

Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society

July 2025 Newsletter



Signature Rose Best Friend

Hello Rosarian Friends.

Isn't this Winter just the coldest. The good news is that by meeting date we will have reached the halfway mark.

Intan Kallus was a delightful guest speaker and certainly engaged us with her approach to gardening by the phases of the moon. It is a method of gardening I have not considered. When the weather improves, I will test this approach with the waxing and waning of the moon!!

Sadly, due to health issues Helen Lovell from Neutrog will not be our guest speaker for July.

Therefore, the closing date for Neutrog Winter orders remains at Monday July 14th.

The good news is Helen will be our guest speaker in August.

Thankfully our wonderful Secretary Jeff will enthral us in July with his Northern Ireland tour he and his wife Jane enjoyed last year.

Even though the weather is not conducive to gardening there is a lot of work required in our rose garden. The priorities are pruning, spraying, soil enrichment and mulching. I will devote a detailed article solely to this further in the newsletter.

Please nominate for positions on our committee in the forthcoming AGM. Each new committee member strengthens our club with different views and ideas.

We need "new blood" to guarantee the future of our club.

Please brave the cold and attend our July meeting in a cosy environment for entertainment, socialising and a yummy morning tea and of course the rose.

See you there.

Your Chairperson.

Annette



July – Work Month

Pruning

In the Southern Highlands pruning time is late July to early August. Do not be afraid of this task.

It is better to do some pruning and none at all.

You cannot go wrong because roses are hardy and nature always covers mistakes made.

The rule of thumb is most breeds of roses can be cut back by a generous third of their size.

Step 1: Remove all dead wood, twiggy growth and crossed branches through centre of bush.

Step 2: Reduce height of healthy stems by a generous third cutting diagonally above a bud. Leave at least two to three buds on stem.

Step 3: Remove all leaves from bush and clear all debris below bush.

Now that wasn't so daunting!

Spraying

Immediately after pruning and leaf removal spray all remaining branches to combat fungal spores such as black spot, mildew and rust.

Pest Oil, White Oil or lime sulphur. Spray the ground directly surrounding the bush too.



Soil Maintenance

After pruning it's time to enrich your soil to ensure strong growth.

I would recommend Seamungus pellets with well rotted compost and aged animal manure.

Mulch

Since you have made such an effort to date to maintain your roses your final step is to mulch to enhance your good work.

Mulching reduces weed growth, keeps warmth and moisture in the soil and is aesthetically appealing.

Mission accomplished!!

Annette

Members Choice Show Bench

Single Bloom



Camelia 'Desire'

1st: Annette Lane



Sutters Gold

2nd: Roz Mulligan

Floral Bowl



Sarah Anne

1st: Annette Lane



Miniature 'Lucciola'

1st: Robyn & Peter Miller

Members Choice Show Bench – cont.



Camellia 'Dona Herzilia De Freitas Magalhaes'

2nd: Annette Lane



Miniature 'Magic Show'

2nd: Roz Wootton



Unknown

2nd: Jonquil Temple



" "The world is a rose, smell it, and pass it to your friends." – Persian Proverb

The Show Bench

Each month at our meetings we encourage you to bring along your beautiful rose blooms to share your joy with fellow members. A single bloom or a vase arrangement featuring the rose (or both) will enhance our meeting discussion.

Members are asked to vote for their favourite presentation.

Tallies are added up at the end of each year with the winners in each category receiving a garden centre voucher.

2025 Advocate Store Deadlines

Winter — Order by 14th April 2025, 8am ACST

Spring — Order by 14th July 2025, 8am ACST

Summer — Order by 13th October 2025, 8am ACST



Pam and Linda's novel way to warm themselves before our meeting



Bouquet of Treasures