

A close-up photograph of a rhododendron bush. The image is filled with numerous bright red, bell-shaped flowers in various stages of bloom. The flowers have a slightly ruffled appearance and are set against a backdrop of lush, green, oval-shaped leaves. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the petals and the vibrant colors of the foliage.

RHODODENDRONS 1983/4
with Magnolias and Camellias

The Royal Horticultural Society
London

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TO THIS ONLINE EDITION

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RHODODENDRONS 1983/84

with

Magnolias and Camellias

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
VINCENT SQUARE
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CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Glenarn and the Gibson family, by Sir Ilay Campbell	1
A winter collecting trip to southern England, by A. P. Wharton	5
Rhododendrons in West Bengal and Sikkim, by E. G. Millais	12
Inverewe — a brief appraisal of our rhododendrons, by R. Fulcher	17
The natural environment for <i>Vireya</i> rhododendrons, by Dr R. M. Withers	20
An experiment in deciduous <i>Azalea</i> breeding, by W. H. Wheeler	24
Tregrehan: the restoration of an old garden, by C. Lamb	25
Japanese camellia cultivars in England, by T. J. Savige	29
The yellow camellias, by T. J. Savige	35
A home for the camellia collection, by D. Waterhouse	42
Fota Island, by A. Boscawen	47
The Rhododendron and Camellia Group visit to Ireland, by J. David	49
Obituaries:	
Sylvester Christie	58
Maxwell Eley	59
Book Reviews	60
The Rhododendron Competition	63
The Rhododendron Show	67
The R.H.S. Camellia Competition	74
The R.H.S. Camellia Show	78
Awards at London Shows 1983	81
Wisley Trials	82
Additions to the International Rhododendron Register	85

FOREWORD

The 1983/84 Year Book contains articles from many parts of the world. The index indicates an almost equal division between *Rhododendron* and *Camellia*; sadly *Magnolia* is not represented. The Hon. Editor had planned to include an article on *Magnolia* but unfortunately this did not materialise in time.

I would like to make a request — via this foreword — for informative and interesting articles on *all* three genera for inclusion in future Year Books.

Also, I am always anxious to obtain good quality colour photographs to accompany these articles. As Hon. Editor I am frequently requested to increase the number of colour plates contained within the Year Book. To a great extent the production costs influence the number of colour plates that are included each year; at the same time I am always short of photographs of good enough quality to be reproduced by modern printing techniques. If you feel unable to contribute a full length article for a future issue may I suggest perhaps a half-page informative article to accompany a colour photograph of excellent quality! It would be helpful if the negative could accompany your colour print or transparency.

I have in mind to introduce some changes and am very anxious to hear both from members and readers as to the sort of article that they would like to see included.

I want to give you what you want to read! If you have not found your favourite article in this or earlier issues may I suggest that you make the copy available to me for consideration to be included in the 1984/85 Year Book. I would remind you that the latest date for the receipt of material is 30th April, 1984.

I look forward to your replies and suggestions.

J.S.
Badger Cottage
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Glenarn and the Gibson family

SIR ILAY CAMPBELL

To west coast gardeners the name Gibson conjures up visions of the great and glorious garden at Glenarn, on the Gareloch, while to hear or read the word Glenarn immediately brings to mind the Gibson family. They seem one and indivisible, but it was not always so.

The house and policies (some 13½ acres of steeply sloping hillside) were only bought by the late James Bogle Gibson, a distinguished chartered accountant in Glasgow, in 1922, when he sold the former family home of Ardnell, near Portencross in Ayrshire. Sadly Mr Gibson did not live to enjoy his new purchase as he died in the same year, and it was his sons, Archie and Sandy, with their sister, Grizel, who moved to Glenarn.

Both young men had always been fond of plants, having been influenced at an early stage, both by an old family friend, Sir Thomas North Christie of Blackhills, and their eclectically brilliant, if somewhat eccentric, neighbour, John Holms of Formakin, who was already conceiving his stupendous dendrological venture at Larachmhor, Arisaig. Years later this debt was acknowledged when the Gibsons named their fine (and frost-resistant) hybrid rhododendron (*arboreum* × *barbatum*) after him. It received an Award of Merit in 1957.

Before the family moved, Archie and Sandy had already started gardening at Ardnell, but at Glenarn a formidable prospect awaited them. True, among the conifers and broadleaved trees planted by the original owners of the property, the McGeorge family, in the 1840s and 50s, there were a number of distinguished old rhododendron hybrids, many of which still flourish to this day, as well as the now celebrated *R. falconeri* from original Hooker seed, and a magnificent *R. thomsonii*, which together formed the subject of a note which Archie contributed to the *Rhododendron Year Book, 1950*; but the rest of the policies, apart from the lawns immediately surrounding the house, was one mass of laurel and *R. ponticum*.

Undaunted, the brothers set to work waging remorseless and continual war with the jungle, and wherever 'bridgeheads' were established, introducing carefully selected plants, shrubs and trees, each faithfully recorded in their Garden Log Book. Their success is all the more remarkable, when it is remembered that not only were both busy accountants in Glasgow, commuting daily, and therefore only gardening in the evenings and at weekends, but that, until 1930, no gardener was employed at Glenarn!

Another, and for both family and garden a much more momentous event of that year, was Archie's marriage to Elizabeth (Betty to her multitude of friends), daughter of William Graham of Crosbie Tower, Ayrshire, a close neighbour from Ardnell days. She became the Third in the triumvirate known as the 'Gibson Family'. As ardent, as knowledgeable and as pertinacious a gardener as the others, she added another important element to life at Glenarn — she was a superb cook! Henceforth visits to

that hospitable house became not only horticultural but also gastronomic experiences to be relished and cherished.

Glenarn was among the very first Scottish gardens to open its gates continuously to the public. This was in 1936, not a single year being missed until 1981. It was left to the discretion of visitors to make appropriate financial contribution; usually they were generous, but once, it is said, a bus party from some ladies' organisation arrived by prior arrangement. Having given up the afternoon to show the party round, and entertained its members to a sumptuous tea, to which they did full justice, Betty found five shillings left in the bowl discreetly used for the purpose. Inwardly boiling but outwardly calm she escorted the ladies to their bus. Just as they reached it one of them turned to their hostess and asked when they were to see the garden. It was an occasion when even Betty's good nature was stretched to its utmost!

Betty had no time for litter louts; sweetie papers and film cartons strewn about the garden she considered, rightly, to be signs of gross ill manners. Imagine her fury, therefore, when she found a family enjoying their picnic on the lawn immediately in front of the house, and rubbish being strewn about regardless. Once more bottling her feelings, she courteously asked them where they came from and was favoured by the exact address in Glasgow. She then turned to leave them, only requesting that they should remove all their litter on departure. 'Oh no', said the mater familias, 'there's no need to do that as it's a public park!' A while after they had gone, Betty gathered up the detritus, and driving into Glasgow, found the house and rang the bell. The same woman opened the door, and silently Betty upended a dustbinful in the front garden and departed!

The 50s and 60s and early 70s saw perhaps the zenith of the garden's fame. In those enlightened days, when the National Trust for Scotland (in association with RHS) held rhododendron shows in Scotland, the Gibson family were always among the prize winners, carrying off the National Trust for Scotland Rhododendron Trophy in 1957, and the Countess of Haddington Cup for most points in the show in 1960. That they did not often compete south of the border did not lessen their growing renown, for any and every garden lover visiting Scotland found their way to Glenarn, and the Gibsons happily entertained an ever growing throng of enthusiasts from all over the world.

Meanwhile, each year Archie, in his own characteristic style, sent informative 'notes' to the *Rhododendron and Camellia Year Book*, to keep his readers abreast of the news, and agog for the next thrilling instalment! Who but he could describe the seed pods of *R. fastigiatum* as 'like a mouse's whiskers', or a sickly plant by the evocative Scots adjective 'wabbit'?

The rhododendron was probably Archie's favourite genus, the soil, climate and sheltered position being particularly favourable. Like most Scottish enthusiasts he preferred the species to hybrids, and many specially selected forms were introduced to Glenarn. No one could forget the Ludlow & Sherriff *R. lindleyi* which sported no less than fourteen fragrant flowers to each truss, or less spectacular but nonetheless worthy in its field, the *R. baileyi* with extra large deep purple flowers blotched with black, which gained an Award of Merit in 1960. There is also a particularly

fine *R. macabeanum* with rich, butter-yellow trusses. Hybrids, however, were not neglected, the Gibsons themselves making a number of successful crosses, notably *R. 'Ronald'* (*hodgsonii* × *sinogrande*) A.M. 1958, and *didymum* × *chamae-thomsonii*, which, though never named, is a vigorous and spreading small shrub with dark green leathery foliage, so perfectly setting off the deep crimson bells which appear regularly and profusely in late June.

Glenarn, however, was no specialist rhododendron garden. Very far from it; Archie was an authority on narcissi, especially the older smaller-flowered varieties, which he spread throughout the garden, while he and Sandy planted everything from meconopsis to magnolia, from prunus to pulsatilla, from euonymus to euphorbia; there were rock plants, scree plants, bog plants and herbaceous perennials, all carefully given and enjoying the conditions most suited to their particular needs. In the lower garden, a vast Banksian rose sprawled luxuriantly up and among trees and shrubs, suddenly flinging forth bouquets of bright yellow high up on a towering *Eucryphia* × *nymansensis*, while candelabra primulas established themselves in multitudinous colour combinations throughout the garden, apparently oblivious to competition or to whether their seed fell upon stony or good ground! The rock garden was developed from the whinstone quarry from which the house had been built. Among the throng of other unusual subjects which the Gibsons caused to thrive, along the steep banks of their two confluent burns is the largest expanse of *Philesia magellanica*, this writer has ever seen, save at Stonefield, and more impressive in that unconfined, it spreads among rocks, to display its glowing crimson tubular flowers in all sorts of unexpected nooks and crannies, and perhaps more spectacular still, a remarkable plant of *Asteranthera ovata* galloping up a moss-covered oak bole. The Gibsons contributed to several plant hunting expeditions; Sandy himself making a fruitful one to Finland, despite the fact that the Russo-Finnish war was going on at the time. But most of their prized acquisitions came as gifts from friends and 'swaps' with other gardeners.

Their own generosity was unbounded. It was impossible to drive to Glenarn without returning with a loaded boot, while even at dinner parties, neatly newspaper wrapped seedlings would be produced to be carried away in dinner jacket pockets or evening bags. His son, Jim, recounts a story of Archie about to set off for a wedding in Ayrshire with Betty, suddenly remembering that someone who was bound to be there had asked him for Banksian rose cuttings, and dashing into the tangled and spikey mass to secure them. Some time later he emerged with the cuttings but without the wedding trousers, which had had to be abandoned among the thorns! Betty, having retrieved them and cobbled up the rents with fence wire, they departed breathless but happy in the landrover!

Betty died in May of 1975, when the rhododendrons were at their best, and Archie, whose health, though not his enthusiasm, had been failing for some time, followed her in September. He would not have wished to remain without her. This double tragedy left Sandy to labour on alone. Many would have faltered but not he, and the garden continued to develop, despite gale damage, and a succession of severe winters.

Sandy had many interests outside his garden, first and foremost his profession, in which he rose to the very top. In an appreciation written after his death, his old friend, Lord Wemyss, says of him 'he was guide, mentor and friend to captains of Industry and Commerce in Scotland and beyond, one whose judgements were eagerly sought and highly esteemed'.

As if this were not enough, he toiled tirelessly for the community, as among other things, a member of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, The Historic Buildings Council for Scotland, as a Deputy Lieutenant for Dunbartonshire, and as chairman of the West of Scotland Hospital Board. But perhaps he will be best remembered for his long association with the National Trust for Scotland. He joined the Gardens Committee in 1957, becoming Convener in 1961, until 1981, twenty years of wise and dedicated service, and this despite the onset of Parkinson's disease, against progress of which he struggled as ferociously as once he had fought the laurel at Glenarn. He died in June of 1982.

Archie and Sandy had very different personalities, the former impetuous, fun-loving, social and expansive; the latter quiet, contained, reserved and with the courtliness of an earlier generation. Yet, together, working in harmony with each other and with Betty, they created a garden which, while demonstrating their individual tastes, managed to develop a completely homogeneous entity.

Three professional gardeners were closely associated with Glenarn and their names should not go unrecorded. They were Bob Orr who was there from 1930 to 1960 except for the war years when he served in the RAF; Sam Forsyth, 1960-63; and his successor, Jack Stevenson, who retired in 1968. After that date only casual and temporary labour was employed, as and when required.

The Gibsons were ornithologists as well as gardeners, and visitors to the garden were often surprised, if not forewarned, by the sight and sound of exotic birds 'breaking cover' of stalking majestically among the plants and sunning themselves in open spaces. At one time or another they kept Sarus, Demoiselle and Nigerian crested cranes, golden and silver pheasants, peafowl, guinea fowl and various species of duck and geese; some of these had characters as pronounced as those of their owners! From 1930 to 1973 domestic fowl were also allowed to range freely throughout the garden, sometimes laying clutches of eggs in the most unlikely places.

At the moment of writing, the fate of Glenarn and its garden still hangs in the balance. It is for sale. It was hoped that a buyer had been found who knew and loved it, but circumstances forced him to withdraw his offer. It is to be sincerely hoped that a sympathetic purchaser may still appear, but the danger is that it might, in this popular residential area, fall into the hands of a developer to whom profit might take precedence over preservation, and that all that the Gibsons have laboured for over sixty years could be replaced by a 'select' housing estate.

Be that as it may, the Gibson story is not over. Archie and Betty's son, Jim, has been Resident Representative for the National Trust for Scotland at Inverewe since 1973, where he, assisted by his wife, Annette, makes excellent use of those qualities of enthusiasm, energy, originality and discrimination that have been for so long the hallmarks of the Gibson Family of Glenarn.

Editor's note:

I am reliably informed that the sentiments expressed in the penultimate paragraph have now been resolved. A new owner has been found for Glenarn: let us hope that the garden will soon resume its former reputation and glory — I am sure that much hard work and gardening will be required to combat the luxuriant weed population that is flourishing. The hybrid *R. didymum* × *chamae-thomsonii* mentioned earlier has now been registered as *R. 'Glenarn'* in memory of this famous garden and its enthusiastic owners.

A winter collecting trip to southern England

A. PETER WHARTON*

A continuing objective of any Botanic Garden should be to improve and diversify plant collections that have or are being developed for specific institutional goals. As curator of the Asian Garden at the University of British Columbia, I have been responsible for the development of the largest rhododendron species collection in Canada and also, during the last two years, for beginning a major Asian magnolia species collection. Notable collections of these two genera exist in the Pacific Northwest, notably at the American Rhododendron Species Foundation (A.R.S.F.) near Tacoma in Washington State, the Arboretum of the University of Washington in Seattle, and the Van Dusen Botanical Display Garden in Vancouver, British Columbia. The A.R.S.F. continues to do sterling work acquiring and, even more importantly, propagating, with a high degree of success, many of the rare and/or difficult rhododendron species. Three years ago I visited a number of the major gardens in southwest England, viewing outstanding forms of Asian magnolia species. I intended to return to collect scions later for our institution when our propagation facilities at the garden could accept large quantities of material. Individual magnolias of particular merit that I saw on my travels, plus many that Neil Treseder mentioned in his book *Magnolias*, formed the basis of my Magnolia Want List. I had, of course, noted many collectable rhododendron species in Devon and Cornwall, though on this present trip I expanded the range of gardens visited to include Werrington Park (Devon), Minterne Abbey (Dorset), Exbury, Borde Hill, and Nymans. I concentrated my collecting activities on the large leaved species, particularly the *Falconera* and *Grandia* subsections, as our species collection is located in an ideal forest garden setting.

Despite the atrocious weather of January 1982 in many parts of southern England and Wales, I managed to avoid its most extreme effects by being, it seemed, in the right place at the right time. My trip started at Worcester, where I hired a car and then drove westwards through rural Herefordshire,

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still in the icy grip of an unprecedented cold spell with snow drifts obliterating the landscape. In spite of the severe road conditions, I was able to make my way in gathering gloom to Hergest Croft, near Kington, in the Welsh Marches. The owners, Dick and Lawrence Banks, warmly welcomed me and I was wined and dined before spending a comfortable night, during which warm south-west winds devoured the thick drifted snow. By morning I was able to see some of the finest scenery in the world, now unencumbered by snow. Their main rhododendron collection lies about a mile from the house in a sheltered wooded valley dominated by pedunculate oak. I was told that this garden is fortunate to be in a favourable microclimate that seems to avoid the more severe frosts of surrounding districts. This was graphically demonstrated by the fact that temperatures only nineteen miles away were as low as -28°C compared with -10°C recorded at Hergest Croft. There was some inevitable snow break, but otherwise I saw very little damage to mar the healthy appearance of this collection.

Lawrence Banks and John Mattock (of rose fame) were my companions as we hunted through the sodden undergrowth looking for plants on my Want List. Two borderline hardy rhododendrons collected, rare in North America and now 'lumped' under *Rhododendron anthosphaerum*, were *R. eritimum* ssp. *heptamerum* F.17827 and *R. eritimum* ssp. *gymnogynum* F.18168. Both these plants have narrow oblanceolate leaves and represent collections made in the northern part of their range in Yunnan. A very fine deep red flowered form of *R. smithii* that was collected is held in great esteem by Mr. Robert Clarke at Borde Hill. I have never been overly impressed by *R. ambiguum* as a foliage plant but all that changed after seeing at first hand *R. ambiguum* 'Jane Banks' A.M., made notable by its relatively large ovate leaves with good dark green upper surfaces. I also obtained scions of two species that are rather uncommon in the Pacific Northwest and that have interesting collectors numbers — *R. pocophorum* F.21713, with a very attractive thick brown woolly indumentum, and *R. floccigerum* F.25831. Both were growing in exposed situations and, as a consequence, had formed sprawling open bushes. After spending a most hospitable and profitable time at Hergest Croft, I drove south through the beautiful rolling Welsh Marches and thence over the imposing Severn Bridge to north Devon. The following day, under cloudy skies, I drove on to Werrington Park just over a mile north of Launceston, on the Devon/Cornwall border. The owner, Mr Robert Williams, very kindly gave me permission, at very short notice, to visit their celebrated Chinese Garden, which covers about two acres in a wood half a mile from the main house. This extensive rhododendron species collection, that I had heard so much about from friends in the British horticultural world, was one of the highlights of my trip. I was given the freedom to explore systematically a mature collection that had recently been cleared of extensive entangling undergrowth, which was much to my advantage. I could have spent several more days rhodo hunting in this little visited collection, with an extraordinary number of plants with Forrest numbers. I was glad to see the noted *R. lacteum* F.C.C. growing vigorously and now thirteen feet tall — it appears to be thriving in a climate somewhat cooler than the south coastal Cornish gardens. I concentrated my collecting activities on the large-leaved

rhododendrons, of which *R. rex* ssp. *arizelum* was represented by numerous Forrest collections, including F.15898, F.21861, F.21863 and F.18028. Many showed considerable variation in leaf size, shape and indumentum. Some, in fact, were very close to *R. falconeri* ssp. *eximium*. Two specimens, unfortunately without collector's numbers, deserve particular mention as both had the thickest and deepest rusty-cinnamon indumentum that I have ever observed; certainly a richer colour than *R. rex* ssp. *arizelum* 'Brodrick' A.M. In addition, the leaves seemed to be considerably larger in all parts than surrounding specimens, perhaps approaching *R. rex* ssp. *rex*. Another individual with a rusty red, almost pink tinged, indumentum and vegetative buds stained red could well have belonged to the Rubicosum Group.

I spent much of the day searching for labels, many of which were located at the base of large specimens beneath several inches of leaf litter. Credit should be given to the owners for the recent clearing of the underbrush and the generally healthy state of the rhododendron collection. I also had the very good fortune to see a list of numbered rhododendron species within the Chinese Garden that was made by Mr Julian Williams in the early 1970s. Some of the outstandingly rare plants noted in the garden at that time included *R. albertsenianum* F.14195, *R. eudoxum* F.21744, *R. shweliense* F.24154 and *R. mimetes* F.20419, a rare member of the Taliensia subsection. I feel that, with the owner's permission, of course, a concerted effort should be made to propagate these rare and beautiful plants.

A spring visit to Werrington in a good flowering year must be a memorable experience. I think that Alan Mitchell should measure the large *Liriodendron chinense* here as it must rival the large specimen at Borde Hill, Sussex.

As I motored south to Falmouth, south Wales and Devon were struck by heavy snowfalls. I was lucky several times, as the weather never prevented any of my collecting activities during my stay in southwest England. It has always concerned me that many of the large Asian arborescent magnolias have not in the past, and are not now, being propagated in sufficient numbers to ensure their survival, so we at UBC have taken direct action to conserve these noble plants. In all my collecting activities around Falmouth I was helped immensely by Neil Treseder, both in person and by his book.

My first magnolia collection of many was made at Rosillian, Flushing, which faces Falmouth across the mouth of the Penryn River. I collected here a fine pink form of *Magnolia campbellii* that was growing at one side of an exposed stone terrace. In spite of the considerable exposure, which has visibly stunted its vegetative growth, the large number of flower buds boded well for a spectacular spring display. At Burncoose Lodge near Gwennap, Mr Arnold Dance, the head gardener, showed me a very fine form of *M. campbellii* ssp. *mollicomata* with apparently deep purple tepals. I also collected scions from a dark pink form of *M. sargentiana* var. *robusta* that was completely festooned with moss and lichens. The extensive growth of lichens on the branches, both large and small, and the profusion of vertical water shoots clustered along major lateral branches seem to be typical features of magnolias in Cornish gardens.

Several owners were of the opinion that water shoots should be removed on a regular basis for aesthetic reasons, although, on reflection, I feel that a proportion should be retained when openings in the canopy allow their full development in order to renew the tree's crown.

My next port of call took me to Bosahan on the Lizard Peninsula, the home of Mr and Mrs H. R. Graham-Vivian, who very kindly let me collect magnolia scions, including a fine deep pink flowered form of *M. campbellii* that was growing in an extremely exposed situation very close to the house. This specimen, and the majority of *M. campbellii* seen in Cornwall, displayed a conspicuously stout lower trunk. A little way from the house there is a sheltered southwest-facing valley that is full of interesting plants, including magnolias and numerous tree ferns, notably *Dicksonia antarctica*. Scions were taken from an old pale pink form of *M. campbellii* growing close to an old garden wall, and from a seedling of *M. campbellii* ssp. *mollicomata* 'Lanarth' (Lanarth Group *sensu stricta*). Seed taken from the parent plant is reputed to come true.

One magnolia that our propagator had requested me to seek out was a fine form of *M. sprengeri* var. *diva*, named 'Copeland Court', that grows in the grounds of Truro Cathedral School. Neil Treseder, in his book *Magnolias*, describes how this individual was saved by the foresight of the headmaster of the day. I was pleased to see the specimen in healthy condition despite being moved as a semi-mature tree. As I was taking scions the first snowflakes of the worst weather that I met during my whole trip began to fall. With some trepidation I drove on to Trewithen near Probus. Here I spent a very profitable afternoon with Mr Michael Taylor, the head gardener, collecting many of the outstanding magnolia species that I had seen in flower three years ago. Scion collections were made of *M. sargentiana* var. *robusta* 'Alba', *M. campbellii* ssp. *mollicomata* 'Lanarth', a grafted plant from the original Lanarth specimen, *M. delavayi* and a fine form of *M. campbellii* ssp. *mollicomata* that partially overhangs the main lawn leading up to the house. The fine old plant of *R. macabeanum* 'Trewithen Form', which looked to be on its last legs the last time that I saw it, now seems to have recovered after much tender loving care. I also collected scions and seed of the celebrated and much sought after *R. sinogrande* F.C.C. which was growing nearby. During the last four years over 100 trees have been blown down at Trewithen by several violent gales. This has had the effect of opening up the garden and providing many new planting sites.

I then drove from Falmouth to Penzance in almost balmy weather, in sharp contrast to the rest of southern Britain. A photograph of *M. campbellii* 'Landicla' shown in Neil Treseder's *Magnolias* has always impressed me. He describes the opened flowers as having a "formal cup-and-saucer shape, are particularly large and have very broad, spoon-shaped, heavy textured tepals of a rich pink, fading to pale pink and white on the upper or inner surfaces." Dr and Mrs Turney, who own the Old Vicarage at Gulval where this tree used to stand, kindly received me although the land on which the magnolia grows was sold two years ago for housing development. The tree seems perfectly healthy in spite of considerable changes in grade and root damage as a result of trenching. I would urge that this plant be propagated as the present owners appear

none too interested in its welfare. With a heavy weight of scions, I drove on to Trengwainton where I was met by Mr Peter Horder, the head gardener. Gales had again wreaked havoc near the house, where a very fine deep pink form of *M. sargentiana* var. *robusta* is now fully exposed to westerly gales after its protective beech screen was partially flattened two years ago. It is certainly the finest flowering specimen that I have seen in Britain, with the lower branches sweeping to the ground. Pale pink forms of this species are more typical in the Vancouver area, although a deep pink form growing at Strybing Arboretum in San Francisco is held in great esteem by North American magnoliophiles. Could this be the same clone as the Trengwainton specimen? Scions of a fine specimen of *M. campbellii* ssp. *mollicomata* were also collected in the walled garden area. Rhododendron species taken included the magnificent *R. macabeaeanum* F.C.C., *R. johnstoneanum* 'Double Diamond', *R. lanigerum* A.M. and *R. eclepteum* var. *bellatulum*, a vigorous upright specimen with glorious pinky brown bark.

In spite of deteriorating conditions, I was able to drive eastwards through Falmouth to Caerhays Castle, the finest tree magnolia collection in Britain. Mr Julian Williams, always a busy man with his many responsibilities, very kindly showed me around his extensive grounds on a raw grey morning with a persistent, withering, cold, east wind. I was particularly interested in collecting his fine *M. campbellii* f. *alba* F.C.C., which I had seen in flower three years ago. This was an unforgettable sight, the large goblet-shaped flowers silhouetted against an azure sky. A magnolia that is present at Caerhays and that has aroused great interest in the U.S.A., particularly with hybridizers, is *M. (heptapeta)* 'Forrest's Pink'. Neil Treseder describes the tree at Caerhays as assuming a more arborescent habit than more usual forms in cultivation. This particular tree has a definite trunk, silvery-grey in colour and branchless up to eight and a half feet. The flowers, quoting from Neil Treseder, "have nine to eleven tepals which are flushed rose at the base and up the midrib, giving an overall pink effect when viewed from below." In terms of size, it resembles *M. heptapeta* Japanese Clone, although the lax branching habit is more reminiscent of *M. salicifolia*.

The sun shone as I travelled through the beautiful Cornish countryside, streaked with snowdrifts, to Lamellen on the northern edge of Bodmin Moor. There I was met affably by Major E. W. M. Magor, who guided me around his garden, pointing out several outstanding rhododendrons, including a fine rare white form of *R. erubescens* that is admired by several British rhododendron species experts. In a forested glen I was shown a seedling of *R. montroseanum* 'Benmore' F.C.C. which is thought by several authorities in Britain to be superior to its parent. I was much intrigued to observe the pink form of the well known *R. lutescens*. Apparently, individual flowering branches do revert to the usual yellow — this would indicate that it is a sport rather than of hybrid origin. Other notable rhododendrons collected included *R. fortunei* 'Mrs Butler' W.887B, *R. houlstonii* W.1181, *R. thomsonii* 'Penheale Form' (a very fine dark red form) and *R. calophytum* W.1523 white form. We then drove over the hill to Tremeer, the garden made by Major General E. G. W. W. Harrison. I was glad to collect *R. cuneatum* F.21375 and the unusual *R. parmulatum* 'Ocelot', noted for its subtle yellow-green flowers with a darker central

band and the upper throat spotted heavily with grey-purple blotches. The lovely *R. tsariense* 'Yum-Yum' A.M. originating from this garden, is now well established in several gardens in the Pacific Northwest.

Despite the cold nights, collecting scion material during the day presented few problems as air temperatures during my whole trip remained just above freezing. I managed to acquire an American-style cooler that kept my collection at an equable temperature for the duration of my month long stay in Britain. During packing, all surface moisture was carefully removed from the scions. This was especially important with the large leaf rhododendrons with thick indumentum, as their large surface area and ability to absorb moisture made them difficult to dry. The dried specimens were then placed in self-sealing airtight plastic bags. I was delighted to find that my collected material was in top rate condition when it arrived back in Canada one month later.

I resumed my eastward journey, through a blinding white Devon landscape bathed in sunshine, to Dorset where a thaw was just starting. Nevertheless, I had some anxious moments on high ground just west of Bridport where 8 foot drifts produced some of the worst driving conditions of the trip.

Next day, I drove from Dorchester to Minterne Abbey near Cerne Abbas on the well wooded southern slopes of the North Dorset Downs. My time was very short so I was able to make a few notes on the fine collection built up by the late Colonel The Lord Digby from the 1920s to 1950s. I noticed the very fine plant of *R. fictolacteam* 'Cherry Tip' A.M. R.11395 now overhanging the lower path in the glen. Unfortunately, I was unable to locate *R. floccigerum* var. *appropinquans* A.M., although a plant with equally fine buff indumentum, *R. coelicum* A.M. F.21830, was located. A rather handsome large-leaved form of *R. basilicum* caught my eye under R.25393. In the past, several A.M.s have been given to plants in this garden, such as *R. praeevernum*, *R. ciliatum*, *R. hormophorum* and *R. litiense*. From my own observations, albeit in winter, other individuals should be candidates for propagation, in addition to those mentioned above.

I then sped on to Sussex, as time was running out at a disturbing pace, to visit two outstanding rhododendron gardens, namely Borde Hill and Nymans. It was a great pleasure to meet Mr Robert Clarke again in somewhat happier times, as the last time I saw Borde Hill was in the devastating drought of 1976, when the English countryside resembled central Spain rather than "a green and pleasant land". Mr Clarke took me around his encyclopaedic species collection and the size of his generosity in terms of cuttings matched his all-encompassing knowledge of the plants. I spent a stimulating day trying to absorb his many valuable comments plus filling several large bags full of cuttings — a hard task indeed. I collected a total of 21 taxa, many of considerable rarity and quality. One of the highlights was a very interesting member of the *Glischra* subsection, *R. habrotrichum* F.26629 with reddish purple bristles covering the leaf petioles and branchlets — a top rate foliage plant that is not well known in the Pacific Northwest. Cuttings taken of rhododendrons with A.M. or F.C.C. status included: *R. smithii* 'Fleurie' A.M., *R. vellereum* 'Lost Horizon' A.M. (K.W. 5656), *R. phaeochrysum* 'Greenmantle' A.M.

(R.11325), *R. prattii* 'Perry Wood' A.M. and *R. eclesteum* 'Kingdom Come' A.M. (K.W. 6869).

Another garden that I had visited in the summer of 1976 was Nymans near Handcross. This time, I was able to get permission at very short notice to walk around the garden even though it was officially closed to the public.

Two outstanding large-leaf rhododendrons near the summer house overlooking the main meadow really impressed me, namely *R. praestans* K.W.13653 and close by a rather curious *R. magnificum* of probable hybrid origin. Peter Cox describes this plant as having a noticeable fawn indumentum on long narrow leaves, rugose above, while the type plant has a thin fawn cobweb-like indumentum. It had a label marked K.W. 13681 which the *Rhododendron Handbook* (1980) shows as *R. sinogrande*, which certainly does not fit this description. Major Magor has informed me that Edinburgh now regards the herbarium material of this number as a hybrid of *R. falconeri*, which is in line with Peter Cox's description.

Other interesting rhododendrons noted include *R. pocophorum* 'Cecil Nice' A.M. (K.W.8289), a lovely form with deep red tubular flowers with darker markings in the throat, *R. fulvum* Hu.20750, *R. exasperatum* K.W.8250 and a fine *R. smithii*.

My last port of call was Exbury, where Mr Douglas Harris, the managing director, has overseen the gradual rehabilitation and redevelopment of this world-famous garden — a Herculean task indeed. Although perhaps better known for their hybrids, several species have received A.M. and F.C.C.'s in the past. The original plant of *R. bureavii* A.M. (given for foliage) was without doubt one of the finest plants that I saw on my whole trip. The rusty-red indumentum with a suspicion of pink gives this plant all year round interest. I have always been intrigued with the range of flower colour forms in species like *R. cyanocarpum* and *R. eclesteum*. Here there is a fine yellow form of the latter species which received an A.M. in 1949. Another outstanding foliage plant that I saw for the first time was *R. yakushmanum* 'Baron Lionel' with shiny, glabrous dark green upper leaf surfaces and the usual buff indumentum below. This is the darkest green of any rhododendron species that I have seen. It is a cross between two forms of the species, and it is a most desirable clone. Other species collected included *R. sperabile* Farrer 888, *R. cerasinum* 'Beer Sheba' K.W.6923, *R. morii* A.M., *R. rigidum* 'Louvecienne' and *R. caloxanthum* A.M. (Farrer 937).

A colleague of mine at the Botanical Garden, Mr Bruce Macdonald, was also on this collecting trip and visited Windsor Great Park to collect a marvellous variety of requested items as scions or cuttings. The following are just a sample of the many items given to us by the Crown Estate Commissioners through Mr John Bond. The magnolias included: *M. sprengeri* var. *diva* 'Wakehurst' and *M. sprengeri* var. *diva* 'Claret Cup', while the rhododendrons included: *R. wasonii* var. *rhododactylum* W.1876 and the famous *R. wardii* 'Meadow Pond' LS & E 15764 with flowers of a primrose yellow plus a deep basal blotch.

Six months after my collecting trip it is heartening to see so many of our collections successfully grafted and growing on vigorously. Only four of the 24 magnolia clones collected have defeated our propagator, Charles

Tube-planting — the rest have been grafted successfully. Of 56 rhododendron taxa grafted, 28 have been successful. In addition, 26 of 56 taxa stuck as cuttings have already rooted and been potted on. Representative material of all our rhododendron collections were sent to the A.R.S.F. as an insurance measure and to expand their collections.

Another major collecting trip of this type is being planned for the mid-1980s during August or September. We hope to concentrate our collecting activities in Scotland and northern England.

I think it appropriate for me to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all those owners and head gardeners of the gardens that I visited for allowing me to collect cuttings of plants, which in many cases are very rare and dear to them. This generosity of spirit is the only possible way we can hope to preserve the finer forms of rhododendrons and magnolias that Forrest, Kingdon-Ward, and others did so much, through the sweat of their brow, to introduce into western gardens.

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Rhododendrons in West Bengal and Sikkim

E. G. MILLAIS

In April 1982 my wife and I achieved a lifelong ambition, to visit Sikkim and see Himalayan rhododendrons at flowering time. We arrived in the middle of the month, having flown from Delhi to Bagdogra Airport, and were met by Mrs Daku Tenzing, who was to be our guide on the first of our two treks. The taxi journey from Bagdogra to Darjeeling, a distance of about 70 miles, involves a climb to 7,000ft, through heavily forested mountain side, with occasional breath-taking views out over the Indian plains, and the huge rivers running out of the Himalayas were plainly visible to the horizon, where they would in time join the Ganges.

We spent two very comfortable nights at the Oberoi Hotel. Tenzing kindly showed us round Darjeeling, and we visited his Himalayan Mountain Institute, and Tibetan refugee centre, in which he takes a great interest. He is also very keen on rhododendrons, as we had found when he visited our nursery in England, and he has large plants of *R. grande*, *R. arboreum* and *R. dalhousiae* growing in his garden.

