

# *Sydney Regional Rose News*

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a grown man  
spend so  
much time  
with roses?

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Trophy



*'Seduction'*  
*Signature rose of Sydney*  
*Regional*

**Monthly meetings**  
**are held on the**  
**first Friday**  
**of each month at**  
**7.30 p.m. from**  
**September to May**  
**and the first**  
**Saturday of June,**  
**July and August at**  
**11 a.m.**  
**at the**  
**Newington**  
**Community**  
**Centre,**  
**Cnr Avenue of**  
**Europe & Avenue**  
**of Asia**  
**Newington**  
**Visitors are**  
**welcome**

## **Meetings**

**Saturday, 2 August, 2025 @ 11.00 a.m.**  
at the Newington Community Centre  
AGM plus the Trading Table

**Friday, 5 September, 2025 @ 7.30 p.m.**  
at the Newington Community Centre

## PATRONS

Sandra & Graham Ross

## CHAIRMAN

Jacqueline Tweedie

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**positions still vacant**

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## COUNCIL

Jim Cunningham

Robyn East

## ALTERNATE APPOINTEES

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## HONORARY SHOW SECRETARY

Vacant

## SHOW BENCH STEWARD

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(Closing date for contributions is

Monthly Committee meeting)

## ***CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE***

Our meetings are the ideal place to ask questions about growing better roses, that is, better growth, more flowers.

Our June speaker, Richard, spoke about his employment at Yates and how he supervised seed production for selling to the home grower and trade. He moved to various locations and even worked where he now lives when Yates had seed production crops at Castle Hill. A very interesting conversation and accompanying photos. An enjoyable lunch was had at the nearby restaurant.

Mark spoke about his early days growing roses without much help from experienced exhibitors and growers. He overcame this lack of knowledge and ended up winning many first places and championships over the following years. The Society has changed from those earlier very competitive exhibitors and rose growers. Information is happily given so the new enthusiast can gain know-how in the beginning of their gardening experiences. Mark has grown most of his miniature and miniflora roses in pots and answered questions about the growing of roses. It was nice to see Amir and his son at the July meeting, his first visit for a while.

There will be no speaker at the August meeting which will again be held on a Saturday morning. **On Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, a TRADING TABLE will be set-up for members to sell items such as cakes, slices, books etc.** All proceeds go to the Regional except for any prior arrangements that are made.

**All members are urged to attend our August meeting which is also our Annual General Meeting. All positions will be declared vacant, and nominations can be taken for all positions on the Regional Executive plus six committee members.** Nomination forms can be obtained from Kerry Hurst, whose details are on page one of this magazine. Your participation is welcomed as we need members to make an effort and become an active member and help organise and conduct Regional business. You can start as an ordinary committee member or contemplate an executive position. If there is more than one person nominated for any executive position, it will be decided by a ballot. The committee is not limited to six - it can be more.

The showing requirements for the 'Eva Louise Trophy' class may change slightly. Suggested changes are in this magazine. Member discussion will be at the August meeting and the end result will start the following month.

After the Saturday meeting we will again go to lunch, you can decide if you want to participate on the day.

**September 5<sup>th</sup> will be back again to Friday evening meetings.** This month we will have images from the World Rose Conference in Japan and various gardens visited in Japan.

**On October 3<sup>rd</sup>. (Friday) our guest speaker will be Klaus Eckhardt from "Green E Roses" at Galston.** Klaus will have some potted rose plants for sale. It is a bit disappointing to have a guest speaker and only a few members come along. Klaus' parents had a very successful rose nursery.

Sydney and Macarthur Regionals are combining again for a Spring Show on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October. It will again be held at Camden Showground but this time in the hall. The Show schedule is available on the Society web page for you to download and print. Your help is needed in supplying blooms for the bench and set-up and take-down.

The Annual Monthly Showbench competition has ended. Congratulations Robyn. It started again in July and will end in June 2026. The medal is presented at the December meeting. Robyn also won the Eva Louise Trophy for 2025 as well as the Floral Art Point score.

The cultural notes are just advance help notes so you can manage the obstacles sent by mother nature between meetings.

