



Macarthur Rose

Newsletter Vol 29, No 4

16 December 2022



Christmas Raffle

One of the lucky winners of our Christmas hampers was unable to claim their prize at the Christmas Party. As many of the tickets did not have phone numbers I have been unable to contact you.

If you have purchased and have the ticket number **Green B12** you have won one of the Christmas Hampers. Please contact me to collect your hamper. Tel: 0410 444 562.

If the hamper is unclaimed before the next meeting on 4th February 2023 we will raffle it again.

Neutrog Shop

The Neutrog shop remains open. The shop is due to close in early February, while the orders are packed and readied for delivery to NSW in early March 2023. You will be advised of the exact date closer to the delivery time.

Once again volunteers will be needed to assist with the distribution of the Neutrog orders. Distribution starts at 8:00am at Smeaton Grange and usually occurs on a Saturday morning.

Your help with lifting orders into cars and trailers would be greatly appreciated by those who are less able to lift and carry bags of fertilisers. Members who order Neutrog are usually keen to pick up their orders and we have completed distribution before 11:00am on other collection days.

Dear Rose Friends

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for your dedicated commitment to the Macarthur Rose Society. While all our volunteers work hard to make the Macarthur Rose Society wonderful, I would particularly like to thank June Hickey for her excellent secretariat and the support she gives to the Rose Society and to Chris Vine for his help with the Neutrog orders every Spring and Autumn under sometimes trying circumstances. Page 5 gives some highlight of 2022.

As we have emerged from the Covid lockdowns we have been subjected to at least three years of uncharacteristic, continuous drenching rain. This has made caring for and growing our roses very challenging. The sustained wet weather over the last three spring/summer seasons has meant that our roses have been invaded by all sorts of fungus including black spot and powdery mildew. At least our water accounts have been greatly reduced!

This month, the cultural notes provide information about the different varieties and some of the classifications of our roses. This may help us as we order our new roses for the winter, bare root season.

On page three, there is a list of the most well known rose growers. Now is the time to order your bare root roses for winter delivery and planting. Many rose growers sell out quickly, so it is worth using the slow Christmas/New Year period to browse and enjoy the roses. Remember as you browse that roses are like chips - one is never enough!

We move to a new venue for our next meeting and a change of week. Details are on page four. Our Christmas event at the Menangle Country Club was very enjoyable allowing us to relax and enjoy each other's company. Graham Wright's Rose Quiz was, as usual, an excellent way to challenge us all. While the numbers of attendees was well down on previous years, we all enjoyed ourselves. Page six and seven show some photos of the event.

Thank you all for your contribution to the Christmas hampers. We were able to raffle three hampers that Janet Wright had packaged up into a festive and beautiful gift for the lucky winners. One winner has not yet been identified. Please see the note on the top left column of this page.

For our members who have been unwell over the last year we wish you a speedy recovery. Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas and a happy New Year for 2023.

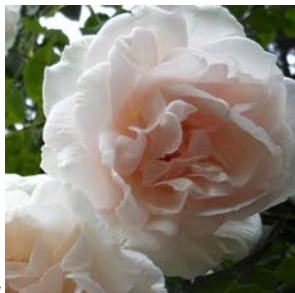
Your in Roses

Judith



Cultural Notes

While there are many varieties of roses, most rose specialists would divide them into three categories: Old Garden Roses, Wild Roses and Modern Roses. Most of what you'll find today in gardens are considered Modern Roses, which were bred to bloom large blooms continuously throughout the season, unlike an Old Garden Rose.



Madame Alfred Carriere

Often referred to as "antique" roses and "historic" roses, the **Old Garden Rose** has been around since before 1867. Double-flower blooms emit a notably strong-scented fragrance, but they only bloom once per season, unlike Modern Roses. Since they are a time-tested variety, Old Garden Roses have evolved with the advantage of being extra hardy and disease-resistant.



Alberta

Modern Roses were bred after 1867, taking the place of heritage Old Garden Roses. There are certain distinctions between the two. Where Old Garden Roses bloom once per year, Modern Roses offer a continuous bloom, as well as a larger bloom size. Florists and homeowners love Modern Roses for their longer vase life, too. The only disadvantage to these Modern Roses is that they often lack a robust heady fragrance and have traditionally been less hardy and disease-resistant. This is changing somewhat with new breeding techniques and our deepening knowledge of genetics.



Pope John Paul II

Miniature and miniflora roses are a form of the hybrid tea or grandiflora rose. They are typically shorter and more compact. Miniature roses can grow anywhere between 40–70cm.



Ellie

A miniflora rose offers intermediate-sized blooms closer to the size of a floribunda and can grow to 1m.

Modern Roses

Climbing roses are not a class, but more of a description. In other words, you may find grandiflora or floribunda climbing roses. Despite the name, climbing roses can't climb as efficiently as vines.

