argyll.

Having manoeuvred our way across the 'Bridge over the Atlantic' to the Island of Seil, we arrived at a delightful spot adjacent to the sea where, way back in pre-historic times the waves beat up the raised beach and battered the slate cliff face into a horse shoe shape: the backcloth of the garden we find today.

The burn flowing to the sea was pure and had been perfect for the distillery and the related cottages that developed on the site of An Cala.

Col. Murray acquired and altered the premises into a house and set five men on the garden for a year preparing the hard landscaping of the grounds, just as we see it today. Many of his plants, Japanese flowering cherries (*Prunus* 'Mt Fuji'), rhododendrons (mainly dwarf forms) and Ghent azaleas still remain. He was keen on having a wavy edged lawn which still can be seen, but has been gently eroded over the decades with the need for extra bed space - as you do!

As it was the fashion of the day for important people such as Lord Leverhulme (of Port Sunlight fame), to use Thomas Mawson the landscape architect from Windermere*, Col. Murray had to use him for his garden in the 1930's.

As the soil was poor he imported, mainly from Eire, 30,000 tons of top soil, as ballast on the boats used for carrying the Scottish slate to Ireland. An Cala is surrounded by slate and it has been cleverly used throughout the garden to great effect on walls and paths.

Another disadvantage of the site was being so close to the sea with nothing to protect it from the draughty conditions direct from Labrador. The solution was the fifteen foot high wall of grey brick – to match the sea, sky and slate! We found it quite difficult to spot the wall in 2011!

In essence this is a Spring garden, but the present owners, having inherited the grounds in a fairly dilapidated state in the 1980s, planted roses to extend what is a wonderful early display of rhododendrons, azaleas, cornus, clematis and spring bedding. Late flowering tulips were chosen from the catalogue to match the Ghent azaleas in May. This year has seen an exceptionally early spring and these flowers were almost over by the time of our visit. Having recently visited the USA and seen the wonderful Dogwoods there, such as 'Eddie's White Wonder', Sheila Downie now hopes to incorporate these into the garden. By the time we return the emphasis may have changed!

Having wandered around the various areas of the garden we were all treated to tea and goodies in the beautifully converted cottage. Gazing at us through the windows was a series of grazing sheep - all made of wire mesh!

The bus driver allowed us to stop on the Atlantic side of the bridge to see the rare *Erinus alpinus* (fairy foxglove) selfseeded and covering the cracks and joints in the stonework, before attempting the tricky crossing over the bridge! Of all the gardens we visited, this one was the one many people said they wished they could live in - a delightful haven. Our thanks go to Sheila for allowing us all to invade! This is a must see garden and although in a relatively small space, a great design, packed with masses of interesting plants.

Helen Lyus

Ref: * www.visitcumbria.com/thomas-mawson.htm

After dinner that evening we were enthralled by a talk on Bhutan. Rosemary Legrand entertained us with her experiences of the country, the people and the plants – accompanied by magical photographs.

7. Crarae Garden – 13th May.

Crarae was for many of us the jewel in the crown of the tour. Close to the shore of Loch Fyne, south of Inverary, the glen and surrounding areas had been planted with trees from 1800, but the garden was really started in 1912 by Grace Lady Campbell (an aunt of Reginald Farrer) and extended up the glen by her son George and then his son Islay. The Crarae Garden Trust then ran it before the National Trust for Scotland took it over in 2002.

The NTS have made excellent (and much needed) improvements to the paths, bridges and viewpoints and general tidiness, so to walk up the "Himalayan gorge", even in pouring rain as we did, is a great joy.

A large white-bloomed malus contrasted with the reds and yellows of old rhododendrons overhanging the cascades of the burn. One remembers *R. triflorum*, orange *R. cinnabarinum*, the small pale yellow flowers of *R. campylocarpum*, the bold yellow of a group of *R. falconeri*, a bright yellow *R. 'Crest'*, and a beautiful pink hybrid not yet registered – *R. 'Rohae'* (*macabeum x lacteum*). High up the glen where the hill levels off were some fine trees including redwoods, tall narrow *Picea omorika*, a huge *Nothofagus alpina x obliqua* - (Crarae has the national collection of *Nothofagus*), and a ghostly group of drunken-looking trunks of eucalyptus cushioned by yellow azaleas.

The tall exotic conifers at the top of the garden were planted in the 1930s by Sir George Campbell in 100 plots as an experiment to see which species would be useful for commercial forestry. In 1956 he gave them to the Forestry Commission who managed them for 20 years before returning them to the Crarae Garden Trust. Now the Friends of Crarae are keen to help the NTS fund restoration – the hope is that it may one day become part of the Forestry Commission's proposed national network of arboreta and become the National Arboretum of Scotland.

This garden, which is also very colourful in the autumn, needs to be visited again and again for it to reveal its many treasures.

Rosemary Howell

8. Ardkinglas Woodland Garden - 13th May

After a splendid lunch at Loch Fyne Oyster Bar, we travelled around the head of Loch Fyne and spotted this long woodland on the southwestern slopes of Glen Kinglas, where this garden lies. It is famous for its 5 Champion Trees (tallest or broadest examples within the British Isles) which were planted mid-18th century:-

- 1750 *Abies alba* (European Silver Fir) from Central Europe, introduced in 1603
- 1875 *Abies grandis* (Grand Fir) from Western North America, introduced by David Douglas
- 1875 *Chamaecyparis pisifera* (Golden Plumed Sawara Cypress) from Japan, introduced by the Veitch Nursery
- 1875 *Thuja plicata* (Western Red Cedar) from Western North America, introduced by William Lobb
- 1875 *Fitzroya cupressoides* (Alerce or Patagonian Cypress) from Chile or Argentina, introduced in 1849 by William Lobb.

The Manager of Ardkinglas Woodland Garden, Glyn Toplin, gave an introductory talk; then we walked individually, admiring the bluebells, Azalea avenue, *Sorbus*, and big red hybrid rhododendrons from Bodnant. The gazebo was fascinating with its Scriptorium (poems, sayings and proverbs carved into the wooden beams and posts); from here and all along the upper path we have good views over and onto the trees and rhododendrons and companion shrubs. Then down steps to the river below, there was no time to visit the old mill. Coming back along the

bottom path you look up into the trees. I noted a well-designed metal seat celebrating a hundred years of planting, 1807-2007, and was delighted by the big white bank of *R. 'Loderi'*.

The Rhododendron Yearbook for 1984/85, p.33, gives a full obituary of Lord Glenkinglas, Michael Noble, whose father Sir John began the planting of rhododendrons at Ardkinglas Arboretum. Michael got his love of rhododendrons from his father, continued the planting, and began hybridising rhododendrons, tender *R. maddenii*, and *R. griffithianum* crosses, and he registered *R.s* 'John Bull', 'Secretary of State', and 'Shadow Secretary'. A cream and pink unregistered rhododendron was a favourite of his, and I am glad to have seen it.

Joey Warren

9. Glendoick Gardens

When I became interested in rhododendrons I bought almost all available books by Peter and Ken Cox to get the best possible knowledge on the subject. I also ordered plants from Glendoick for myself and other members of the Finnish Rhododendron Society. Later on I had the opportunity to meet Peter and Ken at international conferences. For many years I had longed for a visit to Scotland and especially to Glendoick. When I saw in the Bulletin the notification of the Tour of Scottish Gardens I immediately, after a prompt discussion with my wife, booked onto the tour.

After arriving at Glendoick, Patricia Cox welcomed us and gave a good overview. Meeting Peter Cox at the magnificent Baravalla had been a very pleasant surprise for me. I was equally delighted as Peter guided our group at Glendoick Gardens. The rhododendron species were good looking and I had the opportunity to see rare species that I had previously seen only in publications. Some of the highlights were *Rhododendron yuefengense*, a deep pink form of *R. souliei* and pure white *R. wardii* var. *puralbum*. And, I cannot forget Peter humorously commenting on the not-so-great looking *R. invictum*: "... This is perhaps the most useless rhododendron that ever was or is ... flowers miserable, dirty, mouldy ...". I had to take a photo of *invictum* to document such an extraordinary species.

A tree from another genus is worth mentioning. A huge *Tetradium daniellii*, planted in 1920s, was spectacular: I had never seen one as large.

I enjoyed talking with Peter during the tour and there was a special subject above all, i.e. hardiness. It was interesting to compare hardiness of various species and relate it to my observations in the harsh Finnish climate. Some species like *R. dendrocharis* grows very low in my garden, benefits from the snow cover and flowers yearly. At Glendoick *dendrocharis* was a much larger upward growing plant.

Two hours was too little to see everything but gave a fine introduction to the gardens. I do hope that in future I'm able to visit Glendoick again and spend more time there.

Photos that I took during the tour can be seen at www.rhodogarden.com/ScottishGardens2011

Kristian Theqvist

10. Branklyn - 14th May

Maurice suggested a visit to Branklyn before we left Perth. What a delightful finale!

This small garden was designed and planted by Dorothy and John Renton, who also built the house (late Arts and Crafts style). The greatest joy of this garden is its layout with narrow, winding paths and vistas at every turn. The garden is packed with plants, many of which complement the great variety of rhododendrons. The garden includes a scree rock garden and many peat wall

areas which provide a well drained, moist, acid environment for rhododendrons, primulas and trilliums.

In the spring sunshine the *Meconopsis (nepalensis, 'Cratae'*, and 'Dorothy Renton' and others) were looking superb, *Cornus canadensis* romped away beneath rhododendrons and *R. rex* ssp *fictolatum* displayed excellent new foliage. The majestic *Betula albosinensis* var. *septrionalis*, grown from seed collected by Joseph Banks in China, is a magnificent specimen, as is the *Carpinus betulus* 'Columnaris', one of the largest in the country.

It has been said that Branklyn is the finest 2 acre garden in Scotland – and we certainly loved seeing this little gem at the end of our tour.

