

朝月

In season

Sogetsu Sydney/NSW Newsletter

Dear members,



Once again we are unfortunately going through a lockdown after well over a year since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last year, we experienced the deep sadness of our large-scale events being postponed or cancelled. The "Out of the Box" exhibition at the Calyx, for one. Additionally, "Celebrate 60", inviting our Iemoto Akane Teshigahara was another after all the hard work that had been done by the members in the many preparations.

Doing our best to move on it was decided that the concept of the Sogetsu Event at the Calyx this year (scheduled to start on June 26th) would be to celebrate life after the many disasters Australia has experienced in the past one and a half years. Ironically this too has had to be postponed because of the current outbreak of the Delta strain of COVID-19, which has led Greater Sydney into lockdown yet again.

On a more positive note, going through these uncertain and unprecedented times, not knowing what the situation may be like tomorrow has taught us to be resilient, flexible, and to never lose hope. And so putting those necessary skills into action, we are doing just that and ***we will never give up!***

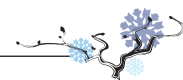
So please join me in celebrating again the new date of "Sogetsu Ikebana Awakening" on August 7th to 15th. The same program, just a different date.

I hope you are making the most of this at-home time to relax, recharge and perhaps educating yourself by reading about Ikebana and making small arrangements using whatever is available around you.

In the meantime, stay home, stay safe and stay well!

Hiroko Prado





Coming up

Local events

- **July Meeting**

Meeting has been cancelled due to COVID 19 Sydney lockdown

- **Sogetsu Ikebana Awakening, Exhibition, Demonstration and Workshop:**

August 7 to August 15

(Subject to cancellation in the event of further lockdowns)

Website:

www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Sogetsu-Ikebana-Awakening-Exhibition-Demonstration

Contact for exhibitors/volunteers: Hiroko Prado

The Opening Ceremony (August 7 at 2pm)

will be attended by Sydney's Consul-General of Japan, Mr Kiya Masahiko.

- **Camellia Research Society's Annual Show**

July 10 & 11 cancelled due to lockdown.

- **Japanaroo: August 20- 29th**

Venues: Multiple - Over 50 Japan-related events to be held in and around Sydney.

Website: www.japanaroo.com

There will be 5 Ikebana events during the Japanaroo period including the Sogetsu Ikebana Open House (see next listing)

- **Sogetsu Ikebana Open House: August 23**

(For Japanaroo 2021- please see left)

Venue: Chatswood Bowling Club

Ikebana beginners could find out what Sogetsu Ikebana is all about, watch a demonstration and participate in a hands-on workshop.

- **Ohara School Sydney Chapter Exhibition:**

Aug 20-22

Venue: Edo Arts

- **Chiko School Exhibition: Aug 20-29th**

Blue Mountains Culture Centre

- **Ikebana International**

Sydney Chapter #36 Inc Exhibition

Aug 28 (from 11:30am)-Aug 29th

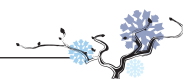
Venue: Nan Tien Buddhist Temple

4 Spring Street, Chatswood, next door to Westfield.

- **Koryu Shoyo-kai School and Bonsai**

Art Exhibition: Aug 29th

Venue: Forestville Culture Centre



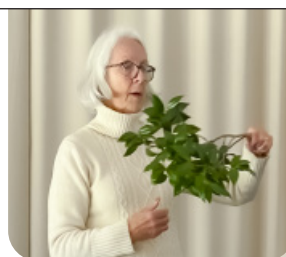
Recently

Past events

June meeting & workshop

We were fortunate to have held our June meeting before the COVID-19 situation suddenly worsened. The theme was Freestyle using Camellias and Exhibition Tips.

Sandy Marker kindly lead the workshop. She first gave us hints on how to prepare for the exhibition as the Calyx exhibition was coming up. She then gave a demonstration of Camellia with handy tips such as how to trim excess leaves off the branches and how to keep the flowers intact using the U-shaped wires. She presented us with three beautiful arrangements.



We also welcomed a new member Amber Huong and her friend as a guest. They both tried arranging camellia for the first time which wasn't an easy task, however, they enjoyed the challenge very much.



Congratulations

Sincere congratulations to Sandra Cottee and her students on their very successful Byron Bay exhibition - "Welcome winter to the northern rivers"

Sandra Cottee held the exhibition at the *Retopia Gallery* owned by one of her students, Jo Immig in Byron Bay. Read on for Sandra's report.

My philosophy was to only use material from our gardens, to inspire viewers to look at their gardens in a new way. So much material we didn't have to buy anything.

My student Jo is a photographer who displayed her work depicting the Kyoto golden pavilion above my autumn arrangement, and Jacqui's husband showed his lithographs of Japanese scenes.

Jacqui produced some amazing pottery containers which we used and had for sale, as well as another student Janet Fraser who supplied some wonderful containers, also for sale



About 80 people attended and the rainforest garden was a perfect setting. We served Japanese tea and enjoyed relaxing conversations over the weekend. We even had a koala visit which was a great surprise! I did a demonstration each day and I think it was a wonderful weekend.



We are planning another exhibition in late summer next year, including the rainforest garden.



Member gallery



1 - Masae Ako, 2 - Paulina, 3 - May Wong, 4 - Alexander Evans

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

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

Reflecting Wave

'Reflecting Wave', a camellia propagated in memory of Norman Sparnon (OAM and Order of Rising Sun- Japan), was released in 2010 at the 50 Golden years of Sogetsu in Australia and New Zealand.

Norman Sparnon introduced Sogetsu and Ikenobo to Australia and New Zealand. More information about Norman can be view on the ASTA website under 'About Sogetsu Ikebana'

In order to symbolises the thriving nature of his legacy we (ASTA) chose to name a camellia, which is evergreen and hardy after him.

The name Reflecting Wave comes from the translation of 'Ei Ha' the flower name granted to Norman upon receiving his Practice Teacher's Diploma from Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Tokyo

Mr Bob Cherry, then owner of Paradise Plants and renowned for his global expertise and dedication to camellias.

The camellia is a compact slow growing shrub with flowers that are firmly attached for the full duration of an Ikebana arrangement.



One characteristic of this flower is that the pistil will remain yellow even after the flower has dropped from the branch.

Bob's propagation program for a new camellia takes about seven years from first sighting to the gestation of a plant being ready for market. Over 3,000 hand-pollinations are preformed each year. From these, 1,000 successful results are collected and set to grow. The next stage selects about three emerging new species, which are then allocated to grow for about four years.



Your 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

