

NSW Camellia Research Society NEWSLETTER

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From our Sponsor



Camellia sasanqua 'Weroona'
One of the earliest out this season



FROM THE EDITOR

March saw the first monthly bloom competition, and it was a pleasure to see the number of blooms from our Novice members.

I have news from Lesley Saddington, past member and renowned horticulturist who says she is missing us. Lesley now lives at Milton on the south coast but her soil is not very amenable to growing Camellias. I have been using some of her notes on gardening in talks to Garden Clubs and in her usual generous way she is glad to share them.

Daniel Low, Newsletter Editor

Looking forward
to the April
meeting
Details Page 5



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Editor

The new Camellia season has started again, and members came to the March meeting with a nice number in each category for judging. Marion selected the best in each class and the overall champions for open and novice competition.

The Committee has been busy sorting out our affairs and working towards the Show in July,

As mentioned in the Calendar p.5, dates have been set and following my request to the Board of Ravenswood we have been granted a reduction in our overall costs for this year's event (which we had not received for a few years).



GARDENING FOR OLDER GARDENERS

LESLEY SADDINGTON

- 1 Gardening is for Leisure & Pleasure
- 2 Gardening benefits the Body, Mind & Soul
- 3 Gardens are made up of 3 elements – Hard Landscaping, Lawns & Plants
- 4 Hard Landscaping – steps, paths, patios, ponds, pergolas and paving clean and protect from moss
- 5 Lawns – Highest maintenance – keep it healthy and vigorous, shape, edging
- 6 Lawns – selection – ‘Sir Walter’ buffalo, couch. Kikuyu, plusses and minuses of each
- 7 Healthy Lawn – soil, pH 7 best, weeds prefer lower pH, and use of dolomite lime, shape – keep it simple and flowing, renovation, fertilizing
- 8 Mowing – height- light haircut, NOT a shave! clean mower, sharp blades
- 9 Plants – selection to suit location, soil, watering program, pruning
- 10 Weeds – ID, annuals, perennials
- 11 Weed Control – hand weeding, mulch, Glyphosate
- 12 Pruning – light & frequent, early spring or after flowering, tools
- 13 Watering – occasional deeply NOT frequent lightly, sequence, depth
- 14 Safety – no moss, raised beds,
- 15 Safety – steep areas – posts & rails, steps
- 16 Hazards – hoses, roots, branches, trips
- 17 Plants in Pots – few larger, light pots, trolley, no saucers, wheeled stands
- 18 Ergonomic Tools
- 19 Pot Plant Care – potting mix, Wettasoil, sphagnum, fertilizers
- 20 No Maintenance Gardens – no such thing!, avoid high maintenance plants
- 21 Low Maintenance Plants – ground orchids
- 22 Ponds, Water Features – maintenance, water health, frogs/fish & plants
- 23 Orchids in trees
- 24 Mass Plantings – e.g. Philodendron ‘Zanadu’, Mondo grass
- 25 “A garden is a place of repose for the mind & the body” – Edna Walling



INTRODUCING OUR NEW PATRON, JUDY HORTON OAM

DANIEL LOW

Judy Horton is a horticulturist who, in 2015, retired after working for 22 years as a garden adviser for Yates. At Yates Judy was responsible for updating six editions of *Yates Garden Guide*, the best-selling Australian gardening book.

For more than 30 years Judy has answered garden questions on the ABC and other radio stations. In 2009 she was awarded a Hall of Fame Gold Laurel by the Horticultural Media Association of Australia (HMAA) for her outstanding contribution to the gardening media. She is currently the national president of the HMAA. She has also been presented with the Golden Wattle Award, the Australian Institute of Horticulture's highest accolade, for her assistance to the industry. In the Australia Day Honours list in 2018 Judy was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her contribution to the promotion of gardening.

Since her retirement from full time employment, Judy has taken on the role of editor of *Our Gardens*, the Garden Clubs of Australia quarterly magazine. She writes every month for *Gardening Australia* magazine and has travelled extensively as a botanical guide for Botanica World Discoveries.

Judy and her husband Rob have been married for more than 55 years. They have two adult children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They live in Middle Dural where Judy occasionally finds time to fight with her own messy, five-acre garden.