Judy Hallett

I have been aching to visit the gardens in this part of Scotland for many years, but have failed to get anything organised! This was an enchanting tour which was so excellently arranged by Judy Hallett, - our Hon. Tours Organiser member. This has filled a large gap in my garden knowledge – now I must begin to see some of the rest of Scotland's magnificent gardens!

Thank you Judy, your skills are getting better, year by year.... and you say you were a teacher in real life, and not a travel agent!

The Editor

RHODODENDRONS

Philip Evans

The Bowood Rhododendrons

Many members will know the rhododendron collection at Bowood near Calne in Wiltshire, and so I thought the picture of Lord Lansdowne with his attractive Bowood seedling now registered as "The Marquis of Lansdowne" would be of interest. He is unsure of the parentage but believes that *R. 'Canary'* (*campylocarpum* x unknown hardy hybrid) may be involved.



R. 'The Marquis of Lansdowne' at Bowood, with the Marquis.

Photo: Philip Evans

Bowood provides the visitor with a triple gardening feast. The Bowood House terraces and private walled gardens (the latter viewable by appointment), recently replanted to the scheme of the garden designer Rosie Abel-Smith, are spectacular.

Then the Arboretum, overlooking the great serpentine lake and park – one of Capability Brown's finest creations – is a treasure house; the trees all well spaced, and a cherished collection to which valuable additions are continually being made.

I believe there are at least six entries for Bowood in the Champion Trees list. Also, this year, I particularly noted a group of three magnolias, each a fine mature example – *M. macrophylla*, *M. tripetala* and *M. 'Charles Coates'* (*M. sieboldii* x *M. tripetala*).

Thirdly, there is the collection of rhododendrons planted on greensand a mile or so to the southwest of the House. This terrain, on the same strip of greensand that runs all the way from the Dorset coast out to the Wash, also has many springs, and so greatly favours the rhododendron collection. The planting was started by the third Marquis of Lansdowne in the early 19th century and continued by successive generations, in particular by the present Lord Lansdowne's Great Grandfather on his return from India, where he was Viceroy between 1888 and 1894. I first visited the collection in 2005 in the company of the late and much missed Mike Robinson and Miranda Gunn, Chairman of our Wessex Branch and custodian of the Group's collection of hardy hybrids. This was at the invitation of Lord Lansdowne to assist him in identification of some of the vast number of hybrids. It was soon evident that his knowledge was far greater than ours, and the afternoon was transformed into an education session on early Victorian hybrids with unfamiliar names – to name just a few – *R. 'Currianum'* (Waterer, pre 1851), *R. 'Speculator'* (Standish & Noble, pre 1850), *R. 'Perspicuum'* (Waterer, pre 1850), and *R. 'Campanulatum Pictum'* (Henderson & Co, 1852). Subsequent annual visits have helped me realise that this collection is not only a great spectrum of British rhododendron hybridising, but also contains a significant planting of rhododendron species that requires a visit early in the April – June opening season. Worth a visit alone, are some fine mature specimens of *R. austriacum*, a great spectacle in flower, and also three thriving plants of *R. lacteum*, grown from seed collected by Roy Lancaster in China in 1981. These could well be the best examples in England of a rhododendron, which in the book "*The Larger Rhododendron Species*" by Peter Cox, is described as "as well known for its miffiness as its magnificent blooms".

Few large rhododendron collections can have been as well laid out as this, informally over some 60 acres, and along a series of broad grass drives with the 18th century family Mausoleum as a focal point, with occasional glades to either side. I definitely recommend a visit to the Bowood collection in April or May, preferably on a decent fine day and allowing plenty of time. Even better, stay overnight at the new Bowood Hotel on the Estate and almost adjacent to the collection, and where a warm welcome is assured.

MAGNOLIAS

Maurice Foster

Magnolia 'Lois' and leaf spot

When the SE and Wessex groups visited White House Farm in May the yellow magnolias were strutting their stuff and perhaps the pick of the bunch was 'Lois'. A member confided that he had hesitated to plant it as it suffered from a dreadful disease. He had learnt about it in the March Bulletin in a report on a talk by Kevin Hughes.

When I read the report I understood his hesitation as it seemed as if 'Lois' was particularly susceptible to *Syringa* Black Spot. I have discussed it with Kevin and despite his experience we thought it would be worth pointing out to members that our two 20 year old plants of 'Lois' have never shown symptoms of the disease in all that time. We believe both that *Pseudomonas syringae* is rare on magnolias in our gardens and that 'Lois' is no more susceptible than any other magnolia.

Pseudomonas are a group of bacteria usually found in soil and water, and as plant pathogens can cause leaf spot, wilts and cankers.

In thirty five years of growing magnolias we have had only one instance of the disease, some years ago on a 2 m plant of *M. 'Manchu Fan'*. In a severe attack it can be disfiguring, like Rose Black Spot, but as it is a bacterium and not a fungus, fungicides have no effect.

The literature told me that copper based treatments like Bordeaux mixture and copper sulphate could give some control 'over a limited period'. I sprayed 'Manchu Fan' with Bordeaux mixture and the problem was solved with no recurrence. We have noticed no further incidence of the disease on any of our other magnolias.

There is a short but interesting account in the Journal of the Magnolia Society (Issue 41, 1986) of a nursery outbreak of a related leaf spot bacterium – *Pseudomonas cichorii* – on *Magnolia grandiflora* in Alabama. Trials of different treatments were set up and to summarise, copper sulphate provided the best control, but under humid, rainy conditions none of the chemicals tested were fully effective. In the nursery, plants irrigated at ground level developed less disease than those watered overhead with sprinklers. Control was difficult in rainy weather.

I would be interested to know if any members either in a garden situation or indeed with lines of nursery stock have had experience of the disease and if so how they dealt with it. From the Alabama account I suspect it may be principally a nursery focused problem, particularly where a monoculture may promote contamination and is watered overhead. How often is it found in garden magnolias in mixed plantings? Has anyone seen it on 'Lois' in such a situation?

Our two 'Lois' were planted in 1990, one in sun in the open and the other in shade. Every year without fail, both are laden with their precocious, clear primrose yellow, quite shapely flowers. The plant in the open is now some 8m tall and particularly free flowering. Both have proved tough, easy and reliable and in more than 20 years have never suffered from *Pseudomonas syringae* or any other disease. So our advice to members would be to plant 'Lois' without reservation in any garden anywhere in the country, despite Kevin's experience. We find it the best landscape yellow so far among the dozen or so we grow.

PUBLICATIONS EXTRA

PLANT HUNTING TITLES – SPECIAL OFFER EXTENDED!

Flowers of the Amazon Forest – Margaret Mee £16.95 (RRP £25)

John Lindley – William T. Stearn £13.95 (RRP £19.95)

Riddle of the Tsangpo Gorges – Kenneth Cox et al £24.50 (RRP £35)

Seeds of Adventure – Peter Cox & Peter Hutchison £24.50 (RRP £35)

Plantsman's Paradise – Roy Lancaster £27.95 (RRP £39.95)

Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker – Ray Desmond £19.95 (RRP £29.50)

See leaflet enclosed with March Bulletin or email for details.

Price as quoted per title + postage: **£5 per UK order** (up to 5 books),
£6 per title for orders from Europe and **£10 per title** for orders from
outside Europe. Please enquire about postage costs if you are outside
the UK and wish to order more than one title.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR ORDER BY SEPTEMBER 1st 2011

See Publications Advertisement on Back Page for Contact Details

The Early Rhododendron Competition

March 29th 2011 – Vincent Square

The spray of *R. faberi*, below in Class 2 and pictured below, caught my eye. It was very pleasing to see Tregothnan making a number of entries, this year, to provide some competition for Exbury who have made a clean sweep of prizes for several years!

Class 1 Any 3 species, one truss of each.-3 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. arboreum* var. *roseum*, *R. irroratum*, unnamed

2nd: Exbury: *R. barbatum*, *R. lacteum*, *R. niveum*

3rd: Exbury: *R. fulvum*, *R. traillianum*, *R. sp.* unknown

Class 2 Any species, one spray or branch. - 7 entries.

1st: Tregothnan: *R. coeloneuron*

2nd: Exbury: *R. reticulatum*

3rd: Tregothnan: *R. faberi*

4th: Exbury: *R. pseudochrysanthum*



R. faberi in Class 2, above.

Photo: Sally Hayward

Class 3 Any species, one truss. - 3 entries.

1st: Tregothnan: *R. macabeanum*

2nd: Exbury: *R. argipeplum* (as *smithii*)

3rd: Exbury: *R. macabeanum*

Class 4 Subsect Arborea or Argyrophylla, one truss. - 3 entries.

1st: Tregothnan: *R. niveum*

2nd: Tregothnan: *R. coeloneuron*

3rd: Exbury: *R. arboreum*

Class 5 Subsect Barbata, Glischra or Maculifera, one truss. - 2 entries

1st: Exbury: *R. glischrum*

2nd: Exbury: *R. barbatum*

Class 6 Subsect Falconera or Grandia, one truss. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. falconeri* ssp. *eximium*

2nd: Exbury: *R. macabeanum*

Class 7 Subsect Fortunea, one truss. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: *R. oreodoxa* var. *fargesii*

Class 8 Subsect Neriiflora, one spray. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: *R. neriiflorum*

Class 9 Subsect Campylocarpa, Selensia, Thomsonia or Williamsiana, one spray. - No entries.

Class 10 Subsect Afghanistanica, Boothia, Campylogyna, Fragariiflora, Genestieriana, Glauca, Heliolepida, Lapponica, Monantha, Moupinensia, Rhodorastra, Saluensia, Scabrifolia, Tephropepla, Triflora or Virgata, one spray. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: *R. racemosum*

Class 11 Any species of subgenus Hymenanthes not included in any subsection mentioned in the foregoing classes, one truss. - No entries.

