



# Macarthur Rose Newsletter


Vol 50, No: 1, July 2022




## Membership

A reminder that our membership renewals are due on 30 June 2023. The renewals can be paid at any time from now until the end of June.

There are several ways to pay your membership. You can:


 Pay directly at a meeting. Bring along your money and make the payment to our Subscription Secretary Maureen Thackeray.

 Make a bank transfer from your bank account directly to the NSW Rose Society bank account. The bank details are:

**BSB:** 012 429

**Account:** 2784 41863

**References:** Your Initial, Last Name, Region (Macarthur) Membership Number.

 Make a direct deposit at an ANZ branch using the above BSB and Account number.

**NOTE:** If you choose to bank your renewal in person at a branch you will need to use your membership number as a reference. The NSW Rose Society has over 700 members and your membership number is essential to distinguish your payment.

Membership Fees are:  
Single: **\$40**  
Dual: **\$45** (Two members/per household)  
Junior: **\$5** (under 18)  
Associate: **\$40** (e.g. a local business).

We look forward to you continuing your Rose Society membership.

## Dear *Rose Friends*

Winter has arrived with the cold frosty mornings, cool, sunny days and a general slow down in the garden. Despite the growth slowing, there is a lot to do in the rose garden this month. Planting out, pruning, cleaning up and generally preparing the garden for spring.

This month our meeting will be busy with celebrations. We have some special events for our members including the announcement of the show bench winner for the 2022/23 growing season. So many of you have contributed and displayed roses that the competition will be strong.

The Neutrog online shop remains open for ordering. The shop will close in early August so now is the time to think proactively and prepare for your Spring Neutrog order. If you are a new member and not yet been signed up for the Neutrog online shop and our special deals, please speak to me directly so that I can organise your access.

Our cultural notes this month reminds us of the many resources that are available to members of the Rose Society. Graham reminds us to immerse ourselves in the history of the rose and breeder approaches to rose cultivation. Our centenary book, which is available on the NSW Rose website, has substantial information about rose growing and rose breeding in NSW over the last 100 years that is useful for us all.

Congratulations to Judith Oysten who was announced as the recipient of an OAM in the recent King's Honours list. Judith has been a Macarthur member for many years, was the editor of the Centenary book (at right) and a driving force behind the Rookwood Cemetery heritage rose recovery and restorations. Judith's service to all aspects of the Rose over many decades has been outstanding and her honour's award is richly deserved.

Our new roses are starting to arrive via the post or arrive in the local nurseries. Unpacking parcels of roses that we ordered way back in January and February can bring a few surprises. We are reminded (or not) of what we were thinking about for the garden in summer. Sometimes it is not the same as when the new roses arrive but it is all part of the enjoyment of our roses. There is a series of photos and information about planting bare root roses on pages 3-5. Treloars Roses provided this information and it is available on their website.

Our memberships are due. If you have already paid, THANK YOU for rejoining the Rose Society. We look forward to talking, learning and displaying our roses with you over the next year.

Yours in Roses

*Judith*

*The Rose Society  
of New South Wales Inc.  
Centenary*

*1913-2013*



## July Cultural Notes

Here we are in the depths of Winter but there is still plenty to think about with the roses and the Rose Society. The enthusiasm shown at our AGM is very encouraging. We are seeing the infusion of new members with new ideas combined with the never ending efforts of our long standing members. We see a combination of people with decades of rose experience together with those starting their rose journeys.

Continuing with that theme we can all benefit from immersing ourselves in Rose Society history, the backgrounds of rose breeders and different views on culture. The similarities and differences in rose growing are interesting to compare from the early years of last century. Most notable are the measures for treating pests and diseases. Even as late as the years following WWII the use of highly toxic chemicals was common. Not only were these damaging the environment but also harming gardeners. They may have given a quick fix to problems but they remained in the soil or waterways. Unfortunately people did not take precautions when spraying and in some cases absorption into the body took place. The actual spraying equipment from those times was very basic and exposed the operator. Today we are so fortunate to have the plastic pressure units which go from the basic 5 litre versions to 20 or more.

