









At the beginning of March, the Rhododendron Garden begins to awaken from its

winter slumber. Snowdrops are the first to make an appearance, then crocuses. Soon come the helebores, the sweetsmelling February daphne, soft yellow corylopsis fowers and fuzzy golden clusters of cornelian cherry dogwood blossoms. The earliest rhododendrons of the season begin to bloom.

#### Images on reverse:

- 1 Crocus chrysanthus 'Cream Beauty'
- 2 Crocus tommasinianus 'Whitewell Purple'
- 3 Crocus sieberi atticus 'Firefy'
- 4 Crocus tommasinianus 'Ruby Giant'
- 5 Crocus vernus 'Pickwick'
- 6 Galanthus nivalis
- 7 Corylopsis sinensis
- 8 Helleborus x hybridus
- 9 Cornus mas
- 10 Daphne mezereum
- 11 Rhododendron 'Cilpinense'
- 12 Rhododendron calophytum
- 13 Rhododendron cyanocarpum
- 14 Rhododendron 'Robin Hood'
- 15 Rhododendron 'Len Living'



#### 1-5 Crocus sp.

Crocuses provide some of the first colour in the Ted and Mary Greig Rhododendron Garden in late winter. Clusters of them sprout up throughout the garden, particularly north of the Nelson Street paring lot and throughout the Azalea Walk.

#### 6 Galanthus nivalis

From around the beginning or middle of February through early March, literally thousands of snowdrops emerge around the garden, announcing that spring is just around the corner. Parts of the garden are literally carpeted with these tiny white fowers; especially striking is the bank to the east of the intersection of Lagoon Drive and Stanley Park Drive.

#### 7 Corylopsis sinensis

Throughout the month of March, Chinese witch hazel is covered with fragrant, pale primrose yellow fowers.

#### 8 Helleborus x hybridus

Lenten rose is a popular winter-fowering herbaceous perennial. It has pale greenish-yellow or pale purplish-pink downward-hanging fowers with prominent stamens. It can be found throughout the Greig Garden, although most specimens are located on either side of the Magnolia Walk.

#### 9 Cornus mas

Cornelian cherry dogwood stands out in the garden in late February through the end of March for its rounded clusters of small, bright yellow fowers that appear along its otherwise bare branches. Its early fowering means that by June its small, oblong, ruby-coloured fruit will be ripe and will attract birds.

#### 10 Daphne mezereum

February daphne is another unique winter-f owering plant. By the beginning of March it should be in full f ower, bearing terminal clusters of strongly fragrant, bright pink f owers on bare stems. It is, however, poisonous, and therefore should not be ingested. This particular daphne is an especially old specimen.

#### 11 Rhododendron 'Cilpinense'

This hybrid is unique in that nearly all parts of the plant, including both sides of its shiny green leaves, are covered in short, fne, copper-coloured hairs. It produces pale blush pink fowers in March; these are held in loose trusses of 2-3. Approximately 20 specimens of the low-growing *Rhododendron* 'Cilpinense' are present along the north side of a bed just east of the Magnolia Walk (11 on map).

#### 12 Rhododendron calophytum

Rhododendron calophytum produces large, pale pink fowers in early spring, each of which has a burgundy blotch on its uppermost lobe. While the specimen near the golf course service entrance (12 on map) is small because it is young and was only recently planted, in the wild Rhododendron calophytum may grow to be more than 10 metres tall.

#### 13 Rhododendron 'Beacon'

Rhododendron 'Beacon' is the earliest-blooming rhododendron in the Ted and Mary Greig Rhododendron Garden. Its first pink flower appear around the middle or end of February and fade by mid to late March.

#### 14 Rhododendron 'Robin Hood'

The wide, pink fowers of another early rhododendron, 'Robin Hood,' begin to open in early March.

#### 15 Rhododendron 'Len Living'

Several tree-like Rhododendron 'Len Living' are situated just north of the tennis courts. It will be impossible to miss 'Len Living' in this area in March, as its reddish-pink fowers make it stand out brightly from its surroundings.



