



The Rose Society of South Australia Inc

# Bulletin

Volume 65, Number 1

Jan, Feb, March 2026



*Kardinal*

*Our Mission: to provide excellence and innovation in the promotion of the rose*

# Calendar of Events

## February

**Tuesday 10th February**  
7pm

Members' Meeting, Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Garden—"A Bed of Roses". See page 20.

## March

**Tuesday 10th March**  
7pm

Members' Zoom Meeting, at home—"David Austin Roses". See page 20.

## April

**Tuesday 14th April**  
7pm

Members' Meeting, Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Garden—"Miniature Roses". See page 20.

**Sunday, 19th April**  
Full day

Exhibitor's Workshop. Save the date: details in next edition.

**Sunday and Monday**  
**26th and 27th April**

Autumn Rose Show. Save the dates: details in next edition.

## NEW ZEALAND TOUR—Expressions of Interest—late November 2027

Register your interest in a 10-day tour taking in New Zealand's National and Trial Gardens Awards and visiting gardens of the Long White Cloud.

Email Penelope Schulz by 2/03/2026 [penelopeannes@bigpond.com](mailto:penelopeannes@bigpond.com)

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COVER PHOTO **Kardinal** by Celia Painter

Our cover image was adapted from a photograph (left) taken of Peter and Brenda Burton's stunning Champion A Grade Bunch of Roses at the 2025 Spring Rose Show. For more on Peter and Brenda see page 9. The show features from page 23 to 27.

**Kardinal** is a Kordes Hybrid Tea rose which is popular on Rose Show benches, in the garden and in a vase. It has medium to large sized blooms and looks dramatic in whatever setting it is used.



The Rose Society of South Australia Inc encourages, fosters, and extends the cultivation and appreciation of the rose. It also arranges, sponsors and conducts talks, demonstrations, exhibitions and shows, in line with its Constitution and By-Laws.

#### ABOUT

The Rose Society of South Australia's *Bulletin* is the official publication of the Society for members. It is produced quarterly in hard copy and digital formats.

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#### BACK COPIES

This and previous editions of The Rose Society of South Australia's *Bulletin* are available to members in digital format in the Members' area of the Society's website- [sarose.org.au](http://sarose.org.au)

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

Members of The Rose Society of South Australia and invited guests provide content for this publication. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Rose Society of South Australia Inc or the Editor.

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## A message from the President

Whew! What a frantic time the Spring season presented for myself and other members.

Diane vom Berg and I were delegates to the National Rose Society of Australia Annual General Meeting. National President and outgoing Queensland President, Sue Stallwood, and her team put together a great weekend which consisted of a lot of good food and wine, some fabulous conversation and the opportunity to catch up with rose luminaries from across this land. We will be hosted in 2026 by New South Wales with Colin Hollis again accepting the mantle of National President.



Gavin Woods ARA

Good friends of our Society, Sandra Turner from Victoria and Jim Cunningham from NSW, were awarded the Australian Rose Award; with Graham Wright from NSW collecting the TA Stewart Medal. Congratulations to them all.

Kim and I returned from Brisbane on the following Monday as our own State Spring Show was to be held the next weekend. Thankfully, members supported the event, staging an excellent Rose Show for the hundreds of shoppers to enjoy. Congratulations and thanks to Joy Johnson in her role as Show Manager for pulling it off. A sad aspect of this show was the announcement that it was the final show for exhibitors, Brenda and Peter Burton.

Several members attended a Rose Industry information day, hosted by Kim Syrus, a few days later, where Kim presented his Churchill Fellowship findings. Other challenges of the industry were discussed including the scourge that is Chilli Thrip, now endemic in Western Australia and Queensland. Thought to be the first such forum held for over 50 years, it was a privilege to be part of this important event.

Unfortunately, a sudden case of the “lurgy” saw me miss the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia (NRTGA) awards night. I am assured that it was again a great success with NRTGA Chair, Kim Syrus, Secretary, Chris Kelly and Garden Coordinator, Merv Trimper, creating an entertaining evening.

Another weekend, another event; this time we were at Carrick Hill as part of their *The Rose in Art* exhibition. We were there with a display of wonderful roses; promoting the Society and answering the inevitable culture questions. Prominent Western Australian rosarian, Billy West, and a colleague from America were visitors during the weekend.

The first Sunday in November saw us return to Uraidla Agricultural Show and despite horrific wind and rain, members staged the largest showing of roses ever. We were, justifiably, awarded the Best Section in the Show; suitably rewarding our efforts.

## ***A message from the President continued***

Merv and Wendy Trimper opened their garden at Oakbank to a Members' Meeting during the following week. A large turnout of members was rewarded with the garden, which was at its absolute best, and food in abundance! Thanks once again to Penelope Schultz for providing such a varied and interesting Members' Meeting program.

I made the journey to Melbourne to support the Victorian Rose Society's Spring Show as Diane vom Berg and I were invited judges. I decided to exhibit as well. This was a very well organised event in a new venue and despite rain and cold weather, a large crowd came to see the roses.

So to weekend number 6: Penelope Schulz and I travelled with a carload of roses to Parndana Agricultural Show on Kangaroo Island (KI). A logistical challenge, we were supported with flowers from Celia Painter and Merv and Wendy Trimper. It was a bit like taking "Coals to Newcastle"—the KI residents are excellent rose growers. They were, however, so grateful that we had made the effort to support their show, themed "Stop and Smell the Roses".

Our Christmas Dinner will be over by the time this is read, once again an opportunity to honour our members and to thank our supporters, not least of whom is Angus Irwin and the staff of Neutrog Fertilisers, winners of a William Buck Impact Award for 2025.

Kim and I would like to wish you a joyous and peaceful festive season and health and happiness for the New Year. As I write, my retirement from paid employment is imminent; perhaps finally I can join you in taking time to "Stop and Smell the Roses"!

*Gavin*

### **Life Membership nominations**

Nominations for Honorary Life Memberships close at midnight on Saturday, 4th April.

These are awarded to those the selection panel considers have given "special, outstanding and exemplary service to the Society".

The nomination form is available in the Member's section of the Society's website [sarose.org.au](http://sarose.org.au) or request one from the secretary at [rssasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:rssasecretary@gmail.com) or phone 0416 073 957.

A one-page citation may accompany the form. The form and citation need to be returned to the Secretary.



Mary Parrott was presented with her 25 year Membership certificate by Society Patron, Mr Rod Buntzen, at the Christmas lunch. Unable to attend were 25 year recipients, Win Paix and Mary Sloan.

# Deb Curtis honoured for outstanding work

Deborah Curtis is the winner of the 2025 Dean Stringer OAM Award, named in honour of one of the Society's dearly departed Life Members.

