

APRIL 2025

Elina



PHOTO- Golden Beauty full bloom, taken by Colin Hollis at Peace Park in April 2025

PATRON- JILL EAST

CONTACT DETAILS: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

Chair: Kristin Dawson M:0422157353 E:
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SECRETARY: Jill Millburn M:0409849534
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Assistant Treasurer- Robert Coady

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IMPORTANT DATES

26 April – Workshop Meeting at the home of Diane & David Westagate at Kiama. **(See inside newsletter for details)**

Royal Easter Show- Rose Days: 17-18 April and 21-22 April

May- date TBC – Collection of Neutrog orders

May 26 -Illawarra Rose meeting- guest speaker is Gary Wooton who wil speak on green mulching

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

NEXT MEETING: Diane & David Westgate-31 Glenbrook Drive Kiama beginning at 1.30p.m.Workshop-cross breeding roses with thanks to Intan Kallus for leading- see inside for information

Message from Chair: Dear Members

It's been some time since we have been in contact as our last meeting was in February, and March was set aside for people to attend the Miniature Rose show at Mittagong. Congratulations to Jill Millburn who was our Illawarra exhibitor on winning some places, including first in some of her entries. From all reports it was an excellent show.

The Royal Easter Show is in full swing at the moment and there are six days that roses are on show, two days at a time within the two weeks of the show. Colin was grateful for the assistance from our members Frans buskermolen and Jenny Swan during one of the first two days. Thanks also to Julianne Faulks who took photos of the exhibits to show on Facebook as a record and for our information.

Sad to announce the passing of Alan Read a significant Illawarra member. See inside for details.

May/June also signals renewal time with the Rose Society, and membership of Neutrog discounts is dependent on membership.

Unfortunately I'm out of action due to a major open heart surgery and some complications which has kept me very much in recovery for about 6 months.

Peter Goodger sadly has resigned as Treasurer. As we know he has been hospitalised for most of the second half of 2024. Thank you Peter for your generosity. Robert Coady has agreed to see the finances through to the AGM, but we cannot expect any more from Robert. He has given far beyond the call of duty. The Illawarra is facing a dilemma about our survival now.

If you have changed address or contact details, please inform us as the National journal is mailed to the address on our list. *Kristin*

ROSE GARDEN IN APRIL

Thank You to Lorrie Zammit for putting together this article for us on our April in the garden.

AUTUMN -

As we approach the Autumn period it is essential that we:

- Plan and prepare for new rose plantings in winter
- Order bare root roses
- Prepare good Soil preparation
- Fertilise your roses in early Autumn. Do not fertilise in late Autumn. The last month is April.
- Water frequently.
- Spray for insect control regularly. Due to the added moisture in the air during Autumn, fungal diseases such as black spot and mildew can become present.
- Spray regularly to prevent pests or diseases rather than treating them after they have become present on your plants.- Beware of bees and beneficial insects and use non chemical sprays where possible, or soapy water.
- If there are pests are present on your plants, spray at first sign and perform a follow up spray a few days later. Remember to always use ecofriendly or organic sprays where possible. There are plenty on the market and many home remedies that have been proven to work.
- Continue to tie up and train climbing varieties. Remember to keep the canes as horizontal as possible to encourage flower production.
- Cut back any die back and spindly growth

DIE BACK

Die Back is the blackening of the tip of the rose stem which then travels down toward the graft.

There are two main reasons for this to happen with a newly planted rose bush.

The first is the most common - Not enough water.

Roses need a lot of water when newly planted as their roots have not established themselves.

The second cause is acidic soil or fertilizer used at the time of planting.

Roses need a ph of about 6.5 to 6.9 which is only slightly on the acidic side of neutral. If too low, any new root development will literally burn off.

Please note that die back can also be a perfectly normal occurrence. Roses use large amounts of energy to continually reproduce stems and flowers, therefore they become very economical with their growth. If the rose no longer requires a stem or part of the stem it will stop the sap flow, killing off that area. This will occur on the very tips of stem where no growth is evident. However, this is not to be confused with other causes of die back as they can cause significant damage to your rose.

Treatment

If die back has occurred, cut off the affected area. When making the cut ensure that the stem is white the entire way through, without any 'bruising'. If die back is not removed it will continue to travel down the stem and will eventually kill the plant. Attempt to fix the cause of the die back, helping to prevent it from re-occurring.



