

CAMELLIAS ILLAWARRA Inc. NEWSLETTER Issue: 5, May - 2024

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

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Past newsletters, news & photos

www.camelliasillawarra.org.au

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

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

Monthly Meetings are held at
Northern Illawarra Uniting Church
Cnr. Princes Hy & Point St, 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:

May 18th &
June 15th,



*** Alexander
Hunter*~** an
Australian raised
Japonica, it grew at the
original Camellia Grove
c. 1870s and is named
after its pioneer
grower. Described by
Jennifer Trehane as
“glowing red, neat

upright, compact habit & glossy leaves”.

S. Macoboy describes it as “dark crimson with occasional
petaloids”, and another internet entry says dark crimson
with single or semi double flowers.

Officially named in 1941, (long after the grower had
died), its parentage not confirmed, but there are entries
on the internet that suggest it is a sport of Jean Lyne ?.
Alexander's nephew, George Linton transplanted this to
his family property at Somersby NSW where it is thought
to have gone on to produce sports.

Has any member one of these in their collection ?



From The Editor ~

Members are starting to really get into what flowers they
will showcase at Ribbonwood in July and, what steps
need to be taken to make sure of the bloom's safety and
survival till then. If you aren't sure, what to do, we have
plenty of long serving members with a wealth of
knowledge and experience, please just ask for help or
advice.

Our garden is still battling weeds, and my brain is now in
class mode as I learn more about Camellia structure,
shapes etc.

If you have any bloom, you would like featured, please let
me know, as my experience and garden inventory is very
limited, so would welcome some support.

Don't forget to share a photo of a favourite bloom with
us all.

Happy Gardening ~ HH

The President's Message, May 2024

The April meeting and bloom competition was held with good attendance and some nice blooms shown. It is gratifying to see so many members benching flowers. Some nice blooms were benched although some were found to be in the wrong section. It seems that this can be a problem, especially with sasanquas, but is not a major problem so we must keep bringing blooms and learn as we go.

With all the rain of late our Camellias seem to be in good condition and hopes are that this will result in some great blooms, but in the Illawarra I feel there has been way too much rain. I hope that no-one has suffered major damage. A recent visit to the Rhododendron gardens has shown the huge amount of water which went through there and it will need a big effort to repair.

Organization for the annual and reticulata shows is progressing well. Judging teams (judges, scribes, dot placers, runners) should be mainly as last year. If anyone wants to change jobs or opt out let me know. A list of duties will be available at the next meeting.

Anyone who is available for a general show job (other than judging teams) please contact Jean Groves who will make a list of people and their times when they are available.

Camellias Illawarra is all about Camellias (and friends), it is our 'raison d'être' so we need everybody to bring flowers to the shows. As this will be the 70th show in the Illawarra please help to make it a good one.

In the winter edition of 'Our Gardens' there is an article submitted by Debby, 'For The Love Of Camellias'. Debby should be proud of this effort as it brings our group and the shows to a wide audience.

Regards, Don



April Judges Choice

Congratulations to Andrew Gillam, a win with his bloom Parma Black Shadow. This intriguing camellia has a soft but deep presence with its dark edged petals drawing one into the mystery of it. It won the Judge's award for the month and also the member's choice.



- # photo credits – P. Howe.

MONTHLY BLOOM COMPETITION - 2024

Great display for our first comp day with so many varieties of sasanquas, thank you to everyone that participated.

The Member's choice winner receives a **NEUTROG prize** – got to be in it to win it.

12 noon we would love some assistance in set up, can you help ?

Are you qualified to judge, or scribe, then please let me know which month you would be able to have a turn.



Congratulations to all the blooms, and specially to those that made it to the top 12, proudly displayed on the table at the April meeting.

For your Calendar



May 2024

9th.. Committee meeting, 1.30pm

18th. Monthly Meeting, 1.00pm, **bring your blooms** to bench from 12.00

June

6th. Committee Meeting, 1.30pm

15th. Monthly Meeting 1.00pm, **bring your blooms** to bench from 12.00

July

11th. Committee Meeting-1.30pm

13-14th.. Camellia Research annual show at Ravenswood College, Gordon.