Class 12 Any species of subgenus Hymenanthes not included in any subsection mentioned in the foregoing classes, one spray. - 1 entry.

1st: Tregothnan: *R. coeloneuron*

Class 13 Three hybrids, one truss of each. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: 'Avalanche', 'Galactic', 'Rothenburg'

2nd: Exbury: 'Marie-Louise Agius', 'Fortune', 'Rothenburg'

Class 14 Any hybrid, one spray. - 1 entry.

2nd: Exbury: 'Carex'

Class 15 Any hybrid, one truss. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: 'Galactic'

2nd: Exbury: 'Avalanche'

Class 16 Any hybrid of which one parent is a species of subject Arborea, Argyrophylla, Barbata, Campylocarpa, Glischra, Maculifera, Selensia, Thomsonia or Williamsiana, one truss. - 4 entries.

1st: Exbury: 'Ayesha'

2nd: Exbury: 'Eureka'

3rd: Exbury: 'Red Argenteum'

4th: Tregothnan: *R. thomsonii* hybrid

Class 17 Any hybrid of which one parent is a species of subject Fortunea, one truss. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: 'Ayesha'

Class 18 Any subgenus Hymenanthes hybrid of which neither parent is a species of subject Arborea, Argyrophylla, Barbata, Campylocarpa, Fortunea, Glischra, Maculifera, Selensia, Thomsonia or Williamsiana, one truss. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: 'Mariloo'

Class 19 Any hybrid not catered for above, one truss. - No entries.

Class 20 Any hybrid not catered for above, one spray. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: 'Sprayway'

Class 21 Any tender species or hybrid, one truss. - 3 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. parryae*

2nd: Exbury: 'Fairy Light'

3rd: Exbury: 'Captain Scarlet'

Class 22 Any tender species or hybrid, one spray. - No entries.

The Alan Hardy Challenge Salver for the most points awarded at the Early Rhododendron Competition:-

Mr. John Anderson, Exbury Gardens

Main Rhododendron Competition

April 16th/17th 2011 – RHS Rosemoor

Class 1 Any six species, one truss of each. - 4 entries.

The Lionel de Rothschild Challenge Cup.

1st: Exbury: *R. arboreum*, *R. crinigerum*, *R. falconeri* ssp.

eximium, *R. hyperythrum*, *R. rex* ssp. *fictolacteam*, *R. wightii*

2nd: Exbury: *R. campanulatum*, *R. elliotii*, *R. metternichii*,

R. morii, *R. niveum*, *R. roxieanum*

3rd: Tom Clarke: *R. arboreum*, *R. decorum*, *R. degonianum* ssp. *heptamerum*, *R. falconeri*, *R. griffithianum*, *R. macrophyllum*

Class 2 Any three species, one truss of each. - 6 entries.

1st: Trewithen: *R. argyrophyllum* ssp. *argyrophyllum*, *R.*

argyrophyllum ssp. *nankingense*, *R. fortunei* ssp. *fortunei*

2nd: Caerhays: *R. degonianum* ssp. *heptamerum* var.

hondoense, *R. niveum*, *R. zaleucum*

3rd: Philip Evans: *R. argyrophyllum*, *R. campanulatum*, *R. sinofalconeri*

Class 3 Any species, one truss. - 10 entries.

The McLaren Challenge Cup

1st: Marwood Hill: *R. sinofalconeri*

2nd: Pat Bucknell: *R. argyrophyllum* ssp. *nankingense* 'Chinese Silver'

3rd: Exbury: *R. rex* ssp. *fictolacteam*

4th: Trewithen: *R. argyrophyllum* ssp. *argyrophyllum*

Class 4 Any species, one spray. - 8 entries.

The Roza Stevenson Challenge Cup

1st: Exbury: *R. concinnum*

2nd: Pat Bucknell: *R. zaleucum*

3rd: Caerhays: *R. yunnanense*

4th: Caerhays: *R. vaseyi*

Class 5 Any species of subsect Arborea or Argyrophylla, one truss. - 8 entries.

1st: Pat Bucknell: *R. argyrophyllum* ssp. *nankingense* 'Chinese Silver'

2nd: Terry Vince: *R. arboreum*

3rd: Trewithen: *R. argyrophyllum* ssp. *argyrophyllum*

Class 6 Any species of subsect Barbata, Glischra or Maculifera. - 5 entries.

1st: Robin Whiting: *R. anwheense*

2nd: Philip Evans: *R. anwheense*

3rd: Exbury: *R. glischroides*

Class 7 Any species of subsect Campanulata, Fulgensia or Lanata, one truss. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: *R. campanulatum*

Class 8 Any species of subsect Grandia or Falconera, one truss. - 8 entries

1st: Exbury: *R. rex* ssp. *fictolacteam*

2nd: Marwood Hill: *R. sinofalconeri*

3rd: Caerhays: *R. macabeaeanum*

Class 9 Any species of subsect Fortunea, one truss. - 10 entries.

1st: Trewithen: *R. griffithianum*

2nd: Marwood Hill: *R. fortunei* Houlstonii Group

3rd: Bruce Osborne: *R. orbiculare*

Class 10 Any species of subsect Fulva, Irrorata or Parishia, one truss. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. elliotii*

3rd: Trewithen: *R. aberconwayi*

Class 11 Any species of subsect Taliensia, one truss. - 3 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. faberi*

2nd: Alexander Craig-Mooney: *R. bureavii*

3rd: Pam Hayward: *R. bureavii*

Class 12 Any species of subsect Neriiflora, one spray. - 3 entries.

1st: Trewithen: *R. neriiflorum* ssp. *neriiflorum*

2nd: Pam Hayward: *R. haematodes*

3rd: Philip Evans: *R. neriiflorum* ssp. *neriiflorum*

Class 13 Any species of subsect Pontica, one truss. - 5 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. metternichii*

2nd: Philip Evans: *R. hyperythrum*

3rd: Tom Clarke: *R. macrophyllum*

Class 14 Any species of subsect Thomsonia, Selsenia or Campylocarpa, one truss. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. wardii*

2nd: Terry Vince: *R. campylocarpum*

Class 15 *Rhododendron williamsianum*, one spray. - 1 entry.

1st: Alexander Craig-Mooney

Class 16 Any species of subgenus Hymenanthes not included in the foregoing classes, one truss or spray

1st: Philip Evans: *R. venator*

2nd: Pam Hayward: *R. venator*

Class 17 Any species of subsect Edgeworthia or Maddenia, one spray. - 4 entries.

1st: Russell Beeson: *R. veitchianum* (*cubittii*)

2nd: Exbury: *R. parryae*

3rd: Caerhays: *R. maddenii* ssp. *crassum*

4th: Tom Clarke: *R. formosum*

Class 18 Any species of subsect Edgeworthia or Maddenia, one truss. - 8 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. parryae*

2nd: Robin Whiting: *R. edgeworthii*

3rd: Russell Beeson: *R. megacalyx*

4th: Tom Clarke: *R. formosum*

Class 19 Any species of subsect Triflora and Helirolepida other than *R. augustinii*. - 9 entries.

1st: Yvonne Colman: *R. yunnanense*

2nd: Russell Beeson: *R. oreotrephe*

3rd: Exbury: *R. davidsonianum*

4th: Alexander Craig-Mooney: *R. yunnanense*

Class 20 *Rhododendron augustinii*, one spray. - 7 entries.

1st: Trewithen: *R. augustinii*

2nd: Trewithen: *R. augustinii* ssp. *chasmanthum*

3rd: Robin Whiting: *R. augustinii*

4th: Exbury: *R. augustinii*

Class 21 Any species of subsect Cinnabarina, Tephropepla or Virgata, one spray. - 6 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. cinnabarinum*

2nd: Pam Hayward: *R. hanceanum* 'Canton Consul'

3rd: Caerhays: *R. cinnabarinum* ssp. *xanthocodon*

Class 22 Any species of subsect Campylogyna, Genestieriana or Glauca, one spray. - 3 entries.

1st: Pam Hayward: *R. glaucophyllum*

2nd: Russell Beeson: *R. glaucophyllum*

3rd: Exbury: *R. glaucophyllum*

Class 23 Any species of subsect Lapponica, one spray. - 2 entries.

2nd: Exbury: *R. fastigiatum*

3rd: Exbury: *R. impeditum*

Class 24 Any species of subsect Saluenensia or Uniflora, one spray. - No entries.

Class 25 Any species of subsect *Scabrifolia*, one spray. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. scabrifolium* var. *spiciferum*

2nd: Marwood Hill: *R. scabrifolium*

Class 26 Any species of subsect *Pogonanthum* or *Lepidota*, one spray. - No entries.

Class 27 Any lepidote species not mentioned above, one spray. - 2 entries.

1st: Robin Whiting: *R. hypoleucum*

2nd: Pam Hayward: *R. carolinianum* 'Epoch'

Class 28 Any species of *Vireya*, one truss grown under glass. - 2 entries.

1st: Pam Hayward: *R. macgregoriae* Cox form

2nd: Exbury: *R. jasminiflorum*

Class 29 Any species of deciduous azalea, one spray. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: *R. quinquefolium* 'Five Arrows'

Class 30 Any species of evergreen azalea, one spray. - 3 entries.

1st: Trewithen: *R. stenopetalum* var. *linearifolium*

2nd: Pam Hayward: *R. serpyllifolium*

3rd: Russell Beeson: *R. stenopetalum* var. *linearifolium*

Class 31 Six hybrids, one truss of each. - 6 entries.

1st: Pat Bucknell: 'Horizon Monarch', 'Katharine Fortescue', 'Lem's Cameo', 'Mindy's Love', 'Phyllis Korn', 'Virginia Richards'

2nd: Exbury: 'Aurora', 'Doggie Betteridge', 'Kathleen', 'Luscombei', 'Mariloo', 'Queen of Hearts'

3rd: Trewithen: 'Frill', 'Hotei', 'President Roosevelt', 'Soldier Sam', 'Susan', 'Venus'

4th: Tom Clarke: 'Coral Star', Loderi 'King George', 'Lord Roberts', 'Russellianum', 'Sunrise', 'Yvonne'

Class 32 Three hybrids, one truss of each. - 9 entries.

