

# Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society



Signature Rose Best Friend

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## June 2022 Newsletter

Hi Everyone,

Well .....Winter came with a vengeance showing herself right on time.

June 1 was certainly chilly.

I don't think our gardens have recovered from our wet Autumn and I must say I was tempted to cut a lot of my garden back or pull out those plants that looked particularly sad, but I held off and they have not died as I expected so here's hoping they survive winter and new growth appears again in Spring.

My poor lawns are still a tad soggy, my hope was the winds we are expecting may help to dry them out.

I even purchased a new lightweight battery operated mower so I can get my lawns mowed without leaving wheels tracks as my heavy duty one is doing now.

Our guest speaker is our friend from Welby Garden Centre Martha Clark who will guide us through the best way to prune our roses for winter.

Annette is our feature gardener this month, sharing her stunning Orchid collection and giving us some prettiness to look at.



Regards, Carol McVeigh

## A Sense of Humus.....a Bedside Book of Garden Humour. Diana Anthony

Annette kindly lent me this book to read and I was laughing from the first page when I read this,  
so I thought you may enjoy it also.

### *The Gardener's Prayer*

Lord, grant in some way it may rain every day, say from about midnight to until 3 o'clock in the morning,  
but you see, it must be gentle and warm so it can soak in.

Grant at the same time it would not rain on the campion, alyssum, helianthemum, lavender, and others  
which You in Your infinite wisdom know are drought loving plants.

Grant that the sun may shine the whole day through, but not everywhere ( not, for example, on the  
spiraea or gentian, plantain lily or rhododendron) and not too much.

That there may be plenty of dew and very little wind, enough worms, no mealy bugs, slugs and snails, no  
mildew or fungus, and that a week thin liquid manure may fall from heaven.....Amen

**A quote from *The Gardeners Year* by Karel Capek 1929**

## Message from our Chairperson

Greetings members,

Winter has arrived right on time. Those winds and the cold front with them has made for a very unpleasant time in the garden.

Most of the leaves are off the roses, and now is a good time to gather them up and put them in the rubbish because they would probably have some black spot on them.

Next, I would loosen lightly around the base of the roses and apply Seamungas and scratch it into the soil, not too deeply. Because of the rain we have had over the past few months the soil is quite sodden, digging too deeply will upset the structure of the soil.

During the week I received an email from Ros and Ralph Parsons notifying me that they will not be renewing their membership at the end of the financial year.

For those members of the SH Regional Rose Society who are not aware of our history, Ros and Ralph along with Ray Bradley and our State President Colin Hollis were instrumental in establishing our Regional group.

Ros, Ralph and Ray spent many hours planning and hand delivering to letterboxes a pamphlet advising residents in the Highlands of a meeting to launch the new Region.

Ros and Ralph were also the driving force behind the two successful Miniature Rose Shows held at the Mittagong RSL.

It is with regret that they are resigning, both have been unwell for some time now and must make time for themselves.

On behalf of the Executive and Members I offer our sincere thank you for all that they have done for our Region and hope that they drop in occasionally as guests to our meetings where they will be very welcome.

May I also remind you that Renewal of your membership is due by the end of this month.

Your continued support of our Region would be much appreciated.

Stay warm and safe,

Peter Miller

### It's that time again.....Memberships are now due.

**Single** \$40.00                      **Dual** \$45.00 ( 2 members per household)

**If electing to pay by EFT online the banking details are:**

The Rose Society of NSW Inc                      BSB 012—429    Account Number: 2784 41863

Please put your Initial, surname and membership number as reference with your payment.

**If you wish to pay by cash.....**

Our Treasurer, Annette will be able to take your membership at the meeting and provide you with receipt.



# Our Feature Gardener this Month is Annette Lane

Knowing how passionate Annette is about her roses I was not surprised to know that her passion also applied to Orchids.

Annette has shared some photos of her orchids and how stunning are they.

When we don't have roses in our gardens for colour how lovely would it be to be surrounded by these beautiful blooms.



**Cattelya.**

Most Cattelyas are highly perfumed and come in brilliant colours.

They are commonly called "The Chocolate Box Orchid"



**Miltasia**

Annette said her first orchid experience began when her mother was given a cymbidium plant in flower.

After the flower died she threw the plant out and Annette rescued it and it flowered the following year.

Hence the start of a cymbidium collection.