## APRIL







April brings early-mid season rhododendrons, magnolias and clouds of pink cherry

blossoms. Take a stroll down the Camellia Walk, located just outside the westernmost edge of the golf course, to see a collection of mature camellias salvaged from old homes in the West End that were demolished during the 1960s.

#### Images on reverse:

- Darmera peltata
- 2 Camellia japonica x
- 3 Rhododendron 'Mrs. G W Leak'
- 4 Magnolia liliif ora 'Nigra'
- 5 Rhododendron 'President Roosevelt'
- 6 Rhododendron 'Moonstone'
- 7 Magnolia stellata
- 8 Magnolia x soulangiana
- 9 Rhododendron williamsianum
- 10 Camellia 'Aunt Mavis'
- 11 Lysichiton americanus
- 12 Magnolia 'Yellow Lantern'
- 13 Koelreuteria paniculata
- 14 Rhododendron concinnum
- 15 Rhododendron 'Elizabeth'



#### 1 Darmera peltata

Umbrella plant is a unique herbaceous perennial in that it produces fowers before it produces leaves. In April, its leafess fowers stalks begin to push up through the ground and eventually erupt into a cluster of small, pale pink fowers. These are followed by large, peltate leaves, produced singly atop thick stalks.

#### 2 Camellia japonica x

There are more than an astounding 3000 cultivars and hybrids of Camellia japonica in cultivation. A handful of these can be viewed from late February through late April along the Camellia Walk, on the west side of the Stanley Park Pitch and Putt course.

#### 3 Rhododendron 'Mrs. GW Leak'

'Mrs. GW Leak' has large pink fowers with a burgundy blotch on the upper petal, and drooping leaves. It looks very similar to *Rhododendron* 'Mrs.

Furnival;' one way that the two can be told apart is that 'Mrs. Furnival' blooms two weeks later than 'Mrs. GW Leak' and has a slightly lighter blotch.

#### 4 Magnolia lilif ora

Lily magnolia has striking dark pink, nearly purple vase-shaped fowers. These begin blooming in late April on bare branches. The selection 'Nigra' is shorter than most, but produces fowers at an exceptionally young age.

#### 5 Rhododendron 'President Roosevelt'

'President Roosevelt' can generally be described as a variegated rhododendron, as both its leaves and its fowers are multi-coloured. 'President Roosevelt's leaves are large and waxy, mixed green and chartreuse, while its fowers are picotee type, and fade from dark pinkish-red at the edges to pure white in the middle.

#### 6 Rhododendron 'Moonstone'

Rhododendron 'Moonstone' is a Rhododendron williamsianum hybrid that becomes covered in creamy white bell-shaped fowers in late April and early May. It has a compact habit, small round leaves and coppery new growth characteristic of williamsianum crosses. The fowers of 'Moonstone' may change colour slightly from year to year, depending on seasonal conditions, ranging from pale yellow to cream to nearly pure white.

#### 7 Magnolia stellata

Star magnolia produces 3-4 inch wide white fowers. Its petals are more narrow than those of most magnolias, with about 12-18 being produced per fower. These are very showy in bloom, and are ever so slightly fragrant.

#### 8. Magnolia x soulangiana

Saucer magnolia is a small deciduous tree that

only ever reaches a height of about 5 metres. It has a multi-stemmed habit and produces perfect pale pink fowers tinged with purple in the spring.

#### 9 Rhododendron williamsianum

Rhododendron williamsianum is a unique rhododendron. In April, it produces delicate, nodding bell-shaped pink fowers, which are held in trusses of two or three throughout its dense foliage. Even without fowers, Rhododendron willamsianum can be easily identifed by its rounded leaves and copper-coloured new growth. It is shrubby and mounded in habit, and will grow to be, at most, about 1.5 metres tall.

