

# Sydney Regional Rose News

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**Monthly meetings are held on the first Friday of each month starting at 8 p.m. at the Newington Community Centre, Cnr Avenue of Europe & Avenue of Asia Newington. Visitors are welcome**

## **October and November Meetings**

Friday, October 7, 2022 @ 8.00 p.m.  
at the Newington Community Centre

Saturday, 12 November, 2022 @ Rumsey Rose Garden.  
Parramatta Park, 11.00a.m.

PATRONS

Sandra & Graham Ross

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Pat Cunningham

Michael Brook ☎9636 4705

Sharon Matthews ☎0419 674 664

Robyn East ☎9897 5052

**positions still vacant**

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(Closing date for contributions is

Monthly Committee meeting)

## *CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE*

The AGM went ahead with some positions not filled on the night. The Annual Balance sheet is included in this magazine.

We had a successful Trading Table at the August meeting. Best laid plans just sometimes do not happen.

We showed a video describing in detail the pests and diseases that may be encountered during any one year and the necessary controlling product.

Robyn had to delay the talk about her hybridizing results from August to September owing to Greg's health problem. He appears to be on the mend at present. Robyn showed some of her plants and pictures from her earlier crop of promising blooms. So far, she has only been using a mother plant and the hips that form from unknown pollination. Robyn brought along some of her one and two year old bushes, a couple of plants from last year's seeds and two holding trays of tiny first and second leaf seedlings. Her success rate seems quite good. Successful breeding only comes if you try to produce new plants. She is thinking of trying the complete hybridizing by doing her own cross pollination, not relying on local pollinators.

Arising from the AGM in August we still have a few committee vacancies to be filled. Can you help us?

The October meeting on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> will discuss and demonstrate Floral Art. It could end up being a hands on evening if members want to do a basic Modern Arrangement. I can have suitable containers and bits and pieces plus flowers once I know how many may wish to participate. You will need to contact me prior to the meeting by phone 9872 1862 or email ... jackietweedie@hotmail.com. Just ring me after the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, which will allow me enough time to gather the needed items.

The Nepean, Blue Mountains & Hawkesbury Regional Spring Rose Show will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October. More details can be obtained from Glynis Hayne on 4735 1730 or mobile 0427 104 944.

There is a change of date and venue for November. We will be meeting on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November | 11.00am in the Rumsey Rose Garden located in Parramatta Park. See article and

directions in this magazine. The Heritage and old garden roses should be in full bloom at this time of year.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> is our end of year celebration. A meal of hot fish pieces and chips will be supplied. You will need to confirm you will be there, so we have sufficient quantity. Last year the order was placed a few days prior to the meeting which allowed for any food problems to be sorted prior to the meal. This meeting will start at 7.30pm rather than the usual 8pm. A reminder will be in the next magazine. The usual raffle of Ham on the Bone and a fruit cake will take place.

There are masks and hand sanitizers available for you to use at our meeting. You can also wipe down your chair with sanitizing spray and paper towels if you are concerned about Covid.

If you are going to Adelaide for the World Rose Conference have a great time. The pre-tour events in and around Sydney look inviting and of interest to overseas visitors and members alike.

*Jacqueline*

*MONTHLY SHOW BENCH – 2022-2023*

<b>CUMULATIVE POINT SCORE 22-23</b>			
	<b>JULY 2022/JUNE 2023</b> Classes 1-10	<b>NOVICE ONLY</b> Class 11	<b>EVA LOUISE TROPHY</b> Class 12
Sharon Matthews	10.00		
Sharon gained the bonus 3 points for her entry in class 1			
<b><i>BEGINNERS OR NOVICES</i></b>			
Class 11 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 can enter into this class.			
Our monthly meetings are a good place to learn about preparing and putting blooms onto the show bench. If you get the bush growing correctly blooms always follow.			
Winter pruning means no rose blooms now until early October. <b>BUT</b> look below			

***EXTRA CLASS JUST FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR***

**Any potted plant in a pot up to 30cms (12”) diameter.**

Where is your competitive spirit? The above class of a potted plant operates all year round.

***ELECTRONIC INFORMATION HIGHWAY***

The web address is [www.nsw.rose.org.au](http://www.nsw.rose.org.au)

It has been designed to be interactive with anyone who locks on from anywhere. Member information about events, Rose Consultants, photos of various roses from around the State submitted by members. Log in, will be 'remember' The password is printed in each edition of the NSW Rose.

