

Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society

August 2024 Newsletter



Signature Rose Best Friend

Dear Rosarian Friends,

Thank goodness July is behind us. It was the coldest and windiest July I have experienced in the Highlands.

August gives me hope - roses are budding with longer daylight hours and generally warmer weather.

Shonagh Moore was a delightful guest speaker. What a wonderful and generous member of the Mittagong Community she is. The Highlanders, particularly the aged and lonely, benefit from her very under-priced and nutritious meals.

Her Uniting Church stall at Mittagong Markets is renowned in the district and beyond.

Our Miniature Show committee are very busy preparing for our March Show.

Fliers published, accommodation booked for entrants outside the Highlands, show schedule prepared by Jim Cunningham and application for \$500 for hosting show has been sent.

Members, I hope you are supporting our committee by growing miniature roses. Please remember that new roses, available at Welby, are recently potted bare rooted roses.

Do not repot or plant in your garden till at least late October when the roots are established.

These plants require frequent watering.

This month's guest speaker is our Secretary Jeff Lawrence.

Jeff and his wife Jane, have recently returned from their adventures in the UK. They visited many beautiful gardens and I am leaving it to Jeff to enlighten you.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting.

Annette

Your Chairperson

"The rose is without an explanation; it blooms because She blooms." – Angelus Silesius

Feature Rose — Irresistible

Irresistible is the rose that highlights our Miniature Rose Show flier.

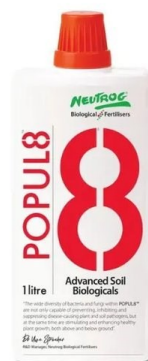
Irresistible is a beautiful exhibition rose. It is a long lasting bloom with creamy white outer petals and a pale pink centre.

It needs to be sprayed for black spot.

For me, the name 'Irresistible' perfectly describes miniature roses and that's why it is the chosen rose for our Show Flier.



Annette



Winter Rose Planting Instructions

On Arrival! Keep the roses in the plastic bag in a cool place until ready to plant. If delay longer than 7 days remove the wrapping on the roots and pace in a trench of friable soil and water in well. This will keep plants safe for up to 6 weeks. Plant before leaves appear.

Site Selection and Preparation.

Choose a sunny aspect, or at least half a day sun, away from large trees or shrubs.
DO NOT plant where roses were previously grown, unless replaced with fresh soil.
AVOID waterlogging soils— raise the bed or divert water away.
AVOID rubble or rocky sites.
SANDY SOIL to be improved by adding well-aged compost and animal manure.
CLAY SOIL—scatter a handful of gypsum on soil several times during the year.
LIMESTONE or ALKALINE soils—add sulphur, well-aged compost, or potting soil.
ACIDIC soil—add lime scattered over the area.

To Plant your Rose

1. Remove wrapping. Soak roots in water to re-hydrate for 1 hour before planting.
2. Dig over the area to loosen the soil adding compost or potting soil to the area.
DO NOT add any fertiliser at this stage, wait until Spring
3. Dig a square hole a spade deep by 20 to 30cm (12 ") wide, 1 metre apart.
Form a mound of loose soil to support the spreading roots.
4. Place the plant in the hole so the bud-union, at base of branches, is at soil level. Back fill with soil. Press in firmly.
5. Water in well—repeat 2 or 3 days later. Refill any depression with soil up to the bud union once more.
Seamungus' or 'Seasol' can be added to assist root growth.
No fertiliser at this time.
6. **Prune the banches by half their length to encourage strong basal growth.**
7. Add mulch—pea-straw, lucerne hay, compost, old leaves, wood chip. Do not use lawn clippings.
8. Fertilise in September—'Sudden Impact for Roses' by Neutrog is recommended.



Care for Roses

Water—Slow deep soak once a week for 2 to 3 hours by drip irrigation, from October until May or early winter rain.

Fertilise all roses in September, December and February. Follow with deep watering.

Prune—July (August in cold climates) reduce height of bush growth by 50%, remove oldest branches or twiggy growth. Cut off old flowers with short stems at any time.

STANDARDS (also known as Stem roses)

Planted in the same manner as bushes, except they have a tall stem or trunk.

