

Sydney Regional Rose News

Inside this issue

- ✿ Some results from the Royal Easter Show
- ✿ Why you should combine roses with other plants
- ✿ Planting & choosing a bare root rose
- ✿ Catching a bus to Newington



John Bennett OAM, President of the RAS, presenting the Gregory East Perpetual Trophy to Robyn East at the Royal Easter Show

Monthly meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 7.30 p.m. from September to May and the first Saturday of June, July and August at 11 a.m. at the Newington Community Centre, Cnr Avenue of Europe & Avenue of Asia Newington
Visitors are welcome

Meetings

Saturday, 7 June, 2025 @ **11.00 a.m.**
at the Newington Community Centre

Saturday, 5 July, 2025 @ **11.00 a.m.**
at the Newington Community Centre

PATRONS

Sandra & Graham Ross

CHAIRMAN

Jacqueline Tweedie

1 Christel Ave., Carlingford

VICE CHAIRMAN

Jim Cunningham

SECRETARY

Kerry Hurst

Haberfield, 2045

Home: ☎9799 9218

TREASURER

Michael Brook ☎9636 4705

85A Metella Rd.,

Toongabbie 2146

☎9636 4705

COMMITTEE:

Jim Cunningham ☎0418 632 648

Pat Cunningham

Sharon Matthews ☎0419 674 664

Robyn East ☎9897 5052

positions still vacant

APPOINTEES TO STATE

COUNCIL

Jim Cunningham

Robyn East

ALTERNATE APPOINTEES

HONORARY AUDITOR

HONORARY SHOW SECRETARY

Vacant

SHOW BENCH STEWARD

Pat Cunningham

LIBRARIANS

Ted & Meryl Morphet

☎ (02) 4735 3668

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Vacant

EDITOR SYDNEY ROSE NEWS

Jacqueline Tweedie ☎9872 1862

email: jackietweedie@hotmail.com

(Closing date for contributions is
Monthly Committee meeting)

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

There have been a number of Rose shows where beautiful blooms have been on display. The last Rose session at the Easter Show had some particularly good blooms on show. Robyn East was presented with the Gregory East Perpetual Trophy, 'Exhibitor with the Highest Points' scored in all Miniature Type Blooms classes exhibited over the three sessions of the Easter Show. There is a report of the three rose sessions included in this magazine in which the cultivars are listed to give you an idea of which rose is possibly best for exhibition or flower supply. Congratulations Robyn.

Hope you have selected and ordered your next rose additions. You needed to be early to get what you wanted.

Our meetings are the ideal place to ask questions about growing better roses, that is, better growth, more flowers. The cultural notes are just advance help notes so you can manage the obstacles sent by mother nature between meetings.

At the April meeting there was uncertainty about the May meeting being held at the hall owing to the Federal election and Parramatta Council not readily helpful with information. Email addresses came in handy. The Easter flower arrangement demonstrated at the April meeting was added to the raffle prize.

Our guest speaker at the May meeting, Susan Wade, presented photos of gardens from Belgium, Switzerland and Italy. These gardens mostly had Heritage rose varieties growing and being maintained as such. Susan had placed lots of information on each image and the photos were very explanative. Overseas travel expands our knowledge. Our history does not have large expansive gardens surrounding castles or manor houses that date back centuries. Thank you, Susan.

The pamper pack raffle was won by Michael who immediately gave it to Ann prior to Mothers' Day as they were heading to Osaka, Japan, for the International Rose Conference.

For our Saturday, June 7 meeting, which starts at **11.00am**, the guest speaker **will be Richard Jones**. His topic will be "Time at Yates". This is the first of three daytime meetings. After the meeting you are invited to join us for lunch at a nearby restaurant. You choose if this suits your budget. A general booking will be made at the same place as last year, a few minutes' walk from the hall. Your decision to attend will be helpful.