Important: signs and symptoms will vary significantly between varieties, even within similar categories. The information provided here is a basic summary of the most common Effects and will not always be applicable to all rose varieties.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR NEXT MEETING- 26TH APRIL 1.30-3.00P.M. AT THE HOME OF DIANE & DAVID WESTGATE- 31 GLENBROOK DRIVE KIAMA

WORKSHOP - CREATING OUR OWN ROSE

Our thanks to Diane & David for accepting a request to host our April meeting, given Kristin's incapacity to host it at her home as was planned. Thank you to Intan for leading the workshop – note information about what you can bring to participate in the workshop and directions to their home.

- Intan will demonstrate the art of cross pollinating.
 - If you bring a rose from your garden that you would like to cross, you can bring a fresh rose ready with fresh pollen (see the stage of development of the rose below) and with a fine paint brush you can learn to brush the pollen from your rose – bring a jar to put the pollen in.
 - OR, you can on Intan's instructions brush the pollen off yourself into a container, e.g.jar and bring it along.
 - Diane has generously offered her rose blooms, which may be at an appropriate stage for you to cross with your rose pollen under Intan's instructions. You will then be able to try it at home, and the hip that it is hoped will form from your pollen with Diane's rose can be shielded until ready for harvest.
- **INTAN'S INSTRUCTIONS**

As requested, I provide simple instructions on pollen collection for members to bring to our next fun meeting at Diane & David's garden!

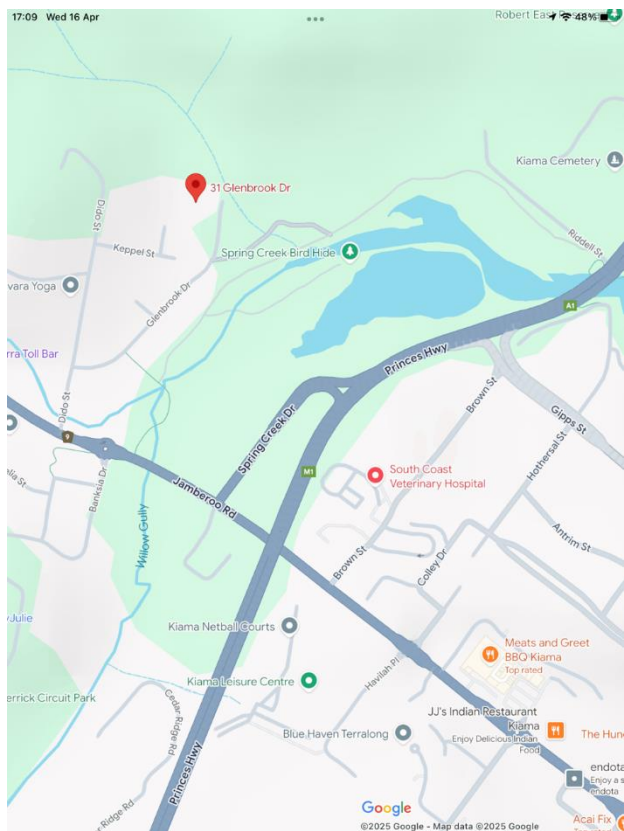
- Collect pollen the morning before our meeting (preferably early in the morning - must be dry, no dew or rain) and before the bloom is opened and contaminated by visiting bees or wind-born pollen.
- Place pollen in a jar overnight, indoors in a cool spot away from draft. Make sure NOT to cover jar to avoid pollen absorbing moisture via it's own condensation.
- 24 hours later you may screw lid on your jar and bring to our meeting. We will then have some fun hand-pollinating Diane's roses with the pollen of your choice.

I attach a simple to understand presentation by the Texas A & M University. It shows you easy to understand instructions with clear pictures of how to choose your rose to use as pollen parent, how to collect (emasculate) pollen and other useful guidance. Please click on link below and enjoy!

Texas A&M notes - Emasculation & Pollen Collection

DIRECTIONS TO THE WESTGATE HOME:

NOTE: As the home is a villa amongst other villas, the driveway to number 31 cannot be negotiated by our cars. Please park along Glenbrook Drive and walk to the villa. Could you please include a foldup chair in your car in case it is needed. Bring along some afternoon tea to share, and any roses you may have from your garden to share.