The following day after breakfast, we collected outside the Tenzing's house, our luggage, camping equipment, and food for ten days were loaded onto a jeep by our two sherpas, Passan and Nawa, and we set off.

Our objective for this first trek was the Singalila Ridge, which starts just west of Darjeeling, and runs due north to Kangchenjunga, forming the boundary between west Bengal and Nepal, and further north between Sikkim and Nepal. It varies in height between 10,000ft at Tonglo at the southern end and 12,000ft at Phalut near the west Bengal/Sikkim border. We had a delightful drive to Manebanjang, the start of the trek, constantly seeing exotic looking trees and shrubs — magnolias (actually *Michelia excelsa*) up to 70ft in height, and occasional glimpses of rhododendrons which were probably *R. griffithianum*, pale pink or white, and yellow and cream *R. dalhousiae*. Here we picked up our four porters, who were to carry all our baggage and camping equipment and set off for only two or three hours walking, on this first day, to camp at Bara Hata beside the school playground. The school was a long wooden hut, with 'Bara Hata Primary School' written on it in pencil! The children there, as we found everywhere in west Bengal and Sikkim, were very happy, not at all intrusive, and all appeared well fed.

Just short of the camp we had noticed a yellow rhododendron growing on a rock by a small stream, so after tea we walked back and climbed down to photograph it. It turned out to be *R. dalhousiae* and it was the first time we had seen a rhododendron growing epiphytically on moss. No soil was involved although the moss was probably about 4 or 5 inches thick.

The following day we started climbing in earnest, but with several steep valleys to cross before attaining the Singalila ridge. There was magnificent scenery, although one was walking through cultivated areas of barley, potatoes and peas, bamboos of various types, some very blue stemmed, and each village had a patch of a giant form, to 40ft high with 5 inch diameter stems, used for building purposes. *Acer campbellii* was a common tree here, its purple red young leaves being very conspicuous. Older trees were about 70/80ft high. Other plants were *Mahonia nepalensis* and *Piptanthus laburnifolius*, as well as *Spiraea* and occasional true magnolias, which had almost finished flowering.

We spent our second night at Rimbik, in a forest bungalow, near where Hooker found *R. dalhousiae* in 1848, walking on next day through mixed forest to Ramam, at 8,000ft. Rhododendrons began to appear in vast quantities: *R. grande* was almost over but there were magnificent plants of *R. griffithianum* in full flower, one of which was bright pink, deeper than any Loderi I have seen, and we were able to collect seed from it which I am glad to say has germinated satisfactorily this spring. For those who can grow it, plants from this collection should be well worth trying in due course.

We were now following a narrow ridge at right angles to the main range, and apart from a few inches of leafy humus it was almost solid clay, but on it numerous *R. arboreum*, *R. griffithianum* and higher up *R. falconeri*, *R. hodgsonii* and *R. barbatum* flourished. I suspect the clay soil was acceptable because of the acute drainage, as on the ridge most of the plants were growing on slopes of about 30°. At about 9,000ft we came upon huge stands of hemlock spruce (*Tsuga dumosa*) some of which appeared to be well over the 120ft to which it is supposed to grow. Entangled in the lower branches of these were deep red silver leaved *R. arboreum* up to about 60ft. A fantastic sight.

We finally reached the main ridge on which were large stands of *Abies densa* with *R. barbatum* and light red *R. arboreum cinnamomeum* just coming into flower. These latter plants were very even in colour, and appeared not to hybridise with what used to be called *R. arboreum campbellii* (pale pink and white) with rather rugose leaves which we had seen at 8,000/9,000ft even though their locations overlapped. Under the new nomenclature both these plants are regarded as *R. arboreum cinnamomeum*.

On the way up we had seen many interesting shrubs. *Acer sikkimensis* with beautiful vinous new growth, *Pteris formosa forrestii*, one with new growths exactly like the clone 'Charles Michael', and pale pink forms of *Daphne bhoulua*, but on reaching the crest the colour of this plant deepened, and there were some really deep pink forms. Seed from these would be well worth collecting if anyone visits this area in the autumn, and as they were growing on the ridge at about 11,000ft. they should be reasonably hardy. Having since seen illustrations of this plant in Stainton's *Forests of Nepal*, I think these were probably *Daphne bhoulua* var. *glacialis*.

We now turned north up the track on the main ridge, which at this point forms part of the trading route between west Bengal and Nepal. We passed several groups taking chickens and goats to market in Darjeeling, or returning to Ilam in Nepal. Our sherpas bargained for chickens which then travelled with us for two or three days on Nawa's arm. They were hobbled and allowed to peck around whenever we stopped.

We arrived at Phalut fairly late in the day, having walked 14 miles, and climbed 4,000ft, our longest day so far, and we were quite tired. There were no trees on the summit, but just lower down were groups of *R. campanulatum* and *R. barbatum* not yet in flower, and carpets of *Gaultheria pyrolloides*, which would by the autumn be covered with blue berries.

Phalut is a rather desolate frontier post, normally staffed by a forest officer, a soldier and a policeman, and as it was going to be a stormy night, Daku arranged for us to spend it in their post. We all crowded in, my wife and I sharing a bunk opposite the forest officer and the policeman, while Daku, the sherpas and porters were on the floor — also present were two dogs, a chicken and a pigeon! The soldier was missing. A few days before our arrival some yaks had been attacked by Himalayan bears, and two killed, and the soldier had set out after them, but unfortunately he was jumped by a bear while his rifle was still on his back. After a considerable fight he eventually killed the animal with his kukri, but was extremely badly mauled and was now in hospital.

On the following morning the sky was almost clear of clouds and the view was superb. Eighty miles to the west was the Everest group, due north of us Kangchenjunga, and east across the 50 mile width of Sikkim, and the southern promontory of Tibet, was Chomolhari, in Bhutan, about 90 miles distant. During the morning we botanised round Phalut. *Primula denticulata* was everywhere, and *P. gracilipes* was growing in quite large patches, particularly under *R. campanulatum*, a very neat plant in various shades of pink. On one very draughty ridge there was an entanglement of *R. lepidotum* and *R. cinnabarinum* under 18 inches high. We brought back small plants of the dwarf *R. cinnabarinum* and it will be interesting

to see if they remain low growing in cultivation. The new foliage made last summer was intensely blue.

After lunch we started our return journey along the ridge back to Darjeeling, by way of Sandakphu and Tonglo, where Hooker first came across *R. falconeri*. On the way we made a small diversion into Nepal, visiting the villages of Kalepokhari, Gairibus and Jogbari, and in so doing found an unusual primula, similar to *P. cunninghamii*, but having now flowered in the north of England, it is considered to be a new species.

The red *R. arboreum cinnamomeum* was everywhere, covering whole hillsides and making a wonderful show. Two forms of *R. lepidotum* were much in evidence, not of course in flower, and always preferring the west or southerly aspect. Daku thought most were pink forms, and we collected about thirty small plants from the two treks, collected in different areas in the hope of obtaining various colour forms. Some were definitely var. *eleagnoides*, with more orbicular leaves, and one has produced yellow flowers since our return home.

The rhododendrons round Tonglo were somewhat disappointing as *R. falconeri* was only just coming out, and in this area has very poor indumentum. The *R. hodgsonii* were at a similar stage, and had really appalling colours, and could not be compared with those seen later in Sikkim.

For our second trek we motored by jeep to Gangtok, capital of Sikkim, at first through beautifully kept tea estates, then dropping down to cross the Teesta, Sikkim's main river. From there the road is flanked by sub tropical vegetation, bougainvillea of all colours, including orange, with daturas, hibiscus, bananas and oranges.

In Gangtok we met, by arrangement, Mr Pradhan, Minister for Forestry, and Tourism, who kindly showed us much of the town, and advised us of the best route for our trek, for which Daku was replaced as our guide by her adopted Tibetan son, Thupten. We started walking from Yoksum, a day's drive by jeep from Gangtok over spectacular roads, and a long morning's walk brought us to Bakkim Rest House at 9,000ft a climb of 4,500ft having travelled beside the Rathong Chu through dense forest of various species of *Acer*, *Sorbus*, *Quercus*, and a few silver leaved *R. arboreum*. Smaller plants included many different ferns, *Cardiocrinum giganteum*, *Begonia* sp., and *Mahonia nepalensis*.

Bakkim Rest House is backed by large stands of *R. grande*, the ground below was thick with fallen corollas when we saw them. The trees averaged 20ft, and supported a thick growth of moss, on which was *Vaccinium nummularia*. Above the *R. grande* was a mixture of *R. falconeri* and red flowered, silver leaved *R. arboreum*, the *falconeri* belt being very narrow, not more than 500ft vertically, but they had good rusty red indumentum here, far superior to those seen on our earlier trek. Above the Tibetan refugee village of Tsoka we immediately entered the *R. hodgsonii* belt, which extends upwards at least 1,500ft. Above Tsoka the track divides and we continued up the Rathong, later to return, after seven days, down the Prek Chu, having crossed the Dzongri La, 14,000ft, the crest dividing the two valleys.

The *Rhododendron hodgsonii* was at its best, fantastically good, with clear pinks, cherry pinks, and even reds with no magenta in them. I have

never seen such plants in England. As we climbed, the colours gradually deteriorated, and at the top of the range, 11,000ft., from a garden point of view they were very inferior.

As usual we camped by about 2pm, and with some hours to botanise above Jumlingkhang (named by Tenzing after a daughter) we found the start of a new range of plants — *Rhododendron lanatum*, *R. cinnabarinum*, *R. wightii*, *R. campanulatum*, and *R. campylocarpum*. *Rhododendron lanatum* so hard to grow in England, was well over 15ft high, growing amongst boulders, and always with acute drainage, on slopes of thirty to forty-five degrees, but with plenty of humus. Perhaps one can learn something from seeing the natural conditions.

Our next stop was Bikbari, 13,000ft, boasting one small derelict roofless stone hut, but also reasonably flat ground for our tents, by the Rathong. Even *R. campanulatum* petered out here, and vegetation was mainly *R. anthopogon*, *R. setosum* and *R. lepidotum*, *Potentilla arbuscula* and thousands of different primulas, many only just appearing above the ground. *Primula calderiana* was in full flower, its leaves covered in white or yellow farina, and with flowerheads of deep purple.

Next morning we had a steep climb up to the Dzongri La, the summit clothed with a covering of turf-like *Androsace*, which would have looked wonderful later in the year. Once over the snow-covered pass, occasional plants of *Rhododendron campanulatum* and *R. lanatum* began to appear, and at Dzongri *R. wightii* was just coming into flower. All the heads which we saw were quite symmetrical, and not one-sided, as is usual in England, and the plants looked slightly different too, the indumentum less deep in colour, and on some plants the growth buds and leaf petioles were tinted purple. We saw six year old plants with no leaf indumentum at all.

At Dzongri we decided on a 'rest day', spent exploring and botanising the surrounding hills, admiring wonderful views of Kangchenjunga, now very near and Pandim and Kabru. About a mile away we saw the red glow of rhododendrons covering the south-facing side of a valley, which proved to be *R. fulgens*. *En masse* they were quite spectacular, though we found better forms later. The north side was covered with *R. lanatum* and *R. campylocarpum*, and a few days later must have looked remarkable with red and yellow on opposite sides. We returned to camp to find our excellent cook, Pasan, had baked a cake! And our supper dish was supported by five different vegetables. Not bad for 13,500ft.!

Next day we descended steeply about 2,000ft. to the Prek Chu, then up about 1,000ft to camp at Thangsing. There were dense rhododendrons most of the way — *R. campanulatum*, *R. wightii*, *R. cinnabarinum*, *R. campylocarpum*, *R. falconeri*, *R. hodgsonii*. On a large island where we crossed the Prek, growing amongst *Abies spectabilis*, was a small group of very fine *R. fulgens*, with quite orbicular leaves which had really quite heavy indumentum, and larger flowers than those seen earlier. Feeding on these were fire-tailed sunbirds, the most spectacular of many beautiful birds seen on our travels.

Kangchenjunga dominated our camp at Thangshing, rising up about five miles on up the valley, and with Pandim, 20,000ft at the east side. We walked to the foot of Pandim, and watched the top of Kangchenjunga appearing out of the clouds at rare intervals. It looked quite magnificent, and we returned quite reluctantly to camp.

There was a storm in the night, with snow higher up and huge hailstones on our tent which fortunately, like all Daku's camp equipment, proved excellent in protecting us. Our porters plodded along next day barefooted through frozen hail, and snow, on our way back to Dzongri, near which we found a large patch of the pink *Primula deuteronana* — could this be the patch found by Hooker when passing through Dzongri from Nepal on his first journey?

Our last day in real rhododendron country took us from Dzongri, back down to Bakkim, and all the Sikkim rhododendrons were again present in vast quantities. About halfway down, at Monlapcha, we saw our first flowers of *R. thomsonii*, though really we were about a week early for this, and *R. campylocarpum*. Back in the *R. hodgsonii* belt we noticed many small white flowers on the path, which came from *R. pendulum* growing epiphytically on *Abies spectabilis* about 50 feet above us. We saw only one at ground level, it having grown so heavy it had fallen off, complete with moss and bark. We were able to collect two small seedlings, rather unusually with oval to elliptic leaves, one of which is now at Borde Hill, the other has survived the winter here and looks quite healthy.

Descending through Tsoka again, Thupten's family entertained us to Tibetan tea, made with rancid butter and salt, an acquired taste! Looking back from Darjeeling we saw Kangchenjunga and Dzongri area covered with fresh snow — in mid-May — a beautiful and memorable last sight of those mountains, scene of a highly enjoyable expedition, full of interest from start to finish. It is satisfactory to report, a year on, that all our seeds have germinated well, including some sent on later of *R. hodgsonii* from marked plants. I hope we'll see them flower!

Inverewe — A brief appraisal of the rhododendrons

RICHARD FULCHER*

Little has been written about the rhododendron collection at Inverewe other than the occasional mention in connection with west coast gardens and rhododendrons on the west coast of Scotland. There are few records extant relating to early introductions into the garden by Osgood Mackenzie between 1863 and 1922 when he died and from then until 1952 when his daughter Mairi Sawyer handed the garden over to the National Trust for Scotland. Fortunately however certain articles contained in the *R.H.S. Journal* between 1907 and 1923 provide enough information to give a basis from which to work. It would seem there were in the region of 100 or so different rhododendrons, both species and hybrids, in the garden so that by 1952 with Mairi Sawyer's subsequent additions the basis of a fine collection, quite large in numbers though limited in species was well established.

The dominant species then as now are *Rhododendron arboreum*, *R. barbatum*, *R. campanulatum*, *R. campylocarpum*, *R. falconeri*, *R. hodgsonii*, *R. luteum*, *R. niveum*, *R. sinogrande*, *R. sutchuenense*, *R.*

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thomsonii, *R. triflorum* and *R. yunnanense*. The collection today includes some 250 different species together with even more named hybrids, including such old favourites as Christmas Cheer, Cornubia, Mrs. E. C. Stirling, Sappho, Standishii, Cynthia and a number of forms of Nobleanum, all of which maintain a very prominent role in the woodland garden today. This is in spite of quite extensive clearance of older plants which were beginning to outlive their usefulness, taking up large important areas in dense colonies, with flowers skyward. These could only really be seen from above if collecting eucalyptus seed or 'cleaning up' pine trees. Rhododendrons which had been closely planted had become drawn up to heights of 25 feet and more.

Getting rid of plants which may be the only one of a kind, is fortunately not a very common problem. It always feels much safer if there is another somewhere abouts. However, if this is not so and no layers are available, then cuttings can be taken and often with surprising results. This usually ensures the survival of a particular clone, although over the years judging by the list of names attributed to Osgood Mackenzie several old hybrids have been lost. Even more recently others have been lost without replacement. Perhaps, we could say lost in the floodtide of new and modern cultivars which are often far superior. Superior because they have had more time to be developed from a much broader genetical pool and passed the scrutiny of experts.

The fact that no records were kept has caused a great deal of difficulty in establishing names for many plants especially hybrids. All the species have been named over the years. First by Dr Cowan, who cared for Inverewe from 1954 and 1960 and then with assistance from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, mainly through Mr Davidian. Renaming plants which came into the garden as named hybrids must have been a difficult job for Geoffrey Collins who undertook much of the work while head gardener from 1963 to 1973.

Labelling plants in any important collection is of major importance for obvious reasons, not only for purposes of propagation but in such gardens as Inverewe with its many visitors, for education. There cannot be many nurseries in Britain which have not benefited from people having first seen a particular plant at Inverewe.

Many private gardens containing large collections of rhododendrons have at some time or other during the last century dabbled in the skills of plant breeding. Sadly this has never happened at Inverewe to any extent. Nevertheless the number of good plants of hybrid origin dotted about the garden provide ample evidence of the growing conditions for which west coast gardens are famed. These could be summed up thus: abundance of moisture, thick black acid peat and cool shade. So nature herself has performed with promiscuous abandon producing swarms of seedlings in favoured areas. These seedlings readily escape the gardener's eye, for weeding out such plants of noble birth takes no little courage.

Hybrids of *Rhododendron thomsonii* and *R. campylocarpum* especially with each other abound throughout the garden. Unfortunately such a colour combination with yellow and often dull blood red can give rise to some uninspired colours ranging from dirty pinks through to salmon pink often with a rich deep blotch in the throat. All suffer badly from fading

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within a few days of opening. One of the better such hybrids has been named 'Inverewe' although it has not been registered as such. Another interesting cross appears to be *R. thomsonii* × *R. falconeri* which is intermediate between the two and of which we have only three plants. Flowerbuds of this hybrid are (somewhat) rather susceptible to bud blast. Hybrids between and including the big three, *R. discolor*, *R. fortunei* and *R. griffithianum* are in certain areas most prolific and include a wide variety of leaf shape and size.

Identification in the seedling stage is a difficult business. Many species can and often do produce offspring of purer blood. These are relatively easy to pick out. While many of the more interesting and hopefully worthwhile seedlings have been selected out and given homes in a new area of the garden above the drive which one day will be properly open to the public and in years to come should contribute to the increasing beauty of one of Britain's leading gardens.

Over the last number of years the main aim has been to increase the number of later flowering hybrids choosing only those of top quality, while species are in no way neglected. Indeed both have been purchased over the years from various nurserymen and thanks to the R.B.G., Edinburgh we now have a good collection of the dwarfier species. These of course are light demanding and this presents problems in finding suitable places in the open when so much of Inverewe is influenced by the broken canopy of mature pines and the associated problems of gardening beneath trees.

The natural beauty and refinement of the species is hard to beat, from the perfect scented pink of *R. tephropeplum* and the lovely rich quality and exotic perfume of the best *R. lindleyi* to the beautiful bark, foliage and glistening flowers of *R. hodgsonii*. But who would be without such gems as Elizabeth, Rose Mangles and all the different Fabia's, Loderi's and Jalisco's to name but a few. No, the whole blend together in a good year such as 1976 or this current season 1983 are a source of real joy and pleasure to all who visit Inverewe in spring and early summer.

The natural environment for *Vireya* rhododendrons

DR. R. M. WITHERS

In this article I write about the environment in which *Vireya* rhododendrons grow in nature and suggest how similar growing conditions may be achieved to make them feel at home in cultivation. My remarks will be restricted to those species which grow in Papua New Guinea, the only area of which I have any first hand knowledge.

The genus *Rhododendron* contains about 900 species growing in the wild. Of these about 300 species belong to the subgenus *Rhododendron*, section *Vireya*, and the majority of these are found growing in the tropical and subtropical regions of the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea. Of the 300

Vireya species, almost half are found in Papua New Guinea which lies just south of the Equator between the latitudes of 2° and 12° south.

In the wild, Vireyas are found growing as terrestrial shrubs or as epiphytes. Many species will grow in either situation, but it is true that although all species found growing as epiphytes have been found growing as terrestrial plants, the reverse is not the case. A number of species found growing as terrestrial plants have never been found growing as epiphytes. It would appear that Vireya rhododendrons prefer to grow as terrestrial plants, but when growing in dense forests in competition with other trees, they grow as epiphytes in an attempt to obtain more light and better drainage.

Being tropical and subtropical plants where day length and night length are almost equal both summer and winter, they do not recognise different seasons, except perhaps wet and dry seasons, and as a result they may flower at any time of the year. In the Daga country of eastern Papua New Guinea where the Rev. Canon Norman Cruttwell was stationed for many years, he found that there was a peak flowering period in May and June and again in September and October, correlated with the rainy season, the north west monsoon, the flowering chiefly occurring in the drier seasons.

The rainfall is usually high where Vireya rhododendron species grow in Papua New Guinea. At Agaun where Canon Cruttwell was formerly based, the annual average rainfall was 100 inches, and it was even higher further up the mountains. Rainfall is distributed unevenly in Papua New Guinea, depending on the wind direction. From May to October, there is a lot of rain on the northern slopes of the central mountain ranges. The monsoon season is from December until March and this also brings heavy rain in the northern area.

In considering the environment in which Vireyas grow in Papua New Guinea, it is important to remember the altitudinal zonation of vegetation as described in Merrill's classification in *Plant Life of the Pacific World*.

- 1) From sea level to 3000 feet may be found Tropical Rain Forest. This zone also includes grassland and savannah developed from it by clearing and burning. In eastern Papua New Guinea, Canon Cruttwell has found *R. christianae* growing as low as 1500 feet. The type locality of *R. aurigeranum* near Zenag Pass is at an altitude of about 3000 feet. *Rhododendron zoelleri* may also be found within this altitude range, even down to 300 feet at Green River in the Sepik River basin.
- 2) From 3000 to 5000 feet altitude, there is Montane or Mountain Forest. There are grass clearings to 4000 feet, but above that altitude the forest is fairly continuous. Many Vireya species grow in this zone, as epiphytes in the forest areas and as terrestrial plants in the grasslands. Where the forest area has been burned by the local people to make cultivated land, short grassland appears dominated by *Themeda australis*. This is gradually replaced by tall grassland where *Miscanthus floridulus* dominates. *Rhododendron* species are capable of invading the short grassland and slowly disappear as terrestrial plants as the vegetation changes to tall grassland and forest.
- 3) From 5000 feet to about 7500 feet is found the Mossy or Cloud Forest

characterised by an abundant growth of epiphytes. In this zone many rhododendron species grow as epiphytes, although a few may be found growing as terrestrial plants.

- 4) From 7500 feet to 9000 feet, and at even higher altitudes in the gullies, is found the Elfin Wood, characterised by dwarfed twisted trees and ericaceous shrubs with roots out of the ground in some places, covered with dense moss. Many rhododendrons grow in this zone, and in some places thick rhododendron shrubberies may be found.
- 5) From 7500 feet to the summits on exposed slopes, plateaux and ridge tops at about 1200 feet, often alternating with Elfin Wood, occurs the Sub-Alpine Grassland. In this zone a number of dwarf rhododendron species grow.

The above zonation occurs throughout Papua New Guinea; the altitude at which each zone starts varies in different localities, but the zones always occur in the same order.

The *Vireya* rhododendron species in Papua New Guinea are adapted to an almost constant climate of daily variations in temperature. The temperature at night can be cold, sometimes even below zero, but the low temperature each day is of short duration. Temperature decreases with increasing altitude, and there can be frost above 8000 feet and non-persistent snow above 12,000 feet in the alpine area. Above 15,500 feet in West New Guinea (West Irian) there is persistent snow and glaciers. Consequently those species found growing in the wild at lower altitudes are more frost tender than those found growing at higher altitudes. There is in Papua New Guinea a progressive lowering of temperature at the same altitude as one moves from west to east, so that the climate at Aguan at 3200 feet in the east is comparable with the climate at Goroka, in the Eastern Highlands District much further west than Agaun, at an altitude of 5500 feet. The reason for this is that there is an increase in latitude moving from west to east, Goroka being nearer to the Equator than Agaun. At Agaun the minimum night temperature is 49°F and there are frequent night temperatures in the low 50°s. At 9000 to 10,000 feet, where some of the tubular flowered *Solenovireya* rhododendron species grow, there is often several degrees of frost at night, but never any snow or ice in day time. Therefore one would expect these species to grow in the open, not only in favourable parts of Australia and America but even in some parts of England.

The type of soil where rhododendrons are found growing in Papua New Guinea varies considerably from area to area, but in all areas the soil is enriched with an abundance of leaf mould, and mosses grow over the soil surface. Those rhododendrons growing as epiphytes either have their roots spread out in the moss on the sides of trees, or grow in pockets of leaf mould in the forks of branches. In all areas there is sharp drainage combined with abundant water and high root humidity. Often the roots are found to be very extensive, but they do not usually penetrate very deeply into the soil. Many specimens are often very thick and woody and very old.

During my visit to Papua New Guinea with a party from the Australian Rhododendron Society in September 1981, I was soon to learn what a

wonderful pioneer coloniser the *Vireya rhododendron* was, landslides and roadside cuttings alike being quickly colonised by rhododendron seedlings, once there was a covering of moss over the area, and provided the altitude was right for rhododendrons to grow. On roadside cuttings we saw seedlings of *R. macgregoriae* growing out of the steep banks and in flower.

A number of *Vireya* species were observed growing happily in their natural habitat. Near the summit of Mount Kaindi, a high mountain near Wau, and covered with dense mossy forest, tall specimens of *R. solitarium* were growing as terrestrial plants, and nearby several species were growing as epiphytes among the mosses and on the sides of treeferns. At a lower altitude, between Mount Kaindi and Wau, are the old Edie Creek goldfields, and here in *Miscanthus floridulus* grasslands on the site of these old alluvial goldfields were a number of species growing happily.

At Goroka, we met Canon Cruttwell and climbed Mount Gahavisuka. Passing through mossy forest we observed a number of *Vireya* species growing as epiphytes and a few as terrestrial plants, but it was on reaching a spur at 7500 feet altitude that we emerged from the mossy forest into Elfin Wood, consisting of shrubby trees and *Miscanthus* grass, that we found the greatest number of rhododendrons all growing as terrestrial plants.

During the drive from Goroka to Wabag, numerous plants of *R. macgregoriae* were seen on roadside cuttings, and on the Mount Hagen-Tambul Road at Mur Mur Pass at an altitude of 8600 feet, and at Tambi Tanis in the Sirunke area at the same altitude, many rhododendron species and natural hybrids were observed growing as terrestrial plants.

Being tropical or subtropical plants, *Vireya* rhododendrons compensate for their deficiency in hardiness in cool temperate climates, by having big scented and/or brilliantly coloured flowers, varying in colour from snow-white to dark crimson, or they may have deeply coloured pure yellow flowers, and there are pink, rose-red, and orange colours between. Bluish shades are absent in all species.

In Australia we have found that they can be grown with relative ease and we appreciate their versatility. They can be grown as garden, patio, bush-house plants or for home decoration and are successful in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

Vireya rhododendrons are not difficult to grow as long as four basic requirements are understood. There must be a good supply of moisture, good light, protection from extremes of temperature, and most important of all, good drainage. They will not tolerate frost, and grow best with a temperature ranging between 40° and 80°F. All species will survive temperatures of 32°F for short periods, but those species growing in nature at the lower altitudes in Papua New Guinea will be killed by temperatures falling below 30°F for any length of time.

They grow well in plastic pots or tubs, but good drainage and a very open potting mix are essential. Materials such as tree fern fibre, pine bark, coarse river sand, and scoria all help to keep the mix open, while use of peat-moss and leaf-mould will both open the soil up, and help retain moisture. Good rich virgin soil can also be added. A *Vireya* can also be grown in tree-fern logs, if, when small, it is planted in a gouged out

recess in the log. They can be grown successfully in the ground, but good drainage is essential and the addition of peat-moss or leaf-mould dug into the soil would be of benefit.

These plants require good light to flower well, but as stated earlier, some protection from extremes of both heat and cold. Shielding from hot or very cold, drying winds, very hot sun, and from frost is advisable.

Vireyas require small quantities of fertilizer only, otherwise they become too soft, tender and spindly. Light dressings of a slow-release fertilizer, or periodic half strength applications of a liquid fertilizer are adequate.

They suffer very little from insects or disease. If any damage does occur, normal protective procedures can be followed. Probably the main disease to affect these plants is powdery mildew which can be controlled with frequent applications of a suitable fungicide.

The Section Vireya in the genus *Rhododendron* containing as it does, one third of the species in the genus, has some species with very spectacular flowers, some of which have scent, size and colour not otherwise seen in the genus. These, together with many beautiful hybrids which have been bred from them, certainly justify every effort being made, and that little extra care and attention to succeed with them in cultivation and to enjoy their beauty.

My thanks are due to the Rev. Canon Norman Cruttwell for the assistance and encouragement he has given to me during the twenty-two years I have been growing Vireya rhododendrons, and also to Mr John Womersley for his help during the same period, and especially for his advice in the preparation of this article.

An experiment in deciduous azalea breeding

WILLIS H. WHEELER

In 1955 I purchased a plant of *Rhododendron* 'Gibraltar' with the intention of using it as a parent in azalea breeding. It is a ruffled orange beauty, one of that prominent group of azaleas known as the Exbury strain, bred by the late Lionel de Rothschild at Exbury, Southampton, England.

My experience with that cultivar showed it to be a shy seed producer but its pollen was copious and fertile. When used to pollinate an unnamed mollis azaléa from the Netherlands, large quantities of seed were produced. Seedlings resulting from that cross varied in colour from light orange to dark orange red, one of them producing fine ruffled dark orange trusses exceeding its pollen parent in beauty.

One spring it happened that 'Gibraltar' was in flower with the native pinxterbloom azalea *Rhododendron iclymenoides* (*R. nudiflorum*), so its pollen was applied to the pinxterbloom flowers. Small seed capsules resulted that were nothing to compare in size with those of the yellow Dutch mollis. However, they contained viable seeds at maturity.

In 1972, about five years after seed sowing, two plants had one truss

each — but being away at the time I did not see them in flower. The following spring they were in flower during the early part of May in varying shades of pink, light salmon pink, and rose pink. ‘Gibraltar’s’ influence was not apparent as far as the colour was concerned. Apparently the pinxterbloom pink was completely dominant over the orange of ‘Gibraltar’. Of particular interest was the vigour of the young seedlings from the cross.

This mating of the native pinxterbloom azalea with ‘Gibraltar’, a representative of the Exbury strain of the Knaphill hybrids, may appear to be a “way out” cross to some gardeners but the results were most pleasing; the series representing a group of fine deciduous plants well suited to garden conditions in northern Virginia. In an earlier paragraph I referred to an excellent seedling derived from the cross of a Dutch mollis with ‘Gibraltar’. All seedlings from that cross turned out to be varying shades of orange. The one that appeared to be better than its pollen parent suggested ‘Spek’s Orange’ as I have seen it in the Wisley Garden of the Royal Horticultural Society in England. Its colour may be even a little darker than that cultivar. The late Frederic P. Lee in *The Azalea Book* includes ‘Spek’s Orange’ under the heading of “Mollis Hybrids”, a group originating in Belgium and the Netherlands in the latter part of the last century.

Tregrehan: the restoration of an old garden

CHRISTIAN LAMB

“There is something fine and inspiring about an old garden”, wrote R. H. in *The Gardener’s Chronicle* of 12 August 1939, referring to Tregrehan and extolling the number and size of the specimens. He mentioned *Rhododendron arboreum* ‘Cornish Red’ as “having assumed gigantic proportions” — it is still there forty years on and bigger than ever. Tregrehan is wrapped in the history of the Carlyon family, and the garden owes its existence to the interest of William Carlyon, a High Wrangler in the Cambridge Tripos, who began laying out the grounds over two centuries ago.

The present owner, Gillian Carlyon, took on the garden in 1945 when she came out of the Women’s Royal Naval Service in her twenties. The scene was one of total neglect, as all fourteen gardeners had left for military service during the war years, and her father had died on active service in 1942. It was a daunting prospect but in her own time she has slowly and systematically rolled back the jungle, discovering grandiose plants, each in its turn abandoned or forgotten, ever falling behind as one generation succeeded another. The fascination of unravelling and completing some of these has been absorbing. The identifying and relabelling is a mammoth task which may never be accomplished.

Gillian Carlyon spent 25 years concentrating on camellias. She began by reading and studying from the extensive library at Tregrehan; then she started hybridising, controlling her experiments and choosing the parent

plants with flair and imagination. She was aiming, among other things, at earlier flowering, darker reds and difficult combinations of chromosomes. Her efforts have been crowned with considerable success; among her best hybrids one might perhaps choose: 'Tristram Carlyon' (Rosea Simplex × Salutation), Award of Merit 1977, a fine upright camellia with an abundance of large, paeony-form, rose madder flowers; 'William Carlyon' (Juno × Donation), has hot pink large single blooms, very free flowering, wonderful in clumps together; 'Edward Carlyon' (*saluenensis* × Adolphe Audusson), like a weeping 'Donation', beautiful, dark, green glossy foliage; 'China Clay', (J. C. Williams × Marjorie Magnificent), A.M. 1976, medium semi-double, white; 'E. T. R. Carlyon', (J. C. Williams × Adolphe Audusson), striking, late flowering semi-double white with yellow petaloids; 'Cornish Spring', (Rosea Simplex × *cuspidata*), has elegant, miniature, massed, pink flowers and makes a charming woodland plant; 'Yesterday', (*saluenensis* × 'Tomorrow'), a strong and upright grower, with large lavender pink, semi-double flowers, and, most lately 'The Duchess of Cornwall', (*saluenensis* × Adolphe Audusson), described by T. J. Savige, a hose-in-hose semi-double of soft silvery, blush pink named after Her Royal Highness on the day of her wedding.

Much thought was given to ways of making money from the garden. The most obvious seemed to be selling unrooted cuttings to the trade, as is done a great deal in America, although at that time it was not common practice over here. Customers soon began to avail themselves of the unusually rich choice of varieties. However when one customer ordered more than 100,000 it seemed reasonable to put up the price; orders are now taken from all over the world as well as from the UK. Large quantities of foliage and flowering sprays of camellia are sent up to Covent Garden.

Recently however, Gillian Carlyon was struck down with illness, and for the last few years she has had to accept that she can no longer do much of the work herself, especially her favourite hybridising. Manpower is therefore all the more important. Her gardening team consists of Number 1, Alan Reynolds, a physicist, with an engineering background. He came late to gardening and uses his trained mind and hyperenergy to make up for lost time, David who is happiest 90ft up in his safety harness wielding a chainsaw, and Gillian Carlyon herself, plus horticultural nurse, taking cuttings, advising and directing operation from her Batricar — with her everything has to be done yesterday.

The loss of some rare old trees has made space — that rare commodity — available for more plantations of camellias, rhododendrons and magnolias. The bluebell wood has been landscaped with huge camellias, many of them valuable stock plants from the walled garden, and a whole colony of 'Rosemary Sawle' (*C. heterophylla* Barbara Hillier seedling), a particularly bright pink single which produces a fine splash of colour against the bluebell carpet. Over 4,000 camellias have been relabelled and logged for the record and fed into the computer for ease of location.

It is impossible to chronicle all the outstanding features of this garden. Where there used to be a sunken Italian garden with formal flower beds and box borders, there is an elegant swimming pool for the peacocks to gaze into. There are raised terraces all round, and at the corners are

figures in long weathered white marble of spring, summer, autumn and winter — an old man bent beneath his burden of sticks. The portico at the south front of the Georgian mansion faces the fountain lazily splashing the water lilies. From here the first long avenue of yews leads east for a hundred yards or so to the statue of a sad dog “agonising on his pedestal”, as A. L. Rowse describes him in his book *A Cornish Childhood*. The serried ranks of camellias on the south side of the Dog Walk, anything from 8ft upwards in size, are the original stockplants ready to be raided in their season for cuttings, foliage and flowering sprays. *Nothofagus fusca*, up to 75ft high, and eucalyptus provide the shade so beloved of the dark evergreen leaves they cherish.

