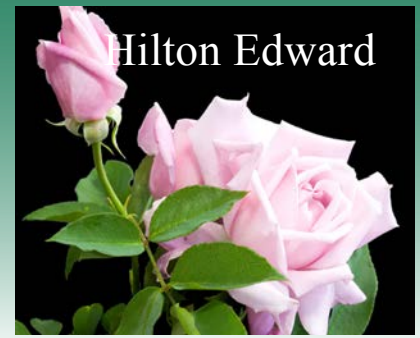




Macarthur Rose

Newsletter Vol 27, No 7

10 February 2021



By now all of you who gave your permission for your name, email and phone number to be shared with Neutrog will have received your Activation email for your Neutrog account.

You will need to activate your account and order and pay for your Neutrog before 01 March 2021.

The process to activate your account and start to purchase your Neutrog order is relatively straightforward.

You will need to activate your account by clicking on the BLUE button, decide on your password, confirm the password and then you will be into the Neutrog shop.

Once in the Neutrog shop you only have to click on the products to order. Your order is tracked in the shopping cart on the top right hand side of the screen.

Use the headings at the top of the screen to find all the products. You can also tick the categories at the left hand side of the screen e.g. fertilisers or mulch to sort by category. At any time you can just click on the 'All Products' heading at the top of the screen to see the full Neutrog range.

Note that the prices displayed are exclusive to Macarthur members. They are the reduced prices that are negotiated between the Rose Society of NSW and Neutrog. Please do not purchase for non Macarthur members.

Once you have completed the order, you will need to nominate the place and date for pickup. As with previous purchases, the pickup locations will be at the Graham Wright's place at Rossmore.

Once this is done, you can go to the payment screen and complete your details. This is where your discount code will be entered. Put in the code that you have and complete the payment. Once payment has been completed make sure that you keep the commitment to pick up your Neutrog.

If you need help to order online please call:

Graham Wright
Tel: 9606 5888 or Mobile: 0417 045 803
Email: gj.wright.l@bigpond.com

OR

Judith Carl:
Mobile: 0410 444 562
Email: JudithCarl@gmail.com

Dear Rose Friends

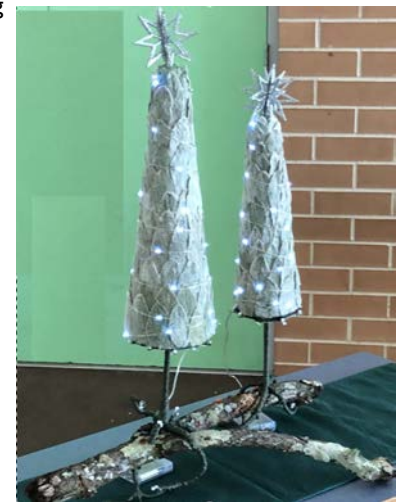
Happy New Year to you all. I am sure that we have all breathed a sigh of relief as the old year fell away. Hopefully, 2021 will allow us all to mix more freely and frequently both within the rose community and with our friends and family. With this in mind, schedule into your diaries that meetings are recommencing from 13 February at our usual venue of Elderslie Public School. While there are some restrictions on spacing of chairs, the NSW Government easing of restrictions means that we can meet as usual. All our other meetings for the year are currently scheduled for the second Saturday of each month, but this is of course subject to NSW Government restrictions and announcements.

After some discussion at our Christmas meeting and celebration in December 2020, it was agreed that in 2021 our meetings will focus on all aspects of the ROSE. This means that our presentations and focus will be on increasing our knowledge and understanding of the Rose such as how to grow better roses, displaying our roses either for the home, friends and families, our monthly show bench and of course our Exhibition Shows. I encourage you all to bring at least one rose each month from your garden to share with us all so that we can learn and understand what helps us to grow roses successfully and how to meet the challenges of growing roses. Our regular monthly show bench is a safe and enjoyable way for us all to learn from the expertise of each other.

Neutrog are changing the way we are required order our Neutrog products and the notice sent to you on the 3rd and 4th of February 2021 set out the details. The key things to note are that you need to agree with us sharing your name, email and phone number with Neutrog. Thank you to all of you who responded and to Graham and Janet Wright for their work to ensure a smooth process.

There will only be two deliveries of Neutrog each year - one in the autumn and one in the spring. You will need to order and pay online for your Neutrog and pick it up on the designated date. Graham Wright will no longer have a stock of Neutrog. This means you need to anticipate your needs for the following six months and be prepared to pick up your order on the designated day.

Our roses have a lot to put up with as the weather changes with the seasons. Last year our roses were parched. This year our roses are drowning in the rain. Both weather systems have challenges such as water induced diseases and sun induced burning. This month our cultural notes focus on the fungi diseases that affect our roses. With the El Nina weather system this year, rainfall is significantly increased and the warm, humid weather and cooler nights are ideal for the development of fungi on our roses.



