

APRIL  
2024

ILLAWARRA REGIONAL  
ROSE SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER

# Elina



ILLAWARRA REGIONAL ROSE SOCIETY IS 50 YEARS OLD  
THIS YEAR: LET'S CELEBRATE 1974-2024

PATRON-  
JILL EAST

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - **CONTACT DETAILS:**

Chair: Kristin Dawson M:0422157353 E:  
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Secretary: Jill Millburn M:0409849534  
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Interim Treasurer: Robert Coady  
[robert\\_coady2004@yahoo.com](mailto:robert_coady2004@yahoo.com)

POST: PO Box 3 Jamberoo NSW 2533

MEETS ON THE FOURTH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH  
AT THE NORTH KIAMA NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE,  
MEEHAN DRIVE – 1.30-3.30P.M. unless garden visit or  
rose show. – Refer to newsletter each month for  
location.

**NEXT MEETING:-Sat. 27 APRIL 2024**–Intan- *Gardening  
by the Moon*- & video of the recent W'gong Botanic  
Gardens presentation on *Gardening Australia*

Photo: Alfred Sisley- Delbard Rose  
OTHER IMPORTANT  
DATES: 22<sup>nd</sup> June- Luncheon to celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
at Kiama Leagues Club – (June meeting date)

*Neutrog* Spring orders will close on **Friday 2nd  
August 2024 at 8am.**

*Message from Chair:* **Dear Members**

I hope you all enjoyed Easter, and now we are well on in the year as we come to the final flush for our roses this season. Autumn blooms are usually brighter in colour, though not necessarily larger, as the sun is not as hot.

Last month we learnt about rootstocks and how to propagate multiflora from Intan and Kristin. I've included this information in the last and this newsletter. We had some roses on showbench, though they were last of the summer blooms and not as many. Hopefully we will have more autumn blooms at our April meeting.

Many thanks to those who attended the Royal Easter Show to assist Colin at the information table. We had a good representation from the Illawarra and gained two new members – **Welcome** to Debra Beechew from Batehaven and Jacqueline & Romeo Chiarello from Windang. We hope to meet you maybe at one of our meetings.

On Good Friday, Gardening Australia presented a segment on the Rose Garden at the Wollongong Botanical Gardens and Illawarra members featured there in a photograph. I'll play this 7 minute segment at our April meeting. Intan will also give us information on ***Gardening by the Moon***, and her experience of using this strategy.

I am also lining up Louie Kelbent a beekeeper from the Illawarra for May or July meeting to speak on beekeeping and bees in our gardens. He will also have some genuine honey to sell at this meeting.

The Committee continues to work for the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration, and we will begin from next week for the RSVP to the lunch to arrive. We do want it to be a success. Happy rose gardening

*Kristin Dawson*

**URGENT: ROBERT COADY IS UNABLE TO CONTINUE AS  
TREASURER AFTER JULY AGM. WE MUST FIND  
ANOTHER TREASURER - PLEASE HELP US FIND ONE**

# THE ROSE GARDEN

## APRIL

Thankfully some rain has eventuated after quite a dry bout of weather – beautiful for blooms but the roots needed some moisture to keep the sap flowing with the nutrients from the soil to boost the last flush of roses for the season.

You will find that there may be an increase in blackspot with the rainy weather followed by some more hot humid days. This frequently occurs in the autumn months as the roses began to go dormant and to shed their leaves. April is the last month for fertilising your roses as once dormancy sets in, they are no longer active above the ground, and are preparing for their June/July prunes. An extra boost of Seamungus and GoGo Juice or Popul8 will give the soil a good tonic to help the rose

roots, and add some liquid Sudden Impact

also to the pots as the heavy rain will leach out the nutrients.

It is time also to prepare the soil for any new bareroot roses that are being ordered. There is information in the previous newsletter from Brian Wagner on how to go about this. Don't forget to check the pH of your soil if you haven't done this for awhile. It should be between 6.5-7 – An easy to use low cost tool can be purchased for this exercise.



electronic soil pH meter

## BLIND SHOOTS ON ROSES

*A great question from Peter Goodger about blind shoots on roses-*

A blind shoot is a cane or stem that grows and grows quite tall but there is never a bloom at the end of it. The most common cause of this could be



a late frost in spring that kills the tiny rose buds before they can fully form, extreme weather conditions, over fertilisation, or else a lack of nutrients, poor quality soil, a shortage of light or small pests that destroy the embryo bud. The upper bud is the dominant bud responsible for flower formation and when it dies, the whole shoot is flowerless.

### HOW TO TREAT:

Take note of what may cause the problem and remediate.

Cut it back by half to a strong bud (at point of foliage) to stimulate further growth. This should produce flowers later in the season.

At the end of the day, the best way to prevent blind shoots on roses from occurring is by taking good care of your plants. This includes providing them with the right soil, light, and water conditions, as well as fertilizing and pruning them regularly to promote healthy growth.



