### NSW Camellia Research Society **NEWSLETTER**

ISSN: 2207-6883

#### **INSIDE THE MAY 2022 ISSUE**



PG. 2

President's Report May

May is for . . .

PG. 3

Professor E G Waterhouse . . .

PG. 10

**April Meeting** 



PG. 11

**Bloom Competition Rules** 

PG. 12

Meeting Schedule 2022



PG. 13

NSW CRS Committee 2022



PG. 14

What's Flowering at "Eryldene"



PG. 15

In the Tall Forest at Wahroonga



'Mignonne'

# The May meeting is coming up on

Monday 16th

Let's have a bumper rollup.

Members please bring a **Plate** 



#### **MAY REPORT**

Neutrog's Representative Helen Lovel spoke at our April meeting. It was a very interesting and informative discussion followed by a question and answer session. This month we will have an informal discussion and demonstration on flower photography. Everyone is encouraged to come prepared to share their experiences.





#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT, MAY 2022

Our meeting on Tuesday 26th April was well attended given it was not held on a Monday as usually scheduled. The room was 'friendly' but will likely not be big enough for future meetings when the number of blooms to be tabled will be significantly more. Helen Lovell from Neutrog gave a passionate and informative talk on the product development and production at the Neutrog plant at Kanmantoo, SA. The piles of manure were certainly impressive in size, and no doubt odour. The best laid plans can go astray and the gremlins stuck such that the Neutrog samples were not delivered in time for the meeting. We now have the samples and they will be available at the next meeting.



Our meeting on Monday 16th May will be held in the usual hall and will feature contributions from our members. There will be a talk about photographing blooms with Tips and Tricks on both SLR cameras and on the flexibility/capacity of modern phone cameras. There will also be a Q&A session on problems relating to your camellias, or other garden issues. So come prepared with your questions for discussion by our other members, including the more experienced amongst us.

Our June meeting will be an interesting presentation by Stephen Utick as outlined elsewhere in this Newsletter. Our 51st Annual Show is scheduled for 9th and 10th July. So "save the date" in your diary. Planning is underway and, after false starts the last two years, we are sure that both our members and our guests will be keen to attend and admire the blooms. Help will be needed from all our members to assist with the many roles that make for a successful Show. For example, help will be needed on the Raffle Table to help secure sales of raffle tickets for the goods and plants donated by our supporters. We will also have a blind auction of two wellknown Camellia books that are now out of print and hard to buy, even on the second-hand market. Hopefully there will be plenty of offers for these.

Happy gardening, and see you on 16th May **Bruce Walker** 



IS FOR MAY and . . .



Minato No Akebono



Marge Miller









Shikibu



Early Pearly



Unryu Tsubaki









## PROFESSOR EBEN GOWRIE WATERHOUSE, HIS HOME, GARDEN AND INFLUENCE ON CAMELLIAS HERE AND WORLDWIDE TEXT OF A TALK GIVEN TO FRIENDS OF IVANHOE PARK BG



Camellia 'E.G. Waterhouse'
Raised by Waterhouse in 1946
Named after himself



Garden Studio at Eryldene



Professor E. G. Waterhouse

Eben Gowrie Waterhouse OBE CMG (1881–1977) was an Australian who had three distinguished careers. Starting out as an innovative teacher of languages, he became one of Australia's most prominent "Germanists" when classical German culture still commanded worldwide respect. Between the Wars in Sydney he was a leading arbiter of taste in house-and-garden living, fostering a conception of garden design which still dominates much of the Sydney North Shore and parts of Melbourne. Finally, in his long retirement he brought about, as scholar and plant-breeder, an international revival of interest in the genus Camellia.

#### Eryldene

Between 1913 and 1936 Waterhouse had built on half an acre (0.2 hectares) of land at 17 McIntosh Street, Gordon, a house and garden called "Eryldene" after his wife's birthplace in Scotland. Nearly a century later, the suburbs of Gordon, Killara, Pymble and Turramurra between May and August present an exceptional display of camellias in every form.

#### Landscape and Garden

Waterhouse participated fully in the 1920s and 1930s expansion of gardening as an art form and way of life. His argument was elaborated and refined in "Domestic Gardening as an Art" in 1943. Annual and perennial flowers were not enough to sustain the garden as a work of art. Texture and form, not colour alone, were stable enough to support the symphonic repetition and variation of garden elements.

Garden rooms formed by walls and hedges should be provided with the "furniture" of pots and geometrical shrubs — juniper, hydrangea and camellia. Larger pieces of "furniture" were provided by classical or oriental temples at the end of sandstone paths. The "floor covering" of the garden room was a well made lawn. Its role in structuring garden space should not be confused by island beds but emphasised by well-planted borders. Form, however, was not everything: he called for advice on how to attract the right-coloured butterflies to each garden room.

