



# The Rose Society of South Australia Inc.

# BULLETIN

Volume 58 Number 4 October, November, December 2019

"To Promote Excellence & Innovation of the Rose"



*The sculpture in honour of the accomplishments David Ruston OAM had achieved during his 'Life with Roses' was a fitting backdrop for his funeral service held on Tuesday 28th May 2019. The large arrangements, in a true David Ruston style, were arranged by David's long time assistant and friend, Danny Hoffman.*

*Image Credit: Mary Frick*

# THE ROSE SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

## OFFICE BEARERS

**Patron:** Mrs Lan Le, Government House, Adelaide

**Vice Patron:** Lord mayor of Adelaide Ms Sandy Verschoor

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**Secretary:** Mrs Ione Saint  
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0409 856 156  
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### Roses on Eyre:

**President:** Mrs Shirley Dennis  
RSD12, Kielpa, SA 5641  
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PO Box 3524, Port Lincoln, SA 5607  
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### Roses in the Heartland:

**President:** Mr Ross Kemp  
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### Chaffey Rose Club – Riverina

**President:** Mrs Coleen Houston  
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<http://sarose.org.au> - password for member's page **Elina**

# Calendar of Coming Events

## October 2019

- Wednesday 9th**  
**Pre Meeting**  
**Workshop-6:30pm**  
**Speaker:** Members General Meeting, Burnside City Uniting Church **7:30pm**  
**Question Time:** Rose Varieties: Picking, Arranging & Showing - **6:30 pm**  
**Competition:** Michael Keelan  
Maureen Ross  
Pre 1900 Old Garden Roses, A, B, C, Grades: **1 Decorative Rose OR**  
**1 Floribunda Rose** Open: **1 Exhibit** **Judge:** Gavin Woods
- Floral Arrangers** Days of Wine and Roses **Judge:** Helena Lewandowski
- Tuesday 15th** Rose Show Sub Committee, Goodman Building, Botanic Gardens **3:00pm**  
RSSA Council Meeting, Goodman Building, Botanic Gardens **4:30pm**
- Sunday 20th** ROE Meeting, At the home of Geoff & Aileen Woolford, Caralowie.
- Friday 25th** NRSA AGM Weekend, 'Roses are Red'  
Welcome Reception, Sage Hotel **6:30pm**
- Saturday 26th** Australian Rose Championships, BCC **12 noon**;  
National Dinner, Orchid Room, Sage Hotel **7:00pm**
- Sunday 27th** NRSA AGM Meeting, Sage Hotel **8:30am**; Rose Show, BCC **10:00am**;  
Combined Branches Meeting, BCC, **2:00pm**  
WFRS Friends Dinner **7:30pm**
- Monday 28th** Garden, Neutrog & 2021 Venue Tour 9:00am; Farewell BBQ **6:00pm**

## November 2019

- Sunday 3rd** Uraidla Show - Contact Gavin Woods 8821 3897 gbwoods@adam.com.au  
Jamestown Show - Contact Anne Redden 0418829505
- Wednesday 13th**  
**Venue** Members General Meeting, **6:00pm for 6:15pm start**  
**Noel Lothian Hall, International Rose Garden, Adelaide Botanic Gardens.** See advert on page 41
- Tuesday 19th** Rose Show Sub Committee, Goodman Building, Botanic Gardens **3:00pm**  
RSSA Council Meeting, Goodman Building, Botanic Gardens **4:30pm**
- Thursday 28th** RITH Christmas Lunch. Meet **9:30 am** at 82 Para Rd, Tanunda

## December 2019

- Wednesday 4th** Christmas Dinner. See page 8 for details

## NOARLUNGA ORCHIDS & ROSE NURSERY

Supplier of Wagner's Roses

At 180 Commercial Road, Seaford Meadows

Phone: 0431 694 905

Large variety of potted roses available all year round at reasonable prices

See us at the 'Roses are Red' Spring Rose Show

## HELP WANTED

To set up and break down at Members' Monthly Meetings  
Duties include moving tables and chairs and vacuuming floors.

PLEASE SEE PAUL

## CLOSING DATES FOR FUTURE BULLETINS

EDITION	RESERVE SPACE BY	PROVIDE MATERIAL BY
Jan/Feb/Mar 2020	8 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	25 <sup>th</sup> November 2019
Apr/May/June 2020	8 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	25 <sup>th</sup> February 2020
July/Aug/Sep 2020	8 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
Oct/Nov/Dec 2020	8 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	25 <sup>th</sup> August 2020

## Advertising Information

Please forward diagrams, pdf files etc

**Cost:** Quarter Page (A7) \$30; Half Page (A6) \$60; Full Page (A5) \$120

**Billing:** The RSSA Treasurer will forward invoices for payment to Advertisers

## SUBMITTING ARTICLES & IMAGES

**Articles** to be supplied as an email attachment in **word file format** (doc or docx)

Full page **Adverts** to be submitted as a pdf file **Photographs** to be supplied in their **original jpeg size** up to 10 MB per image. If forwarding more than 1 image, attach to separate emails

An article of 500 words (Font: Calibri size 11) amounts to approximately one (1) Bulletin page

Forward articles and **high resolution** images to: [BulletinRSSA@gmail.com](mailto:BulletinRSSA@gmail.com)

## DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of The Rose Society of South Australia Inc or its Editor.



### Bed & Breakfast Oakbank BnB Retreat Downers Road, Oakbank, Sth Aust

Hosts: Merv & Wendy Trimper  
Suit short stay in semi-rural  
setting in the Adelaide Hills  
Bookings: 08 8389 9119  
or 0419 803 708

Discount for Rose Society Members



# President's Report Spring 2019

## Rosy Matters

When you look at a rose, what do you see? Is it the colour, its shape and form, the middle of petals or all of these. Chances are, that when you look at a rose, it evokes other thoughts and stirs other memories. It also invites you to enjoy its scent, strong and heavily fragrant or subtle and more refined. How can we not be moved when we see or smell the scent of grandma's favourite rose, perhaps the yellow and cream of **Lady Hillingdon**, the red of **Blackboy** or the various shades of pink of **Lorraine Lee**. Then, if we move to a closer generation the roses are more likely to be the striking, bold and upright hybrid teas or the floriferous floribundas.

The selection of roses we can choose from is far greater than at any time in history, and yet, regardless of colour and form they still evoke the same emotions and persuade us to smell and relish their scent and colour.

Given these observations, why do we have a continuous stream of new varieties being produced every year to attract our attention? Most of the focus for a number of years has been to produce new varieties that are more resistant to disease and require less maintenance. Many of the varieties have been marketed on the basis that they look good when planted *en masse* in the landscape. These are all very noble ideals, but have we lost the romance of the rose along the way?

The number of new varieties and the ability of the major breeders to distribute their product world-wide has led to a confusion of names and perhaps, a lack of romance. A single variety could well be sold under a different name in several countries. It's not a new phenomenon, as the rose that ended up being called **Peace** has several different names in its evolution. To make it clear to other breeders and nurseries, it was decided that when a rose is registered that it has a unique code. Usually this code is comprised of the first three or four letters of the breeder's surname plus a few other random letters that may or may not mean something to the breeder. Some breeders have shown a quirky sense of humour when they make up the code.

My criticism of the current system is that the label attached to the rose when being sold often does not reveal the code name, even in the small print. For the rose societies and garden clubs that try to inform members of the new varieties, we often do not know if the rose has been on the market previously with a different name, or the name on the label is for local use and the name has not been registered, or if the rose has been tested in a reputable rose trial garden. Adding the breeder's code would make it far easier to lift the cloak of mystery and the rose could be promoted on its known merits.

## Public Gardens

It is always a delight to visit cities and towns that have public gardens. It says something nice about the community. I'm always amazed and disappointed to hear that new areas being planted by the local garden group or council suffer from vandalism and theft. I've always wondered why some members of that community think they have the right to destroy or remove public property. The main thing for the community to remember is that these characters are in the minority and

perseverance, security and education will always win out.

These comments have been prompted by some vandalism that occurred to some new plantings that have been made near the Veale Gardens, just off South Terrace. The City Council gardeners worked hard over a long period to prepare the soil for planting and were disappointed to find next morning, after taking a day or more of toil to get quite a number of roses planted, that some had been trampled and pulled out of the ground.

The garden will grow and will be a delightful addition to the Adelaide parklands.

### **2018 -2019 Financial Statement**

The ledger for 2018-19 shows a turn-around of fortunes. After two years in the red, this one is in the black. This is a result of a number of decisions put in place by our RSSA Council.

- An increase in the membership subscription,
- offering the Bulletin to be read on-line (and not receiving a hard copy) for a reduced subscription,
- restricting the size of the Bulletin,
- emailing many receipts (as opposed to posting),
- having a major open garden event (thanks to Wendy and Merv Trimper),
- monitored expenditure on some events and
- receiving contributions towards the WFRS 2021 event from branches.

We are still very fortunate to be supported by Neutrog. Their contribution has made it possible to promote rose growing and better garden culture in many different situations and to continue to prepare for the national AGM at the end of October and the WFRS Convention in 2021.

To maintain our momentum we will have to either consider raising our subscriptions or have another major fund raising event.

If we have another major fund raiser I would like to involve more members directly in its execution. I would also like us, as a Society, to look outwards. We have over 1000 members and we have tended to focus on keeping the books in the black. My argument is that with the number of members we have we should be able to achieve our goals and support some external charity or project.

This approach would serve us in a number of ways -

- It would tell our communities that we have a primary focus on growing roses but we also like to support our community in other ways,
- we create a higher community profile,
- possibly gain membership and keep our subscriptions affordable,
- involve many members in an activity with which they can easily cope.

Stay tuned, RSSA Council will have some interesting discussions surrounding the path we should or can take. We are also receptive to any ideas from members.

### **Novice Exhibitors**

If you don't exhibit then you may not know how to get started as we only send schedules to those members who have previously exhibited at rose shows. To overcome this oversight, the list of C-grade classes is noted at the end of this report.

If you know the difference between a hybrid tea and a floribunda or a full bloom from a bud then you will recognise what is required in the class names. If you don't understand the terminology we have plenty of contact details listed on page two in the Bulletin. You can enter 1 entry in total or 3 entries in every class or any number in between. To get started is easy, to gain more knowledge may require that you attend the show and ask one of the many exhibitors to explain what it's all about.

Showing roses has never given me the same adrenalin rush that I had at the start of a game of Aussie Rules, but it gives me a sense of achievement when I see the expressions of first time visitors to a show. Champions and prizes are a bonus.

## Spring

Spring is always welcome after the cold of winter. It also heralds our rose show and for this year the National AGM and Combined Branches Weekend. These events are clearly advertised in this Bulletin and I would encourage your participation. Attendance at the show, as a member, is free. Even better, bring some friends and enjoy the scent, the colour, the scones and the occasion.

## Finally

A note to Winter:

Begone. Let me feel the warmth of Spring.

Allow my roses to grow, scented and bountiful.

