



Joyce Abounding
Signature Rose of the Regional

'Prickles

Nepean Blue Mountains
Hawkesbury
Regional Newsletter



Imp
Foundation Rose of the Regional

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September/October 2023

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Dates for your Diary

Note New Meeting Venue
Winbourne, 1315 Mulgoa Road,
Mulgoa

7 October

Meeting & Floral Art Workshop with
Samantha Harper and Ken Smith

14 October

Combined NBMH and UNSH Regional
Spring Show to be held at Leonay Golf
Club

5 November

General Meeting

6 November

Macarthur and Sydney Spring Show
Mt Annan Sustainable Centre
Schedule on Rose Society website

3 December

Christmas Meeting
Lunch TBA



New Meeting Venue

After the three years of COVID it appears that our meeting attendance numbers have not returned to what they were prior to the pandemic and a core number of members attend when they are able.

After many hours of discussion it was decided to ask Bro Jeff to investigate the possibility of moving the meeting venue to Winbourne, 1315 Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa, home of the Edmund Rice Conference Centre and trial the venue. A room will be hired at a small cost to the Regional. The meeting cost of \$5 per person will cover morning tea, the raffle and the hire of the room as it has tea/coffee making facilities and the room is large enough to cater for workshops and even a rose show.

The area has ample parking and is also wheelchair accessible. I have included some photos for you, and as you can see it is a lovely country environment.

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Copies of Prickles

"Prickles" was set up as an electronic based newsletter for Regional Members to keep costs down. However, we understand some members do not have email but would still like to receive this newsletter. If you wish to receive a printed copy of "Prickles" please supply Glynis with self-addressed and stamped envelopes for six months and she will print a copy and post it to you.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Members

As you can see we have a new venue for our monthly meetings. We had been having a few issues with our previously successful venue and have been looking for an alternative for some time. Despite living at Winbourne, Mulgoa, for the last 20 years it did not occur to me that we had a place here that might suit our needs. It took Glynis asking me if there was a suitable place for the 'light to go on for me'. So I will likely not hear the end of it if this works!

We have a sizeable room with morning tea facilities, toilet, parking just outside the door etc etc. The cost is most reasonable and can be covered by our usual entry and raffle ticket money. So, we have booked it for the rest of the year and penciled in next year until you all see how it goes. Directions for where it is will be sent out just prior to the October meeting. It is not hard to miss. (I might even put on a high viz vest and act as parking attendant at the gate). The committee hopes that this will encourage more of our members to attend as our core group of seven to nine members would like to see our numbers reach their pre covid numbers of fifteen to twenty-five. We understand that at times you may not be able to attend due to various reasons but for the Regional to

continue functionally, we hope to grow the membership particularly for meetings. At this stage we are unable to invite guest speakers as it can be very embarrassing if we have only five to seven attend which has been the case in the past year.

The East Coast Rose Trial Garden is also in the grounds of Winbourne and members will be able to visit the garden and when possible, or can, assist with the upkeep of the two gardens. I am sure the committee of the Trial Garden will be most appreciative of this gesture particularly when it comes to dead heading or weeding. You could also offer constructive criticism of my 250 roses if you wish (and are game). This reminds me that I would like to offer a thank you to Chris Serrao, Chris Clancy, Doug and Glynis for still making the trip over to Winbourne to assist with pruning the roses for me last month.

Usually at the September meeting Samantha Harper and Ken Smith conduct a floral art workshop for members with the focus being on making an arrangement that will be showcased in the Schedule for the Spring Show. Due to change of venue etc. they will now conduct the workshop at the October meeting. They will cover two of the Classes namely the arrangement using three roses and the petite formal arrangement. We hope that many of you will attend. Please see

Glynis' info about the workshop. As we are having a combined Show with UNSH we would like to encourage UNSH members to attend.

I would like to thank the members would put their hands up to be part of the working executive and committee of the Regional. Your assistance is much appreciated. The committee is listed at the end of the newsletter.

A shout out to our new treasurer Denise who has had basal cell cancer surgery on her nose and is recovering well though still sore and uncomfortable with all the swelling and bandaging.

We send condolences to Robyn East whose brother Greg passed away on Sunday. Both Greg and Robyn have been long supporters of our Spring Show and many of you met them last year. Sadly, Greg lost his long battle with ill health.

Neutrog is available for pickup. Glynis has informed those who ordered.

To our members not experiencing good health we wish you well.

Yours in roses

Bro Jeff

Membership Renewal

Membership renewal is now due. You are not required to fill in a form again unless you have made changes to your contact details. It is now \$40 per single and \$45 for a dual membership. You can renew online. Please ensure you add your membership number beginning with 05?? to your reference for easy identification. Direct Debit no – Rose Society of NSW Inc.

BSB 012-429 A/C 2784 41863. You can also renew at the meeting.





Change of Venue and Date

7 October, Meeting Floral Art Workshop

Some design ideas at the bottom of the page

1315 Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa
Commencing 10.00am

Therefore, we hope that you will be able to attend our meetings as from October at the centre.

The first Monthly Show Bench for 2023/2024 will be held at this meeting. Those wishing to exhibit can arrive from 9.30am and you will be assisted by Bro Jeff if you are new to exhibiting. All previous exhibitors can tweak their flowers for the bench. Some vases will be available.

Meetings will commence at 10am as before and will generally go until 12 pm.

Please find the Schedule below for 2023/2024.

