

# CAMELLIAS ILLAWARRA NEWSLETTER

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Past newsletters, news & photos  
[www.camelliasillawarra.org.au](http://www.camelliasillawarra.org.au)  
[Facebook.com/camelliasillawarra](https://www.facebook.com/camelliasillawarra)  
[Instagram #camelliasillawarra](https://www.instagram.com/camelliasillawarra)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Camellia Show  
in the Illawarra was  
held in 1953.

Monthly Meetings are held at  
the Bulli Uniting Church  
Princes Hy, Bulli on  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month,  
from March to October

12.00 Bring a Bloom  
1.00 Join the Meeting  
2.00 Enjoy a chat a cuppa.

\* Next meetings 20/4/24  
18/5/24



From USA's Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, pictured is "April Remembered." It has cream to pink shaded, semi-double flowers, and vigorous upright branches and is one of the largest flowers in their April series."

In Australia we remember Anzac day,

but elsewhere this camellia is one of a series with the name "April" included, which comes from its Japanese origins, where it is celebrated and remembered during the month of April for its stunning blooms and cultural significance, and the onset of spring. One of the famous places Camellia japonica flower in April is the Camellia Forest of Toshogu Shrine in Nikko, Japan, which is home to over 5,000 camellia trees, some 500 years old. People participate in Hanami, a Japanese tradition of flower viewing, which includes the camellia. In Japan, Camellia is considered a symbol of wealth and perfection, used in religious and tea ceremonies.

Shrines are decorated with camellias and blossom during April to pay respects to deities or to pray for good fortune, love, and fertility.

*CAMELLIA JAPONICA 'April Remembered' - photo credit: R. Robert*

## FROM THE EDITOR



The year's first quarter is here, and members are reporting what they have had to do so far in order for their gardens to survive the brutal summer we experienced. Now, the grubs, striping plants in overnight raids. Then multitude of weeds - wow, I've never seen so many varieties. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have never been discovered" Well if only he knew I have discovered them, not sure about their virtues, but, hot water, Epsom salt, weed sprays and a gas burner have all failed to eradicate them, so far. Happy gardening. HH

# The President's Message, April 2024

To begin on a sad note I must send commiserations to Kevin Walker for the passing of his wife Sandra. We must all feel for Kevin and all the family and friends affected by this loss.

The next monthly meeting (April 20<sup>th</sup>. ) will be the first bloom competition of the year, and everyone is encouraged to bring flowers to start the Camellia season. Of course, most of the blooms will be sasanquas but perhaps there will also be some other species and hybrids. Remember, Camellias are what we are all about.

Recent heavy (real heavy) rain will perhaps bring on some good blooms. The Illawarra has certainly copped its share and I hope no members have suffered damage. Here in Campbelltown, we had heavy rain but not nearly as much as in the Illawarra.

Memberships should all be finalised by now, if you have not paid then you should do so posthaste.

Hope to see you at the next meeting, with lots of blooms!

Regards, Don.



Purity  
Happiness  
Simplicity  
"How fitting for the  
humble Daisy".

Until we are able to enjoy pictures of the bloom comp results, below are some clever artificial Camellia Flowers, (\*sourced from Esty Aust.)

Can you guess what they are all made from ?



1.)



2)

3)



4)



5).



## MONTHLY BLOOM COMPETITION - 2024

The Monthly Bloom Comp commences at the April meeting – please fill the tables with your beautiful camellias.

Photos will be published in May newsletter.

The Member's choice winner receives a **NEUTROG prize**

Can you have a turn at helping prepare from 12 noon for table setup, or stewarding and judging the sections, then documenting the results. ?

**www.camelliasrus.com.au**

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- \* Massive range available
- \* Rare varieties
- \* Delivery

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- ✓ Topiaries
- ✓ Hybrids
- ✓ Species
- ✓ Espaliers

**Your friendly camellia experts!**

**Visit our Nursery at -  
34 HARRISONS LANE,  
GLENORIE NSW 2157**

### Opening Hours

Monday – Thursday  
7:30am – 4:00pm, Friday 7:30am –  
12:00pm

Saturday—BOOKINGS ONLY  
we are CLOSED on Sundays  
and Public Holidays

**Email:**

**[camelliasrus@hotmail.com](mailto:camelliasrus@hotmail.com)**

**Phone: 02 9652 2879**

## For your Calendar



- April** 4-6<sup>th</sup>. Camellia Ark adventures begin in Vic.  
11<sup>th</sup>. Committee Meeting  
20<sup>th</sup>. Monthly Meeting **bring your blooms**  
27<sup>th</sup>. Shellharbour Garden club's **Plant Sale** – see invite
- May** 9<sup>th</sup>. Committee Meeting  
18<sup>th</sup>. Monthly Meeting **bring your blooms**
- June** 6<sup>th</sup>. Committee Meeting – note date change for this month  
15<sup>th</sup>. Monthly Meeting **bring your blooms**
- July 19, 20, 21** – **70<sup>th</sup> Annual show**, at Ribbonwood

### From The Treasurer

YEARLY SUBS now **OVERDUE**

Single \$25 Family \$30 Due on 1<sup>ST</sup> OF JANUARY of each year.