## Doug Gregory

Grade	Class	Class Name	Number of Stems
C	3	SA State 'C-Grade' Spring Rose Championship	Composite Exhibit of 3.01, 3.02, 3.03, 3.04.
C	3.01	- Decorative Rose	1 stem, buds permitted
C	3.02	- Floribunda Rose	1 cut
C	30.3	- Full Bloom Rose	1 stem
C	3.04	- Shrub or Miniature Rose or Mini Flora Rose	1 stem or cut
C	8	Exhibition Rose	1 stem
C	9	Exhibition Rose	3 stems. NND. 1 vase
C	14	Decorative Rose	1 stem. (HT, buds allowed)
C	15	Decorative Rose	3 stems. NND. 1 vase. (HT, buds allowed)
C	20	Full Bloom Rose	1 stem
C	21	Full Bloom Rose	3 stems. NND. 1 vase
C	26	Shrub or Polyantha Rose	1 stem or cut
C	27	Shrub or Polyantha Roses	3 stems or cuts. NND. 1 vase
C	32	Floribunda Rose	1 cut
C	33	Floribunda Roses	3 stems or cuts. NND. 1 vase
C	42	Miniature Rose	1 stem or cut
C	43	Miniature Roses	3 stems or cuts. NND. 1 vase
C	50	Miniflora Rose	1 stem or cut
C	51	Miniflora Roses	3 stems or cuts. NND. 1 vase
C	77	Bunch of Roses	4 to 6 stems, buds allowed. NND
C	78	Bunch of Roses	4 to 6 stems or cuts, minimum 10 blooms. NND
C	83	Bowl of Roses	6 to 12 stems, buds allowed. NND
C	84	Bowl of Roses	6 to 12 stems or cuts, minimum 15 blooms. NND
C	100	Floral Arrangement	Roses are Red
C	101	Floral Arrangement	A film or song title with a rose theme
C	102	Floral Arrangement	Circles in Shades of Red



## The Rose Society of South Australia Christmas Dinner 2019

This year our end of year function will be held at Osmond Terrace Function Centre, 97 The Parade, Norwood on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019**.

The night will commence with a welcome drink on arrival at 6.30 pm with Dinner (some drinks included) commencing at 7 pm in the Main Dining Room. Any additional drinks may be purchased from the bar at your own cost. **Cost per person is \$55.**

If you have special dietary requirements, please advise us when forwarding payment on the reservation form below.

**Reservations close Friday 15 November, 2019**

We hope you are able to join us as we celebrate Christmas together and reflect on the Rose Society's year.

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### RSSA CHRISTMAS DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Please complete this form and return to the Treasurer with your payment of **\$55 per person**, to John Humphries 7 Bluebell Ct, Flagstaff Hill 5159 closing date 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Number of Guests attending

Name 1) \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by Cheque/Money Order payable to The Rose Society of SA Inc

Please charge my  Mastercard  Visa

Full Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="text"/>									
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Expiry Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

To remit funds electronically to the Rose Society of SA Inc  
Bank Account: Bank SA BSB 105 086 Account 330083440 Please add your name to the description to enable identification of the member. Email [rssatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rssatreasurer@gmail.com)

# **Tribute to David Ruston OAM**

David Ruston OAM was very well known around the world for his knowledge on roses, especially the heritage roses. He was the recipient of numerous awards, the last being honoured as President Emeritus of the World Federation of Roses Societies. Much has been written on David's life, his achievements as a rosarian, florist and floral artist. But little is known about David as a boy growing up in Renmark and what led him to 'A Life with Roses'.

## **Eulogy – David William Ruston (My friend Will of 73years)**

*by Ian Tolley OAM*

My first contact with David was our arrival at the Renmark High School from his Crescent Primary and in my case, the Renmark Primary School. We sat together across the aisle and it was a stimulating experience for us both. Right from the start David forcefully put his views forward. Staff members told me much later that they considered him a challenge, but his brilliance in academic terms carried him through the many confrontations he faced. As an example, we had a senior teacher who had a very abrasive manner and often stated we were a bunch of 'country bumpkins' and would never amount to anything when we left school and joined the real world.

It was just the challenge David needed. As time progressed it became very obvious he was brilliant academically and almost always topped every examination. On one occasion exam papers were handed back and David found to his extreme irritation he had been docked one point from a 100 top score. He immediately stood up and challenged the said Master, demanding to know precisely why the discrepancy. There was a heated exchange that we all relished and the response was "I knew it would all be correct but I docked you a point for bad hand writing as I could not read much of it!".

This encouraged a small group of us to become sources of irritation to our class Senior. I should mention this same group of half a dozen developed nicknames for each other to avoid using our given names, so David thereafter was referred to as Will and I was given Stack.

I shall refer to him as Will as we have done right through our adult life.

Will's twin brother was renamed JohnHerbert and although the rest of the school found difficulty in telling them apart, our group of would be rebels had no such difficulty. Will was clearly going to be an academic without a shred of practical application, while JohnHerbert could fix anything. Those characteristics would carry right through their adult lives.

Roll forward to us all matriculating with none of our group having any idea of a plan for the future. You need to remember that this was a time when children were to be 'seen but not heard'.

The term fightback is not a modern term, we practised our subversion and our parents were many times unknowing victims. Suffice to say in Will and my case, our parents bundled us off to Adelaide University, Will to an Arts course and because my father was a Civil Engineer and Surveyor, I had to follow his desire for another Civil Engineer in his family. Six months into his course, David had, what was called in those days, a 'nervous breakdown'.

We continued to keep in close touch and my interpretation of his unease was that he could not fit the expectations of University staff and parents. The medico advised he return home and rest for a future review of his problem in six months.

Rest took the form of lying on a lounge in his mother's reading room. And now his transition took a fundamental turn as he reclined on the lounge and mused. We would converse in private during my precious weekends at home and he exhibited signs of frustration.

These were not however as palpable as those of his Mother, who one prescient day exhibited extreme frustration and threw a book at him with a demand he at least do something and read it. Will once denied to me that confrontation took place, but I had the advantage of hearing it directly from his mother.

No prizes for guessing it was a ROSE book. Will found it highly interesting and demanded more like that. Her library had many rose related books and he absorbed them all with a real and sustained interest.

This was the beginning of years of pain and irritation for his father. Cuthbert Sowerby (as our group were wont to call him), had no idea his pride of growing a huge 26 acres of the finest Currents in the country was about to be put to a blow torch. You need to know that Cuthbert Sowerby was often away from Renmark on business and this proved to be his undoing.

Back to Will and his transformation. By now, he found the thought of planting roses in the garden irresistible, much like a small but increasing flow of spreading flood water. Cuthbert came home one day to find a few rows of his prized Current vines had been replaced with rows of apparently dead sticks.

He was not amused to find once more the perpetrator was his son John Herbert and the instigator, his other son Will. Cuthbert Sowerby could be very forbidding but the twins had graduated in the art of subversion years earlier.

Worse was to come. The dormant sticks shot away in spring to reveal a stunning display of floral heaven to Will and this transition from Currents to Roses became unstoppable, particularly as Cuthbert had reached retirement and the boys were now fully activated in young and vigorous adult life.

The world was now Will's oyster, and there were no limits to his enthusiasm for every facet of Rose culture.

It took me a further four years at that time to tell my Father of the epiphany I had undergone one weekend, home from city study that I was not going back to finish my degrees. Like Cuthbert Sowerby he too was not amused at his son's recalcitrance. When I had seen what happened when a chip of wood was inserted into a seedling, I knew I wanted to pursue nursery propagation and that morphed into an all-consuming passion. Like Will, both our plant passions were permanent inoculations.

By now our school group had become a little smaller but still tight knit, and cemented into permanent friendships and more importantly, understanding.

Over time, our interests coalesced on specific plant issues and in due course, Will was the driving force in forming a Renmark Garden Club. My wife Noelle was one of the first members.

I will leave it to Rosarians to describe the plethora of varietal directions, acquisitions, awards and achievements that Will developed from the now total

twenty six acre Rose block of ex-Currant vines.

His interest in other plants exploded in tandem with his Roses leading to more planting and this development added to his fame as a floral art genius.

Over time, confidence allowed his mischievous wit to surface.

For decades, we shared visiting groups of city based horticultural students, inoculating them with our single minded passions for Rose and Citrus cultures. We both felt comfortable in making the transition as world authorities.

At a school class reunion with our ex Senior Master present, we rubbed it in that although we were both still based in Renmark, we had transitioned from 'country bumpkins' into living our plant passions on a world stage. It is sometimes difficult to 'take the child out of the man'.

In quite recent times Will transitioned into our Renmark Hospital's Nursing Home and we visited him whenever we could. He always farewelled me with "You know Stack there is nothing like old friends."

As we close his rose book and career, I look back at the power of 'one plus one equals three,' in shared plant passions, mutual feelings of positive contributions and sustained friendship.

I will miss him greatly as will countless Rosarians worldwide. ©

\* \* \* \* \*

**VISITED INTERNMENT CAMP**

Dear "Mopoke"—I was glad to see my puzzle in "The Pioneer". We went to Loveday last Sunday to see the internment camp. I think it will be pretty dusty there. I have three War Savings Certificates and have joined a War Savings Group. It was hot yesterday, but it is cooler today. John is not going to write this week. Dad is worried because all of his relations are in England. I am enclosing this week's puzzles. Your interested clubmate.

Renmark. —**DAVID RUSTON.**  
 (It must be very worrying for your dad David, with the air raids going on as they are. Cheerio.—"Mopoke.")

\* \* \* \* \*

1940: Even as a young lad David was a writer, contributing articles to the 'Young Folk's page in the local newspaper.

Left: Image: Murray Pioneer and Australian River Record, Thursday 10 October 1940,

## Renmark Student Shines In Leaving Honours Exam

David Ruston, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Ruston, of Renmark added further to his notable scholastic achievements in the Leaving Honours examination.

David, who went to the Adelaide High School from the Renmark High at the beginning of 1947, gained four subjects, with three credits. He was second in the State in Modern History, third in Latin, ninth in English, and also secured a pass in French.

He will this year go on to the Adelaide University to study for his Arts degree.

1948: Murray Pioneer Thursday 8 January 1948

1958: Instigated the Renmark Garden Club & was its President for 32 years.

1995: Instigated the Renmark Rose Festival which he continued to be involved with until his death.

1997: Dean Ross Memorial Award

Received 8 Life Memberships from various Clubs

**FESTIVAL OF ROSES - CENTENARY CELEBRATION**  
 See 'A Pageant of 100 yrs of Roses', presented by Mr David Ruston.  
 Sat. Oct 30 and Sun. Oct 31 (inc. admission)..... **\$32, Con \$30**

1999 Riverine Herald (Echuca, Vic. Moama, NSW)  
Friday 1 October 1999



**1966: T. A. Stewart Memorial Award**

Image: Australian Rose Annual



**1968: Speaker at 4th International Rose Conference, London**

Image: RNRS Annual



A party of 106 members of the Rose Society of Victoria were guests of the Renmark Floriculture Society for a weekend in April 1973. One of the main attractions was David Ruston's garden of 19,000 roses. Mr. Ruston is explaining the habit of growth of certain varieties.

**1973: Visitors from Victoria in Ruston's Rose Garden**

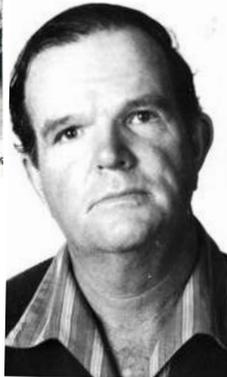
Image: Australian Rose Annual



David Ruston, of Renmark, S.A., speaking on flower arrangements at the Conference.

**1968: London Conference**

Image: Australian Rose Annual



**1982:**

**Australian Rose Award**

Image: Australian Rose Annual

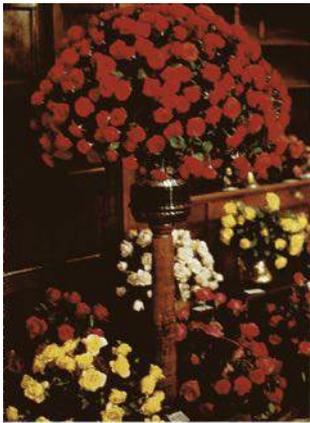


ABOVE: Renmark rose grower David Ruston among the flowers for hours. "A hobby turned into a profession." RIGHT:

**1981: 25 March, Australian Women's Weekly**

Image: Milton Wordley

Courtesy National Library of Australia, 'TROVE'



**1988: WFRS World Rose Convention, Sydney**

Image: Australian Rose Annual



**The NRSA Australian Rose Award Gold Medal**



# 1984: OAM

To be awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division (O.A.M.)

