



# In season

Sogetsu Sydney/NSW Newsletter



Dear Members,



It is with humble honour that I was elected to become the new director for Sogetsu Sydney/NSW. This has filled me with a strong sense of pride and I would like to thank the past director Margaret Hall, the committee members and the entire community for this singular honour. I understand fully the responsibilities of this position and look forward to interacting with all members while representing Sogetsu Sydney/NSW.

Ikebana has been a passion of my entire adult life and my enthusiasm for the position will be evident when I present a number of ideas to the members. Most of all though I would like to make this community a foundation for establishing friendships through ikebana as well as getting inspiration and improving ikebana skills! I would like to start this newsletter with a brand new format. Another thing I would like to initiate is a direct and frank communication line to the director.

I value your experience and opinion and any advice/input would be greatly appreciated especially when exciting events such as "Royal Botanic Garden/Calyx Exhibition", and "Japan Live Week", not to mention our long anticipated "Celebrate 60" are waiting for us! Let's get to it, shall we?

Thank you again and I look forward to seeing you all at the April meeting!

Sincerely,

Hiroko Prado  
Director



## Announcement

In the March meeting there was also held the Annual General Meeting which all members were welcome to attend.

At this meeting a new committee was elected (see over for details).

It was also decided by unanimous vote of those that attended that a new name for the association would be formalised as soon as legally possible.

If you'd like to comment or express an opinion on the new name you are welcome to email:  
[sogetsu.ikebana.nsw@gmail.com](mailto:sogetsu.ikebana.nsw@gmail.com)



## Our new Committee

Hiroko Prado- Director  
Sandra Marker- Deputy Director  
Margaret Hall- Previous Director  
Yumiko Soo- Treasurer  
Alexander Evans- Publicity/Communications  
Rosemary Clinch- Committee Member

Jenny Goodwin- Committee Member  
Kevin Walpole- Committee Member  
Masae Ako- Committee Member

Paula Golthelf and Sandra Cottee resigned from the Committee. A heartfelt thankyou to you both for your significant contribution as committee members!

## Welcome!

We welcome new members, Dawn Connellan, Anne Carmine, Midori Edwards, Amber Huang, Yasuko Potkonjak, Yumi Ward & Miwa Hayashi. We are delighted to have you and thank you for choosing to join us!

We will be hosting a new comers tea with committee members very soon so watch your email for your invitation.

## Special opportunity!

Headquarters in Tokyo are hosting a number of online Iemoto seminars with the key theme of Spring (as this is the current season in the northern hemisphere). Visit the Headquarters website for more details and to register as a participant.

[www.sogetsu.or.jp/e/events/hq-org/23829/](http://www.sogetsu.or.jp/e/events/hq-org/23829/)

## Coming up

### Local events

**April General Meeting:** April 12, 10:30am  
Venue: Chatswood Bowling Club  
Theme: Repeating Similar Shapes and Forms Using Strelitzia

Jorgen Rasmussen will generously provide Strelitzia stems and leaves from his garden. Please bring containers and flowers of your choice. Sandra Marker will be leading the workshop.

**RBG exhibition:** June 26 Opening ceremony to July 3 (including weekend workshops for the public), with bump in on June 25 and bump out July 4.

Title/Theme: Sogetsu Ikebana Awakening

The Opening Ceremony will be attended by Sydney's Consul-General of Japan, Mr Kiya Masahiko!

**Camellia Society annual Show:** July 10 & 11  
Venue: Ravenswood School

**Japan Live Week:** August 20- to 29  
Venue: Sydney wide series of events to promote Japanese business and culture. TBD

**Workshops at Kirribilli Club:** November 28 to 30  
We are keeping our booking here and are in the process of organising workshops for both local members and any interstate/overseas Sogetsu people who can travel. We hope to have our Iemoto Akane with us live on the big screen leading the workshops. Details are currently under discussion with the headquarters, so watch this space!