Judy in her garden (Photo Courtesy "The Daily Telegraph")

DANIEL LOW

SASANQUA FOR ELEGANCE

NSW Camellia Research Society Inc

CHAMPION

Awarded to *Paradise Hort Club, 2*
 For *Paradise Hort Club, 2*
 Date *10-3-2015* *J. Low* President

NSW Camellia Research Society Inc

FIRST PRIZE

NSW Camellia Research Society Inc.

THIRD PRIZE

Awarded to Louise Potholides
For New 10-3-2025

NSW Camellia Research Society Inc.

FIRST PRIZE

Awarded to Louise Potholides
For New 10-3-2025

NSW Camellia Research Society Inc.

CHAMPION

Awarded to Louise Potholides
For New 10-3-2025

[illegible]

CLASS C1 -
COLLECTOR: TAD N. UAN, NY 10028
3/10/08

ONE ONLY

Paradise Blush

Wichita

SEVEN

ONE ONLY

Paradise Blush

[illegible]



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MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE 2026 (CHANGES TO BE NOTIFIED)

April 2025	
Monday 20th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting <i>Garden Square Hall 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm</i>
May 2025	
Monday 18th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting: <i>Garden Square Hall 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm</i>
June 2022	
Monday 15th	<i>Garden Square Hall 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm</i> The meeting will aim to finalise preparations for the Annual Show
July 2025	
Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th	NSW CRS Annual Show. Details to follow
Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th	Camellias Illawarra Show, Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto Further details later as they come to hand.
Monday 20th	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting <i>Garden Square Hall 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm</i> Review Show
Saturday, Sunday and Monday 25th-27th	National Show in Conjunction with Berry Show and Their Open Gardens. Details on p.9
August 2025	
Monday 17th Monday 24th	The August meeting format has not yet been decided Bus Trip to "Wildwood" and Carolyn Sherriff's Garden
September 2025	
Monday 21st	NSWCRS Monthly Meeting <i>Garden Square Hall 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm</i> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
November 2025	
	Annual Dinner and Presentations. Date and Location TBA



APRIL MEETING MONDAY 20TH

NSWCRS Monthly Meeting:

Gordon Baptist Church, Meeting Room Garden Square 7pm benching of blooms for 7.30pm meeting.

Report from April Committee Meeting

April Bloom Competition

Class	Description	April
1	Sasanqua Single	✓
2	Sasanqua Formal Double & Elegans Form	✓
3	Sasanqua other forms	✓
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	✓
12	Reticulatas and their Hybrids	✓
15	Other Not Listed	✓
16	Clusters & sprays of multi-flowered species & hybrids	✓
16	New seedling or sport (1 to 3 blooms)	✓
C1	Collection: Sasanqua, any form, 3 blooms	✓
C2	Collection: Any Camellia, any Form 3 blooms	✓

Classes 1 to 15: One bloom, with a maximum of 2 attached leaves

Class C1: A collection of 3 blooms, with a maximum of 2 attached leaves

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.

'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.