Mark McGuire will be our speaker at the Saturday morning meeting on July 5. Mark is a very successful rose grower, exhibitor and has won many championships and a few Garden Competitions. He is a man of knowledge and is happy to answer any questions on garden and pot growing. His topic will be "How can I help" using his experiences from over the years. Mark lives close to Sydney Harbour so needs to be prepared in the fight against salt air and humidity. Again, you are invited to join fellow rosarians for lunch at a local restaurant.

All members are urged to attend our Annual General Meeting on August 2, which starts at 11 a.m.

At the August meeting we will have a TRADING TABLE set up so members can bring along items suitable for sale. Books, cakes, slices, garden plants are welcome. More details in the next magazine.

The showing requirements for the 'Eva Louise Trophy' class will change slightly. More details next issue.

If you have not been well, we wish you a speedy recovery and hope to see you again, soon.

Jacqueline

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Committee meets at Castle Hill on the Thursday evening following our meeting at Newington.

You can help without knowing a lot about the history of the Rose Society. Our Committee deals with items that concern our meetings. Speakers are sourced from knowledge or experience of our members. We try to get speakers who will be of interest to members. A variety of ideas is welcome.

TRANSPORTATION BY BUS TO NEWINGTON

If you do not have a motor vehicle you can get to Newington by route 526 bus from Strathfield, Rhodes or Homebush. The bus stops directly outside the Newington Community Centre. You will need to walk around the building and enter from the carpark side door or knock loudly on the windows on the bus stop side.



REMINDER - REGIONAL FEE NOW OVERDUE

Thank you to those who have already paid their \$10. The amount covers two members at the same address. This fee applies from January to December each year. If you have not yet forwarded the Regional fee please consider paying it NOW. You can pay at a monthly meeting if you prefer or do a direct bank deposit.

The banking details are BSB 012 263 008688516. Name of account is Rose Society of NSW Sydney Regional. Please leave your name as a reference.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SYDNEY REGIONAL

The 58th Annual General Meeting of the
Sydney Regional of the Rose Society of New South Wales Inc.

will be held at 11.00 a.m.

on Saturday, 2nd August, 2025
at Newington Community Centre,
Cnr Avenue of Europe & Avenue of Asia, Newington

Please try to attend this meeting.

**ALL EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE POSITIONS
WILL BE DECLARED VACANT
AND NOMINATIONS CAN BE CALLED FOR FROM THE FLOOR.**

AGENDA:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 57th A.G.M.
2. Presentation of the Treasurer's Report.
3. Presentation of the Chairman's Report.
4. Election of Office Bearers and Committee members for the following year.
5. Election of appointees to State Council of the Rose Society of NSW Inc.
6. To appoint an Auditor for the following year.
7. To appoint a Publicity Officer for the Regional.

The above notice of the 58th Annual General Meeting
has been authorised by Kerry Hurst,
Secretary of the Sydney Regional of the
Rose Society of New South Wales Inc.

MONTHLY SHOW BENCH – 2024-2025

CUMULATIVE POINT SCORE 24-25			
	JULY 2024/JUNE 2025 Classes 1-11	NOVICE ONLY Class 12	EVA LOUISE TROPHY Class 13
Michael Brook	6.00		
Robyn East	72.50		27.50
Sharon Matthews	26.00		
Braidan Swan	92.00		
Ailsa Wareham			5.00
Roses on the April showbench: ‘Belle of Berlin’, ‘Brindabella Swirl’, ‘Chicago Peace’, ‘Delicious’, ‘Mandarin’, ‘The Children’s Rose’.			
Roses on the May showbench: ‘Apricot Nectar’, ‘Baby Boomer’, ‘Mandarin’, ‘Sprayer’, ‘White Spray’.			
Floral art – Robyn East –31.00			
EXTRA CLASS (NOT NECESSARILY ROSES)			
<u>Any potted plant in a pot up to 30cmSs (12”) diameter.</u>			
Where is your competitive spirit? The above class of a potted plant operates all year round.			
BEGINNERS OR NOVICES TO SHOW THEIR BLOOMS			
Class 12 is expressly for Novices. You are invited to place <u>one stem or cut of any rose variety</u> in this class. A cut carries one bloom and bud / buds or more than one bloom with or without side buds. A stem has one developed flower, i.e. no bud or flower has been removed to encourage growth in the remaining bloom. Any new member/exhibitor can enter into this class.			