***REMINDER ..... SYDNEY DONATION***

***\$10.00 PER MEMBERSHIP 2022***

Again, thank you to those members who paid either by cheque, cash or bank transfer the additional \$10 regional payment. Direct deposit into the Regional account at the ANZ bank. BSB 012 branch 263 account number 0086 88516 for the amount of \$10, which covers until December 2022 would be appreciated.

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*To whoever stole my antidepressants; I hope you're happy now.*

*NOVEMBER MEETING - SATURDAY, 12 NOVEMBER  
VISITING THE RUMSEY ROSE GARDEN  
PARRAMATTA PARK AT 11 A.M.*

We hope for a perfect morning to roam around the gardens. You are advised that after the visit to the garden we will be going into the Parramatta RSL Club for lunch. You can choose to stay for lunch either at the Club or have a picnic lunch in the park. Parking available inside the entrance, also along Pitt Street, Hunter Street or the RSL. You can walk from the Parramatta Rivercat ferry stop. The trams are not yet moving along Church St. which means pedestrians only. The Rumsey Rose Garden is well maintained by Council and the Heritage Rose Group, Sydney. If hot you can walk and sit under arches holding flowering branches and smell the scent of these

highly perfumed roses. Large trees also offer shelter from the sun. There is a kiosk near the car-parking areas in the grounds. This should be a good outing - hope to see you there on a fine sunny morning.

If on the morning you need confirmation please phone Jacqueline on 9872 1862 or mobile 0457 872 665. Your friends are most welcome to participate.

A short message that you intend to be there would be helpful so we know how many may want to have lunch in the Club. You will find us waiting under the cover from the big tree.

*RUMSEY ROSE GARDEN PARRAMATTA PARK*

*Thank you to Glennis Clark, Coordinator Sydney Group, for this history of the Park*

The Rumsey Rose Garden originated when Roy and Heather Rumsey, at the time when their nursery went on the market in 1992, gave Heritage Roses Sydney Group (HRIA Sydney) two of every old rose remaining in their nursery, on the proviso Heritage Roses Sydney Group could find a garden to grow them where they would be accessible to the public. This comprised of about 400 roses. These roses were taken to David

Clark's nursery at Maroota for about 2 years where a group from HRIA Sydney used to go and weed and tend the potted roses until a garden was ready to receive them.

Much discussion took place amongst the Club members about possible suitable areas. Parramatta was considered ideal climatically for roses – better than North Shore or the coast. The Wisteria Gardens in the grounds of Cumberland Hospital was a site favoured by the Parramatta Historical Society. However, the area available was not big enough and access was not good, it being locked to the public except by invitation. The lovely area behind Old Government House in Parramatta Park, which was originally Mrs Macquarie's vegetable garden and contained rose trellises was next considered and in company with The Chairman of the National Trust a visit was made one Monday but as it was closed a fence climbing exercise had to be undertaken! A lovely area but the National Trust decided they wished to keep it for a demonstration Colonial vegetable garden. HRIA Sydney put forward a suggestion asking Council to consider the old Bowling Green site near the Macquarie Gate House which was flat, mown, with no trees, no creek and a carpark next door but it was flatly declined by Council. However, by March 1994 the Murray Gardens plan was adjusted to fit the old bowling green site and Council accepted the idea. The late Judy Andrews, landscape designer, horticulturist and member of HRIA Sydney, drew up the landscaping, engineering design and plan. This document not only included the rose classifications and planting specifications but also the earthwork, drainage, irrigation and structures.

Parramatta Council undertook to construct and maintain the garden under the guidance of HRIA and appointed a contractor. Roy Rumsey gave instructions for preparation of the ground. This included removal of masses of palm roots which had travelled right across the bowling green. This site had originally been an old convict mill, and so an archaeologist hovered ready to pounce on old pieces of rusty pipe and shards of china. Unfortunately Roy Rumsey died as the plans were being drawn up so never saw our garden.

The rose garden was opened on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1995 by Councillor Haines, Mayor of Parramatta and Gillian Batchen, Sydney Coordinator of HRIA who each planted a Rugosa rose. Refreshments were served in a marquee under the trees. In early 1998 Australia's Open Garden Scheme provided the labels which were made by Norman Mason from the Royal Botanic Gardens – these labels were updated during 2016 and our HRIA Sydney Group contributed to the cost. The garden became under the control of The Parramatta Park Trust and then Western Parklands Trust and now The Greater Sydney Parklands – these are State Government bodies.

