

UNSH NEWSLETTER JULY 2025



**Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd
Saturday/ Sunday of each month**

Next Meeting details:

- **Sunday 10th August 2025**
- **Home of Judy & Mal Satchell**
- **734A Old Northern Rd Dural, 2159**
- **The meeting will commence at 2pm and includes the Annual General Meeting**

A note from the Chair

David Smith presiding



Dear Fellow UNSHKins,

Our July meeting was held at the charming *House of Herbs & Roses* in Dural, where we shared a fantastic meal in a beautiful setting. It was the perfect chance to sit back, relax, enjoy some great conversation, and simply enjoy each other's company.

A huge thank you to Judy Satchell and Sandy Crompton for making this event happen. The work they do behind the scenes is truly invaluable and greatly appreciated by us all.

Sandy brought along her *Knights Roses* catalogue—and of course, I couldn't resist! I placed an order as soon as I got home. My delivery included: Athena, Butterfly Kisses, Dark Desire, Fruity Perfuma, Julia's Rose, and Mother's Love.

As if that wasn't enough, *Garden Express* was having a sale... so a few more roses found their way to my garden:

Kordes Jubilee, Brindabella Pride, Princess of Wales, and Leonardo da Vinci.

During a recent trip to Yass for my great aunt's funeral, I visited her favourite nursery and purchased the rose Remember Me. I thought it was a lovely way to honour her memory—each time I see it, I'll be reminded of her with fondness.

Looking ahead, our next meeting will include our Annual General Meeting (AGM). If you're interested in nominating for a committee position, please complete

the nomination form previously emailed and return it to Bronwyn Berend by 8th August.

A friendly reminder that membership renewals are due—you must be a financial member of the Rose Society to nominate or vote at the AGM.

Athena	Butterfly Kisses	Dark Desire
		
Fruity Parfuma	Julia's Rose	Mother's Love
		

Kordes Jubilee	Brindabella Pride	Princess of Wales
		

Remember Me





OUR MARKET STALL was closed for the last couple of months but is now back again.

Our Market stall is where we share or grab a nice bargain! Each month at our meetings the market stall is set up and bountifully laden by our UNSH members. It's the best place to grab a new little plant/seedling/cutting, or yummy local produce. You can donate: We'd love you to contribute if you have some plants or produce to share. Bring along plants that you have propagated, special cuttings, surplus bulbs, gardening books, vases, or homemade produce like jams, various kinds of honey, eggs, fruit, and veggies. Please price-mark your goodies before bringing them. Reminder to kindly set prices to what you think is fair for the item. All Great value! All funds raised go to UNSH.





ORGANISATION	DETAILS	NOTES
Rose Society of NSW INC website nsw.rose.org.au	To log in simply enter: Username: rmember Password: Seduction.	
Wagner's Rose Nursery discount @ www.wagnersrosenursery.com.au	USE discount code: 100%ROSES! (Remember to include '!')	
Neutrog As members of the NSW Rose Society, we enjoy an ongoing partnership with Neutrog.	Members have access to Neutrog discounts online at shop.neutrog.com.au . You can order ANY time - your orders accumulate and are bundled together for dispatch.	The NEXT date for DELIVERY to Birchgrove, Galston will be August 2025. ORDERS FOR the next delivery are OPEN
Beeman	UNSH members can purchase honey from nswsydneylocalhoney@gmail.com or call 0421 945 593 \$10 for a jar of honey \$15 for a rack of assorted small honeys	

monthly highlights

- JULY -









Our member Chris Lau ahred a link with the below information contained in the link. Thought we would share: (Thank you Chris)

The hidden history behind every rose blooming this summer

As roses fill gardens and hedgerows this season, there is a story, millions of years in the making, unfolding beneath their petals.

[Analysis of rose genomes and floral structure](#) is revealing how the stunning diversity we admire is rooted in the genes of these plants, offering new insight into how the beauty in our world is built at the molecular level.

Modern roses are a riot of colour. Some roses are showy and fragrant while others are modest and understated. Jude the Obscure is coloured in peach, Kew Gardens a soft white and Catherine's Rose a coral pink.



The diversity of rose colour. Alexander Bowles, Author provided.

All modern roses, in one way or another, stem from a pool of ancient ancestors. The genus *Rosa* first appeared over [30 million years ago](#), while the more recent ancestral species that gave rise to today's roses emerged around [6 million years ago](#). Diversifying over this time, all modern roses have come into being from these plants.

