



THE ROSE SOCIETY of NSW Inc.
Southern Sydney Region



Gemini is the signature rose for the Southern Sydney Region

Our next meeting is on Saturday 18th April 2026

Loftus Community Hall 119-129 Loftus Av, Loftus

The hall will be open from 12pm.

Please come early and help set up the hall and then take the time to stage your roses. Braidan will be available to assist & answer your questions about staging. Remember it will take a little longer as we are now using the bikini vases which is the standard for Rose Shows.

Our guest speaker will be Jim Cunningham

The presentation will begin at 1pm

Jim has been a member of the NSW Rose Society for 33 years and was awarded Life Membership in 2024. He received the Australian Rose Award in 2025. He is a Rose Consultant and became the Chief Rose Consultant for NSW for many years. He's an A Grade exhibitor and an A Grade Judge and an accredited National Judge. He has consulted with local councils when developing their rose gardens.

Jim will be speaking on the propagation of roses and is very generously donating one of his propagated roses for our raffle prize. He is committed to sharing his skills and knowledge with others. Come to the meeting to learn more, and he will answer all your questions



Show Bench Results for March 2026

[E] Exhibition rose (HT): 1. Wendy Vardy 2. Wendy Vardy 3. Wendy Vardy
[E] One cut of Floribunda Rose: 1. Denise Butcher 2. Wendy Vardy 3. Wendy Vardy
[E] 3 cuts/stems Floribunda Rose: 1. Wendy Vardy
[E] Bud to Full Bloom: 1. Wendy Vardy 2. Wendy Vardy 3. Wendy Vardy
[E] 3 stems Full Bloom Roses: 1. Paul Cross 2. Wendy Vardy 3. Wendy Vardy
[G] One Red Rose: 1. Carol Kohler 2. Carol Kohler 3. Carol Kohler
[G] One Pink/Purple Rose: 1. Robyn Everingham 2. Joe & Betty 3. Carol Kohler
[G] One any other colour: 1. Joe & Betty 2. Joe & Betty 3. Carol Kohler
[G] 3 cuts/stems Floribunda Rose: 1. Joe & Betty 2. Joe & Betty 3. Joe & Betty
[G] Bud to Full Bloom (same cultivar): 1. Carol Kohler
One Cut David Austin Rose: 1. Joy Jhugroo 2. Albert Knorr 3. Wendy Vardy
One miniature Rose: 1. Wendy Vardy 2. Albert Knorr 3. Joe & Betty
3 cuts/stems Miniature Rose: 1. Wendy Vardy 2. Wendy Vardy 3. Joe & Betty
Any Rose from my Garden: 1. Lynne Howlett 2. Albert Knorr 3. Albert Knorr
Vase of Roses: 1. Wendy Vardy 2. Joy Jhugroo 3. Carol Kohler
Best on the Bench: Wendy Vardy for her Vase of Roses

Points for the March meeting

34 points - Wendy Vardy
15 points - Joe & Betty Piegza
12 points - Carol Kohler
7 points - Albert Knorr
5 points - Joy Jhugroo
3 points - Paul Cross, Denise Butcher,
Robyn Everingham & Lynne Howlett

Progressive point scores for the season so far

93 points - Wendy Vardy
54 points - Joe & Betty Piegza
29 points - Carol Kohler
24 points - Albert Knorr
17 points - Braidan Swan
14 points - Denise Butcher
11 points - Joy Jhugroo
10 points - Paul Cross
9 points - Sue Wellington
6 points - Robyn Everingham
3 points - Charlie Summers, Dee Johnson, Lynne Howlett
2 points - Tom & Lynne Rice
1 point - Cheryl Varidel