Further information re Workshop will be sent in a reminder. The Regional subsidises most of the flowers used. You may only be required to bring a small vase for the Petite arrangement.

Schedule for the Monthly Show Bench until June 2024 that will commence at this meeting. Note that all Australian Bred Roses should have a sticker on as there is a winner for the best Australian Bred Rose on the day. Please ensure you read the requirements below.

Schedule

- Class 1 - Championship Unit - any standard unit of a (HT, Floribunda, Grandiflora, Shrub)
- Class 2 - Championship Unit - any standard unit of a (Miniature/Miniflora)
- Class 3 - A vase of any flowers from your garden in your own container
- Class 4 - A cut of a Rose/Miniature/Floribunda/Miniflora/David Austin
- Class 5 - One Exhibition Bloom
- Class 6 - Three full bloom roses
- Class 7 - Bud to Full Bloom
- Class 8 - A Bunch of 3
- Class 9 - A rose from your garden - for **first year exhibitors only**
- Class 10 - From any Standard Unit of an Australian Bred Rose in classes 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8,

Please ensure that your roses DO NOT have prickles on them. It is expected that all exhibitors of more than two years will stage their own roses in vases supplied and Jeff and Denise will tweak them for you. New exhibitors will be assisted as in previous years - Vases and floral foam will be available if required. All vases to be set up outside. Please be early if you need a hand as the meeting is expected to commence at 10.00 am.



Spring



SUDDEN IMPACT! FOR LAWNS

Get your lawn spring ready with the NEW Sudden Impact for Lawns + POPUL8 2L Hose-On - a complete, biological fertiliser in a liquid form, specifically designed to provide a full range of nutrients and biology in a soluble format, able to be taken up by the plant through the leaf, roots and soil.

- Suitable for all lawn types as well as hedges, trees, bamboo ferns, conifers, in fact ALL non-flowering plants!
- Combined with POPUL8 to promote nutrient cycling and liberation, fix nitrogen, produce growth hormones and improve resilience to plant and soil pathogens
- Includes Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium and Macronutrients for colour, growth, root development and resilience to temperature and drought stress.

Available exclusively at Bunnings.



Volunteer Steward and Runner Zoom Meetings for Combined NBMH and UNSH Regionals Spring Show to be held Saturday 14 October, Emu Sports Club home of Leonay Golf Club.

As members are aware we are holding a combined Spring Show with the Upper North Show and Hills Regional. If you wish to act as a steward or runner at the Show, we will be holding a zoom training meeting. Interested? Please contact Glynis via email or phone on the following contact details to indicate your interest – nbmhregional@gmail.com or 0427104944.

The zoom meetings will be held Wednesday, 28 September and Wednesday, 12 October both at 7.30pm for 45 minutes. You will be sent a copy of the link and task responsibilities prior so that you can familiarize yourself with what is required and then at the meetings if you have questions they can be answered.

It is an opportunity for new exhibitors to learn from the judges at the end of judging and also to see the inner workings of a Show. This will assist if you are ever asked to help set up and run a Regional or National Show.

Cultural Notes

Your roses should be leafing up well and a good handful of Sudden Impact for Roses will give the roses a good boost for the spring flush. GoGo Juice will help the plant take up the nutrients of the organic fertilizer as the weather and ground warms up.

All roses with the warmer weather will be putting on rapid growth with nice healthy leaves free of black spot. Once black spot appears it is hard to eradicate or control. I have already started my spray program with the humidity here in the Nepean starts it doesn't take black spot to appear early.

I have seen the appearance of those pesky aphids so keep a look out for them. Fingering them off, using soapy water or spraying them off with water will depend on the number of roses you have. As I have over 350 at present, I have used Eco-Oil and Eco-Fungicide as my first attack for spring. This will continue through the first months of spring so that these can keep my roses free of disease etc. as we exhibit at the upcoming Spring Shows.

Aphids on roses are sap sucking insects and they certainly love new growth on your roses. The reason why you will continue to see so many aphids even after spraying is that the young are born live and that is why it is important to kill off the parents as soon as you are able. I am aware that most do not wish to use the hard poisonous so try all the products that are eco-friendly.

Mulching is essential coming into the warmer weather and summer. There are various products on the market from WhoFlungDung, sugar cane mulch etc. Remember to still mask up as there are fine spores that can irritate the respiratory tract. If you planted new roses, do not feed until the beginning of October. This helps them to settle into their new home and adjust to the soil. A seaweed solution is best every one to two weeks.

If using chemicals, please read the manufacturer's instructions and use chemicals registered for that control. The OCP products are good to use as they are environmentally friendly. It also helps to use correct PPE.

Overhead watering is a good way to keep red spider mite in check and doing this on warm mornings can help keep them at bay.

Remember to only use Eco Oil and Neem Oil when the temperature is under 28 degrees as you will get leaf burn.

A good soaking about twice a week for roses in the ground can be continued right through summer. Roses are more drought tolerant than one thinks. Roses in pots should not be allowed to dry out completely and perhaps a watering every second day for these will prevent drying out and until the real hot weather hits, once to twice a day may be needed. A moisture meter is a good tool to have especially in summer to test how dry the pot is. Mulching helps keep the moisture in and this can all be done now.

One other important tip – please ensure you have your Tetanus vaccine up to date.

Happy rose growing and if you are as excited as me to see the first flush of the Queen of Flowers? Enjoy!!!!

Glynis