Hope you enjoyed the Australian Rose Annual 2025 that was posted to you in June. The NSW Rose was only sent by email as notified earlier. The cost to have one printed for you will cost an additional \$12.50.

If you have not been well, we wish you a speedy recovery and hope to see you again, soon.

*Jacqueline*

### ***WE NEED YOUR HELP!***

The Committee meets at Castle Hill on the Thursday evening following our meeting at Newington. You can help without knowing a lot about the history of the Rose Society of NSW. Our Committee deals with items that concern our meetings. Speakers are sourced from knowledge or experience of our members. We try to get speakers who will be of interest to members. A variety of ideas is welcome.

### ***EVA LOUISE TROPHY***

As mentioned in the last magazine, there will be a discussion at the next meeting. One suggestion is that the vase you use be a minimum height of 12cms. Your garden roses and their foliage will be placed into an informal group to be viewed all around. The completed height from the bench top to be no more than 30cms. No floral foam to be used.

### ***REMINDER - REGIONAL FEE OF \$10.00 IS NOW OVERDUE***

In the past some members have paid the fee when they renew their membership. If you are still to pay your \$10 please deposit into the Regional account. This fee applies from January to December each year. You can pay at a monthly meeting if you prefer. The banking details are BSB 012 263 008688516. Name of account is Rose Society of NSW Sydney Regional. Please leave your name as a reference.

### ***AUGUST MEETING TRADING TABLE***

There will be various items for sale on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. What do you have to bring along for sale? Books, plants, cakes, jams, bric-a-brac, any other items that may be available for re-sale. You will need to put an ingredients list on cooked and baked items to alert members with an allergy. Items left over are for the donor to take home as there is no storage at the hall.

### ***FLORAL ART – AUGUST - ‘WINDY WEATHER’***

Any flowers, any embellishments.

Wind can be shown as mangled, twisted materials, fine vines tangled, leaning or bending flowers and foliage, things that are being moved about by the wind. Fallen leaves caught against a piece of wood are the result of wind movement. Flower stems can be bent or wound around a piece of wood, etc. Soft stemmed flowers are easy to manipulate. A design leaning in one direction could represent the title. Make sure the finished design is visually balanced. If using stems of blossom the remaining stamens can be left in place as this is what happens in nature owing to the fragility of blossom.

### ***SOIL TESTER***

Do you have the means to easily test the PH level in your rose garden? We have a PH soil test meter. Just push it into moist soil, wait a few minutes and the answer appears on a dial at the top of the unit. If and when you borrow the unit you will be expected to return it in good condition. If it is lost, broken or damaged while in your possession you will be held responsible to replace the unit. A register to record each member as they borrow the tester will be kept and the borrower will need to return the tester to the Chairman at her home or at the following monthly Friday meeting.

## **MONTHLY SHOW BENCH – 2024-2025**

<b>CUMULATIVE POINT SCORE 24-25</b>			
	<b>JULY 2024/JUNE 2025</b> Classes 1-11	<b>NOVICE ONLY</b> Class 12	<b>EVA LOUISE TROPHY</b> Class 13
Michael Brook	6.00		
Robyn East	72.50		27.50
Sharon Matthews	26.00		
Braidan Swan	92.00		
Ailsa Wareham			5.00
No roses were benched at the June & July meetings			
<b>Floral art</b> – Robyn East –38.50			
<b>EXTRA CLASS (NOT NECESSARILY ROSES)</b>			
<b><u>Any potted plant in a pot up to 30cmSs (12”) diameter.</u></b>			
Where is your competitive spirit? The above class of a potted plant operates all year round.			
<b>BEGINNERS OR NOVICES TO SHOW THEIR BLOOMS</b>			
Class 12 is expressly for Novices. You are invited to place <u>one stem or cut of any rose variety</u> in this class. A cut carries one bloom and bud / buds or more than one bloom with or without side buds. A stem has one developed flower, i.e. no bud or flower has been removed to encourage growth in the remaining bloom. Any new member/exhibitor can enter into this class.			