1st: Marwood Hill: 'Calfort', 'Odee Wright', 'Pridenjoy'

2nd: Pat Bucknell: 'Odee Wright', 'Roza Stevenson', 'Susan'

3rd: Exbury: 'Hawk Crest', 'Kathleen', 'Mrs G W Leak' x 'Stanway'

4th: Yvonne Colman: 'Crest', 'Queen of Hearts', 'Unique'

Class 33 Any hybrid, one truss. - 22 entries

The Loder Challenge Cup

1st: Pat Bucknell: 'Horizon Monarch'

2nd: Exbury: 'Queen of Hearts'

3rd: Rosemary Howell: 'Top Banana'

4th: Exbury: 'Unknown Warrior'

Class 34 Any hybrid, one spray. - 15 entries.

1st: Trewithen: Unknown

2nd: Exbury: 'Electra'

3rd: Marwood Hill: 'Calfort'

Class 35 Three hybrids bred and raised in the garden of the exhibitor, one truss each. - 4 entries.

The Crosfield Challenge Cup

1st: Exbury: 'Aurora', 'Hawk Crest', 'Queen of Hearts'

2nd: Exbury: 'Golden Dream', 'Idealist', 'Naomi Exbury'

3rd: Caerhays: 'Caerhays Rebecca', 'Michael's Pride', 'Saffron Queen'

Class 36 Loderi Group, one truss. - 19 entries.

1st: Colin Brown: 'Gamechick'

2nd: Yvonne Colman: 'Gamechick'

3rd: Tom Clarke: 'King George'

4th: Yvonne Colman: 'Fairylend'

Class 37 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Fortunea*, one truss. - 16 entries.

1st: Russell Beeson: Unknown

2nd: Pat Bucknell: 'Susan'

3rd: Exbury: 'Doggie Betteridge'

4th: Terry Vince: Unknown

Class 38 Any hybrid of which one parent is *R. williamsianum*, one spray. - 11 entries.

1st: Exbury: 'Moonstone' (pink form)

2nd: Exbury: 'Moonstone' (cream form)

3rd: Pam Hayward: 'Willbrit'

Class 39 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Campylocarpa*, one truss. - 10 entries.

1st: Bruce Osborne: 'Hawk'

2nd: Pat Bucknell: 'Berg's Yellow'

3rd: Russell Beeson: 'Bruce Brechtbill'

4th: Pam Hayward: 'Paprika Spiced'

Class 40 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Neriiflora*, one truss. - 12 entries.

1st: Pat Bucknell: 'David'

2nd: Terry Vince: Unknown

3rd: Colin Brown: 'David'

4th: Pam Hayward: 'W.F.H.'

Class 41 Any hybrid of which one parent is *R. thomsonii*, one truss. - 5 entries.

1st: Exbury: 'Adelaide'

2nd: Pam Hayward: 'Queen of Hearts'

3rd: Tom Clarke: 'Cornish Cross'

Class 42 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Grandia* or *Falconera*, one truss. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: 'Fortune'

Class 43 Any hybrid of which one parent is *R. griersonianum*, one truss. - 4 entries.

1st: Yvonne Colman: 'Elizabeth'

2nd: Exbury: 'Matador'

3rd: Tom Clarke: 'Gwilt King'

Class 44 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Taliensia*, one truss. - 4 entries.

1st: Terry Vince: 'Blewbury'

2nd: Exbury: 'Blewbury'

3rd: Robin Whiting: 'Blewbury'

Class 45 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Pontica*, one truss. - 6 entries.

1st: Philip Evans: 'Mrs G W Leak'

2nd: Alun Edwards: 'Schneekrone'

3rd: Exbury: 'Fusilier'

Class 46 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Arborea* or *Argyrophylla*, one truss. - 8 entries.

1st: Tom Clarke: 'Boddaertianum'

2nd: Pam Hayward: 'Altaclarensen'

3rd: Exbury: 'Bibiani'

Class 47 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Cinnabarina*, one truss. - 3 entries.

1st: Marwood Hill: 'Biskra'

2nd: Exbury: 'Alison Johnstone'

3rd: Pam Hayward: 'Carys'

Class 48 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subsect *Edgeworthia* or *Maddenia*, one truss. - 8 entries.

1st: Rosemary Howell: Unknown

2nd: Alun Edwards: Unknown

3rd: Russell Beeson: 'Countess of Haddington'

4th: Russell Beeson: 'Lady Alice Fitzwilliam'

Class 49 Any hybrid of which one parent is of subject Triflora, one spray. - 9 entries.

1st: Caerhays: 'St Tudy'

2nd: Trewithen: Unknown

3rd: Exbury: 'Rivulet'

4th: Russell Beeson: 'Ginny Gee'

Class 50 Any other hybrid of lepidote, one truss. - 5 entries.

1st: Caerhays: 'Bert's Own'

2nd: Exbury: 'Dora Amateis'

3rd: Exbury: 'Chink'

4th: Trewithen: 'Curlew'

Class 51 Any other hybrid of subgenus Hymenanthus, one truss. - 4 entries.

1st: Robin Whiting: 'Katharine Fortescue'

2nd: Robin Whiting: 'Grace Seabrook'

3rd: Robin Whiting: 'Phyllis Korn'

Class 52 Any other hybrid of subgenus Hymenanthus, one spray. - 1 entry.

1st: Trewithen: 'Susan'

Class 53 Any other hybrid grown under glass (including Vireya), one truss. - 2 entries.

1st: Exbury: 'Kiandra'

2nd: Pam Hayward: 'Hoo Loo'

Class 54 Any other hybrid grown under glass (including Vireya), one spray. - 4 entries.

1st: Pam Hayward: 'Blushing Belle'

2nd: Russell Beeson: 'Lady Alice Fitzwilliam'

3rd: Exbury: 'Tyermanii'

Class 55 Any elepidote hybrid bred in North America, one truss. - 8 entries.

1st: Pat Bucknell: 'Mindy's Love'

2nd: Pam Hayward: 'Starbright Champagne'

3rd: Pam Hayward: 'Hallelujah'

4th: Russell Beeson: 'Bruce Brechtbill'

Class 56 Any elepidote hybrid bred in UK, one truss. - 7 entries.

1st: Pat Bucknell: 'Katharine Fortescue'

2nd: Pam Hayward: 'Marion Street'

3rd: Terry Vince: 'Roza Stevenson'

Class 57 Any elepidote hybrid bred in Europe (excluding UK), one truss. - 2 entries.

1st: Pam Hayward: 'Schneewolke'

2nd: Pat Bucknell: 'Gartendirektor Reiger'

Class 58 Any elepidote hybrid bred elsewhere in the world, one truss. - 3 entries.

1st: Terry Vince: 'Rubicon'

2nd: Pat Bucknell: 'Rubicon'

3rd: Robin Whiting: 'Rubicon'

Class 59 Any rhododendron, one truss, by a first time exhibitor who has not won a prize in the last 5 years at a previous RHS rhododendron competition. - No entries

Class 60 Any evergreen hybrid azalea, one spray. - 9 entries.

1st: Exbury: Unknown

2nd: Trewithen: 'Kirin'

3rd: Trewithen: 'Hino Crimson'

4th: Caerhays: 'Koromo Shikibu'

Class 61 Any deciduous hybrid azalea, one spray 2 entries

1st: Caerhays: Unknown

2nd: Trewithen: Mollis seedling

The Early Camellia Competition

March 19th 2011 – Vincent Square

Class 1 Vase – Any *C. japonica* cultivar. - 2 entries.

1st: D Choa: 'Onetia Holland'

2nd: D M Wernick: 'Joseph Pfingstl'

Class 2 Vase – Any *C. x williamsii* cultivar. - No entries.

Class 3 Vase – Any hybrid or species not eligible for classes listed above. - No entries.

Class 10 Any three single flowered cultivars of *C. japonica*, one bloom of each. - 2 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Siebold', 'Alba Simplex', Unknown

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Spencer's Pink', 'Midnight Serenade', 'Bright Buoy'

Class 11 Any single flowered cultivar of *C. Japonica*. - 4 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Alba Simplex'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Jupiter'

3rd: Chatsworth: Unknown

Class 12 Any three semi-double cultivars of *C. japonica*, one bloom of each. - 3 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Guilio Nuccio', 'Mrs D W Davis', 'Haku Rakuten'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Dr Tinsley', 'Lady de Saumarez', 'Ann Sothern'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Blaze of Glory', 'Ruddigore', 'Dr Burnside'

Class 13 Any semi-double cultivar of *C. japonica*. - 4 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Guilio Nuccio'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Mrs D W Davis'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Berenice Boddy'

4th: Chatsworth: 'Bob Hope'

Class 14 Any three anemone-formed or peony-formed cultivars of *C. japonica*. - 3 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Kramer's Beauty', 'Ballet Dancer', 'Little Bit'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'R L Wheeler', 'Elegans' (Chandleri), 'Nuccio's Jewel'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Debutante', 'Cecile Brunazzi', 'Althae flora'

Class 15 Any anemone-formed or peony-formed cultivar of *C. japonica*. - 4 entries.

1st: D Choa: 'Onetia Holland'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'R L Wheeler'

3rd: Chatsworth: 'Jean Clere'

4th: Jill Totty: 'Nobilissima'

Class 16 Any three rose-formed or formal double cultivars of *C. japonica*, one bloom of each. - 2 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Alba Plena', 'Mme le Bois', 'Desire'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Cardinal Variegated', 'Lavinia Maggi Rosea', 'C M Hovey'

Class 17 Any rose-formed or formal double cultivar of *C. Japonica*. - 6 entries.

