

# The Launceston Landscape



September 2022 Issue No 131

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### **Society Meetings**

A reminder that our regular monthly meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month starting at 7:30pm at Windmill Hill Hall (next to the Launceston Aquatic Centre). It would be appreciated if you could arrive a little earlier to help set-up. These meetings include a trade table, several competitions, guest speakers, general business and raffles. Members are invited to bring a plate of supper to share with others at the end of the meeting.

### Meeting Dates / Guest Speakers / Topic

21 Sept Heather Pryor – Gardens of Southern NZ

19 Oct Jennifer Stackhouse – Recipes for success in the garden

16 Nov Susan Prewer – Roses for Everyone

Guests and new members welcome!

### **Show Calendar 2022 / 2023**

24-25 Sept Early Spring12-13 Nov Late Spring4-5 Feb Summer

### **Our Executive:**

Patron: Her Excellency, The Honourable Barbara Baker AC

President: Sandra Whiteley 6343 2417
Vice President: Vicki McCormack 0409 217 806
Treasurer: Marilyn Fraterman 0419 036 833
Minutes Secretary: Liz Atkins 0448 852 552
Past President/Show Manager: Noel Button 6394 4750

Show Secretary: Sarah Katarzynski 6344 1200

### **Committee Members:**

Abby Gray	044 705 0465	
Barry Lawson	6391 8017	
Erica Maxwell	0411 410 647	
Errol Imlach	6340 1656	
Joan Thompson	0419 510 922	
Kay Maloney	0403 906 462	
Maria Lawson	0408 880 760	
Marilyn Donald	0438 323 235	
Pauline Torrents	0409 493 184	6330 1299

### Message from the Newsletter Editor

Thank you everyone who contributed articles and photos for this edition of The Launceston Landscape. A reminder to please check if there are any copyright conditions of any articles before submitting.

Please forward any items to

**Noel Button** 

### noel.button@hotmail.com

or give to him at the next meeting.

Hope you enjoy this edition and I look forward to receiving and publishing your contributions in future newsletters.

Happy gardening from

Patricia Beams



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the Landscape mid-year report.

I guess like a lot of our readers, I have thought this Winter has been very tough.

I saw the buds swelling on my early Prunus Elvins tree a couple of weeks ago and thought "at last" Winter will soon be gone.

The LHS has had a couple of really interesting speakers during the Winter, among them Rees Campbell from Wynyard and her native garden plants which she uses in her restaurant, Dr Peter McQuillan speaking about the different ways pollination occurs and Jo Neuschwanger talking about camellias.

Our committee has had to move our meeting venue and clean up where we used to have our meetings and now meets at the East Launceston Bowls Club next door to Windmill Hill Hall. That is our committee, our monthly meetings WILL STILL be at Windmill Hill Hall.

We said thank you to Micheal McDonald, who has been our Outdoor Show Manager and welcomed Joan Thompson to take over the position. Joan is very keen and energetic in her new position.

I hope you all roll up to our Spring Flower show and have an enjoyable time.

Bye for now

Sandra Whiteley

# FLOWER OF THE NIGHT One Stem

September - Early Spring Bulb

October - Late Spring Bulb

November - Rose

### **OTHER COMPETITIONS**

Produce - Fruit or Vegetable

Any other cut flower - A maximum of 3 stems of the same variety

Potted plants - Any size - any plant

### **SHOW REPORTS**

### **AUTUMN EXHIBITION**

Due to Covid our Autumn Show went from our normal two day competion to a one day exhibition.

The displays, both members and Horticultural groups presented, created what many described as an amazing "celebration of Autumn". Many members have suggested we combine these

displays with our competitions in future Autumn shows.

I must thank ALL those who participated for their wonderful contributions. In particular, I must thank the efforts of the Prewers and the Northern Group of the Australian Plant Society.

Once again, we were fortunate to be able to sponsor Shane Newitt and his big pumpkins. These are a great draw card.



