

JULY 2023

ILLAWARRA REGIONAL  
ROSE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

# Elina



PATRON: MRS JILL EAST

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**22 July at the North Kiama  
Neighbourhood Centre –  
Propagating roses from  
cuttings – Peter Goodger**

#### **Bring to meeting:**

- Some change for raffle-
- Something to share for afternoon tea
- But especially yourself.

#### **THIS NEWSLETTER:**

#### **In the Rose Garden this month:**

COMPANION PLANTING

#### **Around the Ridges**

Our JUNE Meeting; Peace Park,  
Ribbonwood Rose Garden  
Minutes of last meeting;

**PRUNING DAY AT PEACE PARK-  
SUNDAY JULY 16 (more details in letter)**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUE BY  
30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE FOR ANYONE**

**SUBSCRIBED BEFORE JAN 2023  
See inside for details.**



Meets on the fourth Saturday of each month at the North Kiama Neighbourhood Centre, Meehan Drive, North Kiama 1.30-3.30 p.m.

Next meeting: Saturday JULY 22 at Neighbourhood Centre 1.30-3.30p.m.

*Photo- a memory Ian Roxby helping with pruning at Peace Park 2016*

*Dear Members,*

Last meeting, we very much enjoyed having our guest speaker John Elton come to speak to us about native plants, those that grow well in the Illawarra/Shoalhaven regions, about the Bulli Grevilia Park, and the amazing work of volunteers there. I was very interested in the hybridization of grevillea that brings us specialty grevillea unique to the area such as the pretty Pink **Bulli Beauty**.

This month Peter Goodger, our member will present some ideas to us on propagating roses from cuttings. Peter has been quite successful in growing roses from cuttings and has been gaining knowledge from Jason at Frazer Valley Rose Farm that he would like to share with us. He will bring along a couple of videos from Jason to our meeting.

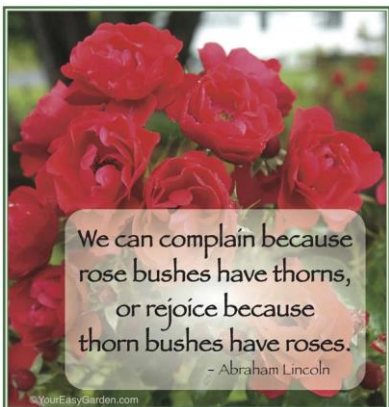
**We will have a quick AGM followed by the usual general meeting on Saturday, and then Peter will speak to us, followed by our wonderful afternoon tea and chat time. As pruning will have happened, we won't have roses to share unless someone still has a few they just didn't have the heart to prune off yet.**

**PRUNING AT PEACE PARK – THIS SUNDAY /  
NEUTROG ORDER DUE BY 10 AUGUST ONLINE.**

**ROSE SHOW — JUDITH OYSTON IS ORGANISING THE TRADING TABLE- BEGIN POTTING SOME PLANTS FOR SALE**

**NOTICE OF AGM- JULY MEETING 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY....** We are always looking for members to join the committee as a member of the Committee or taking on one of the roles of the executive. We try not to make it too onerous and have an enjoyable time planning. We still do need a Treasurer who might stand in for a year as an assistant Treasurer to learn the ropes before fully committing.

Looking forward to catching up with you ON SUNDAY AND THEN next Saturday  
*Kristin - Illawarra Chair*



# THE ROSE GARDEN THIS MONTH-

## COMPANION ROSE PLANTING.

Once pruning is done it might be a good time to consider some plants that may be ok in between the roses and which help keep away some pests and diseases.

**This information is found on the website: <https://www.thespruce.com/companion-planting-for-roses-1403041>.**

*Plants, like people, do best with partners that will bring out their top qualities and share their space with equanimity, neither overpowering nor paling in comparison. There are several considerations when choosing suitable plant companions: aesthetics, growing conditions, and plant health. Plant companions should both look good together and require similar growing conditions. Another component of [companion planting](#), often referred to in organic gardening, is selecting companions that ward off pests, improve the soil, or have a beneficial effect on plant health in other ways.<sup>1</sup> By [MARIE IANNOTTI](#)*

## Plants That Look Good with Roses



Texture, colour, and form are all important in the aesthetics of companion planting. Plants with tall spires complement the wide, cup-shaped flowers of roses, while perennials and shrubs with pale green, silver, or purple leaves accentuate the sumptuous rose blossoms. Companion planting can also extend the flowering season by providing colour between the main flushes of rose bloom in early summer and fall.

## Plants That Solve Problems for Roses

Some plants just seem to be made for each other. The feathery purple and blue-grey catmint (*Nepeta*) beautifully offsets a pale pink rose, and its wispy spires gracefully camouflage any blemishes that may occur on the rose's foliage.