For public service. **David William RUSTON**,  
P.O. Box 752, Renmark, S.A. 5341.

Copy from the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette,  
No. S 212, Monday, 11 June 1984 Published by the  
Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra

"Permission to reproduce the Medal of the Order of Australia  
Ribbon Mount granted by the Office of the Official Secretary to the  
Governor-General".



**1986: NRSA  
President**

Image: Australian Rose  
Annual



**Myrtle Trimper's  
80th Birthday**

Image: Sue Zwar



**GATES AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA**  
Standing (left to right): Mr. I. J. Le Fevre, Mr. E. Webb, Mr. D. Ruston, Dr. R. Bovey, Dr. A. G. Camp, Mr. R. W. Allender. Seated (left to right): Mr. A. G. Mulley, Mr. J. L. Priestly, Mrs. G. Meade, Dr. A. A. Ferris, Mr. E. B. Pitsch, Mr. L. Johnstone.

**1984 & 1985 S.A. Delegate at NRSA AGM**

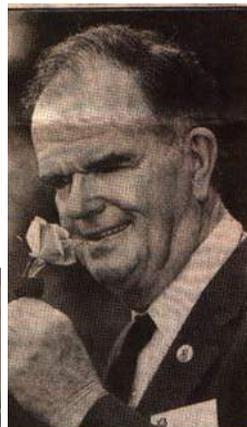
Image: Australian Rose Annual



**1988: WFRS Rose Pin**



Image: Penelope Schulz



Rose Society world president **David Ruston** smells a bud from the new City of Adelaide floribunda rose.

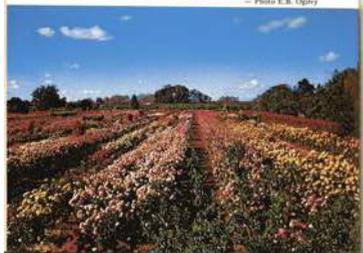


**BLOOMFIELD COURAGE**: A superb specimen in David Ruston's Garden at Renmark.

Refer article page 69 — Photo E.B. Ogilvy

**OVERALL SCENE OF DAVID RUSTON'S GARDEN AT RENMARK.**

— Photo E.B. Ogilvy



**1989: Ruston's Roses**

Image: Australian Rose Annual



At a reception in Christchurch during the Convention, the Society's highest honour, the **Dean Hole Medal**, was presented to David Ruston. The award cognises his record of outstanding service to the rose world, as nurseryman, floral demonstrator and



**Dean Hole Medal**

**1994: Dean Hole Medal**

Image: Dick Balfour



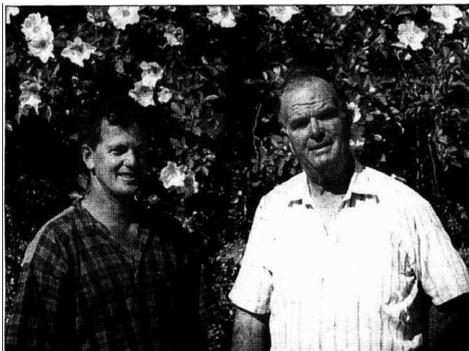
1994: Camawald, South East. L-R Merv Trimper, David Ruston, Eric Trimper, Peter Burton. Image Sue Zwar



1994: Image Sue Zwar



1996: Inaugural President Chaffey Rose Club



■ Rose master David Ruston (right) with his business manager, Andrew Hoffman, will be in Echuca-Moama on April 22. Submitted photo.

1999: David with business manager Andrew Hoffman Image: Riverine Herald 9 April 1999

## Rose master to visit for Moama floral fantasy

The man who possibly knows more about roses than anyone else in Australia will be in Echuca-Moama on Thursday, April 22.

David Ruston will talk, demonstrate and answer questions. He will cover growing, cutting, propagating and arranging roses — and anything else rose lovers want to discuss.

Accompanied by his business manager, Andrew Hoffman, David will be guest at a Floral Fantasy to be held in the Moama Bowling Club Jubilee Room from 11.30am by St James' Anglican Church, Moama.

David runs "Australia's largest rose garden" on 11 hectares at Renmark in South Australia.

In 1924, his father planted an area around the family home, in fruit orchard country five kilometres out of Renmark, with large trees and a few roses.

David began work on the property in 1948 and planted roses each year along the irrigation channels until all available ground was covered. He then started removing currant and sultana vines and planting roses in rows of one variety for the cut-flower trade.

As the business expanded, he put in ornamental trees as a windbreak and background, from large natives and European trees to flowering fruits.

By the mid 1970s the orchard had been completely converted to roses, set in a garden of trees, shrubs and flowers.

David now lives among 50,000 bushes of 4000 varieties of rose — one of the biggest collections in the

world. He employs a permanent staff of seven, with extras called in from November to February to cut the budwood, which is sent to nurseries around Australia for propagation.

Picking usually begins about October 1 and continues until late June or July, if the winter is mild.

The garden is open daily from September 15 to July 1, allowing visitors to stroll along the walkways decorated with urns and statues, beside the lily pond and around the secret rose garden enclosed by trees. A tower gives a panoramic view of the entire garden.

From July 1 to September 15, the garden is closed for winter pruning and maintenance.

David was awarded the Order of Australia for his services to horticulture in 1982, the year he received the Australian Rose Award from the National Rose Society of Australia.

David's awards include the T A Stewart Memorial Award and the Dean Hole medal from the Royal National Rose Society.

In 1991 David was elected president of the World Federation of Rose Societies for a three year term.

He was the first president of the Australian Heritage Rose Society and is a member of several other horticultural organisations. David is in demand as an authority on the history of flower arranging and has lectured in the USA, England, New Zealand, Canada, Israel, Belgium and Bermuda, as well as in all states of Australia.

Image: Riverine Herald, Friday 9 April 1999

All newspaper articles courtesy National Library of Australia 'TROVE'



**1999: La Grand Adhemar, France**  
*Image David Elliott (Canada)*



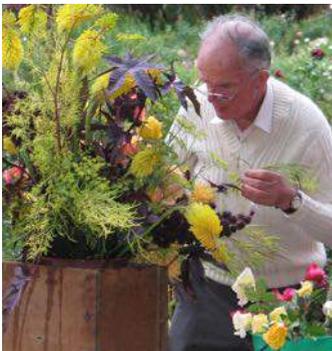
**2002: Meeting Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 at Barossa Château.** L-R: Mr Thumm, Her Majesty, David Pitt, David Ruston, Dean Stringer, Eric Trimper



**2004: NZ Convention**  
*Image: Jocelen Janon (NZ)*



*Image supplied by Shann Hausler*



**2002 Chaffey display at Rose Festival, Botanic Park**



**2004: Camawald Wool Shed Demonstration** Image: Sue Zwar



Mr. Malcolm Watson, Mr. David Ruston and Mr. Ian Spriggs at Victoria State Rose Garden, Werribee Park, Australia. Transparency: Margaret Macgregor

**2003:** Image: Australian Rose Annual



**2005: David with Sue Zwar at the Ruston's Visitors Centre. The roses in the large vase is Graham Thomas** Image: Sue Zwar



WFRS President Dr. Tommy Cairns presents Mr. David Ruston with his Gold Medal Honor in Auckland.

Photograph: Jean Newman

**2004: WFRS Gold Medal** Image: Australian Rose Annual



**2009: Demonstration at The Barn, Mt Gambier** Image: Sue Zwar

Right:  
**2004:**  
**BR&FS**  
with Peter  
& Brenda  
Burton





**2006: David taking visitors through his rose garden**



The inaugural David Ruston Heritage Rose Conservation Grant was awarded to Noelene Drage at the closing ceremony of the Busselton Conference  
 Photograph: John Coleman-Doscas

**2006 Bussleton Convention**

*Image supplied by Margaret Finess*



**2006: David with Odile Masquelier at Windy Hollow Busselton Conference**  
 HRIA Mag Summer 2006  
*Image supplied by Margaret Furness*



**2006: Chaffey 10th Birthday Weekend**



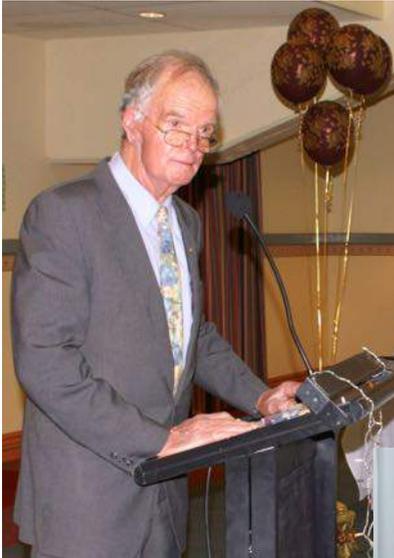
**2006: David with members of Chaffey Rose Club**



**2006: David with Coleen Houston Chaffey  
10th Birthday Weekend**



**2006: Chaffey 10th Birthday Weekend**



**2007: Speaker at the Society  
Christmas Dinner**



**2007: David's favourite pass time,  
enjoying a 'cuppa' with friends, as with Ruth Watson**



**Above 2008 : National Heritage Rose Conference,  
Mornington Peninsular**

*Images: Sue Zwar*

**Left 2007 : Preparing the table for afternoon tea guests**



**2008: Official Opening of the Tea Rose Collection by WFRS President Dr Gérald Meylan during the WFRS Regional Convention 'Rose Adelaide 2008 Centenary of Roses' Post Tour**



**2008 Autumn Rose Show**



**2008: Guest Speaker at the 2008 Regional Convention Lectures, Adelaide**



**2008: with Marian Manifold & Danny Hoffman**



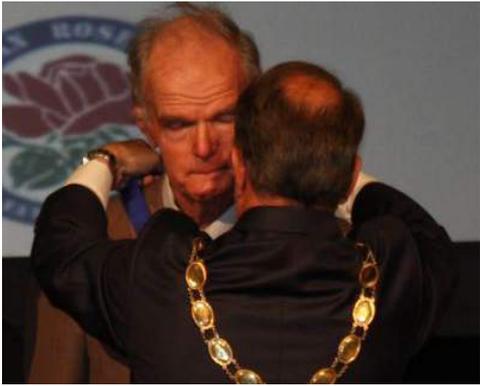
**2009: David Ruston & Danny Hoffman flower arranging at Camawald**

*Image Sue Zwar*



**2009: Ayres House Demonstration**

*Image: Sue Zwar*



**2009: Being presented with the WFRS President Emeritus Medal by WFRS President Gérald Meylan**



**2009: 50 Years Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia, Inc.**



**2009:WFRS President Emeritus presentation with Walter Duncan (WFRS Rose Award)**



**2009 SE & Chaffey Display at RSSA Autumn Rose Show**  
Image Sue Zwar



**2009: Sculpture fund-raiser event held at the Ruston Visitors Centre**



**2009: Chaffey Rose Club AGM**



**2010: David with Sheenagh Harris at the unveiling of the Sculpture made in David's honour** *Image supplied by Sheenagh Harris*



**2010: Celebrating Lady Hillingdon's 100th Birthday with the Victoriana Society**



*general crowd scene after the unveiling.*

**2010: David responding to the crowd after the unveiling of the sculpture** *Image copied from David's book 'A Life with Roses'*



