# George Tindale Garden

Today the garden is a reflection of George and Ruth Tindale's vision of having a garden displaying something of interest all year round. The garden contains a number of plants rarely found in cultivation which are thriving in the acidic soils, cool temperate climate and shaded conditions found in the Dandenong Ranges. Extensive collections of magnolias, rhododendrons, camellias, azaleas, fuchsias, bulbs and hydrangeas will be easily recognisable to the garden enthusiast.

## History

1893 - Captain J Pallant purchased the 10 acre property, clearing and building a house for his family. The Property was named 'Pallant's Hill'.

1915 - Mr H R Harper purchased the property as a weekend retreat. He established an English style garden and created what is now known as Harper's Drive.

1939 - Mr and Mrs H Potter purchased the property for a weekend retreat. Improvements were made to the house and garden including a few paths and two water tanks.

1958 - George Tindale, a research scientist with the Victorian Department of Agriculture, purchased the property and began developing and extending the garden. He and his wife Ruth created the plantings which you see today. Both were members of various horticultural societies and many plants were raised from seed made available from the societies. Other rare or choice plants were sourced from local nurseries or plant collectors.

1980 - Ruth Tindale handed the garden to the Victorian Conservation Trust in memory of her husband who wished the garden to be preserved.

1995 - Parks Victoria commenced management of Tindale Garden when it assumed management of six garden properties in the Dandenong Ranges including the National Rhododendron Gardens, Alfred Nicholas Gardens, Pirianda Gardens, R J Hamer Aboretum, Mt Dandenong Arboretum and William Ricketts Sanctuary.

### How to get there

The Garden is located at 33 Sherbrooke Road, Sherbrooke (Melways Ref. 75 J2).

# What to see and do

In order to manage tree risk issues with the Mountain Ash forest, Parks Victoria has currently restricted access to some parts of the garden. However there are still many areas on interest including:

- The nationally registered hydrangea collection of common and unusual shrubs, climbers and tree like species.
- The sculptures on permanent display in the garden, of which two pieces are the work of Ruth Tindale.
- The Mature canopy of trees including the native Mountain Ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) and the Monkey Puzzle (*Araucaria araucana*) on the front lawn are complimented by detailed plantings.

### Seasonal highlights

Spring bursts forth with a myriad of flowers from rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias, camellias whilst the flowering bulbs in the rock garden are not to be missed.

Summer is cooling, with the marvellous collection of hydrangeas showing off their many shades of blue. Lilliums, fuchsias and summer flowering perennials are a colourful delight beneath the shady canopy of Mountain Ash.

Autumn shocks the senses with gold, red, orange and burgundy foliage on the many mature trees. Nerines, Autumn crocus and other bulbs will remind you that spring is not the only season for bulbs.

Winter will quietly expose the flowers of the Lenten Rose or Hellebore beneath other winter flowering shrubs.

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For more information call the **Parks Victoria Information Centre** on **13 1963** or visit our website at **www.parkweb.vic.gov.au** 

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