Turning north at the Dog, where countless family pets are buried among a sea of forget-me-nots, eucryphias, and white lilies, there stretches in front of you for a quarter of a mile, the Yew Walk, the ground rises a little halfway, to obscure slightly the far end; the huge trees, gnarled and ancient, have been pruned back to form a magnificent Gothic vista, and clematis, honeysuckles and rambler roses have been trained to climb among the branches and lighten the gloomy mantle of the foliage.

The timeless flooring of pine needles, laced with the enormous leathery old leaves from the rhododendrons, muffles the footsteps as the Davidia Walk leads you steeply down to the bluebell wood. One is assailed by a strong sense of intrusion; this is the heart of the pinetum and the varied and sumptuous choice of tone and texture is a triumph to the foresight of the Carlyon ancestors who planned it all so long ago. The trees and shrubs grow to great heights, leaning at the most amazing angles, twisting and contorting their smooth red bark in their battle for light and room to breathe. The blue green and russet tendrils spray downwards like a gigantic waterfall. A *Pinus radiata* has succumbed to age and half has split away, lying where it fell, two *Tsuga heterophylla* saplings 30ft high, have chosen to grow epiphytically, out of the bark, their roots plainly visible and clinging tightly round, before securing their water supply below.

The proposed visit of the International Dendrology Society, with 18 months notice, provided exactly the kind of impetus required to start the regeneration of the arboretum. The deadline was February 1979. With the help of Walter Magor and Alan Mitchell, working with contemporary plans and records, it was slow progress, identifying, measuring and labelling. According to Mr Mitchell, Tregrehan has one of the finest collections of trees in Britain. Especially good are the conifers, but there are also some outstanding broadleaved trees. There are more Southern Hemisphere trees than are usually found in British gardens, reflecting perhaps the family's New Zealand connection. A number of plants, known usually as shrubs, have here grown into trees. There are 25 acres of woodland covering both sides of a deep cleft valley, behind the garden proper. The picture is conjured by the names: *Fagus sylvatica* ‘Pendula’ (80ft), *Torreya californica* (50ft), *Pinus montezuma* (70ft), *Abies spectabilis* (72ft), *A. grandis* (144ft), *Sequoia gigantea*, *Gingko biloba* (90ft), *Quercus semecarpifolia* (59ft × 7½ft), said to be the only one in England, and *Q. canariensis* (Mirbeck's oak) (90ft), nearby. When the I.D.S. paid their visit to the garden some of the members bowed low in front of these two majestic oaks and doffed their hats. *Abies veitchii*, *A. pindrow* (105ft),

Cunninghamia lanceolata (66ft), must be mentioned if only for their superb height and bearing; *Davidia involucrata* (62ft), a very big *Podocarpus salignus* (64ft), a vast *Cryptomeria japonica* (85ft × 12ft 7in), with its dramatic hangman's branch, and most beautiful of all, perhaps, *Pinus patula* listing heavily on two supporting friends. Here also grow the outstanding rhododendrons: *R. Elsa* a very old plant has lately been rescued from suffocation; *R. sinogrande*, split in two by a falling *Athrotaxis*, the huge horizontal branch, layered wherever it touches the ground, continues to flower quite undeterred. *Rhododendron macabeaenum*, must be one of the biggest anywhere, 20ft or so tall and a 30ft spread. *R. griffithianum*, *R. falconeri*, two of the most exotic, and of great note *R. hookeri*. Some of the rhododendrons, especially some hybrid seedlings of *R. griersonianum* and others, the work of Gillian Carlyon's parents, Mr and Mrs E. T. R. Carlyon, are hardly visible except by helicopter. A few of these have been experimentally cut back to see if they will break again at a more reasonable level. In this garden rhododendrons must be pruned by chainsaw!

Gardening assumes a new dimension when one sees landscape painted with such a lavish hand. It is a great massed background, touched with every varying shade of green. One can stand behind the top run of greenhouses and feast one's eyes on three spectacular magnolias: *M. acuminata*, (64ft), *M. hypoleuca* and *M. kobus*, flanked by *R. arboreum* Cornish Red and *R. macabeaenum*, framing another vast camellia plantation, whose colours blend from white through every nuance, palest pink to deep red.

The greenhouses, which date back to Edward Carlyon in 1844, have had many differing uses in their time, and the heating put in at that time has now been revived with a woodburning boiler, especially designed and fitted by Terry Randall, the estate plumber. Ill winds blow down a constant supply of fuel. The boiler is made entirely from scrap boiler sections, welded, fire bricks for insulation and radiators, discarded by some hospital now keep two reroofed temperate glasshouses at a constant 60°. In these luxuriate a profusion of heliconia, including a white *Strelitzia*, personally brought back by Gillian Carlyon from Barbados; a vast banana, ordinary *Strelitzia regina*, clivias, red white and pink lapagerias, stephanotis, plumbago, philesia, *Mandevilla suaveolens*, and many other exotica, entwining with each other and revelling in the warmth.

The walled-in garden encloses these glasshouses, a very large grapehouse, with its gabled roof, and two propagating houses all built at the same date, at the north and in 1½ acres. It is planted with row upon row of camellias which form the basis of the camellia collection, chosen and rejected in succession and ever updated with new or better varieties. The east wall has enormous camellias over 100 years old, towering above it, and at the south end a truly conspicuous *Magnolia denudata*. Against the north facing wall a white lapageria climbs 12ft or so, flowers quite undaunted by anything weather can do. Back to back with it, on the southern side grows *Michelia fuscata* (*M. figo*), trying to reach us with its delicate scent, while vying with its difficult, pungent neighbour *Umbellularia californica*, recently fallen, but still defiantly alive. Within this area also is a new netlon tunnel, especially for growing on new varieties of camellias under trial. In here is the nursery for precious tree seedlings and cuttings,

ideally in their capillary bed. Twenty years ago Gillian Carlyon took 50 cuttings from *Quercus semecarpifolia*; the only one to strike is now planted out where a turkey oak fell.

Tregrehan will defeat Gillian Carlyon as it defeated her ancestors. A sort of continuous recycling process is all there is time for. She will compress into her allotted span many rescues of veterans and replacements of the fallen. The many plans for autumn turn into plans for spring and another year has slipped away. Her salute to her forebears is to stamp the garden with her own imprint — the Carlyon camellia hybrids.

Japanese camellia cultivars in England

T. J. SAVIGE*

In 1980 and 1981 John Tooby of Worcester, England, compiled a list of names of all the camellia cultivars he could locate in nurseries in the United Kingdom and Channel Isles. This list included a considerable number of Japanese origin.

These Japanese camellia names were given as synonyms or transliterations. In the application of the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants* — 1980, there are a number of guiding rules covering names which are rendered in another language or script from that of the original. The main rule is contained in Article 32, which states:

“When a cultivar name has to be rendered into another language it is preferably left unchanged. It may, however, be transliterated or translated, in which case the transliteration or translation is regarded as the original name in a different form, and its date is that of the original”.

Article 37 accepts as validly published, Japanese hand written books if copied by hand prior to 1 January, 1900 or either before, on, or after this date, if graphically, reproduced from a hand written original. This rule has changed the valid names of some cultivars from the English synonyms back to the original Japanese.

Unfortunately, ungrammatical, incorrectly spelled and inconsistent transliterations have remained in use due to a now obsolete article in the earlier codes which stated:

“The first legitimate available translation or transliteration of a name is the correct name in a particular language or alphabet.”

This article has been replaced by a recommendation:

“It is desirable that registration authorities should use one system of transliteration only in respect of any particular language.”

Dr Ralph Philbrick, in consultation with oriental horticulturists, linguists and scholars representing the Japanese Camellia Society, Kyoto University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Cornell University, has advocated that, for the genus *Camellia*, all Japanese cultivar names should be spelled according to the “Hepburn” system, to be written without

* International Registrar for Genus *Camellia*, N.S.W., Australia

punctuation aids and as a single, unhyphenated word with the following exceptions:

1. Names containing species designations such as *tsubaki*, *sasanqua*, *wabisuke*, should be separated by a hyphen, e.g. 'Kuro-tsubaki'.
2. Names which contain modifiers which designate a derivative from another cultivar. These modifiers, i.e. *shibori* and *nishiki*, should be separated by a hyphen, e.g. 'Shiratama-shibori'.
3. When adjacent vowels are pronounced in separate syllables, e.g. 'Shiro-otome'.

These recommendations are made because of the difficulty of applying correctly the punctuation aids, which often have no standard usage.

The Hepburn system, as employed in Kenkyusha's *New Japanese-English Dictionary* 1960 ed., and Andrew Nelson's *The Modern Reader's Japanese-English Character Dictionary* 2nd ed. 1974, is recommended as it is the most universally used, particularly within Japan. It is recognised that within the Hepburn system all problems cannot be covered by the dictionaries and bilingual experts sometimes have to be consulted. Other systems are the "Kunrei" and the "Nippon".

A simple example of the various transliterations concerns the well known variegated form of 'Akashigata' (Lady Clare) — Oniji which has been published as O-oniji, Ohniji and Oniji without the vowel bar over the o.

In general it is proposed that the first published spelling be retained, unless there is definite evidence of error in the original orthography, but all such errors (including those in spelling, grammar and typography) are to be corrected.

Akashigata (Akashi Bay), Ito, 1879. Listed as Akashi Gata. Synonym Lady Clare.

Akebono (Dawn) Ichijima, 1906. Chinka Zufu, [before 1700] Watanabe, 1969. American synonym Shinakebono (New Dawn) as a different, earlier importation from Japan by the Star Nursery in 1930 had been invalidly named Akebono. This form is now designated Akebono (United States) to distinguish it from the correct form. There is also a *C. sasanqua* named 'Akebono'.

Amanokawa (Heavenly River = Milky Way) Ito, 1879. Sometimes called 'Amanogawa' but characters different.

Arajishi (Fierce Lion) Ito, 1879. Different reading 'Arejishi'. Note: This is the variegated form. The plain red form is 'Beni-arajishi'.

Beni-wabisuke (Red Wabisuke) Ito, 1879.

Benten (God of Wealth) Ito, 1879.

Benikarashi *R.H.S. Rhododendron Yearbook* 1969. Without the characters it is difficult to determine if this name is correct. They could be Red Chinese Scholar. However the name has not been located in any Japanese lists.

Bikashibia as Bikashi-Bia. Listed by John Allen, Guernsey. Its origin is uncertain as it is not given in any Japanese lists. It is probably a corruption of an unknown Japanese name. Charles Puddle is of the opinion that it is a synonym for 'Mikenjaku' as "Nagasaki". The affix "bia" does not seem to have a meaning in Japanese, however ba = leaf and "kashiba" is oak leaf.

Bokuhan (a personal name) Iwasaki, 1828. Synonyms Tinsie, Gakko.

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Daikagura (Great Sacred Dance) Ito, 1879. This is the variegated form. The solid red form is named 'Benidaikagura'.

Furoan as Furo-an, Waterer, 1954. Different readings 'Huroan', 'Furohan'. Different characters 'Taroan', 'Juroan'.

Gauntlettii Gauntlett, 1909. This is the Japanese variety named 'Sodekakushi' but as the earliest listing for this name at present located is 1923, Gauntlettii must stand as the prior name. The American synonym is Lotus, Gerbing, 1941. Invalid synonyms are Alba Grandiflora, Grandiflora and Yokohama.

Hagoroma (Feathered Robe). Iwasaki, 1828 and Zoho Chikinsho, 1710. Synonyms Rose of Dawn, Magnoliiflora and Hagoroma Tokyo. There is also a 'Hagoroma-Higo' as well as a Hagoroma-Kansi, a different form of *C. japonica* and a *C. sasanqua* of this name.

Hakugan as Haku-gan (White Goose) Ihei Ito, 1695. Different reading 'Shirokari'.

Hakurakuten as Haku-rakuten (The name of a Chinese poet of the T'ang era). Chugai, 1934. Synonym Refugee. There is also a *C. sasanqua* of the same name. Tuyama's *Camellias of Japan*, Pl. 407, 1968.

Hanafuki as Hana-fuki (Noble Flower) Watanabe, 1932. Different readings Hanafukki, Hana-huki, Hana-fu-ki. Synonyms Chalice, Mrs Howerd Asper.

Hanatachibana as Hana-tachibana. Iwasaki, 1828. (A family crest). Different reading 'Kakitsu'.

Hanioriotome as Haniriotome. Listed by MacPenny's Nursery, Dorset without a description. Not listed elsewhere. Invalid name.

Hassaku (First of August) Ihei Ito, 1710.

Hatsusakura (First Cherry Blossom). McIlhenny, 1937. Different reading Hatsu-zakura. synonym for 'Dewatairin', Kadan-chikin-cho, 1659. A Higo Camellia.

Hikarugenji as Hikaru-Genji. The brilliant Genji Cho, before 1867. Synonyms Herme, Souvenir de Henri Guichard, Jordans Pride. Note: There is a *C. sasanqua* of the same name. Ref. Satomi's *sasanquas of Japan*, 1958.

Hinomaru as Hi-no-Maru (Japanese Flag) Taniguchi, 1912. A Higo camellia.

Hishikaraito as Hishi-Karaito (Thread of Diamonds) Nikon Shokubutsu Kaisha, 1912. Tuyama, 1966, gives 1875 as date of origin. Synonyms Emily Brown, Pink Lace.

Ichisetsu as Ichi-Setsu *R.H.S. Rhododendron Yearbook*, 1957, also erroneously listed as Itchi Setsu. Probable meaning is "first snow". Different readings: 'Issetsu', 'Ichiyuki'. Ichisatsui in *R.H.S. Rhododendron Yearbook*, 1969 would seem to be an error.

Imura Overlook Nurseries, 1939. A synonym for the Japanese variety 'Miyakodori'. Another synonym is Magnoliiflora Alba.

Jitsugetsu as Jitsu Getsu (Sun and Moon) Taniguchi, 1912. This cultivar is a Higo. However there are two other Japanese camellias which bear this name. There is a *C. japonica* first listed by Minigawa, 1933 and a *C. sasanqua* listed by Yashiroda, 1950.

Kamesyama *R.H.S. Rhododendron Yearbook*, 1968. This would appear to be a corruption of a Japanese name. *Kamiyama* would be "Sacred Mountain". It would be necessary to have the original characters to authenticate the name.

Kishutsukasa as Kishu-Tsukasa Chugai, 1934. (Lord of Kū Province). Different reading Kishiutsukasa. Synonyms Admiral Nimitz, Captain John Sutter.

Kingyo-tsubaki (Fish tail camellia). Ito, 1879. Synonyms Quercifolia, Fishtail, Apucaeformis Trifidia, *C. trifidia*.

Konronjura as Kouron Jura. *R.H.S. Rhododendron Yearbook 1960*. Error for Konronkuro.

Konronkuro (Niger Black) Miyazawa, 1954. This is a *C. japonica*. The alternative reading 'Konronkoku' is retained for the *C. sasanqua* of the same characters, Ishu, 1932.

Kumasaka (The name of a thief in a Kabuki drama) Kadan Chikin Sho, 1695. Synonyms Kumasakabeni, Deacon Dodd, Gay Boy.

Kyo-nishiki-Higo as Kyo-Nishiki Taniguchi, 1912. (Brocade of Kyoto). There are two other camellias named 'Kyo-nishiki' and having the same characters. They include a *C. japonica*, Cho [before 1867] and a *C. sasanqua* Yashiroda, 1950.

Magnoliiflora as Magnoliaeflora. R. Societa Toscana Orticultura, 1886. Synonym for the Japanese cultivar 'Hagoroma'.

Magnoliiflora Alba as Magnoliaeflora Alba. Wada, 1937. Synonym for 'Miyakodori'.

Migali *R.H.S. Rhododendron Yearbook*, 1968. Listed by Lanhydrock as 'Migali' and said to be a Wabisuke but nothing like it can be found in any Japanese listing, and it is probably a corruption of an unknown Japanese name.

Mihata (Royal Flag) Chugai, 1934. Synonym "Shubenihitoe".

Mikenjaku (Legendary Chinese Giant) Ito, 1879. Synonyms Nagasaki, Lady Audrey Buller, Candida Elegantissima, Tennin Kwan, S. Peter Nyce, Marguerita, Princess Nagasaki, Nagasaki Special, Lonjan and probably Bikashibia. Different reading, 'Mikenjaku'.

Miyakodori as Miyaka Dori. (Sea Gull) Ito, 1879. Synonyms Magnoliiflora Alba, Imura.

Momijikari as Momiji-Gari. Ito 1879. This is a *C. japonica* but Satomi, 1956 also lists a Higo form.

Moshio (Seaweed Tide) Ito, 1788. Synonyms Kohei, Kowei, Flame (Australia).

Murasaki-tsubaki (Purple Camellia) Ito, 1879. Synonym based on same characters, Shikon-tsubaki.

Myorenji (Name of a Temple). Chinka Zufu [before 1700]. Watanabe, 1969.

Nagasaki (Name of a Town) Waller, 1889. Synonym for 'Mikenjaku'.

Nishiki-Kirin (Variegated Giraffe), Garden Life, 1966.

Ozanran *R.H.S. Rhododendron Yearbook 1954*. Probably a corruption of an unknown Japanese name. It is not a synonym for 'Ozoran'.

Otome (Maiden) Iwasaki, 1828, Cho, [before 1867]. Synonyms Usutome, Frau Minna Seidel, Pink Perfection, Burgdorf Beauty, Badgen's Beauty. Also used as a group name including 'Beniotome', 'Fuiriotome', 'Shiboriotome' and 'Tobiiriotome'.

Pink Perfection Clarke, 1931. Synonym for the Japanese cultivar 'Otome'.

Purity Hume, 1946. Synonym for the Japanese cultivar 'Shiragiku'.

Quercifolia Verschaffelt, 1862. Synonym for Japanese camellia 'Kingyo-tsubaki'.

Rogetsu (December) Minigawa, 1933. Chugai, 1935. Synonyms, Bonshiratama, Kakuka-Shiratama, Obosozuki, Seiganji.

Seihi as Seiji (Shooting Star) Satomi, 1956.

Shinakebono — see Akebono.

Shiragiku (White Chrysanthemum), Zoho Chikin-sho, 1710. Synonyms Purity, Neige d'Oree, Refinement, Harriet I. Laub, Renjonotama.

Shiratama-shibori (Variegated White Pearl) Ito, 1879.

Shirobotan (White Peony) Ito 1879. Different reading 'Hakubotan'.

Shirodaikagura (Great Sacred Dance White) 1895, Yokohama. A different reading 'Hakudaikagura'. Synonyms Daikagura White, White Kagura.

Shiro-wabisuke (White Wabisuke) Ito, 1879.

Shunshoko as Shun Shoko (Spring Dawn) Minigawa, 1932. Different readings, 'Shunshoko', 'Shunshokko', 'Shunshokoh', 'Syunshokko'.

Takayama The Garden, 1889. This name is not in any Japanese lists. Its characters are probably for High Mountain and a different reading would be 'Kozan'.

Taroan (Name of a Japanese Teahouse) Minigawa, 1933.

The Mikado The Garden, 1889. Not a Japanese name.

Tokyo Listed by John Allan, Guernsey, this name does not appear to be in any Japanese list and apparently was given for western consumption.

Tricolor The Floricultural Cabinet, 1835. The Japanese name for this cultivar is 'Ezo-nishiki' but as the earliest listing of this name appear to be the Camellia List of Koemon Ito, published in 1869, 'Tricolor' has priority.

Tsukimiguruma erroneously as Tsungurnma (Moon Viewing Carriage) Ito, 1879.

Wabisuke (a Persons Name) Zoho Chikin-sho, 1710.

White Swan American Camellia Catalogue, 1951. A synonym for the Japanese cultivar 'Yukimiguruma'.

Yukimiguruma (Snow Carriage) Ito, 1879.

Yodonobeni as Yodo-no-beni Watanabe, 1970 (Red eddy).

Yoibijin (Intoxicatingly Beautiful Woman) Chugai, 1934. A different reading 'Suibijin'. Synonym Blushing Maiden.

Yukibotan as Yuki-Botan (Snowy Peony) Ito, 1879. Synonym Pride of Descanso.

Yukihaki as Yuki-Haku (Snow White) A different reading for 'Yukishiro', Satomi, 1956. Other readings 'Seppaku', 'Jukijiro'.

Cultivars of Camellia sasanqua

Akebono-sasanqua as 'Akebono' Tsubaki, 1967.

Azumanishiki as Azuma Nishiki (Eastern Brocade) Yokohama, 1891.

Fukutsutsumi as Fukuzutsumi (Bundle of Fortune) Yokohama, 1891.

Hinodekumo as Hino de Gumo (Dawn Clouds) Chugai, 1936. Different reading 'Hinodezumo'.

Hiodishi (Scarlet Armour) The Camellia, 1952. There is also a Higo camellia of this name.

Hiryu (Scarlet Dragon) Nikon Shokubutsu. Kaisha, 1912. This is a *C. vernalis*.

Hiryu (Australian) Synonym for Kanjiro.

Kanjiro (Name of originator) Taku, 1955. Synonyms Hiryu (Australia), Tachikan-tsubaki. This is a *C. heimalis*.

Kyo-nishiki (Kyoto Brocade) Cho, [before 1867]. There is both a Higo and a *C. japonica* of this name.

Minenoyuki as Mine-No-Yuki (Snow on Peak). Yashiroda, 1950. Synonyms White Doves, Snow. There is also a Higo and a *C. japonica* of this name.

Mine-o-Tuki listed by Haskins Nursery, Dorset. Appears to be a corruption of 'Minenoyuki'.

Momozono-nishiki (Peach Orchid Variegated) Yashiroda, 1950. There is also a *C. japonica* of this name.

Narumigata (Narumi Bay) Chugai, 1935. Veitch, 1931 listed it as *Oleifera* but this is a species designation, and is invalid as a cultivar name.

Ryomenbeni (Red on both faces) Doty & Doerner, 1950. A different reading Ryomenko is reserved for the *C. japonica* having the same characters.

Shishigashira as Shishi-Gashira (Lion's Head) Chugai, 1935. Synonyms Benikan-tsubaki, Kan-tsubaki. There is also a *C. japonica* and a *C. reticulata* with this name. The *C. reticulata* is validly known by the Chinese form 'Shizitou', and the *C. japonica* as 'Shishigashira-Kansai'.

Showanosakae as Showa-no-Sakae (The Glory of Showa) Chugai, 1935. Synonym Usuirokan-tsubaki.

Usubeni (Light Crimson) Satomi, 1956. Invalidly used as synonym for 'Showanosakae'.

It would prevent future confusion if the above orthography was universally adopted for all future listings of these camellias.

The yellow camellias

T. J. SAVIGE

Since early last century the plant hunters in Asia have searched for a yellow flowered camellia, the nearest to it being found by Robert Fortune in *C. oleifera* cv *Jaune*, or "Fortunes Yellow" first described in the 1850s.¹

A number of yellow flowered species were found in what was then French Indo-China (now Vietnam). The French botanist Pitard described *C. flava* in 1910 as *Thea flava*. This has yellow flowers about an inch across. Then in 1919 Chevalier described *C. fleuryi* as *Thea fleuryi*, said to have very small yellow flowers. In 1949 Sealy² described *C. euphlebica* from Tonkinese herbaria using the name given in the collector Merrill's manuscript. With the exception of *C. euphlebica*, no seeds or living material of these species were available in the west, only the dried herbarium material sent by the collectors of the plants.

Meanwhile in China, in the more settled conditions following the unification of the country under the communist regime, the various institutes of botany began their tasks of classifying the flora of each province, in the course of which many new species of different plant families were described. In April 1965 Dr Hu Hsen-Hsu of the Institute of Botany, Academia Sinica, Peking, published⁴ a description of 12 new species of camellia.

With descriptions translated from the original latin, these were published by the Royal Horticultural Society in the *Rhododendron and Camellia*



Plate I *Camellia chrysantha* (Hu) Tuyama

1 Flowers & Leaves. 2 The dorsal and vented view of stamens ($\times 6$). 3 Ovary & styles. 4 Fruit ($\times 3/2$). 5 The longitudinal section of fruit ($\times 3/2$). 6 Seeds ($\times 3/2$) (After Acta Botanica Yunnanica 1:54, 1975).

Yearbook for 1967, and reprinted in the *American Camellia Yearbook*, 1968. Amongst these new species was one designated by Hu as *Theopsis chrysantha*; Hu apparently having upgraded Sealy's section *Theopsis* to the rank of genus.

In the description, the introductory paragraph reads: "This interesting species differs from all other Chinese species chiefly in its rather large, fragrant, golden-yellow flowers..." Although ultimately found not to be fragrant, this set off a flurry of interest amongst horticulturists around the world. Unfortunately, the onset of the so-called cultural revolution in China virtually closed that country to foreigners for some years.

In 1975, the well known Japanese botanist Professor Takasi Tuyama revised the nomenclature of this species to *Camellia chrysantha* (Hu) Tuyama, and ascribed it to section *Archecamellia*.⁵

In 1976, with the change of government in China, the country again became open to foreigners, and amongst the earliest were Mr and Mrs Harold Fraser of Wagga Wagga, Australia, who visited the Botanical Institute at Kunming in 1978 and established early contact and cordial relations with the Institute staff, which was largely responsible for the distribution of *C. chrysantha* and other species to the western world.

In 1979 a party of Japanese lead by Professor Tuyama visited Yunnan. This was reported in the 1980 *American Camellia Yearbook* — "The Yellow Camellia Story — A Yunnan Report of Camellias". The party obtained scions of *C. chrysantha* as well as scions or seeds of *C. semiserrata*; *semiserrata* var. *magnocarpa*; *gigantocarpa*; *forrestii*; *grijsii*; *euphlesia*; *yuh sienensis*; *chrysantha* var. *microcarpa*; *vietnamensis*; *chekiangoleosa* and *octopetala*.

In May of 1979 Dr Mo Sin-Li and Dr Hyang Se-zei of Kwangsi jointly published descriptions of two varieties of *C. chrysantha* as var. *microcarpa* and var. *macrophylla*.⁶ Due to the activities of the Chinese botanists in classifying the flora of China, many new camellia species were recognised. This led to the publication of a new monograph on the genus *Camellia* by Chang, Hung-ta in 1981 entitled *A Taxonomy of the Genus Camellia*⁹. This has radically changed the taxonomy of this genus, as it includes 91 new species amongst the 196 dealt with, and the genus is divided into 4 subgenera and 19 sections against Sealy's 12 sections and 82 recognised species plus 24 "Dubiae".

In Chang's hierarchy *C. chrysantha* is relegated to a new section *Chrysantha*, subgenus *Thea*.

* Section *Chrysantha* is itself divided into two series. The first of these series is * *Flavae*, Chang, and includes *C. flava* (Pitard) Sealy, and * *C. aurea*, Chang.

The second series is * *Ser. chrysanthae*, Chang and includes * *C. chrysantha* (Hu) Tuyama, (*Theopsis chrysantha* Hu; *C. chrysantha* var. *microcarpa* Mo and S. Z. Huang); *C. flavida* Chang; *C. euphlesia* Merr. ex Sealy (**C. chrysantha* var. *macrophylla* Mo and S. Z. Huang); * *C. chrysanthoides* Chang; * *C. tunghinensis* Chang; * *C. pingguoensis*, D. Fang; * *C. pubisepala*, D. Fang; * *C. impressinervis*, Chang and S. Y. Liang.

The asterisk indicates epithets and combinations published since Sealy (1958).

It can be seen from the above list that Chang does not recognise the variety *microcarpa* of *C. chrysantha* as a separate variety and *C. chrysantha* var. *macrophylla* is reduced to a synonym of *C. euphlebia*.

In February 1980 packets of camellia seeds were received from the Kunming Botanical Institute by Mr Harold Fraser and myself. Each packet contained 5 seeds each of *C. chrysantha*; *C. forrestii* and *C. yunnanensis*. It is believed similar packets were sent to Mr Andoh of Japan and the American Camellia Society headquarters at Masee Lake. These latter were grown on by Dr W. Ackerman of Washington Arboretum. The seeds sprouted with considerable vigour. The radicle and plumule were initially black-red, the leaves becoming dark green as they developed. The cotyledons split into four seed leaves in a most unusual manner. Apparently, depending on the size of the seed, they can split into 3, 4 or 5 seed leaves.

An interesting account of raising *C. chrysantha* from seed is contained in the article "Tiger by the Tale" by Meyer Piet in The Southern California Camellia Society's *Camellia Review*.¹⁶ His experience was similar to that in Australia.

The Australian seedlings, after growing well and vigorously for some months showed signs of a check. On exposing the roots of one of them, it was found that they showed the start of deterioration. In the case of the 5 plants that I grew, one — the bare-rooted plant, was given a fungicidal dip and re-planted; one was grafted on to *C. japonica* stock by the approach graft technique and, when it was obvious that this combination was compatible, two others were cleft grafted. One seedling was given to Dr R. Withers of Melbourne, and one to Camellia Lodge Nursery. The grafts all went off like wildfire. Dr Withers grafted his, but Camellia Lodge did not, and it just sat and sulked.

In the meantime, Harold Fraser had lost 3 of his 5 and finally gave one seedling each to Camellia Lodge Nursery of Melbourne and Camellia Grove Nursery of Sydney. This latter was grafted and the grafts again went well. Finally, Camellia Lodge had to graft their seedlings to save them.

Scions were sent to France and New Zealand and plants to Eryldenè, Professor Waterhouse's old garden. A number have also been distributed to other camellia growers, initially to ensure the species would not be lost in Australia and to widen the base for hybridisation.

In Australia the species has been grafted successfully onto *C. japonica*, *C. sasanqua* and *C. reticulata* and has done well on all of them. Meyer Piet reports that he also had to graft his seedling to save it, and successfully grafted on to *C. japonica*, *C. sasanqua*, *C. granthamiana* and *C. irrawadiensis*.

The puzzle is, why did the seedlings do so poorly on their own roots? The answer may be in the article by Xia Li-fang and Chang Ao-lo.¹⁵ In its natural habitat it is a tropical plant, growing between 21 and 23 degrees latitude. It grows in lateritic or alluvial soil rich in organic matter, porous and well drained, with a pH of 4.5 to 5.5, and the area has a monsoonal sub-tropical climate. Xia and Chang say "*C. chrysantha* is a deep rooted plant. The main root is well developed, and the depth of its growth is more than 1 metre. The lateral and fibrous roots are few: vegetative growth is biannual. The first flush is from March to April, and the second

from October to December. [This is in the northern hemisphere]. The new twigs and leaves are dark purple. The twigs are 8–17 cm long and bear 3–7 leaves. The leaves persist from 2–3 years and when mature are deep green and glossy". This is closely followed by the experience with the species in Australia and America to date.

They go on to say "The flower buds differentiate from the leaf axils of the current or previous year's growth. The flower buds are erect during development, but the flowers gradually become nodding as the pedicel grows so that the flowers of *C. chrysantha* are generally hidden under the leaves. The flowering season in China is generally from November to March, with maximum blooming in January. Each flower remains open for about ten days. After blooming all petals and stamens fall off, but bracts and sepals persist. Fruit maturation is complete from the following November to December. The fruit is light green at first changing to brownish green at maturity. The mature capsules are glaucous and irregularly dehiscent".

In transferring plants from the Nanning area of Guangxi (its natural habitat) to Kunming it was found the root system was brittle and easily damaged. In 1975 the first interspecific crosses were made at Nanning and cutting and grafting experiments done at both Nanning and Kunming. *Camellia chrysantha* flowered at Kunming for the first time at the end of 1977. Most inter-specific crosses made in China were between *C. reticulata* and *C. chrysantha*. As the latter is a diploid and *C. reticulata* (a hexaploid) seems to lack genes for white, it is unlikely that yellow flowers would arise from F₁ generation, although back crossing to *C. chrysantha* could produce some.

It is my opinion that the best path to follow would be to cross *C. chrysantha* with large white flowering *C. japonica* which had been proven recessive for white. This should permit the full expression of the yellow factor and help to establish its dominance or recessiveness. In this regard a seedling of 'Gauntletii' (Lotus) named 'Alex Jessep' is being tested by growing a population of seed raised by selfing. If they are 100% white it would establish that 'Alex Jessep' has no genes for colour. What is not absolutely certain is that white is recessive. For example, red camellias such as 'Great Eastern' produce a high percentage of white seedlings. It is probably unlikely that the colour genes are in the same position on the gene in *C. chrysantha* as against *C. japonica* and thus may not reinforce any yellow factor but rather produce a muddy effect of the base *C. japonica* colour.

The Chinese breeding programme has included crosses with *C. japonica*, *C. reticulata* and *C. pitardii*. The Japanese are reported to have established crosses with *C. japonica* and *C. granthamiana*. It is reported that some of the hybrid seedlings have flowered in China but there is no report, either of the viability of the hybrids or of the quality or colour of the flowers, except that some were a peachy pink.

According to Xia and Chang, *C. chrysantha* fruits very sparsely in the wild because they say it grows in shaded places. Apparently this would apply to some extent in cultivation as, for best growth, it requires shading particularly in sunny climates. They also say it takes a long time to grow from seed to flowering, but do not specify a time. Many plants in

Australia and United States are now 3 years old and there are no authoritative reports of flower buds as yet, although many grafted plants are now 3 to 4 feet high. However, in Japan four plants grown from scions have flowered in the past year and crosses made with a wide range of cultivars and species.

As far as propagation is concerned, it not only grafts easily on many camellia stocks but will form rooted cuttings. Again from the report of Xia and Chang, cuttings can be rooted from current year's growth any time from March to October, although the best time is June to July in the northern hemisphere. Rooting can be enhanced by dipping cut ends in a solution of 1000 ppm 1-naphylacetic acid. The Nuccio Nursery of California report root growth in the extraordinarily short time of 30 days. Conditions for best growth are those that match its native habitat. These are:

Average minimum temperature (Jan): 13.4°C

Average maximum temperature (Jul): 28.5°C

Average yearly temperature: 22°C

Annual rainfall: 1000-1800mm

Average relative humidity: 97%

However, they survived -6°C at Kunming with protection from wind and radiation frost. In Australia there is no problem of low temperatures as there are only a few winter frosts to about -3°C. My experience in dry, hot inland Australian conditions is that propagation and initial growth is excellent in a shaded glasshouse with mist. Hardening off can be a problem and protection is needed against hot summer winds and 90% shade against summer temperatures that reach 45°C. In conditions of low humidity and heat, the foliage quickly loses its turgidity and new growth becomes burnt and inhibited. In such conditions shade house and sprinklers are a necessity for summertime. Obviously the species should do well in the more tropical area of Queensland. However the fact that the species is now being grown satisfactorily in Kunming, Japan, Australia, (Victoria and New South Wales) and in the United States in California and in Washington on the east coast, shows that *C. chrysantha* has a strong adaptability to a wide range of conditions.

In Zia and Chang's article there is a tabulation comparing growth in Kunming against its native habitat. It is repeated below, with figures for Albury, Australia.

Region	Leaf Length (cm)	Leaf Width (cm)	Shoot Length (cm)
Fuzhe, Funing County	11-16	2.5-4.5	8-17
Kunming — Yunnan	10-21.5	3.8-8.5	7-26
Albury, Australia	12-20	4.3-8.5	12-22

It is believed the Fuzhe figures are for field grown plants while the others are for grafted and garden grown plants.

