

NSW Camellia Research Society Newsletter

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OCTOBER 2025

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*As a Postscript to the Previous Edition
Bill Fleming Sent This Picture of 'Anemoneflora' to Me in 2020,
However, He Cannot Recall Where
He Purchased It Some 40 Years Ago*



FROM THE EDITOR

The active year for our Society has now concluded and we look forward to another good one in 2026.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 15th of September at the Gordon Baptist Church where a new Committee was elected. See page 6 for details.

In other News the Highlands Garden Society Show was held on the 6th of September and our Member, Chris Chapman judged all the Camellia Classes on his own. That was the last show for Sydney and surrounding districts for 2025.

Daniel Low

This is the
Final Edition
for 2025
Annual Dinner
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025 REPORT

EDITOR

President Dale opened the AGM By introducing our Chair, Bruce Walker who took control from there on. He called on Dale to present her President's Report, which she did, and which is on page seven.

Next item on the agenda was the Treasurer's Report. Julie gave us a comprehensive outline of the financial position of the Society, and she was given a warm response by the membership for her capable handling of our affairs.

Bruce then declared all positions on the Committee vacant and called in turn for nominations for those positions which included the ones to be elected and the remainder to be nominated and accepted from the floor.

The following members were elected to the positions as listed for the incoming year.

President: Daniel Low; Vice-President: Ritchie Griffiths; Treasurer (Interim): Julie Hood; Secretary: Louise Owens; Committee Members: Dale Andrews; Erin Foulsham, Helen Wallace and Juliet Muras; Appointees; Membership Secretary: Carolyn Sherriff; Public Officer: Ritchie Griffiths; Show Manager: Ritchie Griffiths; Newsletter Editor: Daniel Low; Immediate Past President: Dale Andrews; Website Assistants: Erin Foulsham and Carolyn Sherriff; Librarian: Richie Griffiths; Eryldene Representatives: Daniel Low and Juliet Muras and National Councillors: Tony Curry and Juliet Muras. Therefore, this year we have a full complement of Committee Members, and a heartfelt thankyou was given by acclamation.

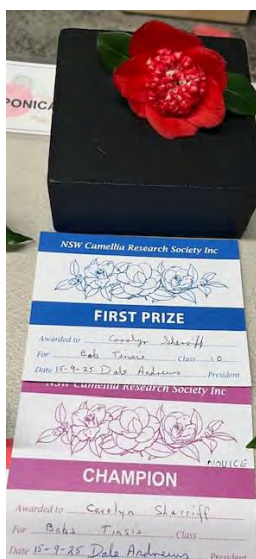
That concluded the AGM and we prepared for the guest speaker, Tony Curry.

Following the AGM the Financial Affairs Statement was lodged with and accepted by NSW Dept.Fair Trading.

SEPTEMBER MEETING AND BLOOM COMPETITION



Open Champion, Fashionata,
R Griffiths



Novice Champion, Ace of Hearts,
Carolyn Sherriff



Formal Doubles



Reticulatas Over 130mm



Full Benches



Singles



FUN BENCHING



Winner, Plant in a Pot, Juliet Muras



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Flowers in a Vase Less Than 10cm



Flowers in a Vase Less Than 10cm



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HIGHLANDS GARDEN SOCIETY BOWRAL CAMELLIA SHOW 2025

DANIEL LOW

Fine and sunny in Bowral but the Highlands can turn on the cool with it. Entrants for the flower classes and the camellia classes started to arrive from 7.00am.

The hall was soon very busy with competitors to and fro from their cars to the hall bringing in more plant material. The flower arrangements were quite spectacular having several classes in which to compete. Apart from a couple of their members whom I know, there were a good number of strangers in the hall. On the camellia side, members from the Illawarra and Berry Societies were battling it out with the Bowral fraternity and I was doing my best with what was left on my bushes and trees at this late time of the year for us, while the Highlands is just kicking off.



Champion and Also Reserve Champion In the Camellia Classes, Sally Gaudry
Her Exquisite Elegans Champagne



S & M Grant's Float Bowl of Helebores



The Table of Collections of Five Camellias NND



Informal Double-Any Other Colour

Annual Subscriptions for 2026 are now due. . .

Annual Subscription Renewals for the Society are now due for all Members except those who paid at the 2025 Annual Show, since August, or who are Life Members or Fellows of the Society.

Bank Deposit Details: Account Name: **NSWCRS,**

BSB: **062 247** (Commonwealth Bank) Account Number: **0090 0966**

For the reference please write the word "**Membership**" and your "**Surname**".

Cost for Membership: \$30.00 - Single, \$40.00 - Family



If joining or renewing, please let the Newsletter Editor know if you wish to have each colour printed edition posted to your home address. d_low48@hotmail.com

ANNUAL DINNER 2025

Annual Dinner & Presentation

WOODLANDS
BISTRO
INSIDE THE GORDON GOLF CLUB

2 Lynn Ridge Ave, Gordon NSW 2072
Wednesday, 19th November, 6.00 pm and 6.30 for Dinner
Let's Make it a Happy Start to the Holiday Season

The Annual Dinner at Woodlands Bistro will be a great chance to catch up with our members and guests prior to the Long Break. Last year it was a wonderful evening with everyone having a good time enjoying the food and the company.