Also referred to as 'rambling' roses, they have sturdy and upright (sometimes arching) canes, which can be trained when provided support.

However, these canes can grow up to five metres and can reach great heights along a trellis wall, garden fences and arbors and pergolas. In

general, climbing roses tend to produce more flowers when grown horizontally rather than vertically like most rose varieties. Producing large blooms, almost all climbing roses are repeat bloomers.



Graham Thomas

Hybrid Tea Roses are one of the most popular

classes of roses, and it's not hard to understand why. With bountiful, ornate blooms that sprout from long stems and reach anywhere from 30-50 petals, the hybrid tea rose creates a dazzling display in any garden. And horticulturists have had quite the field day with them, breeding thousands of hybrid varieties. Outdated hybrids make way for the new on a constant basis.



Moonstone

Grandiflora Roses are regarded as a subgroup class of hybrid tea roses with floribunda features. The grandiflora rose was created in the last century. The perfect combination between the two, grandifloras present elegant showy blooms that appear in clusters like the hybrid tea rose, and a constant growth cycle like that of the floribunda. Each cluster also consists of three to five blooms. Overall, their shrubs are larger and stand taller than hybrid teas. While not as popular as its close cousins, the grandiflora is still quite hardy and vigorous



Queen Elizabeth

Floribunda roses are similar to grandifloras. A

floribunda rose presents a large cluster of flowers. With a continuous bloom, it will last much longer than the six- to seven-week cycle of hybrid tea roses or grandiflora roses.

Floribundas are also much easier to care for and offer practically a hands-free experience.



Elizabeth of Glamis

Tasks for Summer

As Spring turns to summer our gardens will begin to enter suffer from **heat stress and will need extra watering** and care. Top up your mulch to help keep the soil cool and the moisture in. Dead head to encourage new growth and feed your roses some liquid fertiliser to help them through the heat of summer.

Mid to late January is a good time to undertake a **light summer prune**. This means trimming off any die back, trimming away spindly little stems less than pencil thickness and opening up the centre if possible. A good guide is to trim approximately one third off the top of the rose bush to encourage the growth to be compact and strong.

Our current conditions of **warmer days and very cool nights** are ideal conditions for powdery mildew and black spot to appear. These fungi eventually weaken our roses and they produce smaller and less robust blooms.

If you use Eco-Oil to control fungi and insects at this time of the year remember to dilute it to approximately half to one third of the recommended rate. This will help to avoid burning your leaves and stems while retaining the benefits of using Eco-oil.

Remember to **keep up your spray regime** as the hot dryer weather that is predicted for January brings the thrips and the red spider mites to chew on our leaves and blooms.

Watering is essential at this time of the year as the weather warms. Remember that it is better to hydrate the roots rather than the leaves and blooms and only water in the cooler parts of the day. Early morning is the ideal time as the leaves have a chance to dry during the course of the day rather than risking them staying wet overnight and encouraging fungus development.



Photo above: Evelyn Fison (floribunda) Graham and Janet Wright have won five championships that included this rose. It is a solid, reliable rose.

Rose Growers

The start of summer is also the time when we start to think about what roses are performing well and what needs replacing or renewing in the garden.

It is also the time we start to think about new roses. What has come onto the market and what would be a good rose for a particular spot. Pouring over catalogues and websites to find new roses and the best deals are an enjoyable way to spend that post Christmas slow down period.

All the major rose growers have their online shops open now. It is best to buy early because many of them run out of stock early in the year. Ordering now will ensure your delivery of bare root roses in mid winter.

Some of the well known rose growers are these ones below. It is not an exclusive list but will get you started.

Treloars - <https://www.treloarroses.com.au>

They are a large, generalised rose grower who have traditionally supplied strong and healthy bare root roses. In recent times, they have come in for some criticism about quality of their roses but its worth browsing their comprehensive website. They have great information available, prices are competitive and customer service is excellent.

Ross Roses - <https://rossroses.com.au>

One of Australia's oldest specialist rose nurseries based in South Australia. One of the few nurseries that sell 'own root' roses.

Wagner's Roses www.wagnersrosenursery.com.au

One of the largest and longest running rose nurseries based in South Australia. They have quite late delivery into NSW with roses often not being delivered until late August.

Swanes - www.swanes.com/shop/

A well known Sydney rose grower based in Dural. While not as specialist as they used to be, it is worth a visit to their gardens in Dural to walk around their rose garden and purchase inside.

Green E Roses - www.greeneroses.com.au

Just down the road from Swane's nursery in Dural they have a wide variety of roses and grow without the use of any pesticides or insecticides.

Rankins Roses- www.rankinsroses.com.au

Rankins specialise in Delbard roses, which have mixed success in NSW. Worth a browse of their website.