HRIA Sydney has regular working bees at pruning time and paid for the extra roses to fill out the garden at Parramatta Park – eg the groups of Mutabilis, rugosas, Comtesse de Labarthe (marketed as Duchesse de Brabant) and Old Blush in the garden near the old house. HRIA Sydney has also paid for replacement roses and for the purchase of over 250 extra roses, in particular the species roses budded by the late Peter Cox at his nursery in Thirlmere.

We, lovers of old roses, can all only enjoy the garden along with the wedding parties who come to be photographed and the public who come to enjoy the peace and perfume.

### *AN INVITATION FROM HRIA*

We, Sydney Group HRIA, are having a day on 22<sup>nd</sup> October where we have invited a couple of our rural HRIA groups. We will spend time at Rookwood in the morning and then progress to the Rumsey garden in the afternoon. Sydney Regional members would be most welcome to join us either for the whole day or just the hour or two at the Rumsey Garden in the afternoon.

Please let Ailsa on 0419 433 548 or [ailsawareham@tpg.com.au](mailto:ailsawareham@tpg.com.au) know by 16 October if you are interested in coming.

## *FLORAL ART – OCTOBER*

**‘Modern arrangement’** - any flower/s and embellishments.

This month the design is from a thirty year period prior to the 1980’s. During this time modern design began to take hold in so far as things became minimalistic with clear cut lines and space. Dramatic style and colours were used. Use of positive and negative space became the focus. Positive space is filled by the materials used while negative space is the vacant area created around the positive space or focal area. If you need more information, looking through a collection of ‘Modern Interior Designs’ could help you understand the basis of the designs. **BOLD, DRAMATIC, CLEAR CUT DESIGNS** all refer to the minimalist style classified as Moderns. Bright colours including container and flowers can be expected.

Your chosen flower/s need to be eye-catching in shape or colour. Embellishments can be painted or dyed but need to be used sparingly. Embellishments are not flowers. Do not confuse MODERN with CONTEMPORARY, this can be a problem when using the internet as your guide.

A Modern flower arrangement is not hard to assemble it just means starting with the right materials which includes the container, foliage, flower/s and the idea to create space within the design.

This type of design will be demonstrated in October and you can participate if you let Jacqueline know you are interested.

## *CULTURAL NOTES*

Is this the start of a typical Spring season? Here’s hoping!

September is usually the month when growth begins in earnest on

the newly pruned rose bushes.

There are several tasks that need to be carried out to maximise the performance of your plants and get the most out of the year’s



most abundant flush, Spring.

They include feed, water, spray and mulch. Feed to push the growth along. High potash level is not important until the buds begin to form and then good doses will result in the best possible flowers. You do not generally feed newly planted roses (including those that have been moved) until after they have had their first flowers. Some growers believe it best to remove the first buds that form on a new plant to put more energy into developing the bush, but few have the will or patience to wait for secondary growth.

New growth brings the aphids and these can be damaging to the tender, new growth. Using a strong jet of water can be helpful if you only have a few bushes. Smothering oil such as EcoOil or PestOil is usually adequate and may be applied with a fungicide at the recommended strength. The reason for using the fungicide is two-fold, firstly there will perhaps be some dormant spores of blackspot that have not been controlled with the winter lime sulphur spray and they will attack the new growth. Secondly with the evenings still cool and the

days warming up the conditions are favourable for powdery mildew. Early symptoms of powdery mildew are distorted and twisted leaves. The powdery white growth of the fungus will soon follow. Spray fortnightly with a fungicide as a preventative for mildew and blackspot. Add a spreader such as household detergent to the spray mix to increase the adhesive power of the spray and distribute it more evenly over the surface of the leaves and stems. Remember, for protection against fungus diseases, you must have the protectorants on the plants before the disease arrives.

Good air circulation around bushes will speed drying of the foliage. Early morning watering will allow any splash back on the foliage to dry quickly. Try to avoid watering early evening or late in the day in very humid weather as the leaves need to be dry overnight.