Our Prize Winners for the Monthly Bloom Competition have been determined, and presentations of their awards will be made on the night.

Please let Judith McGill and the Dinner Committee know if you have any special dietary requirements.

The scrumptious menu will consist of a Light Starter, Alternate of Two Mains, and a Classic Dessert followed by Tea or Coffee.

Cost to Members and their Guests just \$60.00 per head.

Bank Deposit Details: Account Name: NSWCRS,
BSB: 062 247 (Commonwealth Bank) Account Number: 0090 0966
In the reference line please write the words: "Annual Dinner" and your "Surname".



NSWCRS COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS 2026

Patron	Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO	
President	Daniel Low	T: 9988 3280 E: d_low48@hotmail.com
Vice President	Richie Griffiths	M: 0418 200 139
Secretary	Louise Owens	E: louise@teamowens.net
Treasurer	Julie Hood (Interim)	T: 94118569
Public Officer	Richie Griffiths 39 Hazelmead Rd, Asquith NSW 2077	M: 0418 200 139
Membership	Carolyn Sherriff	E.: carolong4@gmail.com
Newsletter	Daniel Low	T: 9988 3280
Committee	Dale Andrews (IPP)	Juliet Muras
	Richie Griffiths, Show Manager	Erin Foulsham
Eryldene Reps	Daniel Low and Juliet Muras	Helen Wallace
National Councillors	Anthony Curry and Juliet Muras	
Web Assistants	Erin Foulsham and Carolyn Sherriff	
ABN: 16 873 158 367 Incorporation No.: Y17693-47		



PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2025

This year has been a successful year for our society. Everything has functioned normally due to the experience of long-standing members aided by newer members keen to assist. The successful show was officially opened by Judy Horton after she had given an engaging speech. The next day, Madhu Shah gave two creative demonstrations of flower arranging with camellias.

Show attendance has declined over the last three years. 309 people attended in 2023, 204 in 2024 and 199 this year. There are socioeconomic and cultural reasons influencing this trend, but the society must take every opportunity to promote itself and the annual show. Perhaps every time a member notices a potential contact such as a local paper or another horticultural society, the contact details should be passed on to the committee to collate.

The monthly bloom competition has flourished this year with many participants in the Open section and much enthusiasm in the Novice section. Prizes will be presented at the Annual Awards dinner at Woodlands Bistro, Wednesday 19th November 2025.

Eryldene has become under threat from the state "Transport Oriented Program" that permits, various levels of high-rise housing development within 800 metres of railway stations. Nearby properties together, have a building application in progress. My hope for the revival of "Country Corner" as an occasional inclusion in newsletters did not happen. We have members who are capable of writing articles, with photographs. We just need to ask them.

Thanks to Neutrog which continues to support NSW CRS with considerable royalties as mentioned in the Treasurer's report. Neutrog will give a Welcome Member Credit of \$50 to be used in the Advocate Store.

Thanks to Camellia Grove which has continued to donate a camellia plant for the lucky door prize at each monthly meeting and at the show.

Following the AGM, the elected and appointed positions for 2026 are: Daniel Low (President, Newsletter Editor, Eryldene Representative), Richie Griffiths (Vice President, Show Manager, Public Officer and Librarian), Louise Owens (Secretary), Julie Hood (Acting Treasurer) Dale Andrews (Immediate Past President), Juliet Muras (Committee Member, Representative to Camellias Australia and Eryldene), Tony Curry (Representative to Camellias Australia), Erin Foulsham (Committee Member, Website Assistant and Facebook Entries), Helen Wallace (Committee Member) and Carolyn Sherriff, (Membership Secretary, Website Assistant and Facebook Entries)). Our newly elected President, Daniel Low has previous experience as President, is very knowledgeable about the genus *Camellia* and has worldwide connections with other camellia societies and people. Under his leadership the NSW Camellia Research Society is sure to flourish.

My thanks to all members for your contributions to making 2025 a successful year for the NSW Camellia Research Society and I wish you and our society, all the best in 2026.

Dale Andrews
18th Sept 2025



ANNUAL BLOOM COMPETITION RESULTS 2025

Open Point Score Winner and Runner-Up

Winner:	Daniel Low
Runner-Up	Richie Griffiths

Novice Point Score Winner

Winner:	Guy and Vered Vissel
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Major Prizes

Lucy Payens Trophy (Sasanquas)
Daniel Low

Len Bray Trophy (Reticulatas)
Richie Griffiths

Helen Simon Prize (Miniatures and Sprays)
Daniel Low

Points Competition Results: Open Competition

Place	Name	Points
1	Daniel Low	122
2	Richie Griffiths	103
3	Dale Andrews	36
4	Juliet Muras	35
5	Judith McGill	34

Points Competition Results: Novice Competition

Place	Name	Points
1	Guy and Vered Vissel	189
2	Carolyn Sherriff	36
3	Cheryl Earl	32