While the tops of roses are nice and lush, the bottoms can become leggy and sparse. Good rose companions are those that hide their bare legs. Traditionally, [lavender](#) (*Lavandula*), [catmint](#) (*Nepeta*), and tall growing [pinks](#) (*Dianthus*) all make good partners.<sup>3</sup> Good companions also act as living [mulches](#)—suppressing weeds and lightly shading the soil, keeping rose roots nice and cool.

## Plants That Enjoy the Same Conditions as Roses [12 Best Annuals for Full Sun](#)

Ideal rose companions enjoy the same growing conditions but do not compete too aggressively with the roses. Roses do best in [full sun](#) and well-drained soil, and so should their companions. Plants that are too aggressive may crowd the roses and absorb too much water and nutrients from the soil.

Many sun-loving annuals, such as heliotropes (*Heliotropium*), [lantana](#) (*Lantana*), verbena (*Verbena*) and million bells petunia (*Calibrachoa*), hold up well throughout the summer and fill the space among roses

nicely.<sup>3</sup> They all have modest water requirements and will benefit from the heavy feeding regime that roses demand.

## Plants That Discourage Pests

Good companions are said to enhance one another's growth or protect each other from harm in some way. Some companion plants may help discourage pests without the use of chemicals because there are natural substances in their leaves, flowers, or roots that repel insects.

Members of the onion family, such as chives,<sup>4</sup> [ornamental alliums](#), and edible onions, increase the perfume of roses, ward off aphids, and prevent black spot.

Herbs and other aromatic plants make wonderful rose companions, and all may help ward off [Japanese beetles](#) and aphids, including:

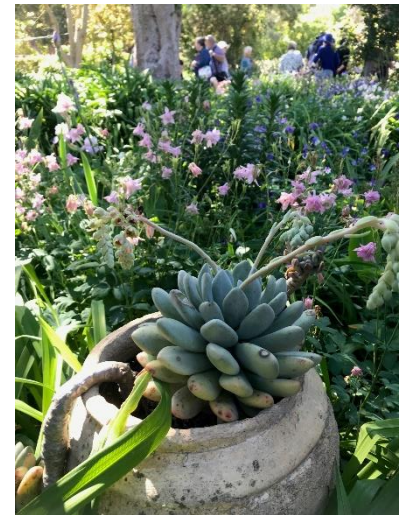
- [Scented geraniums](#) (*Pelargonium*)
- Rue (*Ruta*)
- Feverfew (*Tanacetum parthenium*)
- [Parsley](#) (*Petroselinum*)
- [Thyme](#) (*Thymus*)
- [Marigolds](#) (*Tagetes*)
- Culinary [sage](#) (*Salvia*)
- Anise-hyssop (*Agastache*)
- [Russian sage](#) (*Perovskia*)
- Lavender (*Lavandula*)
- [Yarrow](#) (*Achillea*)
- [Oregano](#) (*Origanum*)
- Catmint (*Nepeta*)

Tomatoes allegedly prevent black spot, though not many people are inclined to combine roses and tomatoes. Lavender and catmint are good at [keeping rabbits away](#). [Four o'clocks](#) (*Mirabilis*) and larkspur (*Consolida*) act as decoys by attracting rose-loving Japanese beetles to eat their poisonous leaves. Yarrow attracts ladybugs who in turn feed on aphids.

## How to Plant Rose Companions

Remember to plant rose companions at least 1 foot away from your roses so that you do not disturb their roots.<sup>3</sup> Leather gauntlet gloves might come in handy when working in your rose garden. Thorn-resistant kidskin leather moulds to your hands and stress points at thumb and fingertips are reinforced for long-lasting wear.

Create a healthy open structure for your roses with [good pruning practices](#). Always maintain [good air circulation](#) around your plants to help prevent attacks from pests and diseases. With proper care of your roses, you will be able to surround them with many [interesting](#) plants.





**Come to our pruning day at Peace Park Kiama** – Sunday July 16 10a.m.- 3.00p.m. either to watch the demonstration, or to help prune the roses there. Every secateur there helps. Clean and sharpen your secateurs beforehand. Even to come for an hour will help and we may finish well before 3 p.m.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL- DUE BY 30 JUNE** RENEWAL IS DUE FOR ANYONE WHO WAS SUBSCRIBED BEFORE 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2023. If you subscribed between 1<sup>st</sup> january and June 2023, your renewal is not due until

**June 30 2024** Single membership is \$40 and joint membership is \$45

If renewing and paying online- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT): BSB: 012 429 A/C: 2784 41863 Reference is Your: Initial, Last Name, Membership Number. Note: membership number is especially important. If you don't know it, please contact Kristin or Jill and we will give you the number. It helps Maureen Thackeray locate your payment in the bank account and mark you as paid on her list. Our Region is numbered 03 and is the beginning of your membership number.