Companies spent large amounts of money encouraging us to buy dangerous materials such as DDT and this was just one of many. Certainly in my father's times it was common to mix these often with bare hands and without a mask. *Cont...*

*...Cont*

One local story which I can relate involved Flora International. The most recent management of the company (which is now under housing development) reverted to hydroponic cultivation of roses for their big commercial operation. This proved to be very successful. Previously the growers had used a chemical mix which produced results for a while but ultimately the soil "rebelled". I used to give my roses a matchbox full of this fertiliser each month and on reflection I feel that there was a build up of salt-like compounds.

We are much better placed now. In the last 20-30 years we have had access to Organic Crop Protectants (OCP). Products such as EcoOil, EcoCarb, etc have been developed from naturally occurring materials and hence are better for us and our plants. Often their success comes from actually smothering the spores or insects.

Our relationship with Neutrog has in my thinking revolutionised the way that we can grow our roses. This is particularly so now that there are so many products within their range. Whilst Sudden Impact for Roses is the standard fare it can be supplemented with various other Neutrog fertilisers and additives in solid or liquid forms. I have always felt that plants benefit from a varied diet just as we do. There are numerous other products on the shelves in nurseries, some of them very similar to those mentioned above. However, the discounts which we receive through the online Neutrog shop soon pay for our yearly Rose Society membership.

With the shorter days we perhaps have more time to read. There are numerous good rose books available. I encourage you to make full use of our library. It is a big task for our librarian to lug the books in each month so make the most of it. Our thanks to Sheryle and now Helen for helping in that area. This prompts me to make the suggestion that if usage increases we could spend some of our built up funds on new rose books.

In terms of action in the garden at the moment I would summarise by saying we could: give some stimulation with Seamungus, keep on top of weeds, make sure that plants have sufficient water, cut out any dead wood in preparation for pruning late this month or early August and service garden tools and spraying equipment.

Might I suggest that, in our cultural section at our coming meeting, as a group sharing exercise, we could compile lists of the top roses in each section. For example: What are the 10 best Floribundas?

Plenty to celebrate at our next meeting.

Best wishes to all Rosarians,

*Graham.*



# Planting Bare Root Roses from Treloar Roses



**Step 1:** Soak your roses for approximately 24-36 hours in a bucket of water with a small amount of liquid Seamungus



**Step 2:** Dig a hole approximately 30cms wide and deep. Loosen the soil at the bottom of the hole.



**Step 3:** Sprinkle some Seamungus into the bottom of the hole.



**Step 4:** Add some soil to cover the Seamungus creating a mound.



**Step 5:** Take the bare root rose and trim the roots. Leave fine hair roots but trim any damaged roots or any that are so long they will not fit in the hole without bending.



**Step 6:** Position the rose on top of the mound with the roots spread around and down.

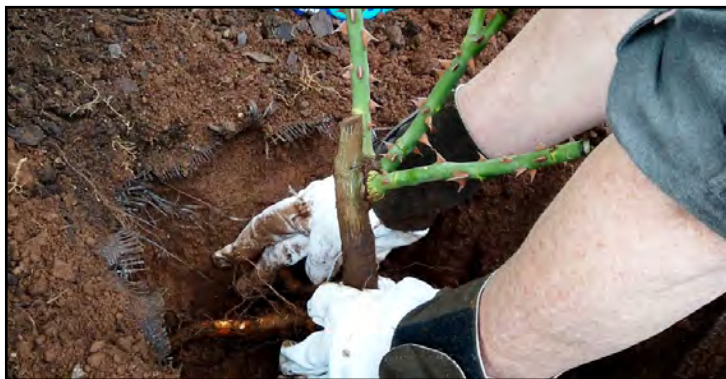


**Step 7:** Use a stick to ensure the soil mark on the rose stem is level with the ground. The graft should sit approximately 2.5cm above the stick.

