



Macarthur Rose

Newsletter Vol 28, No 4

06 February 2022



Neutrog Orders

The cut off date for ordering Neutrog is 7th February 2022.

At this stage, it is anticipated that the Neutrog delivery will arrive in Sydney sometime towards the end of February or early March. This is entirely dependent on the current delivery challenges that are affecting all goods and services across Australia.

We also have a new pick up address for your Neutrog delivery. Chris Vine has kindly volunteered some warehouse space in Smeaton Grange. The new pick up address is:

**Unit 4
1 Samantha Place
SMEATON GRANGE 2567**

Please ensure that you have the time available to pick up your order on the designated date.

If you are a new member and/or have not ordered Neutrog previously, please contact me so that I can arrange your logon details with Neutrog. I can be contacted on: 0410 444 562 or at macarthurrosesociety@gmail.com.

See page 3 for the free offer!

NEUTROG™
The Experts' Choice
Rose Society members recommend
Sudden Impact for Roses

Dear Rose Friends

Happy New Year! I hope the new year finds you all well and enjoying your roses. Hopefully, 2022 will be a productive rose year without too many interruptions from the wretched pandemic.

Our first meeting for the year will be at 2:00pm on Saturday 12 February, at Elderslie Public School, Lodges Road Elderslie. All are welcome.

We finished the 2021 year on a high note at our Christmas Party where one of our long standing members, Margaret Appleby was awarded the Bert Mulley Award for her outstanding services to the Rose Society over an extended period of time. Colin Hollis, the President of the NSW Rose Society presented Margaret with this prestigious award at our Christmas lunch. Margaret is a well deserved recipient of this award as her commitment and passion in promoting the aims of the Rose Society have been hallmarks of her long membership.

Since we last met at our December Christmas lunch we have unfortunately lost one of our members. It is with sadness that I must advise that Gloria Forsyth, one of our most loyal and valued members passed away just before Christmas after a short illness. There is a short tribute to Gloria on Page 6 of this newsletter.



By now, you will have all received your voting papers for the President of the NSW Rose Society. I urge you all to vote and carefully consider re-appointing Colin Hollis who has served us all well. The other nominee has not been entirely frank and due to his serious chronic illness will be unable to attend any public events if voted in as President.

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel both our autumn show with Ingleburn Garden and Horticultural Society and our publicity event with Bunnings on 14 February. After due consideration, both the Ingleburn office holders and Macarthur office holders decided that the exposures to Covid 19 make it unviable for us to ask people to volunteer at both events.

I encourage you all to participate in the Camden Show, which will have strict Covid 19 management processes in place. It is a great opportunity and ideal show for new exhibitors to begin their journey showing roses.

Yours in Roses

Judith

Gloria Forsyth



Gloria Forsyth passed away on 24th December 2021 at Campbelltown Hospital after a short illness. Gloria had been an enthusiastic member of the Macarthur Rose Society for several years. She was a dedicated rose grower and a dignified and kind person who attended every meeting possible, volunteered for every task and at every event where volunteers were called. Gloria was a valued, well liked and committed Rose Society member. She made new members feel comfortable and befriended people new to the area. She always went out of her way for others.

We were honoured to be asked by Gloria's family to contribute a floral tribute for Gloria's casket. I am grateful to Margaret Appleby and Maureen Thackeray who contributed roses and a substantial amount of time and effort to create the beautiful Macarthur rose tribute for Gloria. A photo of the finished tribute is below.

Gloria's family (her daughters and son) were overwhelmed at the effort Macarthur (Margaret and Maureen) had made to honour Gloria. In appreciation, they have made a substantial donation to honour Gloria with a special afternoon tea. This will be held at our March meeting. As usual, all are welcome. Gloria will be missed. Vale Gloria and thank you for your presence over the last few years. We were lucky to have you as a fellow rosarian.

