

NSW Camellia Research Society NEWSLETTER

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INSIDE THE March ISSUE

PG. 2
President's Report and
M is for ...

PG. 3
Mis for March . . .
From the Feb. Meeting

PG. 4
March Committee

PG. 5
Monthly Meeting Schedule

PG. 6
2021 Membership Subscriptions
and
A Nominative Coincidence

PG. 9
Your Committee Details

PG. 10
Rejuvenating an Eighty Year Old
Hedge

PG. 11
Monthly Bloom Competition Rules



Burghundy Blush



Jennifer Susan



Setsugeka



Weroona

Heralds of the Season

(Photos D. Low)

A Reminder:

It's March already, and
before we know it our
Show will be on.

If you have the ability to
help in any way just get in
touch with Show Manager,
Richie (details on
Committee page), and let
him know.

MARCH EDITION

We had a small meeting at Eryldene for February and we're looking forward to a good roll up at the first "Normal" meeting and bloom competition at the Church hall on the 15th.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT-MARCH 2021

We had our first meeting of the year on Saturday 15th February. It was pleasing to see some 12 of our members present, and to welcome a new member Karin Bacina [maybe we could all try to emulate Judith McGill and find a new member this year]. Despite the overcast conditions and light rain at the start of the meeting, members were able to walk around the garden and see the new growth on the pruned camellias. Many thanks to Helen Wallace for her discussion of the Camellia Rejuvenation Project.

We are now looking forward to our first Bloom Competition of the year at the Meeting on Monday 15th March 2021. Unless the COVID situation changes dramatically, we will be meeting at the Gordon Baptist Church Hall, corner Park Avenue and Garden Square, Gordon.

Bloom Competition entries are from 7pm with the Meeting to start at 7:30pm. The broad "rules" for the Bloom Competition are listed elsewhere in the Newsletter. Our Guest Speaker will be PP and Public Officer, Richie Griffiths, on the topic "Soil Management and Nutrition for Camellias".

You will be asked to sign The Attendance Form on entry to the Church Hall, listing your contact mobile number (or landline if no mobile) and email address so that Contact Tracing can be carried out in the unlikely event that it is needed. All the usual Covid Safe precautions will be required as a condition of our use of the Hall: hand sanitising, social distancing, and wearing of face masks is encouraged, but is not mandatory.

Tea and coffee will be served after the meeting. If you could bring a small plate of something to accompany the drinks, that would be appreciated.

Neutrog News

You should have completed your order with Neutrog by now, as the official closing date was 1st March. If you missed the deadline, you could try contacting Neutrog directly (08 8538 3500) to plead for inclusion with our consolidated order, which is expected to be delivered late March. That will be in time for serious garden work over your Easter Break, or thereafter.

Looking forward to seeing you at the March Meeting, or subsequent meetings if unable to attend. The buds are swelling on the camellias at my place, with the promise of a bumper surfeit of blooms.

Bruce Walker,
President





IS FOR MARCH . . .

PHOTOS NSW CRS



Magalhaes Variegated



Man Size



Mandalay Queen



Mark Alan Variegated



Modern Art



Mrs Bell



Mrs DW Davis



Mrs DW Davis Descanso

EXTRACTS FROM THE FEBRUARY MEETING AND MARCH COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY MEETING, SATURDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2021 Secretary

Helen Wallace,

Bruce Walker, Juliet Muras, Helen Wallace, Julie Hood, Carolyn Low, Rachel O'Connor, Judith McGill and Daniel Low and new member, Karin Bacina
Apologies: Margaret Levick

President's Report: There has been some correspondence regarding the Board of Eryldene and the matter seems to have been resolved to everyone's satisfaction with our Society to have the current President and one other elected member as representatives on the Board.

Secretary's Report: No correspondence other than the Gardening Australia Magazine. A number of enquiries re Camellias in gardens to the Society Email and to the IPP by phone.

Treasurer's Report: Only 24 membership renewals to date but some new members who joined after show date in 2020 will carry over to October 2021.

Neutrog Royalties are being deposited regularly.

Membership report: 32 Single, 22 Household (44), 1 Complimentary and 2 to Libraries.

Future Meetings: Possible guest speakers: a number of names were suggested and will be followed up.