Payment can be made **online**:

**BANK** is **imb**<sub>bank</sub> **Account Name:** Camellias Illawarra Inc.

**BSB-** 641 800 **Account:** 021112238

**Or**, you can pay over the counter at any IMB branch for either of these, please **include a reference** whom the payment is from **or** pay Membership Secretary Lorraine at the monthly meeting.

**\*\*** If **unfinancial** you **will not** be able to receive your copy of:

Our Newsletter,  
Camellias Aus Newsletter,  
'Our Gardens' magazine  
Neutrog product discounts

**or** **Insurance** from Garden Clubs Australia

did you know?

"In Japan, where the Camellia or Tsubaki has such a long-gardened history, the language of flowers is older than in the west. Camellias are sometimes said to represent business success, virtue, happiness, fidelity, luxury, tastefulness, and a life concluding in the ease of retirement. But that is in great part a modern imposition or overlay, because formerly the camellia, akin to cherry blossoms (which symbolized evanescence), was symbolic of a short life lived in a blaze of glory, or in faithfulness to a lord even in the face of sure death."

\* Sourced -Paghats Garden





## The Illawarra Rhododendron and, Rainforest Garden

**\*\* Sadly, due to the recent floods, the Gardens are currently closed . The note on the gate offers enquiries at telephone 0493628855 You can also check on their Facebook page for updates.**



Pictured is part of the Camellia Grove, which began in 1980.



### Camellia Australia News



#### **Camellias Australia National Show and**

#### **Narrandera Garden Club 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Show**

**at: Ex-Servicemen's Club, Bolton St., Narrandera, NSW  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2024**

**2.00pm – 5.00pm Show :** with the **Opening** at 3pm  
4pm Camellias Australia Business Meeting (RSVP)  
6:30pm Camellias Australia's Presentation Dinner (RSVP)

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024**

9am – 4pm Tour (RSVP)

**10am – 4pm Show**

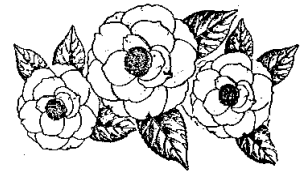
4pm Camellia Ark Meeting (RSVP)

6:30pm Dinner (RSVP)

RSVP can be made to Jenny Donohoe via Facebook Messenger

*Do you know someone affected by the recent floods? Maybe you could offer some flower or veggie plants or help in some small way as they clean up in their garden.*

# Camellias Illawarra Inc.



Contact :

Website: [www.camelliasillawarra.org.au](http://www.camelliasillawarra.org.au)

Facebook [.com/camelliasillawarra](https://www.facebook.com/camelliasillawarra)

Instagram #camelliasillawarra

## -COMMITTEE 2024

|                        |  |  |              |
|------------------------|--|--|--------------|
| President:             | Don Dewhurst                               | <a href="mailto:dandddewhurst@bigpond.com">dandddewhurst@bigpond.com</a> | 0411 527 406 |
| Vice President:        | **   |  |              |
| Secretary/Web Manager: | Deborah Dewhurst                           | <a href="mailto:dandddewhurst@bigpond.com">dandddewhurst@bigpond.com</a> | 0422 374 413 |
| Minute Secretary:      | Jean Groves                                |  | 02 4284-6200 |
| Social Secretary:      | Elizabeth Martin                           |  | 02 4261-3484 |
| Treasurer:             | Les Dewhurst                               |  | 02 9528 2728 |
| Membership Secretary:  | Lorraine Heath                             | <a href="mailto:sandlheath55@gmail.com">sandlheath55@gmail.com</a>       | 02 4464 2061 |
| Newsletter Editor:     | Heather Howe:                              |  | 0419 274 174 |
| Show Coordinator:      | Peter Howe                                 |  | 0419 016 545 |
| COMMITTEE MEMBERS:     | William Walker, Therese Nemcik, Tina Hamer |  |              |



Information, Culture notes, past Newsletters are available on our website and photos on Facebook..

Newsletter contributions will be gratefully accepted.