Reliable Roses - www.reliableroses.com.au

Specialist growers of species and historic roses.

Knights Roses - www.knightsroses.com.au

Are a long established rose breeder based in South Australia. They sell a good range of Australian bred roses and have recently updated their web site making it much easier to shop. However their delivery times for NSW is late August. Depending on the weather, August can be a bit late for us.

Meetings in 2023

2022 brings to an end our long association with Elderslie Public School. During the year we made the decision to change our meeting place from Elderslie Public School to the CWA Hall in Camden. The CWA hall has good access to water, a functioning kitchen and the disabled access is greatly improved.

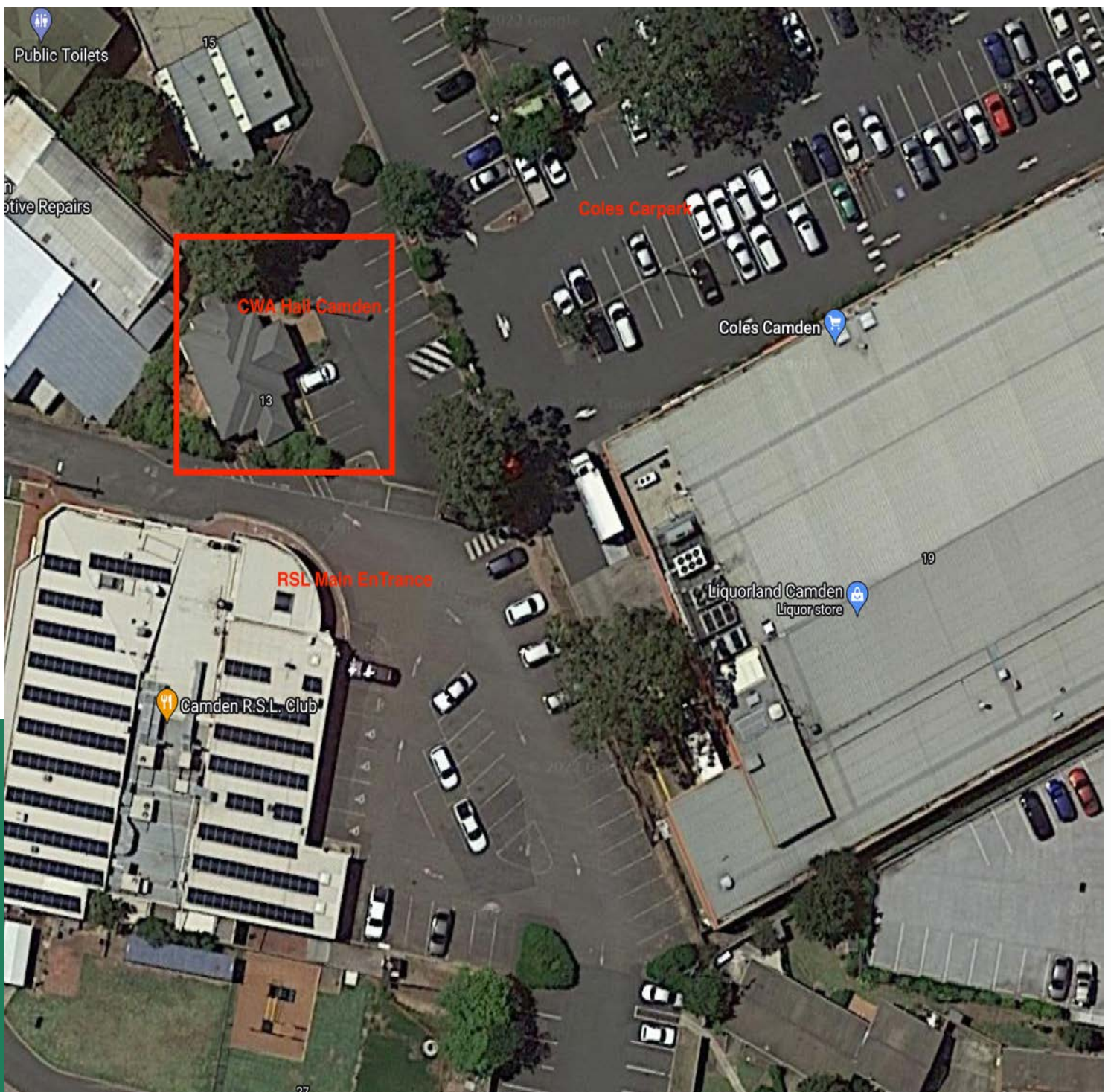
The change of venue also means that we have to change when we meet. In future our meetings will occur on the **first Saturday of each month at 2:00pm**. Our first meeting in the new venue will be on **Saturday 4th February**.

The new venue can be accessed through the Coles Camden carpark either as a pedestrian or with a vehicle.

