

CAMELLIAS
ILLAWARRA
NEWSLETTER
Issue: 6, June - 2024

*Camellias Illawarra Inc. is a
Not for Profit organization*

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Past newsletters, news & photos

www.camelliasillawarra.org.au

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Monthly Meetings are held at
the Northern Illawarra Uniting
Church, Princes Hy, Bulli on
3rd Saturday of the month,
from March to October

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

***Next Meetings: 15/6/24**
July 20 & 21. - the
70th Show, at Ribbonwood
(no club meeting July)



Elegans Supreme - a sport of the original Elegans. It was developed in 1960 by W.F. Bray of Florida USA. The large deep rose-pink guard petals have a lovely iridescence and surround a double centre of matching petaloids, some serrated, some almost white. They can reach up to 15cm across and bloom mid to late season.

Stunning photo, courtesy of L. Heath

FROM THE EDITOR

Lots happening as we prepare for the 70th show. We hope all members can participate in both exhibiting, and also helping during the weekend.

Great fellowship at the May meeting, and another table of delicious afternoon tea items.

Thank you for the offer of photos for future newsletters, they will be very much appreciated. Hope you enjoy Kevin's picture this month of Desire. I am looking for any Camellia history, or even family involvement with Camellias Illawarra over the past 70 years that we can feature in the July issue ?

Till then, Happy Gardening ~ HH

The President's Message

June 2024

The Camellias in our garden (other than sasanquas, which have been out for some time) are starting to flower and there are some very good blooms. Now we can only hope that some remain for the shows.

Today (4th June) William and I attended the meeting of the Albion Park Garden Club where William displayed a table full of blooms and talked about Camellias in general. He gave advice about pruning, fertilising, species, forms, and many aspects of things Camellia. I performed some minor back up. We remained for the meeting, and it was interesting to see how it was conducted – very similar to ours.

Recently Heather and Peter Howe made a day trip to South Australia to visit the Neutrog facility. There is a report about this later in the newsletter. Thanks very much to those at Neutrog who have made this trip possible.

The Annual Show organization is well under way. Members who have not yet been allocated a job should contact me or see me at the next monthly meeting. Jean Groves will have a list at the next meeting for non-judging duties and I have lists of members who are involved in the judging teams. Also needed are members to look after plant sales as we must handle that job this year.

Again, this is the 70th show in the Illawarra and so we should endeavour to make it a success. Everyone needs to bring as many blooms as possible so that the display is impressive.

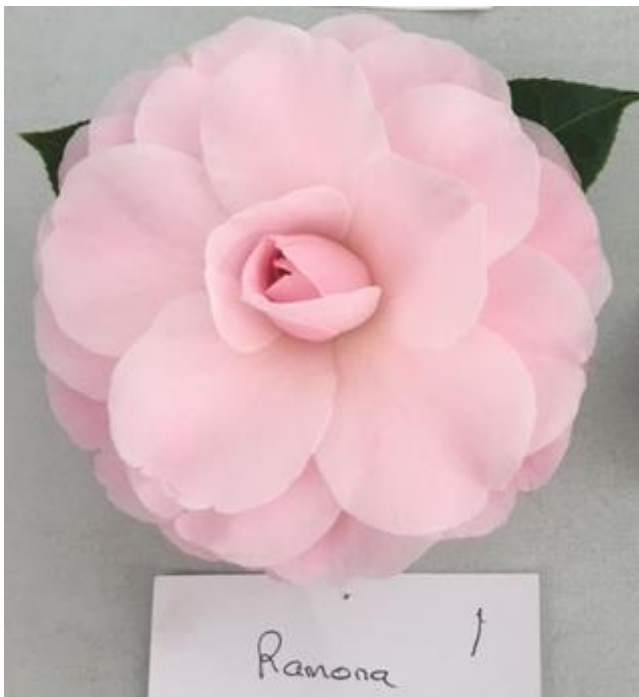
Regards, Don.