In Kirino and Hakoda's report,¹⁴ they say: "The diameter of the flower was 4 to 5cm. It had 8-9 petals. The flower colour was pure yellow which resembled the colour of the evening primrose (*Oenothera lamarckiana*)

Seringe). The flower bud was spherical like *C. sinensis* and had a pedicel about 1cm long. The style was 3 to 4 and free to the base. The perules persist after the petals had fallen. The leaf was large, maximum length 17cm and 5cm for width. The lateral and reticulate veins were distinctly depressed.

Meyer Piet in "Tiger by the Tale" says of his grafts of *C. chrysantha* "... they have the most beautiful foliage of any camellia species I have seen. The leaves are similar to those of Granthamiana or Irrawadiensis but they are near black in their new growth and look like they have been waxed and polished".

Colour plates of *C. chrysantha* flowers have been reproduced in a number of publications. An excellent close-up of the flower is shown on the back cover of the *Camellia Journal* Vol. 34, No. 4, November, 1979. There is also a good plate in Yunnan Cha Hua's book.¹² In Stirling Macoboy's *The Colour Dictionary of Camellias*¹³ there is both a photographic colour plate of a bloom as well as Paul Jones' painting of *C. chrysantha*. The proportions for this painting were taken from the original botanical drawing supplied by the Kunming Institute from *Acta Botanica Yunnanica* 1:54, 1975. In the A.C.S. *Yearbook* for 1981 facing page 12 is an excellent colour plate of the species. On November 10, 1979, a postage stamp illustration of *C. chrysantha* was issued in China as one of a series of 10 camellia stamps.

There will be a period of experimental hybridisation to determine the dominance or otherwise of the yellow factor, as to whether it is compatible with the colour factor in other species and whether it will mask or blend or be obscured in hybrid combinations. Eventually it is hoped that camellias will be produced having flowers with shades of yellow, peach and orange.

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A home for the Camellia collection

DON WATERHOUSE

The International Camellia Society decided that the founding of a reference collection of camellias would be both a useful and an interesting asset but the size of such a collection made finding a venue large enough to hold it a seemingly impossible task. The specification for any suitable site had to include not only sufficient area to house a collection of several thousand large growing shrubs, but also be satisfactory with respect to climatic conditions and to soil type. The "discovery" of Mount Edgumbe Park in Cornwall appears to be the answer to the Society's prayers. Mount Edgumbe has been the home of the Earls of Mount Edgumbe since the seventeenth century and the gardens suggest from their design that they were developed in the eighteenth.

Research into the history of the Park is not yet completed but there are indications that its gardens were not designed by any one of the well known designers to the stereotyped layouts of most other major houses. The English, French and Italian gardens were probably creations of a former Countess, Sophia. The superb layout takes full advantage of magnificent seascape vistas. They already hold the Historic Building Society's Garden Committee Grade 1 status. Research by the Garden History Society will probably reveal many valuable pointers to what the original concept was and give guides to future restoration work.

The gardens were well managed for many years by a succession of interested earls but, with the advent of the second world war they were plunged into years of neglect. To add to this problem the then Earl was killed in action and, later the U.S. Army used the Park as a tank park in readiness for the D-Day landings. From the end of the war until the Plymouth City and Cornwall County Councils bought it in 1971 very little gardening was done and sheep rambled freely everywhere.

After the takeover in 1971 exploratory work began and was followed by very basic restoration much of which consisted of clearing a massive overgrowth. Large areas of ash, sycamore, laurel and *Rhododendron ponticum* were removed. Gradually the gardens which formerly existed became identifiable.

It soon became apparent that the original layout of the park included several widely dispersed gardens separated by tracts of open grassland with small copses of pine and beech. The steeper slopes were wooded. Old maps indicate all of these features together with a deer park. The only evidence of the deer park is the presence of a fairly large herd of fallow deer.

Mount Edgumbe House stands well within the boundaries of the park surrounded by a stout fence enclosing seven acres of garden. This garden appears to have been set out on informal lines, except where it immediately adjoins the house, with curved pathways wending their ways through tree and shrub plantings. It has been maintained regularly but

not to a very high standard and is in need of restoration. Once restored, it would make a good place for the display of selected camellias. A few old cultivars, as yet unnamed, look very healthy after growing there for many years.

A second area comprises a group of small gardens, known collectively as the formal gardens. Three gardens constructed in English, French and Italian styles, form the bulk of the area. They had all been completely neglected for over thirty years and had to be pulled back to something resembling their earlier forms. Each garden has its own particular building all of which have been restored. Two of these, an orangery in the Italian garden and the French garden conservatory, should prove ideal for overwintering tender plants in tubs. The formal gardens are bordered on their north and east by the sea and on the others by thinly planted woodland that gives both wind protection and light shade. The sea gives the garden a very mild climate with frost considered as an exception rather than the rule. In addition, the cold north and east winds are obstructed by tall, dense hedges of *Quercus ilex* and *Laurus nobilis*.

The third garden is in a steep sided, east-facing valley called the Amphitheatre. Its east end opens up onto the Plymouth Sound. Having been completely neglected since before the war, it had become a dense jungle of both choice and unwanted plants. The vegetation was dominated by ash and sycamore. When these were cleared a system of pathways cut into the sides of the valley was revealed. The bottom of the valley has been cleared and now contains only a narrow watercourse running through mown grassland to a pool. The steep sides are covered with tall trees that give light shade now that the saplings have gone. Traces of the former planting still remain with examples of *Rhododendron arboreum*, *Leycesteria formosa*, *Actinidia* and other species. The branches of trees growing near the bottom of the banks afford these plants a degree of protection from easterly winds and because of this and the adjacent warm mass of sea the Amphitheatre is another very mild location.

Evidence of former gardens on land sloping down to the English Channel has been found. One of these gardens was a complex system of pathways and terraces upon which camellias, acacias, dicksonias and many tender plants were successfully grown. Apart from clearing some of the pathways to improve access, no effort has yet been made towards restoration of this garden so it remains overgrown by forest trees and *Rhododendron ponticum*. Another garden formed a collection of large growing *Rhododendron* hybrids. The remnants of this collection exist as aged, straggly plants that are probably beyond saving.

The open grassland linking the different gardens was starved but is now improving following improved husbandry after many years of maintenance by a system of sheep grazing and neglect. As well as the sheep grazing the whole park was grazed by descendants of the former inhabitants of the deer park. The deer are looked upon as a mixed blessing because visitors to the park want to see them but the gardeners don't want them damaging their plants. Now that a new deer fence has been constructed these problems are excluded from the reclaimed garden areas. Some replanting of the copses has been undertaken.

Soil conditions

The soil throughout the estate, with the exception of part of the formal garden, is of an acid nature with a fairly high clay content. It is formed on a sub-stratum of clay and slate typical of a large part of the district. Many years of neglect have allowed a deep layer of leaf mould to develop and this has produced what appears to be an excellent medium for growing camellias. Indicators, in the form of long established calcifuges, confirm this by their apparent good health.

The exception is part of the formal gardens through which there is a narrow belt of very hard limestone. Even here the insoluble nature of this rock is such that only mild chlorosis is evident.

The start of the collection

Representatives of the International Camellia Society thoroughly inspected the estate and considered the formal gardens, amphitheatre and gardens of the main house to be well suited to requirements of the camellia genus. A resolution that the Reference Collection should be kept at Mount Edgecumbe Park was confirmed and the Joint Committee of the two councils which own the estate was asked if it could be planted there. The idea was readily approved.

An initial planting ceremony was arranged in 1976 to coincide with the visit to the estate in that year of the International Camellia Society conference. This planting consisted of *williamsii* hybrids and one 'Gloire de Nantes'.

The ceremonial planting was followed by a number of trial plantings, mostly in the amphitheatre, in positions where the suitability of the various parts of the garden for growing camellias could be tested. These trial plantings varied from sea level to about a hundred feet above it, and in open positions through to heavy shade. Some were placed where the wintry east winds would hit them.

In 1981 the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens agreed to support the Reference Collection of Camellias at Mount Edgecumbe by formally adding it to its list of collections.

Planning the collection

The progress of the initial plantings was monitored. All the plants survived except for two or three of *Camellia* 'Donation' that had been placed in grass. These had their trunks gnawed by mice. A group of *C. japonica* Elegans forms were planted in the formal gardens on the limestone outcrop and show symptoms of chlorosis.

With the knowledge that the gardens are suitable for the family, planning was started. The collection has to be developed within certain strict definitions set by the requirements of both the ICS and the NCCPG. It must also be set out in such a way that the estate's Grade 1 classification is not endangered. The committee running the collection is well aware of these conditions and the views of the estate held by its many visitors.

The ICS requires that its collection holds all camellias of interest to the British enthusiast. It must contain each of the following elements:

a) *Species*. Some species are fully hardy in the British Isles, some will

survive most winters and others need a form of protection. It is intended that this group should be kept in containers so that they can be overwintered in either the Orangery or French garden conservatory. During the summer months they will stand out in the open.

b) *Camellias of British origin*. This section may contain up to one hundred of the very old cultivars some of which will only be of interest because of their age. Many of the plants in this section may be very difficult to find and identify. They may only exist as isolated plants, probably unlabelled, in private gardens so discovering them will be quite a challenge. Hopefully, their owners will realise their value and allow propagating material to be collected. Identification will be left to persons with specialist knowledge of the old varieties.

c) *Camellias of historic interest*. Included in this section will be very old cultivars regardless of their origins and those grown in British gardens since the first camellia was introduced in the eighteenth century. Problems of discovery and identification will be similar to those of the previous section.

d) *Newer cultivars*. There is a vast number of camellias of more recent origin. Some have already been tried in Britain and either proved themselves or been rejected. The successful ones can be included in the collection, the more recent ones though will have to be tried out first. New registrations are running at about two hundred a year at the present time. A trial ground, either at Mount Edgecumbe or elsewhere, will have to be created to test the suitability of these new cultivars before they are recommended for the collection and, by the same token, for gardens generally. It may be that a commercial grower or several of them may have to operate such an area.

Arrangement has not been determined. Clearly, several distinct groups exist, each with its own particular requirements. Some require more sun, others are less hardy and in the case of the *C. japonica* cultivars, there are so many of them that it will be necessary to split them artificially by colour, form or both. The principal groups will be species, *japonica* cultivars, *williamsii* and closely related hybrids and *reticulata* hybrids.

These proposals will probably be acceptable to the NCCPG.

Some of the older cultivars and many of the new ones will have to be rejected because, although the park will be able to hold a very large number of plants, not all of them are of special merit and others are unsuited to our climate. It must also be remembered that, in cases where parent plants are scarce, reserves may have to be kept, using up valuable space.

Much thought has been given to siting the collection. This has to be done in such a way that it displays each plant to maximum advantage without dominating what is already a park with an important historic character of its own. It must also be remembered that the park is used all year round so allowance must be made for display at all seasons. The special features will have to be avoided. Even with all these restrictions large areas remain available for camellia planting. In the Amphitheatre, where most of the planting will be done, it has been noticed that a very high proportion of the visitors to the valley keeps to the bottom third.

Only a few venture to the higher pathways and most of these are walkers intending to reach more distant places. This leaves the top part, referred to earlier as one of the mildest places in the estate, for camellias and support planting. Solid planting of very large groups will have to be avoided if the effect on the valley is not to be one of massed dark green foliage for many months of the year. This would be unacceptable to both the Joint Committee and regular users of the park.

Camellias at not less than eight feet apart in small groups, with support or contrast plants between them appears to be the requirement. Examples of suitable companions for the collection, taken from a long list, include low growers like *Sarcococca*, *Hosta* and ferns; taller growers, *Mahonia*, *Fothergilla*, *Embothrium* and *Eucryphia*; and a canopy of *Magnolia*, *Stewartia* and *Acer*.

The main summer, autumn and winter displays will not be arranged within the camellia areas but concentrated in nearby places.

To a lesser extent the formal gardens and possibly at some future date, the garden of the main house, once it has been restored, will be used to hold small sections of the collection but, in these parts the special characters of individual gardens will dictate their use.

So far the collection has developed slowly. The original plants represent all that have been placed in the park. These consist of eighty five Australian and New Zealand *japonica* cultivars and a small number of representatives of the *Elegans* group and some *williamsii* hybrids. Further introductions have been delayed because it was necessary to see how the originals survived and there remained the problem of the grazing habits of descendants of inhabitants of the former deer park which had access to all but the formal gardens. Now that a new deer fence has been constructed the building of the collection can begin in earnest.

Progress has been made during the waiting time. A number of older cultivars have been obtained from gardens such as Trewithen, Wisley and Windsor; and promises of support have been received from several National Trust and other gardens. The more recent acquisitions have been raised in the Plymouth City Council's nursery where they will remain until the final planting plan has been completed. The acquisition of newer introductions is being examined at the present time and the first arrivals are anticipated late in 1983.

It will of course be some time before the collection becomes a mature display but, it is hoped that it will be worth a visit within a comparatively short period. Its value as a representative collection should be achieved very quickly. Its completion is, however, another matter! Many of the older cultivars, especially those of British origin and the earliest introductions may only exist as isolated plants, probably unlabelled, in private gardens where they will be extremely difficult to find let alone identify. Hopefully their owners will realise what they are, or might be, and offer propagating material to the collection.

If it is to be the Reference Collection it will be essential that a proper system of cataloguing and labelling is practised. Several difficulties have to be overcome before such a system can operate. Firstly, the older, unlabelled cultivars must be correctly identified; then the many synonyms will need to be sorted out and cross referenced, and a way of introducing

worthwhile new registrations incorporated. The next essential will be a practical method of locating any given cultivar from the information in the catalogue. This apparently simple exercise is complicated by that mysterious obsession some people have for moving labels or taking them home. It is optimistically felt that these difficulties can be removed.

Once the Collection is under way the catalogue of its contents will be kept up to date and available to anyone who thinks that he is in a position to provide missing links or who might just want to visit and enjoy seeing a large display of this beautiful genus of plant.

Fota Island

ANNE BOSCAWEN

In the two days before the start of the Rhododendron Group Tour to Ireland last May, five of us made a brief visit to Fota Island, the garden of the late Hon. Mrs Bell, which is now cared for by the University of Cork, and we were also shown some smaller, privately owned gardens nearby. Two of us were seeing Irish gardens for the first time, an experience so exciting that we hardly noticed the typical soft mist and rain — even when reinforced, in this extraordinary year, by the occasional hailstorm.

We stayed at the Ashbourne House Hotel, which stands in a splendid and mature old garden, and this proved the perfect overture to what we were to see later on. The drive approached past a grove of immensely tall dracaenas, a *Drimys winteri* in flower, *Nothofagus obliqua*, very big, in fact all this group were large, even by Irish standards, *Laurelia serrata*, *Magnolia campbellii*, *Eucryphia cordata*, *Ginkgo biloba*, and *Myrtus luma*. Australasian, and especially Chilean trees and shrubs, were flourishing everywhere. Paths wandered over bridges and under the interlacing branches of tree heaths, *Leptospermum scoparium*, *Fuchsia excorticata*, and suddenly a big *R. falconeri*, covered in flower trusses. On the raised banks by the stream, *Beschorneria yuccoides* was just coming into flower. On the other side of the drive the ground rises and here is a group of three fine *Eucalyptus*, *E. salicifolia*, with very long narrow leaves, *E. dalrympleana*, the snow gum, and *E. niphophylla* with exceptionally smooth white bark. There is an even bigger tree further down the garden, but this one, alas, unlabelled.

Near to the house is a fine *Podocarpus totara*, and in the wilder parts of this exciting garden we found many other plants not often seen in our own gardens, including *Pseudopanax arboreus*, laden with shiny black fruits, and a big Chilean shrub which we could not name at the time, but is, we now know, *Rhaphithamnus spinosus*.

In the afternoon we visited Fota Gardens. Here the water table is very high, and parts of the garden are quite boggy. An artificial lake and island are attractive features. We entered the garden from the car park, which is a mistake, as Fota was designed with the terrace by the house as the heart of a very beautiful landscape, on an originally uncompromisingly flat site. However, we found plants enough to interest us for weeks rather than

hours, including fine trees of *Magnolia campbellii*, *M. delavayi*, *M. kobus* and many others.

The biggest *M. campbellii* was planted in 1872. There are many huge *Cryptomeria japonica*; Alan Mitchell notes one 30m high in 1981, but once again it is the wealth of Australasian plants which fascinates. However, we were delighted to find big trees of *R. macabeanum* and *R. falconeri* in flower, and much appreciating this moist and sheltered garden, and also *R. 'Lady Alice Fitzwilliam'* and a lovely sky blue *R. augustinii*.

We were delighted to find a large bush of the tender *Nothofagus moorei*, with big leathery pinnate leaves, also *Lithocarpus glabra*, a fine *Torreya nucifera*, and *Pinus montezumae* in flower. We saw the glaucous-leaved form of *Drimys winteri*, and *Myrtus lechleriana* as literally smothered in flower. There were a number of *Pieris* with magnificently large panicles of pure white flowers, *Sophora tetraptera* made a splash of vivid gold, and *Cornus capitata* was flourishing everywhere — doing much better in these conditions than *Cornus kousa*.

Cork University have a good alphabetical list of the plants at Fota, with many planting dates and some sources, and they include a very interesting list of casualties caused by the cold winter of 1978-79, following a very mild autumn.

We tore ourselves away, determined to come back, but there were so many other gardens to see, among them Combermere, next door to Ashbourne, a very pretty and personal garden, which the owners, Mr and Mrs Hanington, are now obliged to sell. Their family was connected with that of John Millais, and there is a group of about twenty of his Magnolias, including *M. denudata* × *lennei*, *M. liliiflora*, *M. 'Veitchii'*, *M. 'Rustica Rubra'*, *M. 'Alexandrina'* (an upright form of *M. × soulangiana*, and one of John Millais favourites) and *M. 'Alba Superba'* — all in their prime and flowering splendidly when we saw them, planted in a wide sweep on the lawn below the house. It is to be hoped that someone will care for these lovely trees in the future, which is now so uncertain.

The Rhododendron and Camellia Group 1983 Tour of Ireland

JANE DAVID

The Tour began for most members in Dublin on Friday, 6 May. The weather throughout was cold and damp, but, except for the afternoon spent at Annesgrove in Co. Cork, it rained only when we were in the coach or indoors. We all gathered at the National Botanic Gardens shortly after 2.30 pm and were met by the Director Mr Aidan Brady and the taxonomist Dr Charles Nelson, who showed us the rhododendron collection.

The soil at the Garden is fairly poor with a pH up to 7.5 and the rhododendron collection is in the lower level near the river. Special island beds were made to give the plants the degree of acidity they



Above: R. niveum at Inverewe (See page 17)

Below: R. 'Inverewe' (See page 20)





Above: R. coriaceum at Fernhill (See page 52)

Below: R. lindleyi Mount Stewart (See page 55)





Above: *R. thomsonii* × *R. falconeri* (See page 20)

Below: *R. 'Lady Rosebery'* at Dargle Cottage, Enniskerry (See page 52)





Above: *R. lacteum* from Blackhills at The R.H.S. Rhododendron Show 1983 (See page 67)
Both photographs on this page by Ted Rogers
Below: *R. dasycladum* R11269 (See page 69)



needed. Many of the plants were spare seedlings from Headfort, Co. Meath, grown by the Marquess of Headfort from seed collected by George Forrest and were planted in the 1930s and 1940s, including *R. roxieanum* which was planted in 1935.

Amongst the rhododendrons we saw were *R. campanulatum* 'Knaphill', a fine form with flowers of a lovely shade of lavender blue, *R. strigillosum* with very bristly new shoots, *R. campylocarpum* introduced by J. D. Hooker, *R. calophytum* with its long leaves, *R. hookeri* which is easily distinguished by its tufts of brown hairs on the lower surfaces of the leaves, a 14 to 15 foot specimen of *R. davidsonianum* and an old plant of *R. orthocladum* var. *longistylum* which was about 4 feet high. There were some good hybrids as well among which was one called 'Marcia' (*R. campylocarpum* × *R. ponticum*).

We were invited to have a very welcome cup of tea and some homemade cake in the cafeteria when we presented Mr Brady with a plant of *R. burmanicum*.

The next morning we left for Annesgrove, Castletownroche, Co. Cork. By the afternoon the showery weather had turned to a steady downpour, but, nothing daunted, we set off to look at this lovely garden. It was mostly the creation of Mr Richard Grove Annesley and was started in 1905. He participated as a shareholder in several plant-hunting expeditions, especially those of Frank Kingdon Ward, and many of the rhododendrons bear his numbers.

The woodland garden covers a large area of the ground running down to the river. Many rhododendron species and hybrids are planted on either side of the wide path running along the top of the bank.

In the woodland we saw many good rhododendrons including *R. falconeri*, *R. thomsonii*, *R. barbatum*, *R. decorum*, *R. oreodoxa*, *R. cinnabarinum* var. *roylei*, *R. cinnabarinum* var. *blandfordiiflorum*, *R. adenogynum*, *R. williamsianum*, *R. griersonianum* and some good hybrids. We returned to the house wet but happy to have seen such a lovely garden, even in the rain! After enjoying a good tea we thanked our host and hostess for their kind hospitality and presented them with a *Rhododendron campylocarpum*. We then travelled to Waterford some 70 miles away, where we were to spend the night.

The next morning we went to Mount Congreve, where we were greeted by Mr & Mrs Ambrose Congreve. This garden is situated on the west bank of the River Suir and covers about 120 acres, with a woodland area sloping down to the river and a large more formal garden with lawns surrounded by shrub borders and a walled garden. Mr Congreve started planting the garden when he was sixteen. Now it is a garden on the really grand scale with many mass plantings including *R. falconeri*, *R. macabeanum* and *R. sinogrande*. It gives one pleasure to know that a garden of this size is still being created.

We started by visiting a more recently planted area. Here we saw *Magnolia rostrata*, not often cultivated, with purplish new shoots and a tawny down on the underside of the leaves, *Nothofagus truncata* about which there was some discussion, a *N. alessandri* newly introduced by the late Lord Bradford from South America. Among the rhododendrons were noted the rare *R. hemsleyanum*, *R. pocophorum*, *R. croceum*, *R. araiophyllum*, *R. morii*, *R. lindleyi* and *R. calophytum* which has long

drooping leaves. There was a mass planting of *R. × cilpinense*. Among the hybrids were 'Golden Orfe', 'Caerhays Philip' and 'Michael's Bride'.

Leaving this area we saw a *Rhododendron hodgsonii* which was one of the best any of us had seen; this plant was at the foot of some steps which were edged with 'Hinomayo'. At the top of the steps were many camellias, most of which had finished flowering. Among the many groups of plants were collections of viburnums, embotriums and *Prunus serrula*. Most of the tall old trees had plants climbing up them, such as *Hydrangea petiolaris*, various clematis, roses and an Australian climber, *Billardiera longiflora*. A wonderful scent drew us on to discover a bed of several hundred plants of *R. 'Alice Fitzwilliam'*.

We were invited into the house for a drink and an excellent lunch, and afterwards Mr Congreve showed us a most interesting collection of slides of magnolias which made us wish we had been in time to see them. Then we went out into the garden again where we saw a magnificent old beech tree underplanted with bluebells, a large group of *Rhododendron 'Venus'*, a bank of *R. × williamsianum* of various shades, magnolias, rose species and a good plant of *Cupressus cashmeriana*. Unfortunately it was now time to leave and so we thanked Mr & Mrs Congreve for showing us their garden and presented them with a *R. genestieranum*.

After breakfast the next day we left for the John F. Kennedy Park, New Ross in Co. Wexford, dedicated to the memory of President Kennedy of the U.S.A. It was set up by the combined efforts of United States citizens of Irish origin and the Irish Government. The park consists of 480 acres and although trees are the main interest there are other groups of plants including rhododendrons. We were met by the Director Mr C. Kelly, who told us that the families of plants are grouped together in various areas. The rhododendron collection is sheltered by a hedge of *× Cupressocyparis leylandii* as there is a big wind problem, the park being on an open site at the foot of Slieve Coillte, from whence the Kennedy family originated. The layout of this part of the park was the responsibility of the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, and the rhododendrons have been grouped in plots representing a different section of the genus. Specimen trees have been planted here and there to give height and interest. As the park was only planted in the 1960s the plants are still fairly young. Among those noted were *R. campylogynum* var. *myrtilloides*, *R. fulgens*, *R. tsariense*, *R. tephropeplum*, *R. auritum*, *R. concatenans*, *R. planetum*, *R. sutchuenense*, *R. decorum* (pink form), *R. discolor*, *R. rex*, *R. eximeum* and an interesting collection of rhododendrons of the Lapponicum series. There were also some good hybrids such as 'Lady Primrose', *R. × 'Loderi King George'* and 'Russautinii' — a very good blue.

We returned to the cafeteria for lunch and then presented Mr Kelly with a plant of *R. taliense* with thanks for showing us round. We then left for the next garden, Kilmokea, 3½ miles away belonging to Colonel and Mrs Price.

Colonel Price told us that they bought the house, an old rectory built in 1794, about 20 years ago and that there were no modern amenities in it other than a cold water tap. A lot of work had to be done to make it the comfortable house it is today. The garden was drained and cleaned, and 50

spruce, larch and Douglas fir planted to provide shelter and then 17 years ago planting began.

We entered the garden through a door in the wall, and came upon a summerhouse in front of which was a pond whose design was copied from a bath found in Pompeii. Here we saw *Jasminum mesnyi*, the primrose jasmine, *Echium pininiana* which came from Logan Botanic Garden, *Prunus* 'Yukon' and *Paeonia suffruticosa*.

Across a road is the second part of the garden consisting of 4½ acres of woodland. At the top end is a lake made by bulldozing out the soil and damming one end from which flows a stream through the lower part of the garden. When this was being done, remains of an old Viking trading post were found including a wooden duct from the seventh century, one of about sixteen found in Ireland. We walked round the lake, down one side of the stream and back the other, where we saw many attractive ground covering plants such as claytonia, primulas, *Omphalodes cappadocia* and cyclamen, and many interesting trees and shrubs among which was *Crinodendron patagua* which has white flowers in late summer. Among the rhododendrons were *R. hemsleyanum* surrounded by 'Fragrantissimum', *R. spiciferum*, *R. metternichii* with its lovely tawny indumentum, *R. xanthocodon*, *R. edgeworthii*, *R. spinuliferum* which has upright red tubular flowers and protruding anthers, *R. glaucophyllum* var. *tubiforme*, and *R. calophytum*.

We returned to the house for a most enjoyable tea, and presented Colonel and Mrs Price with a plant of *Magnolia sprengeri diva* 'Copeland Court' with our thanks for the afternoon.

Next morning we drove into Co. Wicklow to Mount Usher, the famous garden created by the Walpole family. Much has been written about this garden but in 1980 it was put on the market and many garden lovers were worried about its future. Luckily it was bought by Mrs Madeleine Jay who loves the garden and is anxious to see that it continues as before. She has the help of a knowledgeable young man, Mr John Anderson, who was trained at the National Botanic Garden, Glasnevin. The previous head gardener, Mr Myles Manning, retired in 1982 after 40 years at Mount Usher.

It would be impossible to list everything growing here as planting has been going on for over 100 years. Many people go to Mount Usher in the autumn to see the eucryphias, some are over 30 feet tall. Among them is *E. × nymansensis* 'Mount Usher'. There are many Australian plants including eucalypts, the tallest many of us had seen, callistemons, all three species of athrotaxis (the Tasmanian cedars), and from New Zealand, kowhai (*Sophora tetraptera*) and *Agathis australis*. Among the rhododendrons we noted *R. calostrotum*, *R. thomsonii*, *R. concinnum pseudoyanthinum* which is a very dark purple, *R. tephropeplum*, *R. cephalanthum* with its aromatic leaves, a very large specimen of *R. hanceanum* 6 feet tall by 10 feet wide, a very large *R. hyperanthum* and a *R. bureavii* which caused some excitement as no one had seen one with so many flowers.

After lunch we thanked Mrs Jay for welcoming us into her truly lovely romantic garden and presented her with *R. taronense* to add to the collection.

On our way to the Royal Hotel, Bray, where we were to spend the night, we paid a short visit to Dargle Cottage, near Powerscourt, Enniskerry, the home of the late Sir Basil Goulding and Lady Goulding. Lady Goulding was away.

The garden lies on both sides of the valley of the River Dargle which runs approximately southwest to northeast in a series of rapids. The house is towards the north of the garden on the west bank.

We saw a good tree of *Cornus nuttallii*, *C. controversa*, *Pistacia chinensis*, *Viburnum furcatum*, *Salix hastata* 'Wehrhahnii', *Photinia beauverdiana* which is rarely seen, a good *Taxodium distichum* and *Davidia involucrata*. Rhododendrons noted were 'Fragrantissimum', 'Lady Rosebery', *R. griersonianum* and *R. augustinii* well placed on top of a bank. We presented Mr Keogh, the head gardener, with *R.* 'Queen Elizabeth II'.

After dinner in our hotel in Bray, we were given an illustrated lecture by Mr J. C. Kelly of Kinsealy Research Station, Dublin, on the propagation of rhododendrons and camellias, which was most interesting and informative.

The next day, which was to be the last for most members of the Group, we visited Fernhill, Sandyford, where we were welcomed by Mrs Sally Walker and her son Mr Robert Walker. This 20 acre garden contains some good plants such as a *Michelia doltsopa* about 25 feet high which was just coming into flowers, a nice *Photinia villosa* and *Pseudowintera colorata*. There were many fine rhododendrons growing in the woodland; *R. macabeanum* and a group of its seedlings from Brodick, a good *R. genersterianum*, *R. arboreum* f. *roseum* 'Fernhill', *R. baileyi*, *R. fulvum* and, at the bottom of a lawn at the far end of the wood a beautiful plant labelled *R. coriaceum* with lovely large lax flower trusses. At the end of our tour of the garden Mrs Walker was thanked and presented with *R. taronense*.

We then made our way to Kilugani Lodge a short distance away. This garden is owned by a member of the Group, Mr F. Linton Lavery. It was started 11 years ago and planted by the owner. It is situated 750 feet above sea level and has lovely distant views of hills and sea, but does have problems with wind. The part of the garden in front of the house consists of a lawn with a border running down one side sheltered by a hedge, and at the end of the lawn a water garden with many good plants. We then entered the second part of the garden through a gap in the hedge. There is a lot of new planting going on here, and cowslips have been allowed to grow wild. There is a good plant of *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus repens*, a *Picea breweriana*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii* 'Fletcheri' and many different varieties of primulas. It will be interesting to see this garden in another 10 years. Mr and Mrs Lavery were warmly thanked and presented with *R.* 'Curlew'. Some members of the Group left us here but the rest left for Kilbogget, Killiney, the home of Mr Sidney Maskell, former President of the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland, and his wife.

Their garden is small, 2½ acres, but full of the most interesting plants, and has been created by the Maskells. *Dryas octopetala* is growing on the edge of the drive and there is a large *Puya alpestris* against the house. On the southwest facing terrace in front of the house is an *Euryops pectinatus* with rich yellow flower heads and, against the wall, a *Cantua buxifolia*

from South America with drooping corymbs of red tubular flowers, a *Psoralea pinnata* from South Africa. Most of the plants mentioned above would seem to be very tender for a garden so near Dublin. Among the rhododendrons we saw were *R. impeditum*, *R. imperator*, *R. williamsianum*, *R. oreotrephes*, *R. dalhousiae*, a large *R. yakushmanum*, *R. rhabdotum*, a white form of *R. yunnanense* and a red calyxed form of *R. thomsonii*. We were given a very good tea, and thanked Mr and Mrs Maskell for their kind hospitality and presented them with *R.* 'Curlew'.

This was the end of the main tour, but seven of us left for an extended tour of gardens in Northern Ireland, starting from Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down.

The next morning we set off to the Castlewellan National Arboretum, Castlewellan, 4 miles away, and about the same distance from the sea so that it is influenced by the Gulf Stream. This is a beautifully planned and planted garden and among its features are a double avenue of eucryphias, vistas framed in fine gateways and hedges of *Drimys lanceolata* with *Tropaecolum speciosum* growing through them.

We started by looking at the rhododendron wood in the company of Mr Harrison who had greeted us on our arrival. Planting began in this area in the 1880s and 1890s and now a daffodil collection is being built up here. We saw *R. rex* KW4509, possibly the tallest *R. falconeri* we had seen at about 45 feet, a very large old *R. barbatum* under which were growing some seedlings, and *R. niveum*. Also growing in this area are interesting trees and shrubs such as *Osmanthus heterophyllus*, *Podocarpus salignus*, *Picea smithiana* — a hundred feet tall and which was brought to Castlewellan as a seedling in a matchbox in about 1880, and a very tall *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Donard Gold'.

We made our way down the eucryphia avenue to the collection of trees. Here we saw some fine specimens such as *Abies delavayi georgei*, and *Arbutus menziesii* over 50 feet tall, a *Picea breweriana* also 50 feet tall, a very large *Pinus parviflora*, *Sciadopitys verticillata*, a 20 feet high *Fitzroya cupressoides*, and a *Picea smithiana* 100 feet tall and with a spread of 50 feet. We saw the original \times *Cupressocyparis leylandii* 'Castlewellan Gold'. Here we also noted *Rhododendron giganteum*, *R. wightii* and a very good *R. sinogrande* \times *macabeum* which was flowering for the first time with two trusses.

We walked back through the walled garden, now called the Annesley Garden as a tribute to Mr Gerald F. Annesley. We saw more interesting plants including a large *Dacrydium franklinii* which could be the largest in Ireland and the original *Juniperus recurva* 'Castlewellan'. After lunch we thanked Mr Harrison for showing us round and presented him with *R. dalhousiae*.

Our afternoon visit was to Rowallane in the village of Saintfield about 20 miles further north and about 11 miles from Belfast. Rowallane is now owned by the National Trust. It is about 300 feet above sea level, sheltered by trees and by the natural shape of the land. The soil is acid and thin, and there are many outcrops of rock. The Reverend John Moore bought the original farmhouse in the 1860s and gradually enlarged it. He left the property to his nephew Hugh Armytage Moore who succeeded him in 1903. Many rare plants were sent to him by such collectors as E. H. Wilson, G. Forrest and F. Kingdon Ward. It is due to this man that there

are so many rare trees and shrubs including rhododendrons growing at Rowallane.

We were met in the car park by the head gardener, Mr Michael Snowden, who took us first to the formal walled garden near the house. Here many of the beds are being cleared and replanted. This garden is well-known for its meconopsis and primulas including *Primula* 'Rowallane Rose'. We also saw *Viburnum tomentosum* 'Rowallane' and in the outer walled garden through which we next passed *Chaenomeles* 'Rowallane'. In the spring garden the first thing we noticed was a wonderful bank of rhododendrons of the Triflorum series — all in various shades of mauve and pink. On the right were large clumps of hybrids giving a mass of colour among which were several species such as *R. wightii* with its one-sided truss, and a good *R. fulvum*. The spring garden leads into the rock garden, past the Bishop's Chair, an outcrop of rock, which is planted with dwarf rhododendrons making a lovely picture. The rock garden is a natural massive outcrop of rock and is planted with alpines, heathers and dwarf rhododendrons, *R. radicans*, *R. glaucophyllum tubiforme* and *R. charitopes* among them.