**2011: David & Hillary Merrifield, one of the Tea book authors, and the rose Etoile de Lyon**

*Image: Margaret Furness*



**2012: National Heritage Rose Conference, The Barn, Mt Gambier with Danny Hoffman** *Image Sue Zwar*



**2011: Demonstration at the Renmark Rose Festival** *Images: Penelope Schulz*



**2012 SE Branch Function, Coonawarra Hall** *Image: Sue Zwar*



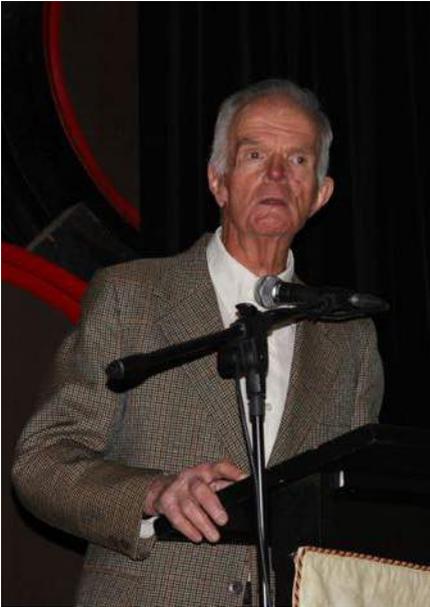
**2013: David with Mary Frick** *Image: Penelope Schulz*



**2012: RosAfrica - The last WFRS Conference David attended. L\_R: Gerald Meylan, Helga Brichet, Steve Jones, Ethel Freeman, Sheenagh Harris, David Ruston, Jill Benell, Malcolm Watson** *Image: Melanie Trimper*



**2012 : Arrangements at WFRS Convention  
RosAfrica Demonstration**  
Image supplied by Sheenagh Harris



**2013 Speaker at the Allan Campbell  
Lecture Weekend**



**2014: Barossa Rose & Flower Show  
at Barossa Chateau, Lyndoch**



**ROE Demonstration at Port Lincoln Winery**



**Image: Sue Zwar**



**2015: Preparing the driveway for his 85th Birthday**  
*Image: Sue Zwar*



**2016: Chaffey 20th Birthday L-R: Joan Sirovica, David, Society President Gavin Woods, Fleur Carthew, Coleen Houston**  
*Image: Noel Vine*



**With Sue Zwar in David's front garden in winter with an array of arrangements**  
*Image: Sue Zwar*



**2015: At Kadina Rose & Flower Show -Left: Relaxing after working with his arrangements. Right: Opening the show with Gavin Woods looking on**  
*Images: Penelope Schulz*





**2016: Official Opening of the Renmark Rose Festival by WFRS President Kelvin Trimper**

*Image supplied by Penelope Schulz*



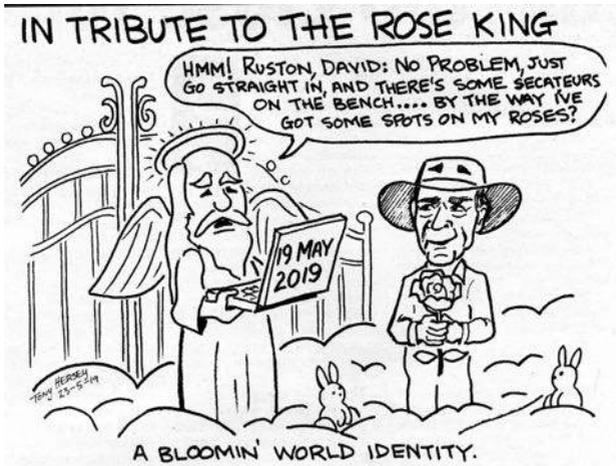
**2017: Fleur Carthew & David**

*Images: Margaret Finess*



**2017: Group who attended the pruning weekend at Ruston Roses**

*Image supplied by Penelope Schulz*



**Credit: Murray Pioneer, Friday May 24 2019 & Tony Hersey**

# IMPORTANT NOTICE – NEUTROG ORDERS

The Neutrog order form is on the centre pages of this bulletin. Neutrog products at this special Rose Society price is for **current financial members only**.

Orders will only be accepted online or via the Bulletin Order Form by post, email or fax. Phone orders will not be accepted. When filling out your Neutrog order form, please make sure you tick the box alongside your desired collection point on the right-hand side under Collection Details.

Don't forget to order enough product to cover your summer and autumn feeds.

## NEW METRO COLLECTION POINTS:

**The new Adelaide METRO NORTH collection point is:  
Wallis Drive-In, 588 Main North Road, Gepps Cross**

*Enter at the main gates on Main North Road, NOT from Port Wakefield Road*

**The new Adelaide METRO SOUTH collection point is:  
Mercedes College, 540 Fullarton Road in Springfield**

*Entrance off Delamere Avenue, turn right into school gates*

*Due to a change of ownership, Banner Mitre 10 will no longer be used as a collection point.*

## ONLINE ORDERING:

Neutrog had a huge number of members place their Autumn orders online, which makes their job much easier, so thank you! If your email address is registered with the Rose Society, you will receive an email from Neutrog shortly, with a link to order. A \$10 discount code will be sent to those who placed their Autumn order online.



Neutrog have worked to simplify the online process, but if you have any difficulty, please contact Erica during business hours on 08 8538 3507 and she can take you through it over the phone.

**CLOSING DATE:** The closing date for all orders is 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

## COLLECTION DATES:

- The collection date for Metro North and Metro South is **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November strictly between 10am – 2pm**. Orders not collected will not be returned to Neutrog. Neutrog will not be offering a Friday collection in the metro area at this time.
- You may collect your order from Neutrog in Kanmantoo on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November between 10am – 3pm**.
- Regional collection locations, dates and times are located on the order form in this bulletin.

Please ensure you keep a copy of your order and show your name badge at collection. If you are unable to collect your order on the nominated collection date, please arrange for someone to pick it up on your behalf.

Due to recent legislative changes, members must ensure that their vehicle and/or trailer is not overloaded when it leaves the collection point. The load must also be securely fastened. Failure to comply may result in a refusal to fulfil your entire order. This is to keep you safe – at the end of the day we just want you to get home safely and enjoy spreading your fertiliser.



The Rose Society of South Australia Inc.  
Order form for Neutrog products  
Orders close by Friday 25th October 2019



Member Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Suburb/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

	Products available	Size	Number of items	Cost per item	Total
ORGANIC BASED SPECIALIST FERTILISERS	Bush Tucker	20kg bag		\$30.00	
	Gyganic	20kg bag		\$30.00	
	Kahoonia	20kg bag		\$30.00	
	Sudden Impact for Roses - Pellets	20kg bag		\$30.00	
	Sudden Impact for Roses - Fines	20kg bag		\$30.00	
	Sudden Impact for Roses Liquid 1L	1 litre bottle		\$10.00	
	Sudden Impact for Roses Liquid 5L	5 litre bottle	<b>NEW</b>	\$35.00	
	Strike Back for Orchids - Pellets	20kg bag		\$30.00	
	Strike Back for Orchids Liquid 1L	1 litre bottle		\$10.00	
	Strike Back for Orchids Liquid 5L	5 litre bottle	<b>NEW</b>	\$35.00	
ORGANIC FERTILISERS	Sudden Impact for Lawns	20kg bag		\$30.00	
	Upsurge	7.5kg bag		\$16.00	
	Bounce Back	20kg bag		\$13.00	
	Rapid Raiser	20kg bag		\$15.00	
	Blade Runner	15kg bag		\$15.00	
	Rocket Fuel	15kg bag		\$13.00	
	Cock'n'Bull	30 litre bag		\$7.00	
	Seamungus Pellets	20kg bag		\$20.00	
	Seamungus Green Crumble	20kg bag		\$22.00	
	Seamungus Liquid 1L	1 litre bottle		\$10.00	
	Seamungus Liquid 5L	5 litre bottle	<b>NEW</b>	\$35.00	
	GOGO Juice - Concentrated 1L	1 litre bottle		\$10.00	
	GOGO Juice - Ready to use Premix	2 litre spray pk		\$10.00	
	GOGO Juice - Concentrated 5L	5 litre bottle	<b>NEW</b>	\$35.00	
	Meatworks Blood'n'Bone	25kg bag		\$30.00	
BOOKS	Whoflungdung	20kg bale		\$14.00	
	From the Ground Up books	VIC		\$35.00	
		NSW		\$35.00	
<b>Total</b>					

**Payment Details**

PLEASE CHARGE MY: MASTERCARD  VISA  CVV (BACK OF CARD)   
 FULL NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CREDIT CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRY DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

OR  
 Cheque, Money Order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to: Neutrog Australia Pty Ltd  
 Post Order Form to: Neutrog Australia, 288 Mine Road, Kanmantoo SA 5252  
 Orders close by Friday 25th October 2019

You will be added to Neutrog's 'Pooh Bah Club' to receive regular email updates including gardening tips and news on new product development and product applications. You are free to unsubscribe at any time. Neutrog will not sell, distribute or share your personal details with a third party. If you do NOT want your details passed on to Neutrog please tick here.

**Collection Details**

- Please tick your Rose Society product collection point  
**Adelaide Metropolitan:**  
 Metro-North: Wallis Drive-In 588 Main Nth Road, Gepps Cross (please ensure you enter at the main Drive-In entrance on Main North Road, not from Pt Wakefield Road)  
 Metro-South: Mercedes College 540 Fullarton Road, Springfield (entrance of Delemere Ave, turn right into school gates)  
**Pick up date for Metro North & South is Saturday 16th November Strictly between 10 - 2pm**

**Regional areas:**  
 Collection from regional areas will be available from the week commencing 25th November 2019. Please contact the person listed for your area prior to collection to ensure the stock is available and they will be home to assist with your collection.

- Barossa  
 82 Para Road Tanunda  
 Contact: Ian and Mary Frick  
 T: 8563 0521
- South East - Penola  
 Mount Burr Road.  
 Contact: Helen & Trevor Zadow  
 T: 0417 889 863
- South East - Mt Gambier  
 McKee Engineering, Hawkins Road (turn onto Wireless Rd, continue on 3-4 km until Hawkins Road and turn right, McKee Engineering is on the corner)  
 Contact: John & Betty McKee  
 T: 08 8725 7216
- Eyre Peninsula - Cleve  
 5 Hauschild Rd  
 Contact: Rex Crosby  
 T: 08 8628 2476
- Eyre Peninsula - Tumby Bay  
 3 Paul Street  
 Contact: Eileen Weiss  
 T: 08 8688 1812 or 0427 881 812
- Whyalla  
 Tanderra Craft Village  
 Contact: Ellen Zukowski  
 Lincoln Highway (behind Maritime Museum)  
 T: 0417 805 257
- Chaffey - Renmark  
 95 Tapalin Street  
 Contact: Jill Knight  
 T: 0415 387 943
- Chaffey - Hay  
 363 Macaulay Street  
 Contact: Ellen Townsend  
 T: 0429 935 812
- Kanmantoo  
 Pickup STRICTLY FRI 15th Nov 9am-3pm only  
 Neutrog Factory, 288 Mine Road  
 Kanmantoo T: 08 8538 3500
- Yorke Peninsula - Rogues Point  
 14 Rogues Point Road  
 Contact: John Bradshaw  
 T: 0417 081 204
- Pt Augusta - West  
 2 Cobbin Street  
 Contact: Pauline Parker  
 T: 08 8642 3359
- Ceduna - Thevenard  
 30 Price Street  
 Contact: Shirley Mahar  
 T: 08 8625 2936

**ORGANIC BASED  
SPECIALIST FERTILISERS**



**Bush Tucker**  
An organically based fertiliser, developed for the specialised needs of Australian native plants - even the most phosphorous sensitive.  
**20kg bag \$30**



**Gyganic**  
Perfect for veggies, fruit and citrus, Gyganic has been specifically developed to enhance fruit size, quality and taste.  
**20kg bag \$30**