### EARLY SPRING - 24 & 25 SEPTEMBER 2022

Our Early Spring Show is fast approaching. As we are now rotating dates with other Northern Spring Shows we have moved to the fourth weekend in September. Hopefully, we will have some late daffodils. Next year we will move to the first weekend in September.

We are very fortunate to have Clive Blazey presenting a talk on WE SPEAK FOR THE TREES at Strathmore during our show. Hopefully members find an opportunity to attend. On this topic, I must thank Erica Maxwell for her "exhausting efforts" in helping to organise this event. In addition, I must thank Sue & Graham Gillam for offering Strathmore as a venue for this presentation and providing Clive's accommodation for the weekend.

Hall set-up will be on Friday 23 September from 10:00am onwards.

### **Contacts for volunteers:**

Stewarding	Abby Gray	0447 050 465
Plant Stall	Roz Daly	0418 851 758
Refreshment Roster & Slice Donations	Maureen Coady	0414 902 207
Raffle Roster	Helen Connor	0412 105 077
Door Roster	Kay Maloney	0403 906 462

**Noel Button** 

### **MARCH GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **Bill and Craig Waldron**



At the general meeting in April our guest speakers were Bill and Craig Waldron father and son bulb growers. In previous times Bill's wife was a horticulturist and between the two of them they grew bulbs for the cut flower market for the mainland. Eventually they came to the realisation they should go into selling bulbs instead. Bill has been growing for over forty years so has a lot of experience that he has passed onto son Craig who has also gone into bulb growing.



In 2021 Craig purchased a property at Devon Hills which he opens to the public for a couple of weekends a year so you can view their bulbs insitu. They are hoping to open for a weekend in August and

September this year. Keep your eye out on our Facebook page.



We all learnt some helpful growing tips the most popular of which is to soak your bulbs overnight in seasol before planting and this results in larger bulbs and larger flowers.



Bill and Craig brought along a heap of bulbs to sell on the night at a discounted rate which was certainly appreciated and taken advantage

of. Thank you Bill and Craig for a great night.

For discounts on their website put in code lsthortsave 10%.

Marilyn Donald











### JUNE GUEST SPEAKERS

**Rees Campbell and Col Meyers** 

What a treat it was to have authoress Rees Campbell to speak on edible Tasmanian plants. Author of "Eat Wild Tasmania" she covers what native plants you can eat and which parts thereof.

There are over 130 edible native Tasmanian plants none of which have been bred commercially.

Some plants she pointed out were Banksia, wattle, sap of cider gum, seaweed, hakea, to name just some of the more recognised



Rees & Col Meyers



Ozothamnus abcordatus – waterworks 2

plants.

Rees and Col come from Wynyard where they have a garden filled with Tasmanian native flora they use in their cooking.

After the talk we were given the opportunity to sample some jams, jellies, chutney, cakes and biscuits. Yum!

Garden tours are available through bookings with a minimum of 4 people and a maximum of 15.



Tetragonia

Rees and Col strongly disagree with foraging as many of

these plants are rare and endangered so they recommend you purchase plants at specialist nurseries.

Plants of Tasmania at Ridgeway Habitat at Liffey Ordinary nurseries at Oldina Frog Hollow at Nubeena

Rees Campbell, is Tasmanian by birth and attitude - and passionate about all this island offers. She is the author of 5 books, including "Eat Wild Tasmanian" the first book to explore the edible native plants here. Rees and her husband Col, have a wild food garden in Wynyard



Billardiera Longiflora

where they showcase over 120 of these edible natives.

Did you know there are over 150 edible Tasmanian native plants, with the top dozen or so plants so simple to grow, you will want them in your garden immediately. Consider the past and inform your future. We will show you which plants are suited to this local region, and the how, what and when you harvest and cook with them.

### **Rees Campbell**

Murnong Wild Food Garden, 19 George St. Wynyard, Tasmania 7325

Mob: 0409 006 170

www.FeistyTasmanian.com
Facebook: Feisty Tasmanian

Marilyn Donald

# Rees Campbell – Guest Speaker at the LHS General Meeting, 15 June 2022

Rees Campbell, author of two books on eating wild in Tasmania, along with her husband, Colin Meyers, presented a very tasty talk about edible Tasmanian plants, using slides, passing around jars of Tasmanian herbs such as Tasmanian rosemary, mint, thyme, pepper, parsley and wattle seeds for us to smell and providing tastings of her Tasmanian seed crackers, Tasmanian jams and chutneys and saltbush chips, plus a very unusual but tasty cake.