The Rose Society of South Australia's President, Gavin Woods, who chooses the winner, announced Deb as the recipient at the 2025 Christmas lunch.

He said Deb has contributed across a broad range of activities but is best-known for her long-standing role as coordinator of the volunteers in the International Rose Garden (IRG) at Adelaide Botanic Garden, a role she assumed in 2013, and she has since worked tirelessly, supervising at most of the Friday morning working bees.

"Deb has grown the group to its current healthy state of approximately 40 volunteers," said Gavin, "with a leadership that has been described as subdued and friendly but firm. The group is hard working and shares great camaraderie.

"Deb personally trains all the new volunteers, taking them under her wing until they are ready to branch out on their own. She is a skilled rosarian who enjoys nothing more than sharing her knowledge to her group and to the public in general.

"This remarkable commitment has occurred whilst Deb has battled chronic health problems that would have seen others abandon the role long ago."

The presentation was among many highlights of the lunch, held at Auchendarroch House. Among them was the attendance of Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, who was joined by Honorary Life Member and Vice President, John Humphries, in cutting the Christmas cake. Others included presentations to Mary Parrott (opposite), Paul Dipuglia (page 14) and the 2025 Member's Show Bench winners (page 42).



*Deborah Curtis  
2025 Dean Stringer OAM Award Recipient*



Sharyn Perrin represented Deb Curtis in accepting the Dean Stringer OAM Award from Society Patron, Mr Rod Bunten, after the announcement by President, Gavin Woods, at the Christmas lunch.



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# Congratulations on 40-plus fabulous years

Two of The Rose Society of South Australia's most respected exhibitors, Brenda and Peter Burton ARA, have bowed out of exhibiting after 40-plus years on the show bench.

The A-Graders staged their last exhibits at the 2025 Spring Rose Show at Nuriootpa, winning the H Charles Thomas Memorial Trophy as winners of the State Spring Championship and a swag of other trophies.



The move away from the bench comes from the necessity to downsize their home. However, the Honorary Life Members plan to remain active in the Society.

Their memories of exhibiting are vivid, starting with their “introduction” to the bench, inspired by the now late rosarian, Dean Stringer OAM ARA, who Peter overheard remarking that their exhibit of **Grandpa Dickson** at an Enfield Garden Club show would be a Champion at Rose Society competition. Peter was left with the lingering thought that “perhaps there was something there” and he and Brenda ultimately joined the Society.

Fortune favoured, with the couple grateful for assistance in their early days of exhibiting afforded by South Australian rosarian greats, among them Dean Stringer, and the now also late Dr Allan Campbell ARA and late Eric Trimper OAM ARA. The couple eventually learnt a few “tricks” to exhibiting successfully and, enjoying the camaraderie among members, immersed themselves in the breadth and depth of the Society's activities with Peter accepting official positions, locally and nationally.

Peter and “Trendy Brendy”—so named by dear friend, the late David Ruston OAM ARA—were especially active during the Society's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations in 2008 and the organising hosts of tours organised for the World Federation of Rose Society's Regional (WFRS) Convention, held in Adelaide, the same year. They also attended WFRS international conventions over many years.

Throughout, the love of the rose and friendships have bound them to the Society. They say a little chiaccking between members and the public has helped too. There was some of that at Nuriootpa when a member of the public clapped his eyes on Brenda, declared his love for her and sought-out Peter to ask for his consent to whisk her off to Tasmania and marry her. Immersed in judging, it's said that Peter considered for a moment and then merely quipped he “will have to think about it and get back to him”.

**A special note from A Grade exhibitor, Gavin Woods ARA**

*When I came back to exhibiting in 1996, Peter and Brenda were at the height of their dominance on the show bench and have continued to be a benchmark for others.*

*Their final show was a sad day for all of us; however I am sure that Peter will continue to share his wisdom and knowledge to all who ask.*

*We wish Peter and Brenda well in the next phase of their lives.*

## Members treated at our Spring meetings



Carol Keatch, Ge Rohrsheim, Maureen Humphries and Ross Kemp upon arrival at Wendy and Merv's *Trimper Downs*.



Merv Trimper answered questions about the garden and specific cultivars when he led the garden tour at *Trimper Downs*.

Society members have been spoilt in recent months and why not! Tours of *Carrick Hill's* home and garden at Springfield and Wendy and Merv Trimper's beautiful property, *Trimper Downs* at Oakbank, on top of annual and other show opportunities, filled the dance cards of many.

A few blooms were open for our late September visit to *Carrick Hill* where the 26 who attended were divided into small groups for tours of both the garden and the historic home. Some members were keen to return for a promising flourish of Alister Clark blooms, with hundreds of buds across the Alister Clark bed. We were also treated to entry into *The Rose in Art Exhibition*. Yet another highlight was that several members of Chaffey Branch joined the group and the Society lucheon gathering afterwards at the *Edinburgh Hotel*.

Some Society representatives returned to *Carrick Hill* on October 25 and 26, promoting the rose and the Society, as a complementary feature to *The Rose In Art* exhibition. Roses brought from Kadina, arranged by Gavin Woods, attracted interest and drew queries from the public.

The October meeting unfolded like an origami scene from the 20<sup>th</sup> World Rose Convention held earlier this year in Fukuyama, Japan, with Powerpoint pictorial presentations, prepared by Penelope Schulz and Gavin Woods, shown.

Spring had certainly sprung at *Trimper Downs* a few weeks later when 45 members, including Elly Johnson and Anton Web from Chaffey, Penny and Jack McGorm from the South East Branch, Ross Kemp from Riverton and Dorothy and John Bradshaw from Rogues Point, were welcomed to see the garden, hear about budding methods by Merv Trimper, and enjoy a Society supported lunch. The latter was organised by Wendy Trimper and made possible with help from members, among them Laurel Fedorowytsch, and Wendy's friends.

There were many highlights: a diversity of rose cultivars, the graceful and exciting placement of roses in a crescent shaped garden partially framing the home, and hearing



Members were placed into small groups for tours at Carrick Hill.

of Merv's and Wendy's gardening experiences, including challenges and successes, in creating the setting.

Some of Merv's favourites from the Painter series of roses, **Maurice Utrillo** and **Grimaldi**, were among many cultivars which demanded attention, once one could tear the gaze away from **Pierre de Ronsard!**

A special treat for three visitors were bouquets of flowers, by **Little Miss Fleur** (Natasha Trimper), won in a competition.

The Council of the Society thanks Wendy and Merv most sincerely for their warm hospitality and the opportunity provided to members. This was a special way to end Member's Meetings for 2025.