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## ***FLORAL ART – SEPTEMBER - ‘ASIAN INFLUENCE’***

Any flower, any embellishments.

The title suggests a minimum of flowers or blossom. The original Asian use of flowers was in Buddhist ceremonies where flowers were used in offerings. Today it still gives the impression of minimum flower and maybe some water as a restful area. You can combine these elements together. A bowl with visible water and blossom or magnolia flowers can be arranged for a calming effect. If the bowl is shallow a kenzan or flower pinwheel can be used to hold the flower and foliage stems in place. Using floral foam makes it more difficult to cover up your mechanics, so the older type of mechanics is better. Floral foam adhesive can be placed under the kenzan before the water is added. You can omit the water when using floral foam as there is a ready water source. A kenzan can be placed at the bottom of a vase and the stems pushed onto the pins to hold them in place.

## ***MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2025***

The price of membership remains the same as last year. \$40 for one person or \$45 for two people at the same address. Payment by a direct deposit into the Rose Society of NSW Inc. account. BSB 012 429 278441863. Please send the completed renewal form to Maureen Thackeray. You received a form in early May by email. Members have used this form with the detailed banking instructions to renew. Some regional members are still not financial, your membership will be cancelled at the end of September if payment is not received by the end of that month.

You can pay at our monthly meeting, but please complete the renewing membership form to ensure your details are correct. The membership renewal form can be obtained from the Society website. [www.nsw.rose.org.au](http://www.nsw.rose.org.au) It is envisaged that all future contact from the Rose Society of NSW will be via email so it is important to have the correct details. ***HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO THE ROSE SOCIETY?*** If you have already renewed thank you.

## *CULTURAL NOTES*

Those July winds were strong and chilly and hopefully did not damage your bushes. Pruning is usually done in August but not if you live in an area that is still likely to get a late frost. Wait until September. Scale seems to be a problem this year and if left on the stems it will be detrimental to the bush, sapping energy as it moves onto new growth which should occur in September in warmer areas. Miniature and Miniflora roses still need to be pruned to produce new growth for the next season.

Make sure your climbing rose is one suitable to be pruned now. Wear appropriate clothing to protect yourself including long leather gloves and a hat. Make all cuts at a 45° angle above where a leaf node can be seen on the remaining stem. This angled cut makes sure water does not remain on the cut surface and allow fungus to grow. The high point of the cut is above the node.

Remove all spindly growth, all dead wood and all old-worn-out or sickly wood. Remove all branches growing across the centre of the bush as these will only send out laterals which will congest the centre and may damage another stem by rubbing which can cause later problems. If after this process you have too many canes, select the ones to be saved by their position. The centre ideally should be kept free of canes so light and air circulation can help to keep fungus at bay. The ideal number of canes is 3 or 4 on a bush, sometimes there are less. If removing a cane completely the cut should be clean and as close as possible to the main stem, so change the angle cut and cut close to the stem or branch.

To prune a water shoot simply remove the central part of the group (candelabra) and clip the remaining two or three shoots above a pair of tiny leaves. These shoots are very precious as they make the framework of the bush for future years. Lightly trimmed they will throw strong laterals later and so build up a big new vigorous section of your rose bush. If in doubt how to treat the water shoot, simply cut off the seed pods, shorten back the remaining canes by one third, cutting just above a good, well-developed leaf node.



Know the difference between regular growth and growth from suckers, the briar (under stock) growth. [Check separate article for more details.](#)

Follow pruning by removing fallen leaves and weeds from the beds. Spray the bushes and ground with lime sulphur according to the directions on the label. Be sure to check that the expiry date has not passed before using the product.

Check and renew ties on standard rose bushes where necessary. As new shoots appear so will aphids. Take quick action as they multiply rapidly.

As the ground begins to warm up, maybe September start feeding the established bushes with an organic fertilizer and water well after application. Organic products are preferred as they improve the tilth of the soil, help to retain moisture, give a constant steady food supply and contain most of the minor elements of plant food and help steady soil temperature. Shortly after this feed apply a deep layer of mulch which will help keep moisture in the ground.