1st: D. Choa: 'Nuccio's Gem'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Mme le Bois'

3rd: Chatsworth: 'Desire'

4th: Chatsworth: 'Alba Plena'

Class 18 Any six *C. japonica* cultivars, one bloom of each. - 2 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Mrs D W Davis', 'Drama Girl', 'R L Wheeler',

'Guilio Nuccio Variegated', 'Bob Hope', 'Latifolia'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Althae flora', 'Adolphe Audusson', 'San Dimas', 'C M Hovey', 'Blaze of Glory', 'Clarise Carleton'

Class 19 Any three *C. japonica* cultivars, one bloom of each. - 3 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Lovelight', 'Mme le Bois', 'Margaret Davis'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Clarise Carleton', 'Ruddigore', 'San Dimas'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Kramer's Supreme', 'Drama Girl', 'Blaze of Glory'

Class 20 Any three hybrids, one bloom of each. - 3 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'El Dorado', 'Daintiness', 'Valley Knudsen'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Water Lily', 'Debbie', 'Muskoka'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Freedom Bell', 'Ballet Queen', 'Cornish Snow'



C. 'Francie L'. Entered by Chatsworth (Class 21, below)

Photo: Sally Hayward

Class 21 Any *C. reticulata* hybrid of which one parent is *C. x williamsii* or *C. saluenensis*. - 2 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Francie L'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Leonard Messel'

Class 22 Any *reticulata* camellia, species or hybrid. - 3 entries.

1st: Chatsworth: 'Harold L Paige'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Captain Rawes'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'LASCA Beauty'

Class 23 Any three *C. x williamsii*, one bloom of each. - 4 entries.

1st: Jill Totty: 'Anticipation', 'Mirage', 'Les Jury'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Debbie', 'Muskoka', 'Daintiness'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Donation', 'Elizabeth Anderson', 'Ballet Queen'

Class 24 Any single *C. x williamsii*. 4 entries.

1st: Jill Totty: 'Joyful Bells'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Saint Ewe'

3rd: Chatsworth: 'Ruby Bells'

4th: Chatsworth: 'Saint Ewe'

Class 25 Any semi-double cultivar of *C. x williamsii*. - 4 entries.

1st: Jill Totty: 'Mirage'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Brigadoon'

3rd: Chatsworth: 'Muskoka'

Class 26 Any peony or anemone-formed *C. x williamsii*. - 3 entries.

1st: Jill Totty: 'Ballet Queen'

2nd: Chatsworth: 'Debbie'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Debbie'

Class 27 Any hybrid other than of *C. reticulata* or *C. x williamsii* [or *C. japonica*]. No entries.

Class 28 Any yellow cultivar. 1 entry

1st: Chatsworth: 'Jury's Yellow'

Class 29 Any species, one bloom. - 1 entry.

1st: Jill Totty: *C. saluenensis*

Class 30 Any camellia, one bloom, shown by an exhibitor who has not won a First Prize within the last 5 years at a previous RHS Camellia Competition. - 1 entry.

1st: D M Wernick: *C. japonica* 'Joseph Pfingstl'

Main Camellia Competition

March 29th 2011 – Vincent Square

Class 1 Vase – Any three, one of each, other than *C. japonica*. - 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: 'Phyl Doak', 'Debbie', 'Anticipation'

Class 2 Vase – Any three *C. japonica* cultivars, one of each. 1 entry.

1st: Exbury: All unknown.

Class 3 Vase – Any *C. japonica* cultivar. - 3 entries.

1st: D Choa: 'Nuccio's Gem'

2nd: Exbury: Unknown

3rd: D M Wernick: 'Joseph Pfingstl'

Class 4 Vase – Any *C. x williamsii* cultivar. - 1 entry.

2nd: Exbury: 'Donation'

Class 5 Vase – Any hybrid or species not eligible for classes listed above. - 1 entry

1st: Tregothnan: *C. glabsipetala*

Class 10 Any twelve, one bloom of each. - 4 entries.

The Leonardslee Bowl

1st: Andy Simons: 'Anticipation', 'Desire', 'Interval', 'Brigadoon', 'Swan Lake', 'Augusto Pinto', 'Owen Henry', 'L T Dees', 'Annie Wylam', 'Takanini', 'Sugar Babe', 'Lemon Drop'

2nd: Exbury: 'Mathotiana Alba', 'C M Hovey', 'Lavinia Maggi', 'Countess of Exeter', Unknown, 'Extravaganza', 'Donation', 'Drama Girl', 'Brushfields Yellow', 'Mrs D W Davis', 'Mathotiana Supreme', 'Inspiration'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Jester', 'Brown creek's Garnet', 'Brown creek's Grace', 'Brown creek's Delight', 'Brown creek's Lilac', 'Brown creek's Oberon', 'Brown creek's Carmen', 'Brown creek's Elegance', 'Brown creek's Eucharis', 'Brown creek's Rosary', 'Brown creek's Twilight', 'Brown creek's Quakeress'

4th: Jill Totty: 'William Hertrich', 'Leonard Messel', 'LASCA Beauty', 'Anticipation', 'Drama Girl', 'Extravaganza', 'Minnie Maddern Fiske', 'Blaze of Glory', 'Elegant Beauty', 'Brigadoon', 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Inspiration'

Class 11 Any six cultivars, one bloom of each. - 5 entries

1st: Exbury: 'Bob Hope', 'Chatsworth Belle', 'Anticipation', 'Strawberry Blonde', 'Suibitin', Unknown

2nd: Jill Totty: 'San Dimas', 'Kramer's Supreme', 'Francie L', 'Ballet Queen', 'Haku Rakuten', 'Dr Burnside'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Water Lily', 'Brown creek's Prelude', 'Brown creek's Sunset', 'Brown creek's Cocktail', 'Guilio Nuccio', 'Mrs W Love'

Class 12 Any three single flowered cultivars of *C. japonica*, one bloom of each. - 2 entries

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Bright Buoy', Unknown, 'Midnight Serenade'

Class 13 Any single flowered cultivar of *C. japonica*. - 5 entries

1st: Exbury: Unknown

2nd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Passion'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Flamingo'

Class 14 Any three semi-double cultivars of *C. japonica*

Any three anemone-formed or peony-formed cultivars of *C. japonica*. - 3 entries.

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Ruddigore', 'San Dimas'

Class 15 Any semi-double cultivar of *C. japonica*. - 6 entries.

1st: Jill Totty: 'Blaze of Glory'

2nd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Jester'

3rd: Andy Simons: 'Swan Lake'

Class 16 Any three anemone-formed or peony-formed cultivars of *C. japonica* one bloom of each. - 4 entries.

1st: Exbury: Unknown, 'Mrs D W Davis', 'Drama Girl'

2nd: Andy Simons: Unknown, 'Annie Wylam', 'Takanini'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Elegans', 'Brown creek's Jasper', 'Brown creek's Calypso'

Class 17 Any anemone-formed or peony-formed cultivar of *C. japonica* . - 7 entries.

1st: D. Choa: 'Onetia Holland'

2nd: Jill Totty: Unknown

3rd: Exbury: 'Drama Girl'

4th: Andy Simons: 'Takanini'

Class 18 Any three rose-formed or formal double cultivars of *C. japonica*, one bloom of each. - 4 entries

1st: Exbury: 'The Mikado', 'Professor C S Sargent', Unknown

2nd: Andy Simons: 'Desire', 'L T Dees', 'Lemon Drop'

3rd: Jill Totty: All unknown

4th: Nick Creek: 'Desire', 'Duchess Decazes', 'Haku Rakuten'

Class 19 Any rose-formed or formal double cultivar of *C. Japonica*. - 8 entries.

1st: D Choa: 'Nuccio's Gem'

2nd: Andy Simons: 'Desire'

3rd: Exbury: 'Countess of Exeter'

4th: D Choa: 'Joseph Pfingstl'

Class 20 Any three hybrids, other than cultivars of *C. japonica*, one bloom of each.- 5 entries.

1st: Andy Simons: 'Brigadoon', 'Anticipation', 'Waltz Time'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Leonard Messel', 'Inspiration', 'Miss Tulare'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Delight', 'Brown creek's Eucharis', 'Brown creek's Grace'

Class 21 Any reticulata camellia, species or hybrid, one bloom. - 5 entries.

2nd: Andy Simons: 'Interval'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Salutation'

Class 22 Any three *C. x williamsii*, one bloom of each. - 7 entries

1st: Nick Creek: 'Anticipation', 'Brown creek's Delight', 'Mrs W Love'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Brigadoon', 'Mirage', 'Laura Boscawen'

3rd: Andy Simons: 'Brigadoon', 'Anticipation', 'Debbie'

Class 23 Any single *C. x williamsii* cultivar, one bloom. - 6 entries.

1st: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Duckling'

2nd: Jill Totty: 'Joyful Bells'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Paragon'

Class 24 Any semi-double cultivar of *C. x williamsii*, one bloom. - 6 entries.

1st: Andy Simons: 'Brigadoon'

2nd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Eucharis'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Mirage'

Class 25 Any peony or anemone-formed *C. x williamsii*, one bloom. - 6 entries.

1st: Jill Totty: 'Debbie'

2nd: Andy Simons: 'Anticipation'

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Sunset'

Class 26 Any rose-formed or formal double *C. x williamsii*, one bloom. - 4 entries.

1st: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Bountiful'

2nd: Nick Creek: 'Brown creek's Carmen'

3rd: Jill Totty: 'Debbie'

Class 27 Any species or hybrid not specified above, one bloom. - 5 entries.

1st: Andy Simons: Unknown

2nd: Nick Creek: *C. saluenensis*

3rd: Nick Creek: 'Nicky Crisp'

Class 28 An arrangement of camellias shown for effect. - 1 entry.

