

# Southern Highlands Rose Society

## Newsletter

 *May 2020* 

Greetings Members,

Our most peculiar “new normal” continues including lots of disappointments about cancelled parties, garden get-togethers, festivals, displays and competitions – the list could go on and on. And although we all feel the loss of seeing friends and going out and about in our usual way, we must be very grateful that through jolly good management we have escaped the devastation that other countries have experienced. I hope that none of our members has been personally affected by the sadness that surrounds so many families at this time.

As gardeners and rose lovers we are very fortunate that the wretched virus hasn't got in the way of so much of what we enjoy – rolling up the sleeves and keeping that garden looking good. Last month I called for some articles that would enliven our newsletter. This month I am able to present three contributions from members which I am sure you will enjoy. One is about the renovation of a garden that was affected by good old time. Thanks to Kerry Pengly for her interesting story. The other is a story of perseverance that was nearly all wiped out earlier this year in the bush fires and for that I think Cheryl and Peter Costigan for their story. And last but not least I thank Ruth Bailey for her contribution about Tiffany.

Please make sure you read the reminders and notifications. The “new normal” will probably mean that many people will change many of their behaviours and interests, possibly through just forgetting and the old “out of sight, out of mind”. However the new normal develops, one thing is sure: we will still all need some familiar activities such as our Rose Society membership. Make sure you get your renewal in so that you don't miss out on all that membership has to offer – there will be meetings in the not too distant future, even if they look a little different.

And please! More items for the newsletter - send to [jo.babb@bigpond.com](mailto:jo.babb@bigpond.com)

Because I have limited computer skills, it is best if your contributions come to me in word format.

Jo Babb – Secretary and Editor



### *Rose Types*

*Over 30,000 different roses are named worldwide, with new roses being created every month by both amateur and professional breeders. The International Rose Classification Scheme divides roses into three main groups with thirty seven different rose classification in total. - Paul Hains -Growing Roses (page2).*



## Reminders and Notifications

- *Memberships for Rose Society of NSW are due by 30<sup>th</sup> June. You received a renewal form in your "NSW Rose Journal" which you received somewhere around 17<sup>th</sup> March. Please return it as per the instructions on the form.*
- *There will be no branch meetings until further notice but suggestions of a new meeting format would be welcomed for discussion*
- *New dates announced for the WFRS World Rose Convention - Adelaide, Australia  
27 October - 3 November, 2022. (The full letter regarding the changes appears at the end of the newsletter)*
- *Roses by the Sea - October 2020 - plans are proceeding, it is too early to tell what will happen*



## Burradoo Garden Renovation

Kerry Pengly

In May 2019 we finally decided to remove a number of deteriorating and dying very tall Monterey pines from our front garden. They were right on our fence line to the nature strip.



Before the renovation

The removal was accomplished using cranes and some very brave tree climbers. Once removed though, we were left with a very large empty space 2.5 metres by 30 metres that needed a serious makeover. The ground was heavily packed, poor quality soil and a large quantity of stump grindings.

Over winter we spread the grindings, added loads of mulch, straw, mushroom compost, and liberal applications of Neutrog, Gogo Juice, and Seamungus.

By spring we were ready to plant a range of roses, iris, dahlia, peonies, many varieties of daffodils, and 2 westwood manchurian pears. With the garden established, it was a matter of keeping it alive over the summer bush fires. Time, water, fertiliser and love and care helped get the new garden to what it is today. More time will see it as a fully established garden.



Roses Planted: Clair Austin, Princess Alexandra of Kent – photo in pink colour, Crepuscule (photo in peach colour) Lamarque, Mrs Doreen Pike (photo Rugosa in bright pink), Mutablis, Lorraine Lee, Sarah Van Fleet



The star supervisors were George and Hector



But when...thy roses came to me

My sense with their deliciousness was spell'd:

Soft voices had they, that with tender plea

Whisper'd of peace, and truth, and friendliness unquell'd.

**John Keats (1795-1821)**

**FROM "TO A FRIEND WHO SENT ME SOME ROSES"**

## A story of perseverance, hard work and fire

### The garden of Cheryl and Peter Costigan, Hill Top - Cheryl Costigan

We bought our 5 acre Hill Top battleaxe native block in 1994 with the idea of building when we retired in 2006. The block was originally wet and we thought that that was how it would be. However it wasn't long before drought took over and the garden we started planting e.g. ornamental cherries along the driveway were struggling with our once a fortnight watering. The rabbits and kangaroos were also struggling so took to anything we planted with relish. Thus began the wire fencing of everything that still exists today. In my quest for a cold-climate garden I naively thought that what grew in Bowral's loam would also thrive in Sydney sandstone dirty sand. The plantings struggled on with bits missing from being eaten or the cockies taking out the leader shoots or the wind blowing them into a decidedly easterly lean. I also took to planting amongst the existing natives in the hope of protection from the elements. This has worked rather too well with the mature plants that had a will to live are now rather crowded.

