



# ***HUME CAMELLIA SOCIETY INC***

*(an Affiliate of Camellias Australia Inc)*

ABN: 35 069 498 560

<<http://humecamellia.wordpress.com>>

## **NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021**



Camellia japonica 'Emmett Pfingstl'  
Photo C. Lee, Best Formal Double, Wagga 2012

## COVER STORY

*Camellia japonica* 'Emmett Pfungstl' is an older, but a favourite registration from our American cousins. The International Camellia Register description is:

U.S. Plant Patent No.927, issued May, 21, 1950. A variegated form of Joseph Pfungstl. Dark red and white. Synonyms: 'Dorothy Parker', 'Joseph Pfungstl Variegated'. Originated in Pfungstl's Nursery, Montgomery, Alabama, USA. See black and white photo, p.80, Hertrich, 1959, *Camellias in the Huntington Gardens*, vol.III. Colour plate, p.85, Macoboy, 1981, *The Colour Dictionary of Camellias* and the front cover, ACRS, 1982, *Camellia News*, No.83. Orthographic error: 'Emmett Pfungstle'. Chinese synonym 'Aimeite'.

The cover photo (Photo 1) is from the Wagga Show in 2012, where 'Emmett Pfungstl', benched by Bill and Ann Mitchell, won the Best Formal Double of Show.

However it normally "varies widely in style from irregular semi-double to loose peony form with deeply waved inner petals", Excerpt from Macoboy's 'What Camellia is That?', see Macoboy's photo at No. 2.

The plant is readily available through specialist camellia nurseries like Camellia Glen, whose photo caption says "Medium, dark red and white variegated, irregular semi double, compact upright.". See their website photo at No. 3.

The image on the cover of *Camellia News* No 83, December 1982, is very similar to the Macoboy's image and is captioned as an informal double.



## CONTACTS & COMMITTEE

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Des Klemke  
Denise Di Salvia

### **DONATION TABLE ORGANISER\*:**

Maureen Lee

### **MEETING RAFFLE ORGANISERS \*:**

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Ginette Klemke

### **BLOOMS COMP. ORGANISER \*:**

Denise Di Salvia

### **COMMITTEE:**

\* Ex-officio

### **PUBLIC OFFICER:**

Anne Holland

## NEXT MEETING

**When: Sunday, 21 March 2021**

**Venue: Dawn Street's home**

**Address: 4 Riverine St,  
NARRANDERA NSW 2700**

**Contact: 0429 887 430**

**Directions: After crossing the river and entering town on Cadell St/ Newell Hwy, turn right into Audley St, left into Midgeon St then right into Riverine St. No. 4 is near the end opposite the oval.**

**Times: LUNCH: 12.00 noon.**

**MEETING: 1.30 pm.**

**Blooms Competition: None this month, competition starts in April.**

**Activities: Discussion on latest feedback from Camellias Australia regarding future of Camellia News and Congress activities for 2021. Discussion on Hume plans for 2021 and coping with COVID-19.**

**Bring: Small plate for shared lunch and afternoon tea.**

## CONTENTS

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Cover Story 'Emmett Pfingstl'.           | Page 2,  |
| Contacts and Next Meeting Information    | Page 3,  |
| President's Message, Questionnaire Info  | Page 4,  |
| Hume Christmas Meeting Minutes           | Page 5,  |
| "Who Needs Flowers" Barry Johnson.       | Page 6,  |
| Mayfield Oberon Visit.                   | Page 9,  |
| Tom Savage's Wirlinga Series.            | Page 10, |
| "What a Lot od Rain Will Do" Charles Lee | Page 12, |

## **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Please remember that as a result to the lack of activities possible during 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19, our committee has made a review of annual subscriptions. Members will not be charged annual fees to cover 2021. Annual subscriptions to Camellias Australia for 2021 will be paid by our society.

# President's Message

Welcome to 2021, hope everyone had a happy time over the Xmas break. I can't believe we have had 3 months off it went so fast.

I hope everyone is OK and have survived last year the best they could. Life is not the same with the uncertainty's that COVID-19 has brought to us. Never the less we have the vaccination on the way and hopefully that we will return to some normality. I think we live in the lucky Country in comparison to the rest of the world and certainly have a lot to be grateful for because of that. Hopefully we can get through the year without another lockdown.

This summer has been the coolest we have had in many years with lots of rain which meant not as much watering as we usually have, but boy didn't the weeds love the rain. The Camellias are in bud and looking green and healthy just an odd bit of die back which is always present when its humid here.

Our national body are having a ZOOM meeting on March 5, with further discussions on the future of Camellia News and updates on the Congress planned for September in Warragal. Charles is representing Hume and has passed on the results of the Camellia News Questionnaire (see next column).