Vase of Roses
1st Wendy Vardy
Best on the Bench



A Grade
1st Wendy Vardy
Moonstone



A Grade
3rd Wendy Vardy
Kardinal



A Grade: Bud to Fully
Open Bloom
1st Wendy Vardy



A Grade
1st Denise Butcher
Bordeaux



A Grade: 3 stems Full Blown Roses
1st Paul Cross
Smooth Prince



B Grade One Red Rose
1st Carol Kohler



B Grade One Pink/Purple Rose
1st Robyn Everingham
Bewitched



Any Coloured Rose
1st Joe & Betty Piegza
Peace



Any Coloured Rose
2nd Joe & Betty Piegza
Bengali



David Austin
1st Joy Jhugroo
Claire Austin



David Austin
2nd Albert Knorr
Charlotte



Any Rose from my Garden
1st Lynne Howlett
Desert Island



Any Rose From my Garden
2nd Albert Knorr
Aotearoa

Staging your roses for the Show Bench

Everyone is encouraged to use the green bikini vases when staging their roses for the show bench. Do not be concerned if you have never used these vases before as there will be a number of people to help and show you how - Braidan, Paul, Joe, Denise to name a few.

Some have expressed an initial dislike for using the vases and we recognise that any sudden change to our previous processes is an unwelcome challenge. However over time, as familiarity grows, it will become easier - that old saying "practice makes perfect".

Please come early enough to stage your roses so that "running out of time" does not become a factor.

The end result is worth it. And especially for the classes where there is more than one bloom to display. The Bud to Full Bloom would be impossible to show other than by using the oasis in the vases.

This will only be our 3rd meeting in using the vases and we have made improvements already when comparing our 2nd meeting with the first. We will continue to improve the set up by trial and error, and we are absolutely open to further suggestions, so please bring them to our notice "many heads make for better ideas" - if that is not a saying it should be.

Placing some tables outside under the cover worked for our last meeting by providing more space for everyone to work. Tables will also be placed inside.

Remember to bring an old towel, your secateurs, an old knife to cut the oasis and don't forget your roses. And bring all your roses out, don't leave any behind in your car boot 😊

The oasis will be pre-cut into thirds and soaked prior to your arrival.

Remember to write your name on the underside of the labels provided and write the name of your rose on the upper side and place it next to your rose.

Thank you to Adele Stephenson

Adele from Rocky Point gave a very interesting talk their potting mixes and mulches. Everyone at the meeting received a sample pack of their product ActiveGrow. A reminder Adele will provide more detailed information sheets on any of the products upon request, just let me know.



Royal Easter Show

Braidan Swan and Paul Cross were both entrants in the Royal Easter Show. Paul entered for the very first time and this is remarkable given he only joined the Rose Society at last year's Royal Easter Show. Other Southern Sydney members assisted Colin Hollis at the NSW Rose Society's information stand and included Sue Wellington, Lynne Howlett and Denise Butcher.



Paul's Bud to Full Bloom entry pictured above, and his 3 red exhibition roses pictured below



Champion Vase of Bunch Roses, Braidan Swan with Good Samaritan



Sue Wellington pictured above left & Lynne Howlett pictured below left with Stefica Bikesh, NSW State Secretary



Royal Easter Show entries

Open Day invitation East Coast Rose Trial Garden

1315 Mulgoa Rd,
Mulgoa

Saturday 11 April
11.30am to 1pm.

Some Australian Bred
roses will be available
for sale



Open Day Invitation

You are invited to join us for the
Autumn Open Day of the

East Coast Rose Trial Garden

On Saturday, 11 April, 2026

11.30am to 1.00pm

Winbourne, 1315 Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa

Enjoy the morning/afternoon with like-minded rosarians.
Find out how the roses are assessed and cared for.
You will be given an opportunity to judge the roses
for yourself. Best at the time of your visit.
Judges choice winner will receive a prize.

Some Australian Bred Roses will be available for sale.
There will be raffles and raffle prizes,
For further information—
eastcoastrosetrialgarden@gmail.com



Neutrog

Orders close at the online store Monday 13th April at 8am. If you are uncomfortable ordering online, I can place an order on your behalf, just let me know by Sunday night 9pm.

The delivery date is stated to be in May but there is some variation on this. Neutrog has little control once the product leaves their facility and it rests entirely with the transport companies. Some of our previous deliveries have arrived earlier than the expected time but in any case I won't be notified until 24 hrs prior to the delivery.