### Interstate and international events

**Sogetsu Delhi - Sakura Herald Spring:** 7th April 2021  
Time: 12pm India, 3:30 pm Japan, 5:30 pm AEST  
Venue: Online - Zoom Sogetsu Delhi

A link to the zoom will be sent to members directly via email.

# Recently

## Past events

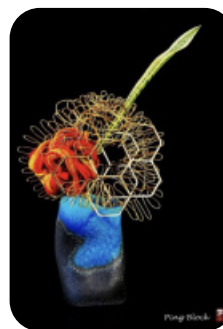
### Annual General Meeting

We presented Margret Hall with a "Certificate of Appreciation" for her outstanding leadership and contribution as the Director for 2016 through to 2021.

Hiroko Prado was elected as the new Director on March 8th, 2021.

A motion was passed unanimously to change the name from ASTA NSW to a new more straight forward name with less focus on the "teacher" aspect. The aim of the name change is to have broader appeal and approachability for actively teaching teachers, non-teaching teacher and students alike.

The official name change process will take some time as legal requirements are followed with due diligence, however, we are able start using the new name from this point forwards for anything which doesn't have legal use.



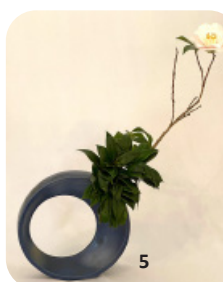
### Monthly Meeting for March

Following the AGM was our regular monthly meeting including a demonstration and workshop given by Ping Block, who kindly came from Canberra to demonstrate "How to do a demonstration". Thank you so much Ping! A special thanks also goes out to her students Trang Tran and Regine Wong who traveled to Sydney specially to assist.

### Associated organisations' news

*Ikebana international Sydney Chapter #36* had its 62nd birthday celebration on March 18th in the presence of the Consul-General of Japan in Sydney Mr. Masahiko Kiya and his wife Mrs. Yayoi Kiya. It was a great success and photos of the event are on Instagram and Facebook. @sydneyikebanainternational

# Member gallery



1 - Alexander Evans, 2 - Margaret Hall, 3 - Joan Perkins, 4 - Jorgen Rassmussen, 5 - Sandra Marker

These arrangements have been shared by members for your enjoyment. If you'd like to submit a photograph please email your picture to: [sogetsu.ikebana.nsw@gmail.com](mailto:sogetsu.ikebana.nsw@gmail.com)

Note: please make sure your photograph is on a plain background and that the arrangement is not cropped off at the edges, top or bottom.



# In Focus

## Camellia and Sasanqua 椿 山茶花

Camellia is said to be one of the favorite materials of Sofu Teshigahara for Ikebana. Ikebana's basic elements "Line, Colour and Mass" can be expressed by just one or many branches. Although the natural shape of branches tend to be straight, they can be easily bent to make the desirable shapes.

The key to success with camellia and sasanqua is to trim off the unwanted flowers, buds and leaves without feeling that the material is being wasted.

If you wipe off each leaf with a wet cloth, you'll be rewarded with a beautiful natural glossy sheen. To prevent the flower from dropping, it can be pinned from behind to the closest leaf on the same stem, being sure that the leaf is turned to face in the same direction as the flower.

Mizukiri, cutting under water is sufficient treatment for Camellia, however, it can be more effective to split the end.

How to tell Camellia and Sasanqua apart? The flowers of the former drop as a whole piece, but the latter the petals drop one by one.

Hiroko Prado



Sofu Teshigahara



Norman Sparrow



unknown artist



Sofu Teshigahara

山茶花



## Reminders

Member fees for Sydney branch AND Tokyo Headquarters are currently due. Please be sure that you are up to date. If you have any questions or need a pink slip (for payment to Headquarters) please contact us.

## Contribute!

This newsletter is for the members, by the members. If have any feedback or you'd like to submit a relevant article or photograph; or if you'd like to request a topic for the in focus section please contact us at:

[sogetsu.ikebana.nsw@gmail.com](mailto:sogetsu.ikebana.nsw@gmail.com)  
(Please put "Newsletter" as the subject)