**Kahoonia**  
Ideal for all acid loving plants such as Camellias, Gardenias, Azaleas and Rhododendrons.  
**20kg bag \$30**

**Sudden Impact for Roses**  
Ideal for all flowering and fruiting plants – not just roses.  
**20kg bag \$30 (Pellets or Fines),  
1L Bottle \$10, 5L bottle \$35**



**Strike Back for Orchids**  
Ideal for all potted flowering and fruiting plants – not just orchids.  
**20kg bag \$30 (Pellets),  
1L Bottle \$10, 5L bottle \$35**



**Sudden Impact for Lawns**  
Ideal for new and established lawns, along with other non-flowering plants such as palms, ferns and conifers, as well as leafy vegetables and herbs.  
**20kg bag \$30**

**Upsurge**  
Ideal for turf to improve soil structure and increase earthworm activity, root growth and resistance to pests and disease.  
**7.5kg bag \$16**

**BOOKS**

SA

VIC

NSW



From the Ground Up SA currently out of stock



**ORGANIC FERTILISERS**



**Bounce Back**  
A high quality, general purpose fertiliser, specifically formulated for the most effective and safe feeding of all your garden plants. Ideal for winter and summer application.  
100% organic and ACO registered.  
**20kg bag \$13**



**Rapid Raiser**  
A high quality, boosted general purpose fertiliser. The increased phosphorus level makes it ideal for planting and promotes faster, healthier and sustained growth for all plants. Particularly suitable for heavy feeding plants such as roses and citrus. 100% organic and ACO registered.  
**20kg bag \$15**



**Blade Runner**  
A high quality, general purpose lawn fertiliser. Ideal for all use on all lawns, particularly new lawns and summer application of established lawns where the slow release properties help to prevent thatch build up.  
100% organic and ACO registered.  
**15kg bag \$15**



**Rocket Fuel**  
Specifically developed for growing healthy, organic fruit and vegetables. A portion of all retail sales go to supporting the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation.  
100% organic and ACO registered.  
**15kg bag \$13**



**Cock'n'Bull**  
A mix of cow and chicken manure, Cock'n'Bull is ideal for conditioning the soil whilst adding nutrients. A perfect additive to any garden or veggie bed. 100% organic and ACO registered.  
**30L bag \$7**



**Meatworks Blood'n'Bone**  
An all-purpose organic fertiliser manufactured from meat and bone meal.  
**25kg bag \$30**

• Prices include GST • Free delivery to agreed delivery points  
• These prices are strictly for members only and are not to be knowingly disclosed to the general public

**ORGANIC FERTILISERS**



**Seamungus Pellets**  
Ideally suited for establishing new plants (particularly bare-rooted roses) and for use on natives. Seamungus can also be used as a plant tonic to revitalise all your plants throughout the year. 100% organic and ACO registered.  
**20kg bag \$20**

**Seamungus Liquid**  
Ideally suited for establishing new plants (particularly bare-rooted roses) and for use on natives. Seamungus can also be used as a plant tonic to revitalise all your plants throughout the year.  
**1L bottle \$10  
5L bottle \$35**



**Seamungus Green**  
The smaller crumble form makes Seamungus Green ideal for lawns and in dry conditions where more immediate breakdown is required. It can also be used as a plant tonic to revitalise all your plants throughout the year. 100% organic and ACO registered.  
**20kg bag \$22**



**Whoflungdung**  
Biologically activated, nutrient rich, weed free, absorbent super mulch  
**20kg bale \$14**

**GOGO Juice**  
A pro-biotic for your soil and plants, GOGO Juice provides all the benefits of applying liquid kelp, seaweed and humic acid, whilst adding beneficial bacteria to assist in breaking down the organic matter, maximising the nutrients available to your plants.

**1L Concentrate \$10  
5L Concentrate \$35  
2L Ready to Use \$10**





## Get ready for a Giant **Spring** with **GYGANIC** for Veggies, Fruit & Citrus

Gyganic has been specifically developed to enhance the yield, quality and taste of your fruit, citrus and veggies.

It is a premium organic based, chemically boosted complete fertiliser with the full range of nutrients in an organic form, coupled with boosted levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, iron and magnesium. Gyganic's unique organic base of manure, humates and rock phosphate is composted and blended with the biologically-active GOGO Juice (containing kelp and seaweed). This produces a very nutritious organic base product high in organic carbon.

Following extensive trials by members, Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus is now recommended by the Rare Fruit Society.



**NEUTROG**  
 Biological Fertilisers

Freecall 1800 65 66 44 [www.neutrog.com.au](http://www.neutrog.com.au)



# Roses are red...

From Friday 25<sup>th</sup> to Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2018, South Australia will be hosting the National Rose Society's 47<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Weekend.

Be part of our -

- **Spring Rose Show Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October (Burnside Community Centre):**  
**Includes Australian Rose Championship Classes and World Federation of Rose Societies Challenge Class:**
- **Lecture Programme**  
**Saturday 1.15pm Celebrity Gardener, Kim Syrus**  
**Sunday 11.00am Floral Designer, Jane Hamilton**  
**Sunday 1.00pm Champion Rose Exhibitors,**  
**Graham and Janet Wright**
- **National Dinner – Sage Hotel, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October**
- **Bus Tour Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Travel by coach to the garden of Alexandra Kowald at Birdwood, inspect the Neutrog Facilities at Kanmantoo and then return to North Terrace in the City for a guided tour of the 2021 World Rose Convention facilities:**
- **Combined Branches Meeting – (Burnside CC) 27<sup>th</sup> October**

**Full programme details, together with registration form are available on the Society's website**

**[www.sarose.org.au](http://www.sarose.org.au)**

**or from**

**Malcolm Watson**

**E: [malcolmw@senet.com.au](mailto:malcolmw@senet.com.au)**

**T: 08 8264 0084**

# Aileen Scott

## Nomination for Life Membership

I nominate Aileen Scott for Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia.

Aileen joined the Society as a member in July, 1999. She has been the type of member that every voluntary Society desperately needs – a person who steps forward to shoulder responsibility, without any coercion, to assist and foster the objects of the Society without any self-promotion or self-interest.

I understand that Aileen is a keen gardener and rose grower, but has no interest in personally showing roses. In my submission, this enhances Aileen's entitlement for life membership – she is working to assist others who pursue the wonderful "hobby" of growing and showing beautiful roses in this State.



Aileen has a long record of service to the Society. A summary of her various roles is set out below:

**2002–2009** - Minute Secretary for Council; **2009–2010** - Councillor  
**2010–2013** - President; **2013–2014** - Immediate Past President  
**2014–2015** - Councillor; **2015–2018** - Vice President  
**2017–2018** - Branch Liaison; **2017–2018** - Facebook page

This speaks for itself. During her years as President, Aileen travelled extensively, visiting the various branches of the Society in country SA, Northern Territory and NSW. She travelled to Darwin to assist and encourage our very small branch in that city, a task well beyond the call of duty.

Aileen has not hesitated to step "into the breach" when there has been a sudden need created by circumstances beyond everybody's control. Today she is a mentor to any-one in the Society who may need assistance in connection with their activities for the Society.

In addition to the official roles set out above, Aileen has been a tireless worker in the "less spectacular" tasks for the Society, organising various aspects of the Spring and Autumn shows, working in the kitchens at various times to ensure provision of afternoon teas and the like. Her efforts have been instrumental in ensuring that the two Rose Shows held each year have been able to continue. Many members are prepared to provide a few hours of assistance if some-one else does the organising and managing. Very few are prepared to take the responsibility of the overall management. Aileen has marshalled the whole team – not only has she been the "General" in charge,

she has also been the chief “warrant officer” cracking the whip to make sure everything happens, right down to little detail, like telephoning me the night before to make sure that I have remembered to meet the man delivering the pod at 7 am the next morning. It is easy to forget the little details which are very important to a successful event – organising the rosters for volunteers to attend, organising for trophies to be returned before each show, organising for the winner’s names to be inscribed on the trophies. She has had the support of her husband, Allan, who I suspect has provided his assistance to help his wife, rather than any love of roses. Given that she now does all this work from her home in Victor Harbor, and regularly travels to Adelaide for Rose Society events, this can only be described as “sterling support”.

In my view, Aileen’s contribution has been in the form of strong leadership when called upon, at a level that can be called outstanding. She has, at all times, acted without fear or favour, in the interests of the whole of the Society, and the promotion of the Rose.

Managing volunteer organisations is not always easy – where people can be very enthusiastic about some particular aspect of what they do, tensions and clashes can, and do, arise. During her time as President and Vice President, Aileen has shown great ability to manage these tensions deftly, tactfully and decisively in a very dignified manner. This is not easy to do – it is hard enough in a work place – harder still in a voluntary organisation.

Aileen was also very active during the Centenary year of the Society, in 2008, serving on the Centenary committee, and assisting with the various functions that were held during that year.

During her presidency, the fifth branch of the Society was established in the Barossa Valley, known as “Roses in the Heartland” with her encouragement. She was also actively involved in adopting the medium of Facebook to advertise and promote the activities of the Society, being prepared to step outside the “norm” (as it then was) and to venture into newer forms of communication.

In 2012, at the inaugural weekend of Roses in the Heartland, held at Barossa Chateau, Aileen was very supportive of the Allan Campbell Lecture held at that time (and subsequent Allan Campbell lectures), acting as MC, and planting a rose ***That’s Life*** with Tom Carruth, Anne Campbell and Elizabeth Thompson to commemorate the event.

In the course of her Presidency, liaison between the Society and the Botanic Gardens management led to the establishment of the volunteer program in the International Rose Garden, an initiative that was very successful, and continues to the present day.

I know very little about Aileen’s life outside of the Society, but I am told that she provides wonderful support to the Annual Christmas Pageant, working long hours assist with “make-up” of the participants in the pageant.

I believe that this nomination has the support of many members of the Society, and I urge favourable consideration of the same.

# MRS DIANE VOM BERG

## NOMINATION OF FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ROSE SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Diane joined the Rose Society of South Australia in May 2001 and since then has given service at a far greater level than what you'd expect of a Member.

She was elected to Council in 2005 and as a Vice President in 2008. Diane remains in that role.

As a Member of Council, Diane has

- Chaired both Council Meetings and Monthly Meetings in the absence of our President;
- Deputised in the absence of the Secretary – both at times of illness and absence from the State;
- Co-ordinated Christmas Dinners. Diane has for a number of years, been instrumental in planning the event, seeking on occasions alternative venues, completed the seating plan and provided raffle prizes;
- Spoken to a number of groups – e.g. Burnside City Uniting Church and Westbourne Park Uniting Church promoting rose growing and the benefits of Society Membership;
- Acted as an informal liaison officer between Associate Member, Woodville Academy of Floral Design and our Society, encouraging their participation as exhibitors at Shows and promoting the benefits of Rose Society Membership;
- hosted WFRS World President Steve Jones and his wife Susie during their State visit in 2013;
- been instrumental in providing a friendly “Welcome Committee” to members and visitors to the Monthly Meetings;
- been the Branch Liaison Officer for both Chaffey and South East Branches. In this capacity, Diane has been most diligent in attending the Branch meetings and keeping their Executive and Members informed of forthcoming events and activities.