Don't panic if the delivery arrives on a day that you are unavailable, just let me know and other arrangements will be made.

Macarthur Regional Rose Society

Please join us

as we celebrate our

40th Anniversary

with a High Tea



and an afternoon of pure enjoyment as we share memories of our Society, 1986 - 2026

2:00pm Saturday 30th May 2026

Community Hall, Taara Gardens
25 Estonian Road, Thirlmere

RSVP by 2nd May to
macarthurosesecretary@gmail.com

Cost: \$30 per person
Payment by cash at meetings, or

*EFT: Macarthur Rose Society
BSB: 802 388; Account: 100092316
Reference: your name 40th*



You are invited to attend Macarthur Region's 40th anniversary

Saturday 30 May
2pm for a high tea.

Cost \$30 per person

May 16 meeting

Our meeting is being advertised to all members of the other Rose Society's regions to come along to our meeting and see Rosalie Vine demonstrate and speak on staging roses for a Rose Show. Rosalie is the Show Secretary for the Australian National Rose Show being held at Camden in October. All members will be encouraged to visit the Show and encouraged to enter the Show. This demonstration will explain the process in more depth and will be invaluable to all members. More information to follow.

The Australian National Rose Show

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th October 2026

The Rose Society of NSW Inc. &
The National Rose Society of Australia Inc.
invite you to attend

THE AUSTRALIAN ROSE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

Australia in Bloom

CAMDEN CIVIC CENTRE
Cnr Oxley & Mitchell Streets, Camden NSW 2570
Saturday 17th October • 10.30AM - 4.30PM
Sunday 18th October • 9AM - 4PM

• FREE ENTRY • RAFFLES • TALKS & DEMOS • MARKET • PLANT SALES



For details of schedule please
contact Show Secretary
Rosalie Vine
rosalie.vine1950@gmail.com
or www.nsw.rose.org.au

Free entry with lots to see and do - there will be rose exhibitors from interstate, lots of trade tables, Mother Earth will have plants for sale, a free floral art demonstration by Joanne Fisher, a free talk from Kim Syris who is a commercial rose grower of over 30 years, who is a regular on radio and has written for magazines, raffles, coffee & cakes, what more could you ask for, for a great day out.

Southern Sydney's Rose Show

Will be held again this year, it will be our 3rd Show, and it will be held on Saturday 31 October 2026, 2 weeks after the National Show.

Rose Care

Water frequently. Even after the rain, the soil will quickly dry out, so check the moisture content and especially so with your potted roses. As the temperatures start to drop your roses will not require as much water. Remember to water at the beginning of the day so that the foliage is dry later in the day as this helps to stop any fungal spores from growing.

Apply some more fertiliser to support the rose bushes through autumn. April is the last month to add fertiliser. As the temperature cools the bushes will begin to store food in their roots as they prepare for dormancy

Added moisture in the air in autumn can cause the fungal diseases blackspot and powdery mildew to become an issue so keep up the spraying routine. Powdery mildew likes the warm days and cool nights and appears as a greyish film on the leaves and will cause the leaves to fall

Spray for insect control regularly. Keep a lookout for white scale and aphids.

Spraying regularly to prevent pests & diseases is better than commencing treatment after they become present. If there are pests on your plants, spray at the first sign and do a follow up spray a few days later.

Cut back any die back and spindly growth.

Plan and prepare now if you are ordering in any new roses; ideally prepare the soil at least 6 weeks before planting, digging the soil and adding compost.

Summary of dates for your diary

Saturday 11 April Open Day of the East Coast Trial Garden, Mulgoa

Saturday 16 May meeting - Rosalie Vine - rose staging demonstration

Saturday 20 June meeting - Helen Lovell, Neutrog marketing representative

Saturday 18 July meeting - to be advised

Saturday 15 August meeting - Megan Elliot, Seasol NSW Manager for home gardens

Saturday 19 September meeting - to be advised

Saturday 17 & Sunday 18th October - Australian National Rose Show at Camden

Saturday 31 October Southern Sydney Rose Show at Loftus

Saturday 21 November meeting - to be advised