Photo Left: Gloria at our 2019 Christmas Party engrossed in completing the annual Rose Quiz.



Above: Gloria at our October 2020 meeting at Macarthur Park. Our first meeting after the 2020 lockdown. As usual Gloria arrived ready to share her roses and friendship. Maureen Kennedy to the right Gloria and Ian Thackeray sitting at left.



Summer Pruning

The summer flush of roses is beginning to ease and it is now time to lavish a little extra care on the roses to get an abundant repeat display in the autumn months. Summer rose bush trimming consists of deadheading, removing dead wood, and shaping the bush. This trimming will kick start a new phase of flowering growth during February and March, which culminates in a host of flowers around April tapering off during May and into early June.

Hygiene

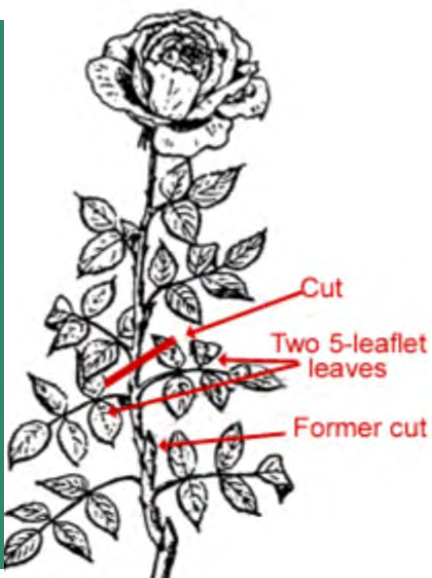
Combine 1 part bleach for every 10 parts water in a clean bucket to create a diluted sanitising solution for your pruners. Dip your pruners into the bleach solution before using them and after trimming each rose shrub to prevent spreading diseases among your roses.

What to prune

Cut dead and spent blooms from the plant with hand pruners at a 45-degree angle 1/2 cm above where the stem of the flower meets a side branch with at least five leaves. Using an angled cut allows water to run off the cut surface instead of collecting.

Follow each stem down until you find a good growth eye, fairly low down, pointing in an outward direction. Cut the stem about 1/2cm above the bud. Where there is some new growth, which may vary from 2.5cm or so in length to longer growths with small buds, it is necessary to prune below this new growth to an eye lower on the stem.

Remove any dead, dying or branches that rub against each other by cutting at a 45-degree angle on each branch. Cut off suckers that appear below the graft on the rose bush at the base to prevent these non-flowering portions from drawing energy away from the flowering stems.



Deadheading

Dead-heading is the removal of faded flowers before they can develop seed. It is a form of summer or day-to-day pruning and helps to maintain hygiene and new growth.

The standard recommendation is to cut the flower stem back to an outward-facing bud above a five-leaflet or seven-leaflet leaf.

How much to prune

Cut up to one-third off the top of the bush to reduce its size and improve its shape. Remove tall branches that extend above the desired height or profile of the shrub by cutting them off at an angle. Try not to remove more than one-third of the bush as you will reduce the bud return and bloom opportunities.

Remove any diseased leaves

The wet weather has ensured that fungal diseases are having a ball in our gardens. Spray with a good fungicide such as Eco-Fungicide or Mancozeb Plus to keep the fungal diseases under control. If whole stems are smothered in diseased foliage, prune them out, cutting back to lower than you would if just summer pruning. Dispose of clippings to avoid the transfer diseases, fungi and insects that can harbor in the leaf litter.

Fertilise the roses

Apply a generous helping of rose fertiliser such as *Sudden Impact for Roses* around each plant and stir into the soil surface using a hoe or long-handled fork. The plants will have used essential nutrients to produce the Spring and Summer season growth and blooms and these need to be replenished. You could also apply a watering can full of a fertiliser that is rich in nitrogen and potash such as *GoGo Juice*. Roses thrive when they have a good source of nitrogen and potash.