RESULTS OF EASTER SHOW

The main ribbon winners for each session are printed below along with the cultivars they benched.

Rose Session 1.

ROSE CHAMPIONSHIP won by E & M Morphett with (E) ‘Bugatti’, ‘Christian Dior’, ‘Signature’, (B5) ‘Amazing Grace’, (F25) ‘Apricot Nectar’

CHAMPION ROSE won by I & M Thackeray with ‘Moonstone’

CHAMPION BUNCH won by E & M Morphett with ‘Fairy Tale Queen’

CHAMPION DECORATIVE won by B Swan with ‘Aoteaoroa’

CHAMPION BUD TO FULL BLOOM

won by E & M Morphett with ‘Elina’

CHAMPION FULLY OPEN won by R East with 'Firefighter'
CHAMPION GRANDIFLORA
won by E & M Morphett with 'Queen Elizabeth'
CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN BRED
won by E & M Morphett with seedling (F1-6) 'Vol de Nuit'
CHAMPION FLORIBUNDA (F1- 6)
won by E & M Morphett with 'Cliff Richard'
CHAMPION FLORIBUNDA (F1-25)
won by E & M Morphett with 'City of Goulburn'
CHAMPION MINIFLORA won by D & G Hayne with 'Red Gem'
CHAMPION MINIATURE won by R East with 'Mandarin'
SUPREME CHAMPION
won by E & M Morphett with 'Fairy Tale Queen'

Rose Session 2.

AUSTRALIAN ROSE CHAMPIONSHIP
won by E & M Morphett with (F1-25) 'Apricot Nectar', 'White Spray', (BFO) 'Princess de Monaco', (E) 'Mainau Perle', 'Silver Lining'.
'Moonstone',
2nd D & G Hayne with (F1-25)
'City of Goulburn', (B5) 'Peter Frankenfeld', (M5) 'Magic Show', (B4-6)
'Radiant', (D3) 'Senator Marise', (E) 'Jubilee Rose'.
CHAMPION ROSE won by E & M Morphett with 'Good Samaritan'
CHAMPION BUNCH won by E & M Morphett with 'Peter Frankenfeld'
CHAMPION DECORATIVE won by E & M Morphett with 'Duet'
CHAMPION BUD TO FULL BLOOM
won by E & M Morphett with 'Tineke'
CHAMPION FULLY OPEN BLOOMS
won by E & M Morphett with 'Duet'
CHAMPION GRANDIFLORA won by R East with 'Queen Elizabeth'
CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN BRED
won by E & M Morphett with (F1-25) 'Werribee Park'
CHAMPION FLORIBUNDA (F1-6)
won by E & M Morphett with 'Fabulous'
CHAMPION FLORIBUNDA (F1-25)
won by E & M Morphett with 'Apricot Nectar'

CHAMPION SHRUB won by R East with unknown David Austin rose
CHAMPION MINIATURE (B5)
won by D & G Hayne with 'Magic Show'
SUPREME CHAMPION won by E & M Morphett with 'Apricot Nectar'

Rose Session 3

N.S.W ROSE CHAMPIONSHIP

won by G Woods with (E) 'Pope John Paul 2', 'Silver Lining', 'Neue Revue', (B5) 'Veterans' Honor'(F1-25) 'Imp'
2nd E & M Morphett with (E) 'Moonstone', 'Kardinal', 'Pope John Paul 2', (B5) 'Fairy Tale Queen', (F1-25) 'Imperator'
3rd. Gail Doyle with (E) 'Double Delight', 'Black Velvet', 'Paradise', (BFO) 'Double Delight', (B5) 'Pope John Paul 2'.