By 1943 the only rose bush he recommends for Sydney is 'Cramoisi Supérieur' for its combination of bright colour and firmly rounded form. The Lombardy poplar, on the other hand, had everything Waterhouse admired in shape, texture, colour and sound. Starting at Eyldene, many of his landscape designs were marked by formal rows of poplars — often closely planted as a screen. Such rows became ubiquitous in temperate Australia in his lifetime and have almost completely disappeared since.

Waterhouse was also responsible for planting what became the well-loved and iconic Jacaranda tree in the University of Sydney Quadrangle.







#### Camellias



Camellia sasanqua 'Plantation Pink' Waterhouse 1942



Camellia japonica 'Somersby' Waterhouse 1944



Camellia x williamsii 'Sayonara' Waterhouse 1946



Camellia japonica 'Beverley Caffin Rosea' Waterhouse 1947



Camellia sasanqua 'Exquisite' (Waterhouse) Waterhouse 1947



Camellia X williamsii
'Lady Gowrie'
Waterhouse 1951



Camellia japonica 'Nancy Bird' Waterhouse 1952



Camellia japonica 'Janet Waterhouse' Waterhouse 1952



Camellia X williamsii 'Margaret Waterhouse' Waterhouse 1957



Camellia japonica 'Merrillees' Waterhouse 1957



Camellia japonica 'Polar Bear' Waterhouse 1957



Camellia japonica 'Betty Cuthbert' Waterhouse 1962

Western interest in camellias as luxury flowers had waxed 1840–1880 then waned as they lost favour to orchids. From 1914 Waterhouse's writing and breeding eventually brought about a renewal of interest 1930–1960 in camellias (even in Japan), now as warm-climate woodland trees. But the names of available camellias were deeply confused, and the best means of breeding and growing them was poorly understood. In 1952 Waterhouse and four other enthusiasts founded what became the Australian Camellia Research Society. By 1958 it had 320 members. Waterhouse became one of the world's leading scholars of camellias — the International Camellia Society, of which he became the first president in 1962, has a register containing over 150 entries on camellias which Waterhouse identified, bred, discovered, renamed or reclassified.



#### NEWSLETTER- APRIL 2022 Visit us at: www.camelliansw.org



Among these were camellias originally imported to colonial New South Wales or raised there by Sir William Macarthur

of Camden Park 1820–61. The enormous job of rationalising Camellia names in Australia was done by Waterhouse, A.W. Jessep of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, and Walter Hazelwood of Hazelwoods' Nursery outside Sydney.

In 1970 Waterhouse assembled a national collection of camellias on two hectares in the Sutherland Shire (at Caringbah), Sydney. The collection was renamed at his death the E.G. Waterhouse National Camellia Gardens. It contains more than 450 cultivars and species.

Growing many camellias led to discovering natural seedlings and sports, as well as propagating known varieties and making deliberate crosses — starting with 'Plantation Pink' in 1942. Many of his named original varieties are still commercially available.

#### Camellias Raised by E.G. Waterhouse

Name	Date	Туре	Form and colour	Extant
Plantation Pink	1942	C. sasanqua	Single pink	Yes
Beverley Caffin	1944	Seedling of 'Jean Lyne'?	Double white with carmine flakes	Yes
Somersby	1944	C. japonica	Ruby red with darker edges, double rose to peony form	Yes
Waverley	1944	C. japonica	Cherry-red, semi-double with undulating petals and golden stamens	Yes
Bowen Bryant	1946	C. x williamsii hybrid	Semi-double rose pink	Yes
Charles Colbert	1946	C. x williamsii hybrid	Semi-double, incurved amaranth rose	Yes
Clarrie Fawcett	1946	C. x williamsii hybrid	Semi-double amaranth rose	Yes
Crinkles	1946	C. x williamsii hybrid	Semi-double, crinkled amaranth rose petals	Yes
E.G. Waterhouse	1946	C. x williamsii hybrid	Imbricated pink	Yes
Farfalla	1946	C. x williamsii hybrid	Single pink hanging bell	Yes
Henry Price	1946	C. japonica	Deep crimson double	Yes
Lilian Pitts	1946	C. japonica	Single to semi-double white flaked carmine	Yes
Sayonara	1946	C. x williamsii hybrid	Semi-double clear pink	Yes
Beverley Caffin Rosea	1947	Sport of 'Beverley Caffin'	Semi-double, rose-red	Yes
Exquisite (Waterhouse)	1947	C. sasanqua	Palest pink single	Yes
Lilian Pitts Rosea	1947	Sport of 'Lilian Pitts'	Single to semi-double pink flaked carmine	
Maroona	1948	C. japonica	Wine red anemone form	Yes
Mignonne	1949	C. sasanqua seedling	Light pink formal double	Yes
Lady Gowrie	1951	C. x williamsii hybrid	Loose pink semi-double	Yes
Andromeda	1952	Seedling from 'Sodegakushi'	Double white with carmine streaks	Yes
Adrian Feint	1952	C. japonica	Semi-double white with crimson stripes	Yes
Campanella	1952	Seedling of 'Suibijin'	Single light pink	Yes
Dainty Maiden	1952	Seedling of 'Suibijin'	Semi-double rhodamine pink	Yes
Janet Waterhouse	1952	C. japonica	Semi-double pure white	Yes