#### 10 Camellia 'Aunt Mavis'

One of the loveliest camellias in the garden can be found on the west side of the Camellia Walk. Its single f owers are bright pink with a cluster of sunny yellow stamens in the centre of each.

#### 11 Lysichiton americanus

Skunk cabbage is an iconic native wetland perennial in coastal British Columbia. It gets its name from the pungent smell it produces, which is considered unpleasant by some. Its other common name, swamp lantern, comes from its bright yellow fowers, which begin to bloom in April.

#### 12 Magnolia 'Yellow Lantern'

Yellow lantern magnolia produces beautiful pale yellow fowers, which are unique in that they emerge at the same time as the leaves do, whereas most magnolias fower before they leaf out. The specimen on the Magnolia Walk is being steadied by a chain attached to a maple on the other side if the path.

#### 13 Koelreuteria paniculata

Golden raintree, as Koelreteuria paniculata is

commonly known, is a deciduous tree that produces dry, papery, orange lantern-like fruit. These fruit persist through the fall as the tree's compound leaves turn a beautiful bright golden yellow colour, into the winter all the way up until new leaves are produced. This *Koelreteuria* is a very large specimen. While its exact age is unknown, it is probably at least 60 years old. When *Koelreteuria*'s leaves frst appear in the late spring, they are a pale salmon pink, and later mature to green.

#### 14 Rhododendron concinnum

Rhododendron concinnum is a shrubby and fast growing, and produces smaller, slightly fragrant purple fowers in late April. Its glossy green leaves also emit a pleasant scent, particularly when crushed.

#### 15 Rhododendron 'Elizabeth'

This is perhaps the best and most reliable of all red rhododendrons, and is thus commonly planted. 'Elizabeth' is low-growing, has nice dark green foliage, and prolif c bright red trusses. It is easy to grow and generally problem-free.



early MAY







## Early May marks the start of peak season in the Ted and Mary Greig Rhododendron

Garden. The Azalea walk is in full bloom at this point. Herbaceous perennial groundcovers such as ferns and hostas are beginning to form a thick green carpet throughout the garden. Gigantic, pre-historic looking gunnera are pushing their way up out of the ground and beginning to form crinkled leaves on thick, spiky stems. Spring is now in full force.

#### Images on reverse:

- 1 Rhododendron 'Cotton Candy'
- 2 Rhododendron orientale
- Rhododendron cinnabarinum
- 4&5 Rhododendron 'Exbury'
- 6 Rhododendron 'Cunningham's White'
- 7 Rhododendron 'Beauty of Littleworth'
- 8 Rhododendron 'Mrs. A. T. de la Mare'
- 9 Rhododendron 'George Watling'
- 10 Rhododendron wardii
- 11 Matteuccia struthiopteris
- 12 Blechnum spicant
- 13 Hosta sieboldiana var. elegans
- 14 Gunnera manicata
- 15 Polystchum munitum



#### 1 Rhododendron 'Cotton Candy'

In early May, 'Cotton Candy' produces large funnel-shaped fowers in varying shades of pastel pink with darker pink speckles. Dense, frilly-edge trusses clothe the plant in early to mid May. 'Cotton Candy' is vigorous, and has an upright and spreading habit. Out of fower it can be identifed by its long narrow leaves that are dark green above and much lighter green below.

#### 2 Rhododendron occidentale

Rhododendron occidentale is one of fewer than two dozen species of rhododendron that are native to North America. Western azalea, which is deciduous, grows in the wild along the Oregon and California coastlines and has beautiful pink, white and peach fowers and long stamens. In mid May, the numerous Rhododendron occidentale found in the Greig Garden are at their peak and will be blanketed in delicate, wonderfully scented blooms.

#### 3 Rhododendron cinnabarinum x

Rhododendron cinnabarinum originates from the Himalayan Mountains and is one of the species most sought after by rhododendron collectors. It is a delicate, elegant plant that has beautiful waxy, tubular fowers that range from mustard yellow to burnt orange to scarlet, even to plum and lilac purple in some cases. Ironically, the nectar of these stunning fowers is reputed to be the most poisonous of all rhododendrons. In the spring, its emerging young leaves are a beautiful waxy blue-green colour and have a pleasant cinnamon-camphor scent as they unfurl.

