

Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society

February 2023 Newsletter



Signature Rose Best Friend

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Ray Bradley's Floral Art
Exhibit titled
The Beauty of a Rose

Dear Rose Friends ,

Can you believe we are into the last month of summer?

Our Rose Society New Year commenced with a very social meeting and a fantastic Show Bench. I love the enthusiasm and fun generated by you at our meetings.

Thank you Jane for the educational tips given when discussing the bench. I will certainly checking my display roses for evidence of "bug attack" in the future.

Preparations are well underway for the joint Highlands Garden Society and Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society Autumn Rose Show (What a mouthful this is- I will be resorting to initials in the future).

Hope you are studying your show schedule. It would be great if every member could aim for at least one exhibit.

Clarification of Novice Class Floral Art Design 3 roses and a branch 30cm. Quoting Ray Bradley "The design size should be a width up-to 30cm.The branch can be longer if vertical."

I hope you are looking for interesting branches for your display.

Our guest speaker at this month's meeting is Dallys, a female beekeeper. I am giving a lot of attention to a beautiful rose called Unconventional Lady which will be Dally's gift because I believe she is "unconventional " being a beekeeper in a male dominated occupation/ hobby.

A little tip to conclude: Always deep water your roses before and after fertilizing. This stops the fertilizer burning the precious roots near the ground surface.

Looking forward to this months display of your beautiful roses.

Share the joy.

Annette Lane
Chairperson

Highlands Garden Society Bowral Inc and

Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society Autumn Rose Show

17 and 18 March 2023



The Schedule and information regarding registration to exhibit has been sent to you all. Plus Ted Morphet will be our guest at our March meeting to show us how best to prepare our blooms for display.

A first time exhibitor? Why not just enter in one class....you never know, you may have the winning bloom.

Cultural Notes for February

Kindly supplied by Jacqueline Tweedie, Sydney Regional Rose Society

How do you avoid blackspot?

You must adhere to a strict anti-fungal spraying programme.

As there is no certain cure for these problems one has to be prepared to be pro-active in preventive management. If you spray every 7-10 days with the appropriate chemicals then there is little chance the bushes will succumb. You can remove the infected leaves, pick up the fallen ones, put them into a sealed plastic bag and place into your rubbish bin. Blackspot spores have not had the very hot days, of over 36°C. for 4 hours in one day, to kill them off so spraying will be needed.



Photo taken from Growing Roses by Paul Hains

The damage showing on the leaves will remain until Winter pruning is done. The late afternoon showers are encouragement for fungus to grow, the foliage stays wet/damp overnight in humid conditions. Fungal spores can remain on the soil surface waiting for ideal conditions to restart the process, so spraying the soil too can help. It can take about 14 days for blackspot to be evident after leaf infection.

Older leaves with brown edges and very crispy, with the inner area staying green, is called sunburn and can be the result of removing too much foliage when dead heading or after the Summer trim. Sunburnt canes have areas on the side of the stem that have become brown, different to stem die-back, which starts at the top.

Hot winds and heat could dry out the leaves. This can only be helped by supplying enough moisture for the plant to recover leaf growth over the next growth period.

A healthy growing bush will usually survive an insect attack. A good drenching or flushing of potted roses is beneficial to remove a build-up of salts and fertilizer and make the ants feel unwelcome.

Make sure your pots do not have direct contact with any sealed surface e.g., tar, pavers, concrete, tiles etc.

Place a spacer (pieces of tile or set on wedges, legs) under the pot as this allows drainage. Never place any type of saucer underneath your pot as this will accumulate water and eventually cause bacteria to form and your rose will suffer accordingly.

The overfeeding of small pots can lead to disaster. Less is best, water is your best fertilizer. If for some reason or other, there is a lack of watering, then the plants can burn in a very short time.

Mulch can be added to the top of your potted rose.

Cultural Notes for February Cont:

New roses will still need extra watering in their first summer, deep watering will encourage a deep root system. There has been sufficient time since the last rainfall for the surface to dry. Mulching will help conserve moisture, while keeping the soil surface soft which helps water penetrate easily.

Red spider mite is now being reported to be rampant (dry and hot) in some areas, so will need to be controlled by spraying the top and undersides of the leaves with a systemic mite control spray.

These eight legged mites suck the leaf sap at an amazing speed leaving the lower leaves looking dry and pale, feeling sand blasted on the underside.

Spraying the underside of leaves with water is good as they do not like getting wet.



Red Spider Mite Infestation

Photo taken from Growing Roses by Paul Hains



Aphids attacking new growth.

Photos taken from Growing Roses by Paul Hains



If you have already Summer pruned watch out for aphids as they love new growth.

Watershoots may be present after the soaking rain.

Remember to treat these watershoots with care. Once they have flowered trim by only removing the central truss and shortening the remaining few stems to the lowest pair of twin leaflets, these are known as bracts.

Roses in light soil will also develop quicker than those in heavier clayey soils.

Good gardening, Jacqueline.

A selection of the fabulous rose blooms benched by our members at our January meeting.





Our Next Meeting

10.00 am Wednesday 15 February 2023

Our meeting will be held at Renwick Community Centre

Renwick Drive, Renwick

Our Guest Speaker will be;

Dallys Napiorkowski

From Macarthur Bee Keepers Association

Judging Table

For the Judges bencha single rose bloom from your garden.

Please feel free to enter more than one single bloom if you have more in your garden

Members Choice

A single bloom or arrangement of your choice from your garden which features the rose.

Neutrog Delivery

Those members who have placed their orders through Neutrog will be contacted when that order will be delivered, which is expected in March.

Once again Peter and Robyn Miller have allowed their home to be the collection point.

We must be courteous on the day of delivery and be mindful that we must pick up our products ourselves and not expect Peter to do so. Please take someone with you who can help you to do this, where possible please.

Quote Of the Month

*How doth this little busy bee
Improve each shining hour
And gather honey all the day
From every opening flower.
Isaac Watts 1674—1748*