# NEWSLETTER- APRIL 2022 Visit us at: www.camelliansw.org



Nancy Bird	1952	C. japonica	Semi-double, pale rose with crimson streaks	Yes
Roberta	1952	Sport of 'Paul Jones'	Large semi-double light pink	
Robin	1952	C. japonica	Single cherry red	Yes
Shocking Pink	1955	C. saluenensis seedling	Tyrian rose to formal double	Yes
E.G. Waterhouse variegated	1957	Sport of 'E.G. Waterhouse'	Pink splotched white	Yes
Margaret Waterhouse	1957	C. x williamsii hybrid	Semi-double soft pink	Yes
Merrillees	1957	C. japonica	Large, informal double white	Yes
Polar Bear	1957	Seedling of 'Great Eastern'	Large creamy-white showing stamens	Yes
Ellamine	1958	C. saluenensis hybrid	Single pink	Yes
Kurrajong	1959	Seedling of 'Great Eastern'	Creamy white formal double	Yes
Paul Jones Supreme	1958	Seedling of 'Paul Jones'	Semi-double white with carmine stripes	Yes
Mars Variegated	1960	Virus-variegated form of 'Mars'	Semi-double turkey red blotched white	Yes
Betty Cuthbert	1962	Seedling of 'Yoijibin'	Informal double, Neyron pink	Yes
Moonflower	1962	C. japonica	Large single white	
St Ives	1962	C. japonica	Large loose informal white, peppered with carmine spots	
Sylphide	1962	C. japonica	Medium large pink informal double	
Tatters	1962	C. x williamsii	Medium informal double white	Yes
Weroona	1963	C. sasanqua	Semi-double white rose-stained edges	Yes
Lady's Maid	1964	Seedling of 'Lady Gowrie'	Semi-double light orchid pink	Yes
Candy Stripe (Waterhouse)	1965	Seedling of 'Doris Tagg'	White with red radial stripes	Yes
Barbara Mary	1965	C. japonica	Scented, blush pink, peony form	Yes
Bells	1965	C. x williamsii hybrid	Single, mauvy pink	
Red Moon	1965	C. japonica	Deep rose red, semi-double	Yes
Sheridan	1965	C. japonica	Single rose-red trumpets with bluish veins	Yes
Tahiti	1965	C. japonica	Medium bright red single, spreading stamens	Yes
Glacier	1968	Seedling of 'Somersby'	Semi-double snow white	Yes
Caroline Simpson	1970	Sport of 'Lady Vansittart White'	Single white with centre heavily veined pink	
Mimsie	1970	C. sasanqua seedling	Single to semi-double slatey pink	
Mary Armati	1971	C. uraku seedling	Semi-double blush pink	
Alex Blackadder	1972	Seedling of 'Suibijin'	Claret-rose semi-double	







#### E.G. Waterhouse Camellias In The Garden of C.G. and D. Low







Exquisite (Waterhouse) 1947



Mignonne 1949



Nancy Bird 1952



Margaret Waterhouse 1957



Merrilees 1957





Paul Jones Supreme 1958



Weroona 1963

Name	Date	Туре		Extant	
Plantation Pink	1942	C. sasanqua	Single p	oink	Yes
Exquisite (Waterhouse)	1947	C. sasanqua	Palest p	ink single	Yes
Mignonne	1949	C. sasanqua seedling	Light pi	ink formal double	Yes
Nancy Bird	1952	C. japonica	Semi-do streaks	ouble, pale rose with crimson	Yes
Margaret Waterhouse	1957	C. x williamsii hybrid	Semi-do	ouble soft pink	Yes
Merrillees	1957	C. japonica	Large, i	nformal double white	Yes
Polar Bear	1957	Seedling of 'Great Eastern'	Large c	reamy-white showing stamens	Yes
Paul Jones Supreme	1958	Seedling of 'Paul Jones'	Semi-do stripes	ouble white with carmine	Yes
Weroona	1963	C. sasanqua	Semi-do	ouble white rose-stained edges	Yes

#### Raising "New" Camellias

Professor Waterhouse relied on two factors when raising his new Camellias:

- 1. Camellias are among the most genetically unstable flowering plants of any genus and
- 2. All plants carry the whole of their genetic make-up in their seeds.