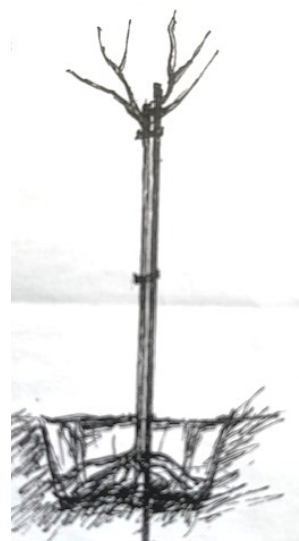
1. Plant 1 metre to 1.2 metres apart.
2. Dig a square hole a spade depth by approximately 30cm (12 inches) wide.
3. Add a sturdy stake 1.2 metres tall to support the young plant.
4. Plant the rose with Stem and stake touching. Tie with strong material such as stocking or tape. Do not use wire.
5. Tie at top very close to branches and bud-union. Second tie halfway down stem.
6. 'Seamungus' (Neutrog) or 'Seasol' can be added to assist root growth. No fertiliser at this time.
7. Water in well. Add mulch

Water a slow deep soak once a week for 2 to 3 hours by drip irrigation from October until May or winter rain.

Fertilize—September, December, & February. Water in well. 'Sudden Impact for Roses' is recommended.

Prune July (August in cold climates) as for bush rose but less severe. Reduce height of bush growth by 50%, remove oldest branches or twiggy growth. Cut off old flowers with a short stem at any time.

Check ties regularly. Stem (or trunk) expands in growth & ties can cause choking. Or ties can break with age causing the stem to snap in half during strong wind or storms.



Our Members Choice Show Bench



Camelia 'Exquisite'

1st: Cheryl Costigan



Soul Sister

2nd: Roz Mulligan



Camelia 'Debutante'

3rd: Jeff Lawrence



Margaret Davies

1st: Roz Wootton



Eryldene Excelsis

2nd: Annette Lane



Mixed Flowers

2nd: Jonquil Temple



Natives in Flower



Red Camelia

3rd: Marilyn Dickinson

Picking and Caring for Cut Roses

Picking the flowers:

- ◆ Cut the flowers in the bud stage just when the outer petals start to uncurl.
- ◆ Once cut place the stems immediately into water - the sap does not stop flowing directly after the cut and if left too long before going into water, it will start to form an airbubble in the stem base. No water will pass this bubble and will cause the flower to droop.
- ◆ The bubble can be cut from the base of the stem by taking off the bottom 2cm.

*** This is why you are told to recut stems before placing into the vase.*

Caring for cut flowers: .

- ◆ Strip the lower leaves from the stem - do not place leaves in the vase water as it causes bacteria growth.
- ◆ Do not strip leaves using a metal stripper as it damages the stems.
- ◆ Re-cut the stems immediately before placing the flowers into vase.
- ◆ Change the water every two days. Fresh water means fresh flowers.
- ◆ Use a flower food to extend the vase life of your roses but be aware that this will encourage bacteria growth so clean your vase with the change of water.
- ◆ Recut the stems each time you take them out of the water.
- ◆ Clean your vases thoroughly after each use to avoid any bacterial contamination

Source: Treloroses.com.au

The Show Bench

Each month at our meetings we encourage you to bring along your beautiful rose blooms to share your joy with fellow members. A single bloom or a vase arrangement featuring the rose (or both) will enhance our meeting discussion.

Members are asked to vote for their favourite presentation.

Tallies are added up at the end of each year with the winners in each category receiving a garden centre voucher.





THE ROSE SOCIETY OF NSW INC.

2025 **MINIATURE**
ROSE SHOW

INCLUDING MINIFLORA & POLYANTHA ROSES AND FLORAL DESIGN

HOSTED BY

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGIONAL ROSE SOCIETY

MITTAGONG RSL CLUB

Cnr Old Hume Hwy & Bessemer St, Mittagong

FRIDAY MARCH 21ST 12PM - 5PM

SATURDAY MARCH 22ND 10AM - 4PM



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



SHOW CONTACT • Annette Lane • 0425 203 981 • annettelane6@gmail.com