May Judges Choice-
Moshio -Tina Hamer



May Member's choice
– Ramona – Tina Hamer



MONTHLY BLOOM COMPETITION - 2024

Five tables of vibrant colours, what a wonderful presentation, considering most member's gardens were lashed with harsh winds and lots of rain leading up to May benching.

Congratulations to Tina Hamer who was successful in both the Judge's choice and the Popular Member's choice, but unlike last month – with different blooms.

Congratulations to our newest member Annette Williams who on her first benching took home a third place in class 16 with "Peach Blossom".

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

Table set up is at midday, can you lend a hand? Also we need people to assist the judges? If everyone has a turn then the year will be enjoyed by all.

For your Calendar



June

- 6th. Committee Meeting, 1.30pm
15th. Monthly Meeting Bench 12.00 Meeting 1.00pm

July

- 11th. Committee Meeting-1.30pm
19th.,20th.,21st. Our **70th Annual Show** at Ribbonwood, Dapto
27 & 28th. **Berry Camellia Show:**
Saturday 27th July 2024 12.00 noon to 4.00pm
Exhibitors bench from 8.00am, Private judging 9/00 am to 12. Noon.
Trophy presentation at 12.30pm Sunday 28th July 2024 10.00am - 2.00pm
Admission \$5 per Adult, Chn under 18 free. Light lunch /afternoon tea available.
Further information contact Lorraine Heath on 4464-2061

August

- 2nd. 8am is cut off for Neutrog bulk orders-please submit yours before deadline
8th. Committee meeting 1.30pm
10th. **Reticulata Show** –Northern Illawarra Uniting, Bulli
17th. Monthly Meeting Bench 12.00 Meeting 1.00pm

YEARLY SUBS

Single \$25 Family \$30 Due on 1ST OF JANUARY of each year.
Please pay Membership Secretary Lorraine at a meeting,

Or, over the counter at any **imb** bank or **online:**
Account Name: Camellias Illawarra Inc. **BSB-** 641 800
Account: 021112238

*** Include your surname for reference ***

Member's Corner

From the Reiman's garden, pictured right is a lovely snap of Camellia Japonica "Desire".

This was one of the very first Camellias purchased by Kevin and Sandy in the 1990s and has over the years won them many ribbons.

Desire is a medium, formal double and is listed in Nomenclature as heralding from USA 1977





The Illawarra Rhododendron and Rainforest Garden



Tuesday mornings, the Camellia Grove needs our help.. It's byo refreshments and your **gumboots**.



Can you spare an hour ? Ring Don (weather check etc) on 0411 527 406

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

**70th Show report—
can you help ?**

June meeting is time to fill out Jean's "Volunteer" board – as in past years, we ask that you are able to give an hour or so at any of the points of need, either Saturday, Sunday or both days. Please see Jean before or after the meeting with your pencil ready, as many hands make it a more enjoyable show if we all can share the jobs.

Setting up on Friday afternoon 3.00pm to 6.00pm, most members know how this operates, so continued support will be welcome, especially extra family members. A small plastic jug, a bucket and towel is usually brought to fill the many cups once the tablecloths are ready to go.

Saturday and Sunday we will need 2 members at a time on the welcome desk (handing out lucky door tickets and making sure all exhibitors are signed in etc).

Camellias for sale -will for this year be a new area for our members to help

Refreshment serving 2 per time. Hopefully, if everyone can give some time, over the course of the two days, we will all have a turn at admiring the blooms, and of course having a turn at sitting down !

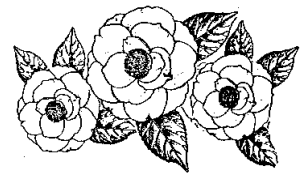
Our lunch gathering is a great part of Saturday's proceedings – if you have any dietary needs, (eg. Gluten free, lactose intolerance etc), please let us know by the week before , (13/7/24)

Have you collected a show schedule ? Available at June meeting or now on the web page.