Are your garden beds still water logged? Once the ground surface starts to dry the best way to conserve moisture is to apply a new layer of mulch approximately 10cm deep. Lucerne hay is great

but can be expensive. Cow or horse manure is excellent, but can be expensive when buying by the bag. There are many low cost types of mulch that can be used. Including your composted garden waste. Keep all mulch away from the main stem or plant base.

In the coastal areas the main flush will start happening around the middle of October although some may not flower until early November. Large flowered roses tend to flower before the cluster flowered ones. To encourage all blooms to open on the cluster flowered stem remove the centre bud.

Securely stake all those new water-shoots (basal breaks) once they start to grow to prevent them being torn or knocked off in windy weather. Once torn off they will not regrow from the same position.

**Have you noticed a little white moth hovering around the garden, especially at night?** It is easily seen and deposits multiples of tiny white eggs on the leaves and new buds. If allowed to develop small holes will appear in

the new buds. Take precautions and spray to eliminate as soon as you are aware of their existence. Use a recommended spray for caterpillars.

Public enemy number one is Red Spider Mite, also called the Two Spotted Mite. Spider mites love weather that is hot and dry. These eight legged mites will suck the sap at an amazing speed from your foliage. Tell-tale signs on the lower leaves are dry and pale (sand blasted) in appearance, underside of leaves are gritty to touch. You will need to purchase a miticide-ovicide to prevent a serious infestation. This mite can defoliate a complete bush in a couple of days if left unchecked. Best seen by viewing the underside of the leaves using a 10x magnifying glass where you should see a pepper and salt like cob-web substance with a multitude of mites no bigger than a full stop. They tend to suck the chlorophyll from the leaves causing severe damage before falling from the bush. If you only have a few bushes then use your hose to water the undersides of the leaves every couple of days as they dislike water. It seems to

start in the lower leaves and moves upwards.

When the weather get warmer watch for the tell-tale sign of thrips, which often blow in on hot westerly winds. The resulting

damage can be seen as a brown edging on the light coloured petals once they begin to open. Thrip, sometimes called Western Flower Thrip, is a tiny black insect about 2-3mm long resembling a small stick. They can also be green or yellow. Thrip will live inside the tightly folded petals and damage will become evident once it starts to open. Remove discarded blooms from the garden as thrip will live inside the bloom and the cycle will continue. Dark coloured blooms are seldom attached by thrip. White ice cream lids smeared with Vaseline hung near the pale coloured blooms can attract and catch some thrip.

Once you have control of the pests your next task is to keep the bushes regenerating. You need to constantly keep disbudding the spent flowers on your bushes. New growth will very quickly appear and in about

6-7 weeks a new stem with a rose or roses will appear depending on the variety. Resist the temptation to cut long stems as the bushes need a good cover of foliage for growth and continuous production of flowers.

Water is by far the best fertilizer and is helped by a strict feeding programme to give optimum results. Use the recommended amount of fertilizer, do not think double will be better. Established roses have feeding roots that can reach soil depths of around forty centimetres. Water should slowly soak to this depth. Light sprinklings or shallow watering encourages surface root growth, very little drought resistance and spindly growth thus producing fewer blooms than deep watered bushes. Remember, roses should be allowed to dry slightly between deep waterings. When applying granular fertilizer you need to water before and after application.

If you need more advice about pruning or other problems in your rose garden please contact any one of the Rose Consultants listed in the back of this magazine.

**THE ROSE SOCIETY OF NSW. INC**  
**1<sup>ST</sup>. JULY 2021 TO**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**

<u>Income</u>	2022	2021
NSW Affiliations	\$ 335.00	\$ 470.00
Member subscription	\$ 220.00	\$ 365.00
Interest all sources	\$ 73.01	\$ 61.88
Trading/Sales/Supper	\$ 285.88	\$ 495.00
Neutrog rebate	\$ 188.19	N/A
Neutrog Sales	\$ 0.00	\$1779.00
Donations	\$ 0.00	\$ 10.00
Sundries	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
	<b>\$1102.08</b>	<b>\$3230.88</b>

<u>Expenditure</u>		
NSW Affiliations	\$ 325.00	\$ 470.00
Hire of hall	\$ 54.75	\$ 54.33
Magazine production and post	\$ 394.30	\$ 462.10
Stationary	\$ 9.99	\$ 0.00
Phone & Postage	\$ 56.75	\$ 17.60
Show Kiama/sponsorship	\$ 110.00	
Neutrog Sales	\$ 0.00	\$1594.01
Meeting expenses	\$ 80.00	\$ 18.00
Trophy engraving Annual	\$ 50.00	\$ 53.90
Sundries	<u>\$ 407.93</u>	<u>\$ 2472.31</u>
	<b>\$1488.72</b>	<b>\$5142.25</b>