N.S.W. AUTUMN CHAMPIONSHIP

won by E & M Morphett with (B5) 'Peter Frankenfeld', (F1-25) 'Apricot Nectar', 'Golden Child', 'City of Goulburn', (F1-5) 'Fabulous', (B3) 'Pope John Paul 2'.
2nd G Woods with (B3) 'Lynn Anderson', (S) 'Evelyn', (B5) 'Kardinal', (BFO) 'Bride's Bouquet', (F1-25) 'Angel View', (M1-6) 'Garden Garland'

N.S.W. MINIATURE CHAMPIONSHIP

won by G Woods with (M1-6) 'Baby Eclipse', 'Jean Lajouie', 'Irresistible'

CHAMPION ROSE won by G Woods with 'Neue Revue'

CHAMPION BUNCH won by G Woods with 'Veterans' Honor'

CHAMPION DECORATIVE won by Gail Doyle with 'Gemini'

CHAMPION BUD TO FULL BLOOM won G Woods with 'Irresistible'

CHAMPION FULLY OPEN BLOOMS

won by E & M Morphett with 'Joyfulness'

CHAMPION GRANDIFLORA

won by E & M Morphett with 'Queen Elizabeth'

CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN BRED

won by E & M Morphett with (F1-25) 'Werribee Park'

CHAMPION FLORIBUNDA (F1-6)

won by E & M Morphett with 'Rusticana'

CHAMPION FLORIBUNDA (F1-25)

won by E & M Morphett with 'Golden Child'

CHAMPION SHRUB won by E & M Morphett with 'Paris 2000'

CHAMPION MINIFLORA

won by E & M Morphett with 'Lovely Surprise'

CHAMPION MINIATURE won by B Swan with 'Mandarin'

SUPREME CHAMPION won by G Woods with 'Veterans' Honor'

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL EXHIBITORS

NEUTROG ORDERING

Now is the time to place your fertilizer and garden needs order with Neutrog in South Australia.

If this is your first time placing an order you will need to contact them on 1800 656 644 to set up an account. Your name and email address has already been sent to them (from the membership form you signed). Only financial members can place an order. The exact August closing date will be available when you go on-line to place your order as well as the delivery date and delivery address. You pay when ordering which can happen from June to August. Their webpage is www.neutrog.com.au. All Neutrog product is available at a reduced cost.

FLORAL ART –JUNE – ‘IS IT AUTUMN OR WINTER?’

Any flowers, any embellishments.

You may be lucky enough to still have rose blooms in your garden, but this month you can use any flower that is available. The warm weather has continued into May so June may be warmer than other years. Winter bulbs are easy to incorporate into a design, they can be used with the bulb attached so it can be replanted. Winter flower and foliage colours are important, use deep red, dark orange, brown etc. Because a question has been asked you may want to use Autumn colours such as orange, red, yellow, the lighter shade of the dark colours. If using a visible container, it should not be white for winter or autumn nor the flowers. If depicting a snow-covered theme, then white can be used to signify cold and snow/ice but the flowers need to be white while the foliage can be grey/green or green. Bare branches also can be used for winter.

FLORAL ART – JULY ‘YOUR CHOICE’

Any flowers, any embellishments.

There are no guide-lines for this month. You can do exactly what you want. You need to keep the basic principles of design in mind. Height and width plus depth (8:5:3) Space – negative and positive.

Colour mix. Texture differences. Container to match design style.

Colour of visible container to be continued into the design.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRICKLES & THORNS

The key difference between a thorn and a prickles lies in their origin and structure. Thorns are modified stems or branches, often with vascular tissue, while prickles are epidermal outgrowths, lacking vascular tissue. Spines are another type of pointed structure, typically derived from leaves.



Prickles

Thorns

Spines

To a botanist, however, not all spiny structures are the same. It turns out that spines are derived from leaf tissue and thorns from stem tissue. Prickles come from neither; they are simply corky projections from a plant's skin, or dermal tissue.

A Polish immigrant was applying for a driver's license. The optician showed him a card with the letters 'C Z W I X N O S T A C Z.'. 'Can you read this?' the optician asked. 'Read it?' the Polish guy replied, 'I know the guy.'

