

NSW Camellia Research Society NEWSLETTER

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Camellia japonicas 'Man Size' – A Big Blush of Blooms and
a Second Flush for 'Royal Velvet' After a Two Month Hiatus

(Photos D. Low)

No Meeting This Month

SEPTEMBER REPORT

At the time of going to print we were still in lockdown in greater Sydney. Under these conditions we will not be able to hold a September meeting.

On the Sick List this Month is Lesley Saddington in the SAN. No visitors are allowed in the Hospital.

It will be interesting to see the results from the On-line Show at The Highlands held in late August—the only Annual Show our members could exhibit at this year, that we know of.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT-SEPTEMBER 2021

So the worst has happened. Numbers of COVID cases keep going up, and the lockdown is more severe. The cases have spread to the west and into the indigenous populations. such as at Dubbo and Wilcannia.

Lockdown in Victoria has not been successful in containing the Delta variant either. So unfortunately the Annual Congress, due to be held in Gippsland has had to be cancelled.

Our Committee meetings are on hold, and the September Meeting has been cancelled. Hopefully the situation might be better by October so that we can hold our AGM on 18th October 2021. Formal notice of the AGM will be issued in due course. We may have meet by Zoom if the lockdown restrictions continue.

Members should consider whether they can contribute to the running of the Society by standing for the Committee. All nominations would be gratefully received. If members have any matters they wish to be considered during the AGM, please let the Committee know.

We will also be giving planning consideration to an Annual Dinner in November, but again that will be dependent on how, and when, the lockdown restrictions are lifted.

On a lighter note, Gardening Australia on ABC TV will be featuring Eryldene as the anchor location for Costa on next Friday 10th September from 7:30pm. The Camellia blooms at Eryldene are looking superb, but not widely enough admired due to the Gardens being closed due to lockdown.

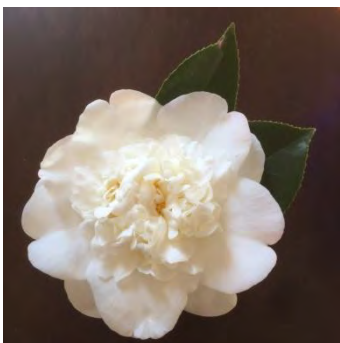
Our Neutrog delivery is on hold until easing of lockdown will allow us to travel to Baulkham Hills for the pickup of each order.

All the best for your springtime gardening,
Bruce Walker



is for a Super September

PHOTOS C & D Low



Shiro Chan



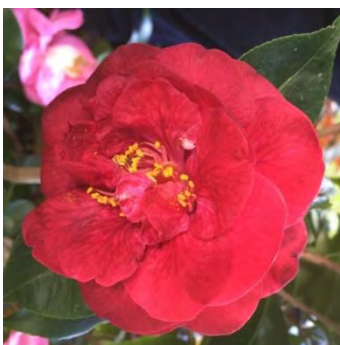
Susan Stone



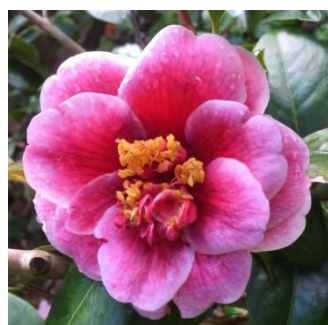
Strawberry Blonde



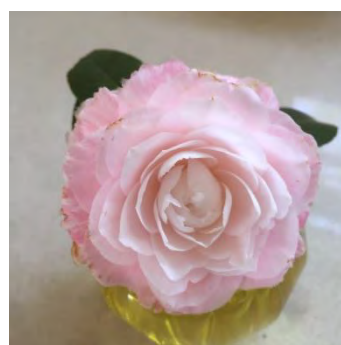
Starry Eyes



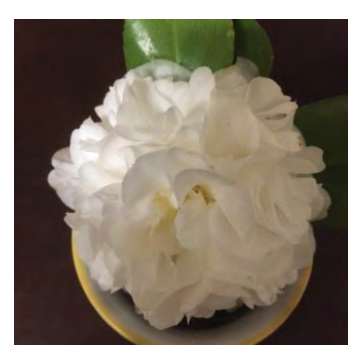
Susie Fortson



Tama Vino



Tammia



White Deb



FROM CAMELLIAS AUSTRALIA



Camellias Australia Inc.

ABN 95 146 968 941

<www.camelliasaustralia.com.au>

PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO ALL AFFILIATES

Dear Members,

Due to the current situation, Camellias Australia is finding itself in a very difficult position and if we want to continue to have a National body we need your support.