Diane has also been a guest speaker at several Branch Meetings. She has also provided additional support to the Roses in the Heartland branch, since its inception, by working at its Barossa Rose and Flower Show in a variety of roles;

- attended many National Rose Society of Australia Annual General Meetings, (a number at her own expense), as one of our State delegates;



- participated in a number of Sub Committee Groups, including Rose Shows Committee
- Joint Caterer with Ruth Watson for almost ten years at both the Spring and Autumn Rose Show weekends, when the Society decided to undertake this activity in house;
- Co-ordinated the President’s Official Afternoon Teas, also at both Spring and Autumn shows for many years, providing the catering at no expense to the Society;

#### NRSA AGM Organising Committee

- Diane has been responsible on several occasions to source accommodation for interstate delegates, social activities, co-ordinate gifts for delegates and flowers for their room, menu selection, seating plans for dinners, name badges and printing of conference materials;

#### Allan Campbell Lecture Weekends

- Diane also accepted the roles as detailed above for the national weekends, in addition providing her home and garden as the venue for the Welcome Receptions. Diane sourced seating/crockery/cutlery for use by the reception attendees at no cost;
- generously provided her home at Clarence Gardens as a venue for a number of the Society’s Floral/Exhibitor/Judges workshops and also for sub-committee meetings;

#### Rose Adelaide 2008 WFRS Regional Convention and “Centenary Year of Celebration”.

- Once again, Diane as a Member of the sub-committee, provided her home for Centenary Year meetings and opened her beautiful rose garden as part of the Tours conducted during the Convention activities.

In addition to these activities, Diane participates in

- the permanent Assessment Team of the National Rose Trial Garden, assessing the roses in the International Rose Garden monthly during the growing season; and also
- acts as the SA representative to the NRSA (WRC2021) Committee and the Rose Society of SA’s WRC21 Convention Committee.
- As the WFRS Treasurer since 2012, and having attended a number of World and Regional Conventions, Diane’s knowledge of WFRS rules and guidelines would provide invaluable experience to both Committees.

Diane vom Berg’s contribution and tireless efforts to the Rose Society of South Australia could not be considered as anything less than special, outstanding and exemplary service, which makes her an extremely worthy nominee for Life Membership of our Society.

## **Gavin Woods**

### **Nomination Citation for Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia**

Since becoming a member of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc. in 1996, Gavin has supported the Society in its growth and promotion of the Rose.

Initially Gavin was only seen at the spring and autumn rose shows where he has excelled on the show bench, then also becoming a Rose Judge.

In 2013 Gavin joined Council as one of its Vice Presidents, being elected as the Society's President in 2014 to 2017. At present, holds the position of Immediate Past President

During his Presidency, Gavin:

- organized the first, and very successful, Copper Coast Rose Show.
- was instrumental in reviving the Society's presence by organizing, and co-ordinating the schedule and entries of the roses section at the Mt Barker Agricultural Show.
- liaising, and co-ordination of the schedule and entries of the roses section, with the Uraidla committee with their first ever Spring Show in 2016.
- ensuring the Society's Patron, Mrs Lan Le became more involved with the Society, having her attending most Rose Shows, Christmas Dinners and Allan Campbell Lecture Weekends. Mrs Le thus began hosting afternoon teas for Council members at Government House.
- took on the role of Chief Judge when Dean Stringer OAM announced his retirement in 2016
- RSSA/South Australian delegate at National Rose Society of Australia AGM's up to and including the present time.

Gavin gives freely his time and expertise for the promotion of the Society and the Rose by:

- judging at numerous rose shows and Member's Meetings.
- giving cultural notes and answering questions at Member's Meetings
- writing numerous articles for the Bulletin eg Cultural Notes. "Information for Rose Exhibitors" (over 3 editions), "My Favourite Roses For Exhibiting" to name a few.
- speaking to the general public at rose shows etc about roses and rose growing
- guest speaker with subjects including "How to Grow Better Roses"
- travelling to Renmark to prune the roses at Ruston Roses
- is on several sub committees, including the 2021 committee



Gavin’s contribution and dedication to the Society is exemplary, travelling great distances from Kadina (a good 2 hour drive each way) to attend meetings, exhibit at rose shows and attend functions whilst still holding full time employment.

A remarkable man and a true ambassador to the Rose Society of South Australia Inc and the Rose.

I believe Mr Gavin Woods meets the Society’s criteria of “special, outstanding and exemplary service to the Society” and therefore nominate him for consideration for Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc

## Welcome to New Members

Ms B Shepherd	TROTT PARK	SA
Mrs S & Mr C Beinke	TUMBY BAY	SA
Mrs J Vine	NARACOORTE	SA
Mr P Wickham	ARNO BAY	SA
Mr I Cass & Ms G Scira	LOXTON	SA
Mr J Kirk	ROSTREVOR	SA
Ms C Pratt	VIRGINIA	SA
Mrs D Gaertner	FREELING	SA
Mrs W Goss	BLAKEVIEW	SA
Mrs C Auger	SALISBURY	SA
Mrs T Rungie	MYLOR	SA
Mr H Polec	WEST LAKES	SA
Mr J Rowley	MT BARKER	SA
Dr R & Ms L Steventon	SALISBURY HEIGHTS	SA
Dr C Grbich & Mr J Berger	GLENCOE	SA

## Peek at the Past

Chronicle, Saturday 22 July 1905, page 9

“Rose,” Adelaide.—For aphid on rose spray with tobacco water or kerosine emulsion whenever the blight appears. Wash the dead insects and spray off the bushes with a hose on the following day.

**ROSE SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC**



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**&**

**NATIONAL ROSE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**BURNSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

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**Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am to 4.00pm**

**Admission: Members Free**

**OFFICIAL OPENING**

**3.00pm Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**By**

**Henrienne de Briey**

**The President of the World Federation of Rose Societies**

**Guest Speakers:**

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# Nanyang Regional Convention

by Les Johnson

The recent regional convention was held in the City of Nanyang, located in the south west of Henan Province. After a forced lay over due to a weather event I travelled into Nanyang along a highway lined with standard roses and trees. It was clear that Nanyang was making a major effort to beautify the streetscape and ensure the city's first international convention was a huge success.

From my hotel room window, one observed an avenue of roses with two large viewing platforms at either end. Joining the locals for a wander to admire and photograph the collection of older but well known cultivars along with a number of Chinese and Japanese bred roses. Some well known varieties were *Alec's Red* (Cocker 1971), *Marjorie Fair* (Harkness 1970), *Love* (Warriner 1979), *Princess of Monaco* (Meilland 1982), *Gold Medal* (Christensen 1981), *Perfume Delight* (Swim 1973) and *Westerland* (Kordes 1976).



The opening ceremony was held in the new Nanyang World Grand Rose Garden. Consisting of a mixture of speeches with various presentations, the ceremony was glamorous, spoilt only by the efforts of an army of photographers to gain an advantageous position in front of the seated guests. After the official ceremony was over, participants were keen to explore the one hundred acre site and the more than a million roses with some 5100 varieties. The garden was divided into three parks with a range of themes. Participants were linked with an English language university student to act as a guide. Impossible to cover

the whole park, we concentrated on the East Rose Garden which contained the main attractions. The floral art work and bonsai was outstanding. While some of the plants were still to be established, the garden will be a continuing attraction in Nanyang.

The lecture program is a significant part of any rose convention with twelve outstanding international speakers. These speakers included Girija and Viru Viraraghavan discussing the arrival of roses to India; James Sproul (USA) discussing

novelty in roses with his breeding work including *Honey Dijon*; Michael Marriott (UK) on his work for David Austin Roses; Dominique Massad (France) spoke on the hybridization work of the famous Guillot firm and Naomi Okubo (Japan) discussed fragrance in roses. Other speakers spoke on using species roses in rose breeding, scientific presentation of different ploidy of old China roses and





genetic studies to improve rose breeding.

An evening at the Telecast Hall of Nanyang Radio and TV Station saw presentations of awards and performances full of glitz and glamour. Performances included traditional Chinese opera, New Era of Flowering song and dance, Roses Through The Seasons and Nanyang My Lovely Hometown.

was an afternoon visit to the Nanyang Rose Nurseries. The city is the heart of the rose industry in China with the surrounding area producing an annual crop of around a billion roses, representing eighty percent of the domestic market. We drove for miles with rose nurseries on either side of the road before our first stop. The gardens ranged from small nurseries to cooperatives and large firms. The amazement was seeing thousand of *banksiae* rootstock collected and cut to



varied lengths from the wild mountainous regions. These were grafted with the required cultivar. While we like straight stems on our standard roses, it was clear the Chinese saw the beauty in the bent and forked look for their tree roses. With continued collection from the wild the issue of the sustainability of the *banksiae* rootstock was clear. Flood irrigation was used in the nurseries visited. The cultivars *Red Fan* and its Chinese sport, *Pink Fan* are used in huge numbers, often together on the same standard rose. The rather bizarrely named rose, Electronic Watches was a popular yellow hybrid tea.

Following the visit to the nurseries we toured the Nanyang Rose Expo Garden by 'electric cars'. With construction beginning in 2010 the two hundred hectare site is a show piece for the rose industry. Officially opened in 2014 the garden is a major tourist attraction with more than a quarter million annual



visitors. The tour was followed by refreshments with demonstration fruit carving and tea ceremony. Spending too much time in the refreshment area we had a quick visit to a nearby small rose garden. The individual rose beds contained cultivars from both the west and east with *Modern Art* (Poulsen 1985) making a particular impression on me.

The following day we had a return visit to the site of the opening ceremony for further exploration and the official unveiling of the naming rock at the entrance of the garden.

The group visited Wuhou Temple with its 1,800 year history and covering 120,000 square metres with 267 rooms and a beautiful stone arch at the entrance.



The Jade exhibition was testimony to the superb skill of Chinese craftsmanship. The larger pieces were simply amazing.

A tour to the Xixia Dinosaur Relics Park would delight any dinosaur enthusiast with its displays and exposed egg fossils dating from the Cretaceous period.



Visits to the Neixiang County Magistrate's Office and Shan-Shaan Guildhall provided participants with an appreciation of China's history and cultural heritage.

The official conclusion of the convention was the farewell dinner and included passing on to India the WFRS flag and musical performance. A visit to China is always a rewarding experience with the naturally proud Chinese keen to share their warm hospitality, culture and heritage.

# TWILIGHT MEETING

*Rose Society of South Australia*

*Wednesday 13th November 2019  
6:15 in the Noel Lothian Hall  
Adelaide Botanic Gardens  
Hackney Road Entrance*

*Free Parking after 6:00pm*

All members and visitors are welcome

- Short tours with speakers and leaders
- Rose Garden
- the National Trial Garden
- the Wetlands
- Q&A cultural notes

Supper available in the Noel Lothian Hall.

# DISCOVERING TRADITIONAL CHINA

## 2019 WFRS Regional Convention Post-Convention Tour

*by Melanie Trimper*

Beautiful gardens, attractive scenery, majestic sculptures, fascinating ancient history and a great diversity of Chinese cuisine was enjoyed on the Post-Tour as the delegates crossed through time and distant lands from the Qin dynasty (221-207BC) to contemporary times. In central China we saw many modern cities with high-rise apartments and a building boom catering for a rapidly growing urban population.

Essentially, the itinerary provided an opportunity for us to explore China's lasting legacy through its history. It is important to point out that most of the historic locations were not easy to reach and involved hours of travelling and many kilometres of walking each day to access the sites which were crowded with tourists. As an example, 8.5 million people visited the Terracotta Warriors last year. Nonetheless, I am sure the delegates would agree it was certainly worthwhile.

**Day 1.** On 2<sup>nd</sup> May our group of 33 participants headed to Zhengzhou, the capital of Henan province. The region has a population of 100 million and is mainly involved in agriculture using modern technology. The highlight was attending the 'Shaolin Zen Music Concert' – a Buddhism cultural music and dance performance staged on the side of a mountain with amazing special effects and lighting.

**Day 2.** As it was a public holiday all attractions were extremely busy. We visited the famous Shaolin Temple, the birthplace of Chinese Zen Buddhism and the earliest preaching temple dating back 1,500 years. This temple is the place where Kung-Fu originated and continues to be practised. The burial place of eminent monks known as the 'Pagoda Forest' has over 240 tombs which span seven dynasties through to modern times. Enterprising families set up food and drink stalls along the roadside.