The 'Lamb's Ear' living Christmas trees.

As you would be aware, we were able to meet in October at Macarthur Park albeit with limited numbers. The Macarthur Park meeting was held in fine, balmy weather and it was a great way to restart our meetings again, catch up with fellow rosarians, compare rose notes and to greet old and new friends. I have included some photos from this meeting in this issue of the Rose News and some of our very successful Christmas party that was held fully compliant with COVID restrictions. I have included photos of this event for you all. Special thanks to Maureen Thackery for the many hours she spent making the Christmas trees.

We have been fortunate to recently welcome two new members, Michelle Cooper and Kelly Nicholas. A warm welcome to the Macarthur Rose Society and we look forward to a long association with you both.

Yours in Roses

Judith

Botrytis Many of us will be in the middle of a glorious summer flush of roses brought on by the cooler summer weather. The plentiful rain after last year's long, hot, smoky summer is a lovely change. The combination of gentle rain and warm temperatures greatly encourages our roses to put on their best displays. But no weather conditions are without their downside. The current conditions are ideal for the growth of various fungi.

During continued wet weather Botrytis fungus attacks the flowers and canes of the rose plant. The buds on the infected roses fail to open and may become covered with a greyish brown mould. Infected buds may droop and the smoother slight sunken greyish lesion is found extending from the bottom of the bud down the stem. Botrytis may also attack the stub ends from where the flowers have been cut.



A rose badly affected by

Cut and destroy all infected buds and flowers as soon as the first symptoms of the disease appear. This will help prevent the formation of large numbers of spores, which can be spread via the air currents. Destroy infected plant material in your red garbage bin - not the composting bin.

Prevention of botrytis is reliant on good hygiene in the garden, including ensuring there is good airflow around the roses, removing fallen and infected leaves and blooms from the ground and disinfecting your clippers and/or pruners, with a solution of household bleach (100ml bleach to 1L of water), between cuts to avoid spreading the disease.

A good organic mulch can also prevent the spores from splashing back up onto the leaves. Copper soap fungicides can sometimes be effective at controlling the fungicide but it needs to be applied regularly throughout the growing season. Using fungicides can be most useful and effective if there is a long period of warm, wet weather predicted as we are currently experiencing. Note that fungi can quickly build up resistance to fungicides, so if you choose to use these, they need to be rotated frequently to reduce the opportunity to develop resistance. Eco-fungicide, Wettable Sulphur and Mancozeb Plus used according to the manufacturer's guidelines are a good place to start for fungicides.

In the long run, good garden hygiene remains the best line of overall defence against botrytis. When pruning rose bushes and harvesting your roses, be sure to wipe down your pruners well with disinfectant wipes after pruning each rosebush or plant. This will go a long way towards preventing disease spread from one bush to another.



The characteristic pink spots of botrytis. Although it is most obvious in lighter coloured roses it can impact and attack all roses.

Powdery Mildew

Powdery Mildew is one of the most widely prevalent and serious diseases attacking roses. It develops over a wide range of temperature conditions and it attacks all roses although differences in susceptibility do exist. As with black spot, many of the newer roses are less susceptible to this fungus.

New spring shoots are often infected from over wintering fungus. Rudimentary leaves of buds or inner bud scales may become infected and survive the winter. When the buds develop, the resulting shoots become infected and covered with fungus spores that are then wind borne to healthy new leaves initiating a new disease cycle. Spores that land on the plant surface germinate at once.



Leaves badly infested with powdery mildew

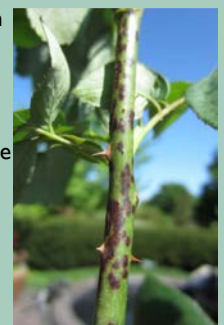
Successive spores develop on the leaf or stem and additional cells are invaded to produce the characteristic powdery appearance. Spores start to germinate in three hours or less, reaching a maximum within 24 hours. The optimal temperatures for germination are from 5°C to 21°C. Germination doesn't usually take place above 30°C. Powdery mildew has the ideal conditions for germination with the nights are cool and damp and the days are warm and have low humidity.

Early symptoms are slightly raised blister like areas on the upper surface of the leaves. A serious infestation causes the leaves to become twisted and distorted and covered with white powdery mildew. Older leaves often do not show damage but may also be infected. The infected tissues are often distorted and growing tips and buds may be killed as a result.