We next made our way towards the house through the Old Wood where there are many rhododendrons species and some hybrids. We noted *R. valentinianum*, *R. neriiflorum*, *R. uniflorum*, *R. calostrotum*, a white *R. moupinense* and a lovely *R. burmanicum* growing against a rock. After a break for tea prepared by Mrs Snowden, when we were shown interesting photographs of the gardens from the time of Mr Armytage Moore, we returned to the gardens. But shortly afterwards the rain started in earnest, so we thanked Mr Snowden for giving us so much of his time and presented him with *R. lindleyi*.

Next morning we drove 38 miles to Mount Stewart, near Newtownards now owned by the National Trust. This garden is on the narrow peninsula of the Ards which is washed by the Gulf Stream giving a sub-tropical climate in which everything grows at a remarkable rate. It is difficult to realise that the garden was started only in 1921 by the Marquess and Marchioness of Londonderry. Mount Stewart is a series of formal gardens set in a wild garden, and among the features is the fantastic statuary both in stone and topiary.

We were welcomed by Mr Nigel Marshall, the head gardener, who kindly showed us round. In the short time at our disposal we wanted to see the rhododendrons in the wild garden, so, after all too brief a visit to the various gardens we made our way round the lake towards the Rhododendron Wood passing, on the way, Tir-nan-Og (Land of the Ever Young in Irish mythology) which was conceived as a private burial ground for the family. Around this are growing many rhododendrons of the Maddenii series including two good forms of *R. lindleyi*, *R. burmanicum*, *R. cubittii*, *R. polyandrum* and *R. johnstoneanum*. When we reached the wood we saw a really fine collection of species — a large *R. hodgsonii*, a forest of *R. elliottii*, a double form of *R. johnstoneanum*, a large *R. magnificum* with an equally large *R. sinogrande*, *R. falconeri*, *R. prostratum*, *R. fictolacteum* and many forms and hybrids of the Arboreum series. Our day was made! We thanked Mr Marshall for giving us a wonderful morning and presented him with *R. 'Lady Jean'*.

After lunch we drove five miles to Ballywalter Park, the home of The Lord and Lady Dunleath. This is a garden beautifully designed with a lovely feeling of space, which Lord Dunleath is trying to preserve. Although his grandfather started the water garden his father was the first real gardener, and subscribed to the Himalayan expedition of 1930.

Among the plants we saw was a large *Picea smithiana*, a large *Rhododendron wardii*, and a group of hybrid rhododendrons which were made by Lord Dunleath's father and registered as 'Lady Dunleath', his most successful cross. We passed a great mound of *R. williamsianum*, and a *R. tephropeplum*. We crossed a bridge designed by Sir Charles Lanyon in 1846 and saw a large *R. protistum*. Our attention was drawn to a lovely plant about which there was some discussion as, although it was labelled *R. dalhousiae*, some thought it was more likely to be *R. lindleyi*. We saw *R. eriogynum* in flower which was surprising as it usually blooms in June, and we also saw *R. lacteum*. We walked back to the house for tea and then we thanked Lord and Lady Dunleath for their kind hospitality and presented them with a plant of *R. 'Curlew'*.

On our way back to the Slieve Donard we made an unscheduled visit to Seaford, where Mr Patrick and Lady Anthea Forde live. We drove down a long drive to reach the house overlooking a lake and were greeted by our host and hostess who invited us in for a drink. We were taken round the garden in which there are some fine plants including a large *Picea smithiana*, one of the biggest Irish yews we had seen, the second biggest *Cryptomeria japonica* var. *chinensis* in Ireland, 100 feet tall, and a large *Quercus robur*, a *Pinus nigra caramanica* over 100 feet tall and a *Telopea truncata*. Among the rhododendrons we noted *R. auriculatum*, *R. orbiculare*, and a *R. wardii*.

After breakfast on the last day we drove 47 miles to Shanes Castle in Co. Antrim on the shores of Lough Neagh, the home of The Lord and Lady O'Neill. The original house was designed by John Nash. In the camellia house, designed and built at about the same time as the house, the plants are nearly 170 years old and are now very large shrubs. Although we were a bit late for main flush of blooms, there was still plenty to admire. At the end of our visit we thanked Mrs Elizabeth Beech who had greeted us in the absence of the owners, and presented them, through her, with a camellia, 'Tristram Carlyon'.

We left for our last garden to be visited, Plas Merdyn in Holywood, northwest of Belfast, where we were greeted by Dr Lennon and his sister. The house is part of a terrace but there is a 4 acre wood behind it which Dr Lennon bought 20 years ago and after cleaning it of brambles, saplings and other weeds started planting.

Many of the plants came from the Slieve Donard Nursery which sadly no longer exists. We were all struck by the interesting and varied ground cover planting which included poppies, geraniums, euphorbias, primulas, daffodils, anemones, hellebores, pulmonarias, dicentras, myosotis, hostas, erythrinums and fritillarias. Among the trees and shrubs there were many rhododendrons to be seen, and among those we noted were *R. Stewartianum*, *R. cerasinum*, *R. 'Nobleum Alba'* which starts flowering in December, a very big *R. 'Saffron Queen'*, a rarely seen *R. exasperatum*, *R. schlippenbachii*, *R. iteophyllum*, 'Lady Alice Fitzwilliam', *R. megacalyx*

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just about to flower, *R. glaucophyllum* and one of the best coloured *R. russatum*. After seeing a wide range of other fascinating plants in this garden in which much more time could have been spent, we were invited to take tea. We presented Dr Lennon and his sister with *R. lutescens* pink form and thanked them for their hospitality.

Despite 'the weather that was in it' we enjoyed seeing such plant-rich gardens and apologies are offered to owners and others concerned if any of their favourite or rare plants have been omitted but space is very limited. We look forward to meeting old and new friends again next year.

We would like to thank our Honorary Treasurer David Farnes for his usual efficient way of dealing with money matters and especial thanks to Walter Magor 'for walking the course' and to Nigel Glass for the way he has run the tours. Their work has helped to make the tours so successful in the past and we will miss them greatly. Also thanks are due to Mary Forrest who helped so much in every way on this particular tour.

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Obituaries

Sylvester Christie

Sylvester Falconer Christie, of Blackhills House, Elgin, and a member of a well known Morayshire family, died on 13 June, 1983 after a short illness.

Sylvester Christie was born on 26 May, 1914 at Newton House, Alves, Morayshire, and he was educated at Wellington College and Christchurch, Oxford. He was commissioned in the Royal Scots Greys, served with the Intelligence Corps in Burma during World War Two, and he was mentioned in despatches.

In 1945 he married Georgina Dodgson.

As is known in horticultural, and especially rhododendron, circles Sylvester Christie's uncle, Thomas North Christie, started to establish and develop the magnificent rhododendron garden at Blackhills before World War One, and he continued with the development until his death on 7 January 1939. From then until her death on 18 April, 1953 Thomas Christie's sister, Rose, lived at Blackhills. Then Sylvester Christie inherited the property with the famous garden, and he spent the rest of his working life on the estate and the rhododendron garden.

A certain amount of wartime neglect combined with the great gale of hurricane force in 1953 caused considerable damage to the garden, and it was only after about ten years to the early sixties that Sylvester Christie considered that he had put the garden back into proper shape and a generally good condition, and that the rhododendrons had recovered from their damage.

For me Blackhills is the finest rhododendron woodland garden in the British Isles, and I know well a very considerable number of similar famous gardens in this country. It has a fine representation of about 300 rhododendron species, with of course some hybrids. Perhaps the two most famous species at Blackhills are the very fine *R. lacteum*, which was awarded an F.C.C. in 1965, and the rare *R. nakotiltum*. There are magnificent specimens of the two series of Falconeri and Grande, and these are remarkable in their height and general growth, bearing in mind that the annual rainfall is only 30 inches. The very excellent cultural condition of the rhododendrons, and for that matter of the other shrubs and trees, is a great tribute to Sylvester's gardening skill and all his efforts over the past 30 years.

Sylvester Christie was also a very good and successful exhibitor of rhododendrons at the various rhododendron shows. He exhibited most successfully in the past at the old Scottish Rhododendron Shows, and of course, possibly even more successfully, at the Royal Horticultural Society Rhododendron Shows at Westminster. His splendid exhibits in the eight species class at Westminster are deservedly very famous, and in this class he was outstandingly successful. Since 1963 many first prizes were won in this class, and I can remember nine of these, and with them the Lionel de

Rothschild Challenge Cup. There were also several second prizes won in this class. Also the first prize and with it the Maclaren Challenge Cup for one truss of a species was won on several occasions, and once more I can remember five of these. There were of course many other prizes which were won in other classes at Westminster.

The spring of 1983 was a truly wonderful flowering season for the rhododendrons at Blackhills, and it was conceivably the best and finest rhododendron flowering year in the history of the garden, and Sylvester's widow and her family were so happy and glad that Sylvester lived long enough to see his beloved garden at its very best. This superb flowering season was another superb tribute to Sylvester's great gardening skill and all his efforts for his garden.

I am very glad to be able to say that, as Sylvester would have undoubtedly wished, his elder son, John, the third Christie generation, has taken over the running and maintaining of Blackhills.

Sylvester Christie was a very great gardener, and I consider myself most privileged to have known him and to have been one of his gardening friends.

He leaves a widow, two sons, a daughter, and five grandchildren, and the most sincere sympathies are extended to all of them.

PHILIP URLWIN-SMITH

Mr Maxwell Eley, O.B.E.

Mr C. R. Maxwell Eley died at East Bergholt Place on 15 January, 1983. To recall with gratitude all that Maxwell Eley did so well for the gardening world at East Bergholt Place, both in maintaining and adding to the great collection of plants started by his father — Charles Eley — I have to go back to my first visit there on 18 July 1945.

On that day I accepted a kind invitation from Charles Eley which resulted in spending several hours looking around the garden and woodland with him. With us was Fred Chittenden who since his retirement from The Royal Horticultural Society had settled in nearby Dedham. I have often wished that a record could have been made of that walk and talk.

To me the name Eley conjured up a vivid picture of the great gardening weekends at Caerhays Castle and Lanarth in Cornwall. There existed a good "grapevine" between the gardening staffs at Caerhays and Werrington Park where I first started work. We knew something of the atmosphere which existed when J. C. and P. D. Williams entertained among others — Charles Eley and the Loders, and when George Forrest was plant collecting in China. The influence of all this is to be seen at East Bergholt Place where so many fine specimens of Chinese trees and shrubs are cultivated.

When Maxwell Eley succeeded his father he brought to the garden his fine gift for management; it was a great privilege to be taken around by him and to listen to his plans for future maintenance. He knew his plants and he knew about their history and from whence they came.

We will miss him very much; he was observant, and when he added plants to his collection there was an overall purpose in his strong mind.

For example in 1978 he planted together in a large group all the forms and hybrids he could obtain of *Rhododendron cinnabarinum*. In 1980 he gathered together a mixed lot of ten different rhododendrons of the highest merit. Sometimes he would take us around in the Land Rover, and would penetrate into the furthestmost parts not open to the public. I have forgotten how many times we just went quiet when we paid homage to the greatest specimens of *Nothofagus procera* I have ever seen. In 1972 the height of this was given as 85ft.

Maxwell Eley did a splendid job in recording the Tree and Shrub Collection at East Bergholt Place in the *International Dendrology Society's Year Book 1972*. The overall collection of rhododendrons and camellias consisted of old and new, species and hybrids of rhododendrons and many well grown bushes of camellias including *Camellia saluenensis*.

The East Anglian Branch of the Rhododendron and Camellia Group organised by its energetic and efficient Secretary, Colin Grainger, was made most welcome by Maxwell on more than one visit. With Tom Cook, the head gardener, Maxwell would lead us from the forecourt and we would enjoy every minute of our stay. Before leaving Mrs Eley would have us in for tea, and I always felt she loved to see Maxwell so happy with us. He was proud of all his plants and his questions to us came from a trained mind. I treasure a letter he wrote to me in September 1976 about his success in rooting cuttings of *Arbutus unedo* 'Rubra' which I had got for him from the fine specimen in Knaphill Nursery.

Latterly he had to resort to a wheeled chair which he handled with his customary efficiency. Others have written elsewhere of his great prowess as an oarsman, and that he rowed for Cambridge in the 1924 Boat Race, and in the Olympic Regatta in Paris in the same year.

This inadequate account must not end without reference to his skilful work in the fine orchards he developed and his up-to-date methods in apple storage.

FRANK KNIGHT

Book Reviews

Camellia literature. So far as I am aware, while a number of books on rhododendrons have appeared, not much has been published in Britain in recent years on camellias. In 1956 and 1960, Mrs Beryl Leslie Urquhart produced her two volumes of beautiful paintings of camellias, matching her rhododendron books. We had J. R. Sealy's definitive monograph *A Revision of the Genus Camellia* in 1958, and in 1975 *Growing Camellias* by Neil Treseder and Edward Hyams was published.

A number of splendid camellias books have been published in other countries however. In 1978, the American Camellia Society produced *The Camellia, Its History, Culture, Genetics and a Look into its Future*, a symposium of papers by various authorities, edited by David Feathers and Milton Brown. Then, in 1981, the beautiful *Camellias of Yunnan*, was

published in Japan. Also in 1981, *A Taxonomy of the Genus Camellia* by Professor Chang Hung ta of the Sun Yatsen University, is an entirely new revision, recognising 196 species of camellia, divided into four subgenera and 19 sections.

In the present decade, some fine camellia books have been published in the Antipodes. In 1981, the Lansdowne Press brought out Stirling Macoboy's magnificent *The Colour Dictionary of Camellias*, and by the courtesy of the President of the International Camellia Society, I have recently received two books published in 1982. Bay Books of Sydney and London have produced *The Camellia*, by T. J. Savige, with 53 paintings by Peter Longhurst, and Heinemann have brought out in New Zealand *The Camellia Story* by Colonel T. Durrant. Significantly perhaps, all these three books were printed in Hong Kong — beautifully. *The Camellia*, Bay Books, Sydney and London, text by T. J. Savige, 158 pp., with 53 paintings by Peter Longhurst, and foreword by the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser, when Prime Minister of Australia. *The Camellia Story*, Heinemann, by Col. T. Durrant, 159pp., with 202 colour photographs by Yvonne Cave, 2 line drawings and 3 maps.

Mr Savige is the President of the International Camellia Society, and he has taken the place of the late Prof. E. G. Waterhouse as the leading authority on the nomenclature of camellia cultivars; he lives in New South Wales. In his book, after preliminary chapters describing the eight main species in cultivation, camellia nomenclature, and camellias in art, Mr Savige then has four sections each consisting of several pages of text and a number of beautiful plates of camellia cultivars originating in the Orient, in Europe, in America and in the Antipodes.

Colonel Durrant, who was the Founder President of the New Zealand Camellia Society, and who lives in the North Island, is an expert on the nomenclature of the *reticulata* cultivars, and has sorted out the confusion which existed over the Kunming plants. In his book, there are chapters, illustrated by excellent colour photographs, on Camellias in their homelands of China and Japan; Camellias in Europe; Camellias in the New World; the Yunnan *reticulatas*; Early Hybrid Camellias; the Great Revival of interest in growing camellias after the second world war; Future Camellias as it becomes possible to produce yellow hybrids and scented flowers; lastly, there is a chapter on camellia culture and propagation which in a few pages sets out the essential facts in outline. The key to the Kunming *reticulatas* is at p.73.

It is well known of course that the introduction of the ornamental camellia species into western horticulture was a by-product of attempts to introduce the tea plant, *Camellia sinensis*. The fashion of drinking tea was first recorded in China in the reign of the Emperor Shen Nung (1737-1705 BC), and tea is known to have been cultivated in the Yunnan — Sichuan areas during the Han Dynasty (202 BC-AD 25). *C. sinensis* var. *sinensis* occurs in the wild in Western China, and the arrival of the Buddhist religion in Japan seems to have been responsible for the spread of *C. sinensis* into Japan in the eleventh century, but it was not until the Dutch began to trade in the Far East that the teaplant was distributed elsewhere. It was introduced into Java about 1690, to Britain in 1740, and from there to India about 1780. The British East India Company had the

monopoly of the China tea trade until 1833, after which attempts were made to grow tea in India. Robert Fortune was sent to China in 1848 by the East India Company, to organise the collection of plants and seed, and to recruit expert tea makers, in order to establish a tea industry in India, and by 1850 tea growing was well established in the Himalayan districts using seedlings sent from China. About 1835 however, *Camellia sinensis* var. *assamica* had been discovered, growing wild in Assam, and it is also known in Burma and Indo-China, and it is from this Assam tea and its hybrids that the modern tea plantations of Assam, Ceylon, Java and the Himalayan districts produce most of the tea consumed in the western world.

About 1780, the East India Company imported from China pictures of ornamental camellias, and this led to the introduction of plants of *C. japonica* from cultivation in China. In 1820, Captain Rawes brought back the first *C. reticulata*, and in 1839 *C. reticulata* 'Flore Pleno' was imported, usually known as 'Robert Fortune', but more correctly 'Songzilin' (Pine Cone). *Camellia oleifera*, used in the production of edible oil, was introduced into Britain from China in 1811 as *C. sasanqua*, which is a Japanese species and was not seen in the west before 1869. *Camellia saluenensis*, parent of all the \times *williamsii* and some other hybrids, was only discovered in 1914, by Forrest in western China. Colonel Durrant's chapter on the Early Hybrid Camellias is of particular interest in this connection.

Two beautiful books which camellia lovers will wish to possess.

E.W.M.M.

The Ericaceae of the High Mountains of New Guinea by Van Royen and P. Kores — pp. 426, with 27 plates and 1118 figures, 8vo, cloth, 1982. (A separate printing of the Ericaceae section from *Alpine Flora of New Guinea*).

"Most are rather weedy pioneers which rapidly colonise natural and man made disturbances throughout the montane and alpine regions" — Composites? Labiates? — no, this sentence refers to the high mountain Ericaceae of New Guinea and appears in the introduction to the above book. To be precise the book is an extract from *The Alpine Flora of New Guinea*, its format following that of a typical flora with authority references, botanical description, keys, notes on distribution and ecology. It would be an excellent pocket companion on an expedition to the New Guinea highlands or, closer to home, an excursion to the warm-temperate houses of Edinburgh and Kew where fine collections of these plants are held. For all but a few the cultivation of New Guinea Ericaceae, and in particular rhododendrons, is a new adventure. This book illustrates the extent of the range of plants available or likely to become so, as well as giving just a few clues to the discerning interpreter as to the requirements of the plants in cultivation.

The introduction is lucid and sets the scene, particularly with regard to rhododendrons. While that is printed in normal book style the main text is double spaced allowing one to scan the botanical detail more easily. Half of the book, over 200 pages, is devoted to rhododendrons with keys based

on corolla colour as well as subsections and species. There are 160 species of rhododendron in New Guinea of which sixty-six extend into the alpine zone. Each species is illustrated by line drawing or black and white photograph, the line drawings including a flowering branch and other floral or foliar parts significant for identification. The ecological notes will sometimes provide clues to conditions for successful cultivation but statements like "the species is usually found on poor clayey or infertile sandy soils" should not, of course, be interpreted as "Hey, that's just the plant for that odd spot in the garden where nothing else grows". What it does illustrate, however, is a fact that cultivators have learned from experience, namely that *Vireya* rhododendrons need very little feeding and even resent a rich diet, especially one of inorganic fertilizers.

Five other genera appear in the book; *Gaultheria* with three species in alpine regions; *Diplycosis*, six; *Dimorphanthera*, a genus of trees, shrubs and vines, allied to *Vaccinium* has twenty species; *Vaccinium* itself, over forty species, and *Agapetes*, 10 species.

It is hard to fault this sturdy handbook which describes, albeit in stark factual language, so many exciting and in the main, horticulturally untried plants.

B.N.S.

The Rhododendron Competition

London, 7 March, 1983

BRIAN WRIGHT

IN 1982 it was the atrocious weather which was largely to blame for a poorly supported Competition. This year it was almost certainly due to the confines of the Old Hall, where the event was temporarily moved whilst the New Hall was being re-roofed. Less space meant entrants were restricted to only one entry per class and that the schedule was fairly well pruned with 25% of the usual number of classes being dropped. The result was that only 47 exhibits were on view (10 less than even last year) and in no class were there more than four entries. One hopes that there will be a marked improvement when the Competition returns to the New Hall next year.

But as for 1983, it was Borde Hill, Nymans and Lamellen, who were the main props — and how nice it was to see the last named garden showing more than it had in recent years.

In **Class 1** for three species (a far from exciting affair) Borde Hill's trusses won fairly clearly over Lamellen's. The former showed *barbatum*, *praevernum* and *ririei*: the latter, *sutchuenense* W.1232, *ririei* W.1808 and *arboreum* ssp. *cinnamomeum*.

Borde Hill did it again with *praevernum* in **Class 2** but this time with a spray. Not all flowers were fully open but it was nevertheless quite impressive. Second was Mr Philip Urlwin-Smith with a fine fresh-looking *dauricum*, quite deep in colour and possibly the 'Midwinter' clone. In third place was the Countess of Rosse (Nymans) with *barbatum* — some

of the heads were a little frost damaged but otherwise it showed good, clear colour.

Class 3 for single trusses was won by Nymans' *macabeanum*. This really couldn't be faulted in either foliage or flower and its pale yellow bells are always a delight. *R. praeevernum* came good yet again for Borde Hill and although a little lax still had enough about it to claim second prize. An attractive *sutchuenense* W.1232 from Lamellen was third.

The Arboreum series (**Class 4**) was won by Lamellen. Their attractive pinkish truss labelled ssp. *cinnamomeum campbelliae* beat Borde Hill's *lanigerum*.

Class 5 for Barbatum series trusses was won by Nymans. It was a good enough exhibit although I preferred the longer leaved, ruddier Borde Hill entry which was runner-up. Both vases showed the type plant.

The Falconeri or Grande series (**Class 6**) attracted only one entry and since it was Nymans' reliable *macabeanum* it was no surprise that it was awarded first prize.

Class 7 for Fortunei series trusses provided Borde Hill with another opportunity to exploit their *praeevernum*. The initiative paid off as handsomely as the plant itself by winning first prize. Second was Lamellen with a striking pale mauve and white *sutchuenense* var. *geraldii* W.517 distinguished by its beetroot blotch, and understandably said to be a natural hybrid with *praeevernum*. As if not to be out-done, Nymans too presented a *praeevernum* and got third prize.

There were no entries in **Class 8** for Neriiflorum series trusses but in **Class 9** (Thomsonii series) Nymans deservedly beat Borde Hill into third place with *hylaeum*. Their strong pink was by far and away better than their rival's which appeared, if I am not mistaken, under a Kingdon Ward *triflorum* number —KW.7121.

In **Class 10** for the alpine series, Mr Urlwin-Smith took first prize with a delightful *moupinense* spray. Runner-up was a tiny, but very pretty, cerise pink *mucronulatum* from Borde Hill and third a modest *lutescens* W.1875 from Lamellen, which might have been better had it not been affected by frost. A charming pure white exhibit was entered as *moupinense* but could not persuade the judges that it was and therefore was given N.A.S.

Class 11 for species not previously included, was rather uninspiring inasmuch as all three prizewinning entries were only partially opened and not really ready for the show bench. *R. irroratum* won it for Borde Hill (not one of my favourite flowers, all spotty and muddy pink) followed by what must be the rare *heptamerum* (syn. *anthosphaerum*), a rose pink bloom from Nymans. In third place came Lamellen's *irroratum*.

The three hybrids (**Class 12**) was very closely contested and provided a nice variation and dash of colour. Borde Hill's trusses emerged as winner. They were 'Sinecure' (*arboreum cinnamomeum* × *kewense*), 'Anne Clark' (*arboreum roseum* × *sutchuenense*) and the exciting 'Orient Express', fine long leaves with clear pink and white flowers with a dark wine blotch — the offspring of 'Duchess of Cornwall' and *calophytum*. Second was Lamellen's trio of the vivid pink 'Cornsutch' (Cornubia × *sutchuenense*), 'Arbcalo Trewithen' (*arboreum* × *calophytum*) and the deep rose and pink 'Barbsutch' (*barbatum* × *sutchuenense*). Third prize

went to John Fox with 'Nobleanum', 'Cornubia', a grand glowing red, and the petite 'Tessa'.

Nymans' 'Seta' won **Class 13** for a hybrid spray almost apologetically. It was certainly not as well opened as the same plant exhibited by Mr Fox which managed only third place. Borde Hill's *calophytum* cross took second place.

Class 14 for one hybrid truss was won by Borde Hill's attractive 'Sinecure'. 'Cornubia' from Mr Fox was second and in third place came what must have been a *magnificum* hybrid — a stunning pink truss poised on long, long leaves that touched the bench like a grass skirt.

In **Class 15** (Arboreum series parentage) Mr Fox's traffic light red 'Cornubia' picked up another prize with first place. A very close second was a delightful *arboreum* × *griffithianum* from Lamellen. Borde Hill's 'Sinecure' came third.

Class 16 (Fortunei series parentage, one truss) earned another prize for Borde Hill's lovely 'Anne Clark'. Second was Lamellen showing their Lanterick version of 'Arbcalo'.

Barbatum or Thomsonii series hybrids (**Class 17**) was won by Nymans good red 'Shilsonii'. Second was Lamellen's *barbatum*/white *arboreum* cross which surely must have taken first place had it not been for being badly marked on the judges' blind side. As it was, it presented a nice, neat, bright pink truss.

Class 18 (the final class) for any tender truss grown under glass was won by Mrs E. Mackenzie who rather specialises in producing prize-winning exotics. Her exhibit was white, big and beautiful; I think *cubittii*. Dwarfed in second place was a small sulphur-yellow cross between *chrysodorum* and *johnstoneanum*. Entered by Borde Hill and rarely seen, it was the R. W. Rye A.M. clone.

TRADE EXHIBITS

Hillier's were awarded the Gold Medal for a stand whose centre-piece was differing types of tallish prunus surrounded by popular medium and lower growing shrubs. Outstanding among them were forsythia, pieris, osmanthus, camellias and some pretty dwarf rhododendrons.

Reute's stand was much smaller but quite nicely balanced around a *Salix caprea pendula*. They displayed a selection of dwarf conifers and *R. emasculum* and the hybrid P. J. Mezzitt, abundant with flower.

Trehane's bank of camellias was as floriferous as ever — a veritable catalogue of plants in person as it were.

Another superb camellia display came from the Cornish gardens of Caerhays Castle and Barncoose. This exhibit won the Banksian Silver Gilt Medal. Topped appropriately by the *Magnolia* 'Caerhays Belle', the camellias were accompanied by some attractive small-leaved rhododendrons such as 'Golden Oriole', 'Bric-a-brac' and 'Cilpinense'.

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The Rhododendron Show

London, 4/5 May, 1983

BRIAN WRIGHT

The general consensus of opinion in the rhododendron world was that it was a grand year for bud. Indeed, one devotee was moved to claim that such was the abundance that there were even buds on buds; and judging by the quantity and quality of the entries (easily surpassing, on both scores, those of last year) who could argue? Yet, with the usual number of classes being reduced by over 40% and each competitor being limited to only one exhibit per class, one could be forgiven for perhaps thinking that the Show might not be so well supported. As it happened, entrants came from north, south, east and west to make it one of the most memorable Shows for years.

In both the species and hybrids sections, Exbury took more prizes than any other garden; but only just, as honours — hotly contested — were fairly evenly distributed.

SPECIES

Class 1. The Lionel de Rothschild Challenge Cup for eight trusses was an admirable curtain-raiser and pointer to the high standards which the Show would achieve. There were six entries, all good, the majority excellent.

Nymans and The Countess of Rosse succeeded over the sadly late S. F. Christie of Blackhills by the very barest of margins. They showed *concatenans* (good, deep ochre-yellow form), *venator*, *dasycladum*, *roxieanum* var. *oreonastes*, *arizelum*, *vernicosum*, *arboreum* var. *roseum* and *fictolacteum* while their Scottish opponent displayed the generally larger trusses of *wasonii*, *thomsonii*, *sphaeroblastum*, *campanulatum*, a fine *lacteum*, an outstanding *basilicum*, *arizelum* and *rex*.

Third came the big and the brilliant from Exbury. The big: *sinogrande*, *hodgsonii*, *preptum*, *galactinum*, *glischrum*, *fictolacteum*. The brilliant: *arizelum* (because of its Solferino Purple flower) and a glowing pink *orbiculare*.

A fourth prize was deservedly won by Peter Cox of Glendoick Gardens with a delightfully didactic display of dwarfs — *detonsum*, *citriniflorum* R.108, *sphaeroblastum*, *pseudochrysanthum*, *hyperythrum*, *roxieanum* var. *oreonastes* and the unfamiliar *pachysanthum* R.V. (Rhododendron Venture) 72/001 and *adenosum* R.18228, collected under the name of *kuluense*.

Noticeable about these entries was the superb condition, colour and range which amounted to a condensed study in the better forms of the classic rhododendrons.

Class 2, for three trusses, was won by Major A. E. Hardy of Sandling Park. His trio was *hodgsonii*, *campanulatum* and *roxieanum*. Second was

Crowborough's John Fox with *degronianum*, *coriaceum* and *basilicum* (after suffering a move of garden the previous October). Third was Bodmin's R. J. Gilbert with *rex*, *morii* and *crinigerum*.

Class 3, for the McLaren Challenge Cup attracted fourteen entries to make it the largest class in the Species section. Borde Hill took the trophy with a spectacular truss of *sinogrande*, its leaves spanning the bench like a windmill.

Dwarfed in the runners-up positions came: Blackhills (second) with their renowned *lacteam*, R. J. Gilbert's good *rex* (third) and a sweet, candy pink *metternichii* from Crowborough's Dr Landon (fourth).

Class 4, for the Roza Stevenson Challenge Cup (one spray) was probably the most fiercely contested in the whole Show. An indication of just how good the exhibits were can be gained from some of the fine plants which normally would, but this time did not, take prizes. Out of luck were Nymans' gorgeous *johnstoneanum* (a well-known prize-gatherer in previous years), Bodnant's lovely *argyrophyllum* and a majestic *searsiae* from an unremembered exhibitor. There was also a glorious *augustinii* from Wentworth's Mrs A. H. Potter which in any other company would have really excelled but here could only manage a fourth.

In a situation like this, the winner had to be something special. And it was — a technicolour *cubittii* from Brodick (The National Trust for Scotland). Its white flowers were flared with strong pink stripes showing yellow and amber in the throat. It was in fact an exquisite example of the colour this plant takes on when well grown in the open. Grown inside, it aspires to 'only' plain white. How tiresome! Although seeming a mile behind, good second and third places were won by a *pseudochrysanthum* from Exbury and an *xanthocodon* from Borde Hill.

The Arboreum Series, **Class 5**, was won by a truss of the white type plant from Exbury. Second was Borde Hill with *niveum* and third Brodick with *delavayi*.

Exbury won **Class 6** (The Barbatum Series) with what appeared to be a glabrous *crinigerum*, in which case it could well have been var. *euadenium*. Second came R. J. Gilbert with *morii* and third Brodick with a partially closed *glischrum*.

Class 7. The Campanulatum Series, was won by Sandling Park with a lovely lavender truss of *campanulatum* itself. Second came Bodnant with *lanatum* (attractive pale yellow flowers and indumentum-clad leaves) and third Blackhills with *campanulatum*.

First Prize in **Class 8**, Falconeri Series, went deservedly to Exbury for their striking Solferino Purple *arizelum*. Second and third respectively, came Peter Cox and R. J. Gilbert, both showing good vases of *rex*.

Class 9. Grande Series, brought together three notable southern gardens showing the classically fine *sinogrande*. The judges plumped for Borde Hill's truss over those from Nymans, notwithstanding its better foliage, and Exbury.

Class 10. Brodick's deliciously, fleshy flowered *griffithianum* was the best of the Fortunei Series trusses. Second and third were two bright *orbiculares* with Lady Adam Gordon's just getting the better of Exbury's ready-to-flag var. *cardiobasis*.

The Irroratum Series (**Class 11**) gave Borde Hill's *venator* victory over

the nice, perky type plant from Bodnant and the tenderish, rarely exhibited, rose/red *kendrickii* from Brodick.

Class 12. After twice taking second place in previous classes, Blackhills' *lacteum* appropriately triumphed in the Lacteum Series. Second was Lady Adam Gordon's *wightii* and third, but deserving better, was Bodnant's attractive *beesianum*.

Class 13 for Neriiflorum Series Sprays brought together a good display of deep reds. A waxy, wine *sanguineum* from Peter Cox took first prize in a close contest with Nymans *sperabile* var. *weihsiense*. Third came Sandling Park's *euchaites*. Unplaced, but worthy of a prize was Borde Hill's *sanguineum*.

The Ponticum Series (**Class 14**) was won by Mrs P. Eunson of Chorley Wood. Her truss of *hyperythrum* narrowly defeated Blackhills pretty pink *degronianum* and Dr Landon's nice *metternichii*. Exbury's *hyperythrum* was given fourth prize.

Blackhills won **Class 15** (Taliense Series) with a handsome, almost clinically neat, spray of *sphaeroblastum*. The rarish, deep red and floriferous *gymnocarpum* gained second place for Peter Cox while Sandling Park picked up third prize for their pink and white *prattii* (perhaps the A.M. 'Perry Wood' clone).

All the prizes in **Class 16** (Thomsonii Sub-Series) went to type plants: first was Blackhills, second the writer and third Exbury.

In **Class 17** for Thomsonii Series sprays excluding the sub-series itself, first prize went to Borde Hill exhibiting an attractive mauvish pink *dasycladum* R.11269. Second was Philip Urlwin-Smith's very respectable *campylocarpum* var. *elatum* and third a straight *campylocarpum* from T. Spring-Smyth (possibly from seed personally collected on the East Nepal expedition 1961/62).

This year there was no provision, in the species section, for exhibits grown under glass, so those entries in **Class 18** for tender plants were obviously the tougher types. This appeared, however, to make no difference to the quality in what turned out to be a closely fought affair. First prize went to Peter Cox for *inaequale* C & H 301 but almost as appealing in third place was the version staged by Mrs E. Mackenzie from unlikely East Anglia. In between, and better than both, came an *edgeworthii* from Sandling Park. But outdoing them all was Brodick's beautiful *cubittii*; although the judges, on this occasion, did not think so.

Only Nymans entered **Class 19** (Souliei Sub-Series) and were rightly awarded first prize for their fine *wardii* spray.

Class 20, for Schlippenbachii sprays. Exbury won this elegant class with a clearly outstanding vase over Bodnant (second) and Nymans (third).

The deciduous azaleas (**Class 21**) was a triumph for Mrs Potter's rich mauve *reticulatum*. Second came Borde Hill's interpretation followed by Exbury's *quinquefolium* 'Five Arrows' rather on their way to earth.

Class 22, for Three Deciduous Azalea sprays was an exclusive contest between old rivals: Exbury showing *schlippenbachii*, *albrechtii* and *quinquefolium* defeated Bodnant's offering of *albrechtii*, *reticulatum* and *schlippenbachii*.

Class 23, for alpine series plants was won by Nymans' *tephropeplum*. In second place came Exbury's delightful *campylogynum* (with nice nodding

violet bells). Third was a nice entry from Peter Cox chased by a good, compact form of *auritum* from Borde Hill which was Highly Commended.

A tossed coin must have separated Borde Hill and Nymans in **Class 24** (Cinnabarinum Series). Both entered *xanthocodon* sprays of seemingly equal merit although the verdict went to Borde Hill.

In **Class 25** for Glaucophyllum Series sprays, Borde Hill again won narrowly. This time their charming, deep pink type plant just got the better of the lovely (not easy to grow) primrose var. *luteiflorum* exhibited by John Fox. In third place was Nymans' *tsangpoense* — good colour but struggling to open.