**Cymbidiums.**

So easy to grow, they come in large and miniature cascading.

All colours of the rainbow, with blue being the exception.



Annette joined the Southern Highlands Orchid Society in 2017 on arrival in the Highlands where she met some wonderful mentors and began experimenting with different species.



**Ludiisia Discolour. The Jewel Orchid**

Doesn't bare any resemblance to an orchid plant with it's dark velvety leaves.

**Oncidium Snowflake.**

Highly fragrant, the arched spikes make a perfect floral arrangement.



Not having a hothouse, the living room hosted many plants. Gary, Annette's partner called them "triffids" and each time he left home another orchid arrived.

*Thank you Annette for sharing some of your beautiful orchids with us.*

# Rose Care for June —Courtesy of Rosalie Vine

## Pruning Roses

Pruning roses has the benefit of controlling the size and neatness of the bush while maximising flower production.

This process is best done late in winter or early spring – wait for the worst frosts to pass so as to avoid damage to new shoots.

During its life span, the rose will produce continuous water shoots (or basal shoots) from the bud union at the base of the plant, forming the beginning of a new stem.

Fresh rose stems claim most of the sap flow, producing long stems with large quality flowers.

After a period of time the sap flow will gradually decrease and the stem will become exhausted.

You will begin to notice that old stems lose their vigour, producing short twiggy shoots, with smaller, fewer flowers, before eventually dying off.

Therefore the procedure of pruning is to help accelerate this process, aiding the rose to produce higher quality flowers, foliage and stems.

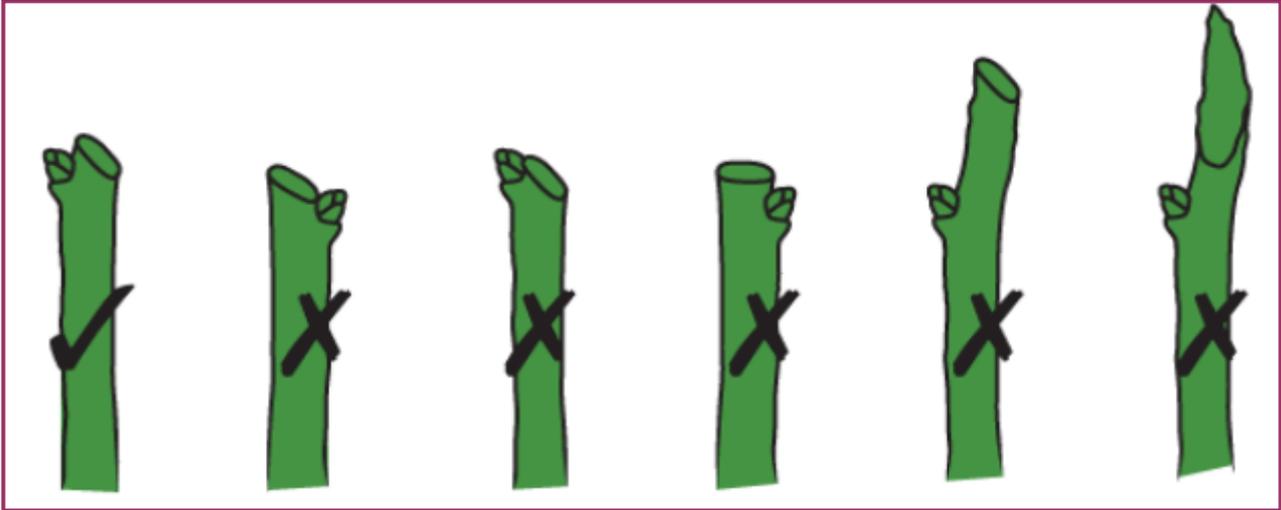
This is done by allowing the plant to put all of its energy into the new growth, instead of maintaining old stems.

When pruning always cut slightly above the growth eye (or growth bud) as this where new growth will begin to appear. Growth eyes occur where there is, or was, a leaf growing from the stem.

## Pruning Bush Roses—Hybrid Tea Roses and Floribundas

1. Remove any dead wood, cutting right to the base of the stem.
2. Remove any spindly, untidy shoots to their base.
3. Remove the oldest branch or those stems which have not produced quality flowers during the summer, cutting to the base of the stem.
4. To reduce crowding in the centre of the plant, remove any branches that cross over others.
5. Shorten the remaining stems to either one third or half their length. This will depend on how big you wish your rose to grow. Make these cuts at an angle (the angle should slope away from the growth eye) slightly above a growth eye that is facing outwards. Ensure that the top eye looks strong and healthy.