CULTURAL NOTES

In the last cultural notes, you were advised to keep a look out for the prevalence of Powdery Mildew which has now become a problem owing to the weather conditions that have been around since April (warm days followed by cool nights). Have you used a fungicide to keep Powdery Mildew in check? Do not ignore this fungus as it can be detrimental to rose bushes.

Is there a bush that needs moving? Now is a good time to consider the task but first you need to make sure the new spot is prepared in advance. If the bush is being planted into a spot that had a rose that showed signs of disease, then you will need to remove about a wheelbarrow amount of the existing soil before re-planting. The roots of a diseased bush need to be removed. Compost mixed with the new soil will help the moved bush establish. If the bush being moved is going into a spot where a healthy rose grew, then removing soil may not be needed, just add some compost into the soil. New roots can be burnt if they come into contact with fertilizer, so be careful. If you followed the information in the last magazine the soil will be free of fresh fertilizer.

Have you marked the calendar for the arrival of that rose order?

Use the spare time between now and then by cleaning up fallen leaves, removing dead stems, unproductive stems, thin twiggy growth from the bushes. Do not commence the winter prune yet! It is too early. New growth can be burnt by frost. It is better to do the annual winter prune at the end of July early August, so any new growth is not damaged by late frost. Rosarians in some areas need to wait longer as they still get frosts late in August. Early pruning is of no benefit to you as the bush will still be dormant until the soil starts to warm up. If there is an early start to spring, pruning in August does not hinder the next flowering season.

Sharpen and clean garden tools e.g., secateurs, pruning saw, garden spade. Check the age of your garden care products especially lime sulphur, which is needed at pruning time. Any bushes needing to be discarded? Now is the ideal time. A bush not growing well in the garden

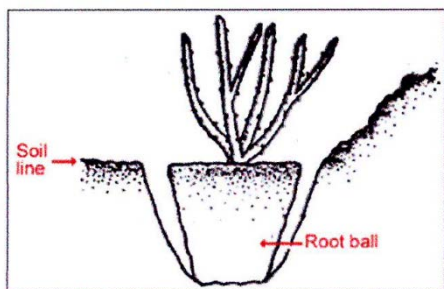
bed can be moved into a pot and given a reprieve, some bushes just grow better in a pot.

Buying potted roses can be ideal if you want to see the bloom colour or texture before you buy. These can be planted into your garden any time of the year but do cost more than 'bagged or bare-rooted' bushes.

Come along and find out information that will help with growing better roses. These cultural notes are to help you keep informed but do not replace face to face information which is given freely at our meeting.

PLANTING A POTTED ROSE

Container grown rose bushes can be planted anytime but the cooler weather allows them to settle in before the next flowering period. Make sure the soil is moist before removing it from the pot. Bare -rooted plants

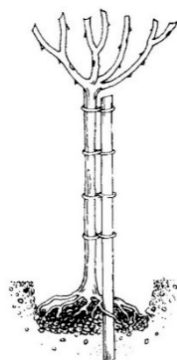


need longer to settle in than potted ones, as their roots need to develop and grow. This will not happen until the soil starts to get warm.

When planting container grown plants you make the hole wider than the width of the pot and

slightly deeper. Use the pot to make sure of the width and depth. You want the top of the pot soil to be at the same height as the edge of the hole. You need to encourage the roots to leave the root ball of the pot so the surrounding soil needs to be friable for the roots to extend and grow successfully so be careful of the surrounding soil type. You may need to slightly ease roots away from the root ball into the new soil being added.

Trim off any damaged roots with sharp secateurs. Hold the root ball firmly, backfill with the prepared



soil. Three quarter fill the space then gently fill the void with water and allow the soil to settle then top up with more soil. Water again. Do not stamp down on the soil.

Remember to put the stake in first before planting a standard (tree rose) bush. The stake needs to go just under the top bud union. Tie to the stake in a figure 8 fashion using soft pliable material, e.g., stocking.

Standard roses are not bush roses. Bush roses are located at ground level while standards are long stems with a grafted rose variety at the top.