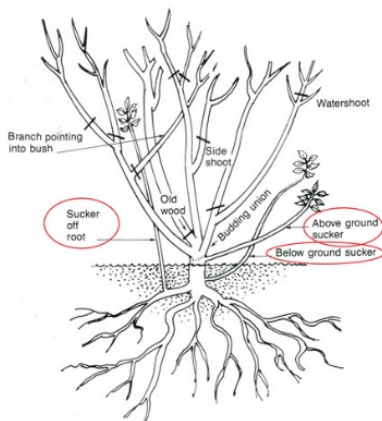
A bonus is that it will suppress the weeds. Keep the mulch away from the base of the plant. The mulch will decompose over time thereby adding organic matter to the soil. It will also prevent the soil surface from hardening. A healthy soil will give you healthy plants which will help them resist diseases. There are many products that can be used as mulch. Lucerne hay is very good though it can be expensive. Sugar cane, animal manures and homemade compost will do the job as well. Pea-straw can also be used however there will be odd pea seeds in it which are likely to germinate. Do not waste the autumn leaves as these can be mixed with lawn clippings before adding to the bed.

As you look at your bushes in the weeks following pruning some top eyes may not have developed, don't worry. If this is so, cut the stem back to the next growing eye.



## ***HOW TO RECOGNISE SUCKERS***

Suckers on rose bushes are shoots that emerge from below the graft union or from the rootstock. These shoots are undesirable as they divert the rose's energy away from the desired grafted variety and can eventually take over the plant, producing different, often inferior, flowers. It's crucial to identify and remove them promptly.



Suckers typically grow from below the graft union (the point where the desired rose variety was grafted onto the rootstock) or directly from the roots underground. They often have different foliage (leaf shape, size, and colour) and thorns than the grafted variety. They may also grow more vigorously and have different flowering characteristics.

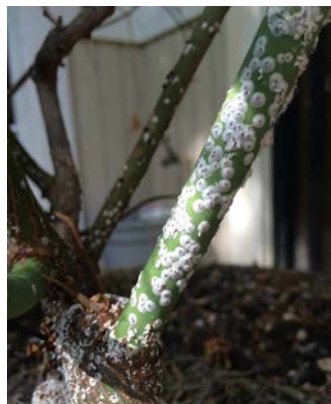
Roses are often grafted onto a more robust rootstock to improve their vigour and health. Suckers are shoots from this rootstock and will not produce the same flowers as the grafted variety.

## **HOW TO REMOVE A SUCKER**

The best way to remove suckers is to dig down to the base of the sucker and remove it completely, ideally tearing it off to damage the growth point. This also happens when a stem is torn off by wind, no more growth from that area. Simply cutting the sucker off at ground level will only encourage it to grow back. You need to remove it from below the soil surface. Suckers from grafted roses will not produce the same flowers as the grafted variety and should be removed. Suckers steal nutrients and energy from the grafted rose, weakening the desired plant. They will eventually produce flowers that are different from the grafted variety, often inferior in quality or colour. If left unchecked, suckers can eventually take over the entire plant, overshadowing and weakening the grafted variety.

## ***WHAT DOES ROSE SCALE LOOK LIKE***

ROSE SCALE (*Aulacaspis rosae*) ... Is the most common scale insect seen on rose bushes and white in colour. The female scale is only 2mm long, circular and a cream colour. The actual insect is underneath the scale and is a brownish/red colour with a segmented, long thin body. The males are elongated and white, only 1mm long with wings. Unless you have a good magnifying glass they will just look like small white dots that you can scrape off with your nail. It is regarded as one of the **HARD SCALE INSECTS**. Is easily noticed when you are pruning as it will be on the side of the stem away from sunlight.



**REMEDY** Brush with a toothbrush dipped into methylated spirits or spray with a horticultural oil such as Neem Oil, Eco-Oil, White Oil or Lime sulphur which is sprayed when you have finished pruning. If your roses are grown in pots turning them during the seasons will deter white scale as it likes to grow in the shade.