Being so genetically unstable even using secateurs on one plant and without sterilization, then cutting another can induce virus borne mutations. As well some Camellias are so unstable that they naturally mutate creating "Sports". These sports can then be assessed and the branch on which they appeared is suitably labelled or tied off with a ribbon and then as it grows on cuttings are taken and propagated until breeding stock is established in numbers sufficient to be commercially viable.

He carefully cross-pollinated different flowers, protecting the flowers, fruit and capsules until they could be planted and grown on to flowering which may have taken up to ten years. Should a new variety develop, the same process as for sports is then followed to create a suitable plant stock.

The Professor ran a commercial nursery at St. Ives for some years where the Bupa nursing home now stands.





#### Camellia japonica 'Polar Bear'







A large chalk-white semi-double with waved and fluted petals. Plant habit, vigorous, erect and bushy, resembling 'Great Eastern'.

History: This variety is a seedling of 'Great Eastern' raised by Professor Waterhouse in 1944 and planted at Kurrajong Heights by his son Gordon Waterhouse in 1946.

It was registered by him with the Australian Camellia Research Society 1957, and released by Camellia Grove Nursery.





# 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: <a href="http://www.camelliagrove.com.au">http://www.camelliagrove.com.au</a>



#### **Neutrog Products Are:**





Takanini- Highlighted by Gardenias









#### **APRIL MEETING AND BLOOM COMPETITION RESULTS**

MONTH	MEMBER	PTS	SAS	SPR/MINS	RETICS	GRADE	TOTAL
APRIL	B. Walker	3	14			N	17
	J. McGill	7				0	7
	R. Griffiths	16				0	16
	B. Fleming	21			5	0	26
	C. & D. Low	15	2	8		0	25
	E. Fuller	4	4			0	4
	J. Muras		6	3		0	9

This month's Open Champion was Bill Fleming's Marie Bracey and Novice Campion was Bruce Walker's Jennifer Susan



Special Guest Helen Lovel



Helen Bruce and Helen



Richie Griffiths' Desire



Open Bill Fleming, Marie Bracey



Novice, Bruce Walker Jennifer Susan



Elizabeth Fuller Kamo Honami



D. and C. Low Egao



Miniature Bench



Irregular Semi-double Bench



Semi-double









#### **BLOOM COMPETITION AND RULES 2022**

Class	Description	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	Sasanqua Single	✓					
2	Sasanqua Formal Double & Elegans Form	✓					
3	Sasanqua other forms	✓					
4	Sasanqua any form		✓	✓			
5	Japonica/Hybrid Single	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Japonica/Hybrid Semi-double	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6A	Japonica / Hybrid Irregular Semi-Double	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Japonica/Hybrid Elegans Form	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓
8	Japonica/Hybrid Informal Double	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓
9	Japonica/Hybrid Formal Double	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Japonica/Hybrid Miniature	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Japonica/Hybrid any form						
12	Reticulatas & their hybrids	✓	✓	✓			
13	Reticulatas & their hybrids up to 130mm				✓	✓	✓
14	Reticulatas & their hybrids over 130mm				✓	<b>✓</b>	✓
15	Other not listed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Clusters & sprays of multi-flowered species & hybrids	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	New seedling or sport (1 to 3 blooms)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
C1	Collection: Sasanqua, any form, 3 blooms	✓					
C2	Collection: Any camellia, any form, 3 blooms	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

#### Classes

Classes 1 to 15: one bloom, with a maximum of 2 attached leaves

Classes C1 & C2: a collection of 3 blooms, with a maximum of 2 attached leaves

#### Competition

A 'Novice' exhibitor has not won the annual 'Novice' championship, nor have they scored 20 points in a monthly 'Open' competition. The competition year starts in March, and a 'Novice' in March remains so to the end of that year. A bloom exhibited by a 'Novice' can win in 'Open' classes.

#### **Points**

'Open' and 'Novice' Classes 1 to 16:  $1^{st} = 3 \text{ points}$ ;  $2^{nd} = 2 \text{ points}$ ;  $3^{rd} = 1 \text{ point}$  (if required)

'Open' and 'Novice' Collections Classes C1 to C2:  $1^{st} = 6$  points;  $2^{nd} = 4$  points;  $3^{rd} = 1$  point (if required)

'Open' and 'Novice' Champion bloom (from the winning blooms) Extra 3 points.