AROUND THE RIDGES- EXCURSIONS & EVENTS CLOSER TO HOME

MINIATURE ROSE SHOW – MITTAGONG RSL 21-22 MARCH 2025

Some photos from the very successful show:





ALAN READ PASSED 28 MARCH 2025 RIP

I'M Sad to announce the passing of Alan Read on Friday 28 March at the Retirement Centre at Culburra beach at the amazing age of 96 years.. Alan was a very active member of the Rose Society over many decades. He was an avid rose grower, exhibitor and bred the first recognised and registered Miniflora named Sarah Anne after his wife. Alan also served as Chair of the Illawarra Rose Society and President of the Rose Society of NSW. He has a few Miniflora roses registered such as Lilac Festival, Shining Bride and Hot Jack. In an effort to conserve his roses Sarah Anne and Shining Bride were planted at the Wollongong Botanic Gardens rose garden

May Alan rest in peace



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ILLAWARRA ROSE SOCIETY, HELD ON SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2025 AT NORTH KIAMA
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE.**

1. **WELCOME.** Chair Kristin welcomed 23 members which included Ray Taylor and Elaine to the meeting which commenced at 1.35 pm.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Jacqueline and Romeo Chiarello, Pat and Horst Bluel, Joanne Fisher.
3. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** N/A
4. **FINANCIAL REPORT.** Show Account \$6,038.76, General Account \$4,097.72, Peace Park \$1,312.20, Education Account \$5,025.40 and Term Deposit \$10,000. Moved as correct by Robert Coady and seconded Janet Bowden.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
 - a. Secretary RoseSociety asking members to be aware of scams.
 - b. " " Draft minutes of State Council Meeting
 - c. Maureen Thackerayx 2 new member Betty Humphrey.
 - d. Bendigo Bank, re in.correct form
 - e. Kiama Council, re hall hire in advance.
 - f. Monique from Neutrog. Re orders twice yearly.

Moved as correct by Jill Millburn, seconded by Lorraine Vost.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

NSW journal - 2 times per year. With 100 wanting printed can do for \$15 each, Or NRSA to do the journals 4 times a year for the States. Chair Kristin surveyed the members re journal. Most wanted to stay with a NSW journal whilst still viable

Also if 100 want a printed copy - need 100 copies for viable cost. Suggested that members who want printed pay \$15 extra with renewal. There is a publishing cost of about \$3000 for the online version to save the overseeing editor from organising the material on the journal

- Neutrog order - Spring and summer. Deliveries how about two places but would need site and order to be audited and sorted. Colin spoke about the new product Chock a Block which will be out next month, a product to be dug into the soil. There may be a launch of this at Southern Sydney's meeting.
 - Theme for the Nationals next year
 - Miniature rose show 21-22 March, our March meeting will be a visit to the show at Mittagong.
 - Meeting in April. Our place on hybridisation
 - Meeting in May, Gary Wooton from Macarthur, speaking on Green Mulch.
 - Meeting in June, Mark Massey from Mother Earth Nursery.
 - Thank You to Kristin, Colin and Jill for clearing out the storage cupboard.
 - Need to think about what to do with our library books.
 - Congratulations to all who participated in the agricultural shows.
 - To call on people to take on roles for the Illawarra Rose Society to last.
7. Kristin has prepared an excellent presentation on Miniature Roses plus presentations on caring and summer pruning roses.
 8. Raffle won by FranS Buskermolen and Jill Millburn and thanks to Janet Bowden for organising
 9. Meeting finished at 3.10 pm followed by a delicious afternoon tea.

IMPORTANT- FUTURE OF THE ILLAWARRA REGIONAL ROSE SOCIETY

With the resignation of Peter, which was necessary, we will no longer have someone in the role of Treasurer once Robert Coady steps down at the AGM. I also am nearing the end of my capacity to continue.... It will depend on my recovery how much I can do. I stood in 2019 in order to prepare for the Nationals at Kiama, and then to organise our 50th anniversary celebrations. I saw the Region through Covid. In the early days of the Region, people usually only took responsibility for 2-3 years which is manageable, but when it becomes longer it is not good for an organisation. WE NEED PEOPLE IN THE REGION TO STEP UP AND TAKE A ROLE, EVEN IF FOR A SET PERIOD OF TIME..... IF WE DON'T GET THE 3 KEY ROLES IT IS LIKELY THAT OUR BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL MAY HAVE TO FOLD.