Jenny and myself have been agonising over this for many months now, and due to the fact that we still have no editor and a somewhat lack of interest in our AGM (possibly to due to Zoom but unfortunately, we have no other option.)

In light of this situation it is difficult to see how Camellias Australia can continue and sadly a decision needs to be made one way or the other.

I would encourage you all to give this matter your utmost consideration.

Jim Rochford
President
Camellias Australia

2 September 2021

P.S.

No one at this stage has put their hand up for the role of editor and with a membership of over 500 there must be someone out there to help out.

You can contact Jim or myself anytime.

President Jim 0400 750 832

Secretary Jenny 0418 260 724

Keep safe, keep well, regards Jenny



Camellia Grove Nursery

ESTABLISHED 1939



OUR NURSERY: 8 Cattai Ridge Road, Glenorie NSW 2157

Phone: (02) 9652 1200

Fax: (02) 9652 2740

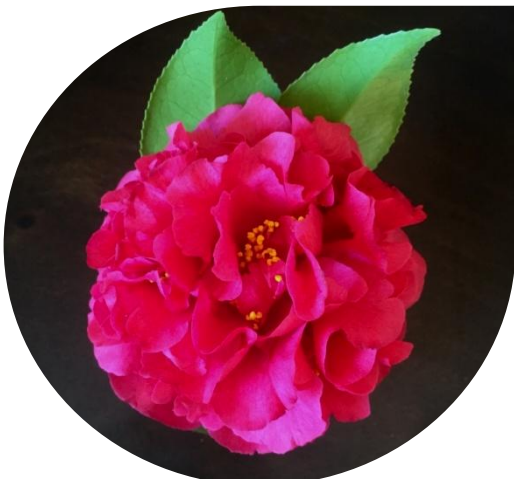
NURSERY TRADING HOURS

OPEN 7 DAYS 9am-4pm

Browse our website at: <http://www.camelliagrove.com.au>



Neutrog Products Are:



Tomorrow



Tomorrow Park Hill





GARDENING OVER THE HILL (PART II)

LESLEY SADDINGTON FAIH

Watering – occasional deeply NOT frequent lightly, keep track with a diary if necessary

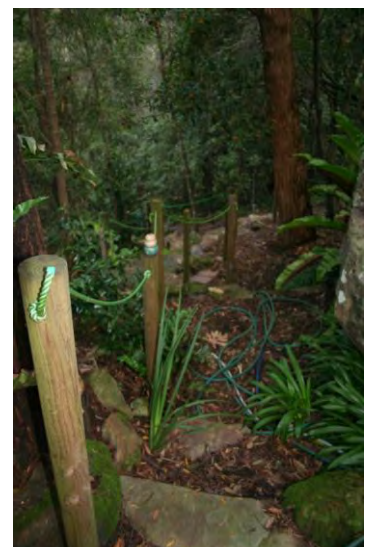
Safety Over the Hill



Safety – no moss, raised beds,

To ensure safe access to all areas of your garden

- Keep steps and paths free of moss – use penetrating sealer
- Consider raised garden beds
- Replace heavy pots (terracotta, concrete, ceramic) with light- weight plastic pots and use a trolley when moving them



Safety – steep areas – posts & rails, steps

Hazards – hoses, roots, branches, trips

Plants in Pots – few larger, light pots, trolley, no saucers, wheeled stands

Ergonomic Tools – Independent Living Centre

Pot Plant Care – potting mix, Wettasoil, sphagnum, fertilizers

No Maintenance Gardens – no such thing!, avoid high maintenance plants

Low Maintenance Plants – ground orchids, list

Ponds, Water Features – maintenance, water health, frogs/fish & plants

Orchids in trees

Mass Plantings – e.g. Philodendron ‘Zanadu’, Mondo grass

“A garden is a place of repose for the mind & the body” – Edna Walling



MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE 2021

| September 2021 | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Monday 20th | Cancelled |
| October 2021 | |
| Monday 18 th | NSWCRS AGM 7.30pm. <i>Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon.</i> |
| November 2021 | |
| | Annual Dinner and Presentations. Date and Location TBA |

TWO BEAUTIES FROM THE ACT

PHOTOS STEPHEN UTICK



Camellia saluensis from the Fetherston Garden ACT



C. Reticulata 'Tyrrhenian Gown' in Stephen Utick's Garden



SIX TREASURES FROM CAMELLIA ARK

DR. STEPHEN UTICK

Despite the tragic disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the conservation activities of Camellia Ark Australia (CAA) have continued thanks to regular collections of scions of rare cultivars in season and the valued support of our nursery propagators, particularly Limpinwood Nursery (Northern NSW) and Andrew Raper's Rhodoglen Nurseries (The Patch, Dandenongs VIC). In the past 6 months, a number of significant specimens have successfully come through both these propagators. Here below are seven such treasures:

1 *Camellia japonica* 'Mrs Fairfax' (Guilfoyle, NSW 1970)

Perhaps the most significant from a NSW heritage perspective is 'Mrs Fairfax', developed by colonial nurseryman Michael Guilfoyle in 1875 which has come back to NSW after an interval of over 100 years. This NSW cultivar, which last appeared in the Shepherd's Nursery Catalogues in 1880, is briefly described as 'white striped rose' is closer to a cream striped rose and exhibits the semi-double form. With the assistance of Melbourne Botanic Gardens (MBG) guide and CAA member Jenny Happell, the last remaining specimen was uncovered in the grounds of the old Director's Lodge. The provenance was significant as Michael's son William became a Director of the Royal MBG back in 1873 (his father Michael died in 1884). CAA donated a handsome specimen of Mrs Fairfax to the Sydney Botanic Gardens in February this year.



2 *Camellia japonica* 'Faint Whisper' (Short, USA, 1965)

Hardy anyone would be familiar with this little-known medium (up to 13cm diameter) very light shell pink irregular semi-double registered by Harvey Short of Ramona California in 1965. Scions of the one known specimen in Australia of Faint Whisper were taken from the E.G. Waterhouse Camellia Gardens at Caringbah almost 4 years ago. It is very pretty and exhibits the required characteristic of stamens flowering within the petals.



3 *Camellia* 'Shōwa-wabisuke' (Botan-en Nursery, Japan 1938)

This apple-blossom toned single Japanese wabisuke is one of the rarer wabisuke found in Australian collections. Its foliage is distinguished by narrowly elliptic leaves, concave and channelled on upper surface, with strongly serrated margins. Scions of Shōwa-wabisuke were obtained from a specimen in the E.G. Waterhouse Camellia Gardens at Caringbah, which itself was sourced from Walter Hazlewood collection. This wabisuke has its origins around Takarazuka City, Hyōgo Prefecture, Japan.





4 *Camellia japonica* 'Planipetala' (Borzone, Italy, 1851)

One of the more surprising discoveries made was that of a heritage Italian white formal double Planipetala, found at Oldbury Farm (School of Horticulture) Sutton Forest in the NSW Southern Highlands. It was confirmed by comparison with 19th century prints and blooms of a struggling specimen recorded earlier at the E. G. Waterhouse Camellia Gardens at Caringbah. A key feature of this white formal, setting it apart from Alba Plena, is the reflexed character of the outer petals. Planipetala has a long history, being recorded in *Collezione di Camellie* as far back as 1851. It can be found in a few 19th century nursery catalogues, and was continued in the Hazlewood listings until the mid-20th century.



5 *Camellia japonica* x *granthamiana* 'Autumn Glory' (McMinn, VIC 1967)

This hybrid, *C. japonica* Spencer's Pink x *C. granthamiana*, by the late Erica McMinn of Camellia Lodge Nursery has the distinction of being perhaps the first cultivated *granthamiana* hybrid. Flowers are large single creamy white, delicately flushed soft pink towards the petal margins, with long petals, crimped and slightly waved, surrounding a mass of golden yellow stamens, almost spherical in form. Bud sepals at maturity are greyish-brown, crinkled and dry in texture. Leaves are deeply veined. Scions of 'Autumn Glory' were sourced from the Olinda National Rhododendron Garden (Dandenong Ranges Botanic Garden) in Victoria. Advanced specimens (see one pictured above) were available for sale at the CAA Rare Camellia Workshop at Parker's Glenorie in February this year.



6 *Camellia japonica* 'Fen Change-cai' (Pink Goddess of the Moon Splendour) (Wang and Yü, 1981, China)

Back in 2003 at the first International Camellia Society Congress in China, the mayor of Jinhua City in Zhejiang Province China presented Bob Cherry (as a gift to Australia) a magnificent medium pink rose form to formal double, which had apparently been grown in that city for at least 500 years. Back in Australia, it was informally known as the 'Pink Incarnata' but eventually Wang Zhonglang, the ICS Registrar confirmed that it was Fen Change-cai (translated as Pink Goddess of the Moon Splendour). CAA has grown this cultivar on for several years, after obtaining cuttings from Bob Cherry himself, and it is important to note that the form does change to a darker pink formal double in warmer more humid climates. The lovely rose form double specimen pictured above was grown in the higher altitude, colder winter climate of Canberra and certainly lives up to its temporary designation as a pink form of Incarnata. It is in fact a sport of a white form called Baichang'e Cai. Note that despite its ancient pedigree, it was only registered formally in 1981, during a period when Chinese experts were beginning to access their historical cultivars.