#### **MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE 2022 (CHANGES TO BE NOTIFIED)**

May2022	
Monday 16th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting (Always 3rd Monday of Month) Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30 meeting. Speaker: Daniel Low and Members to discuss: "Photographing Your Camellias"
June 2022	
Monday 20th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting (Always 3rd Monday of Month) Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30 meeting. Speaker: Dr Stephen Utick "Progress of Camellia Ark Australia: the connections to collections".
July 2022	
Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th	NSW CRS Annual Show. Details to follow
Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th	Illawarra Annual Show
Monday 25th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting (Deferred for Show Month) Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30 meeting. Speaker TBA
August 2022	
Monday 15th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting (Always 3rd Monday of Month) Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon 7pm benching of blooms. Speaker TBA
September 2022	
Monday 19th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting (Always 3rd Monday of Month) Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30 meeting. Speaker TBA
October 2022	
Monday 17th November 2022	NSWCRS AGM 7.30pm. Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon.
November 2022	
	Annual Dinner and Presentations.  Date and Location TBA









#### **NSWCRS COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS 2020-2021**

Patron:	Her Excellency Professor The Hono	urable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO		
President:	Bruce Walker	T: 0412 588 719 E: bfwalks2@tpg.com.au		
Vice President:				
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 & Membership Secretary	Daniel Low	T: 99883280 E: nswcamellias@hotmail.com		
Librarian:	Bill Fleming	E: wfleming999@gmail.com		
	Bruce Walker (President)	Helen Wallace (Secretary)		
	Julie Hood (Treasurer)	Juliet Muras		
Committee:	Daniel Low (Newsletter Editor and Membership Secretary)	Margaret Levick (Fellow NSW CRS)		
	Richie Griffiths (Public Officer)	Judith McGill		
National Councillors:	Yet to be nominated			
ABN:	16 873 158 367			
Incorporation No.:	Y17693-47			







#### WHAT'S FLOWERING NOW AT ERYLDENE

**PHOTOS: J. MURAS** 





Brushfield's Yellow



Contessa Calini



Dainty Maiden



Mary Amarti









#### IN THE TALL FOREST AT WAHROONGA D, C, AND E. LOW

What a great morning for exploration it turned out to be when Carolyn and I, accompanied by two of our grandkids; Elijah and Arwen, took up Craig Field's offer to visit his garden at Wahroonga.

Craig's land slopes quite steeply downwards from the street in a South-easterly direction, passing through mixed tall forest where the dominant species are: Sydney Red Gum, Sydney Blue Gum and Turpentine; all dependent on slightly different soil types.

It is not just Craig's marvellous collection of many rare and beautiful introduced species such as: Red Bananas, Blue Ginger, all types of ferns and palms, a bonsai collection and all capped off by his determination to rid his land of as many weed species as possible. The two varieties of Privet are top of the list. The waterway at the bottom of the block becomes part of Brown's Creek eventually becoming a tributary of the Lane Cove River.

Here are the thoughts and observations of Elijah, highlighted by some of his photos.

My first thought of the garden was simply incredible. The garden was huge. There was a path to follow all the way down to the gutter. Scattered along on some of the trees were different symbols like the mask of a totem. I saw a couple of Bromeliads in the garden as well. There was a huge Asplenium and Clivea too.



Turpentine and Mask



**Bromeliad** 



Red Gum and Asplenium



Cordyline



Clivea

In the garden there was a huge native tree; a Wollemi Pine, found only in the blue mountains in the wild. A plant called a Cordyline was also growing there as were a number of Bamboos. The garden was beautiful and it held all kinds of flora. It was also the home to the Satin Bower Bird and Yellow-breasted Robins. This garden was a haven of flora and fauna. In a word, it was incredible.



The Bower in Craig's Garden is also littered with blue waste like this picture from the Australian Museum

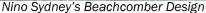




Naturally Craig has some Camellias. They are mainly in hedges between the house and the street. More recent purchases such as Lady Loch are still in their nursery pots. Craig has a number of Vireya Rhodos.

The architecture of Craig's house is intriguing. It is a "Beachcomber", which given its location is rather anachronistic, but it is perfect for viewing the forest rather than the surf. Architect Nino Sydney designed Bauhaus-style homes in the 1950s and 1960s that were the first simple and practical houses for any budget, and which have today become icons of mid-century design.







The Indian Red Banana





Arwen's mossy log and roots











Freezall 1890 65 bb 44 www.neutrog.com.au