## October Show Bench winners

BEST ROSE Les Johnson with **Loving Touch**.

A Grade—1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken and Gwen Moxham **Gold Bunny** and **Sutters Gold** respectively.

B Grade—1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Les Johnson **Loving Touch**, **Vista** and **Copper Gem**.

C Grade—1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Harriet Eivers **Double Delight** and **Australian Beauty**.

Heritage—1<sup>st</sup> Les Johnson **La France**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken and Gwen Moxham **Rosa Banksiae Lutea**.

## November Show Bench winners

BEST ROSE Ross Kemp with **Summer of Love**

A Grade—1<sup>st</sup> Ken and Gwen Moxham **Princess Anne**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gordon Nolan **Sue Clare**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ken and Gwen Moxham **Best Friend**.

B Grade—1<sup>st</sup> John and Dorothy Bradshaw **Irresistible**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ross Kemp **Toni**, 3<sup>rd</sup> John and Dorothy Bradshaw **Golden Gardens**.

C Grade—1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ross Kemp **Summer of Love** and **Sexy Remy** respectively, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ross Kemp **Toni**.

Heritage—1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken and Gwen Moxham, **Madame Isaac Pereire** (Bourbon 1881) and **Madame Isaac Pereire**.

Kids Corner—1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Eivers **Australian Beauty**, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Darcey Eivers **Black Forest** and **Australian Beauty**.

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# RSSA exhibits hailed as a triumph at Uraidla Show



Photo: Corina Gul

Gavin Woods ARA with his Grand Champion exhibit, *Gemini*

Thunder rolled, lightning flashed and rain pelted down at times on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. But as the crowds poured indoors at the 2025 Uraidla Show show-goers were not disappointed, many deeming the Society's Uraidla Rose Showbench Competition "spectacular". It was also voted the Best Section of the Show by the Uraidla Show Society.

More than 320 blooms and 12 bunches had been staged by Society exhibitors who had come from near and far. Among the latter were John and Dorothy Bradshaw, and Jen McCormick, from Rogues Point on Yorke Peninsula, and Gavin Woods from Kadina.

Judges included Gavin, Diane vom Berg, Merv Trimper and Penelope Schulz—who came from the Barossa before sunrise to help Gavin set-up for rose exhibitors—and Les Johnson, hailing from Port Wakefield.

Gavin won the Uraidla and Summertown Spring Show Championship and the Grand Champion Exhibit with an entry of *Gemini*. John and Dorothy were winners of the B&C Grade Championship, and Natasha and Chardon Trimper were winners of the Best B&C Grade Champion Exhibit with an entry of *See You In Pink*.

Among the blooms on the bench were a few rarely seen gems. One was a rose, bred by Mary Frick and referred to as Amber's Sister—a sister to Mary's commercially available *Amber's Gift*—staged in a bunch by Gavin. Another was a George Thomson bred rose, *Ruby*, exhibited by Corina Gul. Unlike Amber's Sister, it is commercially available.

Gavin described the event as a fantastic promotion of the Rose and the Society. He encourages others to participate in 2026, especially those who may not have had courage to exhibit previously, as top exhibitors will be available to guide and assist.



Photo: Corina Gul

John Bradshaw, who with wife Dorothy, won the B-C Intermediate Championship.



Photo: Corina Gul

Just some of the bunches with the Mary Frick bred Amber's Sister, back left.

# with a record number of entries and high quality



The RSSA's Show benches drew bumper-to-bumper people at times and the foot traffic was busy throughout.



One of the RSSA's Show Benches at the Uraidla Show.



After working a night shift, nursing, Natasha Trimper arrived to stage exhibits and stayed on to help write winners cards post judging.



Grand Champion Exhibit, *Gemini.*



B-C Intermediate Champion, *See You In Pink.*



ABOVE: A Grader, Merv Trimper had a swag of wins.  
RIGHT: Another winner, Corina Gul, who loved the venue.



## Paul recognised with Honorary Membership



Kristina and Paul Dipuglia at the Society's Christmas lunch.

Membership went with that position and would otherwise be expected to cease upon retirement.

Paul, who reflected on his 16-plus years with Neutrog at the lunch, said he had a “nuts and bolts” sales background when he joined Neutrog. Learning from Angus Irwin, Neutrog’s Managing Director, about advocacy and working closely with end-users had been a revelation, a steep learning curve and ultimately very rewarding.

His work has taken him across South Australia, New South Wales, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. In South Australia, he has been regarded as a fountain of useful information, problem solver, advocate, friend, confidant and always professional.

Increased time with family members, here and abroad, are next on the agenda for Paul and wife Kristina. Paul will also be taking time to enjoy roses. He is returning to his previous role as an Assessor with the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia and said he is also happy to be a speaker with the Society. We wish Paul and Kristina all the best as they step back to smell the roses.



One of Gavin Woods's winning exhibits in Vic.

### Outstanding success crossing the border

Gavin Woods won eight of 12 Silver Medals awarded to top exhibits of The Rose Society of Victoria's Spring Show held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

Gavin's bevy of wins came from 16 classes and totalled 14. He had staged 81 roses. He won the: Victorian Spring Championship; Victorian Floribunda Championship; Victorian Large-Flowered Bunch Championship; “Super Single” Championship; and the Victorian Miniature Championship.

Gavin and Diane vom Berg were both judges at the show, held at a new venue, Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre, which attracted good numbers of visitors.

## Exquisite blooms graced the show bench at Penola, vying for the grandest of rose prizes

Thirty-one years ago a love for The Queen of the Flowers and dedication to local community saw St Mary's Wines, near Penola, provide a substantial prize, annually, for the Grand Champion Rose at the Penola Show. This put rose classes at the rural show "on the map".

Seasoned rosarians, many of whom have won the \$1000 prize purse, and novices, have vied side-by-side. It was a novice, Brittany Chaston, who won on 31st October this year. This gives Glenys Mulligan, co-owner of St Mary's Wines & Spirits, enormous satisfaction as it encourages budding rosarians.

Glenys's adoration of the rose and gardening is multi-faceted. She and husband, Barry—nowadays with the muscle of their sons—have created a unique garden-scape showcasing the rose, other cultivars and impressive stone walling at St Mary's Wines & Spirits. The garden features regularly on the Open Gardens SA Program.

Glenys's story of the garden features in the following four pages.



Glenys and Barry Mulligan of St Mary's Wines & Spirits, Penola, have created a unique garden.



Photo: Helen Zadow

Winners line up in rose classes at Penola Show.