YOUR ROSE ORDER HAS ARRIVED

First, if they are 'bagged or bare-rooted' you need to wash away all gunk, soil, sawdust or whatever from your purchase, slightly trim away about 3cm from the root system and place your new roses in a bucket of tap water. Leave there for 24-48 hours. This will help plants regain water lost after being removed from the ground and during delivery. This will be beneficial in rejuvenating them to the same standard they were in when dug up at the nursery.

In your prepared soil make a hole about 30cm deep and about 45cm wide. Make a central mound in the hole about as big as your fist. Take a new plant and spread out the root system in a spiral shape, placing the centre of the bush on the mound to see if the bud union is level with the ground of your garden bed. If too high, adjust the level of the hole, if too low, add more soil to the mound. Do not have the bud union high above ground level or too low. Strong winds can cause the bush to snap off if the union is too high. Place part of the removed soil back over the root system. Water this area and then replace the remaining soil to fill the hole. By giving your new bushes a good start you are well on your way to having success. Water again and thereafter every couple of days. Watering helps remove air pockets from around the roots. **DO NOT FERTILIZE THESE NEWLY PLANTED BUSHES.**



MORE TIME NEEDED BEFORE PLANTING?

Maybe your new roses are about to arrive, or they are already waiting to be planted but you are short of time? You need to 'heel' them in. That is, make a hole somewhere in your garden, place all your new purchases really close together in the hole, cover them well with soil above the bud union. Water well every couple of days. This way, your new purchases will keep successfully until you are ready to plant them in their intended spot.

If the garden bed is still being prepared you can plant each one into a 30cm diameter pot and repot anytime over the next few months. You need to use a good quality potting mix.

SOIL TESTER

Do you have the means to easily test the PH level in your rose garden? We have a PH soil test meter. Just push it into moist soil wait a few minutes and the answer appears on a dial at the top of the unit. If and when you borrow the unit you will be expected to return it in good condition. If it is lost, broken or damaged while in your possession you will be held responsible to replace the unit. A register to record each member as they borrow the tester will be kept and the borrower will need to return the tester to the Chairman at her home or at the following monthly Friday meeting.

LIBRARY

The Regional library is open for all members to use free of charge, so have a look. Have you browsed through the library books Meryl and Ted bring with them to the meetings? Have you considered borrowing a book or two? This collection of interesting Rose books is for your use. Subjects cover growing, pruning, general maintenance and seeing what specimens others have grown here and in other parts of the world. There are some books detailing Old Fashioned and Heritage Roses. A full list can be obtained at any meeting or by post. If you want a book or books listed please contact Ted and Meryl Morphett on (02) 4735 3668. Returned books can be left with the Chairman or Secretary if Ted and Meryl are not in attendance.

PLANTING AND CHOOSING A BAREROOT ROSE

When choosing a bareroot rose the canes should be plump, not wrinkled. The roots should be moist inside the packet.

PROPER LOCATION (Sun, air circulation) Place your bareroot roses where they will get at least 6 hours of direct sunlight and good air circulation (but not in strong wind).

PREPARED SOIL: **Option A:** Incorporated manure and compost with maybe blood and bone added or/and Seamungus. Watered weekly before planting. About 6 weeks ago.

Option B: with prepared planting mix or aged compost, you can plant immediately with no fear for the fine new roots. Some members add a layer of Seamungus onto the mound so there is food for the new growing plant. Be careful in what you add as strong fertilizer will burn the new roots. Blood and Bone is a slow release additive.

TOOLS & SUPPLIES: Shovel, pruners, a large bucket or similar container for holding the bareroot rose, soak the roots in water for 24 hours or heel them in by temporarily planting in loose moist soil (up to a week).

TRIM BROKEN ROOTS OR CANES: Remove all packing material and spray with a jet of water to clean the roots before inspection and placing them into a bucket of water overnight. Treat with bleach (optional). Solution of 10% sodium hypochlorite bleach (1part bleach to 9 parts water). You can dunk your bareroot roses in this 10% solution, wetting them completely and then air-dry (on spread-out newspapers). Be careful when disposing of bleach! Trim any broken roots as these breaks may allow disease to enter. Trim off any broken tips of canes or ends that do not look clean.

