



Heritage Roses in Australia

Perth Region

Newsletter No. 2

February 2026

We are very much aware we are in the months of Summer, hot strong easterly winds and dry hot days. Neither I nor the garden appreciate these conditions, and I can only say "come on Autumn".

Last weekend was particularly horrible with strong eastly winds that were relentless and uncomfortable hot conditions. I was already aware that the Robina tree in the middle of my back garden was succumbing to the Mistletoe that was growing on it. This year the tree had put on a huge growth spurt and the Mistletoe became enormous clumps close to the end of the branches. You would be aware that the Mistletoe feeds from the tree and kills off the branch it is on and eventually the tree and I could see this was happening. I loved the tree that supported my beautiful Devoniansis and a white single petalled rose that grew amongst the branches and tumbled down making a glorious romantic site, but I had come to the decision that as the tree was dying there was a risk it could fall on the house and therefore it would have to go. I contacted my tree lopper man early Saturday evening, and he said he would be over early the next morning. Sadly, the tree could not cope with the strong winds and the heavy Mistletoe on its branches and around 10.30 that evening it came down and yes, it did fall on the house. Fortunately, there was no damage to the house and now I have three big stumps in the garden. There is no access for a stump grinder to come in so I will have to be creative.

Some of the roses will be very excited about the extra light but some are not so happy as they were planted underneath for the shadier conditions. Complicata is almost fried to a crisp and as it has not flowered for me anyway since I bought here a few years ago she may have to go. Gardens are an ever-changing piece of art, and the area will be beautiful again but without a tree.





UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 15th February 2026

Annual General Meeting and General Business Meeting

11am at Falls Farm, Cagney Way, Lesmurdie (Lunch to follow)

The 2026 Agendas, 2025 Minutes, Nomination Forms, Reports and Job Descriptions have been distributed.

Please forward your nomination forms to me as soon as possible to save time on the day.

Important note: To nominate for a position or vote at the meetings, your 2026 Membership fees must be paid in full. <https://www.heritageroses.org.au/membership/>

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. The room is airconditioned so we will be quite comfortable. Please bring a plate of food to share for lunch.

Garden & Plant Fair – February 21 & 22
South Perth Community Centre

Your assistance in making the Fair successful would be much appreciated. Janet will hand around a roster chart at the AGM and we would ask that you please give two hours of your day to assist on our tables. I have received free tickets for your entry that you can pick up at the AGM.

Garden Visits – Autumn Opportunity

We would love to visit more members' gardens throughout the year, as these visits inspire us and provide great ideas for our own gardens. We are especially keen to organise at least one garden visit during Autumn.

While we know not all roses will be in bloom at this time, we can still enjoy those that are flowering and appreciate how you design your garden spaces with other plants that complement them.

Please consider opening your garden for a visit and let me know if this would be possible.

Chilli Thrip

Yes, it has returned during these hot days but I am keeping it to a minimum with the Bugs for Bugs and the overhead watering. It won't be too many more months and they will mostly be dormant again. Don't fertilise during these hot days as it only encourages growth which the Thrips love.

Here are some roses from my garden last week.





Looking forward to catching up for loads of rose fun in 2026!

Jan Eastman
Co-Ordinator
Perth Heritage Roses