

# Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society

March 2024 Newsletter



Signature Rose Best Friend

*Welcome to Autumn*

*fellow Rosarians,*

especially our new members from Goulburn  
Alex Mowbray and Beverley McGreevy.

Thank you Jonquil for providing a very enjoyable puppetry experience to commence 2024.

We have formed a committee for the National Miniature Rose Show led by Colin Hollis and fellow members Geoff Lawrence, Peter Miller, Roz Mulligan and Annette Lane. Could other members please volunteer to be part of the sub-committee to assist us - "many hands make light work."  
Martha Clarke at Welby Nursery is totally supporting our show. After a visit from Colin and myself she is doubling her miniature rose order.



Our guest speaker for March is our member Liz Patton. Her topic is her architectural garden designed by Charlotte and Chris Webb.

Following her presentation we will proceed around the corner to her rose garden for morning tea.  
Liz's address: 11 Turner Way, Renwick.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting and we can literally "smell the roses" together.

*Annette*

Your Chairperson

*"There may be many  
flowers in one's life...but  
only one rose." – Anonymous*

## Feature Rose—Best Friend

Best Friend is the signature rose of The Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society which had it's inaugural meeting on 18th February 2017. So aptly chosen because it epitomises the friendship and caring of our small membership group.



Best Friend is a hybrid tea rose bred by Meilland International France and registered in 1997.

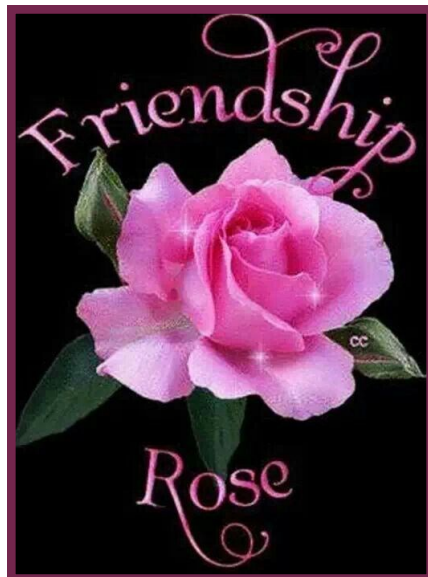
The colour can be best described as "deep, hot/bright plum pink". The perfume is fabulous, heady and fruity. It is a vigorous grower producing a long stemmed single bloom with very few thorns. An excellent vase rose because it lasts in perfect condition for several days emitting a delightful fragrance.

Best Friend is a multi awarded rose. Excellent as an exhibition rose and particularly suited to bud to bloom category.

In 2002 Best Friend was chosen by RSPCA to honour the unconditional friendship between pet and pet owner.

I believe we are very fortunate to have Best Friend as our signature rose.

*Annette*



## Miniature Roses

A miniature is just what it sounds like: a plant that has been bred to stay smaller than the average shrub.

These shrubs generally stay under 30 inches tall, and the leaves and blossoms are proportionally small as well. These are the original tiny roses and they have been cultivated for centuries.

Miniatures can come in climbing or shrub types, and there are moss, teas, and China roses among these. China is the species parent from which all minis descended.

The one commonality here is that they're much smaller overall, with petite flowers and foliage. The blossoms are generally less full than those found on larger plants.

Their compact nature makes them popular container plants.

### Miniature Varieties

- ◆ Baby Boomer
- ◆ Black Jack
- ◆ Cricket
- ◆ Delicious
- ◆ Diamond Eye
- ◆ Figurine
- ◆ Green Ice
- ◆ Hilde
- ◆ Irresistible
- ◆ Jean Keneally
- ◆ Little Sunset
- ◆ Loving Touch
- ◆ Lucciola
- ◆ Magic Carrousel
- ◆ Magic Show
- ◆ My Little Angel
- ◆ My Yellow
- ◆ My Valentine
- ◆ Rainbows End
- ◆ Rise 'n'Shine
- ◆ Snow Kiss



Irresistible



Magic Show

## Miniflora Roses

Minifloras were first bred and released commercially in 1973. They are a hybrid cross of miniature and standard types.

According to the American Rose Society, a miniflora is a plant that falls between floribunda and miniature in size, with leaf and blossom structures falling between the two in size as well.

Minifloras were trademarked by the well-known Maryland breeder J. Benjamin Williams, and the label was written as “mini-flora.”

Williams generously donated the trademark to the American Rose Society in 1999. In 2009, the styling was changed to be written as one word, “miniflora.”

Minifloras usually have flowers that are every bit as large as those found on many standard-sized shrubs. Under the right conditions, the blossoms grow up to three inches in diameter.

The plants themselves can sometimes reach up to five feet tall and may still be considered minifloras if the breeder registers them as such.

They come in all of the colours that you may see in standard roses, and every flower size from single to very full.

### Miniflora Varieties

- ◆ Bright Smiles
- ◆ Eric The Red
- ◆ Gra's Blue
- ◆ Grace's Reward
- ◆ Hello Yellow
- ◆ Joyce Abounding
- ◆ Lenny
- ◆ Lilac Festival
- ◆ Red Gem
- ◆ Sarah Anne



Bright Smiles



Joyce Abounding

Source: <https://gardenerspath.com/plants/flowers/miniflora-vs-miniature-roses/>

## Our Members Choice Show Bench



**Frank Meiland**

*1st: Peter & Robyn Miller*



**Best Friend**

*Tied 2nd: Marilyn & Noel Dickinson*



**Honey Dijon**

*Tied 2nd: Annette Lane*



**Soul Mate**

*1st: Roz Mulligan*



**Bridal Pink**

*2nd: Pam Mildwater*



**Pink Intuition**

*3rd: Annette Lane*

## *Rose Tips for Early Autumn*

- ◆ The first two weeks of Autumn (mid March) is the time for pruning for autumn rose shows to help bring on a new flush of roses
- ◆ Remove spindly growth on newly planted roses where they have shot away with fresh strong growth
- ◆ Foliar feed as in spring
- ◆ Prune winter flowering roses such as Lorraine Lee & Nancy Hayward



Miniature rose 'Baby Boomer'

## *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.*