## ***WHY WOULD A GROWN MAN SPEND SO MUCH TIME WITH ROSES?***

by Randy Hughes (*RHA Newsletter - Summer 1998*)

I've always enjoyed growing plants. My classmates and I in kindergarten each got a pumpkin seed to plant in a milk carton which we were allowed to take home when they sprouted. My dad always had a garden, and he showed me how to transplant it in the back of our large vegetable garden. I remember asking when I'd get a pumpkin. He told me there has to be a flower first, and if it gets pollen from another pumpkin flower on it, then I'd get my pumpkin. I checked it every day. It grew, and finally the first flower appeared. I asked him how do I put pollen on it, and he said the bees would do it for me. Soon the flower became a small green pumpkin, and others followed. I still checked my plant every day and

was amazed at the process that finally offered me one giant pumpkin and several smaller ones. They made great jack-o- lanterns. I can't tell you how many times I told people, "Look what I grew!" I still say it now and then and have the same joy now that I did when I was five years old.

When I grew up and got married, of course I had to have a garden. I grew the usual vegetables and was moderately successful, but I had the most fun growing unusual crops like purple potatoes, blue corn, and pink tomatoes. I would tell my wife, "Look what I grew!" Once when I planted pumpkin seeds saved from the prior year's crop, we got the longest, skinniest pumpkins you ever saw! It occurred to me that it must be a cross with the zucchini that had been planted near it. "Look what I grew!" I became intrigued with hybridizing.

When we bought our house in 1992, it came with two apple trees, a huge garden plot, and a rather neglected rose garden. There were about ten roses which the previous owners didn't remember the names of. It also came with 250 feet of laurel hedge that I love to hate at pruning time!

The first couple of years we concentrated on getting the place shaped up. While reading about pruning apple trees, I ran into an article on grafting and decided to try it the following spring. That year I studied the topic, took a class, and grafted everything in sight. Apples onto other apples, pears onto apples and mountain ash, and roses onto other roses were some of the things I tried. I had moderate success and many failures. The next year I had better success, but never did get a good graft on my roses.

As time went by, I really came to enjoy the roses. Slowly, but surely, I mastered the art of growing nice roses. I added a new rose every now and then and learned how different each type can be in flower, form, and disease resistance. I bought books and found that many wild roses are almost disease-free, and most modern hybrids are inclined toward one fungus or another. I wondered if a person could cross pollinate garden roses with the wild varieties and get attractive roses that would be more resistant to disease. I pondered cross pollinating my own roses

throughout the summer and went to the library in search of information. It was extremely slim in regard to rose breeding.

Armed with very little information, I pinched pollen from several of my roses and sort of sprinkled it onto other roses. I didn't know that I was going about it all wrong, and that it was too late in the summer to get ripe hips from my efforts. The only ripe hips I got that fall were from flowers I had missed when deadheading. Determined, I decided to see if I could get any of these seeds to sprout.

The books I had read described stratification of seeds, so I put them in pill bottles and into the refrigerator. I ended up with a mass of mouldy seeds. Disgusted, I tossed them in the rose garden in the middle of winter. That spring while weeding, I kept my eye open in the area where the seeds had been tossed, hoping to see a seedling. I pampered a raspberry seedling for about a month before I realized it wasn't what I had hoped. I finally did spot one little seedling with its second set of suspiciously rose-like leaves. Eight weeks later it bloomed a pretty pink, and I was pleased and excited. I named it Miss Kate, after my daughter. "Look what I grew!"

Since then, I have found new books and learned how to more effectively cross pollinate roses. Miss Kate is an actual bush now and has shown herself to be a pink floribunda, almost identical to one that came with the house. She's not show quality, but she's my first and blooms in flushes all summer. I'm going to keep her.

As soon as I learned there were "search engines" when we got our computer last year, I began looking for other people who shared my interest in rose hybridizing. I've learned more from all the people I've met on the Internet and the forums than I was ever able to at the library. What a nice bunch of people! I would like to thank each of them for their help, patience, and encouragement. I often see questions on the forum and think, "I remember asking that one." I reply to them, realizing how fortunate we are to be able to ask dumb questions of kind hearted souls who are willing to share their knowledge.