Are you able to place an **advertising poster** at suitable venues ? the more we can circulate, the better attendance is likely. We have A4 poster size in colour and A5 black and white, suitable for distributing to friends and neighbours or a letter box drop in your neighbourhood.

Many thanks, Peter.

Camellias Illawarra Inc.



Website: www.camelliasillawarra.org.au

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

Instagram [#camelliasillawarra](https://www.instagram.com/camelliasillawarra)

-COMMITTEE 2024

President:	Don Dewhurst	dandddewhurst@bigpond.com	0411 527 406
Vice President:	**		
Secretary/Web Manager:	Deborah Dewhurst	dandddewhurst@bigpond.com	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	sandlheath55@gmail.com	02 4464 2061
Newsletter Editor:	Heather Howe	heatherhowe53@gmail.com	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



The best season is when it is too cold for the mossies to bite



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Public Holidays

email: camelliasrus@hotmail.com

Phone: 02 9652 2879



A visit to Neutrog ~ Thanks to President Don for giving Peter and I the opportunity to pop down to South Australia for the day, where we were guests of Neutrog.

As you can imagine, we had a very early start, up at 3am, on the road at 4am and at Sutherland station at 5am, then the airport by 6am.

Arrival at Adelaide airport, we were met by Helen Lovel, (marketing manager for Tassie/ Vic), and it was off to Kanmantoo, 60 KLM s/e of Adelaide, where we were welcomed by the company's founder and C.D, Angus Irwin.

After introductions with the other guests gathered, we met Dr Uwe Strocher and his team in the lab, where we learnt about pathogens and microbes and all the research work being constantly undertaken, that goes into eventually making suitable Neutrog products .

A mini bus trip round the compost stacks, learning how they came to be and are managed, as well as how product comes into being and the continued work being done to make every item produced a suitable product to enhance mother nature, whether commercial or domestic.

Time didn't permit anything further, as with a little slither down the hill we joined the entire staff, VIP and guests for an end of month lunch. Our table was in front of huge bags of Kahoonna, rather appropriate for camellia members. !!

In a wink, pack up happened then the stored products was all that remained as everyone went back to work. The Neutrog team are incredible, dedicated and bit like one big happy family.

Paul Dipuglia sends his regards to all our members and is looking forward to being with us at the October meeting.

An enormous Thank You to Angus for the amazing opportunity and thank you to Helen for looking after us, and also Megan, Monique, and co for such great company during lunch.

The trip home was bathed in late afternoon sunlight, the plane ride a little turbulent, the hot drinks put away before row 21, but we certainly didn't need anything, after such a fantastic day of learning, fellowship, delicious food (and some great humour). Another train trip and then down the M1, we arrived home, bit tired, but, very appreciative of the day we had been given.

Thank You Neutrog

Pictured L to R,
Angus Irwin, Peter, Heather &
Helen Lovel, in front of the bags of Kahoonna



photo H. Howe

News from Neutrog - June newsletter



Your orders need to be made on-line.. The website is www.neutrog.com.au
It's nearing time for the club's **annual order**, which for members means free freight. Plan your shopping list as there will not be any late orders accepted. Cut off deadline is **8am on Friday August 2nd** .

Roses



You have the choice to plant potted roses year-round or bare-rooted roses from now until the end of July. Roses prefer a rich, loamy soil or a high-quality potting mix, and a feed with **Sudden Impact for Roses** every eight to ten weeks throughout the growing season.



MULCHING

Mulching in winter has numerous benefits for the plants and soil including weed suppression and soil temperature regulation.

An application of **Whoflungdung** now will act as a winter blanket over your garden, retaining warmth while adding nutrients to soil for both the plants and beneficial bacteria to feed on.

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.



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nutrients, fix nitrogen, produce plant growth hormones and stimulate ongoing biological activity.

information from the Neutrog's facebook page