Exbury's *rubiginosum* won the Heliolepis Series (**Class 26**) against the larger *desquamatum* sprays from Nymans (second) and Borde Hill (third).

Class 27, for the miniature lepidotes saw the prizes go to Exbury (first) for a very dark purple *russatum*; Brodick (second) for a *microleucum* of rare charm and quality; Borde Hill (third) for a *calostrotum* with larger than usual flowers.

Although there was some uncertainty about how their exhibit was described, Exbury were awarded first prize in **Class 28** for Scabrifolium Series sprays. Second was Borde Hill with *racemosum* and third John Fox with *spiciferum*.

Class 29, for Augustinii sprays may have been slightly below the very high standard achieved in previous years, but did not alter the fact that Mrs A. H. Potter's delightful Cambridge blue did extremely well to beat excellent entries from Exbury (second) and Borde Hill (third).

Class 30, the Triflorum Sub-Series, attracted two closely matched entries with the outcome being decided in favour of Lady Adam Gordon; her *ambiguum* defeated that from Borde Hill.

Fine entries in **Class 31**, the Yunnanense Sub-Series, brought a fitting finale to the Species Section. First was an exquisite clear pink *davidsonianum* (not a mark on it) from Borde Hill. Second, a lovely *yunnanense* from Peter Cox. Third a deep mauve *concinnum* from Mrs A. M. Hooton of Loxwood, West Sussex.

HYBRIDS

In the opening class of the hybrids (eight trusses) Exbury treated us to a superb display of what they have achieved by crossing *sinogrande* with *falconeri*. Better known as the Fortune grex, named clones comprised the exhibit and included the famous F.C.C. plant. Although inadmissible as a competitive entry (the Regulations exclude different forms of the same cross) 'the eight faces of Fortune' was deservedly awarded the Lindley Medal.

Hydon Nurseries actually won the class with a tasteful piece of advertising which consisted of 'J. B. Stevenson', 'Windfield', 'Fred Rose', 'Fulbrook', 'Caroline de Zoete', 'General Eric Harrison', 'Queen of Hearts' and 'Georgette'. Second came John Fox's delightful collection of 'Avalanche', 'Ightham Yellow', 'Gaul', 'Babylon', 'Rothenberg', 'Colonel Rogers', 'Bernard Shaw' and 'Lionel's Triumph'. Third was Mrs A. M. Hooton with that good, old favourite 'Boddaertianum', 'Carita Inchmery', 'Matador', 'China', 'Lionel's Triumph', a perhaps over-yellow 'Penjerrick', 'Queen of Hearts' and an adorable 'Naomi Paris'.

Class 33, for three trusses was won by Exbury with typically indigenous crosses — 'Fortune Churchill' (one of the eight in Class 32), 'Queen of Hearts' and 'Lionel's Triumph'. In second place was a recognisably well-presented entry from Mrs P. Eunson viz. 'Caroline de Zoete', 'Roza Stevenson' and 'Red Glow'. Third prize went to Mrs A. H. Potter for 'Chinese Falcon' (a large-leaved hybrid good enough to rank with Exbury's Fortunes), 'Carita' and an unnamed 'Loderi Julie' × 'Hawk Crest'; the same cross which produced the A.M. plant 'Arborfield'. A fourth prize was well-earned by Sandling Park for 'Luscombei', 'Calfort' and 'Lionel's Triumph'.

Only two entrants contested **Class 34** for three sprays. Exbury, offering the delectable *augustinii* cross 'Eleanore', a neon pink 'Aurora' plus 'Lionel's Triumph', were just a little too much for Dr Landon who gave us 'Bow Bells', an exciting red called 'Bandoola' and a pretty *aberconwayi* cross.

As if to emphasise the quality of this year's large-leaved, Himalayan hybrids, The Loder Challenge Cup went to a *falconeri* self-sown seedling. It was exhibited by Brodick and won against the challenge of twenty-one other trusses. Mrs Hooton was the unlucky runner-up with a superb 'Lionel's Triumph' and Lady Adam Gordon third for her lovely 'Sue Gordon'. A fourth prize was always on the cards and this went to Nymans for 'Anne Rosse'.

Class 36, for single sprays was won by a blazing red from Borde Hill. In perfect condition and called most appropriately, 'Borde Hill Bonfire', it appears to be that garden's version of the Lady Loder A.M. clone 'Sussex Bonfire'. Certainly the parentage was given as the same viz. 'Cornish Cross' × *haematodes*. Second came Mrs Hooton's yellow 'Penjerrick' followed by what might have been 'Unique' from Peter Cox. Unplaced, but well worth a mention, was Exbury's 'Carita Charm' — its name says all.

Class 37, for trusses of Arboreum Series blood, saw Borde Hill (a formidable species garden) take a second successive hybrid first. It was for an interesting *arboreum/lacteam* cross with characteristics of the latter showing quite clearly. Second was 'Boddaertianum' from Sandling Park and third 'Colonel Rogers' from Exbury.

In **Class 38** for Loderi or *kewense* crosses, Mrs J. N. Kleinwort took first prize with a positively gargantuan truss of 'Loderi King George'. In her Heaselands garden I recall a plant of this growing in the lee of a wall. If her winning entry was cut from this, it would certainly vouch for the plant's fondness of this position. In second place came John Fox with that billowy white Exbury cross 'Avalanche'. The remaining entries could not compare with these two and no further prizes were awarded.

A huge trumpeted truss of 'Cornish Cross' won **Class 39** (Any Other Griffithianum Hybrid) for Exbury. Behind it came 'Penjerrick' from Mrs P. Eunson and behind that 'Yvonne' from Sandling Park. Heaselands also contributed a good form of 'Yvonne' which unfortunately went unrewarded.

Class 40, for Williamsianum offspring was won by Sandling Park with 'Arthur J. Ivens', the attractive result of a *houlstonii* mating. Second, and off for trials at Wisley, was the classy yellow, 'Rothenberg' entered by John Fox. Third was a nice 'Moonstone' from Peter Cox.

Heaselands won **Class 41** for Fortunei Series crosses with the impressive pink 'Pilgrim'. Second was Mrs Hooton's previously praised 'Naomi Paris' and third Sandling Park's handsome 'Calfort'.

Class 42, for plants of *campylocarpum* or *souliei* descent was again won by Heaselands with a beautifully composed truss of 'Carita'.

In second place was 'Unique' from John Fox followed by a good-looking 'Roza Stevenson' which merited better than the third prize its owner Mrs P. Eunson received.

In **Class 43** for Neriiflorum Series crosses, the prizes were awarded as follows. First, Exbury with 'Ibex'. Second, Dr Landon with 'Popacatapetl'. Third, Nymans with an unnamed plant.

At this stage of the Show, Heaselands were in full cry with their entries picking up one prize after another. **Class 44** for plants with *thomsonii* parentage brought them yet another success — a first — for a flawless 'Aurora'. Sandling Park's challenge was a big, bold 'Exbury Cornish Cross' which gained them second place with Nymans coming third with a *thomsonii*/'Kluis Sensation' liaison.

Thomsonii Sub-Series crosses came next and among them yet another Heaselands prize-winner, although this time the entry ('Queen of Hearts') could only manage third, being beaten by two Crowborough contestants: Dr Landon, first, with his rudely healthy 'Bow Bells' and John Fox, second, with his striking 'Ightham Yellow'.

Class 46, brought us a parade of reds out of *griersonianum* which made the bench look like a Moscow May Day. Altogether eight 'Matadors' and four 'Elizabeths' were shown. It was the finer thrust of the 'bull-fighters' which gave a first to Mrs Hooton and a second to Hydon Nurseries. Consolation for the 'Elizabeths' came through Nymans whose entry was awarded third.

Further examples of what an excellent progenitor of red hybrids *griersonianum* can be were shown in **Class 47**. This time the collaboration had to be with any hybrid. In first, second and third order were: 'Laura Aberconway' from Heaselands, 'Captain Blood' from Sandling Park and 'Karkov' from Exbury.

Class 48 demonstrated what a good year it was for 'Lionel's Triumph'. From nine exhibits no less than seven were the illustrious *lacteum* hybrid and of those, three won the prizes. They came respectively from Exbury, John Fox and Heaselands.

Class 49, for Forrestii (Repens) or Aperantum crosses. The winner here represented the fourth year in a row that an 'Elizabeth' spray, grown in Crowborough, has been awarded first prize. Not that anyone will be over-envious but I suppose that it does say something for the merit of the record when even the submergence of the 'Elizabeth' class could not thwart the challenge.

The owner of the exhibit on this occasion was your reporter, ahead of Bodmin's R. J. Gilbert with his 'Elizabeth' and Dr Landon's 'Popacatapetl'.

Class 50, for *yakushmanum* crosses attracted only two entries and was won by Peter Cox with a very acceptable *yakushmanum* × *lanatum* truss. This could be regarded as somewhat of surprise victory over trade rivals Hydon Nurseries (entering 'Georgette') who specialise in producing some good 'yak' hybrids.

Class 51, for exhibits of Cinnabarinum Series parentage was won by a quite lovely salmon-coloured spray from Lady Adam Gordon called 'Biskra'.

Second and third were two 'Alison Johnstones' — one from Dr Landon, the other from Peter Cox.

The tender plants (**Class 52**) staged their usual attractively extrovert show with 'Harry Tagg' from Borde Hill collecting first prize and a *taggianum* hybrid from the writer earning second. In third place was 'Tyermannii' from Sandling Park.

Not looking her absolute best, 'Eleanore', entered by Nymans, still managed to beat the popular blue Triflorums in **Class 53**. 'Blue Chip' from Hydon Nurseries was second and 'Russautinii' from the writer, third.

Class 54, for the tiny lepidotes was won, not surprisingly, by Peter Cox with an unnamed *pemakoense/davidsonianum* cross. 'Phalarope' from Exbury was second and 'Inschriach Blue' from your reporter, third.

Class 55, for Any Hybrid Between Two Species not previously provided for, gave us another impressive display of large-leaved trusses. The winner, a *falconeri* × *sinogrande*, came from Mrs A. H. Potter. Second was Hodconeri, crossed by Mr Reuthe in 1926 but looking like a 'pink' *falconeri*. Third was 'Ightham Yellow' (another Reuthe product) from John Fox.

Class 56, for Any Hybrid Between a Species and a Hybrid not previously provided for, presented yet another hard tussle for prizes. I recall an outstanding 'Queen of Hearts' and 'Rothenberg' being denied by the extra class and quality of the winners: first Exbury's 'Gibraltar'; second Borde Hill's 'Elsae' × *sinogrande* and third Heaselands's *campanulatum* hybrid.

Class 57, for Any Hybrid Between a Species and a Hybrid not previously provided for saw Dr Landon's spray of his pretty *aberconwayi* cross take first prize. Second came Exbury's nice 'Rivulet' A.M. and third Peter Cox's 'Mary Fleming' × *keiskei*.

Any Hybrid Between Two Hybrids (**Class 58**) brought a deserved success for Mrs P. Eunson's snow white 'Caroline de Zoete'. This beat the tiny scarlet 'Charmaine' (it has a most appealing petaloid calyx) entered by your reporter and the still attractive 'J.G. Millais' from Heaselands.

Class 59, as above but for sprays, proved just how good Dr Landon's 'Bandoola' ('Matador' × 'Red Lamp') was when it defeated Exbury's impressive 'Baron Philippe de Rothschild-Pauillac' in a straight contest.

Only Sandling Park took part in **Class 60** and their charming 'Caerhays Philip', grown under glass, was properly awarded first prize.

This year the Miscellaneous Section consisted of just one solitary class as opposed to the eight last year. It was for any evergreen hybrid azalea spray and showed us, as always, what beautiful vase plants these exhibits make. The winner was the pastel pink 'Kirin' from Exbury followed by another of Mr Wilson's famous 'Fifty', 'Hino de-no-Taka', an altogether deeper pink, from Mrs A. H. Potter.

TRADE SECTION

Reuthe won a Gold Medal and the Rothschild Challenge Cup for a stand of plants in immaculate condition. Outstanding yellows and

pinks such as 'Souvenir de W.S. Reuthe' and 'Goldsworth Pink' gave the display colour and appeal. Congratulations should be offered to all concerned.

The R.H.S. Camellia Competition

8/9 March, 1983

P. J. URLWIN-SMITH

This year there were 83 entries for the early Camellia Competition, held in the Old Hall, Vincent Square, in 29 classes, whereas last year there were 85 entries in 47 classes. So the average of entries this year to the number of classes can be said in this sense to be an improvement, especially bearing in mind that, due to the repair work in progress to the New Hall, all exhibitors were restricted to one entry only for each class.

As stated above, the Competition was held in the Old Hall, and some members and others were heard to say that they preferred the Old Hall to the New, one reason given for this being an opinion that the light was somewhat better in the Old Hall. As against this it must be said that the Old Hall did not appear to be large enough to accommodate the number of exhibitors, both amateur and professional, and the large number of members of the Society and the general public.

Once more it has to be said that the total absence of any entries from Sir Giles Loder and Leonardslee was to be much regretted. It is sincerely hoped that the fine exhibits from Leonardslee will be seen once more in future years. Nevertheless many of the entries were of a high standard. Amongst the entries there were about a dozen unknown or unnamed ones, and several American and New Zealand bred cultivars were to be seen.

There must be many growers of Camellias who could bring exhibits to the Camellia Competitions and Shows, and it is sincerely hoped that new names will be seen amongst exhibitors next year and subsequent years. It is also felt that existing exhibitors could try and persuade their gardening friends to "have a go". New faces would be most welcome.

Division I. Sprays

Sub-division A. Species and cultivars of species

Class 1 *Japonica*, any three cultivars, one spray of each. There were two entries. First were D. and R. Strauss, Stonehurst, Ardingly, with 'Bob Hope', a very fine semi-double dark red American bred cultivar, the white 'Gus Menard', and the dark pink 'Doc Burnside'. Second was G. Mount, Preston House, East Preston, with a good 'Drama Girl', 'Elegans' and 'Adolphe Audusson'.

Class 2 *Japonica*, any cultivar, one spray. There was only one entry. D. and R. Strauss, with the fine japonica 'Bob Hope', were deservedly given the first prize.

Class 3 *Reticulata*, one spray. There were two entries. D. and R. Strauss were first with 'Red Emperor', a fine dark pink American bred semi-double, and P. J. Urlwin-Smith was second with 'Lion Head'.

Class 4 *Saluenensis*, one spray. There were two entries. First was Robert Stephenson Clarke, Borde Hill, Sussex. This exhibit was remarkable for the clean and unblemished blooms, bearing in mind that the plant in question is growing in a completely exposed position in open ground, with no top cover at all. It was another tribute to the well-known skill of that master of presentation and staging, Jack Vass. The only other entry was a spray from D. and R. Strauss, which was in bud only, so no prize was awarded to this entry.

Sub-division B. Hybrids

Class 5 Any \times *williamsii* hybrid, one spray. There were two entries. First was G. Mount with a good, quite large flowered 'Donation'. D. and R. Strauss were second with 'Debbie'.

Class 6 Any hybrid other than \times *williamsii*, one spray. There was only one entry. First prize was awarded to D. and R. Strauss with the semi-double 'Forty Niner'.

Division II. Plants in bloom

Class 7 There was no entry for this class.

Division III. Blooms

Section A. Cultivars of Camellia japonica

Sub-section i. Single cultivars

Class 8 Any three single-flowered cultivars, one bloom of each. There were two entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with 'Clarissa', 'Rogetsu' and a fine red 'Sylva'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with 'Jupiter', 'Sieboldii', and an unnamed white bloom.

Class 9 Any single-flowered cultivar, one bloom. There were four entries. Deservedly first was Brian Wright, Picket Post, Crowborough, Sussex, with a fine bloom of the white upright growing American bred 'Lily Pond', with its usual long curved petals. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with his good carmine rose 'Jupiter'. Third was G. Mount with the well-known 'Alba Simplex'.

Sub-section ii. Semi-double cultivars

Class 10 Any three semi-double cultivars, one bloom of each. There were two entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with 'Drama Girl', 'Mrs D. W. Davis' and the red 'Wildfire'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with 'Mrs D. W. Davis', 'Drama Girl' and an unnamed cultivar.

Class 11 Any semi-double white cultivar, one bloom. There were three entries. First was Mrs E. Mackenzie, Hill Cottage, Fressingfield, Suffolk, with an unnamed cultivar. Second were D. and R. Strauss with a good 'White Nun'. Third was the Duke of Devonshire with an unnamed cultivar.

Class 12 Any semi-double self-coloured cultivar other than white, one bloom. There were seven entries. First was Mrs E. Mackenzie with an attractive dark pink unnamed cultivar. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with the ever popular blood red 'Adolphe Audusson'. Third were D. and R. Strauss with the also popular neyron rose 'Lady Clare' (= Akashigata).

Class 13 Any semi-double variegated cultivar, one bloom. There were four entries. First was Brian Wright with an attractive and unusual white striped pink bloom of 'Geisha Girl'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with a good and well formed bloom of 'Tricolor'. Third were D. and R. Strauss with a good red flecked with white bloom of 'Miss Charleston'.

Sub-section iii. Anemone- and paeony-formed cultivars

Class 14 Any three anemone- and/or paeony-formed cultivars, one bloom of each. There were two entries. First was the Duke of Devonshire with a good and large flowered medium pink unnamed bloom, a white lightly striped pink bloom of 'Marguerite Gouillon', and an unnamed white bloom. Second were D. and R. Strauss with the dark pink 'Aarons Ruby' an attractive bloom of the white American bred 'Gus Menard', and 'Elegans'.

Class 15 Any anemone- or paeony-formed white cultivar. There were three entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with the good American bred 'Gus Menard'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with an unnamed cultivar. Third was Mrs E. Mackenzie, also with an unnamed cultivar.

Class 16 Any anemone- or paeony-formed self-coloured cultivar other than white, one bloom. There were six entries. First was the Duke of Devonshire with the same good unnamed medium pink as in Class 14. Second were D. and R. Strauss with a good bloom of the pink 'Touchdown'. Third was Mrs E. Mackenzie with the fine American bred creamy pink 'Debutante'.

Class 17 Any anemone- or paeony-formed variegated cultivar, one bloom. There were two entries. First was Brian Wright with a good bloom of the white flushed pink 'Betty Sheffield Blush'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with his white lightly striped pink 'Marguerite Gouillon'.

Sub-section iv. Rose-formed and formal double cultivars

Class 18 Any three rose-formed and/or formal double cultivars, one bloom of each. There were two entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with the American bred white formal double 'Nuccio's Gem', the dark pink 'Pope Pius', and the excellent rose-formed 'Cardinal', which is a variegated pink and white cultivar. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with the dark pink form of the well-known cultivar 'Mathotiana', a very good bloom of the formal double 'Alba Plena', and 'Herme'.

Class 19 Any rose-formed or formal double white cultivar, one bloom. There were three entries. First was the Duke of Devonshire with his very good formal double 'Alba Plena'. Second was Brian Wright with a good bloom of the formal double 'Commander Mulroy', which is American bred and whose buds are shaded pink before opening to white. Third were D. and R. Strauss with the formal double 'Nuccio's Gem'.

Class 20 Any rose-formed or formal double self-coloured cultivar other than white, one bloom. There were four entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with the attractive American bred light sugar pink 'Cheryl Lynn'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with the dark purplish red rose-formed 'Mathotiana Rubra'. Third was Brian Wright with an unnamed rose-formed pink cultivar. Fourth was Mrs E. Mackenzie with a pink rose-formed bloom of the Portuguese 'Dona Herzilia de Freitas Magalhaes'.

Class 21 Any rose-formed or formal double variegated cultivar, one bloom. There were four entries. First was Mrs E. Mackenzie with a good bloom of the paeony-formed 'Marguerite Gouillon', which was much pinker than the bloom of this cultivar shown by the Duke of Devonshire in Class 17. Second were D. and R. Strauss with their fine 'Cardinal', and third were Oak Royal Nurseries, Cranham, Essex, with a bloom of the American bred white and pink picotee 'Betty Sheffield Supreme'.

Sub-section v. Mixed types of Camellia japonica

Class 22 Any three cultivars, one bloom of each. There were four entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with a very fine bloom of the semi-double light pink 'Robert Strauss', the light blush pink formal double 'Twilight', and the red semi-double American bred 'Wildfire'. Second was Brian Wright with an unnamed anemone dark pink bloom, a good bloom of the clear soft pink formal double 'Berenice Perfection', and the white lightly striped pink paeony 'Betty Sheffield Blush'. Third was Mrs E. Mackenzie with an unnamed rose-formed dark red, the pink rose-formed 'Dona Herzilia de Freitas Magalhaes', and an unnamed formal double light pink bloom which was possibly 'Pink Perfection'.

Section B. Reticulatas

Class 23 *Reticulata*, any three cultivars, one bloom of each. There was only one entry for this Class, and the first prize was awarded to D. and R. Strauss with three excellent American bred semi-double blooms, and these were 'Interval' with large pink flowers, and the two large-flowered dark pinks 'Red Emperor' and 'Lasca Beauty'.

Class 24 *Reticulata*, any form or cultivar, one bloom. There were three entries. First was Brian Wright with a very fine bloom of the deep rose pink 'Mandalay Queen' and the opinion is offered that this cultivar is almost paeony-formed. Second were D. and R. Strauss with their 'Red Emperor', and third was the Duke of Devonshire with his famous dark pink 'Captain Rawes'.

Section C. Hybrids

Class 25 Any three hybrids, one bloom of each. There were two entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with a good bloom of a very light pink, almost white, 'Salutation', and two good New Zealand cultivars, the rose pink semi-double 'Daintiness', and a bloom of that very fine rose pink paeony-formed 'Debbie'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with 'Debbie', a fine bloom of that good New Zealand light pink formal double 'Water Lily', and 'Donation'.

Class 26 Any hybrid, of which only one parent is *reticulata*, one bloom. There were three entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with the American bred pink semi-double 'Milo Rowell'. Second was the Duke of Devonshire with a good bloom of that very fine and hardy pink American bred cultivar 'Francie L'. All camellia growers should include this excellent plant in their garden. Third was Brian Wright with a good bloom of the pink semi-double cultivar 'Forty Niner'.

Class 27 Any semi-double \times *williamsii*, one bloom. There were four entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with a bloom of their New Zealand

rose pink semi-double 'Daintiness'. Second was G. Mount with the Australian large semi-double rose pink 'Bowen Bryant'. Third was the Duke of Devonshire with 'Donation'.

Class 28 Any paeony- or anemone-formed \times *williamsii*, one bloom. There were five entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with 'Debbie'. Second were Oak Royal Nurseries with a lighter pink bloom of 'Debbie' than that shown above by D. and R. Strauss. Third was Mrs Patricia Cassone with a bloom of that fine crimson pink paeony-formed cultivar raised at Caerhays 'George Blandford'. Fourth was the Duke of Devonshire with another 'Debbie'.

Class 29 Any hybrid not specified above, one bloom. There were three entries. First were D. and R. Strauss with a fine bloom of the American bred orchid pink semi-double China Lady. Second was Brian Wright with the light pink 'Exaltation'. Third was the Duke of Devonshire with his New Zealand bred light pink formal double 'Water Lily'.

James Trehane & Sons Ltd, showed their usual stand of very excellent camellias, and it is felt that members of the Royal Horticultural Society and members of the general public are indeed fortunate to be able to view their fine exhibits at several of the spring shows.

To conclude two observations are made. Firstly, it is hoped that in the very near future it may be possible for all of us to see exhibited at the Camellia Shows the new yellow *Camellia chrysantha*. And secondly, it is a great pity that the many present very fine *reticulata* cultivars are not hardy enough to be grown successfully in the open ground in our gardens in all parts of the British Isles.

The R.H.S. Camellia Show

19 and 20 April, 1983

JOHN T. GALLAGHER

After a miserable wet weekend, it was a delight to find such an excellent display awaiting us in the Old Hall at Vincent Square. It has been a vintage year for camellias in general and I am sure will have rekindled the interest in the genus after the very poor season last year. My own feeling is that any established camellia which failed to flower this year, does not deserve a place in the garden.

In spite of the limitations of only one hall being available, the combination of camellias and daffodils is a good one and really gives a feeling that spring has arrived.

Seeing many camellia shows in America where enthusiasm is quite infectious it does seem strange that so few camellia lovers exhibit their flowers in London. The classes are not difficult. The proud owner of a single camellia plant has only to pick one flower and may well win a prize.

DIVISION 1 SPRAYS

Class 1 Any four sprays. One entry. First: D & R Strauss with 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi', 'Inspiration', 'Anticipation', & 'Donation'. Very well presented.

Class 2 *Japonica*, any cultivar. Three entries. First, 'Apollo', D & R Strauss. Second, 'Konron-koku' Marigold Assinder. Third, 'Kelvingtonia' M. A. Tame.

Class 3 × *williamsii*, any single. One entry. First 'Elizabeth Rothschild' D & R Strauss.

Class 4 × *williamsii*. First, D & R Strauss.

Class 5 Any other hybrid or species. First, 'Howard Asper' D & R Strauss. Much smaller flowers than seen grown under glass.

DIVISION II BLOOMS

Class 6 The Leonardslee Bowl. Any nine, one bloom of each. A very high standard made the winning of this prize a real achievement. First, 'Royalty', 'Julia Hamiter', 'Miss Charleston', 'Francie L', 'Mattie Cole', 'Elegans Splendor', 'Rubescens Major', 'Emmett Barnes', 'Anticipation', Mrs. Hooton. Second, 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Angel', 'Cheryl Lynn', 'Julia Hamiter', 'William Hertrich', 'Donckelarii', 'Anticipation', 'Donation', 'Mrs D. W. Davis', D & R Strauss. Third, 'Elegant Beauty', 'Tomorrow Park Hill', 'Souv. de Bahuaud Litou', 'Leonard Messel', 'Carter's Sunburst', 'Tomorrow', 'Elegans Supreme', 'Jean Lyne', 'R. L. Wheeler', Mrs A. H. Potter. Fourth, 'Leonard Messel', 'Royalty', 'Guilio Nuccio', 'Anticipation', 'Dr Clifford Parks', 'Dear Jenny', 'Elegant Beauty', 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi', 'R. L. Wheeler', Surg. Capt. J. A. Lock.

Class 7 Any three single flowered cultivars. Five entries. First, 'Henry Turnbull', 'Jennifer Turnbull', 'Gertrude Preston', Mrs P. Eunson. Second, 'Jupiter', 'Gertrude Preston', 'Hatsu-Zakura', Mr Winter. Third, 'Jupiter', 'Gertrude Preston', 'Rogetsu', Mrs Potter. Fourth, 'Hatsu-Zakura', 'Rogetsu', 'Jupiter', Mr de Rothschild.

Class 8 Any single flowered cultivar, one bloom. Eight entries. First, 'Mattie Cole', Mrs Hooton. Second, 'Jennifer Turnbull', Mrs Eunson. Third, 'Jupiter', Mr Winter. Fourth, 'Alba Simplex', Mr de Rothschild.

Class 9 Any three semi-double cultivars, one bloom of each. Eight entries. First, 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Angel', a good variegated 'Donckelarii', D & R Strauss. Second, 'Lady Clare', 'Haku-Rakuten', 'Jean Lynne', Mrs Potter. Third, 'Drama Girl', 'Mercury', 'Agnes Rowell', Mr Winter. Fourth, 'Drama Girl', 'Grandiflora Alba', 'Guilio Nuccio', Mr de Rothschild.

Class 10 Any semi-double white cultivar, one bloom. Five entries. First, an unnamed flower, small, but perfect, Mr de Rothschild. Second, 'Angel', D & R Strauss. Third, 'Dear Jenny', Surg. Capt. Lock.

Class 11 Any semi-double self-coloured cultivar, other than white, one bloom. Eight entries. First, 'Berenice Boddy', Mrs Hooton. Second, 'Adolphe Audusson', M. A. Tame. Third, 'Drama Girl', Mr Winter. Fourth, 'Gloire de Nantes', D & R Strauss.

Class 12 Any semi-double variegated cultivar, one bloom. Six entries. First, 'Jean Lynne', Mrs Potter. Second, 'Yours Truly', Miranda Morley. Third, 'Donckelarii', D & R Strauss.

Class 13 Any three anemone-formed and or paeony-formed cultivar, one bloom of each. Six entries. First, 'Preston Rose', 'Kelvingtonia', 'Altheaflora', Mr de Rothschild. Second, 'Sport of Betty Sheffield', 'Duchess de Rowan', 'R. L. Wheeler', Mrs Potter. Third, 'R. L. Wheeler', 'Jingle Bells', 'Miss Charleston', Mrs Hooton. Fourth, D & R Strauss, 'Elegans', 'Marguerite Gouillon', 'Arejisha'.

Class 14 Any anemone-formed or paeony-formed white cultivar, one bloom. Five entries. First, 'Unknown White', Mrs A. Waterhouse. Second, 'Dear Jenny', Mrs P. Eunson. Third, 'White Paeony', Mr R. F. Winter.

Class 15 Any anemone-formed or paeony-formed self-coloured cultivar, other than white, one bloom. Eight entries. First, 'R. L. Wheeler', Mrs Potter. Second, 'Althaeaflorea', D & R Strauss. Third, 'R.L. Wheeler', Mrs Potter.

Class 16 Any anemone-formed or paeony-formed variegated cultivar, one bloom. Two entries. First, 'Kick-Off', Mrs Eunson. Second 'Marguerite Gouillon', D & R Strauss.

Class 17 Any three rose-formed and/or formal double cultivars, one bloom of each. Five entries. First, 'Formal Double Pink', 'Mathotiana', 'Alba Plena', Mr R. F. Winter. Second, 'Augusto Pinto', 'Imbricata Alba', 'Souv. de Bahuaud Litou', Mr de Rothschild. Third, 'Anna Bruneau', 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi', 'Stardust', D & R Strauss.

Class 18 Any rose-formed or formal double white cultivar, one bloom. Three entries. First, 'Morning Glow', Mrs Potter. Second, 'Imbricata Alba', Mr de Rothschild. Third, 'Mathotiana Alba', D & R Strauss.

Class 19 Any rose-formed or formal double self-coloured cultivars, other than white, one bloom. Eight entries. First, 'Souv. de Bahuaud Litou', Mrs Potter. Second, 'Anna Bruneau', D & R Strauss. Third, 'Mathotiana Rubra', Mr de Rothschild.

Class 20 Any rose-formed or formal double variegated cultivar, one bloom. Six entries. First, 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi', Surg. Capt. Lock. Second, 'Marguerite Gouillon', Mr de Rothschild. Third, 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi', Mrs J. P. Carr.

Class 21 Any three other than cultivars of *japonica* one bloom. Five entries. First, 'Anticipation', 'William Hertrich', 'Donation', D & R Strauss. Second, 'Dr Clifford Parks', 'Royalty', 'Anticipation', Surg. Capt. Lock. Third, 'Inspiration', 'Royalty', 'Francie L', Mrs Hooton.

Class 22 \times *williamsii* any three cultivars other than single cultivars, one bloom of each. Seven entries. First, 'Elegant Beauty', 'Julia Hamiter', 'Rose Parade', Mrs Hooton. Second 'E. G. Waterhouse', 'Elegant Beauty', 'Debbie', M. C. Pratt. Third, 'Elegant Beauty', 'Debbie', 'Rose Parade', Mrs Eunson. Fourth, 'Elegant Beauty', 'E. G. Waterhouse', 'Debbie', Mrs Potter.

Class 23 *Reticulata* any double paeony-formed or semi-double cultivar, one bloom. Three entries. First, 'William Hertrich', D & R Strauss. Second, 'Arch of Triumph', Mrs Eunson. Third, 'Purple Gown', Mr de Rothschild.

Class 24 *saluenensis* one bloom. One entry. First, D & R Strauss.

Class 25 \times *williamsii* 'Donation' one bloom. Six entries. First Mrs Hooton. Second, Mr B. E. Wright. Third, D & R Strauss. Fourth, Mrs P. Eunson.

Class 26 Any \times *williamsii* cultivar other than 'Donation', one bloom. Eight entries. First 'Elegant Beauty', Surg. Capt. Lock. Second, 'Anticipation', Mrs Hooton. Third, 'Rose Parade', Mrs Eunson.

Class 27 Any hybrid not specified above, one bloom. Six entries. First, 'Inspiration', D & R Strauss. Second, 'Royalty', Mrs Hooton. Third, 'Leonard Messel', Surg. Capt. Lock.

AWARDS AT LONDON SHOWS 1983

(Colour References are to the R.H.S. Colour Chart 1966)

Rhododendrons

Rhododendron 'Candy Floss' ('Hawk' × 'Mrs Randall Davidson') A.M. 4th May, 1983, as a hardy flowering plant. Truss loose, rounded, 10-12 flowered. Corolla 5-lobed, funnel-shaped, up to 4.5 cm long and 8.5 cm across; Yellow-Green Group 154D in throat, paling to creamy white with lobes flushed Red-Purple Group 67B. Stamens 12-13, irregular, held within; filaments white, anthers light brown. Style greenish-yellow, glandular, of equal length. Calyx largely rudimentary but with two distinct lobes to 5mm; reddish, fringed with red glandular hairs. Leaves elliptic, dark green, glabrous reverse. Crossed, raised and exhibited by Crown Estate Commissioners, Crown Estate Office, The Great Park, Windsor, Berks.

Rhododendron 'John Harris' (*wardii* × *macabeanum*) A.M. 4th May, 1983, as a hardy flowering plant. Truss loose, 14-16 flowered. Corolla 5-7 lobed, ventricose-campanulate, up to 4.5 cm long and 6.7 cm across. Yellow-Green Group 154C-D, with some staining of Red-Purple Group 59A deep in throat. Stamens 11-13, irregular, held within, style yellow-green, of equal length. Calyx rudimentary, reddish, glandular. Leaves elliptic-orbicular, up to 11 cm long and 6.7 cm across, mid-green, glabrous reverse. Crossed by John Harris, raised and introduced by Dr D. F. Booth, Newfield, Brydekirk, Annan, Dumfriesshire.

Rhododendron protistum (*protistum* var. *protistum*), K.W.8069, A.M. 8th February 1983, as a hardy flowering plant. Truss full, rounded, averaging 25 flowers. Corolla 8-lobed, up to 6.5 cm long and 6 cm across, tubular-campanulate, creamy white, flushed rose (Red Group 48D). Stamens 16, irregular, held within, filaments white, anthers brown. Style white, held free; stigma reddish brown. Leaves up to 54 cm long and 18 cm across, narrowly elliptic to narrowly obovate/obovate, dark green and glabrous above; younger leaves grey; felted beneath, in older leaves reduced to marginal traces. Collected by F. Kingdon Ward under K.W.8609, raised and exhibited by Major S. E. Bolitho and the National Trust, Trengwainton, Penzance, Cornwall.

Rhododendron 'Endeavour' (*arboreum* var. *album* × *lacteam*) A.M. 19th April, 1983, as a hardy flowering plant. Trusses full, 13-16 flowered. Corolla 5-lobed, tubular-campanulate, up to 5 cm long and 6 cm across; white, outer corolla barred Red-Purple 73B and suffused Yellow-White Group 158C, inner corolla similar but more diffused. Calyx rudimentary. Stamens 10, variable in length, held within; filaments white, anthers dark brown. Style of equal length. Leaves oblong oval, up to 15 cm long and 6 cm across, dull dark green above, reverse covered with silvery-brown plastered indumentum. Crossed and raised by Lionel de Rothschild, exhibited by Edmund de Rothschild, Exbury Gardens, Nr. Southampton, Hants.