If paying by cheque, write your membership number on the back and post to: Subscription Secretary: Mrs Maureen Thackeray, 31 Tallow-Wood Avenue, NARELLAN VALE NSW 2567 E: [mth37405@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mth37405@bigpond.net.au) Phone: 0417 699 846

## AROUND THE RIDGES OF THE ILLAWARRA – SHOALHAVEN

### SOME GLIMPSES OF OUR JUNE MEETING



*John Elton speaking on natives*



*Roses on display*



*below Shirley Coady congratulating Judith Oyston OAM*



**PEACE PARK NEWS**



*SOIL ARRIVES FOR THE BEDS TO MOVE*



*JILL PRUNES THE CLIMBING ROSES*



*CELEBRATION OF JILL'S BIRTHDAY WHILST IN BALI*

Congratulations to Robert Coady our excellent Treasurer who was able to gain a grant for the Peace Park. It will help with tools and roses, as well as other items that will help the garden.

Happy special birthday to our wonderful Secretary- Jill Millburn who is in Bali at the moment celebrating with family.

**DAPTO RIBBONWOOD PEACE GARDEN**



*VANESSA SIZING UP THE STANDARD*



*VANESSA & KRISTIN FINAL TOUCHES*



*COLIN DROPPED IN TO HELP*

The roses are doing very well despite some neglect of late.... They are well nourished for a good spring showing.



*Congratulations to our wonderful Dorothy Snedden who received the Bert Mulley Memorial Award from the NSW Rose President on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.*

*Dorothy is an active member of the Hunter Valley Regional Rose Society*

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023 OF THE ILLAWARRA ROSE SOCIETY

The meeting commenced at 1.30 pm and 17 members were welcomed by Chairperson Kristin.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Colin Hollis, Michele Sadolewski, Geraldine Shea, Deb Keller, Pat and Horst Bluel and Julieanne Faulks.
2. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a. Letter from Sue Marshall from Southern Sydney Rose Society thanking us for inviting them to a workshop on 15<sup>th</sup> July (the day after Illawarra) Stefica Bikes, Vale Tony Stallwood. 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday for Dorothy Snedden. Moved as correct by Jill and Seconded by Laurie Zammit.
3. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Everyday Account \$2,899.50 Show Account \$6,550.64, Friends of Peace Park \$231.26, Education Account \$3,909.04, and Fixed Deposit \$8,119.81.

The Grant for Peace Park has been approved by Fiona Phillips Office and is being processed by the Federal Govt Grants Office. Each Region the contributed to the Adelaide Show will receive their contribution back as there was a surplus of funds, Illawarra raised \$6,031 which will be used for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Illawarra Rose Society. Moved as correct by Robert Coady and seconded by Phil Sanders.

### 4. **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

1. Shirley presented a card to Judith Oyston to Congratulate her on being awarded the Order of Australia for her contribution to the Rose Society and other organisations.
2. This year's Rose Show is on the same day that a Car Show is being held and the main street will be blocked off. Lorraine advised that the Gerringong Childrens Medical Research will do the catering at the Show.
3. We will have a Visit to Intan's Garden at Kangaroo Valley on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023.
4. Membership is due on 30<sup>th</sup> June.
5. The July Meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and we are still looking for a Treasurer and Committee Members.
6. The library is open, plenty of books available. See Lyndel and Phillip Sanders
7. Report on Peace Park given, we had a visit from the children from Kiama Preschool who brought us some beautiful drawings of roses.
8. Jenny Swan has just returned from attending a Heritage Rose Conference in Belgium.
9. Frans has just returned from volunteering at Ugowra, Neutrog provided fertilisers to be used. We had a beautiful display of winter roses and other flowers the members brought in. John Elton gave us a very informative talk on Native Plants that included a slide presentation. The meeting concluded at 3.00 pm. and was followed by Afternoon Tea.

## NEUTROG- next order closes on 10<sup>th</sup> August for early September delivery.

A STORY FROM JESS, A ROSE GROWER FROM A HOMESTEAD JUST OUT FROM WARREN IN WESTERN NSW:



The existing gardens at Mona Vane included a beautiful range of Moreton Bay figs and Jacaranda trees, creating a thick blanket of purple petals every November. Perhaps the most unique feature on the property is a bougainvillea climbing up the water tank stand. Roses have also become a key component of the gardens, with Jess having planted more than 150 roses in an assortment of colours including pinks, oranges, and creams.

Jess uses a variety of Neutrog products to keep the soil productive and the plants thriving including Seamungus Crumble, Rapid Raiser and POPUL8. A favourite of hers is Sudden Impact for Roses Advanced Biological Formula and pellets. She gives flowering plants a regular foliar feed to ensure strong flowers and encourage a longer flowering period. "I believe mental health is like gardening - it's forever changing, ever evolving and may need a dose of fertiliser to keep us happy and healthy."

### Winter garden care from Neutrog

During winter, there may be less obvious plant growth on the surface above the ground, but there is still plenty going on below the ground. Spreading Whoflungdung can help with temperature variance and control erosion from higher rainfall, Seamungus can provide a gentle, organically based nutrient dense mid-winter boost and GOGO Juice adds the beneficial microbes that will ensure your plants have a head start for spring.