Water rose roots

Continue to keep the roots of the roses watered adequately as roses especially love to be watered after being fed. Roses dislike a lot of rain fall on the buds and blooms but love water at the roots. Excessively dry soil leaves roses more susceptible to disease, especially mildew.

Remove diseased roses

My last tip may seem extreme. If it has generally been a good rose season, and despite your best efforts you've got a rose that fails to perform, always gets disease and grows weakly, now is the time to get rid of it. Many modern varieties of hybrid tea and floribunda roses are far more disease resistant and reliable. You could do better, and keeping a poor rose like this in the garden just increases the risk of spread of disease to other normally healthy plants. It will also give you the opportunity to start to repair and rejuvenate the soil for new planting in the winter.

Old shrub roses

Not all roses repeat flower in the same season. Those described as summer flowering, mostly the old shrub roses, have one main crop of flowers from early to midsummer. These will still benefit from feeding, watering, dead-heading and light summer pruning to build strong growth for the following season.

Neutrog Update

Free POPUL8

Neutrog recently advised that they are excited to announce the launch of another new product POPUL8™. It is now being offered exclusively to Rose Societies for trial.

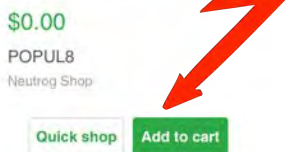
This launch follows years of collecting soil samples from across Australia, laboratory work in isolating and identifying individual beneficial bacteria and fungi, product development, innovation in manufacturing, and trials in botanic gardens and commercial operations.

POPUL8 is Neutrog's most advanced biological product to date. The trials that have been done have shown spectacular results in improving the condition of sick plants but also in overall growth and vigour. One trial in particular, at Freshwater Farms in NSW was discussed on The Garden Clinic with Graham Ross.

As a Macarthur Rose Society member who purchases Neutrog through their online store, we form an integral piece of Neutrog's extended team. To thank us for the role we play in testing their products, giving feedback and sharing our gardening experiences with friends and family Neutrog are offering us all a 1 Litre bottle of POPUL8.

POPUL8, is particularly worth applying if you have a plant or area that is not growing to its full potential or appears to be suffering from stress.

To receive your free bottle of POPUL8, logon to your Macarthur Neutrog account by and select 'Add to cart' against POPUL8. Note the cost is \$0.00 and it will be included with your order to be delivered in February. Only one bottle of POPUL8 is available per customer.



NSW Rose Society State Council nominations

Recently you received voting forms for the President of the NSW Rose Society State Council. Your vote is due before **7th February** and can be sent via email to rsnswsecretary@gmail.com. I am urging you to exercise your vote for the President and strongly recommend that you place your vote with **Colin Hollis**.

The State Council it is an important part of the Macarthur Rose Society. Participating in the State Council structure offers Macarthur administrative support such as insurance cover, recognition, training and accreditation of Judges for Rose Shows (an important aspect that contributes to better rose growing), provides an umbrella organisation for coordinating and setting rules for rose shows, fee setting and national recognition with a united NSW voice.

Many of you will be familiar with Colin Hollis who has tirelessly worked to raise the profile of the NSW Rose Society. He has been a guest at Macarthur meetings many times, most recently at our Christmas Party.

During Colin's tenure as President, he has substantially increased memberships, established three new regions in NSW and visits all the regions regularly. He promotes the Rose Society at many gardening events such as the Rare Plants Fair and the Royal Easter Show and generally conducts the State Council with integrity and commitment.

Unfortunately the other candidate has not been completely open and clear in their bid for nomination. Doug Hayne is keen to move all the State Council business online and to conduct its business electronically as his chronic illness does not allow him to be out in public places.

While Doug's intention to modernise many aspects of the Rose Society administration is admirable and necessary in the medium to long term, the actual canvassing for new members, representing NSW effectively and raising the profile of the Rose Society in the community more broadly cannot be done solely through electronic means.