**Day 3.** After spending the night in Luoyang City, we drove to the famous Longmen Caves which stretch for one kilometre across the hillside next to the Yi River. The stone sculptures in the grottoes are another national treasure and considered to be the best of Chinese Buddhist stone carving art. The largest Buddha is 17m high. Most of the carvings were made between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> century.

We then travelled by Bullet Train to Xi'an and arrived in the evening. We enjoyed a quick drive around the city and liked what we saw.



*Group at Longmen Caves at Luoyang*

It is a city of contrasts, mostly a vibrant, beautiful, modern city but within its core stood an ancient fortress dating back to a time when Xi'an was the capital of China. Built in 1370 during the Ming dynasty, the city wall surrounds the old city with impressive 12m high walls and lookout towers.

**Day 4.** Our visit to Xi'an was the pinnacle of our Post-convention Tour. Many members commented that they had waited nearly all their lives to visit the world famous terracotta soldiers. This astonishing museum did not disappoint. With great anticipation our group set off to see the Museum of Terracotta Warriors. Considerable mystery surrounds this fantastic display. It is believed that the site covers 56 sq. km. at the foot of Mount Li. In the Qin dynasty

around 700,000 workers and craftsmen created the figures of the warriors, chariots and horses from terracotta over a period of 36 years and somehow their existence had been kept secret as no historical records have ever mentioned them. Of course we all asked, "Why"? Experts believe the first emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang, was obsessed with self-preservation and ordered the construction of the life size army to be buried in his tomb. The army stayed buried and forgotten for the next 2,184 years



*Terracotta Army Xi'an*

Fast forward to 1974 when local farmers came across pieces of terracotta while digging a well. Opened in 1979, the largest museum 'Pit One' is the size of an aircraft hangar. No one knows exactly how much still remains buried, but estimates indicate the three pits contain about 8,000 soldiers, with the majority still buried near Emperor Qin's tomb which has not been excavated.



*Huaqing Palace in Xi'an*

After lunch we visited the Emperor's Winter Palace in Xian which was made even more special by our excellent guide who entertained us with interesting stories. During the Tang dynasty (around 640AD), Emperor Xuanzong spent a fortune expanding the existing buildings into a luxurious palace named Huaqing Hot Springs which featured natural hot springs for bathing pools and under floor heating. There are still five pools remaining.

Our visit to Xi'an was very memorable and certainly surpassed our expectations in every way. We ended the day by taking an Air China flight to Beijing.

**Day 5.** On 6<sup>th</sup> May, on a perfect spring morning, we slowly maneuvered through the traffic congestion to the International Horticultural Expo in the Yanqing District of Beijing. Opened on 28<sup>th</sup> April, it is the largest flower show on earth with a theme of 'Live Green, Live Better'. A record number of 110 countries and international organisations participated in the spectacular Exhibition.

There are numerous pavilions and attractions with kilometres of magnificent landscaped gardens featuring trees, tulips, marigolds, roses and other spring flowers. As the Expo runs until October, many of the exhibits and gardens will be changed monthly.



*Expo landscaping and water feature*

Overall, we received some wonderful hospitality and, as promised, all our meals were included. We tasted a large and varied range of Chinese cuisine. We loved the soups and the Noodle dishes, (pasta originated in China), delicious stir-fry dishes and dumplings. Chicken is a popular meat to use, although shrimp, beef and pork are used as well.

We will also remember the generosity of our guides who were professional, caring and helpful, particularly Duncan our Tour Leader.

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## Rose Pruning Demonstration

A cold day on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June did not deter the public from attending the Rose Society's Annual Pruning Demonstration held at the International Rose Garden, Adelaide. Pruning demonstrators for the day were Ross Kemp, Kelvin Trimper, Merv Trimper, John Bradshaw, Doug Gregory and Michael Elwood. Other members were handing out leaflets on Rose Culture, answering questions and serving warm-up mugs of tea and coffee.



*Rose Pruning Demonstrators: Top L-R: John Bradshaw, Kelvin Trimper; Centre L-R: Michael Elwood, Ross Kemp, Doug Gregory; Bottom L-R: Merv Trimper, Group of attendees*





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## **Volunteers in the International Rose Garden (IRG), Botanic Gardens, Hackney Road**

*by Deborah Curtis*

It is an exciting time in the IRG as we prepare the garden for the National Rose Society AGM Weekend in October and the RSSA Members General Meeting in November.

More new roses were planted over winter and some have been moved. This will increase our deadheading duties so extra pairs of secateurs will be most welcome.

The team work on Friday mornings and start at 7:30 am, going through till around 1200 (with a coffee break). We are quite flexible time-wise. Some of the group come for 2 hours and some for longer.

New volunteers are most welcome. All you need is a bit of enthusiasm for roses, clean, sharp secateurs, gloves, suitable clothing, a hat, water bottle and enclosed shoes.

Please contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Deborah Curtis

Supervisor of the Volunteers in IRG

On behalf of the RSSA

**curtisnd@internode.on.net**

**0408 474 977**



### **Roses in the Heartland Christmas Lunch & Garden Visits**



**Date: Thursday 28th November 2019**

**Time:** 9:30 am, 82 Para Road, Tanunda, morning tea,  
followed by 2 more garden visits

**Lunch Venue:** Yet to be confirmed

**Cost:** \$30 per person

**Reservations & Pre-Pay By:** 8th November 2019

**Bank Transfer: BankSA BSB – 105024**

**Account Number 037048840**

**Special Dietary Requirements & Further Information**

**Contact: Sharyn Perrin – See Page 2 of Bulletin**

# Rose of the Month

For more information go to <http://sarose.org.au>



## July 2019 Royal Dane

**Classification:** Hybrid Tea  
**Available from:** Ross Roses, Treloar Roses

**Photograph Credit:** Gary Matuschka, Treloar Roses

## August 2019 BLACKBERRY NIP

**Classification:** Hybrid Tea  
**Awards:** Silver Star of the South Pacific Palmerston North Rose Trial NZ 1998; Certificate of Merit Palmerston North Rose Trial NZ 1998; Rose of the Year Auckland NZ 1999, Fragrance Award winner Auckland NZ 1999

**Available From:** Newman's Nursery, Wagner's Rose Nursery, Treloar Roses, Tesselaar

**Photograph Credit:** Hayden Foulds



## September 2019 R. Banksiae Lutea

**Classification:** Climber/Rambler  
**Available from:** Garden Express

**Photograph Credit:** Melanie Trimper



# Cultural Notes for October, November, December

by Gavin Woods

Recently our society has introduced a “Beginners Corner”, providing basic cultural advice to interested growers prior to our monthly meetings. In July, Kelvin Trimper and I discussed the rudimentary elements of pruning and in August, pest and disease management was covered. It is a relaxed group of new and not so new Rosarians eager to learn. Topics for the rest of the year include “Planning a New Rose Garden” and “Picking Roses for the Home and for Exhibiting”. Groups are held in the foyer of Burnside City Uniting Church at 6.30pm prior to our monthly meeting. No matter the level of experience, members and non-members are encouraged to attend.

October is arguably the most exciting month of the Rosarians calendar. The hard work of the previous period; pruning, spraying and mulching will now come to fruition. Unlike the Autumn flush which can be manipulated to a degree, mother nature will determine the date in Spring that our flowering peaks. The timing of the winter prune has little influence on our roses at this time of the year; most gardens on the Adelaide Plains will normally peak from mid to late October.

Regrettably for our Hills colleagues, their roses will not produce flowers until a fortnight later, usually too late for our Spring Rose Show. There is little that Hills growers can do to influence this although I have long suggested that delaying the application of a mulch until after the Spring flush might bring flowering forward a little. The theory is that the insulating factor that a mulch applies reduces soil warming and thereby delays plant growth and flowering. I don't know of any science to support this theory; these are my thoughts alone.

Of course this year we are particularly keen to impress our interstate and overseas visitors with our roses and to reinforce in their minds that South Australia remains the “Rose Capital” of Australia. At the NRSA Annual Meeting and National Show we will display our best blooms for the enjoyment and critique of our many visitors.

Seasoned exhibitors will have well established routines to maximise the quantity and quality of the blooms they show. I maintain that champion roses are produced from champion bushes; rarely do we pick anything of note from small, weak plants. Big rose bushes with large blooms on long stems are produced in soil that has been well nourished and cared for. The application of **SeaMungus** at pruning time and **Sudden Impact for Roses** in September will do much to establish the nutritional needs of our plants. Roses are growing at an amazing rate during Spring and need significant nutrition in order to do so. Foliar feeding is preferred by some and can be a great adjunct to the application of fertilizer to the soil. **Liquid Strike Back for Orchids** is a product I am keen to trial as a foliar feed; I have several orchid growing friends who swear by it!



I am using **Go-Go Juice** to help establish newly planted roses and in the preparation of new beds. A on a bed that had regular applications of **Go-Go Juice** has since been planted with 18 new Floribundas and and now have more worms than I have ever seen in my garden. Along with very-frequent watering of new roses, a monthly application of **Go-Go Juice** will only do them good.

## Cultural Notes Continued:

Water of course is the other vital ingredient for the production of fabulous blooms. With only half our annual rainfall thus far for 2019, long range forecasters are not predicting a sudden turn-around which means that sub soil moisture will remain depleted. Serious watering of all our roses will usually begin by late September. The trap “for young players” is in thinking that the garden does not need water because in September air temperature remains fairly mild and the roses are making lots of new red growth. If the moisture that the plants are drawing on is not replaced quite regularly it is unlikely that the full potential of the rose will be achieved. It is difficult to over-water roses. I say “turn the tap on” and worry about the water bill later!



Fungal disease, particularly Black-spot can rear its head quite early in the season. Susceptible varieties will at times display the disease from the first leaves. In gardens with very few roses, it is possible to remove infected leaves and dispose of them in the green waste; however for most gardeners it involves pulling out the spray equipment. Our serious rose growers now advocate minimal spraying with two applications of different classes of fungicides applied a fortnight apart in early Spring. This may be all that is required for control. Fungal disease (principally Black-spot, Powdery Mildew and Rust in South Australia) quickly develops resistance to fungicides. Alternating spray treatments with different chemical groups helps prevent resistance, thereby achieving better control.

With the significantly improved nutrition provided by Neutrog products we are growing stronger and more disease resistant roses. Rose breeders are focusing on this aspect also which means we are growing less varieties that are significantly impacted by disease. God Bless the breeders, God Bless Neutrog!

The scourge of Spring roses are Aphid and Thrip; two tiny soft bodied insects that can cause chaos. Aphids love the succulent, fresh new growth of our roses and often appear very early in the growing season. They appear as clusters of green or brown insects at the tip of young growth. Thrip come later; often at bud-burst, blowing in from goodness knows where via a North wind. They infiltrate the flower buds of white and pale coloured roses and their presence is usually not sighted until the bloom opens with unsightly brown edges; the handy work of this tiny insect.

In order to chemically control these pests one needs to apply strong systemic insecticides, something I am not prepared to recommend. Aphids can be controlled using any number of organic sprays; they are soft-bodied and contact with any moderately toxic agent will kill them. Of course if you have predatory insects at work, it is likely that you will kill them also. I prefer to await the arrival of the many predators to deal with an outbreak of Aphid. Wasps, Hoverflies, Ladybirds and even the humble Sparrow will eventually take care of the Aphid; the key is to “hold your nerve” and resist spraying! You will undoubtedly have to sacrifice a few early roses to the insect pests but don't we get too many blooms to deal with in any case?

