



Shirley Shallcross Receives the Walter Hazlewood Award for 2018



Shirley Shallcross receiving the prestigious "Walter Hazlewood" Award from National President Darryl Baptie at the 2018 Congress Gala Dinner.

Shirley Shallcross has been presented with the Walter Hazlewood Award for services to the Camellia Community. The citation submitted by Camellias Victoria follows:

"Camellias Victoria would like to nominate Shirley Shallcross for the Walter Hazlewood award for Services to Camellias.

Shirley joined the ACRS Victorian Branch in 1974 and has served the cause of camellias in Australia since then with her considerable efforts in a variety of roles since that time. Shirley started typing the newsletter for the ACRS Victorian Branch, as far back as the 1970's. She still sets out our newsletter in 2018, and has had a couple of times being editor over the years. In fact, Shirley has held almost every office available within a Camellia society. She has been president no fewer than four times, secretary for almost too many years to count and has also been involved with membership. She is currently our treasurer.

In 1981 Shirley was presented with the Merrilees Gold Medal for services to Camellias, and again in 1991, then in 1997, Honorary Life Membership of Camellias Victoria.

Shirley became show manager for the Waverley Camellia show in 1990, sharing this role with Valerie Watts. Shirley was continue in this role for over 2 decades, sharing these roles with Val Watts and Fay Wilkins, who, like Shirley, were also members of Waverley Garden Club as well as

Camellias Victoria.

In 1996 the Gold Fawkner Medal was presented to Shirley for her service to Camellias Victoria, Waverley Garden Club and the Judges Association.

Shirley has been a speaker many times within the community when we have received requests for speakers for various garden clubs over the years, which has furthered the knowledge of camellias within the community.

Apart from the numerous roles Shirley has undertaken within Camellias Victoria she has also been active on a national level with her judging, judging at many interstate shows over the years. She has been instrumental in several judging days to train new judges and shares her knowledge and experience readily with members, showing them how best to display their blooms for competition purposes.

Shirley was the driving force with the production of Our Camellia Culture Books with our Successful Camellia Culture booklet being used not only in Victoria but sought after by interstate affiliates. The new culture book "Successful Camellia Growing" in full colour was produced in 2003, with 4000 copies being ordered. During the break over the summer months Shirley Shallcross and Barry Johnson were invited to Government House to present a plant of the newly registered Camellia Japonica 'Federation' for inclusion in the Government House gardens.

With superb organisational skills Shirley has been the coordinator of many National Camellia Congresses in Melbourne in the 1980's and the 1990's and in 2006 she showed an incredible effort coordinating the National Camellia Congress in conjunction with the International Camellia Congress which was organised by Anne Marks, and held in the Hilton Melbourne. Somehow she also managed to run the Waverley Show that weekend, including our National Show within that show. ***This incredible show was the talk of the International guests who were completely captivated by our show. This was promoting Camellias not just to the Australian Camellia lovers but to the International Camellia scene.***

The esteem with which we hold Shirley at Camellias Victoria was demonstrated when at our November spit roast meeting in 2014 we asked her to ***be co-patron of our society, standing beside our Patron Erica McMinn.*** This was an honour which Shirley cherished. In fact, it was the first time we had seen Shirley almost speechless!

Shirley has been attending National Congresses over many years and has been a councillor for Camellias Victoria on many occasions. We feel our patron, Shirley Shallcross, would be a most worthy recipient of this prestigious award for services to Camellias."