1st: Mrs H A Keates

GROUP SEED LIST

As you will have read in the annual report from the Group Chairman (on pages 1 & 2) our Seed List convenor, Chip Lima, is retiring shortly. We express our grateful thanks for his painstaking hard work over several years for this valuable service to the Group and its members.

We are very pleased that the position has been filled by Mrs Margaret Miles, a well known member from the SW Branch. She has sent her contact details, along with some notes for the Bulletin, on collecting and storing seed which is printed below.

Notes For Seed Donors

Donations from members are essential if we are to continue producing a varied and interesting seed list. Here are a few suggestions for the treatment of seeds in order to maintain maximum viability as well as easing the task of distribution.

RHODODENDRONS: Preferably, using only wild or hand pollinated rhododendrons, pick seed pods just before they start to split open. Store the seed pods in a dry, airy place, away from direct heat, and allow the seeds to drop out naturally. Separate the seeds from the pods and store in dry place in paper packets, but, if refrigerated, place inside sealed plastic bags to prevent drying out.

MAGNOLIAS: Harvest seed pods just as the red seeds begin to show. Remove the seeds and soak them in water for a few days until the red seed coat can be washed off. Rinse the seeds thoroughly and place in plastic bags with damp perlite (**not** peat, compost or vermiculite). **Do not allow the seeds to dry out.**

CAMELLIAS: Harvest seed pods as they begin to split. Remove seeds from pods and place in plastic bags. **Do not allow seeds to dry out.**

Seeds other than those of the above genera are also very welcome. As an added experiment I will accept seeds of species that exhibit early germination such as *Aesculus*, *Quercus*, *Castanea*, etc. and I hope to advertise these by email or on the Group website for early distribution before the end of the year.

All seeds should be sent in bulk - one packet for each species, with clear, waterproof, labelling showing full, correct, botanical name, whether hand or open pollinated, collector's number, location collected plus any other relevant information.

If you have seeds but cannot manage to clean them then just send them anyway and we will deal with them appropriately. If you have the opportunity to collect in the wild we would particularly like to hear from you.

For inclusion in the main printed list seeds should be received by 30 November. Exceptionally, late ripening seeds may be sent up to the end of the year but notification of an intended seed donation should still be received by 30 November, where possible. Seeds received at other times of the year may be advertised using email or the Group website.

All seeds can be stored temporarily in the warmest part of a domestic refrigerator – **DO NOT FREEZE** – before sending them, in a padded mail bag, as soon as possible, to:-

Mrs Margaret Miles,

Trewollack, St.Mawes, Truro, TR2 5AD, UK.

Queries may be sent to margaret@trewollack.co.uk

Dear Editor,

Hurrah for Russell Beeson's Yearbook article and, for a lot of us, telling it the way it is.

All my gardening life (nearly forty years) I've been gardening on a fair bit less than an acre and now have a collection of rhododendrons, camellias, magnolias and other delightful ericaceous subjects. They number several hundred and are all happily - at least for the most part - living cheek by jowl. And just to prove it they have again this year given me a riot of colour and interest and will go on doing so until well into June. Beyond June, the garden will give me more joy but that's another story.

When I looked at Mr. Beeson's photographs I thought for a moment that I was looking at my own garden although some of my 'back of the garden' big-leaved plants would not be, for size nor generosity of bloom, out of place in any large domain.

May I say what a philosophical lift it was to hear from someone who thinks as I, and gardens as I.

Brian Wright, Crowborough, East Sussex

I have received a useful letter from Anne Boscawen at High Beeches, regarding making plant records for your garden.

(Whilst the Editor has only a small garden but more than 100 different rhododendrons plus camellias etc), it is something that I have thought about but not yet put into action. Perhaps I shall now make a start!

Recording at High Beeches

At High Beeches we are delighted to read that the plants in that great garden Trewithen, are at last being recorded.

Here we have some manual records from 1914. In 1981, we started using the helpful cards and booklet supplied by the Tree Register Indexing System, TRIM*. This gave us a format within which to work, and saved us a great deal of time. It is designed for those with limited clerical staff. In 2002 we paid to have the information on the cards transferred to an electronic data base, using the Access program**, and the outline suggestion in the TRIM booklet. There are many newer systems available, but in my experience, usually subject to constant changes. It is better to stick to what works for you.

We now have a data base with almost 2995 individual plants, and 24 fields for each entry. Unidentified plants are listed under Accession no: and Location.

From this list, we have produced an abridged Plant List on our Web Site, trees and rhododendrons only, and a hard copy for the public to consult. It has many other uses. Always include dates, and we try to enter why a plant may have died, for instance. We do need now to include our sketch maps, and illustrations, and to sort out the Distribution fields, (Asia or Bhutan?).

We still use the cards for Accessions, and enter them later, probably in February!

Anne Boscawen
www.highbeeches.com

*TRIM John Humphris. 13 Montague Road, Easebourne, Midhurst, Sussex GU 9 9BJ

**Perry, Michael. Transfers cards or lists to electronic Data Base. michaeljp8482086@aol.com

New Forest Branch

We went to Surrey for our first garden visit this year to the home of Roderick and Mary White. Over the past 13 years they have created a beautiful garden. The two and a half acre garden was in serious decline when they took it over, so much so, that a bonfire did not go out for 3 months, clearing brambles, some of the trees, and masses of undergrowth. A rabbit and deer fence was erected round the garden before any planting was done. Over the years Roderick and Mary have lived there, many lovely plants have been added. Roderick's main interest is species rhododendrons, but certainly not to the exclusion of many other genera. It was good to know that Roderick didn't always get his planting scheme right first time. His non-gardening friends would comment about his 'Alan Whicker' plants as they seemed to be always on the move!

At every turn there was a rare plant. He is a great believer in a living mulch. His philosophy was, that if you don't put something in the ground nature will. Boards were erected around many of the beds to contain the leaves and small slabs placed between the boards and the grass to make mowing much easier.

We were regaled with many apposite comments on our tour, such as. 'If you want a plant to flower, leave a spade by it!' Of the many lovely plants displayed, a magnificent *R. pingianum* stood out, grown from seed collected by Keith Rushforth. Elsewhere in the garden was *R. yuefengense* a lovely rarity with superb foliage similar to *R. platypodum*. Much admired by everybody was a lovely but still quite small *Magnolia* 'Anticipation'. At the end of our tour Roderick very generously gave out seedlings of *Camellia granthamiana*. The seed came from Blandy's garden in Madeira. Mary very kindly provided us with tea and cakes at the end of a delightful day.

Our second visit was to another lovely garden in a remote area of the New Forest. In many ways a rather sad tale as it was going to be the retirement home of George Hyde, a well known rhododendron and azalea breeder. Although he did a lot of the perimeter planting with hybrid rhododendrons to give shelter and privacy, he died before he could move there. His daughter Rosemary Legrand and her husband later moved to the cottage in the grounds and lived there for some 13 years developing the garden and planting many of George's rhododendrons and azaleas. Most of the plants in the garden were raised by him, and now make a magnificent display in very peaceful surroundings. The skill of George Hyde, particularly in raising evergreen azaleas was evident throughout the garden. The flower size and colour he bred in to the plants was stunning. Unfortunately most of the rhododendrons and azaleas are unnamed, but four deciduous azaleas have recently been named and introduced at the latest Chelsea Flower Show by David Millais. We were able to visit the garden by kind permission of the present owner.

Later that day we went to the garden of John and Mary Davies, fellow branch members. We visited their garden in 2007, so it was interesting to return and see the way the garden had developed. We ended the day sitting on the Terrace enjoying tea and a splendid array of cakes kindly provided by Mary.

Robin Whiting

SouthWest Branch Camellia Show and Competition

April 16/17, 2011, Rosemoor

Held in conjunction with the RHS Main Rhododendron Competition. The past few months of winter weather ensured that there were fewer blooms available to show.

Alun Edwards

Class 1 Single bloom, C.japonica. - 11 entries.

1st: Malcolm Pharoah: Dr.Balthazar de Milo.

2nd: Gary Long – R.Wheeler.

3rd: Eric Ash – Kramer's Supreme.

Class 2. Three blooms, C.japonica. - 3 entries.

1st: Gary Long – Dr. Burnside, Mars, R.L.Wheeler.

2nd: Mrs Jane Bird – Kramer's Supreme, Primavera, Barchie.

3rd: Russell Beeson – Jupiter, Mercury, R.L.Wheeler.

Class 3. single bloom, C.reticulata_variety. No entries.

Class 4. single bloom, C. reticulata hybrid. 8 entries.

1st: Gary Long – Dr. Clifford Parks.

(Winner of the **Williams Challenge Trophy Cup**)

2nd: Pam Hayward – Inspiration.

3rd: Pat Bucknell – Leonard Messell.

Class 5. single bloom, C. williamsii. 6 entries.

1st: Mrs. Jane Bird – China Clay.

2nd: Pam Hayward – Taylor's Perfection.

3rd: Gary Long – Donation.

Class 6. three blooms, C.williamsii. - 2 entries.

1st: Mrs. Jane Bird – Admiral Spry*, Debbie, Duchess of Cornwall.

2nd: Gary Long – Donation, Elegant Beauty, Taylor's Perfection.

*Admiral Spry is an unregistered Carlyon hybrid, named after a favourite uncle.

Class 7. Six blooms of any variety. - 3 entries

1st: Gary Long – Mars, Interval, R.L.Wheeler, N/K,

Dr.Burnside, Elegant Beauty.

2nd: Mrs. Jane Bird – Nigra, Nuccio's Pearl, Kramer's Supreme, N/K, Duchess of Cornwall, Eclipsis.

3rd. Pat Bucknell – Dresden China, Dr. Burnside, Leonard Messell, E.T.R. Carlyon, Adolphe Audusson, Mary Phoebe Taylor.

