

JANUARY 2025

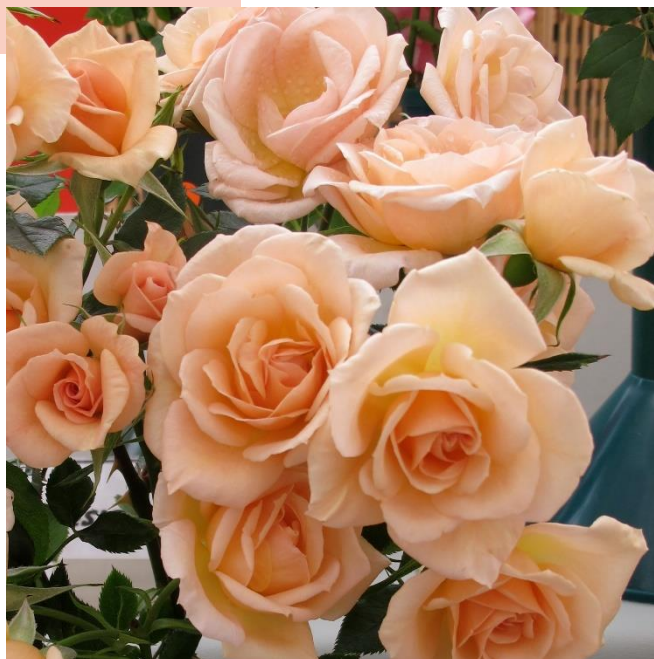


Photo: Apricot Nectar – floribunda

PATRON- JILL EAST

CONTACT DETAILS: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

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IMPORTANT DATES

18-19 January Albion Park Agricultural Show

25-26 January- Kiama
Agricultural Show

31Jan-1 Feb- Berry
Agricultural Show

7-8 February- Nowra
Agricultural Show

14-15 February- Kanagaroo
Valley Agricultural show

*Please support these shows
with roses if you are able*

21-22 March -Miniature
Rose Show Mittagong

Elina



MEETS ON THE FOURTH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH AT
THE NORTH KIAMA NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE, MEEHAN
DRIVE – 1.30-3.30P.M.

NEXT MEETING: at Kiama Centre February 22, 2025

Message from Chair: Dear Members

Happy new year to you all. I hope you have been well and have enjoyed the festivities of the holiday season. Our roses have enjoyed some summer rain after a long dry patch. My roses are blooming quite well, but keeping up with deadheading is a challenge.

The Committee is meeting via Zoom on Thursday 16 January, to plan our activities for 2025. We have one meeting organised, which is a session from Gary Wootton on green mulch for our gardens. You will have seen his article in the NSW Rose Journal in December and this meeting will give you a chance to ask more questions about this strategy.

Once we have other activities, including excursions and information sessions, rose displays etc., we will let you know. In the meantime there are the Agricultural Shows beginning at Albion Park, and the Show Committees depend on our members' roses for the public to see. Colin Hollis will be stewarding at the Plant & flower Pavillion.

Neutrog: the deadline for the autumn order was very short notice and I think many may have missed it. I have asked Neutrog to review the order date. It is too early in the year for members.

The Miniature Rose Show at Mittagong is an important event, especially for the Southern Highlands Regional which is their first time managing the show, and dependent on our interest and participation. So get those miniatures growing. Mittagong RSL Club is a great place to go to not only to see the roses but for a delicious meal.

Welcome to our new member – Mr Raymond Taylor from Bombaderry.

Looking forward to catching up with everyone at the February meeting. REMINDER: BRING ALONG ANY PLANTS OR JAM ETC FOR THE TRADING TABLE- JUDITH OYSTON is looking after the trading table.

Happy summer roses- *Kristin*



ROSE GARDEN IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY

This season in the Illawarra/Shoalhaven has been very dry and in recent days very wet. Our roses are responding in various ways to these changing weather conditions.

What I've noticed in my garden:

- The dry, hot conditions kept most of the black spot under control and eradicated most of the rust that showed on a couple of bushes.
- Blooms on some of the bushes dried out with the very hot weather, and some of the blooms were smaller than usual.
- Dieback is present in some of the bushes and needs quick attention whilst deadheading the spent blooms.
- Potted roses needed extra watering and some of



the foliage began to wilt when they were dry.

- Rain came- the rose bushes have grown quite rapidly and looking happier. Canes and stems are growing taller.



- Some botrytis is appearing on quite a few of the blooms and need immediate attention.
- They are becoming more prone to blackspot again.
- I haven't seen thrip this season as much as in other times. Hibiscus Beetle are still doing their

thing especially in marking white and paler colour roses. Grasshoppers and aphids aren't around as much as usual either. Maybe the birds in the garden are attending to them.