19th.,20th.,21st. **70th Annual Show at Ribbonwood, Dapto**

27-28th. Berry Camellia Show-*more details next month.*

- Don't forget Camellia Ark Trail events Apr-Aug -} *information for both*
- 22-23rd Aug National Show Narrandera - } *in April issue*

*** Do you have a name badge – if not please let
Membership Secretary Lorraine know so one can be
ordered for you ***

YEARLY SUBS - are Due on 1ST OF JANUARY of each year
Single \$25 Family \$30 .

Payment can be made **online**:

BANK is **imb**_{bank} 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

Coming to the meeting, then
Membership Secretary Lorraine can accept your fees.

** 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



The Illawarra Rhododendron and Rainforest Garden

The Garden has reopened and the Camellia Grove is starting to come to life. **What is your favourite?**

Open all year on - Weekends, Tuesday, and

Public Holidays 10am – 5pm

at Parrish Avenue, Mt Pleasant

Cost is \$5.00 per person, children free



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

Tuesday mornings, the Camellia Grove needs our help at this time with identifying Camellias, and there is always a little light weeding if you are able. It's byo refreshments and your **gumboots**. Can you give an hour ?

Ring Don (weather check etc) on 0411 527 406



An extract from the current IRRG's newsletter

“Roys Wall, part of our drainage system created 40 odd years ago **didn't survive** the torrent of water we received this time.

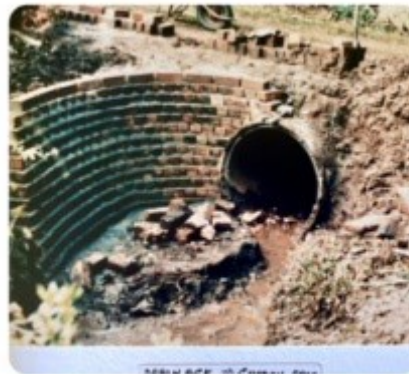
If you know of anyone with skills to repair such a work of art, please get in touch.

The photo shows Roys wall as a work in progress , just finished, early in 2024 and, the damaged section of the wall.

Whilst we have cleaned up the mess and reopened the gardens, much of the repair work needed is beyond our abilities, needing heavy equipment, specialised expertise as well as funding.

Any help you may be able to offer will be greatly appreciated. Vicki”

Photo courtesy of Vick @IRRG



****The deluge of rain this past month has devastated the garden and all the wonderful work their volunteers have done. Physical assistance for this type of issue is beyond the majority of Camellia Illawarra members, but, we can continue to encourage family and friends to visit the gardens as every \$5.00 entry fee and maybe some extra donations, all goes to help. HH**



did you know?

In 2001, New Zealand registered a Sasanqua called 'Mother's Day' It is a single flowering Camellia, and the blooms are large, white, with a slight pink blush on the edges and prominent golden stamens. In 7-10 years it can grow to 2.5m x 2 m. It was so named because of its flowering round the Mother's Day month of May. .

Picture and Information on the website of Wairere Nursery, Hamilton, NZ



Hoping all mothers enjoyed a

Happy Mother's Day



Can you name any fragrance that has **Camellia** included in either the ingredients or advertising/packaging? The most famous that uses a camellia as part of its signature is Chanel.

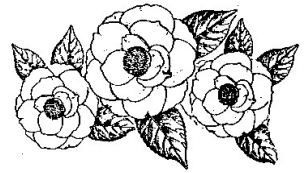
Here are just a few other fragrances containing Camellia

1. Eau de Fleur de Camellia by Kenzo
2. Arpege de Lanvin
3. Flower Rose by Tommy Hilfiger
4. 212 by Carolina Herrera
5. Winter Bombshell by Victoria Secret
6. Instinct for Her by Avon
7. Camellia d' Inverno by Bottega Verde.
8. Camellia by L'erbolario Lodi



It is quoted (by *Perfume Australia*) that :- “ Wearing perfumes with ”**camellia**” is an accumulation of sensations that will help you to be a really delicate woman, and it can also bring out her sensual side when she wants. ”