#### 4&5 Exbury azaleas

A spectacular collection of brightly colored azaleas is located between the northeast side of the golf course and bike path adjacent Lost Lagoon. Many of these are varieties that originated at the world-famous Exbury Gardens in Hampshire, England. Most of these azaleas, unlike rhododendrons, are deciduous.

#### 6 Rhododendron 'Cunningham's White'

Rhododendron 'Cunningham's White' has fairly small, abundant white fowers that each have a greenish-yellow blotch. They are held in loose trusses of about 8 fowers, each of which opens from a pale pink-tinged bud. Its dark green leaves are fairly small compared to those of most rhododendrons, being only about 10 cm in length. 'Cunningham's White' is also quite tolerant of poor air quality.

#### 7 Rhododendron 'Beauty of Littleworth'

'Beauty of Littleworth' is a splendid rhododendron that produces tall, robust white trusses in May. Each fower, though mauve in bud, is pure white, with the exception of a purple speckle on its top petal and a pink stigma. It is large, fast-growing and can have a rather droopy habit. Its trusses are

truly enormous; each fower may grow to be up to 12 cm wide and there are typically between 15-18 fowers per truss.

#### 8 Rhododendron 'Mrs. A. T. de la Mare'

Rhododendron 'Mrs. A.T. de la Mare' has tightly domed trusses of slightly fragrant, frilled white fowers, each of which has a greenish blotch in its throat. Each emerges from a pale pink bud. It is quite unique among rhododendrons in that it will tolerate full exposure to sun in most instances.

#### 9 Rhododendron 'George Watling'

'George Watling' has beautiful, wide, pale primrose yellow fowers. In sunlight at their peak, they seem to have a bright, almost iridescent glow. Its bright, glossy green, ribbed foliage is also quite attractive. This hybrid was developed by the Greigs at the Royston Nursery.

#### 10 Rhododendron wardii

Rhododendron wardii is one of the nicest yellow-fowered rhododendrons. Its widely bell-shaped blossoms are grouped in trusses of 4-15 individual fowers. Rhododendron wardii has medium-sized dark green leaves.

#### 11 Matteuccia struthiopteris

The ostrich fern is one of the most elegant ferns to be found in the Rhododendron garden. Its delicate grass-green fronds begin to unfurl in late April and by mid May will be about one metre tall. By the end of the summer, they may be more than one and a half metres tall.

#### 12 Blechnum spicant

Deer fern is a shade-loving evergreen fern that is unique in that it has two types of fronds - upright fertile fronds that have dark brown stems and

prostrate infertile fronds.

#### 13 Hosta sieboldiana var. 'Elegans'

'Elegans' is one of the largest-leaved hostas, and can be found throughout the Rhododendron Garden. Its bluish-green heart-shaped leaves have a very puckered textured. It needs a shady, well-drained spot in the garden to fourish.

#### 14 Gunnera manicata

Gunnera manicata is one of the largest herbaceous perennials. Upon first glance, many people mistake gunnera as a type of giant rhubarb, because of its single, peltate leave held f at on thick, upright stems. Incredibly, it can grow up to three metres tall with leaves just as wide, before the end of the summer.

#### 15 Polystichum munitum

Sword fern is one of British Columbia's most widely recognizable native plants. Although it is semi-evergreen, it produces new fronds every year. In the Rhododendron Garden, these new leaves can be seen unfurling in early to mid May.



Iate MAY







Mid-late rhododendrons typically peak during the last

two weeks of May. The end of the main rhododendron season is usually around now, although if the weather isn't too hot or too rainy, it may be extended slightly. Summer fowering vines such as honeysuckle and clematis begin to come into bloom now, too.