I look forward to seeing everyone in Narrandera at Dawn's place on the 21<sup>st</sup> where we will discuss our local activities for 2021.

Ginette

## Camellia News

### Questionnaire Feedback

Thanks to all of our members who completed the questionnaire, which was most of you. After receiving the completed surveys, we adjusted the final figures for those that did not submit their questionnaire to reflect the majority result from those who did. This action was explained in the questionnaire. The final result was:

- 89% wanted hard copy, the remainder wanted either electronic or both.
- 86% wanted 3 copies per annum, remainder happy with 2 or 1.
- 100% happy with fee increase across all printing options except 2 were not happy for a fee increase if we went electronic.
- 100% were against our affiliate making regular donations (which is what the CA info asked for, as opposed to a once off or irregular donation should funding allow).
- 100% were against affiliates paying for advertising or paying to distribute the journal.

These results have been forwarded to Camellias Australia for further discussion at either ZOOM meetings or at the Congress planned, at this stage, for September in Warragal, Victoria.

A ZOOM meeting is set for 5 March 2021, but the information from that meeting will not be available before we go to print for this newsletter.

Anything of particular importance will be discussed at our next meeting and members will be advised accordingly.

# Meeting Minutes

## Minutes of Christmas Meeting Held at Albury Commercial Club 15-11-2020

**Present:** Maureen & Charles Lee, Barbara Werry, Dawn Street, Denise Di Salvia, Des & Ginette Klemke, Anne Holland and Ann Mitchell

**Apologies:** Barbara Parnell, Rod & Elizabeth Barkman, Lynette & Harold Gleeson, David Parker and Steve Holland.

**Minutes:** Amendment 1 Camellia Book costs \$100 should read 2 Trading Table sales \$13.00. Moved Anne Holland Seconded Barbara Werry.

Amendment Ratification of the discount fees for all financial members for ensuing year and the amount of \$464 for National Membership be paid by Hume Camellia Soc for club financial members for prior year. Moved Maureen Lee Seconded Denise Di Salvia. Minutes Accepted. Moved Anne Holland, seconded Des Klemke.

**Correspondence:** INCOMING Newsletters, Anne Holland re correction of balance and letter from GCA Letter from member asking about donation to N.Z. for Petal Blight. "NO" Moved Charles Lee seconded Dawn Street.

OUTGOING Questionnaire sent to all members in newsletter.

Moved Anne Holland seconded Maureen Lee

**Treasurer's Report:** Amended copy of

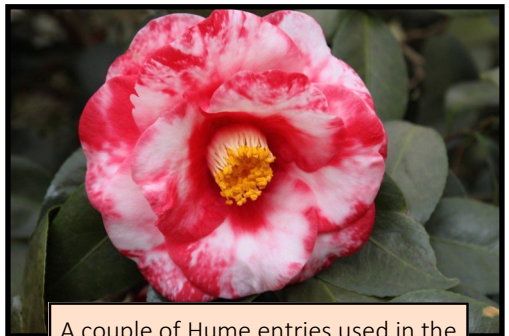
balance sheet sent to all financial members in November newsletter  
October report presented to all members present.

**General Business:** Non financial members do not have to pay for contact as per national requirements.

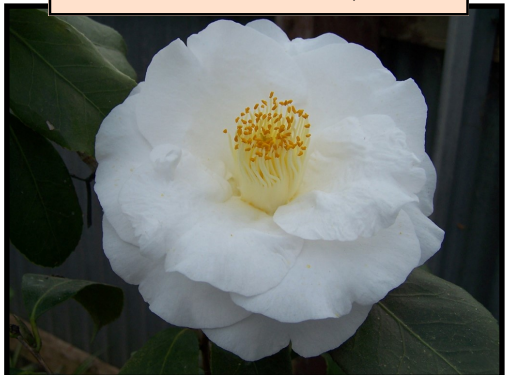
Charles moved to full colour newsletter  
Seconded Des Klemke

**Raffle:** Won by Maureen Lee

Next meeting at Dawn Street's 4 Riverine St. Narrandera 21 March 2021



A couple of Hume entries used in the 2014 Camellia News Calendar, Holland's Czar Variegated, above, and Di Salvia's White Nun, below.



# Who Needs Flowers?

By Barry Johnson

Camellias Victoria

foliage colours and textures can go a long way towards adding garden

Should it be all about a pretty face, or the complete package. We've all heard the 'blonde bimbo' jokes and ones about the new-age, metro-sexual, exfoliating Adonis'.