Coles Camden is at 19 Murray Street, Camden. Alternatively the carpark of the CWA can be accessed from the first roundabout on Cawdor Road opposite the Camden Bowling and Sports Club.

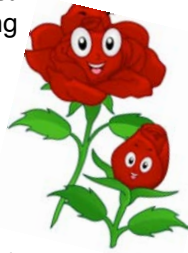
The CWA is a heritage home that reflects the warmth and skills of the CWA membership. A map will be sent to you all in late January to assist you to find your way for our first meeting at the new venue.

The photo below shows a rooftop view of the Coles carpark and the positioning of the CWA rooms, which are detailed in the red square.



2022 Highlights

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for being part of the Rose Society. Over the last twelve months we have been busy emerging from Covid lockdowns and establishing our monthly meeting schedule.



Unfortunately, we have not been in a position to hold any rose shows over the last year, but we are well prepared to change this in 2023. Despite not holding our usual Autumn and Spring Shows, Ian and Maureen Thackeray have represented us well at other regional shows. In particular, at the Royal Easter Show and the National Rose Show in Kiama.

The Kiama National Rose Show was finally held in Kiama in May 2022. Despite the drenching rain, cold weather and end of season doldrums, the NSW Regional Rose Societies including Macarthur were well represented.

The restarting of our monthly bench competition in October

shows that we are at long last emerging from the Covid disruptions. The monthly exhibition helps us all to learn more about rose exhibiting. It is an absolute delight that so many of you are bringing along your roses to share and exhibit. We all learn in this way and our meetings now pop with colour and beauty as we bask in the roses. We should all consider the monthly show bench as great practice for an entry to the Camden Show which will be held in early April 2023. The expert help of Graham and Janet Wright and Rosalie Vine to help with staging and judging the roses and providing Rose Doctor advice is invaluable to us all.



Photo above: Glorious (Hybrid Tea) a show bench winner that holds its colour and shape

Our annual general meeting was held prior to the June meeting. Many of you volunteered to take up roles and responsibilities. Your willingness to do so is greatly appreciated by all our members.



The winter pruning visit to the garden of Mrs Irene Vitocco in July was appreciated by all the members who attended. The knowledge shared about how to prune and care for our roses in winter was greatly appreciated. We look forward to our next visit in March 2023.



Once again, we held a Bunnings BBQ to raise funds to support the International Rose Convention and National Rose Show that was held in Adelaide in October 2022. While the Bunnings BBQ events require substantial organization and volunteer effort, they also provide wonderful opportunities and demonstrate the unexpected skills and delights of our fellow rosarians.

The volunteer efforts of so many of our members was greatly appreciated particularly Kathy Mena who must be one of the most successful BBQ sausage chefs many of us have encountered. Not once did the BBQ run out of cooked sausages under Kathy's skilled stewardship. We are in awe!

In August we welcomed Judith Collins a nationally known expert on Companion Planting. This was a lively and very informative talk for us all. June Hickey's summary of the talk was excellent.

The International Convention and National Rose Show was greatly anticipated after being delayed due to Covid restrictions. Macarthur was well represented at the Convention. Those who attended were able to visit some spectacular private and public rose gardens, listen to learned rosarians and socialize with so many Australian and International rosarians. The Macarthur members particularly enjoyed meeting with the Graham and Janet Wright's guest from Ukraine who the Wrights met at a previous Convention in Europe. Proving once again that rose growing fosters friendships all over the world.

After a 14 year association with the Elderslie Public School, we have decided to move our regular meetings to a new venue. The school has been an ideal meeting place for many years. However the new security arrangements have made access increasingly difficult. Our new meeting place at the CWA Hall in Camden will resolve many of the access issues.



2022 Christmas



2022 Christmas



Birthdays

December Birthdays

2nd Kim Baker
14th Gary Crawford
23rd Sheryl Shaw



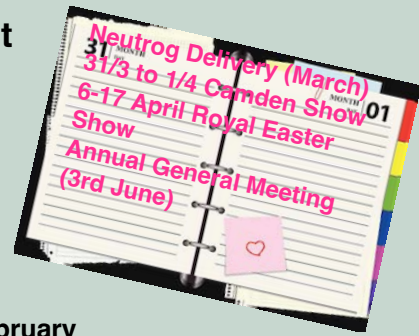
January Birthdays

7th Chris Vine
18th Margaret Appleby
Rosalie Vine
23rd Jan Priestly
25th Realeen Quinn
29th Greg Priestly



MEETING DATES 2023

Macarthur District
Regional Rose
Society Meeting
Dates for 2022
(subject to Covid-19
restrictions)



4th February
4th March
1st April
6th May
3rd June (AGM)
1st July
5th August
2nd September
7th October
4th November
2nd December (Christmas Party)

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.

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.