#### Images on reverse:

- 1 Magnolia wilsonii
- 2 Rhododendron 'Sappho'
- Rhododendron 'Haydn'
- 4 Rhododendron 'Naiomi Nautilus'
- 5 Rhododendron 'Mrs. Furnival'
- 6&10 Rhododendron mollis
- 7 Rhododendron 'May Day'
- 8 Rhododendron 'Whitney's Orange'
- 9 Lonicera x heckrottii
- Rhododendron loderi 'King George'
- 12 Rhododendron 'Mrs. J. G. Millais'
- 13 Rhododendron yedoense var. poukhanense
- 14 Rhodendron 'Psyche'
- 15 Rhododendron 'Blue Peter'



#### 1 Magnolia wilsonii

Magnolia wilsonii is a rather unique magnolia with large, showy, pendulous f owers. These f owers are pure white with a purple centre and have a sweet, almost lemony scent. During its peak blooming period in the late spring, Wilson's magnolia is best viewed from immediately below, where one can gaze directly up into the downwards-hanging f owers.

#### 2 Rhododendron 'Sappho'

'Sappho' has medium-sized white fowers with a dark purple blotch that are held in fairly dense and rounded trusses. It is a sturdy rhododendron, but has a tendency to become leggy.

#### 3 Rhododendron 'Haydn'

Rhododendron 'Haydn' is deciduous azalea named after the Hungarian composer Joseph Haydn. In late May it become literally covered in delicate white fowers.

#### 4 Rhododendron 'Naomi Nautilus'

The 'Naomi' series of hybrid rhododendrons are amongst the most elegant of all. 'Naomi Nautilus' is prized for its extraordinary f owers, which are both large and wide and are a colour somewhere between pale pink, peach and cream, with a trace of soft greenish yellow in the throat.

#### 5 Rhododendron 'Mrs. Furnival'

'Mrs. Furnival' has large pink fowers with a burgundy blotch on the upper petal, and drooping leaves. It looks very similar to Rhododendron 'Mrs. G.W. Leak;' the two can be told apart by their bloom periods. 'Mrs. G. W. Leak' fowers two weeks earlier than 'Mrs. Furnival' and has a slightly darker blotch.

#### 6&10 Rhododendron x kosteranum

Mollis azalea, as *Rhododendron x kosteranum* is commonly known, is extremely showy, producing vivid yellow, orange and red blooms in late May. It is extremely hardy and will eventually grow to be aound two metres tall.

#### 7 Rhododendron 'May Day'

'May Day' is another heavy bloomer. For most of the month of May, true to its name, 'May Day' will be a curtain of red, its tubular-campanulate f owers drooping in dense fan-like trusses. This plant also features attractive matte green leaves that have thick, fuzzy, cinnamon brown indumentum on their undersides. 'May Day' has a rather dishevelled habit, and will grow wider than it will tall.

#### 8 Rhododendron 'Whitney's Orange'

'Whitney's Orange' is one of the best orange fow ers to be found amongst rhododendrons. It has widely funnel-shaped coral pink-orange fowers with a reddish-orange blotch and wavy margins, which are held in trusses of about 15 fowers. It also has moss-green leaves and a low growth habit with decumbent branches.

dark maroon blotch in the throat which are held in large, upright trusses. It has large, glossy green leaves.

#### 9 Lonicera x heckrottii

The tubular pink and orange fowers of goldenfame honeysuckle begin to open in late May. It has relatively long and narrow leaves, and can be found twinning itself throught the fence along the south edge of the golf course.

#### 11 Rhododendron 'Loderi King George'

The loderi group of rhododendrons are amongst the most popular ever cultivated. They are characterized by wide pale pink or white fowers that are held in large prolif c trusses. 'King George' has an open habit and large leaves, and fragrant pink fowers that eventually fade to white.

#### 12 Rhododedron 'Mrs. J. G. Millais'

Rhododendron 'Mrs. J. G. Millais' has pale pink fowers with a greenish yellow blotch. These open very wide, almost fat, and are held in dense rounded trusses.