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		

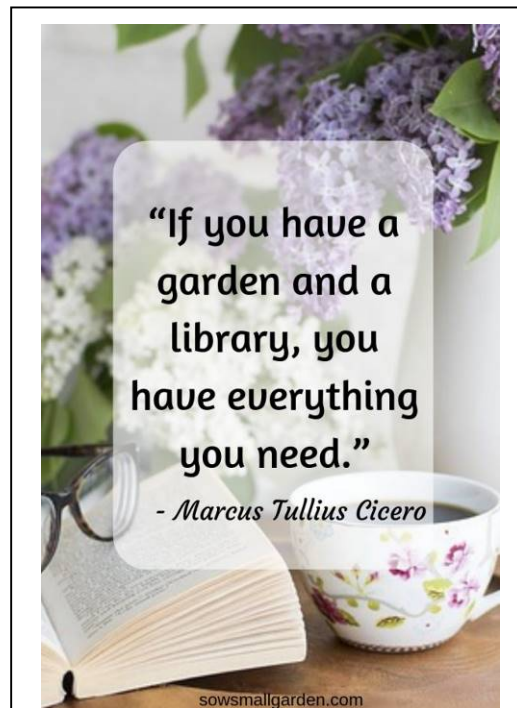


A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except growing in rows. - Doug Larsen



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



Chanel and the white Camellia.

In Gaujacq (south west)France, where there is ideal growing conditions, there is over 2,700 Camellia specimens specially grown, without the use of chemicals, at the Chanel nursery.

Philippe Grandry, Head of Cultivation at Chanel and, since 1998, working alongside master botanist, Jean Thoby (pic.left) oversee the production and harvest and development of Camellia



flowers for the products of the house of Chanel, with their cosmetics and fragrances featuring the Camellia Japonica Alba Pena, which is one of the oldest known Japonicas.. Described as having porcelain-white formal double flowers and over 100 petals, c. Alba Plena was first cultivated in 1797.



The flowers are harvested one by one each morning and placed gently in baskets by handlers. The flowers are weighed, then frozen which is to preserve 100% of their potent ingredients, after this they are taken to the Chanel laboratory.

It is said that the White Camellia attracted Coco Chanel, for it's "simplicity, shape, purity and vitality" and the Japonica Alba Pena was chosen for its resilience against winter frosts. Coco did not want a flower's fragrance to interfere with her famous No 5 perfume.

A white blossom was offered to her c. 1913, by the love of her life Arthur Capel. It is thought she fell in love with the camellia after reading Alexandre Dumas' 'La Dame aux Camélias', a story in which the heroine always wore a white camellia, showing to the world that her heart remained true and pure, the white camellia became her iconic symbol."



Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel, famous French fashion designer and business woman, over the years extended her collections with a camellia featured, to include jewellery, materials, buttons, headwear, jacket lapels, watches and spectacles, and even a chandelier in her apartment with camellias on it..



In the spring of 2013, the Fine Jewelry collection inspiration came from the "house's iconic flower".

In Asia the camellia symbolises purity and longevity, and in Japan its name means "excellence without pretension" - It is said that this defines Chanel.

**** Australia's Red japonica The Czar since beginning of 20th century Is used to make No.1 Chanel which is an anti-aging skincare line .**

**** Information sourced from Internet, Chanel website, & Myer, Sydney # photos from Chanel website.**



Northern Rivers Self-drive tour

13th-18th June 2024



Camellia Ark Australia has set out a self-drive Itinerary for anyone wishing to join us in this once in a lifetime event.

Participants can join in on all group's activities and garden visits over the 5 Days.

REGISTRATION is important and anyone planning to join the Tour will be required to register by Email with Ron Hewitt at ronfhewitt@gmail.com before 9th June.

A fee of \$ 40 per person will be charged to cover gardens entries and lunch at Ray Parkers on Sunday 16th CAA meeting.

Payment can be made up to or on 16th June with Stephen Utick by card or cash (**including on tour**).

Thursday 13th is set aside for travellers coming from interstate or Canberra to make their way north.

First stop - Hunter Botanic Gardens 2100 Pacific Highway Heatherbrae NSW. Suggested Accommodation Taree, Port Macquarie.

