



THE ROSE SOCIETY of NSW Inc.
Southern Sydney Region



Gemini is the signature rose for the Southern Sydney Region

Please join us at our meeting on
Saturday 15th November

At the Loftus Community Hall 119-129 Loftus Av, Loftus

Please arrive by 12.45pm for a 1pm start

Putting roses on the Show Bench? Arrive from 12.15pm

Our Guest speaker will be Mark Massey from Mother Earth Nursery

He runs a family-owned nursery specialising in rarer plant varieties as well as everyone's favourites. Mark is a rose enthusiast and has bred roses. He is a knowledgeable and passionate speaker and will be bringing a selection of plants with him for sale after the meeting. His nurseries are located at Cranebrook and Point Clare



Our monthly Show Bench competition resumes this meeting

Southern Sydney Rose Society - Show Bench Categories			
Exhibitor Section	1	Exhibition Rose (Hybrid Tea)	Open to all If you exhibit in these classes you cannot exhibit in the General Section
	2	One cut Floribunda Rose	
	3	3 cuts or stems Floribunda Rose, same cultivar	
	4	Bud to Full Bloom, 4 stages, same cultivar	
	5	3 stems Full Bloom Roses, same cultivar	
General Section	6	One Red Rose	Open to all EXCEPT Braidan Swan & Albert Knorr & Wendy Vardy
	7	One Pink/Purple Rose	
	8	One Rose of any Other Colour, including multi-coloured	
	9	3 cuts or stems Floribunda Rose, same cultivar	
	10	Bud to Full Bloom, 4 stages, same cultivar	
David Austin Rose	11	One cut of David Austin Rose of any colour	Open to all
Miniature Section	12	One Miniature Rose, exhibition form	Open to all
	13	Three cuts or stems Miniature Rose, same cultivar	
Any Rose from my Garden	14	One cut or stem of any Rose	Open to all
Vase of Roses	15	Can be mixed cultivars & colours	Open to all

Show Bench Explanatory Notes

You can exhibit in either the Exhibitor section or in the General section - not both.

The David Austin Rose section, Miniature section, Any Rose from my Garden and Vase of Roses is open to all

Only Braidan Swan, Wendy Vardy and Albert Knorr must exhibit in the Exhibitor section, everyone else can choose. However once you exhibit in the Exhibitor section at any monthly meeting you must remain in the Exhibitor section until the season finishes in June 2026.

There is an equal chance of winning the Show Bench competition by competing in either the Exhibitor section or the General section. The available points 'on offer' within each section are exactly the same. For the less experienced or new members it could be argued to be more advantageous to exhibit in the General Section, to avoid competing against the more experienced members.

For every class there will be a 1st, 2nd & 3rd place awarded. 1st place will receive 3 points, 2nd place - 2 points, and 3rd place - 1 point.

Furthermore the entry judged to be the best for the meeting “Best on Bench” will receive an extra point, and can be chosen from any section or class.

If you are not sure if your rose is a Hybrid Tea, a Floribunda or a David Austin bring it in & ask Colin or Braidan. If it's still undetermined, it can go into the 'Any Rose from my Garden' section.

For all members please use the plastic display bottles we have at the hall. The terms & conditions of the insurance policy discourage the use of glass vases. Please use the separate preparation table to prepare your roses. Use the labels to write the name of your rose on the front; if it's not known just write unknown, and write your name on the back. Place your rose on the display table with the rose name uppermost and with your name face down.

Southern Sydney Rose Show Report

At the Rose Show we had 24 exhibitors and a total of 195 entries, which was an increase on our inaugural show last year where we had 17 exhibitors & 126 entries. Three of our members, who had been members for one year or less, Paul Cross, Joy Jhugroo and Alan Bradney exhibited for the very first time at a Rose Show, which was terrific.



Vreni Harkness-Muller & Joe Piegza deep in discussion about the Show



Floral Art Open -
Tall and Tailored



This year we introduced a Floral Art section which received a total of 35 entries, adding an extra dimension to the Show.