Photo: Helen Zadow

Grand Champion rose *Boscobel*

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# Glenys's childhood dream is blooming at



A celebration of roses, *Souvenir de Louis Amade* in the foreground and flanking the homestead's verandah at St Mary's Wines & Spirits.

Photo: Penelope Schulz

## *By Glenys Mulligan*

I can remember helping my mother in her vegie garden at quite a young age before I went to school. I picked and ate more peas than went in the pot.

Our back fence bordered the nursery in Mt Gambier. I would climb the fence and watch Robin Conboy and his mother working in the garden. Those were the days when they grew all their seedlings. Mum and I would shop there to get our vegie seedlings, bare rooted and wrapped in newspaper. To me as a young child, the nursery was a wonderful place. To be honest they still are, with all the wonderful plants available.

In 1969, I married my Barry and I now live west of Penola. I knew Barry was a builder but he was to find out he had married a gardener.

I had gardened with Mum and Dad on the volcanic soils in Mt. Gambier and coming to Penola onto alkaline soils was a big change. I brought half of Mum's plants to grow here but that didn't work. The red flowering Japonica is the only plant to survive.

In the early 1970's, I bought a standard red rose on sale at one of the big stores, brought it home and it grew. I was hooked on roses. That rose did eventually die as some plants do, but it was the start of a beautiful journey for me.

I learned that roses grow well in our soil and the climate is nearly perfect. I started to source roses wherever and whenever I could. We visited *Ross Roses*, *Wagner's Rose Nursery* and *Treloar Roses*. It was so exciting to see the roses growing—the colours and the perfumes.

The oldest rose in the garden is a *Lorriane Lee* which Barry's mother planted over 80 years ago. We now have 500-plus roses. Some are 50-years-old and a few 2-years-old. There are all types: Hybrid Teas, Bush, Heritage, Climbers, Columns and Standards. I

# St Mary's Wine & Spirits near Penola



*La Sevillana* at St Mary's Wine & Spirits with its famous terra rossa soil, prized for growing high quality wine grapes, also on show. Photo: Glenys Mulligan

love colour and “the rose” gives me that for many months. I look for healthy foliage, colour and perfume to blend with colour schemes in the garden. I get asked which is my favourite rose and I reply, the one that is showing off that week.

*Monty Don says you cannot have a garden without a gardener as gardening is about the human connection to nature and life.*

But I do have some favourites. There is **Anne Marie Trechslin**, an old rose with a lovely single pink-peach colour and a beautiful perfume. **Soeur (Sister) Emmanuelle** is another. It is pink, with good foliage. Then there is **Souvenir de Louis Amade**, a wonderful pink-lavender coloured rose. There are about 60 planted across the front of the house and when in bloom they smell amazing.

Two things have happened since my introduction to the rose.

Firstly, in 1994, the South East Branch of the Rose Society of South Australia was formed. It was the first branch of The Rose Society of South Australia. I was the inaugural President of the South East Branch and over the years have been Treasurer, Secretary



Photo: Glenys Mulligan

**Anne Marie Trechslin**



Photo: Glenys Mulligan

**Soeur Emmanuel**



Photo: Glenys Mulligan

**Souvenir de Louis Amade**



This dramatic dry stone walling and window cutting through the grounds at St Mary's Wines & Spirits is a small feat of engineering and construction. Photo: Glenys Mulligan

and President for a second time. We had wonderful members of the Rose Society of South Australia visit to help, encourage and educate our members in the growing of the rose. We also had a lot of good times.

Secondly, as a co-owner of St Mary's Wines & Spirits and having been a board member of the Penola Pastoral & A. & H Society for many years, as well as being involved with the rose and flower sections of its annual show, I instigated the winery's annual sponsorship of the Grand Champion Rose at the Show in 1994. This provided a prize of \$1000. It invigorated the rose section with roses becoming a major section in the Show to this day. In the early years we had help from high profile rosarians, the now late Dean Stringer and the late Fred Edwards, on how to stage the section and help exhibitors. Dean and Fred judged the rose and flower sections of the Penola show for many years. It was a wonderful experience to learn from these two knowledgeable gentlemen. Many exhibitors have won this prize, some more than once.

While roses are undoubtedly a feature of the garden at St Mary's, the overall setting is important to the aesthetics and health of the garden. In the early 2000s my kitchen garden was developed, with a lot of help from Barry. We now have a very productive vegetable garden, with a shade house full of seedlings and cuttings for sale and re-plants for the garden. There are lots of fruit trees, an apple arch, and raised beds with asparagus and other vegies growing. This is my special place—a dream from my childhood.



Photo: Glenys Mulligan

The productive veggie garden

Our garden at St Mary's Wines and Spirits is my design, but there has been lots of hard work by Barry and sons, Ian and Robin, who have undertaken substantial



Glenys doing stone walling.

Photo: Barry Mulligan



A section of the southern side of the garden at St Mary's Wines

& Spirits.

Photo: Glenys Mulligan

building and stone walling projects. The garden is the show piece for the homestead and St Mary's Cellar door. We have garden functions here and participate in SA Open Gardens every year with a Plant and Trade Fair in November.

The garden has been an evolution: beds have changed either through necessity or desire. In November 2017, we had a mini tornado which did a lot of damage to mature trees which were planted 60 to 80 years ago. The renovated areas in the garden now have a Mediterranean influence. I am spreading that influence throughout the garden with tougher plants and bulbs of all description. I have a love for South African bulbs and plants that do so well here. I am also having "a bit of a thing" with aloes at the moment—love the colours and so tough!

Within my broader vision for the garden, **The Rose** takes centre stage. Barry and I prune them every year. We have slightly different pruning styles but the roses still grow and look beautiful. I don't spray for any bugs as the garden has drawn in little native birds such as wrens, honey eaters, fantails and other species, which seem happy to make it their home. I can sit on the veranda and watch the little birds climbing all over the rose bushes to eat anything that is there. I don't like spraying fungicide either, so if a rose is susceptible to disease it is removed and a better rose is found.

My biggest problem as age and reduced gardening agility have slowed me, is all the beautiful roses still being bred around the world. I just can't have them all!



Photo: Glenys Mulligan

A backdrop of *Rosa Mulliganii*

# Members' Meetings



## A Bed of Roses

7pm Tuesday, 10th February

Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Gardens

We'll hear from A Grade Exhibitor, judge, rose writer, and one of our most informed and popular speakers, Gwen Moxham.



## David Austin Roses

7pm Tuesday, 10th March

Zoom meeting, on a computer or Smartphone

Stefanie Williams, International Business Development Manager of David Austin Roses, will speak from the United Kingdom about David Austin Roses' plans for the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show, plus breeding and partner plants. She will also show pictures of David Austin's gardens. Please email me to take part so I can send you the Zoom link for this rare opportunity.