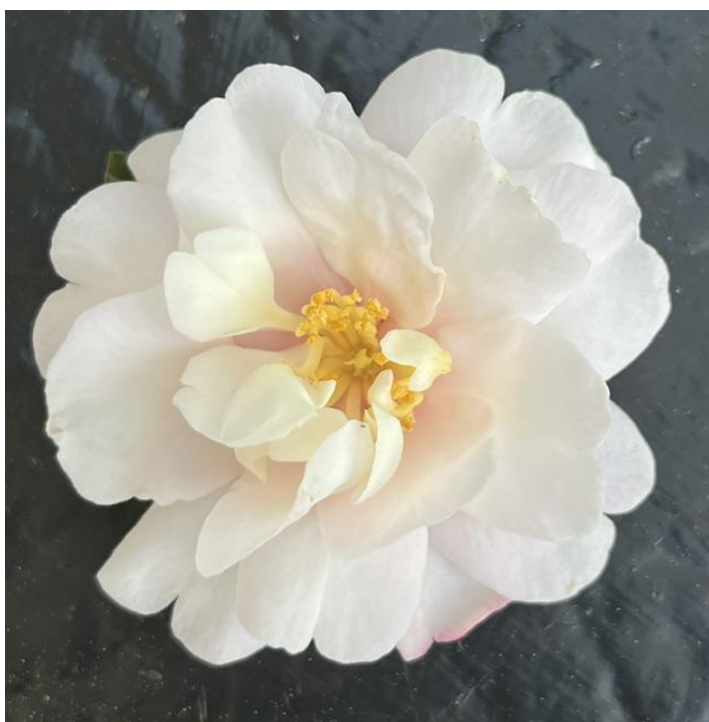


NSWCRS COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS 2026

Patron:	Judy Horton OAM	
President:	Daniel Low	E: dsummersonga@gmail.com
Vice President:	Richie Griffiths	M: 0418 200 139
Secretary:	Louise Owens	
Treasurer:	Julie Hood (Interim)	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
Membership Sec.	Carolyn Sherriff	E.: carolong4@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Daniel Low	T: 99883280 E: d_low48@hotmail.com
Committee:	Dale Andrews (IPP)	Jenny Goodwin
	Julie Hood (Interim Treasurer)	Juliet Muras
	Daniel Low (Newsletter Editor)	Judith McGill
	Richie Griffiths (Show Manager)	Erin Foulsham
	Helen Wallace	
Eryldene Reps.	Daniel Low, Juliet Muras	
Web Assistants	Erin Foulsham and Carolyn Sherriff	
National Councillors:	Anthony Curry and Juliet Muras	
ABN: 16 873 158 367 Incorporation No.: Y17693-47		



Yoi Machi



One of Bob Cherry's Unnamed From Kulnura



OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE PRESIDENT

EDITOR

March and April will be particularly busy for our President. He's been invited to several Garden Clubs to speak about Camellias so far and by the end of the month he will have been to the Garden Clubs at Vacluse, Maroubra, Mosman and the School Of Bonsai.



Members of the Vacluse Garden Club



The President Speaks

At Vacluse and Maroubra, he was warmly welcomed again by both groups of Gardeners. At Vacluse he spoke from Lesley Saddington's notes on Gardening for older Gardeners, see page 2 and at Maroubra and Mosman he will have spoken about his Scientific paper, presented to the International Camellia Congress 2025 in Tokyo.

At the Scholl of Bonsai which he attended for over 15 years, his talk will be about "Camellias As Bonsai" Neutrog are providing promotional products which are greatly appre4ciated at each club as lucky door prizes and Daniel is, of course promoting the Company and its Newsletter to the wider gardening community.

Early in May, I have been invited to attend the 90th Birthday Celebration for our one-time member, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Horticulture and retired TAFE teacher, Lesley Saddington at her new home in Milton. I just cannot wait to catch up with her after the few years that she has been away from Sydney.

Finally I will be attending the Killara Horticultural Society Meeting at St Ives to Talk again about how things are changing in the Camellia World.



Two Beauties Out for April, C. japonica 'Fashionata' and C. sasanqua 'Plantation Pink'



NATIONAL SHOW 2026 IN CONJUNCTION WITH BERRY SHOW

CAMELLIAS AUSTRALIA CONGRESS & NATIONAL SHOW

will be held on 25-27 July 2026 at

HISTORIC BERRY, NEW SOUTH WALES



Our hosts are the Berry Garden Club who will be holding the 2026 National Show with their 62nd Berry Camellia & Floral Show, held in the historic Berry School of Arts, Alexandra Street.

This event will be over 3 days, in July, with the Show being held on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26, with Monday 27 visits to Open Gardens, together with lots of options to explore in the beautiful Shoalhaven Region.

Saturday, 25 July is the opening of the camellia show from 12 to 4pm that will be judged by three Camellia Australia Judges.

Saturday, 25 July 4.30pm will be CA AGM to held at the Berry Bowling Club in Queen St, Berry, followed by dinner at the club with our Berry Garden Club friends.

Sunday, 26 July free time to explore a few sight-seeing attractions, or enjoy some retail therapy in Berry or visit the camellia show from 10 to 3pm.

Monday, 27 July will be a delight to visit 3 special Open Gardens as well as a special invitation to the Berry Museum that will open its doors and giving us a talk.

This congress is self-drive, all costs for meals and accommodation is at your expense.

Further information in the form of a booklet can be sent by email.



Oke's Pride of Herron



Oke's Rachael Feary



Ted Craig Vgt



Oke's Melanie

All Graeme Oke's seedling registration

Contact: Camellias Australia Secretary Jenny Donohoe

jennydonohoe5@yahoo.com.au



AUTUMN eNEWS 2026

Twilight Jazz with The Moods

Sunday 15th March 2026 | Gates open 3.00 pm. Music from 4-7.00 pm

As summer softens into autumn, Twilight Jazz returns to Eryldene with the unmistakable style and swing of **The Moods**. Bring friends, a picnic rug or chair, and settle into the garden as the music drifts through the garden and the evening begins to glow.