I have reviewed the receipt and payment books and other relevant documents of the Rose Society of NSW Inc. Sydney Regional, from which the accompanying Financial Report and completed Balance Sheet as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 have been prepared. The statements give a true and fair view of the association's affairs as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

AUDITOR ..... signed

**SYDNEY REGIONAL**  
**30<sup>TH</sup>. JUNE 2022**

**BALANCE SHEET**

<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	<b>2022</b>
Term deposit at ANZ Bank	\$10,000.00
Cash at bank	\$ 2,532.11
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$12,532.11</b>

<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>	
Unpresented cheque	\$ 154.93
Cheque number 002543	

**TOTAL LIABILITIES**                    **\$ 154.93**

**NETT ASSETS**                            **\$12,377.18**

**BANK RECONCILIATION**

Balance of CB funds at 30.6.21	\$ 2,763.82
Income for year	\$ 1,102.08
Expenses for year	<u>\$ 1,488.72</u>
<b><i>OPERATING LOSS FOR YEAR</i></b>	<b><u>\$ 386.64</u></b>
	\$ 2,377.18
Add unpresented cheque	<u>\$ 154.93</u>
Cash in bank account 30.6.22	<b><u>\$ 2,532.11</u></b>

NOTE: The difference between the amount of subscriptions collected and forwarded to State has been caused by a member depositing \$10.00 into the State account, not this regional.

## *RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP - ARE YOU FINANCIAL?*

The cost of renewal this year has risen. For a **single membership it will be \$40** and for **dual membership it will be \$45.00**.

**Associated membership will be \$40. Junior membership will be \$5.** Please check your membership card for the expiry date and year. If you are in doubt please contact the Subscription Secretary, . Mrs. G Hayne 25 Forbes St, Emu Plains 2750 Her phone number is 0427 104 944. If there is no payment by the end of September your name will be removed from the members register.

Payment is via the usual means of direct bank deposit or from a Regional meeting. Your membership number is important so please reference your membership number with payment. The banking account details are on the membership card. All the above information is available on the society web page.

## *SOME ROSE TERMINOLOGIES EXPLAINED*

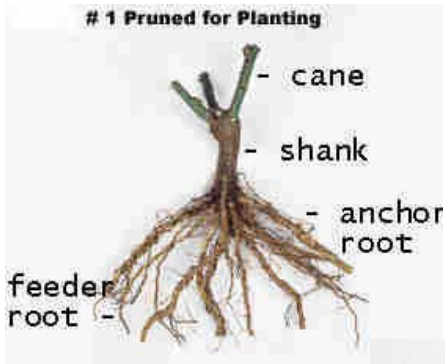
**Leaf** - The leaves of roses are pinnately compound – that means they are made up of leaflets arranged along the side of a common axis with one leaflet on the end. The example is of a five-leaflet leaf. Roses also have 3-leaflet leaves and many have 7-leaflets or more.

**Petiole** - The tiny stem holding all the leaflets.

**Petiolul** - a subdivision of the petiole that connects a leaflet to the petiole.

**Leaf Margin** - The edge of the leaflet, usually "toothed" like a saw blade. Some roses have very smooth leaf margins, others are very deeply 'dentate' or toothed.





**Stipule** - The tissue at the point of attachment of petiole to stem. Often long and exaggerated.

**Auricle** - the 'ear-like' projection from the tip of the stipule.

**Roots** - There are two types of roots.

The 'anchor' roots are thick and

strong, they hold the rose bush upright while it is growing. They also store nutrients during the winter season.

The 'hair roots' are the feeder roots. Their main job is to absorb the nutrients in the soil as they become available.



**Basal Breaks** - Basal breaks are new canes sprouting from the bud union (the graft) on a grafted rose. These new canes are the way the rose renews itself. Sometimes mistaken for the 'sucker' cane which does not emerge from the bud union.

## *ROSES CAN GROW WELL IN POTS*

*Ack: Wagners Roses*

Gardening with roses in pots. Wagners roses can offer a world of opportunity for those people keen to create their own slice of rose garden heaven in smaller spaces.