Floral Art Open -
Forms and Textures

Last year we secured sponsorship from 4 politicians. This year we built on that and obtained sponsorship from 8 politicians, both federal and state.

The Federal politicians included Ash Ambihapahar the member for Barton, David Moncrieff the member for Hughes and Simon Kennedy the member for Cook.

The State politicians included the Premier The Hon. Chris Minns the member for Kogarah, The Hon. Steve Kamper the member for Rockdale, Maryanne Stuart the member for Heathcote, Mark Speakman the member for Cronulla and Mark Coure the member for Oatley.

We also received very generous support from Insolvency Options owned and managed by Darren Vardy who is Wendy Vardy's son, giving us a total of \$1,050 in sponsorship money. This was added to the grant of \$750 received from the NSW Rose Society

The federal politicians David Moncrieff and Ash Ambihapahar took the time to visit the show. They were introduced to and were photographed with the winning exhibitors of the sections they had sponsored.



Colin Hollis with the federal members David Moncrieff and Ash Ambihapahar



Carol Kohler with Judge Rosalie Vine in front of Carol's 2nd place in the Southern Sydney's Rose Championship

Federal politician Ash Ambihapahar, the member for Barton, with Wendy Vardy. Wendy received 1st place in the Southern Sydney Region Rose Championship which Ash had sponsored



We received good donations to our major raffle including \$100 voucher from Cronulla RSL, \$100 voucher from Club Engadine, a guided tour x 2 with the master distiller Philip Moore from the Distillery Botanica at Erina, a potted rose from Mother Earth, a rose from Swane's, a standard rose from Altra Nursery at Mortdale, a rose donated by Colin Hollis, a bottle of champagne also donated by Colin, Leggo bouquet of roses and a Leggo mini orchid both donated by Lyn Catt, a garden care package from Bunnings, pruning secateurs from CutAbove Tools, a Dan Murphy gift card, and a number of Neutrog products, a rose inspired cutting board and coasters, Bunnings gift cards, chocolates and other items - this seemingly endless list enabled us to have 4 great prizes which led to the sale of \$1,275 in raffle tickets.

The Southern Suburbs Lacemakers added extra interest to the Show again this year, and for the first time CutAbove Tools also had a table and achieved a good result selling secateurs to rose society members and visitors, and even to one of the visiting politicians.



Wendy's arrangement in the Alister Cup (Southern Sydney is now the custodian of the cup)

We received custodianship of the Alister Cup at the last state council meeting, and it took pride of place on our information table with a beautiful arrangement done by Wendy Vardy.

The winner of our public competition for the most attractive rose went to Tracy Driscoll, with second place going to Bernie Harvey. They have now had their memberships paid for by Southern Sydney Rose Society and we hope to see them at our meetings.

As a result of the Show we've had a total of 7 new members join our society, and we welcome them to join us at our meetings starting this month.

I believe we have made a profit of over \$1,000 subject to re-checking all paperwork and finalising payments.

The Rose Show committee of Colin Hollis, Braidan Swan, Sue Wellington, Lyn Catt, Jeanette Peters, Sue Marshall, George Skondrianos and Denise Butcher met on a regular basis throughout the year to bring the Rose Show together.

We would like to thank the members who exhibited at the Show - Wendy Vardy, Albert Knorr, Helen Hofman, Paul Cross, Joy Jhugroo, Alan Bradney, Carol Kohler, Joe Piegza, as well as Braidan, Jeanette, Lyn, Sue W, Denise and Colin.

Many thanks to the members who helped set up the hall on the Friday night - Sue Marshall, Jeanette, Sue W, Denise, Lyn, Braidan, Colin, and a special thanks to Joe Piegza for setting up the stage lighting to properly illuminate the Floral Art section. And a very special thank you to Stefica Bikesh, secretary of the NSW Rose Society, who arrived to lend an extra set of hands.