Email Penelope: [penelopeannes@bigpond.com](mailto:penelopeannes@bigpond.com) by 7pm 1/3/2026



## Miniature Roses

7pm Tuesday, 14th April

Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Gardens

Les Johnson will provide background information on the history of miniature roses, the breeders and the need to conserve these roses.

Rose Society members will also each talk about their favourite miniature.



## Exhibitor's Workshop

Save the date: Sunday, 19th April

Time and venue to be advised in the next edition

This will be a full, interesting and no doubt fun day for novices through to advanced exhibitors. It's an opportunity to learn from the very best.

*"Don't forget to express your interest in the New Zealand trip—page 2"*

Speaker's Programmer, Penelope Schulz



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# Member's Pick

## *Spirit of Peace*, Hybrid Tea

By *Bev Priest*



One of my favourite roses is *Spirit of Peace*. Like many rose lovers born in the mid 20th Century, I grew up knowing and appreciating the *Peace* rose for its appearance, fragrance and story. I've planted a *Peace* rose bush in each of my rose gardens. In the past 25 years or so, a *Spirit of Peace* bush has flourished alongside *Peace* in my current garden.

I have many reasons to love *Spirit of Peace*. They include the symbolism of its name and its historic connections. Bred in France by Jacques Mouchoffe in 1988, it was released as *Paul Richard in 1993* by

what has come to be known as the House of Meilland. It quickly established its reputation by winning awards in France, The Netherlands and Italy soon after its release in Europe.

First released in Australia in 1995 by Ross Roses of South Australia, the timing was 50 years after the end of World War II. Recently, Maureen Ross told me that prior to its release, she and Deane, her late husband, nurtured bushes and discussed possible names with family and customers before settling on the historically symbolic name: *Spirit of Peace*. She reflected on its enduring popularity and availability for 30 years and she mentioned its adaptability to growing conditions around Australia.

I like the gentle cream apricot-pink colour tones of *Spirit of Peace*, and I find them

warm and calming. There are almost always beautiful blooms to admire on this medium to tall Hybrid Tea rose with its healthy bright green foliage and long straight thornless stems. The blooms are prolific and large—up to approximately 15cm wide—and they have an appealing fragrance. This is described by some as spiced honey.

*Spirit of Peace* lasts well in the garden and when cut for floral arrangements or bunches to share. When I bring them into my home, they bring me great pleasure as they add tranquility and peace.

### Congratulations

#### Exhibitor Grading

Ross Kemp is now a B Grade exhibitor

#### Members' Showbench Honours 2025

##### A Grade Winners

Ken and Gwen Moxham

##### B Grade Winners

John and Dorothy Bradshaw

##### C Grade

Harriet Eivers

# Exhibitors rally to support the quick-change in location for the 2025 Spring Rose Show



Pictured staging exhibits for her latest round of wins is Harriet Eivers at the Spring Rose Show.



Diane vom Berg was still smiling after assisting with set-up and then exhibitors, early morning.



David Sonntag, winner of the Royal National Rose Society Trophy 1, during set-up.

## *By Show Manager, Joy Johnson*

We had a change of venue for the 2025 Spring Rose Show and I thank exhibitors for supporting the Show. The Barossa Central venue provided us with loads of space and lots of foot traffic: fulfilling our brief to take roses to the people.

Everyone seemed to contribute in some way or another, from Penelope Schulz who organised for tables to be delivered and collected by Tanunda Lion's Club from its store, to Diane vom Berg who helped with setup, Deb Curtis and Sharyn Perrin who assisted, and of course the judges. We were most grateful that Richard Walsh and Ruth Griffiths again came from NSW to join us. Kerry Brandt-Wilson also went above and beyond, collecting roses from Knights Roses each day to sell at the show.

There were 15 exhibitors in total, among them Darcey and Andrew Eivers, possibly our youngest-ever exhibitors, who championed entries. The only sad thing was the fact that this was Peter and Brenda Burton's last Show as exhibitors. They will be sorely missed.



Judges, Penelope Schulz and Peter Burton, with steward, Ruth Griffiths, during judging.



Gavin Woods and Les Johnson, both exhibitors and judges, discuss the merits of exhibits.



Gwen Moxham, Richard Walsh and Diane vom Berg, during judging.

# Congratulations to the Championship winners

CHAMPIONSHIP	WINNER	VARIETIES
A Grade Exhibition Rose	G Woods	El Toro
B Grade Exhibition Rose	J&D Bradshaw	Kardinal
A Grade Decorative Rose	P&B Burton	Peter Frankenfeld
B Grade Decorative Rose	Ross Kemp	Peter Frankenfeld
A Grade Fully Open Rose	P&B Burton	Baronne de Rothschild
B Grade Fully Open Rose	J&D Bradshaw	Tuscan Sun
A Grade Shrub & Polyantha Rose	P&B Burton	Rock n Roll
B Grade Shrub & Polyantha Rose	R Kemp	William Christie
A Grade Floribunda	P&B Burton	Brass Band
B Grade Floribunda	D Sonntag	Love's Gift
A Grade Miniature & Miniflora Roses	P&B Burton	Valerie Jean
B Grade Miniature & Miniflora Roses	J&D Bradshaw	Magic Show
A Grade Bunch of Roses	P&B Burton	Kardinal
B Grade Bunch of Roses	J&D Bradshaw	Gold Bunny
A Grade Bowl of Roses	G Woods	Golden Gardens
B Grade Bowl of Roses	L Johnson	Seduction
A Grade Three Stems/Cuts	G Woods	Gold Bunny
A Grade Six Stems/Cuts	G Woods	Bordeaux
B Grade	D Sonntag	Lynn Anderson, Kardinal and Black Magic

# of the Rose Society's 2025 Spring Rose Show



Grand Champion Exhibit A Grade  
3 stems, **Gold Bunny**, by Gavin Woods.



A Grade Champion  
Miniature/Miniflora  
**Valerie Jean**.



A Grade Champion  
Floribunda,  
**Brass Band**.



A Grade Champion  
Decorative  
**Peter Frankenfeld**.



Winner of My  
Best Rose was  
Margaret with  
**Daydream**.



My Best Rose  
2nd was **Tequila  
Sunrise**, by John  
Stoiber.



My Best Rose 3rd  
unnamed bloom,  
by Jan and  
Malcolm Linke.

