



PATRON- JILL EAST

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - **CONTACT DETAILS:**

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MEETS ON THE FOURTH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE NORTH
KIAMA NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE, MEEHAN DRIVE – 1.30-3.30P.M.
unless garden visit or rose show. – Refer to newsletter each month for
location.

NEXT MEETING:- 24 February – with guest speaker- Helen Lovel from
Neutrog (*see more details inside newsletter*)

Photo: Peace Rose- at entrance to Meilland Rose Nursery in Lyon 2015

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

19th January- special meeting to review rose show & prepare 50th anniversary celebration. (See inside newsletter) Agricultural shows:
Albion Park: **20th January**; Kiama: **26-27 January** **NEUTROG AUTUMN ORDER CLOSES ON 2ND FEBRUARY.** Delivered in early April.

Message from the Chair

Dear Members

Happy New Year to all, and I hope all are well and enjoying summer rose blooms. This year is a special year for the Illawarra Regional Rose Society as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of its foundation in 1974. Joanne Fisher and Judith Oyston were two of the foundation members and have many stories to tell of the great experiences over this period of time.

Since the last newsletter we have enjoyed a visit to the home and garden of Intan Kallus – November 18th, our Christmas/end of year party on 2nd December (*photos Around the Ridges*) We had a very successful Rose Show on the 28-29 October with many visitors from the community, but we were actually mentioned in the State Parliament round up of local activities by Kiama MP, Gareth Ward. His message features later in the newsletter. As we have not had an opportunity to carry out a review of the Rose Show and plans for 2024, a meeting will be held on this Friday 19th January, 1.30p.m. at the Kiama Leagues Club in the Board Room, to do this. We will also consider plans for celebration of the 50th anniversary at this meeting. Any member that is interested is welcome to attend. Some of us will meet at about 12.30p.m. to have lunch at the Club before the meeting.

The Agricultural Shows begin this weekend with Albion Park on 20th January. Entries need to be sent to the Albion Park Show Secretary by midday 19th January and staging by 8.30a.m. Saturday 20th January. See page 8 of the attached schedule and entry form. Kiama Show Schedule is also attached.

You all would have received the NSW Rose Journal and have viewed the article on Jill Millburn – Congratulations Jill on receiving the Bert Mulley Memorial Award. A very well deserved recognition of your generosity over many years.

We were sad to hear of the death of Kelvin Trimper AM ARA in January. He has been a driving force of the National & World Federation of Rose Societies over many years. He will be very missed in South Australia, nationally and worldwide.

Thank you to those who sent good wishes to me at the time of my hip replacement operation. I'm gradually improving and beginning to walk in the house cane free. They did find a heart issue and it looks like some more interventions early this year. *Kristin Dawson*

THE ROSE GARDEN January-February

- We expected with El Nino a very dry summer but have been surprised rather with lots of rain and humidity. This has set the conditions right and brought lots of blackspot and rust as well to those rose bushes that are less resistant to this fungus.
- Also, we should not be too deceived by the rainfall as often it is drizzly rain that does not penetrate deeply to the roots and we can find our garden surprisingly dry if we dig around the soil.
- Our roses will also be growing much taller and straggly and when there is a lot of heat the blooms can be much smaller as they open more quickly.

WHAT TO DO IN THE ROSE GARDEN IN THESE CONDITIONS:

1. **WATERING- How much water roses need?** *[These two points are taken from Brian Wagner's newsletter – see his January newsletter and videos that cover most of the items below:
<https://www.wagnersrosenursery.com.au/pages/how-to-videos?>*

“Generally, roses require around 10 litres of water each, twice weekly, but in hotter times they should be watered at least three times weekly. Deep soakings are highly preferable over short bursts of watering, as it encourages the root system to grow down into the soil.

Overhead systems are great as they help the roots to spread and grow deep with water reaching further around the base of each plant rather than directly to one spot at the base of the stem. With overhead irrigation (sprays), watering should be done in the morning to ensure there is enough time for the water to dry out on the foliage. There is also much less evaporation in the morning than in the evening.” *Brian Wagner Nursery January newsletter*



2. Because of the continued dampness it is difficult to spray successfully to save the **roses from blackspot**. Ensure the soil is in good condition, mulched and fertilised, and the infected foliage is removed from beneath the rose bushes. Now is a good time whilst there is lots of moisture, to fertilise the rose bed, also to condition the soil with Seamungus, and then cover with another layer of mulch. This will help to keep in the moisture and stop the weed growth. The infected foliage will gradually fall from the rose bushes and new foliage appear. At least there have been few extremely hot days, but if it does become very hot protect the rose bushes with less foliage from the sun so the canes don't burn until the new fresh foliage appears.

3. **Deadheading/ Summer prune-** As there has been a good flush of roses this year, it is important to keep up the deadheading. As the bushes become straggly and tall, deadhead or cut blooms further down the stem as a way of summer pruning the bush. A third of the bush can be pruned off at this time of the year in preparation for the autumn flush.

4. **ORDERING OF NEW ROSES FOR THE GARDEN-**

Both Treloar Roses and Wagner's Nursery have been promoting the early ordering of bareroot roses for the winter planting for 2024. If you are after a specific and popular rose it is best to get in early with online purchases as the more popular roses sell out very quickly.