Rhododendron 'Blewbury' (*roxieanum* × *anwheianse* (*maculiferum* ssp. *anwheianse*)) F.C.C. 4th May, 1983 as a hardy flowering plant. Flowers openly campanulate, 5 joined petals, 3.8 cm long and 3.8 cm diameter carried in rather tight, full trusses, up to 10.8 cm across, of 18 to 20 flowers per truss. Flower colour R.H.S. Colour Chart White Group 155D, upper throat spotted with Red-Purple Group 61A. Stamens 10, irregular in length, brown anthers, included within corolla. Style held free of corolla. Calyx green, rudimentary; pedicels green, lightly covered with fine, soft hairs, up to 2.5 cm long. Bud scales persistent. Leaves narrowly elliptic, 9 cm long and 2.5 cm across, edges curling downwards, giving a convex appearance very similar to that of *R. roxieanum*. Under surface of leaves lightly covered with loose, pale brown, woolly indumentum. Petioles green, slightly flattened up to 2 cm long. Crossed, raised and exhibited by Crown Estate Commissioners, Crown Estate Office, The Great Park, Windsor, Berks.

Rhododendron 'Judy Clarke' ('Idealist' × 'Hawk') A.M. 23rd May, 1983, as a hardy flowering plant. Truss loose, 8-10 flowered. Corolla saucer-shaped, 5-lobed, up to 3.5 cm long and 10 cm across, Yellow Group 4D, deepening in throat to 4C. Stamens 10, variable,

held within, filaments yellow, anthers dark-brown. Style held free, reddish, glandular. Calyx 5-lobed, usually deeply divided, to 6mm, green flushed red-purple. Leaves elliptic-ovate, up to 9 cm long and 5 cm across, dull dark green above, paler beneath. Crossed and raised by John Clarke, exhibited by Anne, Countess of Rosse, and the National Trust, Nymans Garden, Handcross, West Sussex.

Rhododendron parmulatum 'Palma' A.M. 19th April, 1983, as a hardy flowering plant. Trusses loose, 3-7 flowered. Corolla 5-lobed, tubular-campanulate, up to 4.5 cm long and 5 cm across: Green-White Group 157D, each lobe having a slightly deeper coloured central band, with heavy spotting of Greyed-Purple Group 187D in upper throat. Stamens 10, irregular, held within; filaments white, anthers black. Style of equal length. Nectaries prominent. Calyx rudimentary, green, to 2 mm. Leaves oblong-oval to obovate, up to 6.5 cm long and 2.3 cm across, dark green above, glabrous below. Collector not recorded. Raised and exhibited by The Lord Aberconway and The National Trust, Bodnant, Tal-y-Cafn, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, North Wales.

Camellias

Camellia japonica 'Matador' A.M. 8th February, 1983, as a flowering plant for the cool greenhouse. Flowers semi-double to loose paeony-form, up to 10 cm across, dark red (Red Group 45C). Raised by Nuccio Nurseries, exhibited by Dr J. A. Smart, Marwood Hill, Barnstaple, North Devon.

Wisley Trials, 1983: Rhododendrons

On the recommendation of the Rhododendron and Camellia Committee, Council has made the following awards to Rhododendrons, after trial at Wisley. The number in parentheses after the description of the plant is that under which it was grown in the trial.

Hardy Hybrid Rhododendrons

'Princess Anne' (*R. hanceanum* × *R. keiskei*) (raised by Mr W. S. Reuthe; introduced and sent by G. Reuthe Ltd, Foxhill Nurseries, Jackass Lane, Keston, Kent, BR2 6AW). **F.C.C.** May 17, 1983. Plant 38 cm high, 80 cm spread, vigorous, upright habit; very free flowering; leaves 3 cm long, 1.5 cm wide, medium green. Flower truss 7 cm diameter, 3.5 cm deep, globular-shaped, fairly compact, 8 flowers pre truss; corolla 3 cm diameter, 1.5 cm long, campanulate-shaped, margins very slightly wavy, a translucent colour nearest to Yellow Group 4D, midribs and throat very slightly flushed with Yellow Group 2D, upper segments speckled with a colour much paler than Yellow-Green Group 151Don lower half and into throat. Flowering from May 4, 1983. (**A.M.** 1978) [232]

'Razorbill' (*R. spinuliferum* hybrid) (raised by Mr P. A. Cox; introduced by Glendoick Gardens Ltd, Perth, PH2 7NS). **F.C.C.** April 27, 1983. Plant 58 cm high, 80 cm spread, vigorous, compact habit; very free flowering; leaves 4.5 cm long, 3 cm wide, dark dull green. Flower truss 5 cm diameter, 5 cm deep, dome to conical-shaped, compact, 12 flowers per truss; corolla 1.5 cm diameter, 2.2 cm long, tubular-shaped, nearest to Red Group 55D very lightly touched with Red Group 55C. Flowering from April 22, 1983. (**A.M.** 1981) [10]

'Ilam Violet' (*R. 'Electra'* × *R. russatum*) (raised by Mr W. T. Stead; sent by Slocock Nurseries Ltd, Barns Lane, Lower Knaphill, Woking, Surrey, GU21 2JW) **A.M.** April 27, 1983. Plant 110 cm high, 128 cm spread, vigorous, upright, fairly spreading habit; very free flowering;

leaves 4 cm long, 2 cm wide, dark slightly glossy green. Flower truss 6.5 cm diameter, 3 cm deep, globular-shaped, compact, 11 flowers per truss; corolla 4 cm diameter, 2 cm long, openly funnel-shaped, margins slightly wavy, between Violet Group 86C and Violet Group 86D tinged with violet at midribs and into throat. Flowering from April 22, 1983. [236]

'Lilian Harvey' (*R. racemosum* × *R. 'Hatsugiri'*) (raised and sent by Messrs William Hardijzer & Co, The Nurseries, Wilhelminalaan 53, Boskoop, Holland; introduced by Mr P. W. Hardijzer) **A.M.** April 27, 1983. Plant 95 cm high, 95 cm spread, upright, slightly spreading habit; free flowering; leaves 3 cm long, 1.5 cm wide, medium glossy green. Flower truss 5.5 cm diameter, 3.5 cm deep, globular-shaped, crowded, 18 flowers per truss; corolla 3 cm diameter, 2 cm long, openly funnel-shaped, margins very slightly wavy, paler than Red-Purple Group 65D lightly flushed with slightly brighter and deeper than Red-Purple Group 65B at midribs and into throat, lower half of upper segment speckled with slightly paler than Red-Purple Group 66C. Flowering from April 29, 1983. (**H.C.C.** 1976) [177]

'Manderley' (*R. 'Scandinavia'* × *R. 'Fabia'*) (raised by Mr G. H. Slootjes, Holland; introduced and sent by Snows Ride Nurseries, Windlesham, Surrey.) **A.M.** May 17, 1983. Plant 95 cm high, 130 cm spread, vigorous, upright, slightly spreading, fairly compact habit; very free flowering; leaves 9 cm long, 3 cm wide, medium to dark dull green. Flower truss 14 cm diameter, 10 cm deep, fairly compact, dome-shaped, 12 to 13 flowers per truss; corolla 7 cm diameter, 5 cm long, funnel-shaped, nearest to Red Group 46A, tinged slightly deeper at margins, spotted on upper petals extending into throat of between Greyed-Purple Group 187A and Greyed-Purple Group 187B. Flowering from May 12, 1983. (**H.C.** 1981) [262]

'Maricee' (*R. sargentianum* Seedling) (raised and introduced by Mr J. Caperci; sent by Glendoick Gardens Ltd.) **A.M.** May 17, 1983. Plant 45 cm high, 64 cm spread, vigorous, upright, spreading habit; free flowering; leaves 1.7 cm long, 8 mm wide, fairly dark glossy green. Flower truss 4 cm diameter, 3 cm deep, globular-shaped, compact, 10 flowers per truss; corolla 1.7 cm diameter, 2 cm long, tubular openly funnel-shaped, margins wavy, white. Flowering from May 9, 1983. [37]

'Phalarope' (*R. pemakoense* × *R. davidsonianum*) (raised by Mr P. A. Cox; introduced by Glendoick Gardens Ltd; sent by Hydon Nurseries Ltd, Hydon Heath, Godalming, Surrey.) **A.M.** April 27, 1983. Plant 31 cm high, 50 cm spread, vigorous, upright, compact habit; very free flowering; leaves 2.5 cm long, 1.5 cm wide, medium glossy green. Flower truss 7.5 cm diameter, 4 cm deep, fairly lax, 4 to 6 flowers per truss; corolla 4 cm diameter, 3 cm long, openly funnel-shaped, margins very slightly wavy, translucent white very delicately flushed at midribs towards tip with nearest to Red-Purple Group 69B. Flowering from April 18, 1983. [130]

'Red Carpet' (*R. 'Amerika'* × *forrestii* var. *repena*) (raised and sent by Mr D. G. Hobbie, Linswege Weer Westerstede, Oldenburg, Germany; introduced by Mr D. G. Hobbie and Mr J. H. P. Holt.) **A.M.** April 27, 1983. Plant 80 cm high, 165 cm spread, vigorous, upright, slightly spreading habit; very free flowering; leaves 6.5 cm long, 4 cm wide, medium dull green. Flower truss 10 cm diameter, 6 cm deep, lax, 4 flowers per truss; corolla 5.5 cm diameter, 4 cm long, campanulate-shaped, margins wavy, Red Group 45A tinged with black around margins changing to Red Group

45B towards throat, veined with a deeper colour. Flowering from April 25, 1983. [164]

'**Saint Merryn**' (*R. impeditum* × *R. 'Saint Tudy*) (raised by Major-General E. G. W. W. Harrison; introduced and sent by Hydon Nurseries Ltd). **A.M.** April 27, 1983. Plant 42 cm high, 88 cm spread, vigorous, upright, very compact habit; very free flowering; leaves 1.2 cm long, 7 mm wide, dark glossy green. Flower truss 5 cm diameter, 5 cm deep, fairly globular-shaped, 15 flowers per truss; corolla 3 cm diameter, 1.5 cm long, broadly funnel-shaped, margins very finely waved, a colour between Violet Group 87C and Violet Group 87D becoming slightly darker at extreme margins, midribs flushed towards tips with violet. Flowering from April 25, 1983. [12]

'**Egret**' (*R. racemosum* 'White Lace' × *R. campylogynum* (white)) (raised by Mr P. A. Cox; sent by Glendoick Gardens Ltd). **H.C.** May 17, 1983. Plant 22 cm high, 36 cm spread, vigorous, upright, compact habit; free flowering; leaves 2.3 cm long, 1.1 cm wide, medium glossy green. Flower truss 7 cm diameter, 4 cm deep, lax, 6 flowers per truss; corolla 1.8 cm diameter, 1.5 cm long, widely funnel-shaped, margins entire, white slightly tinged pale green towards calyx. Flowering from May 9, 1983. [44]

Evergreen Azalea

'**Pettychaps**' (Kurume hybrid) (sent by G. Reuthe Ltd). **H.C.** May 17, 1983. Plant 37 cm high, 115 cm spread, fairly vigorous, spreading, fairly compact habit; free flowering; leaves 2 cm long, 1 cm wide, light green. Flower truss 6 cm diameter, 3 cm deep, 3 flowers per truss; corolla 3 cm diameter, 2.5 cm long, broadly funnel-shaped, hose in hose, margins very slightly waved, outer slightly cut, brighter and pinker than Red-Purple Group 62D flushed with brighter than between Red-Purple Group 62A and Red-Purple Group 62B, lower half of upper segments speckled with between Red-Purple Group 63A and Red-Purple Group 63B. Flowering from May 10, 1983. [48]

Additions to the International Rhododendron Register 1982/3

The following list contains names registered during the period 16 July 1982 to 15 July 1983.

It is to be regretted that for the second year running no registrations have been received from the American Rhododendron Society Registrar. Names of American raised clones purporting to have been approved and registered by the RHS, as International Registration Authority, have appeared in recent issues of the ARS Journal, but these names have *not* been submitted and are thus still illegitimate. In the absence of renewed communications with the American Registrar, growers in the USA wishing to have their new names checked and registered are urged to send them direct to the International Rhododendron Registrar, RHS Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey, England, GU23 6QB. Since going to press the American Registrar has sent applications for these missing names. Those that are accepted will be published in next year's list. Please note that registration

forms can be obtained from this address and that all applications should be made using these forms and be accompanied by the registration fee. Successful registrants will receive Certificates of International Registration for each name registered.

The Register itself is now being revised in preparation for publication of a new edition. Anyone who can provide additional names or can point to errors in the previous edition (or its supplements) is urged to contact the Registrar. The format for entries will be slightly modified and these changes are employed in the list below. A few words of explanation may therefore be necessary.

The nomenclature employed is that of the recent revision of the genus by Cullen & Chamberlain.

When a species name is used (eg *R. yakushmanum*) it is assumed, unless otherwise stated, that the typical form is intended (ie *R. yakushmanum* ssp. *yakushmanum*). Unqualified measurements are length × breadth.

The following abbreviations are used where appropriate:

R: raised by... H: hybridized by... G: grown to first flower by...
I: introduced by... N: named by... REG: registered by... Therefore an entry such as "H: H. Hachmann, 1968 G: 1973 I: 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983," implies that Mr Hachmann hybridized the parents in 1968, grew this particular plant on to its first flowering in 1973 and introduced it in 1982. Registration of the name was undertaken by Mr G. Stück in 1983.

(a) = an azalea (az) = an azaleodendron (m) = a malesian (ie sect. *Vireya*).

An asterisk preceding an award indicates the award was made to the plant after trial at the RHS Garden, Wisley.

- 'Abigail Jury' cl. (*yakushmanum* $\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × *Dido* g.) H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 9-10/truss, 50×90mm, 6-lobed, white, flushed carmine rose (HCC 621/2), upper lobe with green and red spots. Lvs 90×35mm, with fawn, suede-like indumentum when young.
- 'Annette Weyerhaeuser' cl. (*fortunei* ssp. *discolor* $\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × *griersonianum* hybrid) H: H. L. Larson, 1960 G: 1972 I: 1981 REG: 1982. Fls 11-12/truss, 82×88mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 66D. Calyx c 1.5mm long, Greyed-Green 195D. Lvs 140×70mm, glabrous.
- 'Anuschka' cl. ('Sammetglut' $\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × *yakushmanum* 'Koichiro Wada') H: H. Hachmann, 1968 G: 1973 I: 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 11-14 truss, 45×55-60mm, 5-lobed, Red 54A, shading inwards to Red 55C(-D) and Red 56D (Red-Purple 62D), marked Red-Purple 59A-B. Calyx 2-3mm long, greenish pink. Lvs elliptic, 100-130×45-65mm, densely hairy.
- 'Azurika' cl. (*russatum* $\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × *impeditum*) H: H. Hackmann, 1963 G: 1966 I: 1979 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 7-8/truss, 15×20-30mm, 5-lobed, Violet 87A. Lvs 25-28×9-10mm, scaly.
- 'Azurwolke' cl. (*russatum* $\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × 'Blue Diamond') H: H. Hachmann, 1961 G: 1964 I: 1977 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 6-7/truss, 35-40mm wide, 5-lobed, Violet 88C. Lvs 30-35×17-18mm, scaly.
- 'Barbara Jury' cl. (*maddenii* $\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × 'Sirius') H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 5-6/truss, 70×90mm, 5-lobed, Naples Yellow (HCC

403/3) deepening on outside of tube and flushed pink; orange-yellow within. Calyx green. Lvs elliptic, 100-40mm, with brown, scaly indumentum.

- 'Barmstedt' cl. ('Sammetglut' ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times *yakushimanum* 'Koichiro Wada') H: H. Hachmann, 1968 G: 1973 I: 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 18-22/truss, 50 \times 50-65mm, 5-lobed, Red 55A, shading inwards to 55B(-D), marked Red 53A(-B). Calyx 2mm long, greenish grey. Lvs elliptic/ovate, 100-130 \times 35-50mm, margins strongly revolute, white felted.
- 'Bernice' cl. (*maddenii* ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times Royal Flush g.) H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 7/truss, 60 \times 80mm, 5-lobed, Crimson (HCC 22) shading to 22/1 on lobes, becoming blush white on lobe margins; throat crimson. Calyx red. Lvs elliptic, 100 \times 45mm, with brown, scaly indumentum.
- 'Bernstein' cl. ('Goldsworth Orange' ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times 'Mrs J. G. Millais') H: H. Hachmann, 1965 G: 1970 I: 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 12-15/truss, 45-50 \times 60-70mm, 5-lobed, Yellow-Orange 20D, with conspicuous blotch of Orange-Red 34A-B on Yellow-Orange 15C. Calyx 1.0-1.5mm long, Yellow-Orange 20D(-C). Lvs elliptic, 90-110 \times 25-35mm, hairy.
- 'Blinklicht' cl. ('Nova Zembla' ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times 'Mars') H: H. Hachmann, 1960 G: 1966 I: 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 15-21/truss, 50-60 \times 40-50mm, 5-lobed, Red 53A-B with slight markings of Greyed-Purple 183A. Calyx 2.0mm long, reddish green. Lvs elliptic, 120-160 \times 50-60mm, hairy.
- 'Blurettia' cl. ('Blue Peter' ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times *yakushimanum* 'Koichiro Wada') H: H. Hachmann, 1968 G: 1973 I: 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 11-14/truss, 45 \times 50-55mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 73A on wavy margins, shading inwards to 73D and Red-Purple 69A-B. unmarked or with slight Red-Purple 60C markings. Calyx 2mm long, light green. Lvs ovate, 90-130 \times 50-60mm, hairy.
- 'Brigitte' cl. (*insigne* ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times 'Mrs J. G. Millais') H: H. Hachmann, 1965 G: 1970 I: 1980 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 19-23/truss, 45 \times 70mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 68A, shading inwards to 68D and White 155D, conspicuously blotched Yellow-Green 153A-B(-D). Calyx 2-4mm long, greenish. Lvs lanceolate, 100-130 \times 30-60mm, hairy.
- 'Buketta' cl. ('Spitfire' ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times 'Frühlingszauber') H: H. Hachmann, 1963 G: 1968 I: 1979 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 10-12/truss, 40-50 \times 50-65mm, 5-lobed, Red 53B, marked with Red-Purple 59A. Calyx 2-3mm long, Red 53B. Lvs elliptic, 70-100 \times 30-45mm, hairy.
- 'Charisma' cl. (Raised from KW20280) R: New Zealand Rhododendron Association I: Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust REG: G. Smith, 1982. Fls 2-4/truss, 70 \times 100mm, 5-lobed, Rose Madder (HCC 23/3-23/2) in bud, opening Rose Pink (HCC 427/3) with darker lines on each lobe; yellow-orange blotch on upper lobe. Calyx 1-2mm long, pinkish red, long ciliate. Lvs oblong-elliptic, 80-110 \times 35mm, scaly.
- 'Christine Denz' cl. (*maddenii* ($\frac{O}{+}$) \times 'Sirius') H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 5-6/truss, 70 \times 80mm, 5-lobed, Carmine Rose (HCC 621/3) in bud, opening Naples Yellow (HCC 403/3) flushed pink; throat bright yellow. Calyx green. Lvs elliptic, 90 \times 35mm, with brown, scaly indumentum.

- 'Crimson Pippin' cl. (*yakushmanum* ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times *sanguineum* ssp. *sanguineum* var. *haemaleum*) H: H. L. Larson, 1966 G: 1976 I: 1982 REG: 1983. Fls 10-11/truss, 45 \times 50mm, 5-lobed, Red 46A. Calyx 25mm long, Red 46A. Lvs 75 \times 25mm, with a Greyed-Orange 164C woolly indumentum.
- 'Donvale Pearl' cl. (*yakushmanum* ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times seedling of *arboreum*) R: J. O'Shannosy G: 1981 REG: 1983. Fls 28/truss, tubular-campanulate, Red 54B. Lvs elliptic, 110-140mm.
- 'Duchess of Kent' cl. (Unknown) H: E. de Rothschild, 1962 G: 1972 I & REG: 1982. Fls 16/truss, 65 \times 80 mm, 5-lobed, Yellow-Orange 15C fading to 15D, blotch Yellow-Orange 23A; lobes frilled. Calyx 5-6mm long. Lvs obovate-lanceolate, 95 \times 40mm.
- 'Elizabeth Mount' cl. ('Britannia' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times Loderi g.) H & G: Mr White (Embley Park), c 1949 I: Hillier Nurseries (Winchester) Ltd REG: G. Mount, 1982. Fls 9/truss, 45 \times 90mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 57A in bud, opening 57D shading to nearly white in centre of lobes, blotch at base of upper lobe Red 46B strongly suffused black-brown and with spots of the same colour. Calyx 1-3mm long, pinkish green. Lvs oblong-elliptic, up to 175 \times 75mm, very thinly white hairy below with a few glandular hairs on midrib.
- 'Elya' cl. ((*Fabia* g. \times *bureavii*) ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times *yakushmanum*) H: H. L. Larson, 1968 G: 1976 I: 1981 REG: 1982. Fls 7-8/truss, 38 \times 90mm, 5-6-lobed, Red-Purple 58C. Lvs 95 \times 38mm, with Greyed-Orange 166C, felt-like indumentum.
- (a) 'Fasching' cl. (Knap Hill: 'Royal Command') ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times 'Gibraltar') H: H. Hachmann, 1964 G: 1969 I: 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 18-21/truss, 30-35 \times 50-55mm, 5-6-lobed, Orange 25C with Orange 28A-B, marked \pm Orange-Red 30C, limb strongly crisped. Calyx 5-7mm long, Yellow-Green 144C-D Lvs 80-100 \times 30-50mm, hairy.
- 'Felicity Fair' cl. (*maddenii* ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times 'Sirius') H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 7-8/truss, 90 \times 90mm, 5-lobed, Amber Yellow (HCC 505/2-505/3), flushed externally; throat orange. Calyx green. Lvs elliptic, 130 \times 50mm, with brown, scaly indumentum.
- (a) 'Feuerwerk' cl. (Knap Hill: 'Cecile' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times 'Fireball') H: H. Hachmann, 1963 G: 1968 I: 1977 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 10-12/truss, 30-40 \times 70-90mm, 6-7-lobed, flaming red (\pm Orange-Red 32A-34A), inconspicuously marked Orange 28A-B. Calyx 2-4mm long, Yellow-Green 144A-B. Lvs ovate, 70-95 \times 30-45mm, hairy.
- 'Floral Dance' cl. (*nuttallii* ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times *edgeworthii*) H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 4/truss, funnel-shaped, 90 \times 110mm, 5-lobed, white, flushed externally and on lobes Camellia Rose (HCC 622/1); blotch yellow; lobes frilled. Calyx 15mm long, pink. Lvs ovate, 140 \times 60mm, with tan indumentum.
- 'Four Crosses' cl. ((*Fabia* g. \times *bureavii*) ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times ('King of Shrubs' \times *smirnowii*)) H: New Zealand Rhododendron Association G: Mrs R. Pinney, 1965 REG: 1982. Fls Red 45D in bud, opening Red 43C, fading to Orange 29C; centre Red 46A. Lvs with a Greyed-Orange 164C indumentum.
- 'Freda Rosage' cl. ('Virginia Scott' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) \times Jasper g.) H: H. L. Larson, 1964 G: 1973 I: 1981 REG: 1982. Fls 13/truss, 63 \times 90mm, 5-

lobed buds 47D, opening Yellow 10D, upper lobe Yellow-Green 152C. Calyx 38mm long, Yellow 10D. Lvs 160×50mm, glabrous. Corolla is split and the lobes overlap making it look double.

- (a) 'Gabriele' cl. ('Mother's Day' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × 'Kermesina') H: H. Hachmann, 1959 G: 1962 I: 1979 REG: G. Stück, 1983, Fls 3-5/truss, 30×37-40mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 58B, slightly marked 58A. Calyx 3-4mm long, light green, silvery hairy. Lvs 25×13mm.
- 'Glenarn' cl. (*sanguineum* ssp. *didymum* × *chamaethomsonii*) H: A. C. & J. F. A. Gibson, 1951 N: P. J. Urlwin-Smith REG: 1983, Fls 4/truss, 40×45mm, 5-lobed, Red 53A. Calyx 4mm long, Red 53A. Lvs ovate, 60×25mm, glabrous.
- 'Gletschernacht' cl. (*russatum* ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × 'Blue Diamond') H: H. Hachmann, 1961 G: 1964 I: 1976 REG: G. Stück, 1983, Fls 8/truss, 25×30-40mm, 5-lobed, Violet 88A(-B). Calyx 4-5mm long, Yellow-Green 145A. Lvs 40-50×13-17mm, scaly.
- 'Goldbukett' cl. ('Scintillation' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × *wardii*) H: H. Hachmann, 1966 G: 1971 I: 1980 REG: 1983, Fls 10-14/truss, 35-40×50-55mm, 5-lobed, Yellow 5D, tinted 5C, marked Red-Purple 60A with darker spots or blotch which is Red-Purple 59A shading downwards to 60B. Calyx 2mm long, greenish-yellow. Lvs ovate, 70-90×45-55mm, glabrous.
- 'Golden Dawn' cl. (*macabeanum* ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × unknown) H: G. Huthnance G: 1980 I: 1981 REG: 1982, Fls 10-12/truss, 65×85mm, 7-lobed, Primrose Yellow (HCC 601/2), with faint spotting at base. Calyx green, edged red. Lvs oblong-elliptic, 200×80mm.
- 'Golden Pippin' cl. ('Virginia Scott' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × Jasper g.) H: H. L. Larson, 1956 G: 1964 I: 1981 REG: 1983, Fls 7-9/truss, 90×60mm, 5-6-lobed, Yellow-Orange 14C, the upper lobes spotted Red 44B. Calyx 7mm long, Greyed-Orange 166B. Lvc c 115×45mm, glabrous.
- (a) 'Goldflamme' cl. (Knap Hill: 'Gibraltar' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × 'Royal Command') H: H. Hachmann, 1963 G: 1968 I: 1979 REG: G. Stück, 1983, Fls 10-16/truss, 40-55×80-95mm, 5-6-lobed, Orange 25B, flamed Orange-Red 30A-D, some parts Orange-Red 33B, outside Red 42B on Orange 25C; spotted Orange 28B. Calyx 2-3mm long, Yellow-Green 144B-C. Lvs elliptic, 80-100×35-40mm, hairy. Several stamens petaloid.
- 'Goldkrone' cl. ((*wardii* × 'Alice Street') ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × ('Omega' × *wardii*)) H: H. Hachmann, 1969 G: 1974 I: 1981 REG: G. Stück, 1983, Fls 16-18/truss, 30-35×50-70mm, 5-lobed, Yellow 3D, tinted 3C, marked Red-Purple 60A, darker spots of Red-Purple 59A. Calyx 2mm long, Yellow-Green 154C-D. Lvs obovate/ovate, 70-90×35-55mm, glabrous.
- 'Gwyneth Masters' cl. (Unknown) H, G & I: Mrs G. Masters REG: 1982, Fls 20-21/truss, Cardinal Red HCC 822, spotted on upper lobes, with five dark nectaries in throat. Lvs 140×60mm, with light tan indumentum.
- 'Hachmann's Feuerschein' cl. ('Nova Zembla' ($\frac{\text{O}}{\text{+}}$) × 'Mars') H: H. Hachmann, 1960 G: 1966 I: 1978 REG: 1983, Fls 14/truss, 50×60-80mm, 5-lobed, Red 53A(-B), with Greyed-Orange 177A/Greyed-Purple 183A spots. Calyx 2-4mm long, greenish red. Lvs elliptic-lanceolate, 120-150×55-70mm, hairy.

- 'Helen Fosen' cl. (*williamsianum* (♂) × 'Burgundy') H: H. L. Larson, 1960 G: 1968 I: 1982 REG: 1983. Fls 6-7/truss, 50×80mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 67B. Calyx minute, Greyed-Red 178B. Lvs c 60×40mm, glabrous.
- 'Helen Holmes' cl. ('Irene Stead' (= 'I.M.S.') (♂) × un-named seedling) H, G & I: A. G. Holmes REG: 1982. Fls 12/truss, 70-100mm, 6-lobed, white, with a prominent yellow stigma. Lvs 130×40mm, glabrous.
- 'Hjalmar L. Larson' cl. ('Mrs Lamnot Copeland' (♂) × un-named yellow seedling) H: H. L. Larson G: 1977 I: 1981 N: Mrs L. Hodgson REG: 1982. Fls 75×125mm, edges and reverse of corolla Orange-Red 35D, inside Yellow-Orange 14C, upper lobe spotted Red 46B. Calyx 50mm long, Orange-Red 35D. Lvs elliptic, 150×90mm, glabrous.
- (a) 'Holly's Yellow' cl. (Seedling from 'Penny') H: V. B. Holly, pre-1978 I: D. Dosser REG: 1983. Fls 11-13/truss, 50×80mm, Yellow-Orange 21C with a flare of 23A. Lvs elliptic, 130×50mm.
- 'Holmeslee Flair' cl. ('Mrs G. W. Leak' (♂) × un-named seedling) H, G & I: A. G. Holmes REG: 1982. Fls 16/truss, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 62B in bud, opening 62D, upper lobe with prominent red flare and spots. Lvs 100×35mm, glabrous.
- 'Holmeslee Triumph' cl. ('Irene Stead' (= 'I.M.S.') (♂) × un-named seedling) H: G & I: A. G. Holmes REG: 1982. Fls 10/truss, 60×110mm, 7-lobed, Red-Purple 62A-C, upper lobe flecked red. Lvs 130×40mm, glabrous.
- 'Holstein' cl. ('Humboldt' (♂) × 'Catawbiense Grandiflorum') H: H. Hachmann, 1959 G: 1964 I: 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 15-16 truss, 35-40×60-70mm, 5-lobed, Purple 75A, shading inwards to 75B-C, blotched Red-Purple 59A-B. Calyx 2-3mm long, greenish. Lvs oval, 100-130 × 50-70mm, sparsely hairy.
- 'Ilam Pink Splendour' cl. (*facetum* × *Loderi* g.) H & G: E. Stead, 1930 N & REG: Mrs R. J. Coker, 1982. Fls 10-12/truss, Red 55B, shading to 55C, throat Red 54A.
- 'Jane Redford' cl. (*yakushmanum* (♂) × *decorum*) H: Waterers Knap Hill Nursery, 1969 G: 1970 N & REG: R. Redford, 1983. Fls 9-13/truss, 45-50×70-80mm, 7-lobed, Red 55A in bud, opening white flushed Red 56A externally (esp. on midribs); spots of Yellow-Green 151C in throat at base of upper lobe. Calyx 2mm long, green, edged pink. Lvs oblong to oblanceolate, 90-120×27-43mm, very sparsely hairy.
- 'Jennifer Marshal' cl. (Jasper g. (♂) × 'Alice Franklin') H: H. L. Larson, 1961 G: 1976 I: 1981 REG: 1983. Fls 9-12/truss, 60×90mm, 5-lobed, Yellow 12A, flecked Orange-Red 33A. Calyx 7mm long, Greyed-Yellow 162C. Lvs 155×90mm, glabrous.
- 'Jenny Gordon' cl. (*cinnabarinum* Royley Group (♂) × *trichanthum*) H: Lady Adam Gordon, 1974 G, N & REG: 1983. Fls 8/truss 45×50mm, 5-lobed, Garnet Lake HCC 828/2. Calyx 2mm long, green, edged red. Lvs elliptic, 90×44mm, glabrous.
- 'Jo Ann Newsome' cl. (Jasper g. (♂) × *Dido* g.) H: H. L. Larson, 1955 G: 1964 I: 1982 REG: 1983. Fls 13-14/truss, 70×75mm, 5-lobed, Red 43A. Calyx c 17mm long, Red 43A. Lvs 155×70mm, glabrous.