#### 13 Rhododendron yedoense var. poukhanense

The broadly funnel-shaped fowers of Rhododendron yedoense var. poukhanse are lavendercoloured, fragrant and held in clusters of two to three. It is semi-evergreen, and will lose some, but not all of its leaves during the winter.

#### 14 Rhodendron 'Psyche'

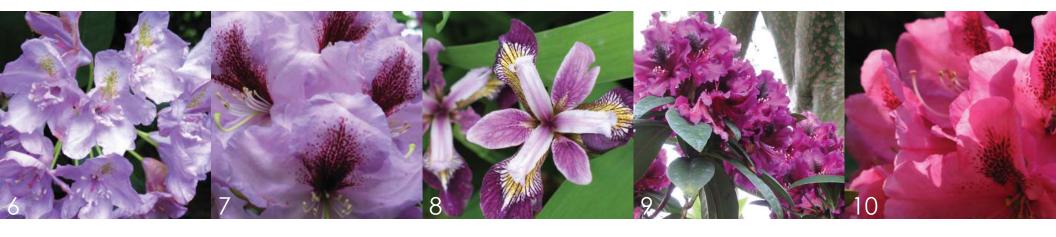
'Psyche' is a late-f owering Rhododendron williamsianum hybrid, with many wide, pale pink f owers appearin towards the end of May, against relatively small, rounded leaves.

#### 15 Rhododendron 'Blue Peter'

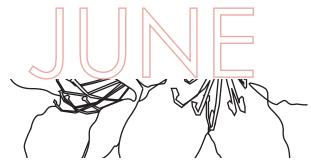
'Blue Peter' has lavender purple fowers with a



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### Late season rhododendrons

begin to bloom in June. Showy fowering perennials such as calla lilies, irises, and candelabra primulas are now in season and provide bright splashes of colour throughout the garden, now that most rhododendrons have faded. The summerblooming magnolias now begin to fower. By the end of June, the Rhododendron auriculatum have begun to bloom.

#### Images on reverse:

- 1 Magnolia tripetala
- 2 Rhododendron decorum
- 3 Rhododendron chionoides
- 4 Rhododendron 'Bonito'
- 5 Magnolia hypoleuca
- 6 Rhododendron 'Fastuosum Flore Pleno'
- 7 Rhododendron 'Arthur Bedford'
- 8 Iris versicolor
- 9 Rhododendron 'Purple Splendor'
- 10 Rhododendron 'Anna Rose Whitney'
- 11 Buddleja globosa
- 12 Papaver nudicaule
- 13 Primula bulleyana
- 14 Rhododendron 'Fabia'
- 15 Rhododendron auriculatum x



#### 1 Magnolia tripetala

Magnolia tripetala, or umbrella magnolia as it is commonly known, has enormous apple-green leaves that may grow to be up to 60 cm long. It produces large, upright, creamy white fowers in June. These are some of the only fragranced magnolia fowers, although the scent produced by Magnolia tripetala is quite unpleasant.

#### 2 Rhododendron decorum

Rhododendron decorum is noted for its beautiful, abundant, white, fragrant fowers. It also has attractive, glossy green leaves that provide interest in the garden, even when no fowers are present.

#### 3 Rhododendron 'Chionoides'

'Chionoides' has dainty white fowers with a neat, brilliant greenish-yellow blotch in the middle of each. These fowers are held in tight, rounded trusses, and the plant will form a broad but compact shrub with age.

#### 4 Rhododendron 'Bonito'

'Bonito' is a large-leaved, late-fowering rhododendron. It has very widely funnel-shaped white fowers that have a slight red-yellow speckling in the throat.

#### 5 Magnolia hypoleuca

Japanese white-barked magnolia is native to Japan. This species has enormous, highly-ornamental and strongly scented fowers with cream-coloured petals and crimson-pink stamens which bloom in June. The young leaves and fower buds are edible and in Japan, Magnolia hypoleuca is grown for its medicinal bark. Interestingly, it is also highly tolerant of atmospheric pollution.