Understanding the conditions that favour the development of powdery mildew and acting before the spores germinate is the best prevention for the development of this fungi. Triforine is a good systemic preventative. Once you spot powdery mildew you should spray with a fungicide such as Wettable Sulphur and Mancozeb Plus, which can both be effective at controlling this fungus. Remember to add a sticking agent such as a small squirt of organic detergent or Eco-oil so that the fungicide sticks. Good garden hygiene is essential.

Rose Canker

Rose Canker otherwise known as die back can affect any part of the rose plant but is usually found on the stems by dead areas known as cankers. Die back (canker) is actually a fungus that gains entry through wounds caused by crossed canes, pruning, cutting flowers etc. The fungus is easily spread as it can be spread by splashing water.



The typical small spots that indicate the start of canker

The cankers start as small yellow to red spots on the bark and gradually increase in size. The main portion of the canker becomes brown and the margins a darker brown. Tissue within the canker dries out and shrinks. The canker can eventually girdle the stem causing the growth above it to wilt and die.



Rose dieback

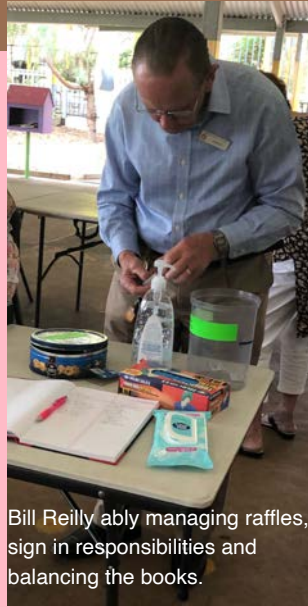
Control consists of good cultural practices and fungicidal sprays. All dead, dying and weak plants should be removed. Care needs to be taken to avoid injury to the plant during planting, pruning and general care as these fungi are wound pathogens. Failing to cut close to the eye on the stem when pruning or cutting causes the stub to die back to the eye and this dead wood favours canker infestation. The fungicides e.g. Mancozeb Plus and Wettable Sulphur, used to control



Christmas Party



Left: Christmas Tree by Maureen Thackeray using Lamb's Ears
Above: Margaret Hudson



Bill Reilly ably managing raffles, sign in responsibilities and balancing the books.



Judy Reilly



June Hickey & Adam Pearce

Below: Maureen and Ian Thackeray
Bottom left: Mary Camilleri and Michelle Cooper our newest Macarthur member (Welcome Michelle)
Right: Janet and Graham Wright enjoying their beautifully prepared Christmas feast.
Bottom Centre: June Head



Chris and Rosalie Vine



Above: Lonny and Bruce Raines
Below: Margaret Hudson with Judy and Bill Reilly enjoying their catch up.



Also present was Maureen Kennedy but I missed getting a photo.



Garden tasks

The end of January is a good time to get back into the garden and start to tidy up the ravages of the heat and humidity. Late January and early February is an ideal time to undertake your summer pruning activities. By this time of the year our roses are starting to become fully blown, bleached and wasted within a couple of days.

Deadheading is essential to remove these old blooms and it is a good opportunity to give a light summer prune. Removing approximately 30% of the bush - the damaged, crossed over or too thin stems - will encourage new leafy growth, help control insect infestations, avoid the development of fungi such as black spot and restore a good shape to the rose bush. It is important to use a good, sharp pair of bypass secateurs that will not damage the stems.

New rose blooms will begin to reappear within 50-60 days depending on the number of petals the rose has - the more petals the longer it takes to re-emerge. Cooler conditions will prevail as the bushes bloom again, usually from late March and continue through April and May. Lower temperatures mean rosebuds open slowly and blooms last longer and have deeper colours. After every pruning operation there are three other vitally important tasks.

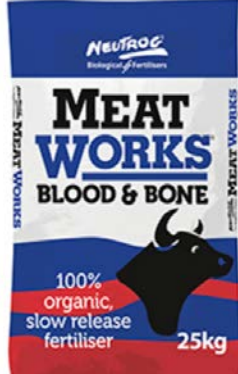
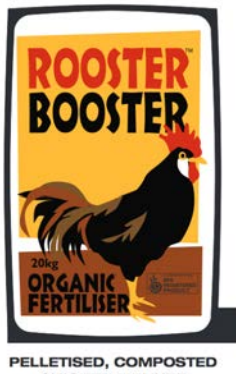
- All pruned material and fallen leaves must be raked up and carted well away.
- Next, give every pruned rose a powerful new start with a deep soaking — preferably using drip irrigation or inverted soaker hoses — making sure the leaves don't stay wet.
- Finally apply a quick-acting liquid fertiliser such as heavily-diluted fish emulsion, followed by a generous sprinkling of a 50-50 mixture of blood and bone and pelletised poultry manure around every rose plant.



