Southern Highlands Rose Society



Quote of the Month



The red rose whispers of passion and the white rose breathes of love.

O, the red rose is a falcon and the white rose is a dove.

John Boyle O'Reilly

July 2019 Newsletter

Hi everyone,

At our June meeting a few members were asking what is the best time to spray roses and what do you use. In this month's Cultural Notes Rosalie has given some very good advise with regards this.

Looking at our Dates for Your Diary we have a full calendar coming up. With our many garden club friends issuing invitations we can keep ourselves entertained and motivated by visiting all the lovely shows that are put together for the benefit of us visitors. From experience I know there is a HUGE amount of work behind the scenes when organizing any show or display so a HUGE thank you to all who are involved with the shows we have been invited to and thank you for inviting us.

Personally I get such joy from visiting gardens and flower shows of all types and I so appreciate the effort that has gone into the presentation of each.

Carol McVeigh

NSW Rose Society Patron

Kristin Dawson, Secretary NSW Rose Society has advised that the Rose Society of New South Wales has been granted Vice Regal Patronage. Her Excellency, the Honourable Margaret Beazley A.O. Q.C and Mr Dennis Wilson have agreed to be joint patrons of our Society. All official communications should reflect this.



We are delighted that this significant honour follows a tradition of Vice Regal Patronage since our first Vice Regal patron by Sir Phillip Game in 1931.

We look forward to establishing the warm relationship we had with our previous patrons General David and Mrs Linda Hurley.

Thank You Kristin

Thank you to Kristin Dawson who graciously stepped in to be our guest speaker for our June

meeting at short notice. Kristin's presentation was so interesting. The Rose Society of China certainly went overboard in making sure all visitors to the World Federation of Rose Societies Regional Rose Convention were made welcome. Kristin mentioned that a Rose Garden was specifically designed for the visitors to enjoy and along with the side visits to the many beautiful historical sites in the trip was most memorable.



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WFRS Regional Rose Convention - China 2019







Many thanks to Kristin Dawson for sharing her many photos and memories of her recent trip to Nanyang, China while attending the World Federation of Rose Societies Regional Rose Convention 2019.

The Convention attracts members from Rose Societies around the globe and is an event where rosarians can share information and bring themselves up to date with new methods of growing roses. Photos shown are from the Opening Ceremony, some of the parks visited and a rose nursery.

Nanyang is a thriving city in Henan Province with a population of nearly 12 million people. It is the largest rose production city in China and features the best standard (tree) roses ever seen by the many guests and with visits to the many gardens were very impressed with the standard of roses and the amount of roses on show. The next convention is being held in Calcutta India in January 2020 and the invitation is extended to all members of the NSW Rose Society to attend. (Details will be advised later).









Photos courtesy of Kristin Dawson

Rose Care for July—Courtesy of Rosalie Vine

As you go about the winter pruning of your roses from mid to late July, you might notice a white scale coating on some of the older stems. Scale are sap sucking insects and come in a very wide range of shapes and colours. Most are no larger than 1/2cm and can be found on leaves, stems and branches. What they have in common is that these small insects produce a protective shell or scale over themselves whilst they suck sap from the plant tissue underneath. The sap sucking weakens plants particularly if the scale are in large numbers. If left untreated some scale types can actually kill a plant. This is certainly true for rose scale.

Scale insects can loosely be divided into hard and soft scale groups. Soft scale types excrete large quantities of 'honeydew' which attracts ants and also provides food for sooty mould to develop. This does not happen with hard scales. Rose scale are the hard or 'armoured' type. They attack the stems of roses growing under stress, in damp or shady places and also on weaker bushes. They usually appear as a white scale coating on older stems.



Control for Scale: Where infestations are particularly heavy, warm soapy water and a soft scrubbing brush can be used to remove the majority of the scale. A follow up application of an oil based spray e.g. Eco-oil, will usually bring about control as it smothers the insect at all stages. Repeat as often as necessary. White rose scale often multiplies rapidly during winter. After winter pruning use lime sulphur to clean it up and then continue with the oil spray routine into spring and summer. Juveniles mainly develop in warmer months and are easier to kill as the they haven't developed their protective scale yet.

Some scale are extremely good at blending in and its often the appearance of sooty mould that tells a gardener there's a problem. Some of my gardenias and camellias are troubled with sooty mould and I know there must be scale present, but I can never find them! To address this I include them when I'm spraying my roses. I regularly use eco-carb (eco-fungicide) together with eco-oil on the roses. I make sure I spray the canes and the bud union as well as under and over the leaves.

If you live in an area affected by frosts it is better not to prune until August. Young growth in those areas is very subject to damage by frosts. Immediately pruning is completed, the prunings and fallen leaves should be put in the green waste bin and the plants sprayed with a fungicide particularly aimed at killing the spores of black spot, mildew and rust. Lime Sulphur is very effective and it will also address white scale as advised above. Spray it on the ground around the rose bushes as well as all over the pruned canes. Be careful if there are new shoots appearing on the canes below your pruning cuts. They will be affected by the lime sulphur and will burn. Cover them, or if there are too many shoots already in growth, simply begin your regular preventative spray routines.

It is still too early to get maximum value out of manures, so wait until the middle of August. Meanwhile loosen the top 2-3 centimetres of the soil and remove weeds.

Happy gardening! Rosalie

Dates For Your Diary



Saturday 13 July Pruning Demonstration and Garden Tour, Camden Park House

Wednesday 17 July Southern Highlands Rose Society Meeting. CWA Room, Mittagong

Saturday 27 July Pruning Demonstration and Hands On. Rose Cottage, Barsden St Camden

Wednesday 21 August Southern Highlands Rose Society Meeting. CWA Room Mittagong

Tuesday 27 August Walking on the Wildside. Australian Botanic Garden, Mt Annan

Saturday 7 September Camellia and Spring Show. Uniting Church Bowral

Wednesday 18 September Southern Highlands Rose Society Meeting. CWA Room Mittagong

19—26 September Carnival of Flowers. Toowoomba

Saturday 28 September Annual Orchid Show. Mittagong RSL

25—28 October National Rose Championships and AGM. Adelaide

Our Next Meeting for July 2019

10.30 am Wednesday 17 July 2019

Our Special Guest Speaker is

Kathy Fraser

"The Delight of the Day Lily"

Our meeting will be held at CWA Hall, Winifred West Park,

Hume Highway Mittagong

Kathy will have lots of Day Lillies for sale so bring your cash with you.



Morning tea will be served.

Members are invited to bring something to share.

Members are also invited to bring a bloom or two for the Bench (if you still have any blooms on your roses).

Judging will be by popular vote from the members with points being awarded.