She encouraged us to grow the Tasmanian varieties of herbs in our own gardens, the native pepper bush and Warrigal greens (*Tetragonia tetragonoides*).

Pigface (Carpobrotus rossii) was another interesting plant she mentioned, being a wonderfully tasty fruit, prolific, easily picked and delicious.

Another under-utilised plant species is seaweed. All are edible but some may not be as palatable as others.

It seems a bus trip, incorporating their garden and a morning tea or lunch of Tasmanian edible foods might be an idea for later in the year as this was a most interesting presentation.

Rees' new book is due out very soon - "Eat More Wild Tasmanian".

Sarah Katarzynski

## JULY GUEST SPEAKER Dr Peter McQuillan

Dr Peter McQuillan from Hobart specialises in the study of entomology, eg, pollination, invasive species and insects.

Dr McQuillan brought along an extensive collection of photos depicting bees, moths birds etc that help pollinate plants. Interestingly barely anything is known of the pollination of Tasmanian plants.

Did you know that in the Northern Hemisphere the trees are mostly wind pollinated and in the Southern Hemisphere they are bird pollinated?



Flies are the most important species in Australia for pollination and they are attracted to yellow and white flowers.

Australia has about 2000 species of bees and of those some 120 are Tasmanian. Also 2000 species of moth help to keep our plants pollinated.

Look at all that new information we have all picked up from a very in depth and interesting lecture.

Marilyn Donald

### **SPONSORSHIP**

The Launceston Horticultural Society gratefully acknowledges the continued support of the following major donors.

Dr Patricia Kefford, Dentist

Plants Plus, Legana

Mark Hay, Allan's Garden Centre Prospect

Pat Wellington

Petrarch's Bookshop

Glebe Gardens Launceston

Waratah Agencies Launceston

### **BULBS & ALPINE GROUP**

After an extended absence, the Bulb and Alpine Group has started again.

Meetings are held four times a year at my house at -

42 Pyenna Avenue, Kings Meadows (off Punchbowl Rd. near Horselands) - 6343 1308

The next meeting will be on Saturday 10 September at 2:00pm. A small contribution to afternoon tea is welcome.

Please bring along a sample of anything from your garden that you would like to share with others.

Bulbs and alpine plants are our main focus but all plants and flowers of interest are enjoyed.

We are a friendly group and you can bring a

visitor, but they are required to join the Launcestion Horticultural Society if they continue to be part of this group. This is in our constitution.

I look forward to our next fun day.

Suzanne MacDonald











### **ROSE PRUNING WORKSHOP**

Susan and Warren Prewer's Property
150 Everton Lane White Hills
25 June 2022

After the first workshop being cancelled, due to inclement weather, a small group of eager rose pruners, ready to learn more, met at Susan and Warren Prewer's property at White Hills.

We were met by Susan who gave us a garden tour and some of the history of how they came to this property and all the work they had so far accomplished. The gardens include 500 roses of various varieties, many flower beds, sheep, Highland cattle, chooks, vegetable



gardens, lots of berries and a very friendly dog.

After our tour, we were ushered inside to a beautiful homemade morning tea by a welcoming fire

Susan then talked on the different varieties of roses, their history and how to prune and care for them and why we need to prune.

Susan went on to discuss year round maintenance, where and how roses like to be planted, feeding, mulching and how to combat diseases

After morning tea we ventured outside with secateurs in hand to try hands on pruning in the garden. Susan ran us through the tools she uses for the job, secateurs, saw, big loppers and tough gloves and also the care of your tools.

The group headed around the garden finding roses to prune and put what they had just learnt into practice. Susan overseeing our work, giving advice on the way. Some tackled standards, some climbers, bush and modern roses.