SOME TIPS ON MANAGING THESE ISSUES

- Blackspot & other fungus- [Bing Videos](#)

Avoid watering in the evening on top of foliage in hot weather as the humidity and dampness sets up the conditions for blackspot to flourish. Buy roses that are resistant to blackspot. There are some on the market.

- Water thoroughly at least once a week, and pots more often when the weather is consistently dry.
- Die Back -See Treloar Rose website for treatment and also



See you tube video site below on treating dieback

[How can I stop die-back on roses?](#)

- Summer pruning- Cut back those lanky canes by about 1/3 – you can do this whilst deadheading by taking an extra length of the rose stem.
- Botrytis- Cut off and bin the affected blooms or else this fungus will spread to other roses.
- Thrip and spider mite don't like water so they shouldn't bother us too much for awhile.
- FERTILISE- now is a good time as good watering before and after adding fertiliser is essential. When the ground is dry and the weather is very hot, roses don't take fertiliser at that time very well.

RESTORING THE GARDEN AFTER HEAVY RAIN

SOME ISSUES:

- Root Rot – some may be susceptible to root rot especially roses growing in pots. This can be addressed with the application of an anti-rot mix.
- Prune back lanky canes – this will encourage new shoots, but also protect the cane from the strong winds we experience in the Illawarra/Shoalhaven. Staking canes is also a necessary task as the canes produce the blooms we want in our rose gardens.
- Watch out for compacted soil which can suffocate the roots from receiving the oxygen it needs to take in nutrients. Pots may need the soil replaced if too compacted as simply putting new soil on top does not assist the compacted root areas.
- Mulch can assist the ground to manage heavy rains, and this is an important preparation before frequent, heavy storms are predicted.
- Good drainage is always important for our rose garden and pots, as rose roots do not like to sit in water.
- Move pots to a more sheltered area to protect them from becoming waterlogged.
- When the rainy period stops, check the dampness of the soil about 10mm down before watering again. If still damp do not water. Begin with a gentle watering program, and mulch the ground which will also help to conserve the moisture.

- Some Seamungus and GoGo Juice or Popul8 would help in the restoration of the plants after the rain.



EXHIBITING YOUR ROSES AT THE SHOWS- LOCAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Have a practice at exhibiting at the Kiama, Berry, Nowra and Kanagaroo Valley Agricultural Shows over the January February period. There are some easier to exhibit classes for those who are beginning or don't have

very many roses in the garden:



Kiama, Berry and Nowra have classes of single roses be they pink, red, yellow, white or any other colour. If you have a beautiful fresh rose in your garden, why not enter it into the show.



If you have David Austin roses – there are classes in the schedules for these.



Bud to full bloom



Container of mixture of roses



Miniature



Floribunda Roses

SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULES FOR EACH OF THESE FOUR SHOWS.

AROUND THE RIDGES- OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY AND PEACE PARK GATHERING

The last gathering of our members was at our riotous Christs Party held at the Warilla Sports club. About 36 members attended and we enjoyed the chat, food, music by Lorrie and dance and Secret Santa, ably lead by Colin Hollis. The following are some photos of the event. You can see more photos on Facebook- Roses in the Illawarra [\(10\) Facebook](#)



Rosemary & Joanne



David & Diane

Bev &



kathleen

Diane & Moira

Kristin, Colin & Sandra

John & Janet



Romeo & Jacqueline

Jill & Lorraine

Jill & Intan



Lorry our entertainer

Phil & Joanne dancing to the tune

Shirley & Robert

PEACE PARK END OF YEAR CELEBRATION



Jill with Bill's poster

The Peace Park crew

And unfortunately, a rose was stolen during the holiday period. (left)

And below- Congratulations to Judith Carll on receiving the Bert Mulley Memorial Award. Judith is the Chair of Macarthur Regional and NSW Web master & Rose Editor



MEETING OF REGIONAL COMMITTEE- JANUARY 16TH- ACTIVITIES ILLAWARRA REGIONAL 2025

Activities planned and still to be confirmed:

Meetings: Feb 22nd., a general get together and discussion and video on rose growing - catch up and/or invitation to Mark Massey owner of Mother Earth Nurseries to speak about roses.

March 22 - Excursion & lunch to Mittagong for Miniature Rose Show

April 26- Workshop at Kristin's garden on cross pollinating roses- hands on exercise in the garden

May 24- Green Mulch- Gary Wootton- confirmed

June 28th- alternate date for Mark Massey TBC

July 26 – AGM and session TBC

July – pruning at Peace Park.

August 23 – Organic Crop Protectants – TBC or garden visit

September 27 – Organic Crop Protectants or Garden Visit TBC

October – Display at Berry Garden Festival

November 1 – Rose display and information session

November 29 – End of year Party

If you have any other ideas- most welcome – please let us know

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