CHAMPIONSHIP	WINNER	VARIETIES
C Grade One Stem	R Kemp	Veterans' Honor
C Grade One Cut	R Kemp	Love Potion
C Grade Multi Stems/Cuts/ Bunches	H Eivers	Joyfulness
Open Australian Bred Stems/Cuts/ Multi-stem	I&M Frick	Amber's Gift

## FLORAL ART CHAMPIONS

GRADE	WINNER	THEME
A Grade	Melanie Trimper	Fan Design
B Grade	P Schulz	Reaching High
C Grade	J McCormick	Bowl of Roses

# 2025 Spring Rose Show Trophy winners

TROPHY	CONDITIONS	WINNER
Grand Champion (Women's Weekly) Trophy	Best Exhibit	G Woods
The President's Trophy	Most successful exhibitor	G Woods
H Charles Thomas Memorial Trophy	Winner of State Spring Championship	P&B Burton
Allan Campbell Trophy	Best champion exhibition rose	G Woods
T Howland White Memorial Trophy No 1	Best champion Exhibition rose B & C Grade	J&D Bradshaw
Christine Mitchell Cup	Best champion Decorative Rose	P&B Burton
Eric and Myrtle Trimper Memorial Trophy	Best cut of a Floribunda or Grandiflora rose	P&B Burton
Alexander Ross Memorial Award	Best champion full bloom	P&B Burton
Jack Moule Memorial Trophy	Best champion Miniature, single, stem or cut	P&B Burton
Heather Burnard Memorial Trophy	Most successful exhibitor of Miniature roses, by aggregate	G Woods
Ralph Smith Memorial Award	Best of multi-stage classes	P&B Burton
T Howland White Memorial Trophy No 2	Best six stem or cut exhibit	G Woods
Herbert Kemp Award	Most successful exhibitor of Cut Flowers, 3 stems/cuts	G Woods
Keith Copas Memorial Trophy	Most successful bunch class exhibitor by aggregate	P&B Burton & J&D Bradshaw
Emma Voke Memorial Trophy No 1	Best champion bunch of roses	P&B Burton
Helen Sunter Memorial Trophy	Best champion bowl of roses	G Woods



Melanie Trimper's Fan Shaped Design, winning her the Rose A Thomas Memorial Trophy.



Floral judge, Jane Hamilton, was assisted by Deb Curtis in assessing Floral Arranging.



Jen McCormick's winning Bowl of Roses which saw her named C Grade Floral Champion.

Apologies to Penelope Schulz whose Reaching High arrangement was too high to fit onto the page.

TROPHY	CONDITIONS	WINNER
Oliver Travel Trophy	Best exhibit of SA State Intermediate Spring Rose Championship	J&D Bradshaw
The Royal National Rose Society Trophy No 1	Best B Grade exhibitor (A, B and Open Classes): Aggregate points 1st 5pts; 2nd 3 pts; 3rd 1pt.	D Sonntag
The Royal National Rose Society Trophy No 2	Best Sundry Classes exhibit	H Eivers
Ivy Gerard Award	Best 3 exhibits in B Grade	J&D Bradshaw R Kemp D Sonntag
WH Ifould Trophy	Best exhibit of SA State C Grade Spring Championship	R Kemp
Ted Phillips and Bill Nelson Perpetual Trophy	C Grade Champion Bunch of Roses	H Eivers

### FLORAL ARRANGING TROPHIES

Rose A Thomas Memorial Trophy	Best Champion Floral Arrangement	Melanie Trimper
A Grade Floral Champion		Melanie Trimper
B Grade Floral Champion		P Schulz
C Grade Floral Champion		J McCormick

# Helping Parndana to “Stop and Smell the Roses”

*Text and photos by Penelope Schulz*



The colourful and fragrant display at the Parndana show saw many show goers stop and smell the roses.



Packed to the gunnels with roses on the road to Kangaroo Island.

Kangaroo Island resident and well-known supporter of country shows, Nic Tremaine, who has been riding his bike around Australia for a fundraiser called *Distance 4 Dementia*, asked if I would support the Parndana Show in November. The theme of the show was *Stop and Smell the Roses*. I said I would go and take some roses for a display and Gavin Woods agreed to join me, both of us ultimately representing the Society. It was a great opportunity to promote the rose and support Nic's tireless efforts in his KI community and further afield.

On the Friday before the show, I picked up roses from Knight's in Gawler, Celia Painter in Woodside and Wendy and Merv Trimper from Oakbank. Gavin was on his way with a carload of his roses too. We met at Cape Jervis and I loaded the roses from my car into Gavin's—despite his alarm that they wouldn't all fit. With a bucket between my legs, bag on my lap and my suitcase in-between the seats, we were set. We were not leaving any roses behind!

It was 50 mins to Parndana; then we set up the table display which took us two hours to complete. Gavin, with his talent of placement, produced a fabulous display. We had to get a move-on as the kitchen at the pub was going to close at 8pm. We had our priorities.

Gavin finished naming all the roses early Saturday, then we both judged the roses, cut flowers and the floral arrangements, which had to include roses. If that wasn't enough, the chook judge didn't turn up so Gavin judged that section too. Gavin also gave a talk about roses at the show and the audience was hanging on his every word.



Numbers of people stopped to look and ask questions, some thanking us for bringing over many blooms for the display. We took many blooms with perfume and people did indeed “stop to smell the roses”. Gavin's substantial contribution in many areas of the show no doubt created huge goodwill for the Society.

# Summer Cultural Notes

By Dr Tate Hancox

Happy New Year to all and may it be full of flowers and new plants. With Summer in full-swing it's time to sit back, relax and keep cool. For those keen growers, remember to slip, slop, and slap when outside! This goes for both rose growers and in your approach to caring for your plants as sometimes our plants can do with a little extra protection from the hot weather.



## Sizzle and crack

Be prepared to sweat this Summer if you haven't been already. The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting warmer than average daytime temperatures with warmer than average night-time temperatures for all South Australia. As a result, we need to look after ourselves—stay cool, hydrated and sun smart. It is also predicted that there are equal chances of receiving above or below average rainfall. Good gardeners should get into the habit of doing, preparing for the worst and hoping for the best.

## Splish, Splash, Splosh

Drawing on the information from the Culture Notes in the Spring Bulletin 2025, it's time to check on the timing of your irrigation system timing and ensure your plants are getting enough water. The definition of enough water will depend on your end use and for many it will be getting the plants through the hot weather in good, adequate condition to produce a nice Autumn flush.

To help your plants get through the hot weather, it is important to ensure they have sufficient water, nutrients, and mulch. Fertilizing your plants with liquid fertilizer that is low in nitrogen is the best option at this time of year. This will not promote strong growth that could get damaged by the hot weather. The liquid fertiliser can be directly taken up by the plants rather than having to wait for rainfall or overhead irrigation to transport the nutrients into the soil profile.