DIG A GENEROUS HOLE: or use an ample container large enough to spread out the plant's roots without cutting or bending them. For bush roses, like hybrid teas, dig a hole at least 45cms deep and wide.

RICH SANDY LOAM Use potting soil or add planting mix to sandy topsoil (1part mix to 2 parts soil).

SUPPORT ROOT STRUTURE: Mound the soil to form a solid pyramid of soil in the ground or container and spread the roots over it.

BUD UNION POSITON: The plant's bud union or "graft" should be slightly higher than the surrounding soil, about 100mms. Fill hole with soil mix, firming as you go, up to existing soil level. Do not stamp on soil.

WATERING BASIN: Form a dam around the perimeter of the hole. Water thoroughly, right after planting, to settle the soil. Try "puddling in" - take a watering hose put a nozzle on it, turn it on to get a good stream and plunge it in around the roots in several places. The water will find any air pockets and flush them out letting soil fill the spaces.

KEEP SOIL JUST MOIST until new top growth appears and then as needed to keep growth continuing. Your new roses will not require much watering until new leaves appear.

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION HIGHWAY

The web address is www.nsw.rose.org.au. It has been designed to be interactive with anyone who logs on from anywhere. Member information about events, Rose Consultants, photos of various roses from around the State submitted by members. Log in, will be 'rmember'. The password is 'Seduction' (a capital S is needed).

A pregnant woman (whose husband was out of the country) is in a car accident and is knocked unconscious. When she wakes up 3 days later she sees that she is no longer pregnant and frantically asks the doctor about her baby. The doctor replies, "Ma'am you had twins! - a boy and a girl. We couldn't reach your husband and since your brother was the first one here the day they were born we let him name them for you." The woman thinks to herself, "No, not my brother ... he's not very bright!" She asks the doctor, "Well, what's the girls' name?" "Denise". "Wow, that's not a bad name, I like it! What's the boy's name?" "Denephew".



WHY YOU SHOULD COMBINE ROSES WITH OTHER PLANTS

Ack: Better Homes & Gardens August 2017

Roses are captivating when in full bloom, but come winter when plants are bare sticks, the garden may look lifeless. Between flushes of blooms during the growing season, colour might go missing, and the bare thorny base of roses need camouflaging. So it makes good sense to combine roses with other plants to keep up the colour and interest year-round. Combination planting also creates greater biodiversity, encouraging beneficial insects for a healthier growing environment.

Worldwide, garden design trends indicate more natural, less ordered gardens – for example, the renowned Royal Horticultural Society garden at Wisley in the UK and public rose gardens, such as Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney, have reimagined their rose gardens combining roses with shrubs, perennials, annuals, herbs, bulbs and grasses for year-round interest. We hope to inspire you to rethink “just roses”, by adding a mix of foliage, flowers, textures and colours.

Best buddies

A good reason to plant roses with companions is to ward off rose pests. Planting a mixture in preference to having a monoculture can confuse pests (or, better still, discourage them all together) and provide an environment for beneficial insects and natural predators of aphids. Scented foliage, aromatic plants such as herbs (think sage, thyme, lavender and rosemary) and members of the onion family (garlic, allium and chives) are great companions for roses.

How to coexist with success

Match the vigour of the companion plant with the roses so they will not compete for available soil, water and nutrients. For example, grow vigorous roses with big, bold perennials, shrubs and grasses.

Avoid planting too densely – allow plenty of room for good air circulation and for maintenance, such as trimming, pruning and mulching. Soil preparation is the key – add plenty of organics prior to planting, and top up these annually after winter pruning using compost-rich mulch.

Rose fertilisers won't harm perennials, bulbs or annuals – they'll enjoy the added nutrients. Apply rose food every four to six weeks.

Essential rose care

Whether you grow roses on their own or together with other plants, they require care to keep them in top shape.