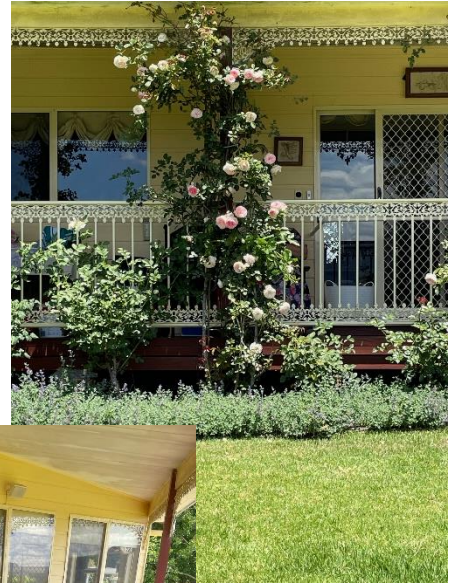


VISIT TO INTAN'S ROSE GARDEN – 18TH NOVEMBER



Many of us enjoyed an afternoon visit to Intan's garden in Jamberoo, opposite a most glorious mountain view. We saw many of the rare roses that Intan grows, those that are more common, and her seedlings from her rose breeding program. Our day was made complete with the sharing of a scrumptious lunch brought by members and good conversation.

Thankyou to Intan, Hugo and Juliaha for your wonderful hospitality. (Some photos of our visit)



More photos are available on the Roses in the Illawarra Facebook page

MEETING ON 19TH JANUARY AT KIAMA LEAGUES CLUB- 1.30P.M.

We are to review our Rose Show and decide on future rose show –

Plan for the 50th anniversary celebration for the Illawarra Regional Rose Society 2024-

If you have ideas and interest in these two topics you are most welcome to attend. Please let Jill or Kristin know if you wish to attend. Some of us will meet socially at about 12 for lunch at the club before the meeting. We do welcome your ideas and presence at this meeting.

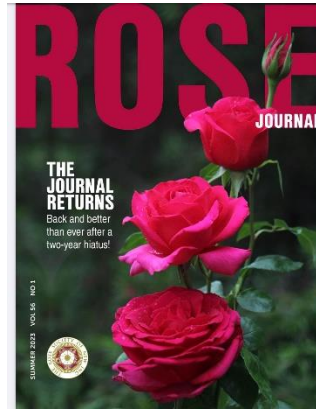
Our end of year 2023 party at Warilla - 2 December



Though we did not have the usual number of members rolling up, those of us who came enjoyed the gathering immensely. Thankyou to the organisers including Jill, Robert and Lorrie. Lorrie entertained us with some great music and we also had a lovely surprise when Ava Hernandez, one of our younger members sang to us. We finished the delicious meal with some dancing and interspersed the meal with Secret Santa organised by Colin. During the meal Colin also presented Jill Millburn with the Bert Mulley Memorial Award – a joyous occasion for her family. We also presented several members with an award for their participation and contribution to the Society during 2023.



Congratulations Jill Millburn awarded Bert Mulley Memorial Award



Colin Hollis ARA President of the Rose Society of NSW presented Jill with the award on 2nd December 2023. This is the highest award given to those who contribute to the Rose Society and is only awarded to one person each year.

It was lovely to have Jill's husband Roger and her three daughters present during this special moment. An article on Jill is included in the NSW Rose journal December 2023 sent out to all our NSW members.

End of year celebration at Peace Park



FEBRUARY MEETING- HELEN LOVEL our Neutrog representative from Victoria is coming to speak about the various Neutrog products and their use. This is a very worthwhile and enjoyable presentation. I hope as many as possible will be at this meeting

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*Gareth Ward - Member for Kiama
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
Sydney*

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION STATEMENT

Illawarra Regional Rose Society

Mr GARETH WARD (Member for Kiama): Today the Parliament of New South Wales recognises the Illawarra Regional Rose Society put on a fragrant and colourful weekend at the Festival of Roses at the Jamberoo School of Arts Halls on 28th-29th October 2023. Enthusiasts were invited to showcase their roses for judging, and I also attended to 'smell the roses'. I acknowledge the Chairperson Ms Kristin Dawson, Secretary Ms Jill Millburn, Interim Treasurer Mr Robert Coady and Mr Colin Hollis from the Illawarra Rose Society and Intan Kallus from Kangaroo Valley who specialises in heritage roses.

The Illawarra speciality is 'Roses in a Seashell' or 'Roses in a Teacup'. The society did something different by inviting the public from the Illawarra and Shoalhaven who grow roses in their gardens to participate. Rose gardeners could bring along roses from their garden.

There were two sections, for children under 8 and under 12 to decorate a hat and or a basket with roses, as well as a floral art display named 'Out of the Kitchen.' Notable winner was Ms Helen Henry who impressed judges with her floral design of stunning yellow and pink roses. Congratulations Helen! The Junior prize winner was Ava Hernandez who won the Junior 'Out of the Kitchen Cupboard' award for her charming rose display. Congratulations Ava!

Our Regional Rose Show was mentioned in Parliament at the end of 2023 by Kiama MP- Mr Gareth Ward.