Watch the Newsletter for further information as it comes to hand.

Newsletter: The February edition will be emailed before the meeting next Saturday.

Neutrog: the Autumn delivery should take place in late March so look to your emails for details from Neutrog who are doing their own coordination this year.

Other Business: A limited number of copies of "The Illustrated NSWCRS Camellia Nomenclature" will be available at cost \$20.00 at the March Meeting and orders can be place by phone to the Newsletter Editor

Meeting Closed 6.30pm



FROM THE MARCH COMMITTEE MEETING.
Secretary

Helen Wallace,

Bruce Walker, Julie Hood, Rachel O'Connor, Carolyn Low, Daniel Low and Helen Wallace met on Monday 1st March.

Membership remains steady at just over 70 people but there are still some renewal fees not yet paid. At last we will be able to hold our monthly meetings in the Gordon Baptist Church hall. The church has its own Covid 19 plan and there are several requirements for hirers such as the Camellia Society. Also the church requires a list of attendees for each meeting. They do NOT have a QR code that we can use. A sign-on form will be available at the entrance to the hall for all to sign please. We look forward to seeing everybody again.

We are hopeful of securing interesting speakers for the meetings during the year. Also it was proposed that one of the meetings later in the year be held at Camellia-r-us nursery in Glenorie. So keep Saturday afternoon 21st August free.

The committee spent some time discussing plans for the annual Camellia show to be held at Ravenswood School 10th and 11th July. More of this later.



ESTABLISHED 1939



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MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE 2021

March 2021	
Monday, 15th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting (Always 3rd Monday of Month) Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm meeting Speaker Ritchie Griffiths Topic, Soil Management and Nutrition
April 2021	
Monday 19th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting (Always 3rd Monday of Month) Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm meeting Speaker TBA
May 2021	
Monday 17th	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
June 2021	
Monday 21st	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
July 2021	
Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th	NSW CRS Annual Show. Details to follow
Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th	Illawarra Annual Show and National Show
Monday 26th	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 2021	
Saturday 21st	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting Keep date in Diary. Afternoon outing meeting at Camellias R Us, Glenorie with Bloom Competition. More details later.
September 2021	
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 TBA
October 2021	
Monday 18th	NSWCRS AGM 7.30pm. Gordon Baptist Church, 20-22 Park Ave, Gordon.
November 2021	
	Annual Dinner and Presentations. Date and Location TBA



LAST REMINDER: MEMBERSHIP FEES 2020-2021

Membership fees for 2021 were due on 1st November 2020.

The following table outlines membership fees:

Membership type	Emailed newsletter*	Black & white posted newsletter**
Single	\$30	\$70
Household	\$40	\$80
Life members and Fellows	Free	\$40
*Included as part of all memberships		
**An additional fee of \$40 covers expenses of printing & postage		

PAYMENTS METHODS:

Via Internet Banking, or Direct Deposit over the Counter at a Commonwealth Bank

Account Name: NSWCRS

BSB: 062247 Account Number: 0090 0966, Put as a Reference: "Renewal Your Surname"

All Enquiries to:

Membership Secretary,

Carolyn Low, 2 Narelle Avenue, Pymble NSW 2073. Tel.: 99883280

A NOMINATIVE COINCIDENCE—"THE WINTER QUEEN"

D. LOW

Looking through the editor's archive I had two topics from opposite ends of the earth with a similar title. One, a brochure and invitation to a Camellia Flower Show and Exhibition over an eight week period in Germany sent by the International Camellia Representative for Germany and Austria, Anke Koschitz and the other, an abbreviated History of Camellias provided by Leslie Saddington.

The Resurrection of the Winter Queen (my apologies for the poor translation via Google)

The rooms of the festival castle will be home to more than 1000 individual flowers that have entered the competition from all over Germany; this time also with entries from the Czech Republic.

"Winter Queen" - what a nice name for camellias. But first to a wonderful camellia story, a double rescue and resurrection: an unknown gardener or plant lover saved a few camellias from Dresden, which had been badly bombed in the last war, and brought them to Karlovy Vary, CZ. There they stayed in the city nursery for decades before they almost fell victim to the bathers "pouring" mineral water over them. The second rescue was carried out by the gardener Evžen Kopecký from Lysice in Moravia (about an hour's drive from each of the cities where my parents were born).