This approach will substantially impact many of our long term members. Especially those who live in areas with difficult internet connections.

A physical presence is also required to manage and interact with the various NSW regions and maintain harmony and coordination between the various regions.

I recommend Colin Hollis as he can offer a far more engaged President to promote the Rose Society. I have attached the voting paper. Please contact me on M: 0410 444 562, if you do not know your Rose Society membership number. Voting is completely anonymous.



Lady of Australia

Visit to Government House

For several years the President of the NSW Rose Society of NSW, Colin Hollis has been working with Wagners Rose Nursery, the National Rose Society and Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley the wife of the Australian Governor General, to identify a special rose.

Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley has been particularly keen to obtain a rose to honour the Wives of the Governor Generals of Australia. Mrs Hurley had noticed when her husband was the Governor of NSW, that there was nothing on the grounds or house that indicated any of the wives had lived there. She felt that there needed to be some recognition of the important role played by the wives. A rose seemed the perfect thing as they symbolise love, devotion and peace.

The National Rose Society of Australia and Colin Hollis helped make this happen. The selected rose is a yellow floribunda bred by Bruce Brundrett. The rose was awarded a Gold Medal from the National Trial Gardens Adelaide in 2018, It was also awarded the best Floribunda Rose and the best Australian bred Rose as well as receiving an award for the most pest and disease tolerant rose of the year and it has a strong fragrance.

Colin and his partner Gordon travelled to Canberra in May 2021 to plant a bed of the Rose in the expectation it would be in bloom for the Spring launch.

Colin has also planted eight of the roses in Peace Park Kiama, which have been blooming throughout the season. When making plans to attend the National Rose Show at Kiama at the end of April, it is worthwhile making the time to visit the Peace Park at Kiama to view the roses.

The *Lady of Australia Rose* (below) was launched at Government House Canberra on 11 November 2021 by Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley.



Several Macarthur members were invited to participate in the launch and some photos of the event are below and on the next page. It was a beautiful, sunny day for the launch of this special rose despite heavy rain in the weeks preceding the launch.

Proceeds from the sale of this rose will go to the War Australian War Widows, an organisation that supports and honours women who stood alongside men who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Lady of Australia Rose can be purchased from Wagners Rose Nursery.



Above: Colin Hollis and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley launching the Lady of Australia rose.

Below: Ian Thackeray, Judith Carlil and Maureen Thackeray



Lady of Australia



His Excellency, the Governor General Peter Hurley and Her Excellency, Mrs Hurley with Mr Bruce Brundett the rose breeder.

Congratulations Margaret Appleby OAM

Macarthur Region was delighted to welcome Colin Hollis to our Christmas Party to announce the winner of the 2021 Bert Mulley Award. Margaret Appleby, OAM was the well deserved winner and she has been a long standing Macarthur Rose Society member.

The Bert Mulley Award is the highest award offered to members of the Rose Society.

Roses are one of Margaret's passions and this is reflected in her continuous 30 year membership and contributions to the Macarthur Region and the Rose Society of NSW. Margaret has always actively promoted the rose and the aims of the Rose Society.

As the Chief Executive Office of Lifeline Macarthur, Margaret established the Rose Foundation training workshops to help reduce the stigma associated with mental health and how people deal with life threatening depression. She is nationally and internationally recognised as a suicide prevention expert and has been awarded the Order of Australia for this work.

Margaret was quoted in the book by Margaret Carroll 'Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives' as saying that her own respite and therapy is growing roses. Furthermore, her recipe for rose growing is 'plenty of water, plenty of fertiliser and give them away to bring happiness to others'. True to this recipe, Margaret has always given roses gladly and willing whenever a need is expressed, bringing a sense of happiness and wellbeing to people through her roses

Amidst these heavy commitments in suicide prevention, Margaret has always found time to engage with her love of the rose and to foster the aims of the Rose Society.