[An April 2025 study](#) by Chinese researchers suggests that the first *Rosa* flowers 30 million years ago were probably yellow. The researchers studied key traits of modern roses, like petal colour and the number of petals, and mapped them onto an evolutionary tree of roses. Tracing these traits through time allowed them to see how roses have changed over millions of years. For

example, the next colours to appear in rose petals were pinks and reds. They also found the ancestor of modern roses alive 6 million years ago was probably pink.

[The 2025 study's](#) evolutionary reconstruction of key rose traits suggests the first roses were simple in form, bearing a single layer of petals. Jude the Obscure and Catherine's Rose are both double-flowered roses, meaning their blooms have extra petals. These extra petals originated through natural mutations, which were later selected for during rose breeding.



The diversity of rose form. Alexander Bowles, Author provided.

Scent is one of the main appeals of roses in our gardens. Jude the Obscure has a strong fruity fragrance, while Catherine's Rose is said to have a subtle hint of mango. Yet, some roses are completely scentless.

Floral fragrances come from plant compounds. For instance, roses that emit a lemony aroma owe it to the [compound citronellol](#). Scientists aren't sure why some *Rosa* species produce these compounds, but they probably help attract specific pollinators or serve as part of the plant's defence system.

[A 2024 study found](#) that fragrant roses have more genes involved in the production of scent compounds compared to their less fragrant cousins. These fragrant plants produce compounds in high abundance, their complex aromas attracting pollinators and our senses alike. This suggests that, over time, scent production became an advantageous strategy for some roses, because it costs energy to produce these genes.

After their origin over 30 million years ago, roses gradually evolved a remarkable range of forms, colours and fragrances. Today, there are more than [300 accepted species](#) in the genus *Rosa*. [Fossil evidence and genetic studies](#) suggest that the ancestors of roses first evolved in central Asia, probably in modern-day China and the Himalayan foothills. Their natural diversity helped roses adapt to temperate climates, spreading throughout Asia. From there, they gradually expanded westward, reaching Europe around 15 to 25 million years ago.

In only the last couple of centuries, roses have undergone a second wave of diversification, this time driven by human hands. Modern rose breeders selected between [eight and 20 wild rose species](#) — particularly from Asia, such as *Rosa chinensis* and *Rosa multiflora*, as well as European species *Rosa gallica* and *Rosa canina* — to create all modern cultivated varieties. This process enhanced traits that appeal to our senses and produced flowers with more petals, deeper and more vibrant colours and stronger, more complex scents.



The origin of rose breeding: *Rosa multiflora*, *Rosa canina* and *Rosa gallica* Wikimedia

For example, [genes involved in](#) petal development have been selected to produce fuller, double-flowered blooms. Other genes associated with pigment production have been targeted to enhance deeper and more vibrant colours. Likewise, [genes](#) involved in the synthesis of scent compounds, such as one known as NUDX1, have been favoured to intensify rose fragrance. Other characteristics flower breeders targeted include recurrent flowering, disease resistance and reduced prickly formation. [Many wild rose species](#) originally had far more prickles than modern garden varieties. Outside of our gardens, this may leave them more vulnerable to grazing animals.

This botanical experiment, guided by human hands, has shaped the stunning diversity we cherish today. This cultivation is what sets roses apart from their close relatives. *Rubus*, a closely related genus including blackberries and raspberries, has more than [800 species](#). There are over 300 *Rosa* species but it is estimated there are over [35,000 varieties of modern rose](#). Rose breeding is still evolving, with future varieties promising new [petal shapes](#), enhanced pest resistance and [greater resilience to climate extremes](#).

Beauties such as Jude the Obscure, Kew Gardens and Catherine's Rose are the result of centuries of careful cultivation and scientific understanding. So, the next time you walk through a rose garden, take a moment to appreciate the deep history behind each bloom.

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NEUTROG ORDERS WILL BE DELIVERED IN AUGUST. ONCE RECEIVED WE WILL PROVIDE COLLECTION DETAILS.

WEBSITE IS NOW OPEN FOR NEW ORDERS WITH NEXT DELIVERY DATE IN FEBRUARY 2026



Please make sure that you have emailed the UNSH secretary's email box to ensure that we have your correct email address for receiving correspondence

For questions, feedback, article ideas, or story contributions, email unsh.secretary@gmail.com

Ph: 0419 246 655 (9am-6pm)

Facebook: [Upper North Shore and Hills NSW Rose Society Regional](#).

2024-25 UNSH Executive	
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