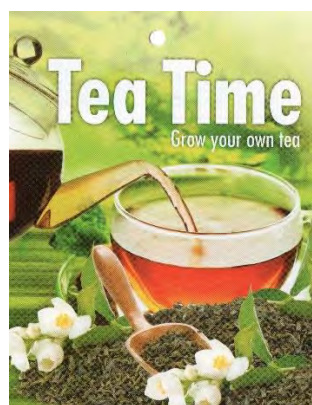


THE MARVEL OF GROWING YOUR OWN TEA

DANIEL LOW

Here in Sydney over time we have been spoilt for choice with varieties of *Camellia sinensis*. When we first started to choose Camellias for this garden over thirty years ago, there were only two choices: Cs 'Pink' or Cs 'White'. For some reason I haven't seen a Pink one for over twenty years. Speaking to some commercial growers, it would seem that the very pale pink was not very popular and they went out of fashion.

The three varieties that I'm growing are the Species, *sinensis*, a Japanese variety 'Sayamakaori' which is marketed under the Label "Tea Time" in Sydney, and Cs 'Austea' another tea variety also selected for its high antioxidant levels by John Robb and Bob Cherry at Kulnura.



These Two Varieties Have Instructions for preparing Tea Leaves to make Tea to Drink-I prefer the Austea Version

As we are now in Springtime, I am about to prune my "Plantation" to get a good spurt of new and tender green leaves in the early summer.

It will be from those leaves that I will brew my green tea, following the simple instructions on the reverse of the 'Austea' label.

"Sayamakaori was selected from seeds resulting from natural crossing of Yabukita tea plants. The selection was conducted in the Saitama Prefecture Tea Experimental Station in 1958, and it was registered as tea cultivar #31 in 1971, meant for sencha production. Sencha (煎茶, literally translates as decocted tea) is the most popular type of green tea in Japan. In fact, more than 80% of the green tea processed in Japan results in sencha.

If you're interested in the health benefits of green tea, then you must first learn about EGCG.

EGCG is a potent antioxidant. An antioxidant is a molecule that inhibits the oxidation of other molecules. Oxidation reactions can produce free radicals. The two most important oxygen-centered free radicals are superoxide (O_2^-) and hydroxyl radical ($\cdot OH$)."

* 2025 © My Japanese Green Tea

My Japanese
Green Tea

Camellia sinensis 'Austea'



Camellia sinensis-the Species



Camellia sinensis 'Sayamakaori'*



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEXT WORKING BEE

SATURDAY, 11 October, 2025
9:00 AM-1:00 PM

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

It's that time of the year again to pop over to Eryldene and lend a hand with cleaning and packing away. The garden could also use some helping hands! The tasks completed during the working bee make it easier to find items when we start up again in 2026.

Come at 9 am and stay as long as or as short as you can - everything you do will be much appreciated.

A scrumptious morning tea will be provided around 11:30 am, which is a great opportunity for all volunteers, the more seasoned and the newer recruits, to get to know each other.

Thank you in advance for signing up!

FURTHER DETAILS AND LIST OF TASKS TO FOLLOW.

Additional dates to pop in your calendars:

- **Friday, 12 September - final Open Garden Friday of 2025!: 10 am-12:30 pm**

Come and enjoy the final camellias of the season, plus the azaleas are looking stunning!

- **Saturday, 13 September - Ikebana Workshop with Jenny Goodwin: 10 am-1 pm**

We are excited to welcome back Jenny Goodwin. Jenny brings more than 50 years' experience teaching and exhibiting Ikebana. There is a **limit of 10 people** to enable personal attention and feedback. Fresh flowers, foliage, and an Ikebana container will be provided. Participants will also be treated to a lovely, homemade morning tea and a tour of the house where Ikebana floral arrangements will be on display.

- **Sunday, 2 November - Jacaranda Jazz: gates open 3-7 pm, music from 3:30-6:30 pm**

Enjoy an afternoon of listening to Coucou Zazous' repertoire of lively vintage jazz featuring sultry vocals, swinging melodies and toe-tapping rhythms while sitting under the canopy of Eryldene's blossoming jacarandas.

- **Sunday, 23 November - Christmas drinks: Time TO BE CONFIRMED**

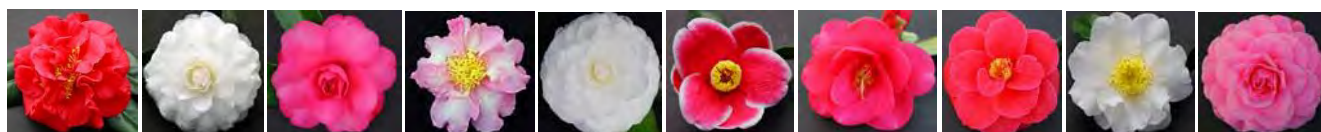
Come celebrate 2025 at Eryldene with a drink and some nibbles - details to be confirmed.

We look forward to seeing you at Eryldene!



Camellia Grove Nursery

ESTABLISHED 1939



OUR NURSERY: 8 Cattai Ridge Road, Glenorie NSW 2157

Phone: (02) 9652 1200

Fax: (02) 9652 2740

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OPEN 7 DAYS 9am-4pm

Browse our website at: <http://www.cameliagrove.com.au>