After building and moving into the house in 2010 the plantings continued apace and thanks to Peter installing dripper watering systems the cherries and subsequent Sasanqua camellias are now thriving. The camellias, Michellias, Magnolias and Vibernum have been the standout survivors with Rhododendrons failing at every numerous effort. Salvias and Lavenders do a good job of filling in and keeping the bees happy.



We have a number of roses which struggled for ages before the Neutrog kicked in and now they are maturing nicely.

My one desire was for Lilly of the Valley and Peonies. The Lilly of the Valley has thrived and now has its spot permanently reserved. The Peonies of course are still struggling.

The latest drought was the death knell for anything a bit tender but now after the precious rain from Heaven and plenty of Who Flung Dung and fertiliser the garden is on steroids and will now need trimming back.



With the watering systems and mulching, our dirty sand is improving but the wire is not likely to come down yet, even though there is now plenty of grass for the resident rabbits and the 'roos.

I love to mow and my zero-turn mower gets a regular run. Who would be inside housekeeping when you can garden?



P.S With much gratitude to the firies and chopper pilots we only lost about 2 acres of the bushland along the old railway line.



Hi Jo,

I haven't been to a Rose Society meeting for a long time but I regularly read the newsletter and love to receive the Rose Journal. I've been growing roses for over 50 years so always love to learn more about the old roses as well as the new ones.

You asked for some photos that others might like to see.

This rose below is called Tiffany. I've learned that not many people know this rose which is a great loss to many people I believe.

According to Wikipedia it's a Hybrid Tea Rose bred by rose grower Robert Linquist and introduced in the United States by the Howard Rose Company in 1954. The plant's stock parents are hybrid tea roses 'Charlotte Armstrong' and 'Girona'. Tiffany was the recipient of the top American Rose Awards: The Portland Gold Medal in 1954 and the All American Rose Selections (AARS) in 1955. It also has a beautiful perfume. The buds are long and elegant then when they bloom they're stunning.

My mother introduced me to this rose in her garden when I was very young and I've been growing this rose both here in Australia and in the US and now back in Australia in the SH - a total of 54 years! It's currently in a pot waiting to be planted in a newly created garden. I've just finished building a house and this will be one of my first planted flowers in the totally new garden for the house!

Ruth



**Organic Fungicide:** Fungicide can be made by dissolving two teaspoons of bicarbonate of soda in one litre of water. Add half a teaspoon of vegetable oil and a drop of dishwashing liquid. This can be sprayed weekly and is used to control black spot and powdery mildew. – Paul Hains "Growing Roses" page 120

Is this Princess of Monaco? It is a rescued Council rose. I think it is. Do you agree?



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*To Editors - State Rose Societies*

### NEW DATES ANNOUNCED FOR THE WFRS WORLD ROSE CONVENTION IN 2022

Rosarians in Australia and across the world are looking forward to the 19<sup>th</sup> World Federation of Rose Societies World Rose Convention – hosted by the National Rose Society of Australia. This Convention has been postponed as a result of COVID19.

The Convention will now be held from **27 October - 3 November, 2022**. Importantly, the wonderful venues initially secured have been retained – the world class Adelaide Convention Centre has been re-booked and official Convention Hotel, The Intercontinental Hotel, is hoping to retain the same special room rates.

Unfortunately, we had no choice but to seek a postponement. With COVID19 still active globally, restrictions on travel are likely to remain in place for some time. In addition, we are currently challenged in seeking to finalise costs as both potential sponsors and tourism operators are in *shut down* mode. More details regarding our new program and tours will be forthcoming later. Hopefully, they will be similar to those in place for 2021.

In the meantime, the Convention Committee encourages you to support our fundraising efforts. **'Unconventional Lady' was launched by Treloar Roses** as a fundraiser for the Convention. This classic Hybrid Tea has large, bright pink, very fragrant blooms on long stems. It is upright and vigorous to 1.7m with good disease resistance, healthy glossy foliage and good repeat flowering. Treloar Roses is generously donating \$2 from the sale of each rose. Order online [www.treloarroses.com.au](http://www.treloarroses.com.au) or phone 1300 044 852.

Our Rose Society wines have made over \$6,700 for the Convention. Thanks to **Patrick of Coonawarra** we have an extensive range of quality wines which represent amazing value for money. Order online [www.patrickofcoonawarra.com/rose](http://www.patrickofcoonawarra.com/rose) or phone (08) 87373687.

For more information relating to the convention, visit the website [www.wrc21.aomevents.com.au](http://www.wrc21.aomevents.com.au) and [join the mailing list to ensure you receive regular updates.](#)



**Have you:**

- ☺ **Ordered your bare rooted roses?**
- ☺ **Paid your Rose Society Membership dues?**
- ☺ **Drawn up your winter garden maintenance schedule?**
- ☺ **Written an article about your garden for the Newsletter?**
- ☺ **Have you forwarded your article to the editor?**

**Stay well. Gardening is a safe way to avoid the virus!**