One of the first things I learned "on line" was that there are people who will tell you that you can't get nice roses from open pollinated seeds. I suspect most of these "experts" have never sprouted a rose seed. I have had many nice roses from randomly fertilized seeds and from hybridized ones. They all may not be show quality, but for the backyard gardener some are very satisfying, if not superior, to many commercial varieties. I have had "keepers" from open pollinated seeds of Showbiz, All That Jazz, Tropicana, Bonica, and a few others. Each is different from its parent in varying degrees, but has qualities that make it desirable in its own right. From open pollinated seeds, I learned a lot about genetics and the variability that can occur in seedlings. I got five seedlings from one Bonica hip. Of these four were singles, having only five petals, and one was so double that it looked funny on such a tiny plant. Three of the singles grew to be four or five feet tall and spindly. The other grew to be only a foot and a half tall and prone to blackspot. The double has become a beautiful 2' tall nonstop bloomer that is very resistant to fungal diseases. Its blooms have fifty or more petals that are quartered and hold a long time on the bush.

Showbiz and All That Jazz have produced seedlings that are very similar to their parents, while Wenlock produces mostly very fragrant singles from its open pollinated seeds. Caribia, a striped sport of Picadilly, has never passed on its stripes, but I've since learned the reason which I'll get to later. Tropicana seems to pass its red/orange color most of the time, but occasionally offers up a surprise yellow or a mixed red and yellow bloom.

Some of my crosses have produced nice roses. Among them are Summer Sunshine x Tropicana, which had a yellow bloom until I put it outside. The buds now start out bright red and open to yellow. I'm sure the sunlight causes the red coloration of the outer petals. Another of the same cross consistently produces yellow blooms that would be quite nice if they didn't always have big green globs where stamens should be. These vegetative centers render the bloom sterile, so this rose is unsightly as well as useless in further breeding. I have a Tropicana x pink floribunda which is positively feminine in appearance. It is snow white

with the faintest of pink at the center. I don't know yet if it will be more like its floribunda parent, a hybrid tea, or a large grandiflora, but its blooms are very tea-like in bud and open stage. Granada seems to cross well with most of my other roses, and as a seed parent shows a wide variety of bloom types in each cross. It has produced seedlings of red, pink, yellow, and near white when crossed with Snowfire.

Some of the genetic principles to be considered when hybridizing, I learned years ago in college botany class. Internet acquaintances I've made, however, have added more to my understanding. Not all roses have the same number of chromosomes. Most modern roses somewhere in the history of rose breeding have had their chromosome count doubled. Wild roses are generally diploid, having two sets of seven chromosomes, while most modern hybrids are tetraploid, with four sets of the seven. While crosses can be made between diploid and tetraploid roses, the resulting triploid offspring are almost always sterile.

In rare instances nature has ways of correcting fertility abnormalities, as was the case with the supposedly sterile diploid Max Graf. Max Graf is a *R. rugosa* x *R. wichuraiana* cross. Kordes' produced a tetraploid seedling (*Rosa* X *kordesii*) that was fertile and could be crossed with hybrid teas and other modern roses. Sometimes when very wide diploid crosses are made, the seedling has reduced fertility because not all corresponding chromosomes find their match at meiosis. Chromosomes pair up in the center of the cell and spindle fibers pull one of each pair to each new sex cell. If there are lone chromosomes that don't find their match, both chromosomes may go to one sex cell or the other causing chromosome additions or deletions. By doubling the chromosomes to the tetraploid level through drugs like colchicine, the lone chromosomes now have a duplicate of themselves to effectively pair with. Sometimes chromosome doubling naturally can occur as with Kordes' Max Graf seedling. Robert Basye has used this technique with wide species crosses. These chromosome doubled rose hybrids with increased fertility are referred to as amphidiploids. *R. X kordesii* I feel is a great source of hardiness and disease resistance. It can be used, as Kordes has done, to produce robust

new cultivars. I would like to obtain some R. X kordesii stock to incorporate into my own breeding program.