If you have any queries or suggestions please ring me direct on 0419 274 174

*Remembering  
our Anzacs  
this April 25<sup>th</sup> 2024*



### *Answers:*

*Artificial flower -  
1. Paper, 2. Silk, 3. Satin,  
4. Felt, 5. Leather*



## CAMELLIA ARK AUSTRALIA 2024, INVITATION to Join Them on Their ADVENTURES

### APRIL 4-6 – CAA EVENT – **SELF DRIVE AUTUMN AMBLE IN GIPPSLAND, VICTORIA**

- Ramble Reservations: \$10 per person booking (non-members welcome) Meeting free. Expressions of interest and bookings to [su.env.envoy@gmail.com](mailto:su.env.envoy@gmail.com)
- **HIGHLIGHTS:** Seven Garden Visits; *The Masters' Garden*, Warragul South; *Merrindah*, Ellinbank; *Wren's Wood*, Warragul; *Carla Watkin's Garden*, Ripplewood; *Killara*, Drouin West; *Lil's Garden*, Trafalgar;
- **OPTION:** CAA General Meeting and rare plant sales including 'Belle Epoque'.

### JUNE 16 – **INFORMAL CAA MEETING & LUNCH - PARKER'S PLACE NURSERY, WOLLONGBAH, NSW**

- Booking necessary for meeting and lunch provided, RSVP 10 June – [su.env.envoy@gmail.com](mailto:su.env.envoy@gmail.com)
- Expressions of interests taken for a possible guided coach tour from Sydney 5 days/4 nights to; *Helen Savory's Garden*, Macksville; *Coffs Harbour Botanic Gardens*; *Hunter Botanic Gardens* and *Crawford House Museum*, Alsonville. Preliminary inquiries to Ron on [ronflewitt@gmail.com](mailto:ronflewitt@gmail.com)

**JULY (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED) 10 OR 17 LIKELY WEDNESDAY 'TALKING CAMELLIAS' – ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS SYDNEY.** Expressions of interest for tour plus interpretation lecture on the Bob Cherry species collection. Event being developed under consultation with Foundation and Friends of Botanic Gardens.

### AUGUST 6 – **CAMELLIA ARK GENERAL MEETING AT CAMDEN PARK, NSW**

- CAA Meeting held at Camden Park Estate, Menangle, NSW
- Including lunch and tour of Camden Park Estate gardens (cost TBA)
- Presentation of *Camellia japonica* 'Isabel' (part of preservation program)

### AUGUST 24 SATURDAY – **CAA GENERAL MEETING, NARRANDERA, NSW**

- Held in conjunction with Camellias Australia (on Friday 23) National Show & Business Meeting, presentation dinner, and Saturday optional tours – RSVP CA Secretary Jenny, [jennydonohoe5@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jennydonohoe5@yahoo.com.au) CAA Business Meeting and dinner being held at the Ex-Services Club on 24 August, 4.30-5.00pm **\*\* More information will be announced in the next Camella Ark Discover Journal Thank You, Jenny Donohoe for the above article**

Shellharbour Garden Club Inc.

## PLANT SALE

▶ **When: Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> April '24.**  
▶ **Time: 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon**  
▶ **Where: 25 Antrim Ave., Warilla.**

Lots of plants, plus craft and bric-a-brac table.  
Morning tea \$5.00 (tea, coffee, slices and cake).

Contact: Jenny 0408 492 761 or Sharyn 4296 2166 for more info.



# NEWS from NEUTROG



Check out their website, [www.neutrog.com.au](http://www.neutrog.com.au)

Kahoona and other Neutrog products are used by many of our members, and when you come to the monthly meeting, don't forget to get your ticket to go in the draw for the **Lucky Door Prize** of a **Neutrog** product.

## Planting and Fertilizing in April

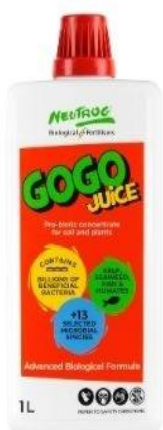
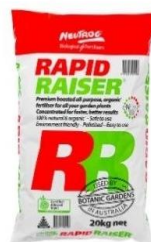
With plenty of great fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers to plant now, a boost of microbiology will reward gardeners with plants that are resilient to stress, pests and diseases.



### PLANT SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

There's still time to plant spring flowering bulbs which are now available at your garden centre.

Add **Rapid Raiser** throughout the soil. In the spring, once they've finished flowering, is the best time to fertilise as that's when the bulb will store nutrition for the following seasons' flowers.



### WINTER VEGETABLES

Plant garlic and other winter vegetable crops.

Add **Human Beans** which is coated with **POPUL8** throughout the garden bed. The composted poultry manure and composted coffee grounds is an excellent combination, ensuring a great result for your veggies. Water in well using **GOGO Juice**.



### FEED YOUR CITRUS

Now is the time to fertilise your citrus trees.

Citrus are heavy feeders and will respond well to an application of **Gyganic for Veggies, Fruit & Citrus**. Water in well with **GOGO Juice** so that the beneficial bacteria and fungi can assist the plants to access nutrition and hydration.