## NEW ROSES: On-line orders for bare root.:

Wagner's:

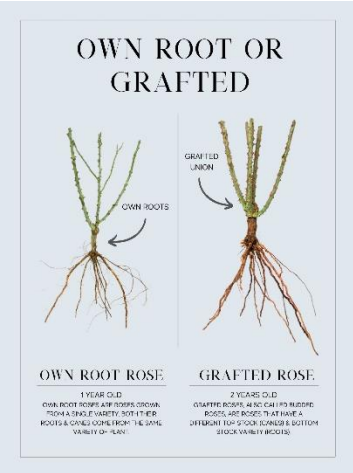
<https://www.wagnersrosenursery.com.au/>

Treloar Roses: [Treloar Roses - Australia's Largest Rose Production Nursery](#)

GreenE Roses: [Green E Roses Home](#) Swanes: [Swane's Nurseries | Garden Centre \(swanes.com\)](#)

Our own local nursery: Burnetts on Barney: [Home \(burnettsonbarney.com.au\)](#) where it is also possible to pick up potted roses.

# ROOTSTOCKS & GRAFTING ROSES



Most modern roses are grafted onto rootstock these days. Why? It helps to achieve better consistency at the rooting stage. Then later most modern roses tend to grow more vigorously if they are budded or grafted on a suitable rootstock for a particular climate.

Many modern roses only do well on rootstock because they have lost the ability to

grow good roots. It becomes worse when they lose the ability to fight diseases as well. As the result they often do not have enough leaves to manufacture enough food for itself and for the understock (rootstock). The rootstock is starved and the whole plant shrinks in size. This is the reason why many modern roses need constant feeding and care. They also need chemicals to fight diseases. Hybrid Teas with large blooms and repeated blooming are typical of the modern roses that suffer this problem.

## ROOTSTOCKS

The intimate understanding of habits of a rootstock also helps a lot in producing a superior root system which is essential for a vigorous rose plant.

3 Types most frequently used in Australia:



*Dr. Huey*

*Multiflora*

*Fortuniana*

- Dr Huey- Thick root stock. It can be very tall (2.3m). Easy to work with as the sap flow is generous. But it's not very easy to root like Multiflora. It can suffer blackspot and powdery mildew very badly in humid weather.
- It is used frequently in rose growing nurseries and does well in more alkaline soils.

- This is the rootstock that appears as suckers, and often seen overtaking the grafted rose bush with lots of the red Dr Huey roses

Multiflora- This one is favoured on the East Coast for grafting roses.

- There are thin and thick varieties.
- Very easy to root and work with. Often suffer blackspot and powdery mildew.
- Does well in the acidic soil on the coast.
- Can become a weed if left to run away.

Fortuniana –

- People claim that this rootstock has a better root system that resists some soil bugs such as nematodes and copes well with dry sandy condition.
- This rootstock is used in Western Australia for grafting roses as the soil is very sandy.

## SOURCING & PROPAGATING ROOT STOCK

- This could be by ordering young rootstock plants.
- You can also destroy the bud union of a rose bush and the rootstock will start to grow.
- You can look for suckers and root them.
- It all depends on how quick you want to get your hands on some rootstock to experiment this rooting game.
- For those who are fussy about virus-free rootstocks, they have to purchase from a reliable source.

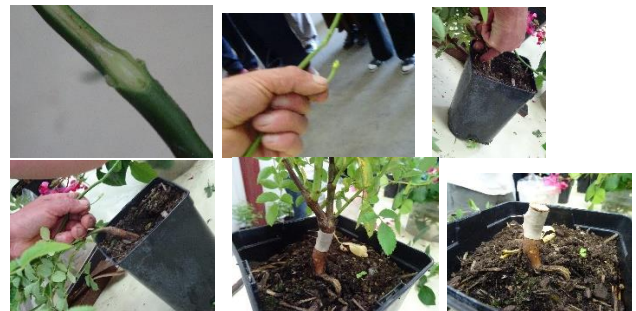
PROPAGATION- SEE MARCH NEWSLETTER

## GRAFTING ROSES-

This is just an introduction-

Essentially, budding is the taking of a thin slice of a bud from the desired rose and placing it into the space which is left after cutting out the bud on the root stock.

3 techniques are: T-budding, Patch budding  
Chip budding **WE WILL DEMONSTRATE THIS LATER THIS YEAR.**





AN EXAMPLE OF A GRAFTED NEWLY BRED ROSE: THE ROSE OF ST. MARY'S

The Rose of St Mary's has begun to shoot. Bred by Louise Baldo from Queensland and grafted on to multiflora rootstock. It was bred to celebrate the 150th anniversary of my Alma mater - St Mary's Star of the Sea College Wollongong



AROUND THE RIDGES- our March meeting

We learned about the use of root stock for grafting roses. Grafting can be more reliable than cuttings, and the quality of rootstock will help the modern rose grow well. It is a way of conserving roses no longer commercially available. We did not take photos of our presenters, but these are photos of the show bench.