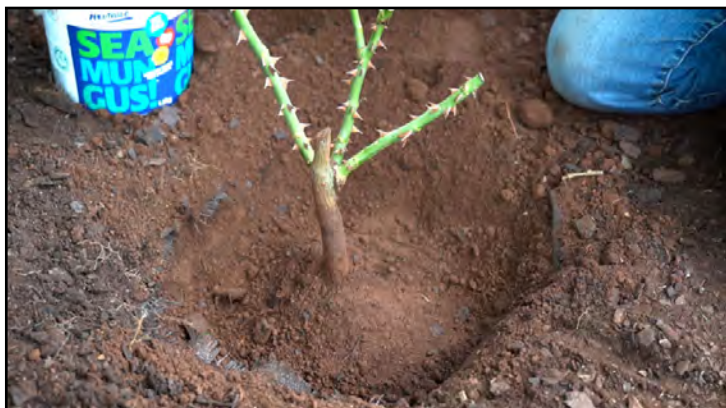


**Step 8:** If using, sprinkle Mycorrhizal Fungi (Mico Gold) on the roots while holding the rose over the hole.

# Planting Bare Root Roses *from Treloar Roses*



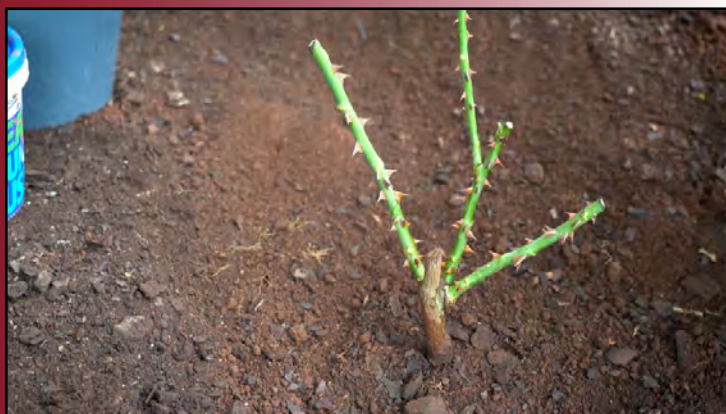
**Step 9:** Arrange the roots, spreading them out around the mound. To prevent suckers ensure all the roots are facing down.



**Step 10:** Partially backfill the hole with soil, covering the roots. Gently firm down the soil.



**Step 11:** Fill the hole with water and allow it to sit until the bubbles stop coming to the surface.



**Step 12:** Backfill the hole with the remainder of the soil. Gently firm down the soil.



**Step 13:** Give the rose another good watering in.



**Step 14:** Trim the stems down to approximately 20cm above the graft. Trim 1cm above a growth eye.



**Step 15:** Give the rose another good drink. Water is the key to bare root rose success.



**Step 16:** For the first week, water every day. Follow this with every second day for the next month. Then water at least weekly, becoming more frequent as the weather warms. Do NOT fertilise until the rose produces a good covering of leaves and new growth.

## Successful planting

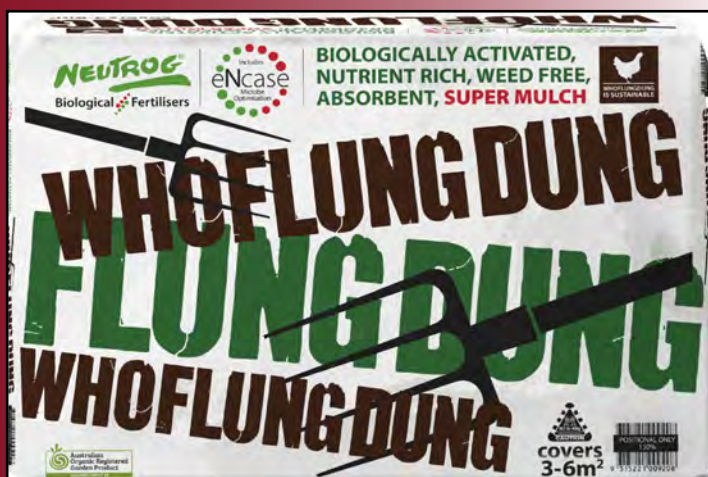
**Adequate watering is essential at all stages of the rose's life.** Roses have a reputation of being drought tolerant, and this is true once they are established. However, when planting new roses, it is important they are kept moist through regular watering. New roses that do not receive adequate water will delay breaking dormancy, suffer dieback, or simply wilt and die.