## Pruning Roses Cont:



## Pruning Shrubs and Old Fashioned Roses

These require little to no pruning. Remove any old or dead wood. However for a neater look, prune as per bush roses. For old fashioned roses that only flower in spring, winter pruning will reduce the number of flowers. For these roses, only remove the dead and very old twiggy wood. For best results, prune once the spring flowering is over. A very light trimming to keep the plant neat may be necessary; be sure to keep it light.

## Pruning Climbing Roses

Climbing roses are slightly different to bush roses as they produce long caned stems.

These form the basis of the climbing structure, supporting the growth that will produce flowers.

As with bush roses, these canes will continue to appear, however they do not need to be removed as rapidly as the water shoots on bushes.

Climbing roses need to be trained to produce the desired effect. T

his is done by weaving or tying new canes, to a support system— which can be a fence, wall, pillar, etc.

1. Remove any dead wood, cutting right to the base of the stem.
2. Remove old shoots that are unproductive. Look for the new canes that will replace the ones being removed.
3. Remove the side shoots off the new canes, cutting above the growth eyes, leaving the side stems no longer than about 6-8 cm and with a minimum of three growth buds.
4. On the new canes, cut the tips down to the first side shoot.
- 5.

Rearrange the remaining stems, tying them to a support.

Aim for the main canes to lie horizontally along the support, as this will encourage more shoots to grow creating a thicker, bushier look. Roses do not grow down wards; therefore do not bend them further than horizontal.

## Pruning Roses Cont:

**Tip:** If plants have had black spot or mildew – or any other fungal disease – during the growing season, the fungal spores will stay in your garden.

Be sure to collect all clippings after pruning and burn them. This will help stop the spread of disease around your garden.

After completing pruning during winter it is best to spray roses with Lime Sulphur.

This helps to eliminate fungal spores and eggs from pests, giving you a fresh start come spring.

This is especially important for rose gardens that have trouble with black spot and mildew during the growing season.

Follow the instruction on the packaging and spray every stem on each rose, making sure to also spray the surrounding ground.

## Transplanting Established Roses

From time to time we wish to move an already settled rose plant. It could be that it is in the wrong spot, you are moving house or want to pot it up to give to a friend.

This can be easily done for young plants.

If your plant has been settled for many years it does become tricky.

The older the rose, the more likely that it will not appreciate being moved, although it is possible.

The best time to move a rose is in the winter dormancy when the plant is asleep and will not be looking for nourishment from the soil.

When you have done your winter prune and cleaned up the area around the plant.

Get a long narrow spade and cut a circle around the plant about 45cm in diameter (the larger the better). Angle the spade slightly toward the plant to make the job of pulling it out much easier, although you will not need to cut directly under the plant.

Reach down and pull the rose out by the base of the plant, giving it a shake to release the soil from the roots.

Place the rose roots into a bucket of plain water.

Move the plant in this bucket to avoid drying out. It is very important to keep the roots moist until planting into the new location.

### **Never let the roots dry out.**

It is good to balance the top growth of the plant to the amount of roots you have left on, so the plant will not be stressed to supply a large branch structure from a very small root system.

You can then plant as a bare root rose in the new location.

**Happy Gardening.....*Rosalie***

# Our Next Meeting

10.00 am Wednesday 15 June 2022

*Our Guest Speaker is*

**Martha Clark from Welby Garden Centre**

***Pruning Roses Made Easy***

Our meeting will be held at Renwick Community Centre

Renwick Drive, Renwick



***Morning tea will be served.***

***Members are invited to bring something to share.***

### ***Members Choice Table***

*As we may not have any roses in our gardens at the moment members are invited to bring a small Table Arrangement using flowers and foliage from your garden to place on the Members Choice Bench, where judging will be by popular vote from the members with points being awarded.*

### ***Judging Table***

*For the Judges bench a single bloom from your garden.*

## ***Quote Of the Month***

Ask me no more where Jove bestows,  
When June is past, the fading rose,  
For in your beauty's orient deep, these flowers, as in their causes sleep.

**Thomas Carew**