We can't all be Hugh Jackman or Elle MacPherson, but do these people really look that good when they fall out of bed in the mornings? Our camellias are much the same. Most of them look stunning when they are in full plumage (flowering), but what about when they're not. Do they have to be resigned to the back garden stalls as innocuous background shrubs or can they offer more? Camellias can suffer from the same expectational fate as roses in that we can only think of them in terms of their flowers.

Many camellias (like roses) can also feature great foliage colours, textures and shapes. As a landscaper, I am always trying to think beyond the standard seasonal repertoire of the full spring symphony and the autumnal amen. Intermingling and juxtaposing





*C. transnokoensis*



*C. japonica* 'Quercifolia' (fish-tailed)



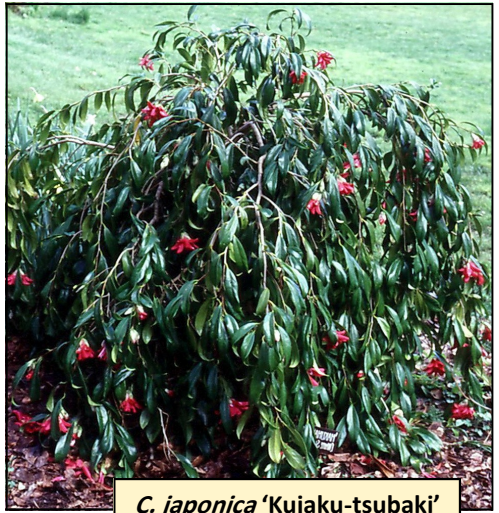
*C. japonica* 'Benten-tsubaki'

interest in the interceding periods when your camellias aren't being too sexy for their leaves. Enter stage left the species and many hybrid cultivars.

We should always grow more camellias, so why not rip out some of those other boring background shrubs you haven't noticed in years and plant some of the camellia species cultivars. Try the 'orientalness' and fragrance of species *C. lutchuensis*, the weeping, twistedness of *C. tsaii* and the burnished salaciousness of *C. salicifolia*. Other species with interesting foliage are *C. minutiflora*, *C. transnokoensis*, *C. nitidissima*, *C. microcarpa* and *C. assimilis*.

If you're a exhibiting junkie then many hybrids might take your fancy. While the dark flowers of *C. hybrid* 'Night Rider' have mysterious appeal, so does its claret-coloured foliage regrowth. Fine-leaved cultivars such as *C. sasanqua* 'Slim-n-Trim' and *C. hybrid* 'Transtasman'. The weeping cascading ones like *C. japonica* 'Kujaku-tsubaki' (Peacock Camellia), *C. hybrid* 'Sweet Emily Kate', *C. hybrid* 'Will's Wonder', *C. hybrid* 'Bridal Bouquet' and *C. sasanqua* 'Marge Miller'. If you're looking for some foliage variegation

to brighten up a background try *C. japonica* 'Benten-tsubaki' or *C. hybrid* 'Golden Spangles'. For quirkiness try *C. japonica* 'Quercifolia' (the fish-tailed camellia), or *C. japonica* 'Holly Bright' with it's crepe-like flowers and holly-like serrated foliage.



*C. japonica* 'Kujaku-tsubaki'



*C. hybrid* 'Elina Cascade'



*C. japonica* 'Holly Bright'



*C. hybrid* 'Night Rider'

*This article "Who Needs Flowers?" by Barry Johnson is taken from the Camellias Australia website and appeared in Camellia News No. 185, Autumn 2011. Barry has many useful and interesting camellia topics similar to this on the website . Please pay the site a visit at: [www.camellia.org.au](http://www.camellia.org.au)*





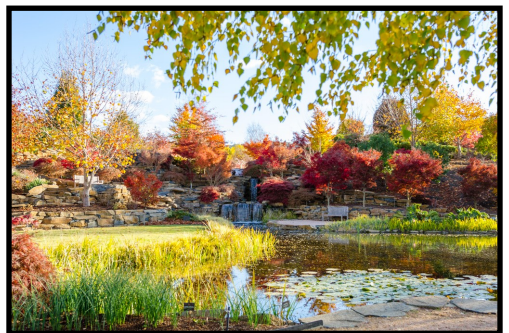
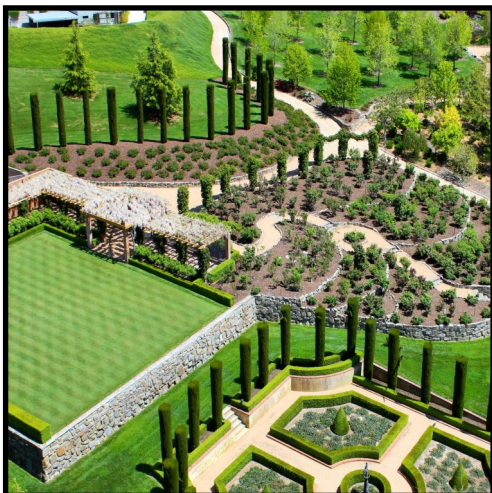
**Last year we planned to do a group tour of Mayfield Garden in Oberon, but COVID-19 put paid to that idea. Given we can now travel anywhere in NSW maybe we can make another attempt to go. Their Autumn Festival from 2-25 April may be worth considering. We need to make some decisions, like dates, accommodation travel method etc., at the March meeting. The following and the photos are from their website FYI. I will bring some information to the meeting regarding costs etc. Charles**