A special thank you to the ladies who managed the kitchen and/or cooked the delicious cupcakes and slices Lyn, Lyn's daughter Megan Catt, Wendy, Sue W, Betty Piegza, Lynette Howlett and Vreni Harkness-Muller.

Thanks to Jeanette Peters and Helen Hofman who ran the information table and answered enquiries, to Paul Cross and Joy Jhugroo who were late draftees and acted as runners between the stewards & judges and the recording table, and to Verni Harkness-Muller who played a vital role between Lyn & Denise at the recording table



Grand Champion Rose Unit - 1 vase of Decorative Roses, 3 cuts &/or stems, same cultivar 'It's a Winner'



So many beautiful roses filled the hall



The Roses in a Seashell class was very popular



Champion Floribunda Roses -
'Apricot Nectar'



Champion Bud to Fully
Open Bloom - 'Tineke'



Champion Fully Open Roses -
'Falling in Love'



Champion Exhibition Rose -
'St Patrick'



Miniature Rose
Championship - front to
back 'Kaikoura', 'Golden
Gardens', 'Work of Art'



Champion Floral Design won by
Michael Cordeiro



The very happy winner of the
major raffle with Jeanette
Peters & Colin Hollis



Floral Art Novice
- A Float Bowl

The Firefighter Rose Project



The garden before the members started working their magic



Joe was quick to start



Lyn Catt & Braidan
pondering
their next
move

Sue Wellington considering her
next move, Joe now sitting down
on the job - but what is Carol
doing?



Colin preparing the
Seamungus



Braidan spreading ChockAblok



So this is what
Carol was doing!
She was showing
us how to do
both - relax and
weed at the same
time



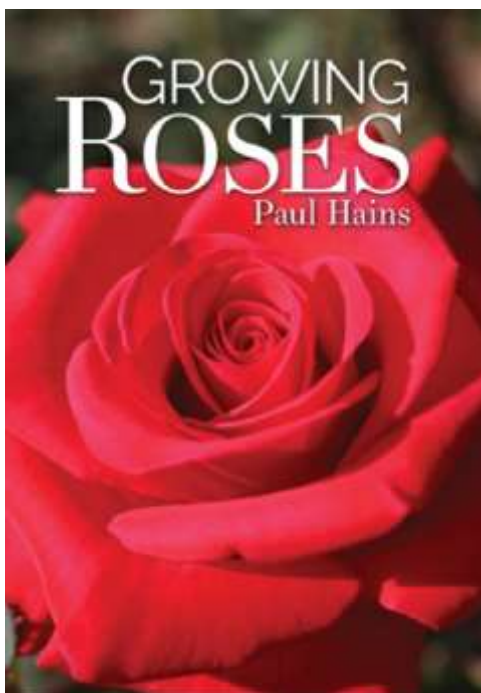


Today's working bee brought to you by Carol Kohler, Braidan Swan, Sue Wellington, Lyn Catt, Joe Piegza, Colin Hollis & Denise Butcher - she's behind the camera



The finished project - the 4 Firefighter roses weeded, pruned, Sudden Impact'd, ChockAblok'd, WhoFlungdung'd & Seamungus'd and looking much happier than when we started

Growing Roses, by Paul Haines



Paul Haines is a well known rose grower in Australia and a breeder of new rose varieties. He is an expert exhibitor and has won National Championships with roses he has bred.

Written in simple English for the every day gardener to understand. This will make growing roses easier for everyone, from beginner to expert. Understand different rose types, rose care, pests & diseases and how to manage them, to propagating and breeding new rose varieties.

If you only want one book on the growing of roses - this is the one to get.

Endorsed and sold by Rose Societies across Australia.