After the pruning we felt we had accomplished our aim, we had a cuppa and more discussions before heading off to do the same in our own gardens.





Susan's garden must be a beautiful place to be when all the roses are in bloom. We are all

looking forward to revisiting in late spring. Everyone enjoyed the day immensely and a big thank you Susan for allowing us to practice on your wonderful roses and for facilitating the workshop.

And thanks to Liz for organizing the day. Sally Lethborg.









### **LHS CACTI & SUCCULENT GROUP**

We firstly wish to thank Pam Bennell for the last few years she has chaired the group and hope she is enjoying her peace and quiet without us in her garage. We also wish to thank our President Sandra Whitely for Chairing the start of one of our meetings to elect the Chairperson – Robert Armstrong,

Secretary – Joan Thompson and Delegate – Vicki McCormack.

We discussed having an Exhibition sometime in March 2023 and the members would like us to

start getting a proposal ready to take to the committee for approval. We discussed different ideas for fundraising and just general ideas of what our members would like to see happen within the group. Members were able to take home some loan books, which they thought was great and also did some swapping of cuttings and plants.

We also managed to identify a few of the un-named plants that were brought along on the night by members, so they are very happy.



Marilyn Von Stieglitz, John Burke, Vicki McCormack, Dominque & Lisa Guy, Robert Armstrong, Kim Mitchell, Ann Griffiths & Marilyn Fraterman

We mentioned to the group that we had asked for the Cacti and Succulent categories to go back into the show schedule for September and they were very excited to know that as well and can now exhibit some of their babies.

Also for mention was a flyer that was put together for shows to hand out for approval by the members and have now added contact names and phone numbers to those and will be ready for the September flower show to hopefully bring in more members to our great group.

We have wonderful meetings and the suppers are always great, thank you to all who attend and have attributed to the meetings.

All members and visitors are very welcome to attend meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm at the East Launceston Bowls Club.

Joan Thompson

### LHS FLORAL ART GROUP

At our latest workshop, we had a demonstration by Christina Owens who has been a judge at our show, and we are fortunate that Christina is interested in tutoring us again. The design

took the form of an L shape arrangement, which was

demonstrated and then members created their own!

Over the last few months we have gained five new members, we now have a large group attending at Glenda Lakes craft room, overseen by our wonderful, full of ideas tutor and organiser Gayle Carol.

At our next meeting we will be creating flowery cakes for a surprise at our September show.

Vicki McCormack











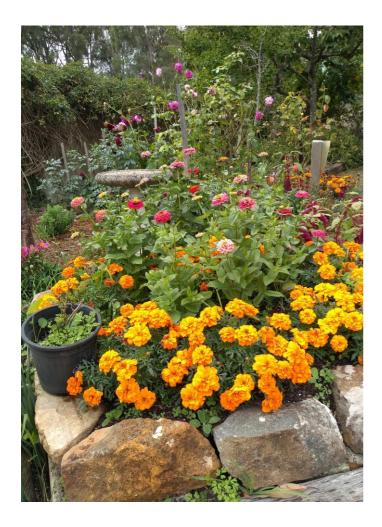


### **OPEN GARDEN REPORT**

During February and March eight people opened their gardens for our club to visit. Among them was a garden at Legana owned by Richard and Ann Bracey. A large garden with many mature trees that generate a great deal of compost so Richard has manufactured a series of bins to accommodate this which had many admiring fans.

All the gardens were very much admired and appreciated and we thank all the owners very much for the opportunity to visit.

If you think your garden is worth a visit as all gardens are, then contact a committee member and we can look at further open garden visits in the future.





### **CITY PARK VOLUNTEERS**

Five members of the society have formed a little volunteer group to work at City Park for a couple of hours on Thursday mornings. For about six months of the year, our primary interest is the dahlia beds, but come Autumn and frosts the beds are dug up and planted out with annuals. This year they have been planted with Polyanthus, Pansy and Antirrhinum which are needing our tender loving care to compete with the weeds.

All the corners where one path meets another and also around the park seating are small beds of annual flowers giving the park quite a WOW factor. These little nooks and crannies also need to be kept weed free.