#### 6 Rhododendron 'Fatuosum Flore Pleno'

'Fatuosum Flore Pleno' is an unusual double-fowered hybrid, where each individual fower looks like it is made up of two fowers, with the inner petals being smaller and more frilly than those of the outer fower. The fowers each have a greenish-yellow blotch and are arranged in loose trusses of approximately 15. 'Fatuosum Flore Pleno' is a sterile hybrid that has been bred from cuttings and graphs selected for features that eventually lead to a double fower. In most plants, double fowers have no stamens; instead, they have usually mutated into the second set of petals.

#### 7 Rhododendron 'Arthur Bedford'

'Arthur Bedford' has dense, dome shaped trusses comprised of 11-16 lavender purple fowers, each of which has a brownish-red blotch on its uppermost lobe. It has glossy green leaves held on unique reddish stems.

#### 8 Iris versicolor

Blue fag iris is native to marshes and wet meadows across North America. It grows up to one metre high and bloom from May until July, peaking in June.

#### 9 Rhododendron 'Purple Splendor'

This is one of the darkest purples found amongst rhododendrons. 'Purple Splendor' is so dark that the blotch present on it upper lobe seems nearly black. These fowers have frilled edges and are clustered in dense, dome-shaped trusses. The leaves of 'Purple Splendor' are distinct in that they have a depressed midrib.

#### 10 Rhododendron 'Anna Rose Whitney'

'Anna Rose Whitney' is a very dependable rhododendron for its large, deep pink fowers in large rounded trusses, nice olive-green foliage, and its vigorous habit.

#### 11 Buddleia globosa

Orange butterfy bush is a lanky deciduous shrub that has small orange fowers arranged in 2 cm-wide round heads. These fragrant fowers appear in late May or early June and later in the summer develop into dry, brown, rounded seed heads. It is native to the Andes of Chile, Argentina and Peru.

Buddleia globosa is a relative of Buddleia davidii, the fragrant, purple butterfy bush that is commonly found naturalized in British Columbia and considered an invasive weed in Greater Vancouver, Southern Vancouver Island and on the Sunshine Coast. Buddleia globosa is significantly less invasive, and should be considered by gardeners as an alternative to Buddleia davidii.

#### 12 Papaver nudicaule

Arctic poppy's bright orange f owers are in bloom from May through September, although its seeds ripen in June. It is highly adaptable and will grow in sun or part shade and in moist or dry soil. It is a short-lived perennial and will die out in particularly heavy or wet soil.

#### 13 Primula bulleyana

Bright pink-orange fowers are arranged in distinct tiers on the upright stems of candelabra primula. They will grow to be up to half a metre tall, and thrive in sunny, but moist locations around the Rhododendron Garden.

#### 14 Rhododendron 'Fabia'

'Fabia' produces plentiful, bright pinkish-orange campanulate fowers. They have a prominent calyx and are held in loose, downward-hanging trusses of approximately nine fowers. 'Fabia' has dark, dull-green leaves with fairly dense, pale brown indumentum.

#### 15 Rhododendron auriculatum x

Rhododendron auriculatum is noted for its grand stature and fragrant, extremely late-blooming fowers that appear in late June or even July. The fowers of the true Rhododendron auriculatum species are typically pure white, or occasionally pale pink, with a slight green blotch in the throat, but this particular specimen is a hybrid and has light salmon-pink fowers. Rhododendron auriculatum has enormous leaves – more than a foot long in some cases – and a strong, tree like branching pattern, which make it an impressive plant anytime of the year, regardless of whether or not fowers are present.

Rhododendron auriculatum and its hybrids were a signature of Royston Nursery, owned by Ted and Mary Greig – after whom the garden is named and from where most of the rhododendrons in this garden came from during the 1960s.