I have learned that some traits are not heritable. While reading a text on plant genetics in farming, I learned that new traits from sports, or spontaneous mutations in a bud or branch, are often not heritable. There can be viral causes, such as striped blooms in certain hybrid teas and old garden roses. Some sports occur as a result of mutation in only one layer of the three layers in a growing point. These layers seldom mingle so there may be one layer of sport over, between, or under two layers of the original cultivar. The mutation may or may not occur in the layer where the egg and pollen arise from. For this reason, many sports are incapable of passing on the desirable trait(s) to their offspring.

In the example of striped blooms, it has been determined that there are cultivars which can pass on the trait, and all of these cultivars are unsported seedlings. Ferdinand Pichard, a hybrid perpetual with stripes, holds great promise for me. It has been shown to frequently pass on the striped trait. McGredy says his Papageno should also be a good stripe donor, although its origin is undisclosed.

This year I have made many crosses with Hansa, a rugosa, as the seed parent. It is a good seed setter, and has seemed to accept pollen from both wild and domesticated roses. Some of the crosses I have made with it are Honor, Granada, Ferdinand Pichard, Tropicana, Snowfire, Summer Sunshine, Rosa canina, Rosa nutkana, Veilchenblau, and Oz Gold, a mini. I had high hopes for these obviously successful hips, until Henry Kuska shared with me the fact that rugosas often shed their pollen before the bloom opens, thereby fertilizing themselves before they receive foreign pollen. Rather than feeling disappointed, I now look forward to seeing these seedlings next year even more. Any crosses I get will be all the more precious. I took special care when I pollinated these, emasculating the bloom while in bud stage, and I feel there should be at least a few successful crosses. I expect the crosses between "Hansa" and my modern roses will be sterile, but the two wild species I crossed with it may be fertile. These will probably not be repeat bloomers, but if



backcrossed to Hansa or sibling mated between themselves, there should be recurrent bloom in some of their offspring.

Another source for hardy, disease resistant "wild" genes should be Basye's amphidiploid and a few of its offspring. It is an induced tetraploid cross of *R. abyssinica* x *R. rugosa* and should thus produce fertile offspring with most modern roses. I would very much like to obtain this rose for future crosses.

There have been good results in doubling the chromosomes of plants (including roses) with the use of certain poisons applied to seeds and/or seedlings. I have experimented with one of them and have had uncertain results so far. I plan to discontinue these experiments because of the danger in using such hazardous materials. It will probably be a couple years at least before I can determine whether or not I have accomplished what I wanted. Either way, there are many more crosses that I can try with existing cultivars that may bear fruit in my search for hardy, robust garden roses.

One may wonder if I am trying to breed roses for the retail or commercial market. At this point in my life, that is far from my mind. The satisfaction I get from hybridizing is reward enough. If the day comes that I feel I have created a rose that is so unique that the world might want it, I will be perfectly happy to seek introduction, but for now it is enough that I can enjoy my roses and share them with friends.

I get pleasure from hybridizing on many levels. I have always enjoyed learning new things, and my involvement with roses has given me the opportunity to learn along the way. I like people, and roses have given me an opportunity to "meet" many people who are generous with their time and knowledge. I like surprises, and hybridizing has consistently offered up the unexpected. A person needs to have things to look forward to. The crosses I make this year hold promise of reward next year. I love to share with others. Each time a friend or acquaintance takes home one of my roses, I feel good. There is no higher form of flattery than to ask advice of others. When asked for input or advice by a

newcomer to hybridizing, I get real pleasure helping them out. I love the outdoors, and hybridizing gives me something to do outside, come rain or shine. I love my family, and I can practice my hobby at home while others are leaving their loved ones to amuse themselves. I can involve my wife, sons, and daughter, instead of leaving them behind while I go out to play.

Rose hybridizing may be the "perfect" hobby. It costs very little, can be done in as much or as little time as you have to spare, and offers many sideline activities such as reading, visiting public rose gardens, or corresponding with others. In addition, it holds the promise that you may somehow create a new cultivar that is truly noteworthy. You can say, "Look what I grew!"