Thrips are another matter.....and resistance is useless! Once you see the presence of these horrid, non-redeeming creatures the damage has been done. They can be poisoned with chemicals; however another wave of the pest will blow in to replace those dispatched if the environmental conditions are to their approval! They usually disappear as quickly as they arrive. An abundance of red and dark coloured roses on our show benches is a sure sign of a generalised invasion of thrips.

The third menace frequenting rose gardens is the Two-spotted Mite, AKA "Red Spider". This almost microscopic pest inhabits the underside of leaves and is not usually detected until they have sucked the leaf to a point yellowing. On very close inspection they will be identified and when in plague proportions one can see webs created by the mite on the underside of the leaf. These mites detest moisture and a commonly quoted control measure is to spray under the plants daily with water from the hose. Make sure the underside of the leaves are wet in order to deter these pests. I had an outbreak several years ago and successfully brought in a predatory mite from a Riverland company that breeds and supplies such creatures. Unfortunately, I know of no predator occurring naturally in our gardens.

So back to our roses.....if you have fed, watered and sprayed your charges, you will undoubtedly be inundated with magnificent blooms that you will eager to share; either with friends and neighbours or the wider community at a Rose Show.

Pick your blooms in the early morning or after the sun has set in the evening. ALWAYS take water to the plant and place your rose directly into it! Allow the bloom to soak up water for at least 30 minutes prior to arranging (known in the trade as "conditioning"). There are many options that allow members to display their roses at our show, including non-competitive options. We all hear members of the public exclaim "I have better roses at home". My response would be "well you might...why don't you prove it!"

The critics of rose shows often talk of a "sticks in bottles" mentality. I maintain that rose shows demonstrate all forms of the "Queen of Flowers" presented in a variety of ways. Arrangements, bunches, bowls, collections, individual blooms and even heads floating individually in brandy balloons offer a range of options to those who come to pay homage. Rose shows are our society's best promotional opportunity and represent excellence of culture for others to aspire.

Where were we?.....cultural notes, back to the point! Once the main flush of Spring has passed plants will begin producing smaller batches of bloom at 6-8 week intervals. Adelaide Plains growers are very fortunate in being able to extract 5-6 flushes of bloom from their plants per year. Hills growers usually see one flush less. Of course to maintain this high output nutrition and moisture are key. Dean Stringer OAM stated to our beginners group recently that he fed his roses with **Sudden Impact for Roses** three times per year. Dean grew roses on the sandy soils of Tea Tree Gully and although I did not ask, I would assume the second feed would be in early December. I am fortunate to grow roses on heavy clay soil and as such only apply fertiliser twice per year, in September and February.



The main tasks for November and December are to dead-head, a term describing removal of spent flowering tips, and to keep applying water. One method of dead-heading that I recommend is to simply break off the spent bloom immediately below the bloom or remaining seed capsule. The theory (in brief) is that you are maximising foliage on your plants, thereby maximising sugar production which is the food for the next flush of blooms. More foliage, bigger plants, bigger and better blooms...simple!

Keep the water up and your roses will respond with countless blooms. The blooms produced over Summer will contain less petals and likely be smaller. No matter, they still have great appeal and smell glorious. Enjoy!

# Out & About with Roses in the Heartland

by Mary Frick

The sun was shining on the Sunday afternoon for the Roses in the Heartland 'Pruning Demonstration' held at the home of Lyn Williams in Evanston. Forty five people attended to see how demonstrators John Bradshaw and Tony Hanna pruned the roses. John gave advice on selecting and sharpening secateurs. Attendees had a chance to practice their



*John Bradshaw giving pruning information*

skills under the watchful eyes of the demonstrators. Thank you John and Tony.

Whilst enjoying afternoon tea, Neutrog representative, Paul Dipuglia gave an interesting spiel on the Neutrog products suitable for rose growing and how the products came about.

At the conclusion of Paul's summary the Roses in the Heartland AGM was held. The Election of Officers took place with all positions being filled. Committee for the next twelve months are:

**President** – Ross Kemp, **Vice President** – Penelope Schulz

**Secretary** – Sharyn Perrin, **Treasurer** – Malcolm Watson, **PR** – Mary Frick

**Committee** – Julius Graham, Ian Frick, Paul Flavel, Ruth Watson, Lyn Williams.

**Diary Dates:**

**National Rose Society of Australia's AGM Weekend – 25<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

The weekend includes the Spring Rose Show including the National Rose Championships, dinners, Combined Branches Meeting, NRSA AGM, and garden visits. Please consider attending some (if not all) of these activities. They are fun and it's a great way to meet fellow rosarians. See advert on page 31 for more information.

**RITH Christmas Lunch – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

See advert on page 47 for details.



*Paul Dipuglia (Neutrog) explaining the uses of Neutrog products*

## Roses on Eyre Pruning Time

by Trevor Kemp, 14<sup>TH</sup> July 2019

The day was cold with a sea breeze adding to the chill for the Winter pruning day at Tumbly Bay. President Shirley soon had us all warmed up with the reports of a new product from Neutrog called "Dead Horse" is on the way. If it is good for our tomatoes it will be added to our orders.

The proposed seven day trip to the South East was presented as needing 30 participants to be viable for the bus to make the run. Some excitement that this trip would be something special for garden enthusiasts!

John Bradshaw outlined the exciting programme planned for the Rose Convention in Adelaide and took questions about it as



well as providing good advice on starting new roses with Go Go juice & Seamungus.



*John Bradshaw explains how to replant a rose*

After an early lunch it was on to Julia Rhenn's garden". John's demonstration was in close with several persons keen to learn the job in hand. A good crowd of 46 members & visitors braved the wintery conditions.

PS...some members were up the next morning to start the pruning with an early start. Well done John for your demonstration, explanations and presentation/communication skills.

## The Rose Society of South Australia Inc, 2008-2018 History Book Release

Continuing on from the first History Book (1908-2008) released in the Society's Centenary year, the next ten years of the Society's history has now been recorded and will be released at the Spring Rose Show Official Opening by Society Patron Mrs Lan Le.

At the conclusion of the Official Opening, ***The Rose Society of South Australia Inc 2008-2018*** history book will be available for purchase from the Information Table for \$10 per copy.

At the conclusion of the show, history books will be available for purchase from the Treasurer, John Humphries.

# CHAFFEY RIVERLAND BRANCH REPORT AUGUST 2019

*by Shann Hausler*

The Renmark Rose Festival will be celebrating its 25th anniversary from the 18<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October, so set aside this to make sure you visit Renmark during this time. Check out details online on [www.renmarkroses.com](http://www.renmarkroses.com)

Fourteen members of the Riverland branch joined three Sunraysia members on the 12 June, when we spent a very enjoyable day indulging in the cultural and dining delights of Mildura. We were surprised by the number of roses still flowering and doing so well in Mildura gardens. It was just as well Eric Sutton had only factored in one Nursery visit and several Art Galleries, as it rained all day. The upgrading of the Mildura waterfront was great to see, especially the new mosaic work and stone sculpture. We had a lovely day catching up with old friends, especially Dianne Dalla Santa. Dianne was the first Vice President of Chaffey Rose Club in 1996 and she continued to hold executive positions until 2007. Our thanks to Eric and Joan for organising such an enjoyable day.

We spent a delightfully relaxing Sunday at the Loxton home of Juliette Griffiths on the 28<sup>th</sup> July. The Loxton members hosted us and provided a delicious range of soups and breads, as well as setting up a wonderful trading table. We also enjoyed browsing through rose books.

A big thank you to the Chaffey Rose Club members and friends who so generously catered for morning and afternoon teas at the recent August HRIA rose pruning weekend at Ruston's.

Coleen Houston and I participated in a very pleasant Adelaide RSSA evening called "David Ruston – His Life with Roses". David would have loved it.

## **OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> RENMARK ROSE FESTIVAL**

### **"ROSES ARE RED" 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October**

Combined Branches of RSSA and the National Rose Society of Australia AGM. Possible car pool on the Sunday. RSVP Dale by 28<sup>th</sup> August.

### **NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup> DAY TRIP TO ANLABY**

A bus trip to Anlaby station, returning via a Barossa nursery, will depart Renmark at 7a.m. Price \$110/per person. Enquiries Jill Knight; RSVP Jill on 0415 387 943, by 18<sup>th</sup> October

### **DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS PARTY**

At Rhonda Taylor's home in Renmark, at 6:30p.m. Bring own drinks and a plate to share. RSVP Rhonda on 0419 782 923 by the 26<sup>th</sup> November.

# SOUTH EAST BRANCH REPORT

by *Ione Saint*

The South East Branch held its AGM with all office bearers retaining their position and an additional two new committee members, Penny McGorm and Anne Davis. Part of the afternoon took on a sombre tone with a very thoughtful and moving tribute to David Ruston presented by Sue Zwar with technical support from John Zwar. We then had a toast to our former member Sandy Kidman.

In a change of pace the Branch was extremely fortunate to have the very engaging Malcolm Watson as our guest speaker. We were all captivated as he spoke of his journey in amassing a large medal haul which some Olympians would be envious of. With the piece de resistance being awarded the well deserved Order of Australia Medal for his dedication to the Rose Society at a Local, State, National and International level.

Sue Zwar gave a talk on the attributes of two varieties of roses which she had propagated to give away to fortunate members on the day. Both were Australian bred, the floribunda ***Carabella*** and winter flowering ***Lorraine Lee***.

In the last three months some of our members have been very busy. Geoff & Jill Eckermann, Sue & John Zwar attended David Ruston's funeral representing the South East Branch. He was instrumental in the early days of our Branch and freely imparted his knowledge.

George Thomson won some hearts over as he helped the Naracoorte Garden Club celebrate their 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by being their guest speaker on all things about roses and the benefits of Neutrog fertiliser. Glenys Mulligan and Geoff Eckermann gave a rose pruning demonstration to the Mount Gambier Garden Club and also extolled the virtues of using *Seamungus* and other Neutrog products. Once again the extensive rose garden at the Penola Hospital was pruned by an eager and very capable group of volunteers.

As part of our August meeting we wandered through the beautiful Winter garden of Carol and John Grbich. A large well designed garden with bulbs flowering, the roses and perennials just starting to awaken and teasing our imagination as to the splendour this garden must be in Spring. We then convened at the Glencoe Shearing Shed for a delicious afternoon tea and listened to a talk while watching a slide show on the colourful characters of its past.

Our next meeting is another large well loved country garden. Meet 11.30am, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November, the home of Jackie and Joel Leuth, 169 Kilpatrick Road, Benayeo. The only house on Kilpatrick Road and 30 minutes North East of Naracoorte just over the border. Our guest speaker will be Paul Dipuglia from Neutrog. Please bring along a chair, mug, a plate to share for lunch and a bloom for a competition.

**Back Cover:** *Marilyn Monroe* 4 Stage exhibited by Gavin Woods

# MARILYN MONROE

Hybrid Tea

Only a rose of the highest quality could be chosen to receive the iconic name 'Marilyn Monroe'.

This glamorous, classic Hybrid Tea rose was bred by internationally famous USA rose breeder, Tom Carruth in 2001.

The greenish buds open into beautiful, full, high-centred blooms of soft apricot, 10-12cm in diameter, borne mostly solitary on strong stems with attractive semi-glossy foliage. The growth habit of this medium size bush is upright 1.5m tall x 1.25m wide. Nearly everything about this rose is excellent including its bloom, colour, form, quantity of blooms and plant vigour, disease

resistance  
and heat  
and cold  
tolerance.

It almost  
deserves a  
perfect score but  
does not quite get  
there due to its lack of  
perfume and profusion  
of sharp prickles.

It makes a lovely display  
in the garden, a superb  
long-lasting cut flower for  
floral arrangements and is often  
displayed as an award-winning  
exhibit on the show bench.

Exhibit by Gavin Wood