Red-Gem (Miniflora)



Ellie (Miniflora)



Little Known Rose facts

Contrary to what is often thought, the scent of a rose does not come from its core but from its petals. In fact, they contain cells that are actual perfume factories, giving off thousands of aromatic compounds with rather cryptic names such as hexanol and eugenol (found in cloves). Geraniol is also found. This compound, which is present in other plants,



Quatre Saisons

mainly basil and the rose geranium, is used for the production of rose-scented products. Wild roses are often fragrant, as are the first hybrid varieties, known as Old Garden Roses or Heirloom Roses. This is not always the case with modern varieties because the hybridisation



Souvenir De La Malmaison



Madam Alfred Carriere

process has often overlooked 'scent'. While it is true that old garden roses have their flaws (they rarely flower more than once a year and are sensitive to disease) almost all provide both visual and olfactory pleasure. This is the case of French or Gallic Roses, and of practically every variety of

moss rose (such as the 'Quatre Saisons'), cabbage rose, Bourbon rose (such as 'Souvenir de la Malmaison') Noisette rose (such as 'Madam Alfred Carriere' and 'Caroline Marniesse') and rugosa roses. (from The

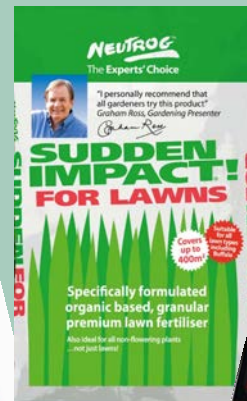


White Dream (Miniflora)

Little Book of Roses by Michel Beavais,).



Magic Carousel (Miniflora)



Meeting at Macarthur Park October 2020



June Head and Mary Cammilleri



Janet Wright and Bob Stibbard



Ian Thackeray, Gloria Forsyth and Maureen Kennedy

This meeting was our first one since the lockdown for Covid 19. Everyone brought along a rose from their garden and gave a short history of the roses they had brought along. An enjoyable and informative way to learn about different types of roses and their habits.



Dublin Bay a hardy and spectacular climbing rose that does well in the Macarthur growing district. Flowers for over nine months.



Maureen Kennedy, Rosalie and Chris Vine



Gary Crawford



Margaret Hudson and Maureen Thackeray



Bruce Rutherford



Lady of Shallot a David Austin rose. This was the rose that Graham and Janet Wright brought to share with us. Graham gave a detailed explanation of why this rose is worthwhile growing and its history in their garden.



Graham Wright

other Events

January BIRTHDAYS

- 5th Anna Hughes
- 6th Betty Grimaldi
- 7th Chris Vine
- 11th Carol McVeigh
- 18th Margaret Appleby
Rosalie Vine
- 23rd Jan Priestly
- 25th Rayleen Quinn
- 29th Greg Priestly



February BIRTHDAYS

- 8th Paula Wardle
- 18th Duncan Greig
- 28th Kelly Greig



Neutrog hint for the Summer: GOGO Juice provides a huge boost of the living microbiology necessary for your soil and plants to perform at their optimum level, increasing their ability to resist pests and disease, and to withstand heat and frost stress. The microbiology in GOGO Juice promotes plant growth as well as stimulating and improving root growth and development.

MEETING DATES FOR OUR DIARIES

Macarthur District Regional Rose Society Meeting Dates for 2021 (subject to Covid-19 restrictions)

The theme for our meetings this year is going to be 'Roses'. Each meeting will focus on different aspects of rose growing and enjoyment of the rose including soil health, displaying roses, different ways to utilise all parts of our roses, showing roses, insecticides and herbicides that can help or hinder our rose growing and finally a celebration of the rose in all its beauty.

13th February

13th March - visit to a spectacular home garden of one of our award winning members

10th April

08th May

12th June (AGM)

10th July

14th August

11th September

09th October

13th November

11th December (Christmas Party)

Note that the Camden Show has been cancelled for this year.

They Royal Sydney Easter Show is going ahead in the first two weeks of April 2021

Contributions

Your contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome. If you have items of interest, including photos, that you may want to share or distribute please send them to:

Judith Carll, Chairperson at Email: macarthurrosesociety@gmail.com, or Tel: 0410 444 562.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held at 2:00pm on 13 February at Elderslie Primary School, 170 Lodges Road, Elderslie.

Monthly Show Bench

There is an opportunity at each meeting to display your roses on the Show Bench. If you come early to the meeting with your roses, there will be a Rose expert available to help you learn to display your roses on the show bench or even how to display them better at home. The monthly show bench is an opportunity share, learn and grow better roses or even just 'smell the roses' at the meeting.

COVID SAFE Our Rose Society operates in a COVID safe way. Hand sanitiser is available. There is sufficient space for us to be able to meet and keep the designated safe distance of two metres from each other. All Welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