There are many roses ideally bred and suited for this very reason and most come under the heading of Miniature/Climbing miniature or Patio roses of 60cm/2ft. high.

We think floribunda roses are more suitable for pots than hybrid tea varieties, as they have a shorter and bushier growth habit. Indeed, with the exception of large climbers most roses can be grown in pots.

To make rose gardening in pots easy, there are a few simple things to remember:

- Always use a premium quality potting mix full of nutrients. We recommend a slightly acidic blend that is suited for roses and azaleas.
- Roses will thrive better in larger pots suitable for their size and for growing into over time. Go bigger rather than smaller to allow the roots to spread and establish. We suggest the minimum size of 40cmx40cmx40cm.
  - Plant with the graft above the soil by 2-3cm.
  - Ensure your potted roses are in a sunny spot with at least six hours of sunlight a day.
  - Water your pot every day in Summer. Every second day or third day in Spring. Autumn and Winter – depending on your rainfall. Never let the potting mix dry out, because dry potting mix will repel water and it will run down the

sides and not actually soak to the root zone.

- Feed regularly with liquid fertilizer every couple of weeks and monthly sprays of organic solutions to avoid the onset of pests and diseases. A complete organic fertilizer applied monthly will also top up the required nutrients. Follow the instructions on the bag as to how much according to the size of the pot and plant.
- After 3 – 4 years replace the potting mix. Do this in winter time, when the rose is dormant; prune the branches of the rose as normal then take the rose out of the pot and remove as much old soil as you can. You are allowed to trim the root system but try to keep the top and the bottom roughly the same. Fill with fresh potting mix and re-pot your rose, maybe into a larger pot. Potting mix will contain some added fertilizer

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*A police recruit was asked during the exam,*

*“What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?”*

*He answered,*

*“Call for backup.”*



## *LEAVES AS MULCH - GOOD OR BAD?*

Taken from the internet

### **Is Using Leaves as Mulch Good or Bad?**

Not only is using leaves as mulch good, but it's also natural, making it a more environmentally friendly choice than that of chemical fertilizers. Now, before you get too excited and start tossing bag fulls of leaves all over your lovely garden, there are certain things you need to know.

### **Leaf Mulch Benefits**

There are numerous benefits to using leaves as mulch in vegetable garden and flower beds including creating a useful barrier against those bothersome weeds. While keeping the weeds at bay, leaf mould is also busy at work protecting plants by safeguarding soil temperatures due to their insulating properties, meaning warmer soil in the winter and cooler soil in the summer.

You'll also find you no longer have to fertilize your garden so often as your soil fertility will improve considerably as the leaves begin to decompose. It's

not only fertilizer that you'll save on; you can add water to the list. Because the leaves help retain the moisture in the soil, it means less irrigation is needed. Oh yes, it's also nutritious food for earthworms, and we all know the benefits these slithery creatures bring to our soil.

### **Leaf Mulch vs Wood Mulch**

The lighter weight of leaf mulch as its benefits as well as its drawbacks. Windy conditions mean the leaves are likely to blow away if not correctly positioned. This is not to say wood mulch cannot be blown away as well, although less likely to do so, unlike leaf mulch, if it does, it's more likely to cause damage to smaller plants because of its overall density. Earthworms are more likely to stay in your garden when using leaf mulch compared to **wood mulch** because of the beneficial nutrients in the leaves. Although wood mulch is going to last longer, we tend to use the leaves more in the colder months for insulating and keeping our plants safe from the

cold and wind, meaning the leaves' shorter lifespan is of little concern.

### **Leaf Mould vs Compost**

Leaf mould and compost contribute significantly to our gardens in their own way. Compost is often dug into flower beds or used directly around plants and is also an excellent accelerant in helping new seeds and plants grow. Leaf mulch, on the other hand, generally sits on top of the soil, creating a blanket of protection that helps retain moisture and reduces the risk of weed germination. Of course, you could make your own leaf compost by burying leaves in the garden. Just dig a hole and bury the material and forget about it. Within six months or so, the leaves should have decomposed.

### **Are Leaves Good for the Garden?**

It's quite apparent now that yes, leaves certainly are good for a garden. There are certain things we need to do if we're going to reap the full benefits of using leaf mulch on our gardens. It's not quite as simple as dumping

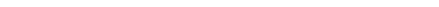
leaves all over our precious flower beds, which can sometimes cause more harm than good. It would be considerably more beneficial if you started putting shredded leaves in the garden rather than using whole leaves as mulch.