This book is now available from the Southern Sydney Rose Society for \$30

Ablion Park rose show - Saturday 17th January 2026

If anyone feels like entering their roses into another Show, take a look at the classes below. If you have any questions either contact the Steward who is Colin Hollis, or talk to Braidan Swan who has exhibited at this Show a number of times. For those interested I have separately attached the whole pavilion schedule

SECTION 12 - ROSES

Centenary Hall - Steward: Mr C Hollis

ENTRIES CLOSE 12 NOON FRIDAY PRIOR TO SHOW

Centenary Hall will open at 6:00 am Saturday - EXHIBITS TO BE STAGED BY 8:30AM SATURDAY

Flowers are to be arranged in bowls, vases or suitable stands

- 1201 **ROSE CHAMPIONSHIP** - 2 Exhibition Roses, NND separate vases plus any two of the following – 1 vase Bunch Roses, 3 stems one cultivar; 1 vase Cluster-flowered Roses, 1-6 stems and/or cuts, same cultivar minimum 10 blooms; 1 vase cluster/flowered roses up to 25 blooms, same cultivar; 1 vase decorative roses, 3 stems and/or cuts same cultivar - 1 vase Bud to Full Bloom, 4 stages, same cultivar. Prizemoney donated by Illawarra Rose Society - 1st \$20, 2nd \$10
- 1202 One Rose, red
- 1203 One Rose, pink
- 1204 One Rose, white
- 1205 One Rose, yellow or gold
- 1206 One Rose, other colour
- 1207 Three Exhibition Roses, distinct, in separate vases
- 1208 Three Exhibition Roses, NND, in separate vases
- CHAMPION ROSE (Classes 1201-1208)** Sash donated by Illawarra Rose Society
- 1209 Three full bloom roses, NND, in one vase
- 1210 Roses in four stages, bud to full bloom, in one vase, same cultivar
- 1211 Three Cuts of Old Fashioned or David Austin Roses, NND, same container
- 1212 Three Cuts Miniature Roses (one cultivar)
- 1213 Collection of Miniature Roses
- 1214 One Miniature Rose showing exhibition form
- 1215 Floribunda Rose, 1 to 6 cuts, same cultivar minimum 10 blooms
- 1216 Vase of cluster flowered roses, up to 25 blooms, same cultivar
- 1217 Floribunda Rose one cut
- 1218 One vase Mini-Flora Roses, 1-6 stems min 10 blooms, same cultivar. 1st \$10, 2nd \$5
- 1219 Decorative Roses, three stems or cuts, same cultivar, same vase
- 1220 Bunch roses 3 stems, same cultivar
- 1221 Bunch roses 5 stems, 1 to 2 cultivars
- 1222 Six Roses, NND, one container, 1st \$10, 2nd \$5 Sponsored by Mr C Hollis
- 1223 Any Rose, cut or stem, from my garden
- 1224 Bowl of Shrub or Climbing Rose, same cultivar, 1st \$10, 2nd \$5
- 1225 Bowl of Shrub or Climbing Rose, mixed cultivar, 1st \$10, 2nd \$5
- 1226 Collection of Roses, 1st \$15, 2nd \$5 Sponsored by Illawarra Rose Society
- CHAMPION SASH (Classes 1201-1226)**

Christmas lunch - Sunday 30th November 12pm at La Cucina, 14 Gympsea Bay Rd, Gympsea

For groups of 10 or more, the restaurant requires guests to dine on either their two course (\$52) group menu or three course (\$62) group menu, or their banquet (\$42). I will await more information from members interested in attending. Please reply to the email sent, or send me a text so I can confirm our numbers.

Dates for your diary

17 Nov - a rough date for Neutrog deliveries as per email sent to those members

30 Nov - Christmas lunch at La Cucina

21 Feb 2026 - our first meeting of the new year

Feb 2026 - the closing date will be confirmed for the next Neutrog order

Coffee catchup anyone? If anyone has any suggestions on a idea for a coffee catchup or a nursery visit over January please share your idea - its a long time between meetings

A bit of gardening humour sent in by Helen Hofman