Friday 14th - The Group travels North stopping off at **Coffs Harbour Botanic Gardens. Rick Ackland** from CHBG will give us a guided tour of these beautiful gardens.

If you are looking for somewhere to eat the Coffs Harbour Mariner is great for sea food lunch or the botanic gardens has a café for something light. After lunch we make our way to Ballina for 3 nights.

Lots to choose from **Accommodation 3 nights in Ballina.**

Saturday 15th - We will visit an historical site of **Crawford House in Alstonville.**

Lunch can be purchased in and around Alstonville Town centre. After Lunch we will be visiting the garden of **Glen Callcott.** A small garden housing a treasure trove of rare Camellias. If time permitting, you can have some free time exploring Alstonville and its surrounds before heading back to Ballina for dinner and a get together at the local RSL.

Sunday 16th - We will meet and make our way to **Ray Parkers Nursery** for the Camellia Ark meeting. Here we will be joined by Members from the Northern Rivers and SE Queensland. After a short meeting and Lunch, you will be taken on a guided tour of the nursery operation and propagation facilities. Expected time to depart from Ray Parkers approx. 2.00 pm and make our way to Ballina or if you choose south to Coffs Harbour.

Monday 17th- Depart Ballina or Coffs Harbour heading south we will call in to **Helen Savory Nursery** near Macksville. Here you will see a great collection of tropical Camellias. Continuing to Port Macquarie for the final night accommodation. **Suggested Accommodation, Port Macquarie, Taree**

Tuesday 18th - Make our way to Heatherbrae and Newcastle stopping off for a short break and something to eat before continuing to your destination.

Please Note: All members are responsible for their own accommodation and meals. The final Itinerary addresses and times will be forward as soon as confirmation from all venues.

Ron Hewitt email: ronfhewitt@gmail.com

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Email:

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Phone: 02 9652 2879



GLASS HOUSE -

"Leisure Time" Glass Greenhouse for sale.
Model GHK 1 - 2.98m wide x 3.82m long x 2.0m wall height.

Australian designed and made in Carlton in 1987.

Aluminium and stainless-steel frame with sliding door, opening side vents and 3 automatic roof vents.

Standard glass panes [estimate that 90% are intact/unbroken]. With gaskets, clips and fixings. Full shade cloth and integrated frame.

Also included is electric lighting, sprinkler control panel and mister components, and original owner's manual and assembly instructions.

* It is in good, used condition and well cared for, fully disassembled and ready for pick up, (Location is Leumeah 2560). This item is not going on any social media sites. so if you are interested or know someone that might be, then Don can provide contact information.



International Camellia Congress, 2025



Will be in Tokyo, Japan

Pre-congress Tour: March 6 - 9, 2025,
Course A [Ishikawa and Toyama Pref.]

Course B [Oshima Island]

Congress : March 9 - 13, Tokyo,
Course C [Oshima Island Course]
Course D [Yokohama and Saitama Course]

Post-congress Tour : March 14 - 17,
Course E [Osaka and Kyoto]

* Imperial Highness, Hisako Takamado will be taking part
in the opening ceremony *

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Congratulations Debby on a
great article and wonderful
photography. HH



DO NOT SPREAD THE COMPOST ON THE WEEDS -
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, HAMLET





NEWS from NEUTROG

Your NEUTROG orders need to be made **on-line**.

The website is www.neutrog.com.au

Plan ahead now for our club's **annual order**,

If you need help, in submitting your order, then please ask.

Information on confirmed dates etc will be in June issue.

Just a reminder that NO late orders will be accepted.

May News
from
Neutrog

Its planting time.....



WINTER VEGETABLES

Plant garlic and other winter vegetable crops. Add **Human Beans** 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**.



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.



GOGO Juice- promotes plant growth as well as stimulating and improving root growth and development. Monthly application increases the "resistance of pest and disease and to withstand and/or recover from, heat stress and frost", and it increases the number of microbes in your soil. To inoculate the soil use GOGO Juice and combine it with a certified organic pellet such as Seamungus or Rooster Booster.

Rooster Booster -promotes microbial and earthworm activity which bind soil particles together to improve soil structure and tilth. Better soil structure allows roots to grow unrestricted in a nutrient rich environment.