Class 8. One bloom of any other species/hybrid not included above. - 1 entry

1st: Pam Hayward – Spring Festival. (a hybrid of C.cuspidata)

Class 9. Spray of C.japonica. no entry

Class 10. Spray of C.williamsii. 1 entry

Commended: Pat Bucknell - Mary Phoebe Taylor.

West Midlands Branch

Visit on 7th April 2011 to **Harbourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtenay** and to **Tim Whiteley's garden/arboretum at Evenley** near Brackley.

Harcourt Arboretum is owned and run by the University of Oxford. It is a satellite of the university's botanic garden in the city of Oxford. The arboretum on the A4074 road, near the village of Nuneham Courtenay in Oxfordshire, and comprises some 150 acres (approx. 60 hectares).

The arboretum forms an integral part of the tree and plant collection of the University of Oxford Botanic Garden. It occupies part of what were the grounds of Nuneham House, about 1.5 miles (2.4 km) from the house itself. William Sawrey Gilpin (1762–1843), the artist and landscape designer, laid out the pinetum, which forms the core of the arboretum. The trees are now mature, with giant redwoods and monkey-puzzle trees as well as other trees of the same period.

We met at around 10.30 am at the entrance to Harcourt Arboretum and when the 9 participants had assembled we were taken into the arboretum by a member of staff, arriving very shortly at the collection of *Magnolia x loebneri* donated by The Rhododendron, Camellia and Magnolia group in 2003 (and planted on 26th March 2003 – See picture in Bulletin No82)

The magnolias were located within a glade and we had missed earliest flowering *Magnolia campbellii*, however the *M.kobus x M. stellata* crosses were virtually all in flower and some looking very good.

Particularly striking was *M. x loebneri* 'Ballerina', a seedling from 'Spring Snow', which had a full flower with up to thirty white tepals. The tree is quite compact. Another multi-tepalled magnolia was *M.x loebneri* 'Powder Puff' with an upright flower, but was a small plant as yet.

Other trees flowering or having flowered were *M. x loebneri* 'Leonard Messell' and 'Merrill'. 'Leonard Messell' was white, though it can be a quite strong pink after warmer weather.

Magnolias flowering were *M. x loebneri* 'Donna', 'Raspberry Fun', 'Snowdrift', 'Spring Snow', 'Star Bright' and 'Wildcat'.

On the periphery of the glade, we observed mature specimens of *Sciadopitys verticillata*, *Pseudolarix amabilis*, a large and graceful *Picea smithiana*. Around the various glade areas we found a healthy *Torreya californica* and *Abies nebrodensis* as well as many other good specimens.

The arboretum itself had many fine older plantings and we searched round intriguing pathways and gladed areas, identifying as we could and reading labels we could not. The fine collection of Acers were just flowering and breaking into leaf, offering us some delicate and highly attractive lower storey tree growth. Promontory beds of massed shrubs can be discerned, many of them Rhododendrons and Camellias.

There were many fine old conifers here planted from the 1830s and 1860s, now mature and some suffering due to old age or disease. These include *Cedrus*, *Araucaria*, *Abies*, *Picea* and *Pinus*.

More exotic collections have been planted in recent times, including the fern glade, plants from high places, a bamboo glade as well as the Acer walk. The picturesque structure of the glades is still apparent, though in need of re-defining.

Evenley Wood Garden, Nr Brackley, Northants.

This is a 60 acre woodland designed and planted by Tim Whiteley over the last 30 years. It now contains a superb collection of plants, most of which are labelled. Part of the woodland has acid soil providing Tim with the opportunity to plant *Rhododendron*, *Camellia* and wide selection of *Magnolia*. [A part of this woodland has predominantly alkaline soil (ph of 8.00), where, in 2006, the RCM Group planted a number of magnolia species and hybrids as a trial of their tolerance to these alkaline conditions.]

The garden now contains around 3000 different plants, including trees, shrubs, bulbs and lilies.

There is an extensive network of paths and areas where it is easy to walk. Random groups of wild flowers (indigenous and introduced) and 'rivers' of flowers add to the mystery and excitement of this voluptuous and diverse collection. This is an arboretum that lends itself to exploration and a visit is highly recommended.

Many new trees and shrubs have been planted here, many of them rare. Drainage ditches have enabled old areas of original wood to be utilized for planting woodland edge and under storey plants within a sheltered and protected environment.

Alastair Stevenson

Wessex Branch Annual Show

15th May 2011

For those thinking of trying their hand at exhibiting at a Show, the Wessex Branch Show provides an excellent starting place: it is small-scale and friendly, the exhibitors are happy to help each other out as they manipulate their prize trusses and sprays into the vases and persuade them to stay in place sufficiently long to stand up to the judge's critical eye. It is reassuring that this year we were able to welcome a number of new exhibitors, two of whom won firsts, and one stormed through with a best in show! It is reassuring also that the exhibitors are prepared to support the Show, especially when the weather plays havoc with the flowering of their plants. This year, a warm, dry spring followed a winter colder even than the previous one, but with the advantage of no late spring frost – the usual bane of the exhibitor. As a result the season was well ahead of what might be expected for mid May so that the camellias were all over, and the magnolias were in the intervening period between the glorious spring-flowering asiatics, stellatas and soulangeanas, and the understated but highly scented summer-flowering species. Likewise with the rhododendrons: the azaleas were well into their season while the lepidotes were few and far between.

However, the hybrid elepidotes were at their peak and these classes were amply filled with exhibits giving the judge, Mark Flanagan, a hard time to sort the best from the rest. If there were recognition for scale of endeavour, it would have to go those who put in hybrids with *R. fortunei* for though they look so magnificent on the plant, their trusses are so often at an odd angle and their flowers so prone to marking that they are almost impossible to exhibit well – but a triumph when they are. The Best in Show was awarded to *R. 'Kilimanjaro'*, which was awarded an FCC when exhibited in 1947, was shown by Andy Fly. There is no doubt it is still worthy of the FCC and it excited much attention when it arrived and no surprise when the winner of the cup was announced. The Lady Adam Gordon plate for the winner of Class 6 (three different elepidote hybrid trusses) was won by the RCM Group for a selection from the Group's collection of hardy hybrids grown at Ramster. The winning combination was *R. 'Alice Martineau'*, *R. 'Mrs Philip Martineau'* and *R. 'Janet Ward'*. It was pleasing to see the azalea classes well represented this year and while this is undoubtedly Jim Inskip's forte, new exhibitor Mrs McLaren provided some stiff competition, taking a first with *R. 'Fireball'* in the deciduous hybrid class.

There was a good display of magnolias, and Rod Wild's *M. obovata* was a clear winner among the species and it was Rod who provided an intriguing selection of *M. x brooklynensis* cultivars: the results of combining *M. acuminata* with *M. liliiflora* are perhaps an acquired taste, the colour of the tepals approaching the later stages of development of a bruise. The first went to *M. x brooklynensis* 'KO 1', an as yet rarely seen cultivar bred in the US by the same hybridiser that produced 'Woodsmen'. Among the non-ericaceous flowering shrubs, Rod Wild's striking *Cornus kousa* 'Satomi' was runner up to the elegant *Eleagnus* 'Quicksilver' exhibited by Miranda Gunn. The clear favourite in the ericaceous shrub class was Brian Long's Madeiran endemic, *Vaccinium cylindraceum*.

The Katherine Beadle Shield for the winner of the most points in the Show was awarded to Jim Inskip who gained an impressive five firsts, six seconds and five thirds. Jim previously won the Shield in 2003.

Not only is this a small and friendly Show it is also has the supreme advantage of being held at Ramster, where exhibitors

and visitors can tour round the garden to see the rhododendrons and other fine plants while the judging is taking place. Our thanks are due to Paul and Miranda Gunn for their generosity in hosting the Show and their hard work in preparing the hall and laying on an excellent tea to follow. Last, but by no means least, our thanks to the judge, Mark Flanagan, for giving us his time and undoubted expertise.

John David



'Best in Show:' *R. 'Kilimanjaro'*, from Andy Fly.

Photo: Jim Inskip

MEMBERSHIP

Rupert Eley

We warmly welcome the many new members to the Group, and we hope they will enjoy the many benefits of membership.

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the
RHODODENDRON, CAMELLIA and
MAGNOLIA GROUP of the RHS**

Held on 4th June 2011 at RHS Garden, Wisley

Present: Chairman, Mr. A Simons,

Mr. R Beeson, Mrs PA Bucknell, Mr. P Evans, Mr. RC Eley, Mr. MC Foster, Mr. A Hallett, Mrs. J Hallett, Miss. P Hayward, Miss S Hayward, Mr JG Hillier, Mr. J Inskip, Mrs. H Lyus, Mr S Lyus, Mr. D Millais, Mrs. J Millward, Mr. R Millward, Mr. MT Nash, Mr KE Piper, Mr JA Rawling, Mrs. R Rawling, Mr. RE Rosendale, Mrs. C Sapcote, Mr. K Sprague, Mr A Stevenson, Mr. I Stokes, Mr. R Whiting, Mr. T Wood.

Apologies: Mr. E Annal, Mr EJ Brabin, Mr. CHT Brown, Mr. MDC Gates, Mrs. M Gunn, Mr JD Harsant, Mr. B Haseltine, Dr D Ives, Dr. RHL Jack, Mr. T Methuen-Campbell, Mrs. M Miles, Mr G Mills, Mr. J Sanders, Mr. M Slocock, Mrs E Tirard, Mr. C Tomlin, Mrs. J. Warren, Mr. C Williams.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was the highest number of people attending an AGM for many years, seven more than last year. He thanked everyone who had brought plants and trusses for the Exhibition which took place prior to the AGM.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2010 held on 15th June 2010, and published in Bulletin No. 103 in July 2010, were agreed to be a true record and were signed by The Chairman.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report: The income and expenditure account, and the balance sheet for the year ended October 31st 2010 were tabled by Alastair Stevenson. At the time of the meeting the accounts had been audited but John Harsant was awaiting confirmation of the balances from National Westminster Bank.