### **Can You Use Whole Leaves as Mulch?**

You can, but if you're going to, then make sure you only use a thin layer as rain and air would struggle to get through otherwise. A far better solution would be to use shredded leaves as it would be relatively easy for rain and air to pass through into the soil. There are several ways to shred the leaves to create your mulch. One way is to place the leaves into a bin and use a string trimmer to grind them down, or you could collect them up by going over them with a lawnmower. This is best done when it's dry, or else they're likely to cling onto the blade.

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*Funny thing about getting older:  
Your eyesight starts getting weaker  
but your ability to see through  
people's b\*\*\*\*s\*\*\* gets much better.*



COMING EVENTS	ROSE CONSULTANTS
<p><b>October Meeting - 07.10.22</b> Newington Community Centre 8.00 p.m. <b>Topic – Modern flower arrangements</b> <b>Raffle – Garden Care Pack</b></p> <p><b>October Committee meeting</b> None</p> <p><b>November Meeting - 12.11.22</b> Rumsey Rose Garden in Parramatta Park 11 am.</p> <p><b>Nov. Committee meeting – 17.11.22</b> Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.</p> <p><b>AGM &amp; State Council Meeting</b> <b>20.11.22</b> Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living @ <b>10.00 a.m.</b></p> <p><b>December Meeting - 02.12.22</b> Newington Community Centre 7.30 p.m.</p>	<p>The following members of the Rose Society of NSW Inc. are rose growers of both exhibition (show) &amp; 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.</p> <p><b>SYDNEY AREA</b> Jim Cunningham, Castle Hill 2154 0418 632 648 Mark McGuire, Neutral Bay, 2089 9953 3655 Ted Morphet, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 3668</p> <p><b>NEPEAN BLUE MTNS &amp; HAWKESBURY</b> Doug Hayne, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 1730</p> <p><b>HUNTER AREA</b> Geoff Johnson, Sawyers Gulley 2326 4937 2635</p> <p><b>UPPER NORTH COAST</b> Ray McDonald, Taree 2429 6550 2216</p> <p><b>ILLAWARRA AREA</b> Colin Hollis, Jamberoo, 2533 4236 0456</p>
	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.rose.org.au">www.rose.org.au</a> <a href="http://www.nsw.rose.org.au">www.nsw.rose.org.au</a></p> <p>This publication is for information of members of Sydney Regional.</p> <p>This publication cannot be reproduced without permission of Sydney Regional, Rose Society of N.S.W Inc.</p> <p>Printed by The Rose Society of NSW Inc., Sydney Regional, 1 Christel Ave., Carlingford, 2118</p> <p><i>The opinions expressed in articles or letters in this magazine are not necessarily the opinions of the Rose Society of New South Wales Incorporated.</i></p>

It's the time that you spent on your rose that makes your rose so important...People have forgotten this truth, but you mustn't forget it. You become responsible forever for what you've tamed. You're responsible for your rose. *Antoine de Saint-Exupéry*

POPUL8 is an Advanced Soil Biological Formula developed and manufactured by Neutrog designed to not only enhance plant growth and nutrient cycling but to also populate and occupy the biological space in the soil and on plant roots which may otherwise be an available space for plant pathogens to inhabit... Hence its name POPUL8.

POPUL8 contains a diverse base microbiome of some 200+ bacteria and fungi, plus a further 40 specifically selected bacteria and fungi have been identified, isolated and added for their specific purpose and beneficial characteristics.

The wide diversity of bacteria and fungi within POPUL8 are not only capable of preventing, inhibiting and suppressing disease-causing plant and soil pathogens, but at the same time are stimulating and enhancing healthy plant growth, both above and below ground.

### Application

Dilute 1 capful (40mL) of POPUL8 per 10 litres of water.

10 litres will treat up to 8m<sup>2</sup> of soil.

Apply during a time of low UV or prior to a rain event if possible (UV and extreme hot and dry conditions will kill many of the microbes).

Water in after application if possible.

### Use & Storage

Store in a cool place away from direct sunlight. Do not mix with fungicides or other bactericides. As this mixture contains natural products it will naturally contain a variety of living micro-organisms.

Avoid inhalation of spray mist and wash hands after use. Use diluted POPUL8 within one (1) week of dilution.