- Roses love full sun (minimum six hours daily) and grow happily in most parts of Australia except the tropical far north.
- Roses grow in a wide range of garden soils, but good drainage is important.
- Add plenty of organics (aged manures, compost) to the soil prior to planting, and good organic mulch (aged cow manure) ensures a healthy start.
- Lucerne hay, sugar cane and pea straw are all excellent mulches for roses. A 50mm-thick layer will help suppress weeds and retain soil moisture.
- Roses are heavy feeders, so apply organic rose food twice a season. Water in well after application.
- Roses respond well to pruning by producing new canes and lots of flowers. Mid to late winter is a good time for major pruning, with the exception of spring-only bloomers and climbers – leave these until after flowering.
- Once established, give roses a deep weekly soaking rather than a light sprinkling. Keep newly planted roses moist until new shoots are growing tall.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 30 JUNE, 2025

The price of membership remains the same as last year. \$40 for one person or \$45 for two people at the same address. Payment by a direct deposit into the Rose Society of NSW Inc. account. BSB 012 429 278441863. Please send the completed renewal form to M Thackeray. You can pay at our monthly meeting, but please complete the renewing membership form so all your details are correct. The membership renewal form can be obtained from the Society website. www.nsw.rose.org.au. It is envisaged that all future contact will be via email so it is important to give those details when possible.

COMING EVENTS

June meeting – 07.06.25

Newington Community Centre **11.00am**

Speaker – Richard Jones

Topic – ‘Time at Yates’

**Raffle – Potted Australian Bred
Miniature Rose**

Floral Art – ‘Is it Autumn or Winter?’
Any flowers, any embellishments

June Committee meeting – 12.06.25

Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.

July meeting – 05.07.2025

Newington Community Centre **11.00am.**

Speaker – Mark McGuire

Topic – ‘How can I help?’

Raffle - Winter Warmer

Floral Art – ‘Your choice’
Any flowers, any embellishments

July Committee meeting – 10.07.25

Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.

AGM & August meeting – 02.08.25

Newington Community Centre **11.00am**
Trading Table

State Council AGM & Meeting 14.09.25

CWA Hall 136 Cawdor St, Camden
@ 10.00 a.m.

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"I'm getting awfully tired of
raking up your underwear."

ROSE CONSULTANTS

The following members of the Rose Society of NSW Inc. are rose growers of both exhibition (show) & garden roses who have kindly agreed to make available to all members their expertise. If you have problems or questions about rose growing, contact the person listed as living closest to your garden.

SYDNEY AREA

Jim Cunningham, Castle Hill 2154 0418 632 648

Robyn East, Merrylands, 2160 9897 5052

Mark McGuire, Neutral Bay, 2089 0418 463 595

Ted Morphett, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 3668

Braidan Swan, Alford's Point, 2234 0487 439 573

NEPEAN BLUE MTNS & HAWKESBURY

Doug Hayne, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 1730

UPPER NORTH COAST

Ray McDonald, Taree 2429 6550 2216

ILLAWARRA AREA

Colin Hollis, Jamberoo, 2533 4236 0456

Kristin Dawson, Kanahooka 2530 0422 157 353

Jill Millburn, Kiama, 2533 0409 849 534

Website: www.rose.org.au

www.nsw.rose.org.au

This publication is for information of members of Sydney Regional.

This publication cannot be reproduced without permission of Sydney Regional, Rose Society of N.S.W Inc.

Printed by The Rose Society of NSW Inc.,
Sydney Regional,
1 Christel Ave., Carlingford, 2118

*The opinions expressed in articles or letters in this magazine are
not necessarily the opinions of the Rose Society of New South
Wales Incorporated.*

UNIQUE, BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVATED

SUPER COMPOST



Perfect for all plant types, all year round!

Packed with nutrients, biology and humates, CHOCKABLOK improves soil structure, aeration, and moisture retention while enriching the soil with essential nutrients.

CHOCKABLOK is free from green waste, supports healthy plant growth, boosts microbial activity, and encourages earthworms.

neutrog.com.au

NEUTROG®
Biological Fertilisers