- 'John Harris' cl. (*wardii* (♂) × *macabeanum*) H: J. Harris, 1970 G; D. F. Booth, 1981 N, I & REG: 1983. Fls 16-18/truss, 45×85mm, broadly open campanulate, 7-lobed, pale primrose yellow, with maroon striations at base of corolla below 3 upper lobes. Lvs elliptic up to 200×95mm. AM(RHS) 1983.
- 'Julischka' cl. ('Thunderstorm' (♂) × *yakushimanum* 'Koichiro Wada' H: H. Hachmann, 1968 G; 1973 I; 1980 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 16-20/truss, 35-40×45-50mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 63A, shading to Red-Purple 57D and to Red 56D in throat; outside Red-Purple 59A; marked 59A on 56D. Calyx 2-4mm long, greenish pink. Lvs lanceolate/obovate, 100-130×40-50mm, hairy.
- 'Karen Triplett' cl. ('Seattle Gold' (♂) × un-named late-flowering yellow) H: H. L. Larson, 1965 G; 1976 I; 1981 REG: 1982. Fls 10-12/truss, 70×115mm, 6-lobed, Yellow 12B. Calyx 25mm long, Green 141C. Lvs 140×115mm, glabrous.
- 'Kay Kirsten' cl. (Jasper g. (♂) × 'Belvedere') H: H. L. Larson, 1966 G; 1976 I; 1981 REG: 1982. Fls 11-12/truss, 40×90mm, 5-lobed, Blue 99C, inside Yellow-Orange 18D. Calyx 7mm long, Greyed-Orange 171D. Lvs c 130×50mm, glabrous.
- 'Kokardia' cl. ('Humboldt' (♂) × 'Direktor E. Hjelm') H: H. Hachmann, 1957 G; 1962 I; 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 12-17/truss, 40-45×55-60mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 72C, marked Red-Purple 59A, blotched Greyed-Purple 187A. Calyx 2-5mm long, reddish green. Lvs elliptic-oval, 90-110×30-45mm, hairy.
- 'Lollipop Lace' cl. (*williamsianum* (♂) × unknown) H: L. Jury G & I; F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 3/truss, 50×100mm, rich pink with striped effect externally, lobes paler and much frilled. Lvs ovate, 80×40mm, glabrous.
- 'Longbeach Dream' cl. ('Grand Marquis' × unknown) H: Open pollination at Longbeach, 1969 G; Mrs G. E. Grigg REG: 1982. Fls 21/truss, White 155B.
- 'Lucille Williamson' cl. (Jasper g. (♂) × 'Virginia Scott') H: H. L. Larson, 1968 G; 1977 I; 1981 REG: 1982. Fls 11/truss, c 65×90mm, 7-lobed, Red 46A in bud, opening Red 47B, inside Yellow-Orange 16B. Calyx c 55mm long, Yellow 4B. Lvs c 115×65mm, glabrous.
- 'Macaw' cl. (*fastigiatum* 'Blue Steel' (♂) × 'Night Sky') H: J. P. C. Russell, 1979 G, N & REG: 1983. Fls 6/truss, 35mm wide, 6-lobed, Violet-Blue 94A-B, with a small white eye. Calyx c 1.5mm long, green. Lvs lanceolate, 30×9mm, sparsely scaly.
- 'Maharani' cl. ('Harvest Moon' (♂) × 'Letty Edwards') H: H. Hachmann, 1964 G; 1969 I; 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 12-16/truss, 60×90mm, 5-lobed, White 155A tinged Red-Purple 62C-D, shading inwards to Red-Purple 60A on Yellow 2D; blotched Red-Purple 59A, shading inwards to 60A on 2D in throat. Calyx 2-3mm long, Yellow-Green 154A-B. Lvs elliptic-oval, 120-160×60-70mm, glabrous.
- 'Malahat' cl. ('Gill's Triumph' (♂) × *strigillosum*) H: H. L. Larson, 1949 G; 1960 I; 1980 REG: 1983. Fls 14/truss, 70×70mm, 5-6-lobed, Red 45B, spotted Red 53A. Calyx minute, Greyed-

- Purple 184B. Lvs 125-150×45mm, with a sparse Greyed-Orange 175C indumentum.
- 'Marshmallow' cl. (Loderi g. seedling (♀) × unknown) H & N: Mrs R. J. Coker G & I: A. G. Holmes REG: Mrs R. J. Coker, 1982. Fls 10/truss, Red-Purple 62C, faint red-purple flare in throat. Lvs 150×60mm, glabrous.
- 'Mary Drennen' cl. (Angelo g. (♀) × *wardii*) H: H. L. Larson, 1955 G: 1962 I: 1982 REG: 1983. Fls 11-12/truss, 75×125mm, 7-lobed, Yellow 12C. Calyx 25mm long, Yellow 12C. Lvs 200×80mm, glabrous.
- 'Moon Shadow' cl. (*wardii* (♀) × unknown) H, G & I: Mrs R. J. Coker REG: 1982. Fls 7-lobed, Yellow 2D, deepening to 2C in centre. Lvs obovate, 70mm long, glabrous.
- 'Morgenrot' cl. (*yakushimanum* 'Koichiro Wada' (♀) × 'Spitfire') H: H. Hachmann, 1963 G: 1969 I: 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 16-18/truss, 35-40×45-60mm, 5-lobed, Red 54A (-B) shading inwards to Red 56B-C; outside 54A tinged Red 51A; marked Greyed-Purple 187B-C. Calyx 3mm long, greenish. Lvs oblanceolate/obovate, 100-120×45-50mm, hairy.
- 'Namu' cl. (*fortunei* ssp. *discolor* (♀) × 'Mrs Horace Fogg') H: H. L. Larson, 1966 G: 1977 I: 1983 REG: 1983. Fls 13-14/truss, 100×180mm, 6-7-lobed, Red-Purple 68A. Calyx minute. Lvs 200×75mm, glabrous.
- 'Night Sky' cl. (*fastigiatum* 'Blue Steel' (♀) × 'Russautinii') H: J. P. C. Russell, 1967 G: 1970 N & REG: 1983. Fls 5/truss, 30mm wide, Violet-Blue 93B, paler in throat. Calyx 3mm long, green. Lvs lanceolate, 25×10mm, sparsely scaly.
- (a) 'Nordlicht' cl. ('Vuyk's Scarlet' (♀) × 'Aladdin') H: H. Hachmann, 1963 G: 1966 I: 1977 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 2-4/truss, 35-38×50mm, 5-lobed, Red 47A, sometimes with darker marks. Calyx 3-4mm long, green, silvery hairy. Lvs 32-35×17-24mm.
- 'Olga' cl. ('Mrs Lindsay Smith' (♀) × Dido g.) H: Slocock Nurseries, c 1962 G & I: Slocock Nurseries REG: 1982. Fls 12/truss, 50×60mm, open funnel-shaped, Yellow-Orange 20D, flushed Red 39D especially towards margins; upper segments flecked ± Orange-Red 34B below and greener than Greyed-Yellow 162A in centre. Calyx Yellow-Orange 20D, flecked Orange-Red 34C. Lvs 100×40mm. *HC(RHS) 1982.
- 'Pacific Princess' cl. ('King of Shrubs' (♀) × ('Fawn' × Dido g.)) H: In USA, 1961 G & I: Mrs R. J. Coker REG: 1982. Fls Red 36A, centre Yellow-Orange 20C. Lvs 120×50mm, glabrous.
- 'Pacific Rim' cl. ('Loderi King George' (♀) × *macabeanum*) H: H. L. Larson, 1950 G: 1965 I: 1981 REG: 1982. Fls 16/truss, c 60×90mm, 8-lobed, Red-Purple 62C in bud, opening Orange 27D. Calyx minute. Lvs 175×90mm, glabrous. Conspicuous brown anthers.
- 'Palma' cl. (Selection from *parmulatum* — raised from KW 5875) R & N: Lord Aberconway and the National Trust REG: 1983. Fls 3-7/truss, tubular-campanulate, up to 45×50mm, 5-lobed, Green-White 157D, with deeper central bands on each lobe and heavy spotting of Greyed-Purple 187D in upper throat. Calyx up to 2mm long, green. Lvs oblong-oval to obovate, up to 65×23mm, glabrous. AM(RHS) 1983.

- (m) 'Pendance' cl. (*jasminiflorum* (♂) × *christianae*) H: D. B. Stanton, pre-1977 I; J. Clyde Smith REG: 1983. Fls 9-13/truss, 50×45mm, white, flushed pink (Red 56D), throat white. Lvs lanceolate, 90×30mm.
- (m) 'Pendragon' cl. (*lochiae* × *laetum*) (♂) × *macgregoriae* H: D. B. Stanton, pre-1977 I; J. Clyde Smith REG: 1983. Fls 4-9/truss, 35×50mm, tubular funnel-shaped, yellow (Yellow-Orange 21B), edged pink (Orange-Red 30C). Lvs elliptic, 100×50mm.
- (m) 'Penrose' cl. (*lochiae* (♂) × *aurigeranum*) H: D. B. Stanton, pre-1979 I; J. Clyde Smith REG: 1983. Fls 8-10/truss, 60×75mm, tubular funnel-shaped, Red 43C. Lvs oblanceolate to elliptic, 140-60mm.
- 'Pink Crest' cl. (*oreodoxa* (♂) × *thomsonii*) H: A. F. George, 1964 I & REG: P. J. Urlwin-Smith, 1982. Fls 6-8/truss, Red-Purple 61D. Lvs narrowly elliptic, 110×50mm, glabrous.
- 'Rosanita' cl. ('Laura Aberconway' (♂) × *yakushmanum*) H: J. F. J. McQuire, 1975 G; 1982 I & REG: 1983. Fls 12/truss, 50×60mm, 5-lobed, Red 55D, striped Red 54B down centre of each lobe. Calyx 5mm long, very pale brown. Lvs linear-oblanceolate, 140×30mm, with a woolly indumentum.
- 'Rowallan Surprise' cl. (Unknown) H, G & I; D. Deans REG: 1982. Fls Red 63C, shading to 63D. Lvs 150×60mm, glabrous.
- (a) 'Rubinetta' cl. ('Mother's Day' (♂) × 'Kermesina') H: H. Hachmann, 1961 G; 1964 I; 1974 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls solitary or in truss of 2-4, 30×35-42mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 58B, with Greyed-Purple 184B marks. Calyx 2-3mm long, Yellow-Green 144B. Lvs oval, 20-30×15-25mm.
- 'Sammetsglut' cl. ('Mars' (♂) × 'Nova Zembla') H: H. Hachmann, 1959 G; 1964 I; 1977 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 16-21/truss, 45-50×50-60mm, 5-lobed, Red 53A, without blotch or other markings. Calyx 2-3mm long, reddish. Lvs elliptic, 100-120×35-45mm, hairy. The conspicuous Orange 27C-D anthers and erect habit are distinctive.
- 'Sandra' cl. (('Omega' × *wardii*) (♂) × (*wardii* × 'Alice Street')) H: H. Hachmann, 1969 G; 1974 I; 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 9-11/truss, 45×70-75mm, 5-lobed, Red 55B, shading inwards to 55C and Red 36C, tinted Yellow-Orange 18C; marked Yellow-Green 144C and Yellow-Green 151A(-152C). Calyx 2mm long, green. Lvs elliptic/ovate, 80-110×45-60mm, hairy.
- (a) 'Sarina' cl. (Knap Hill: 'Cecile' (♂) × 'Gibraltar') H: H. Hachmann, 1963 G; 1968 I; 1980 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 10-12/truss, 50-70×70-100mm, 5-7 lobed, Red 47C-D, spotted Orange 28B. Corolla lobes crisped; several stamens petaloid. Calyx 2-4mm long, Yellow-Green 144A. Lvs oval, 90-110×30-35mm, hairy.
- 'Sarita Coker' cl. ('Sarita Loder' (♂) × 'King of Shrubs') H & N: Mrs R. J. Coker G & I; A. G. Holmes REG: Mrs R. J. Coker, 1983. Fls 10/truss, 7-lobed, Red 55A in bud, opening 55B, brighter red in throat. Lvs 180×60mm, glabrous.
- 'Schneebukett' cl. ('Mrs J. G. Millais' (♂) × 'Bismarck') H: H. Hachmann,

- 1965 G; 1970 I; 1979 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 18-26/truss, 40-50×75-80mm, 5(-6) lobed, White 155D, blotched Red-Purple 59A-B. Calyx 2-4mm long, greenish. Lvs elliptic 120-160×50-70mm, glabrous.
- (a) 'Schneeglantz' cl. ('Kermesina' (♀) × 'Jeanette') H: H. Hachmann, 1961 G; 1964 I; 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 2-4/truss, 30-34×45-50mm, 5-lobed, White 155D, marked Yellow-Green 150A-B. Calyx 5-6mm long, Yellow-Green 144A-B. Lvs 27-37×17-25mm.
- 'Schneekrone' cl. ('Humboldt' (♀) × *yakushimanum* 'Koichiro Wada') H: H. Hachmann, 1968 G; 1973 I; 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 12-14(-17)/truss, 45-50×50-65mm, 5-lobed, opening Red 56B-D, fading to White 155D with soft pink tinge, spotted Red-Purple 59A-C. Calyx 2mm long, greenish. Lvs elliptic, 80-120×35-50mm, hairy.
- (a) 'Schneewittchen' cl. ('Kermesina' (♀) × 'John Cairns') H: H. Hachmann, 1960 G; 1963 I; 1980 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 3-6/truss, 26-32×32-40mm, 5-lobed, White 155D, without markings. Calyx 4-5mm long, Yellow-Green 144C. Lvs 19-42×11-22mm.
- 'Schneewolke' cl. ('Mrs J. G. Millais' (♀) × *yakushimanum* 'Koichiro Wada') H: H. Hachmann, 1968 G; 1974 I; 1982 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 12-17/truss, 45-50×60-65mm, 5-lobed, White 155D with slight markings of Yellow-Green 154A-B. Lvs 80-110×30-40mm, with revolute margins, hairy.
- 'Shirley-Jean' cl. (*Fabia* g. (♀) × 'Otis Hyde') H: H. L. Larson, 1964 G; 1973 I; 1980 REG: 1982. Fls 6-7/truss, 90×50mm, 5-lobed, Red 38A, heavily spotted Yellow-Orange 22A. Calyx 45mm long, Red 38A. Lvs c 125×90mm, glabrous.
- (a) 'Signalglühen' cl. ('Vuyk's Scarlet' (♀) × ('John Cairns' × 'Mother's Day')) H: H. Hachmann, 1964 G; 1967 I; 1979 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 2-4/truss, 32-35×45-47mm, 5-6-lobed, Red 39A-B, slight markings of Red 47A. Several stamens petaloid. Calyx 3-6mm long, Yellow-Green 144B-C. Lvs 25-30×13-17mm.
- 'Silberwolke' cl. (*yakushimanum* 'Koichiro Wada' (♀) × 'Album Novum') H: H. Hachmann, 1963 G; 1968 I; 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 12-16/truss, 45-50×50-60mm, 5-lobed, Red-Purple 65D with some 65A on limb and on outside, mid vein slightly tinged 65A-B, spotted Yellow-Green 151A-D. Calyx 2-3mm long, greenish. Lvs elliptic/ovate, 80-100×35-50mm, hairy.
- 'Simona' cl. ('Harvest Moon' (♀) × 'Letty Edwards') H: H. Hachmann, 1964 G; 1969 I; 1978 REG: G. Stück, 1983. Fls 12/truss, 45-60×80-100mm, 5-lobed, Red 56C, edges Red-Purple 62B, blotched Red-Purple 59A(-B), shading inwards to Red-Purple 60A on Yellow-Orange 18C. Calyx 4-5mm long, Yellow-Green 154C. Lvs oval, 120-170×60-100mm, glabrous.
- 'Soft Shadows' cl. (*yakushimanum* (♀) × *argyrophyllum*) H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 12-15/truss, 35×60mm, 5-lobed, Carmine Rose (HCC 621/3), fading to pure white, slightly spotted on upper lobe at first. Lvs 90×30mm, with a fawn, suede-like indumentum.
- 'Southern Cloud' cl. (*lindleyi* (♀) × *nuttallii*) H: A. Bramley, pre-1965 I: J. F. Wilson REG: 1983. Fls 3-11/truss, 110×110mm, campanu-

late, outside Red 55B, inside Orange 27B with base Yellow-Orange 17C. Lvs elliptic, 190×70mm.

- (a) 'Southern Sunset' cl. (Sport from 'Southern Aurora') H, G & I: Camellia Lodge Nursery REG: 1983. Red 46B. No stamens.
- 'White Doves' (*scopulorum* (♀) × *formosum* var. *inaequale*) H, G & I: F. M. Jury REG: 1982. Fls 4/truss, 50mm wide, white with a yellow-green mark in throat.
- 'White Pippin' cl. (*williamsianum* (♀) × 'Olympic Lady') H: H. L. Larson, 1954 G: 1963 I & REG: 1983. Fls 7/truss, 50×65mm, 5-lobed, Green-White 157D. Calyx minute, Yellow-Green 146C. Lvs rounded-elliptic, 50×30mm, glabrous.
- 'Yakday' cl. (*yakushmanum* (♀) × May Day g.) H: New Zealand Rhododendron Association, c 1972 G & I: Mrs R. Pinney REG: 1982. Fls deep cherry red, fading to pale pink. Leaf indumentum tan-coloured.
- 'Yellow Pippin' cl. ('Mrs Lammot Copeland' (♀) × *yakushmanum*) H: H. L. Larson, 1966 G: 1975 I & REG: 1983. Fls 12/truss, 65×90mm, 6-lobed, opening Red 52B, fading to Yellow 12C, centre of corolla Yellow 6B, spotted Yellow-Green 154A. Calyx 7mm long, Greyed-Brown 199C. Lvs 140×50mm, glabrous.

LIST OF REGISTRANTS

- ABERCONWAY, LORD & THE NATIONAL TRUST, Bodnant, Tal-y-Cafn, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, North Wales.
- BOOTH, D. F., Newfield, Brydekirk, Annan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland.
- CAMELLIA LODGE NURSERY, Princes Highway, Noble Park, Victoria, Australia.
- COKER, Mrs. R. J., 129 Ilam Road, Riccarton, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- DEANS, D., 232 Clyde Road, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- DOSSER, D., George Street, Warburton East, Victoria, Australia.
- GORDON, Lady Adam, Hethersett, Littleworth Cross, Seale, Farnham, Surrey, England, GU10 1JL.
- GRIGG, Miss G. E., Old Tai Tapu Road, Halswell, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- HODGSON, Mrs L., 5587 Chancellor Blvd., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6T 1E4.
- HOLMES, A. G., Holmeslee, Rakaia, Canterbury, New Zealand.
- HUTHNANCE, G., Carrington Road, New Plymouth, New Zealand.
- JURY, F. M. Tikorangi, Waitara, Taranaki, New Zealand.
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- MOUNT, G., Preston House, East Preston, Sussex, England.
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- PINNEY, Mrs R., Whakanui, Peel Forest, Geraldine, New Zealand.
- REDFORD, R., Fairbank, Rectory Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, England.
- ROTHSCHILD, E. de, Exbury Gardens, Exbury, nr Southampton, Hampshire, England.
- RUSSELL, J. P. C., The Dairies, Castle Howard, Yorkshire, England, YO6 7BY.
- SLOCOCK NURSERIES, Barrs Lane, Knaphill, Woking, Surrey, England.
- SMITH, G., Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust Inc., RD4 New Plymouth, Taranaki, New Zealand.
- SMITH, J. Clyde, 15 Cassian Street, Keiraville 2500, New South Wales, Australia.
- STUCK, G., Hasselkamp 10, D-2300 Kronshagen/Kiel, West Germany.
- URLWIN-SMITH, P. J., Magnolia Cottage, Earleydene, Ascot, Berkshire, England.
- WILSON, J. F., 199 Blackburn Road, Blackburn, 3130 Victoria, Australia.

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FOR 1983

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- Abies*
densa, 14
grandis, 27
pindrow, 27
spectabilis, 16, 27
veitchii, 27
campbellii, 13
Acer campbellii, 13
Acer sikkimensis, 14
Arbutus menziesii, 53
Arbutus unedo Rubra, 60
Asteranthera ovata, 3
 Azalea breeding, an experiment,
 by W. H. Wheeler, 24
Azalea
 Fasching, 87
 Fenerwerk, 87
 Gabriele, 88
 Goldflamme, 88
 Holly's Yellow, 89
 Nordlicht, 91
 Pettychaps, 84
 Rubinetta, 92
 Sarina, 92
 Schneeglanz, 93
 Schneewittchen, 93
 Signalglühen, 93
 Southern Sunset, 94
Beschorneria yuccoides, 47
Billardiera longiflora, 50
 Book Reviews, 60
 Boscawen, Anne, on Fota Island, 47
Camellia
 Akashigata, 30
 Akebono, 30
 Akebono-sasanqua, 34
 Amanokawa, 30
 Arajishi, 30
aurea, 37
 Azumanishiki, 34
 Benikarashi, 30
 Benten, 30
 Beni-wabisuke, 30
 Bikashibia, 30
 Bokuhan, 30
 China Clay, 26
chrysantha, 37, 38, 40
chrysantha var. *macrophylla*, 37, 38
chrysantha var. *microcarpa*, 37, 38
chrysanthoides, 37
 Cornish Spring, 26
 Daikagura, 32
 Donation, 26, 44
 Duchess of Cornwall, 26
 Edward Carlyon, 26
 E. T. R. Carlyon, 26
euphlebia, 35, 38
flava, 35
fleuryi, 35
forrestii, 38
 Fortune's Yellow, 35
 Fukutsutumi, 34
 Furoan, 32
 Gauntlettii, 32
 Gloire de Nantes, 44
granthamiana, 38
 Hagoroma, 32
 Hakugan, 32
 Hakurakuten, 32
 Hanafuki, 32
 Hanatachibana, 32
 Hanioriotome, 32
 Hassaku, 32
 Hatsusakura, 32
 Hikarugenji, 32
 Hinodekumo, 34
 Hinomaru, 32
 Hiodishi, 34
 Hiryu, 34
 Hishikaraito, 32
 Ichisetsu, 32
impressinervis, 37
 Imura, 32
irrawadiensis, 38
japonica, 38
japonica Elegans, 44
japonica Matador, 62
 Jitsugetsu, 32
 Kamesyama, 32
 Kanjiro, 34
 Kishutsukasa, 32
 Kingyo-tsubaki, 32
 Konronjura, 33
 Konronkuro, 33
 Kumasaka, 33
 Kyo-nishiki, 35
 Kyo-nishiki-Higo, 33
 Magnoliiflora, 33
 Hagoroma, 33
 Magnoliiflora Alba, 33
 Miyakodori, 33
 Migalli, 33
 Mihata, 33
 Mikenjaku, 33
 Minenoyuki, 35
 Mine-o-Tuki, 35
 Momijikari, 33
 Momozono-nishiki, 35
 Moshio, 33
 Murasaki-tsubaki, 33
 Myorenji, 33
 Nagasaki, 33
 Narumigata, 35
 Nishiki-kirin, 33
oleifera Jaune, 35
 Otome, 33
 Ozonran, 33
pinggnoensis, 37
 Pink Perfection, 33
pubisepala, 37
 Purity, 33
reticulata, 61
saluenensis, 60
sasanqua, 38
sinensis, 61
tunghinensis, 37

- Quercifolia, 34
 Rogetsu, 34
 Rosemary Sawle, 26
 Ryomenbeni, 35
 Seihi, 34
 Shinakebono, 33
 Shiragiku, 33
 Shiratama-shibori, 33
 Shirodaikagura, 33
 Shiro-wabisuke, 33
 Shishigashira, 35
 Showanosakae, 35
 Shunshoko, 33
sinensis, 41
 Takayama, 33
 Taroan, 33
 The Mikado, 33
 Tokyo, 33
 Tricolor, 33
 Tristram Carlyon, 26
 Tsukimiguruma, 33
 Usubeni, 35
 Wabisuke, 33
 White Swan, 34
 William Carlyon, 26
 Yesterday, 26
 Yukimiguruma, 34
 Yodonobeni, 34
 Yoibijin, 34
 Yukibotan, 34
 Yukinaki, 34
yunnanensis, 38
 Camellia collection, a home for
 by Don Waterhouse, 423
 Camellia Competition by P. Urlwin-Smith, 74
 Camellia Show by J. T. Gallagher, 78
 Campbell, Sir Ilay, on Glenarn and the
 Gibson family, 1
Cantua buxifolia, 52
Cardiocrinum giganteum, 15
Chaenomeles Rowallane, 54
 Christie, Sylvester, Obituary by P. Urlwin-
 Smith, 58
Cornus
 capitata, 48
 controversa, 52
 nuttalii, 52
Crinodendron patagua, 51
Cryptomeria japonica, 48
Cunninghamia lanceolata, 28
Cupressus cashmeriana, 50
 × *Cupressocypris leylandii* Castlewellan
 Gold, 53
Dacrydium franklinii, 53
Daphne bhohua var. *glacialis*, 14
 David, Jane, on the 1983 tour of Ireland, 48
Dicksonia antarctica, 8
Drimys winteri, 47, 48
 Eley, Mr Maxwell, Obituary by F. Knight, 59
Eucalyptus
 dabrympleana, 47
 niphophylla, 47
 salicifolia, 47
Echium pininiana, 51
Eucryphia cordata, 47
Eucryphia × *nymanensis* Mount Usher, 51
Euryops pectinatus, 52
Fagus sylvatica Pendula, 30
Fuchsia excorticata, 47
 Fulcher, R., on Inverewe, 17
 Gallagher, J. T., on Camellia Show, 78
 Gardens
 Annesgrove, 49
 Ballywalter Park, 55
 Blackhills, 58
 Borde Hill, 10
 Bosahan, 8
 Burncoose Lodge, 7
 Caerhays Castle, 9
 Castlewellan, 53
 Combermere, 48
 Dargle Cottage, 52
 East Bergholt Place, 59
 Exbury, 11
 Fernhill, 52
 Fota Island, by Anne Boscawen, 47
 Glenarn, 1
 Hergest Croft, 6
 Inverewe, 17
 John F. Kennedy Park, 50
 Kilbogget, 52
 Kilugani Lodge, 52
 Lamellen, 9
 Minterne Abbey, 10
 Mount Congreve, 49
 Mount Edgecumbe Park, 42
 Mount Stewart, 54
 Mount Usher, 51
 Nymans, 10
 Plas Merdyn, 55
 Rosillian, 7
 Rowallane, 53
 Tregrehan, 25
 Tremeer, 9
 Trenegwainton, 9
 Trewithen, 8
 Werrington Park, 6
 Windsor Great Park, 11
Gaultheria pyrolloides, 14
 Gibson family, 1
Ginkgo biloba, 27, 47
 Glenarn and the Gibson family, by Sir
 Ilay Campbell, 1
 Inverewe — a brief appraisal of our
 rhododendrons, by R. Fulcher, 17
 Japanese camellia cultivars in England, by
 J. T. Savige, 29
Jasminum mesnyi, 51
Juniperus recurva Castlewellan, 53
 Lamb, C. on Tregrehan: the restoration of
 an old garden, 25
Laurelia serrata, 47
Leptospermum scoparium, 47
Lycesteria formosa, 43
Liriodendron chinense, 7
Lithocarpus glabra, 48

- Magnolia*
acuminata, 28
 Alba Superba, 48
 Alexandrina, 48
campbellii, 7, 8, 47, 48
campbellii f. *alba*, 9
campbellii 'Landicla', 8
campbellii spp. *mollicomata*, 7, 8, 9
campbellii ssp. *mollicomata* 'Lanarth', 8
delavayi, 8, 48
denudata, 28
denudata × *lennei*, 48
 Forrest's Pink, 9
heptapeta Japanese clone, 9
hypoleuca, 28
kobus, 28, 48
liliflora, 48
rostrata, 49
 Rustica Rubra, 48
salicifolia, 9
sargentiana var. *robusta*, 7, 9
sargentiana var. *robusta* 'Alba', 8
sprengeri var. *diva* Claret Cup, 11
sprengeri var. *diva* Copeland Court, 8, 51
sprengeri var. *diva* Wakehurst, 11
Veitchii, 48
wardii Meadow Pond, 11
wasonii var. *rhododactylum*, 11
Mahonia nepalensis, 13, 15
Michelia
doltsopa, 52
excelsa, 13
fuscata, 28
 Millais, E. G., on Rhododendrons in West Bengal and Sikkim, 12
Miscanthus floridulus, 21
Myrtus lechleriana, 48

Nothofagus
alessandri, 49
fusca, 27
moorei, 48
obliqua, 47
procera, 60
truncata, 49
Philesia magellanica, 3
Photinia beaverdiana, 52
villosa, 52
Picea smithiana, 53
Pieris formosa forrestii, 14
Pinus montezuma, 27, 48
Pinus patula, 28
Piptanthus laburnifolius, 13
Podocarpus salignus, 28
Podocarpus totara, 47
Potentilla arbuscula, 16
Primula
calderiana, 16
denticulata, 14
deuteronana, 17
gracilipes, 14
 Rowallane Rose, 54
Pseudopanax arboreus, 47
Pseudowintera colorata, 52
Psoralea pinnata, 53
Puya alpestris, 52

Quercus canariensis, 27
Quercus semecarpifolia, 27, 29

Rhaphithamnus spinosus, 47
Rhododendron
 Abigail Jury, 85
adenogynum, 49
albertsianum, 7
 Alice Fitzwilliam, 50
ambiguum 'Jane Banks', 6
 Annette Weyerhaeuser, 85
anthopogon, 16
anthosphaerum, 6
 Anuschka, 85
araiophyllum, 49
arboreum, 12, 13, 15, 17, 43
arboreum campbellii, 14
arboreum cinnamomeum, 14, 15
arboreum Cornish Red, 25, 28
arboreum f. *roseum* Fernhill, 52
augustinii, 52
auriculatum, 55
aurigeranum, 20
auritum, 50
 Azurika, 85
 Azurwolke, 85
baileyi, 2, 52
 Barbara Jury, 85
barbatum, 13, 14, 17, 49, 53
 Barmstedt, 86
basilicum, 10
 Bernice, 86
 Bernstein, 86
 Blewbury, 81
 Blinklicht, 86
 Blurettia, 86
 Brigitte, 86
 Buketta, 86
bureavii, 11, 51
burmanicum, 49, 54
 Caerhays Philip, 50
calophyllum, 9, 49, 51
calostrotum, 51, 54
caloxanthum, 11
campanulatum, 14, 17
campanulatum Knaphill, 49
campylocarpum, 16, 17, 49
campylocarpum var. *myrtilloides*, 50
 Candy Floss, 81
cephalanthum, 51
cerasinum, 55
cerasinum Beer Sheba, 11
 Charisma, 86
charitopes, 54
christianae, 20
 Christine Denz, 86
 Christmas Cheer, 18
ciliatum, 10
cinnabarinum, 14, 16, 60
cinnabarinum var. *blandfordiiiflorum*, 49
cinnabarinum var. *roylei*, 49
coelicum, 10
concatenans, 50
concinnum pseudoyanthinum, 51
coriaceum, 52
 Cornubia, 18
 Crimson Pippin, 87
croceum, 49

- cubittii*, 54
cuneatum, 9
 Curlew, 53, 55
cyanocarpum, 11
 Cynthia, 18
dalhousiae, 12, 13, 53, 55
 davidsonianum, 49
decorum, 49, 50
discolor, 20, 50
 Donvale Pearl, 87
 Duchess of Kent, 87
eclecteum, 11
eclecteum var. *bellatulum*, 9
eclecteum Kingdom Come, 11
edgeworthii, 51
 Egret, 84
 Elizabeth Mount, 87
elliottii, 54
 Elsaë, 28
 Elya, 87
 Endeavour, 81
eriogynum, 55
erubescens, 9
eudoxum, 7
exasperatum, 11, 55
falconeri, 1, 11, 13, 15, 17, 28, 47, 48,
 49, 53, 54
fastigiatum, 2
 Felicity Fair, 87
fictolacteum, 54
fictolacteum Cherry Tip, 10
floccigerum, 6
floccigerum var. *appropinquans*, 10
 Floral Dance, 87
fortunei, 20
fortunei Mrs Butler, 9
 Four Crosses, 87
 Fragrantissimum, 51, 52
 Freda Rosage, 87
fulgens, 16, 50
fulvum, 11, 52, 54
genestieranum, 50, 52
 Gibraltar, 24, 25
giganteum, 53
glaucophyllum, 57
glaucophyllum var. *turmericum*, 51, 54
 Glenarn, 5, 88
 Gletschernacht, 88
 Goldbukett, 88
 Golden Dawn, 88
 Golden Orfe, 50
 Golden Pippin, 88
 Goldkrone, 88
grande, 12, 15
griersonianum, 49, 52
griffithianum, 13, 20, 28
 Gwyneth Masters, 88
 Hachmann's Feverschein, 88
habrotrichum, 10
hanceanum, 51
 Helen Fosen, 89
 Helen Holmes, 89
hemsleyanum, 49, 51
 Hinomayo, 50
 Hjalmar L. Larson, 89
hodgsonii, 13, 15, 17, 20, 50, 54
 Holmeslee Flair, 89
 Holmeslee Triumph, 89
 Holstein, 89
hookeri, 28, 49
hormophorum, 10
houlstonii
hyperanthum, 51
iclymenoides, 24
 Ilam Pink Splendour, 89
 Ilam Violet, 82
impeditum, 53
imperator, 53
 Inverewe, 20
iteophyllum, 5
 Jane Redford, 89
 Jennifer Marshal, 89
 Jenny Gordon, 89
 Jo Ann Newsome, 89
 John Harris, 81, 90
johnstoneanum, 54
johnstoneanum 'Double Diamond', 9
 Judy Clarke, 81
 Julischka, 90
 Karen Triplett, 90
 Kay Kirsten, 90
 Kokardia, 90
lacteum, 6, 55, 58
 Lady Alice Fitzwilliam, 55
 Lady Dunleath, 55
 Lady Jean, 54
 Lady Primrose, 50
 Lady Rosebery, 52
lanatum, 16
lanigerum, 9
lepidotum, 14, 15, 16
 Lilian Harvey, 83
lindleyi, 2, 20, 49, 54
litiense, 10
 Loderi King George, 50
 Lollipop Lace, 90
 Longbeach Dream, 90
 Lucille Williamson, 90
lutescens, 9, 57
luteum, 17
macabeanum, 3, 9, 28, 48, 49, 52
macabeanum Trewithen Form, 8
 Macaw, 90
macgregoriae, 23
magnificum, 11, 54
 Maharani, 90
 Malahat, 90
 Manderley, 83
 Marcia, 49
 Maricee, 83
 Marshmallow, 91
 Mary Drennen, 91
megacalyx, 55
metternichii, 51
 Michael's Bride, 50
mimetes, 7
montroseanum Benmore, 9
 Moon Shadow, 91
 Morgenrot, 91
morii, 11, 49
moupinense, 54
 Mrs. E. C. Stirling, 18
nakotiltum, 58
 Namu, 91
neriiflorum, 54
 Night Sky, 91

- niveum*, 15, 53
 Nobleanum, 18
 Nobleanum Alba, 55
nudiflorum, 24
 Olga, 91
oreodoxa, 49
oreotrepthes, 53
orthocladum var. *longistylum*, 49
 Pacific Princess, 91
 Pacific Rim, 91
 Palma, 91
parmulatum Ocelot, 9
parmulatum Palma, 82
 Pendance, 92
 Pendragon, 92
 Penrose, 92
phaechrysum Greenmantle, 10
 Phalarope, 83
 Pink Crest, 92
planetum, 50
pocophorum, 6, 49
pocophorum Cecil Nice, 11
polyandrum, 54
ponticum, 1
praestans, 11
praevernum, 10
prattii Perry Wood, 11
 Princess Anne, 82
protistum, 54, 55, 81
 Queen Elizabeth II, 52
radicans, 54
 Razorbill, 82
 Red Carpet, 83
rex, 53
rex ssp. *arizelum*, 7
rex × *eximeum*, 50
rhabdotum, 53
rigidum Louvecienne, 11
 Ronald, 3
 Rqsanita, 92
 Rowallan Surprise, 92
roxieanum, 49
russatum, 57
Russautinii, 50
 Saffron Queen, 55
 Saint Merry, 84
 Sammetglut, 92
 Sandra, 92
 Sappho, 18
 Sarita Coker, 92
schlippenbachii, 55
 Schneebukett, 92
 Schneekrone, 93
 Schneewolke, 93
setosum, 16
 Shirley-Jean, 93
shweliense, 7
 Silberwolke, 93
 Simona, 93
sinogrande, 8, 11, 17, 28, 49, 54
sinogrande × *macabeanum*, 53
smithii, 11
smithii Fleurie, 10
 Soft Shadows, 93
 Southern Cloud, 93
 Spek's Orange, 25
sperabile, 11
spiciferum, 51
spinuliferum, 51
 Standishii, 18
stewartianum, 55
strigillosum, 49
sutchuenense, 17, 50
 taliense, 50
taronense, 51, 52
tephropeplum, 20, 50, 51, 55
thomsonii, 1, 17, 49, 51, 53
thomsonii × *falconeri*, 20
thomsonii Penheale Form, 9
triflorum, 18
tsariense, 50
tsariense Yum-Yum, 10
uniflorum, 54
valentinianum, 54
vellereum Lost Horizon, 10
 Venus, 50
wardii, 55
 White Doves, 94
 White Pippin, 94
wightii, 16, 53
williamsianum, 49, 53, 55
xanthocodon, 51
 Yakday, 94
yakushmanum, 53
yakushmanum Baron Lionel, 11
 Yellow Pippin, 94
yunnanense, 18, 53
zoelleri, 20
 Rhododendron competition, by B. Wright, 63
 Rhododendron Group tour of Ireland, 1983
 by J. David, 48
 Rhododendron Show by B. Wright, 67
 Rhododendrons, Vireya, natural environment for, by R. M. Withers, 20
 Rhododendrons in West Bengal and Sikkim,
 by E. G. Millais, 12
 Savige, T. J., on Japanese camellia cultivars
 in England, 29
 Savige, T. J., on The Yellow Camellias, 35

Themeda australis, 20
Torreya californica, 30
Torreya nucifera, 48
 Tregrehan: the restoration of an old
 garden by C. Lamb, 25
Tsuga heterophylla, 30

Umbellularia californica, 28
 Urlwin-Smith, P., on RHS Camellia
 Competition, 74

Vaccinium nummularia, 15
Viburnum tomentosum Rowallane, 54

 Waterhouse, Don., on A home for the
 camellia collection, 42
 Wharton, Peter A., on A winter collecting
 trip to Southern England, 5
 Wheeler, Willis, H., on An experiment in
 deciduous azalea breeding, 24
 Winter collecting trip to Southern England,
 by P. A. Wharton, 5

Withers, Dr R. M., On The natural
environment for Vireya rhododendrons,
20
Wright, B., on Rhododendron Competition,
63

Wright, B., on Rhododendron Show, 67
Yellow Camellias, the, by T. J. Savage, 35

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