The park has undergone quite a noticeable change over the last couple of years mostly due to the mulching regime. Management of the park have begun surrounding some of the large trees in the

park with a bark mulch. The idea is to stop much of the foot traffic from compacting of earth and roots around the trees. Many of the established gardens are also thickly mulched which is enhancing their appearance and keeping much of the weed at bay.

There are still some parts of the park which are requiring some extra TLC and one of our volunteers gets much satisfaction of ridding an area of onion weed while another loves attacking the ivy. Working in the park gives us all satisfaction and friendship.

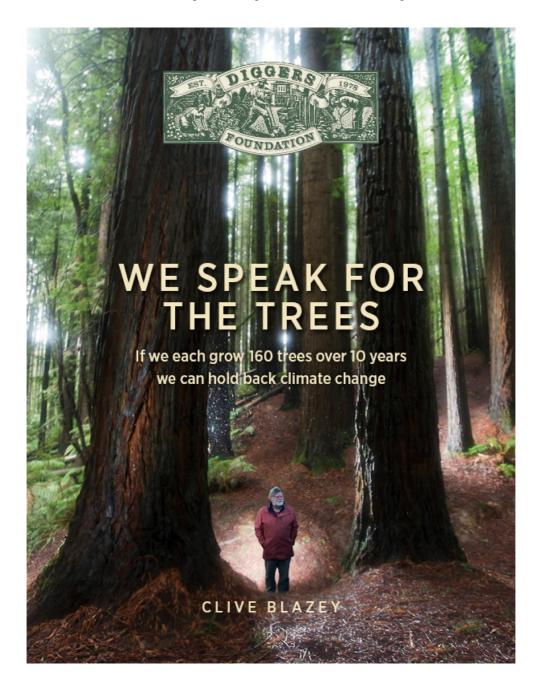
Norma Purton



### PRESENTATION BY CLIVE BLAZEY AM

co-founder of the Diggers Club
We Speak for the Trees

at Strathmore, 868 Nile Road, Evandale Tasmania 7212 on Saturday 24 Sept from 1:00-3:00pm or Sunday 25 Sept at 10:00-12:00pm



Alongside growing our own food, planting trees is the most important thing gardeners can do. Diggers has led the country in boosting biodiversity through their listing of heirloom seeds and they now present this book as their contribution to solving the climate crisis the world now faces. **We speak for the trees** is a gardener's guide to achievable solutions for this global

climate change crisis. Clive will discuss the impact all gardeners can have by selecting trees for climate suitability, shade, habitat protection and bushfire prevention.

Together we will discuss:

- Tree selection in a changing climate
- Why eucalyptus aren't always the solution
- What happens below the soil?
- How to secure Australia's environmental future
- What every gardener can do to create changes needed
- Political challenges

The Launceston Horticultural Society is able to host this presentation at the magnificent colonial property of Strathmore through the generosity of Sue and Graham Gillon. This property is close to the historic village of Evandale and was originally believed to be built in 1826 by a Samuel Bryan with convict labour, however, recent research has revealed that the property began as early as 1823. It is believed that the bricks for the house were made from the mud from the lake.

This event will include a rare opportunity to wander Strathmore's extensive gardens and Lockmaben Lake, to contemplate the majestic beauty of the old trees, and marvel at the heated brick wall that was designed to provide heat to grow fruit and produce.

#### Tickets cost:

\$16 - Launceston Horticultural Society & Diggers Club members

\$22 - Launceston Horticultural Society & Diggers Club non-members

Bookings via Humantix at:

We Speak for the Trees - a presentation by Clive Blazey AM, co-founder of the Diggers Club, Evandale, Saturday 24 Sep 2022, 1:00pm - Sunday 25 Sep 2022, 10:00 pm AEST | Humanitix

Attendees can go on to enjoy the Launceston Horticultural Society Spring Show at the Evandale Memorial Hall and make a full day of it.

Sponsored by the Launceston Horticultural Society, est 1838, the longest continuously-running horticultural society in Australia