Thank you Rose-Diane Westgate



Dwarf Fairy- Kristin



Figurine – bunch class



Mr Lincoln – Lyndel Sanders



Janet's- Simply Magic



Lorraine's Seduction & information photos



Guy Savoy



Firefighter



**BRIGHT 'EYE' ROSES also known as HULTHEMIA PERSICA ROSES**

There were lots of questions about the For Your Eyes Only roses that frequently appear on the showbench and are beautifully coloured and abundant. Shown on Facebook from Wagner's nursery where they can be purchased.



*Bright as a Button*



*Eyes for You*



*Berry Delightful*



*For Your Eyes Only*



*Eye Shadow*

These adorable roses all have bright 'eyes', meaning they have a darker ring around the stamens creating a two-toned look in each bloom.

They are perfect for an interesting pop of colour in your garden!

[www.wagnersrosenursery.com.au](http://www.wagnersrosenursery.com.au)



*Persian Eyes*

**ROSES AT PEACE PARK KIAMA & Illawarra Members at the Easter Show**



*Little Suzie -named after Sue Kingsford*



*Camp David*



*Double Delight*



*Happy Birthday*



*Elina*



*Jim Cunningham, Judith Oyston & Colin Hollis*



*Esther with Sharon Mathews from Sydney*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ILLAWARRA ROSE SOCIETY HELD ON SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2024 AT NORTH KIAMA**

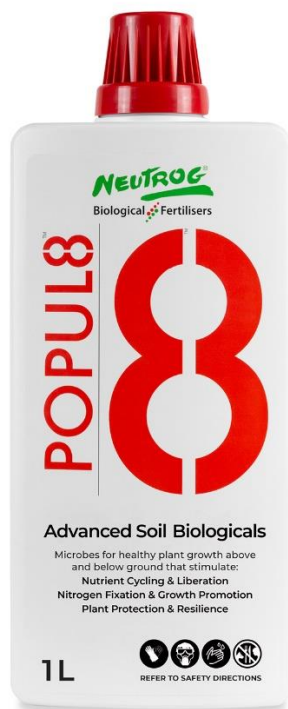
**COMMUNITY HALL**

1. Meeting commenced at 1.30 pm and 21 members were welcomed by Chairlady Kristin.
2. APOLOGIES: Bev Emmett, Robert and Shirley Coady, Robyn Hambly, Esther Hernandez, Ava and Sophia, Judith Oyston, Hans and Lyn Van Der Haar.
3. CORRESPONDENCE: received
4. FINANCIAL REPORT: Presented by Kristin on behalf of Robert Coady:

Everyday Account \$9189.95 Show account \$6550.64 Peace Park \$1833.90 Education account. \$5756.06 Term Deposit. \$8392.82 Total Funds including Education Account \$31 894.89 Moved as correct by Philip Sanders, Sec. Geraldine Shea.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS:
  - a. A Call for help at the Royal Easter Show on the Rose Stand by Colin, he thanked the members that had already volunteered.
  - b. A meeting of the Sub Committee for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary has been held on 19<sup>th</sup> March(see previous minutes) plans well in hand.
6. SHOWBENCH. Still some beautiful blooms brought in by some members and Jill thanked those who contributed. Best Unit was won by Diane Westgate with Floribunda Thank You Rose and Best Mini was Kristins Bud to Full bloom, *Dwarf Fairy*.
7. Kristin did an excellent presentation on grafting roses supported by Intan with more practical advice and examples of Root Stock. This was followed by a video from Gardening Australia on the Wollongong Botanical Gardens Rose Display, particularly Australian Bred Roses.
8. The raffle was won by Intan. Meeting concluded at 2.40 followed by afternoon tea.

**URGENT – ROBERT COADY IS UNABLE TO CONTINUE AS TREASURER AFTER AGM – WE MUST FIND A NEW TREASURER TO TAKE HIS PLACE BY JULY THIS YEAR.....**



## CHANGE OF SEASON, IS A GREAT REASON TO POPUL8 YOUR SOIL

**Get your garden autumn ready with a seasonal application of POPUL8 for healthy plant growth above and below ground.**

POPUL8 is designed to occupy and populate 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 contains a diverse microbiome of 200+ naturally occurring microbes, plus a further 42 specifically selected bacteria and fungi have been isolated, identified and added for their individual and joint symbiotic purpose and beneficial characteristics.

The number and diversity of living microbes in POPUL8 can positively influence nutrient cycling, nutrient liberation, nitrogen fixation, production of plant growth hormones, protection and resilience against disease and bio stimulation.

POPUL8 should be applied once per season across the entire garden, and then as needed for plants showing signs of stress.



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