Enjoy freshly prepared **gourmet chicken or vegetarian rolls**, relax with your glass of wine, and let the rhythm of jazz carry you into the evening.

For those wanting something extra special, **a limited number of reserved guest tables** will be available. These tables include chairs, tablecloth and a small floral decoration.

Bookings are essential and must be made via our website:

<https://www.eryldene.org.au/new-events>

Please book online for:

- Event entry
- Gourmet rolls
- Reserved tables

MOTHER'S DAY TEAS AT ERYLDENE

Saturday 9 May & Sunday 10 May 2026

Seating times: Saturday 1pm and 3 pm; Sunday 11am, 1pm and 3pm

Mother's Day at Eryldene is a much-loved tradition. Once again, you are invited to book a table for you and guests on the verandah and enjoy **Tea at Eryldene** — redolent of teas past with delicate freshly made sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee, surrounded by autumn colour and calm.

Fresh flowers - bouquets and posies - are available for pre-order. They can be collected on the Mother's Day weekend, or delivered to your table if you are joining us for Mother's Day Tea. All flowers **must be pre-booked**.

All bookings are essential and can be made via our website:

<https://www.eryldene.org.au/new-events>

Please book online for:

- Mother's Day Tea tables
- Fresh flower orders



PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY - EVENTS IN 2026

Bookings are recommended for all events and can be made via our website:

<https://www.eryldene.org.au/new-events>

Open Garden Fridays - Second Friday of each month during the camellia season, 10am - 12:30pm.

10th April, 12th June, 10th July, 14th August, 11th September – *not in May*

Open Sundays - 10am - 3 pm, includes tours of the house.

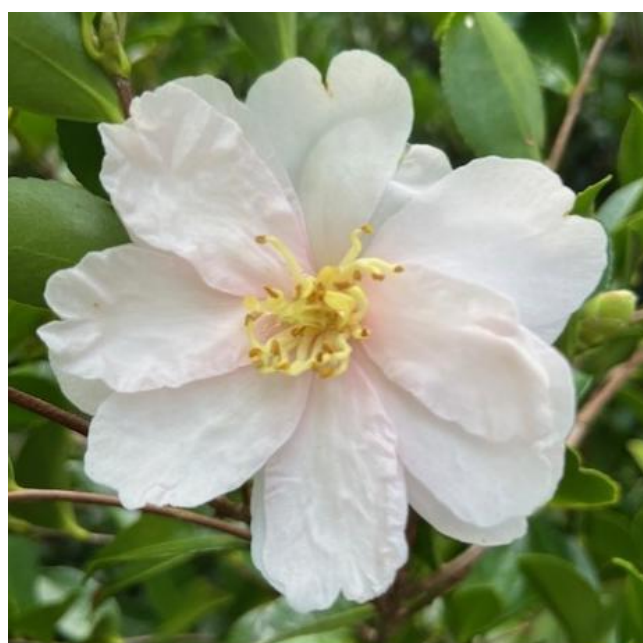
14th June: Admire the Sogetsu School of Ikebana's exhibit of modern Ikebana in the house and on the lawn court, including an Ikebana demonstration at 11am and 2pm at the Tea House. A few members of the Ku-ring-gai Art Society will be plein air painting in the garden.

12th July: Enjoy the Camellia Society's show at Ravenswood and wander across to see our camellias alive in the garden and hear Sing Australia Gordon as they fill the garden with happy sound. A few members of the Ku-ring-gai Art Society will be plein air painting in the garden.

9th August: Hear the Scottish Fiddlers and be reminded of Eryldene's Scottish heritage. There will be a small display in the house exploring Kilmarnock and Janet Waterhouse's life in Scotland before her marriage to the Prof.

Painting in pastels with Nick Hollo

Saturday 19th September: Join a workshop with artist, architect and teacher Nick Hollo, whose oil pastel images capture the bush and headlands of Sydney and the garden at Eryldene.



Two Interesting Blooms: 'Cleopatra White' and 'Lucinda Alba'



Kahoona

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