But now from the flowery winter queen to the courtly lady of the same title. She was the oldest daughter of King James VI of Scotland born in 1596 Elizabeth Stuart, the granddaughter of Queen Mary Stuart. Because of her husband Friedrich V of the Palatinate's rule over Bohemia, which lasted only one winter, she is often called "Winter Queen".

"Winter Queen" and "England's Rose", there is the thought of "Rose of winter", the camellia, really not far.

Again the most beautiful flower should be chosen by the visitors. The voting will take place from 29.02. until 02.03.2020. The winners will be determined on March 3, 2020, excluding legal recourse and will receive valuable book prizes.

Care instructions, literature and souvenirs can be purchased at the information stand. Members of the Central German Camellia Society will also try to answer your questions about the camellia. The Bonsaihof Liebscher has numerous varieties of camellias ready for sale.

From February 29 to April 19, 2020, the Saxon (Seidel's) camellia collection can be viewed in the glass houses, with the main blooming period expected at the end of March.

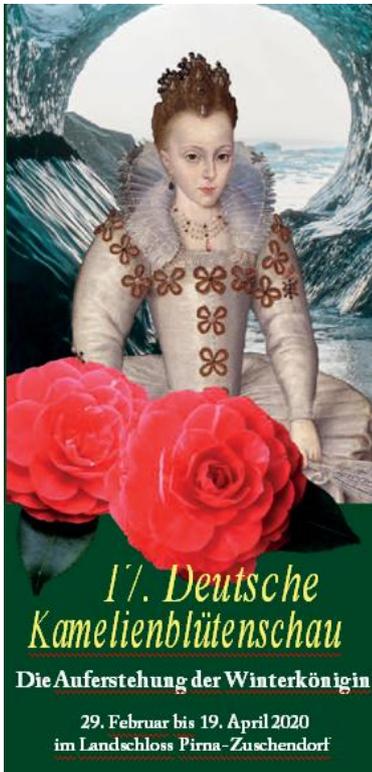


Exhibitions in 2020 in the area of the Central German Camellia Society e. V.
Camellia House Königsbrück Heimatverein Königsbrück e. V. Tel. 035 795-39 49 7
Fragrant camellias Botanical Blind Garden Radeberg, Pillnitzer Straße 71

Rosswein camellia house Heimatverein Rosswein e. V. Ms. Thiele, 0151-70 11 0151
Pillnitz Camellia House, Palace Park, info on Tel. 0351-26 13 260
14th camellia exhibition in Bautzen nursery Steglich
Am Taschenberg 4, Tel. 03591/4 24 15

20th day of the open garden door with Kathrin and Walter List,
Haynaer Weg 11, 04435 Schkeuditz, OT Radefeld

The camellia shows in Pirna-Zusendorf are divided into:
February 29 to April 19, 2020 Tue to Sun and public holidays 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Botanical Collection of the TU Dresden Landschloss Pirna-Zusendorf Opening of the show houses with
Seidel's camellia collection
17th German Camellia Flower Show at the Pirna-Zusendorf Castle (together with the Central German
Camellia Society)



17th German Camellia Flower Show



A Refreshing Brew of Camellia Leaves

Camellias – Garden Queens of Winter History

Text and Photos by Leslie Saddington

- Evolved in Asia - Burma's Irrawaddy Basin & spread north & south to other Asian countries
- Leaves were infused with hot water & drunk for 3000 years before the Western discovery of China & Japan – 'Tcha' to Chinese, 'Tay'/'Tee' to others