I would like to thank Karl King, David Zlesak, Henry Kuska, and Bob Byrnes for corresponding with me and sharing their ideas and knowledge, as well as all the people who have posted useful information on the "Rose Propagation Forum" hosted by Malcom Manners.

What are my plans for the future? I plan to obtain a few more disease resistant roses to breed with, maybe a R. x kordesii cultivar or one of Dr. Basye's amphidiploid types. I'll also continue reading anything I can find that can increase my knowledge on the subject. You can be sure I'll continue passing pollen in the spring and filling the salad drawer in the refrigerator with seeds in the winter. I'll correspond with my rose friends, trade seeds by mail, and walk my test garden often to see how each seedling is coming along. Every so often I'll ponder how lucky we are to be able to spend time working with Mother Nature and learning a few of her secrets. We have time and resources that should be treasured.

To all of those who share this creative and beautiful hobby, may your roses bring as much joy to others as they do to you.

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*In garden arrangement one has not only to acquire a knowledge of what to do, but also to gain some wisdom in perceiving what is well to let alone.* Gertrude Jekyll

COMING EVENTS	ROSE CONSULTANTS
<p><b>AGM &amp; August meeting – 02.08.25</b>  Newington Community Centre <b><u>11.00am.</u></b>  <b>Speaker – none</b>  <b>Trading Table</b>  <b>Raffle</b> – Potted Miniature Rose  <b>Floral Art</b> – ‘Windy weather’  Any flowers, any embellishments</p> <p><b>August Committee meeting – 07.08.25</b>  Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.</p> <p><b>September meeting – 05.09.2025</b>  Newington Community Centre <b><u>7.30 p.m.</u></b>  <b>Speaker – Michael Brook</b>  <b>Topic</b> – World Rose Conference, Japan  World Show, gardens and scenery  <b>Raffle</b> - Various items from Japan  <b>Floral Art</b> – ‘Asian Influence’  Any flowers, any embellishments</p> <p><b>Sep. Committee meeting – 11.09.25</b>  Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.</p> <p><b>State Council AGM &amp; Meeting</b>  <b>14.09.25</b>  CWA Hall 136 Cawdor St, Camden  @ 10.00 a.m.</p> <p><b>October meeting – 03.10.2025</b>  Newington Community Centre <b><u>7.30 p.m.</u></b>  <b>Speaker – Klaus from Green E Roses</b>  <b>at Galston</b></p> <p>*****</p> <p><i>At my age "Getting lucky" means  walking into a room and  remembering what I came in there  for.</i></p>	<p>The following members of the Rose Society of NSW Inc. are rose growers of both exhibition (show) &amp; garden roses who have kindly agreed to make available to all members their expertise. If you have problems or questions about rose growing, contact the person listed as living closest to your garden.</p> <p><b>SYDNEY AREA</b>  Jim Cunningham, Castle Hill 2154 0418 632 648  Robyn East, Merrylands, 2160 9897 5052  Mark McGuire, Neutral Bay, 2089 0418 463 595  Ted Morphett, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 3668  Braidan Swan, Alford's Point, 2234 0487 439 573</p> <p><b>NEPEAN BLUE MTNS &amp; HAWKESBURY</b>  Doug Hayne, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 1730</p> <p><b>UPPER NORTH COAST</b>  Ray McDonald, Taree 2429 6550 2216</p> <p><b>ILLAWARRA AREA</b>  Colin Hollis, Jamberoo, 2533 4236 0456  Kristin Dawson, Kanahooka 2530 0422 157 353  Jill Millburn, Kiama, 2533 0409 849 534</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.rose.org.au">www.rose.org.au</a>  <a href="http://www.nsw.rose.org.au">www.nsw.rose.org.au</a></p> <p>This publication is for information of members of Sydney Regional.</p> <p>This publication cannot be reproduced without permission of Sydney Regional, Rose Society of N.S.W Inc.</p> <p>Printed by The Rose Society of NSW Inc.,  Sydney Regional,  1 Christel Ave., Carlingford, 2118</p> <p><i>The opinions expressed in articles or letters in this magazine are  not necessarily the opinions of the Rose Society of New South  Wales Incorporated.</i></p>

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