“The full Hawkins Family Private Estate (65 hectares) will be open from 2 April to 25 April during our Annual [Autumn Festival](#).

Make your way through our English Box Hedge maze, stroll through the orchards, explore the unique creation of the stumpy then up to the bluestone chapel at the highest point of Mayfield Garden before meandering back down through the blossoming water garden to the Garden centre café and kiosk for a bite to eat.

Mayfield open hours are 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday – Sunday. Tickets can be purchased online or in our ticket office on the day. We don't have a limit on people entering the garden we just ask that everyone is adhering to the

1.5m social distancing requirements. You can enter the garden at anytime and last entry into the garden is 3.00pm. We have indoor and outdoor seating areas, but there are still restrictions in place so we recommend booking a table before visiting.”



# Tom Savige's 'Wirlinga' Series

Tom Savige and his wife, Olive, moved to Wirlinga, NSW, near Lake Hume and Albury in 1970. They were members of Hume Camellia Society when it first opened in the 1977.

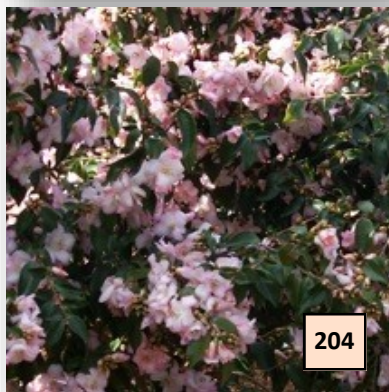
Tom was a prolific hybridiser, specialising in cluster-flowering varieties. Many of the 'Wirlinga' series were cluster-flowering and are especially pleasing plants when in bloom.

In 1994 Hume Camellia Society commissioned the painting of 'Wirlinga Bride' for the "Tom and Olive Savige Perpetual Trophy". The trophy was competed for at the Albury Camellia Show for the "Best cut of cluster-flowered miniature hybrid or species".

The Following list includes the Australian Registration Number and the bloom nomenclature:

156 'Wirlinga Belle', 204 'Wirlinga Princess', 268 'Wirlinga Gem', 350 'Wirlinga Cascade', 410 'Wirlinga Bride', 472 'Wirlinga Rosette', 501 'Wirlinga Snow Drift', 502 'Wirlinga Garland', 503 'Wirlinga Jewel', 505 'Wirlinga Ruffles' and 530 'Wirlinga Plum Blossom'.

For more details refer to the article "The Man behind the Wirlinga Camellias" by Barry Di Salvia in the Autumn 2010 edition of Camellia News, or go to the International Camellia Register. **This article taken from Camellia News No. 188, Autumn 2012.**





# What a lot of rain & a cool summer will do!

Charles Lee - March 2021



*C.j* 'Brushfields Yellow', a little older and taller than 'Tootsie', gave a few less blooms in 2020 than is usual (although still a good number), but the regular summer appearance of seed pods has seen very large specimens. Normal size for our plant over time is as big as a grape, but this year the pods resemble very green golf balls. Not as many pods as previous seasons, but they are all huge. See bottom left.

After the extended drought across the nation many of our camellia plants got into some bad habits. For example my plant of *C.j* 'Tootsie' (bloom from 2015 shown above), did not bloom in 2020. This favourite pure white formal double miniature bloom's bush, is probably more than 20 years old, standing about 2.5m high, and whilst it is not a prolific bloomer, I think this is the first year where no blooms occurred. All plants in the area were watered during summer of 2019/2020, but you cannot replace the benefit of rain.

The other front garden plants thrived also, thanks to the rain, see *C.j* 'Man Size' see bottom centre, and *C.s* 'Plantation Pink', bottom right.

We also removed the very large Liquid Amber which shaded many camellias, just hope the future summer western sun is not too damaging.

Our Dona Herzilia... and the two E.G. Waterhouse plants are also thriving.

After record breaking rain over the second half of 2020, 'Tootsie' has burst into new season growth and has flower buds aplenty, as shown at right! Still not planning for dozens of blooms as only one bud per stem is evident.

Another change in habit has been seen on



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