## A sprinkling of watering tips

Much has been written by me and past authors of the Cultural Notes about watering, especially in hot weather. Feedback from this leads me to stress and advise the following:

- Remember to give the soil under and around your roses a good soak BEFORE

*Continued next page*



*Mrs. Richard Turnbull*



*Sombreuil*

### *Continued from previous page*

days of sweltering weather. Some swear by a light splash across the soil of liquid *Seamungus* while watering at this time.

- Some rosarians in dryer areas of South Australia like to give their roses a light cooling spray of water, particularly under the leaves, on very hot evenings to avoid infestations of red spider mite. However, avoid doing this if the sun is shining on your roses as it can burn them and ensure there is plenty of time for the foliage and buds to dry-off before sunset or fungal problems can occur overnight. Also, do not do this in humid weather, for the same reason.
- Move Miniatures in pots into slightly shadier areas of the garden during the most intense heat of the day to help keep them moist. Remember not to leave them in the shade permanently, and that Miniatures in the ground and pots often need watering at least once a day during warmer weather.

### **Sculpting heritage roses**

It is commonly recommended that many once flowering heritage roses such as Damasks, Albas, Centifolias, Galicas and many of the Species' roses be pruned after flowering. Depending on your location, this will mean the roses should be ready for punning in late November to early December. However, across much of the State, these roses will succumb to sunburn, if pruned to this schedule. Wait for the change in season in March (hopefully) or April when the days are getting shorter and Summer temperatures have stabilised.

This is also a great time to give heritage roses a good haircut if they have grown a bit large for their position. They will be less susceptible to sunburn as the intensity of sun has reduced at this time and daytime temperatures are lower. Depending on the age and variety or species of the plant, you can remove up to 60% of the plant during the major prune.

For species and species hybrids, restrict pruning to remove no more than 40%

*Continued over*



*Triomphe du Luxembourg*



*Mrs Dudley Cross*

### *Continued from previous page*

entire plant. However, this should only be undertaken once every 3–5 years.

If you have undertaken this major prune within the last 3–5 years and the plants are a manageable size, it's a good time to reduce them by 20–30% and reshape the plant. This will give them an opportunity to put on a flush of growth before the weather cools down too much and growth ceases.

### **Tried and true tasks for this time of year**

- Deadheading can be continued throughout the season to promote new flowers.
- Don't forget pest and disease management, especially care to avoid or deal with red spider mite which often thrives at this time of year.
- Have a go at budding roses.
- Review current planting and begin succession planning for those plants that just aren't performing anymore. It's a great chance to remove them and prepare the soil for new roses in the winter.
- For those interested in showing, remember to time your Summer cutting so that you have blooms ready for the Autumn Show. For many, this means making your cuts above an out-facing leaf node, on a sturdy section of cane, but towards the top of the cane, 49 to 55 days before the Show. However, the nature of the cultivar and the environment in which it grows can influence the day count. Practice and observation, sometimes over a period of a few years, will help you find what works best for your blooms.
- If it's too hot to be outside, why not try your hand at some floral arranging using flowers that you have growing in the garden. With some practice your confidence will increase, and you might want to enter your creations into the Autumn Show.

**Go to [sarose.org.au](http://sarose.org.au) for more Summer Cultural Notes**

## RSSA's New Members

The President and Members of The Rose Society of South Australia welcome nearly 20 new members. Among them are:

Mitch Spehr—Loxton

Lynda Harris—Modbury Heights

Gabi Mitchell—Kensington Gardens

Catherine Woods and Chris Howes—  
Campbelltown

Tracy Alexander—Adelaide

Jand and Graham Eastley—Happy Valley

Braidan Swan—Alford's Point, NSW

Sue Vardon—Teringie

Alexis Helpworth—Findon

Andrew Roberts—Craigburn Farm

Meredith Berends—Yorketown

Those who asked that their names not be published.

We look forward to meeting you at one of our Members' Meetings and hope you will join us on show benches. You may wish to attend our special Exhibitor's Workshop on Sunday 19th April 2026. Details will be in the next edition.



Diane vom Berg and Judy Ross catching up at the Australian Rose Industry Seminar

The Rose Society was well represented with several members attending an **Australian Rose Industry Seminar**, with rose industry leaders from across Australia, to hear Kim Syrus deliver results of his Hort Innovation Churchill Fellowship study tour, in Adelaide on October 21.

Other speakers included Elliott Akintola from Garden City Plastics and Merv Trimper from the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia (NRTGA). A tour of the NRTGA in Adelaide Botanic Garden and an open forum to share insights and discuss the future were also incorporated in the program.

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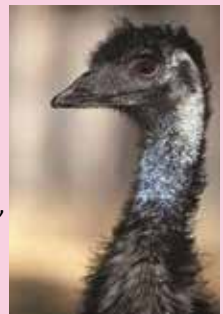
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# Top performers awarded with Gold, Silver and Trophies at the 2025 NRTGA Awards night

*Text By Chris Kelly    Photos by Les Johnson*

Two Gold Medals, three Silver Medals, two Bronze Medals and a Certificate of Merit have been awarded in 2025 to roses trialed in the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia.

The successes were announced in the annual Awards Presentation dinner held on Wednesday October 22nd at the Robin Hood Hotel, Norwood. Fifty-seven people celebrated the winning roses which, hopefully, will be released for sale to the public soon.

The first Gold was won by a Floribunda rose with the code – Meitraligh, exhibited by Corporate Roses and bred by Meilland International, France. This rose was awarded the Marion de Bohme Award for the Best Rose of the Trial, the Rose Hills Perpetual Challenge Bowl for the Best Floribunda of the Trial and it was named Australia’s Rose of the Year 2025.

The second Gold was won by another Floribunda rose named **Easy Bee-Zy KNOCKOUT**, exhibited by Corporate Roses and bred by Sloane Michele Scheiber of the US.

A Silver Medal was awarded to a Shrub rose named **Baby Eyes**, exhibited by Treloar Roses and bred by W. Kordes’ Söhne, Germany. The Gerald Meylan Perpetual Trophy for Best Shrub or Ground Cover of the Trial and the Irwin Award

*Continued over*



Deputy Director, Living Collections, at the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium of South Australia, Dr Leonie Scriven, presents Kim Syrus of Corporate Roses with the Marion de Bohme Award for the Best Rose of the Trial. The rose, coded Meitraligh, was also named Australia’s Rose of the Year and won the Rose Hills Perpetual Challenge Bowl.



Elton Treloar, Treloar Roses, receives The Irwin Award for the most Pest and Disease Tolerant Rose of the Trial for **Baby Eyes** from Neutrog’s Managing Director, Angus Irwin.