**When the soil is very dry, it becomes hydrophobic.** This means it will not absorb or retain moisture. Giving a dose of Eco Hydrate or similar will help the soil retain moisture. Potted roses are particularly at risk of becoming hydrophobic and it is important to monitor and water regularly.

**Fertilising the rose at the time of planting** can cause stunted growth and die back. Wait until your new rose has started to cover the stems in new leaves and then begin a fertilising regime to get the best blooms.

**Mulching enriches the soil,** keeps the soil temperature even and helps retain moisture. Keep the mulch to a maximum of 5 cm deep or the mulch material will absorb the water before it reaches the soil. Mulch can be used in potted roses to help with moisture retention and general plant health. Whoflungdung is a great mulch for around roses.

**Applying Mycorrhizal Fungi** when planting your bare root roses will increase the root production of your rose plant and encourage better growth through improved uptake of nutrients. It can also help to increase drought and disease resistance giving better plant health. Mycorrhizal Fungi works by forming a symbiotic relationship with the rose plant roots encouraging root growth and reducing fertiliser and water use. It is popular and usable in organic and other earth friendly gardening practices. You need approximately one teaspoon per rose plant.



**NEUTROG**  
Manufacturers of biological fertilisers

## Neutrog Orders

The online Neutrog shop will close in early August for our September (Spring) 2023 delivery.

This spring, Neutrog are making every effort to ensure that we receive our fertilisers and conditioners in time for the growing season.

Remember that access to the full range of Neutrog products at Rose Society concessional prices is one of the benefits of our membership.

If you place a Neutrog order, you will be contacted directly in early September about the specific pick up date. This will be after we are advised that the delivery is on its way to Sydney.



We will do our best to ensure you get as much notice as possible but sometimes we do not get this opportunity. Your cooperation and understanding around the deliveries is always appreciated.

If you have recently joined the Macarthur Rose Society and have not yet received your login details, please contact me directly so that we can ensure you can access the special Macarthur Neutrog shop. In the online shop you can access all of Neutrog's products and some other interesting or trial products at greatly reduced prices. I can be contacted at M: 0410 444 562.



# Birthdays



22 July

Robert (Bob) Stibbard



Hilton Edward -  
Macarthur's signature  
rose bred by Bob  
Stibbard.

If the rose puzzled its mind over the question how it grew, it would not have been the miracle that it is." – J.B. Yeats

## Macarthur Diary

**30 June** - annual membership fees due

**1st July** - General Meeting  
Show Bench Presentation

**5th August** - General Meeting  
Rose Pruning session at Vitocco's

**2nd September** - General Meeting  
Helen Lovell from Neutrog

**1st-30th September** - Spring Neutrog delivery  
(exact date to be advised)

**7th October** - General Meeting  
Preparations for our annual rose show

**21-22 October** - National Rose Show in Perth WA

**4th November** - General Meeting

**5th November** - Our Spring Rose Show

**2nd December** - Christmas Party

We meet at the **CWA Camden Hall** on the first Saturday of each month (other than January) at 2:00pm. You can access the venue via the Coles carpark. Coles Camden is at 19 Murray Street, Camden.



Camden CWA Hall

**Alternatively, the carpark** of the CWA can be accessed from the first roundabout on Cawdor Road opposite the Camden Bowling and Sports Club.

**We are open from 1:30pm to give you time to arrange** your roses for the show bench prior to the meeting. Oasis can be purchased at the show bench preparation area for \$1 per block. There is also a Buy, Sell and Swap table for our home grown produce and other products we may want to share. Our library of rose books are available at our meetings.

**Come along, enjoy great conversation,** beautiful roses and meet new friends. All are welcome. For further information telephone: 0410 444 562.