He reported that overall the finances of the Group remain in a sound state with total assets of £36,000 and a surplus for the year of just over £3,450. Subscription income has remained stable at £12,500. Seed sales increased by £1,000 compared to the previous year. Publication sales were considerably lower but this was due to the exceptional sales in 2008/09. Together seed and publication sales make a very valuable contribution to the Group's income.

The major area of cost for the Group remains our publications. Between the Yearbook and Bulletins, both now produced to very high standards, the total cost (net of advertising sales) is some £12,000, an amount almost equal to our subscription income.

This year the Accounts year end will change to fall in line with the RHS and will run for 15 months to January 2012. The Membership year end will remain unchanged.

He expressed particular thanks to Martin Gates for once again helping with the preparation of the accounts. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by David Millais and voted unanimously that the Accounts be adopted.

Subscriptions: The Treasurer also reported that considerable discussions have taken place in committee meetings during the year about the need to increase the annual membership charges, and he reported last year his intention to put a proposed increase to the AGM this year. However in the light of a surplus of £3,450 he now proposed delaying this and waiting for the outcome of 2010/11 accounts before making a decision to implement an

Affiliated Branch Membership

The Group's branches, as yet, do not extend right across the United Kingdom and in fact, in recent years, we have lost two (East Anglia and Northern Ireland). Happily, Alastair Stevenson's new West Midlands branch is thriving and taking full advantage of its ideal geographic placement, as the report in this Bulletin demonstrates.

Members are allocated to their nearest branch on joining the Group but it is also possible to 'affiliate' to any other branch. This enables a member to be kept informed of events of which they would otherwise be unaware. There are already successful associations operating between some branches and the more members who participate in this, the more vibrant our Group can become.

Branches currently exist for the New Forest, North Wales/Northwest, Peak, Southeast, Southwest, Wessex and West Midlands regions.

If you feel you could get more from your membership of the Group and might be willing to travel further afield, regularly holiday in a region served by another branch or have relatives there, then consider an affiliated membership. It costs nothing to do so and could open doors to events, lectures and visits that might go unnoticed or indeed do not appear in the Forthcoming Events section of the Bulletin.

Affiliation is simple – write to the Membership Secretary to let him know that you wish to affiliate to a particular branch and he will notify the relevant Branch Chairman – it's as easy as that!

Email: sales@placeforplants.co.uk or write to:

Rupert Eley, Hon. Membership Secretary,
East Bergholt Place, EAST BERGHOLT, Suffolk CO7 6UP.

increase. The prospect remains that our income from publications and seed is not guaranteed in the longer term.

Election of Auditors: It is thought that the RHS will conduct an independent audit of the accounts from 2012. John Harsant was willing to audit the accounts for one final year. The Treasurer proposed that he be asked to do the audit again for 2011/12. Ivor Stokes queried whether John Harsant should audit the accounts as he is a member of the committee but it was pointed out that John was an Actuary and that he had rigorously performed this task for many years. It was then unanimously agreed that he be asked to do so again and that he be given a vote of thanks.

Membership: Rupert Eley reported that Membership was down from 782 in June 2010 to 765 in June 2011; however the rate of decline had slowed from a peak of 840 in 2008. Five new members had signed up at the Rosemoor Show. Rupert Eley confirmed that all **NEW** members are asked to agree that their details could be published in the list in order to comply with the Data Protection Act. Helen Lyus asked whether it would be advantageous to have the Group Stand at other RHS London Shows. It was agreed to discuss this further during the following Committee Meeting

Group Tours: The Chairman invited members to suggest some new and interesting venues. Judy Hallett reported that she was trying to plan for three years ahead. Helen Lyus enquired if it would be possible to purchase an audio sound system with earphones, in order that the Tour Leader could be heard by people in the rear of the party. It was agreed to discuss this in the Committee Meeting.

Confirmation of Officers: Following the adoption of the New Constitution, the present Officers and Committee Members would now serve for five years before offering themselves for re-election.

RHS and Plant Committee: It was not thought that this would lead to a complete new committee in five years time as some people would retire and be replaced prior to this.

Convenor of the Group Seed Bank: Margaret Miles has agreed to take on this task following the resignation of Chip Lima. Report on the proposed change of the Group's status relative to the. The Chairman reported that the merger of the two committees would go ahead following resolution of some practical matters.

The RHS have indicated that some Secretarial/Botanical support will be provided to the Rhododendron & Camellia Sub-Committee. The Rhododendron & Camellia Sub-Committee would provide the Group with input of Professional and Scientific Horticultural expertise while the Group would concentrate on the benefits to its membership such as the Yearbook, Bulletins, Seed Sales, Book Sales and Tours.

Any Other Business: Tom Wood asked whether a new Membership List would be issued. This would be discussed in Committee. Rupert Eley confirmed that all new members were asked to agree that their details could be published in the list in order to comply with the Data Protection Act. Maurice Foster suggested that a study day on Kingdom-Ward could be organised on the lines of the very successful Forrest Day. Ros Rawling suggested that the Group could have the Stand at all RHS Flower Shows such as Chelsea in order to attract new members. There would be logistical problems in manpower to achieve this. It was agreed to pursue these items further during the Committee meeting.

Date of Next Annual General Meeting. It is proposed to hold this on Saturday 16th June 2012 at RHS Garden Wisley at 2.30 p.m. preceded by another Exhibition of Late Flowering Rhododendrons and Azaleas.

The Meeting Closed at 3.20 p.m.

Preceding the Group AGM, this year, a display was held (in the morning) of late flowering rhododendrons, and azaleas (plus a couple of magnolias). Members brought blooms, sprays and plants for show, which filled the two sides of the full length of the Lecture Theatre at RHS Wisley. The donors spoke about their plants, and this created considerable discussion – particularly on the late flowering deciduous azaleas including the Denny Pratt hybrids. This lively debate on the naming, registration and preservation (by Ness Gardens, David Millais and others) of the best of the very many created, showed the interest and enthusiasm for developing the availability of late flowering rhododendrons.

This enjoyable event will hopefully be arranged again next year. Details should be available in a future Bulletin.



Part of the display of late flowering rhododendrons

Photo: Alastair Stevenson

forthcoming events

The Hon. Editor has not received notification of any new branch events to be listed in this issue of the Bulletin.

'You are advised to check with the organiser of events, to confirm the arrangements.'

SEPT-OCT / 2011

28-2

Jersey

The ICS & Rhododendron, Camellia & Magnolia Group - Joint 'Autumn Get together'
Please see pages 2 & 3 for details

OCTOBER / 2011

29

Rosemoor

Autumn Meeting
South West Branch
Colin Brown
01647 277268

www. **LODER-PLANTS** .COM

**AZALEAS &
RHODODENDRONS**



HYDRANGEAS

CAMELLIAS



01403 891 412

MARKET GARDEN, LOWER BEEDING, HORSHAM, RH13 6PP

We have an encyclopaedic website, which contains a wealth of information.
We have something here for both connoisseur and absolute beginner.

OPEN: MONDAY. - SATURDAY 10 - 4

The following publications are offered to Group Members exclusively and sold in support of the Group.

Back issues of the yearbook from 1946 and previously advertised titles not featured here may still be available – please enquire.

In the Footsteps of AUGUSTINE HENRY

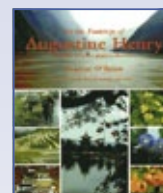
Seamus O'Brien

376pp Garden Art Press

Full Price: **£40** Member's Price: **£27.95**

Postage: UK **£5** Europe **£6**

Rest of World **£10**



The Lost Gardens of Heligan

CAMELLIAS and RHODODENDRONS

Bee Robson

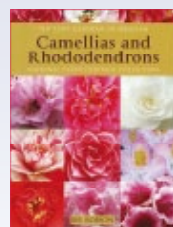
96pp Barman 2010

Full Price: **£9.95**

Member's Price: **£8.50**

Postage: UK **£1.50**

Europe **£3** Rest of World **£5**



Pocket Guide to RHODODENDRON SPECIES

John McQuire & Mike Robinson

704pp RBG Kew 2009

Full Price: **£59** Member's Price: **£42**

Postage: UK **£5.50** Europe **£8.50** Rest of World **£15.50**

Please make cheques (Sterling) payable to: *The Rhododendron, Camellia and Magnolia Group*. Payment may also be made by Mastercard or Visa or via PayPal to rcmgpaypal@woodtown.net

Contact: Pam Hayward, Woodtown, Sampford Spiney, Yelverton, Devon PL20 6LJ Tel/Fax: +44 (0)1822 852122

Email: rcmgpublications@woodtown.net

PUBLICATIONS

07/11

MARVELLOUS MAGNOLIAS & CAMELLIAS

EISENHUT

VIVAIO

BAUMSCHULE



We offer over 450 species of grafted Magnolias. Among these are some of the latest hybrid Magnolias and selected clones of Magnolia species.

Our full list of Magnolias, Camellias and Wisterias is available on request.

Plants are despatched as one- or two-year grafts and in accordance with import regulations.

EISENHUT NURSERIES – SPECIALISTS IN MAGNOLIAS
CH6575 San Nazzaro/Ticino SWITZERLAND

Tel: +41 91 795 18 67 Fax: +41 91 795 30 29

Email: infoeisenhut@bluewin.ch

Internet: www.eisenhut.ch – now reworked with many more photos of our listed plants

The 
Himalayan
Garden Co.

Rhododendrons, Magnolias,
Azaleas, Cornus and Eucryphia

Hardy plants grown in our nursery
at 850 feet above sea level

- Specimen plants a speciality
- Rare and unusual varieties available

Nursery open by appointment
Mail order available

Tel: 01765 658009 Fax: 01765 658912

E-mail: info@himalayangarden.com

Website: www.himalayangarden.com