Camellia sinensis



Camellia lutchuensis—Perfumed



C. Japonica 'Monrovia'



C. Japonica 'Tudor Baby Variegated'



- A popular beverage in CHINA in 1700 BC!
- First shipped to London via East India Company's Macau agent as 'Chaw'
- 1688, London Newspaper "That excellent & by all physicians approved China drink, called by the Chineans 'Tcha', by other nations 'Tay' alias 'Tee', is sold at the Sultanese Head Cophee House in Sweetings rents, by the Royal Exchange."
- 1800's known in London society as 'The cup that cheers but not inebriates'. Became popular served with cakes for 'Afternoon Tea'
- Early 1900s, an East India Trading Company rep. bribed a Chinese merchant to send plant of *C. sinensis*, hoping to establish a tea plantation in UK
- *C. japonica* was sent instead – accidentally or intentionally?
- Grown in glasshouses, blooms became popular, seedlings and mutations led to new varieties
- Discovered to be hardy to outdoor growing
- Quickly gained popularity in British gardens
- Meanwhile, in ancient JAPAN the camellia, known as 'Tsubaki', was highly valued to ward off evil spirits, used in wedding ceremonies and planted as a guarantee of marital happiness
- A camellia rod was part of a Buddhist priest's attire
- Oil from seeds were believed to have healing powers
- The camellia became the sacred flower of Christianity, Shintu, Buddhism, to replace Japan's traditional war-like spirit with fair play & purity of purpose
- Samurai raised them between wars as symbols of 'fair play', especially Higos because they drop off the stem before they die, symbolic of Samurai's practice of beheading themselves when they lose a fight
- Japan had the oldest varieties in the world 1000 years ago
- By 1700 C. had become a very popular Japanese garden plant with over 600 varieties
- 1700s - EUROPE got camellias.
- 1837 - France published a book listing 282 varieties
- 1840 - Italy " " " 508 "
- 1850s - Cs were all the rage in Britain, Belgium, Germany, France
- Later spread to Austria, Hungary & China
- 1878 AMERICA - Cs arrived in NYC - 'Alba plena'
- Never looked back, spread throughout US, new varieties developed
- 1924 - first Camellia Show
- 1945 - Camellia Society of America began, research began
- Sacramento, California is known as 'City of Camellias', with Cs planted in all streets & parks
- Sacramento has an annual Camellia Festival with floats decorated with *C. petals*



The plant looked as if it would be a good subject for bonsai and now we can see the beautiful miniature flowers and leaves of *C. puniceiflora*

Remember, Neutrog Products Are:





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 2227
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
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Librarian:	Bill Fleming	E:wffleming@primusonline.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 and elected	
ABN:	16 873 158 367	
Incorporation No.:	Y17693-47	



REJUVENATING AN EIGHTY YEAR OLD HEDGE

D AND C LOW

This year while trapped at home we decided to make one of our old hedges more manageable by reducing the height to level with the top of the adjacent fence. When we arrived at this home in late 1992, the hedge stood about one metre above the carport gutter height as seen in Picture 1. Over time we had already cut it back, but now it was time for a proper “Short Back and Sides”.

Having recently read Tom Savige’s article, ‘Pruning Camellias’, Chapter III, Section I—Pruning, Part 2—Severe Pruning, in “The Camellia”, The American Camellia Society 1978, from “The Camellia Bulletin”, Vol. 18, No. 3, May, 1965. We were not too concerned about the possibility of the mixed hedge of Kanjiro and Plantation Pink not being able to recover. (For newer members, Tom Savige was the Editor of the “International Camellia Register” and the developer of all of the “Wirlinga” varieties at his property by the Murray River near Albury.)



Towards the Carport



Initially 300mm Above, But Then Down to the Top of the Fence



Within a Fortnight Epicormic Buds Appeared



[Wanting to have clean cuts and to expend less effort, we (i.e. The Editor has come into possession of a Stihl Chainsaw lopper). This marvellous machine is light enough to manipulate in and around adjacent limbs, the chain is fine enough to produce clean surfaces and being battery powered it is nearly silent, lighter than a petrol motor and there are no exhaust fumes.]

Although we have achieved that aim, it has become apparent as the cut limbs sprout that we may have to further reduce that height as the new shoots will soon be well above the fence and we will also have to allow for some judicious pruning for shape and breadth. As the Hedge re-grows its development will be told in future editions.



NSWCRS MONTHLY BLOOM COMPETITION 2021

Should all go according to plan; the Church Hall will be open from **6.45pm for Covid Clean and Benching**.
The **Judging will start at 7.30** as the Meeting begins.

Class	Description	Mar	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		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Japonica/Hybrid Informal Double		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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					✓	✓	✓
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: 1st = 3 points; 2nd = 2 points; 3rd = 1 point (if required)

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

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



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