Margaret fosters a love of the rose by supporting the Rose Society, hosting rose lovers at her garden to share, enjoy and learn about roses. She has hosted the television show *Better Homes and Gardens*, to promote the rose across Australia. Margaret also found time among her many commitments to Lifeline Macarthur to hold the position of Editor of the NSW Rose Journal for four years from 1999 to 2003.

Over many years she has generously given away buckets of roses and was recently heard saying that she aims to give away at least 1,000 buckets of roses each growing season. These roses are donated to local schools and charities, her sons' work colleagues and is always a reliable 'go to' when roses are needed for rose talks, demonstrations and fund raising activities. The generous contribution of her roses has helped ensure the success of many of our rose shows and other events.

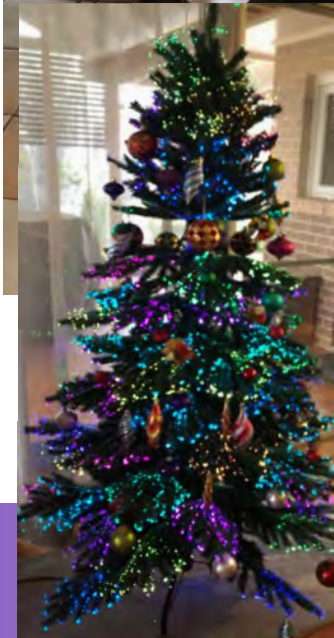
Margaret has also used her rose knowledge and educator skills to gently nurture the love of the rose among friends and acquaintances. She has helped them establish rose gardens of their own, assisting with suitable rose selection, providing ongoing advice and care and signing them up to Rose Society membership.

In these challenging times of the pandemic of Covid19, which has impacted the mental health of so many, it is appropriate that we recognise one of our favourite rosarians. Margaret has contributed so much, and continues to do so throughout the pandemic, through intuitive conversations and the constant sharing of her roses to promote better mental health. She continues to share her love of roses, and her roses, with the broader community to bring a sense of happiness and well being to the community with her roses and is a worthy recipient of the Bert Mulley Award 2021.

Margaret has a beautiful garden of roses that she maintains by "having good soil and always looking after the soil".



Christmas 2021



Visit to Nola Tegel's Garden



Prior to our Christmas Party in December, several of us took up the offer from long term member Mrs Nola Tegel to tour her garden and art gallery studio. Mark McKenzie, the gardener, gave us an informed and interesting tour of the garden. We were also delighted to welcome one of our newest members Helen Fahey to both the garden tour and the subsequent Christmas Party. The photos were taken by Roslyn Tildsley and show parts of the garden tour. It was informative to hear about the challenges and solutions to maintaining a large landscape garden. **Photos:** Roslyn Tildsley



Other Events

January Birthdays

18th *Margaret Appleby*

Rosalie Vine

23rd *Jan Priestly*

25th *Raeleen Quinn*

29th *Greg Priestly*



February Birthdays

8th *Paula Wardle*

14th *Helen McCormack*



MEETING DATES FOR OUR DIARIES



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

12th February Macarthur Regional Monthly meeting.

2nd March Royal Easter Show entries close

12th March Macarthur Regional monthly meeting

1st April The Camden Show

9th April Macarthur Regional monthly meeting

10-18th April Sydney Royal Flower and Garden Show

30th April - 2nd May

Kiama National Rose Show and Convention

14th May - Macarthur Regional monthly meeting

11th June - Macarthur Regional AGM, June meeting

9th July - Macarthur Regional monthly meeting

13th August - Macarthur Regional monthly meeting

10th September - Macarthur Regional monthly meeting

10th -30th October

International Convention Pre and Post Tours of NSW and the International Rose Convention and Rose Show in Adelaide.

12th November - Macarthur Regional monthly meeting

10th 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.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held at 2:00pm on 12 February at Elderslie Primary School, 170 Lodges Road, Elderslie.

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.