From the ARK: September Meeting in Victoria Cancelled



CELEBRITY OPENING OF THE CAMELLIA SHOW

BRUCE WALKER

Vivien Leigh at Killara Camellia Show NFSA link:

Did you know that the Camellia Show in 1948 was opened by Lady Vivien Leigh, the Hollywood movie star? The show was held at the Community Hall in Marian Street Killara. Watch a movie clip at <https://www.nfsa.gov.au/collection/curated/vivien-leigh-opens-killara-camellia-show>. Reportedly there were some 5000 people in Marian Street to see the arrival and then formal opening by Vivien Leigh, resplendent in her fur jacket. She was presented with a box of Camellia flowers in thanks. It might be interesting to know which blooms she received.



Saturday 4th September 1948



Three Posters from Other Historical Shows Courtesy Margaret Levick

The Directors of Myer in conjunction with The New South Wales Foundation Branch of the Australian Camellia Research Society invite you to view the 1977 show.

To be officially opened at 11.45 a.m. on Monday, 1st August by the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser, C.H., M.P. Prime Minister and Mrs. Fraser.

LE CAMELLIA INTERNATIONAL

BLAXLAND GALLERY 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 1st, 2nd, 3rd August

1974 CAMELLIA SHOW

presented by
Australian Camellia Research Society
N.S.W. Foundation Branch

BLAXLAND GALLERY

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 29th JULY, 10am-4.30pm | FARMER'S CITY STORE |
| 30th JULY, 10am-4.30pm | SIXTH FLOOR |
| 31st JULY, 10am-4.30pm | |



NSWCRS COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS 2020-2021

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Patron: | Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO | |
| President: | Bruce Walker | T: 0412 588 719 E: bfwalks2@tpg.com.au |
| Vice President: | Rachel O'Connor PO Box 9 Killara NSW 2071 | T: 9498 2646 |
| Secretary: | Helen Wallace | M:0404 721 572 E:helen_wallace@optusnet.com.au |
| Treasurer: | Julie Hood | T: 94118569 E: jhoodmazlin@gmail.com |
| Public Officer: | Richie Griffiths 39 Hazelmead Rd, Asquith NSW 2077 | M: 0418 200 139 E:rgriffiths@ryde.nsw.gov.au |
| Newsletter Editor: | Daniel Low | T: 99883280 E: nswcamellias@hotmail.com |
| Librarian: | Bill Fleming | E:wffleming@primusononline.com.au |
| Membership Sec. | Carolyn Low | T: 99883280 E: nswcamellias@hotmail.com |
| Committee: | Bruce Walker (President) | Helen Wallace (Secretary) |
| | Julie Hood (Treasurer) | Juliet Muras |
| | Daniel Low (IPP, and Newsletter Editor) | Margaret Levick (Fellow NSW CRS) |
| | Richie Griffiths (<i>Public Officer</i>) | Carolyn Low (Membership Secretary) |
| | Judith McGill | |
| National Councillors: | Yet to be nominated | |
| ABN: | 16 873 158 367 | |
| Incorporation No.: | Y17693-47 | |



RETICS OF RENOWN

RICHIE GRIFFITHS

August has brought out its usual beauties of the Larger Kind.



Arche de Triumphe



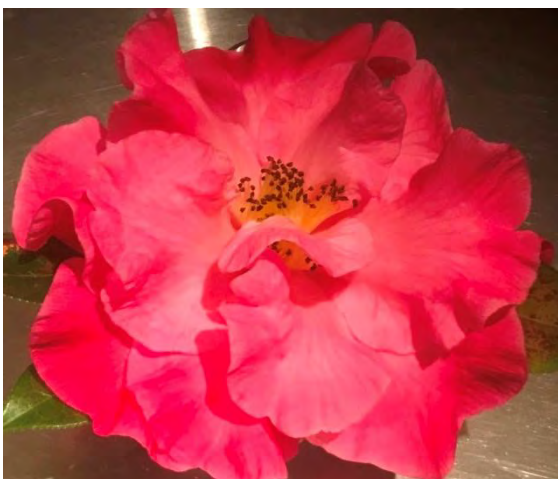
Descanso Mist



Glorious Gamble



La Stupenda



Raspberry Glow



Mandalay Queen



and a Little "Ring In", Dahlonga



SPRING IS ON THE WAY

MELISSA LOW

A number of japonicas are still bringing joy to the garden





RETICULATA CAMELLIAS ARE HAVING A SECOND BURST

C. & D. LOW



Hinomaru



Mandalay Queen



Red Crystal



Ted Craig



LETS KEEP OUR GARDENS IN PEAK CONDITION

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