Winning cultivars of the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia in 2025 on display at the Awards.

## 2025 NRTGA Awards Night continued.....



The Hon Legh Davis having presented Brian Wagner, Wagner's Rose Nursery, with the Davis Trophy Australian Bred Rose of the Year, for **Perfect Pirouette**, bred by the late Bruce Brundrett.



Michael Keelan presents Kim Syrus of Corporate Roses with the Hamilton Gardens NZ Perpetual Trophy for the Best Hybrid Tea of the trial.



Elton Treloar, Treloar Roses, accepts The People's Choice Award for a rose called **Lollipop**, from Sandra Turner, representing the National Rose Society of Australia.

for the Most Pest and Disease Tolerant Rose of the Trial were also awarded to this rose.

A Silver Medal plus the Hamilton Gardens NZ Perpetual Challenge Award for the Best Hybrid Tea of the Trial went to a rose with the code – Meibuteen, bred by Meilland International, France, and exhibited by Corporate Roses.

The last Silver Medal plus the Governor of Gifu Award (Japan) for the Most Fragrant Rose of the Trial was awarded to a Grandiflora with the code – KORwurmurt, bred by W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany, and exhibited by Treloar Roses.

A Bronze Medal plus the World Federation of Rose Societies People's Choice Award 2025 was won by **Lollipop**, a Floribunda bred by W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany, and exhibited by Treloar Roses.

Another Bronze Medal and the Davis Trophy, the Australian Bred Rose of the Year, and NRSA sponsorship, went to a Shrub rose named **Perfect Pirouette**, bred by Bruce Brundrett and exhibited by Wagner's Rose Nursery.

A certificate of merit was awarded to a Shrub rose named **Francesca Marzotto Caotorta**, bred by Rose Barni, Italy, and exhibited by Wagner's Rose Nursery.

During the evening four Service Awards were presented to volunteers who have given many hours to the trial garden, making it the great success it is. Those awarded were Jon Hall, 30 years as an assessor, Joy Johnson, 18 years as a maintenance volunteer, Diane vom Berg, 18 years as an assessor and Merv Trimper, 17 years as an assessor and the garden coordinator for many years.

Thanks were also given to all volunteers who have given great support to the trial garden.

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# Rose Trial Garden Awards 2025

*Photos by Les Johnson*



**AWARD:** Gold Medal

**TROPHIES:** Marion de Bohme Award for the Best Rose of the Trial  
Rose Hills Perpetual Challenge Bowl (USA) for the Best Floribunda of the Trial  
Australia's Rose of the Year

**BED NUMBER:** 108

**NAME:**

**BREEDER:** Meilland International, France

**CODE:** Meitraligh

**TYPE:** Floribunda **FRAGRANCE:** Slight

**EXHIBITOR:** Corporate Roses, Australia



**AWARD:** Gold Medal

**BED NUMBER:** 110

**NAME:** Easy Bee – Zy KNOCK OUT\*

**BREEDER:** Sloane Michele Scheiber, USA

**CODE:** SRPyIwko

**TYPE:** Floribunda **FRAGRANCE:** Slight

**EXHIBITOR:** Corporate Roses, Australia



**AWARD:** Silver Medal

**TROPHIES:** Gerald Meylan Perpetual Trophy, Best Shrub or Ground Cover of the Trial  
The Irwin Award for the Most Pest and Disease Tolerant Rose of the Trial

**BED NUMBER:** 112

**NAME:** Baby Eyes

**BREEDER:** W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany

**CODE:** KORhulth006

**TYPE:** Shrub **FRAGRANCE:** Slight

**EXHIBITOR:** Treloar Roses, Australia



**AWARD:** Silver Medal

**TROPHY:** Hamilton Gardens NZ Perpetual Challenge Award for the Best Hybrid Tea of the Trial

**BED NUMBER:** 101

**NAME:**

**BREEDER:** Meilland International, France

**CODE:** Meibuteen

**TYPE:** Hybrid Tea **FRAGRANCE:** Moderate

**EXHIBITOR:** Corporate Roses, Australia



**AWARD:** Silver Medal  
**TROPHY:**The Governor of Gifu Award (Japan) for the Most Fragrant Rose of the Trial  
**BED NUMBER:** 106  
**CODE:** KORwurm  
**NAME:**  
**TYPE:** Grandiflora  
**FRAGRANCE:** Strong  
**BREEDER:** W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany  
**EXHIBITOR:** Treloar Roses, Australia



**AWARD:** Bronze Medal  
**TROPHY:**World Federation of Rose Societies People's Choice Award 2025  
**BED NUMBER:** 109  
**CODE:** KORpopl  
**NAME:** Lollipop  
**TYPE:** Floribunda  
**FRAGRANCE:** Slight  
**BREEDER:** W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany  
**EXHIBITOR:** Treloar Roses, Australia



**AWARD:** Bronze Medal  
**TROPHIES:** The Davis Trophy; The Australian Bred Rose of The Year; NRSA Sponsorship;  
**BED NUMBER:** 115  
**CODE:** BRU6029  
**NAME:** Perfect Pirouette  
**TYPE:** Shrub  
**FRAGRANCE:** Strong  
**BREEDER:** Bruce Brundrett  
**EXHIBITOR:** Wagner's Rose Nursery, Aust.



**AWARD:** Certificate of Merit  
**BED NUMBER:** 113  
**CODE:** BAR7656  
**NAME:** Francesca Marzotto Caotorta  
**Type:** Shrub  
**FRAGRANCE:** Moderate  
**BREEDER:** Rose Barni, Italy  
**EXHIBITOR:** Wagner's Rose Nursery, Aust.

# Volunteers in the International Rose Garden

*With Deb Curtis*



Paul Flavel takes a quick break from clearing away weeds.



Assunta Fusco, Karen Middleton and Helen Pearson.



It seems no job is too big for Carol Grbich in a bed of weeds.



IRG stalwart, Graham Klose, tackles more weeds yet again.

Spring came and went in the International Rose Garden (IRG) with weeds, weeds and more weeds! They were so bad that the VOLLIES were helped by the Tuesday Hands on Hort group to deal with them. It took until just before Summer to get them under control! A special thanks to all those who helped with this task.

In late October we congratulated long-time IRG Botanic Gardens gardener, Lilith Tremmery, on her promotion at the Botanic Gardens, at morning tea. We wish her well in her new position. Andy Hart is still Senior Horticultural Curator and we are grateful for that too. Kelly has joined the IRG as Andy's full-time gardener. Kelly was a Botanic trainee and has been working as a contractor so she knows the rose garden and the VOLLIES well.

Another celebratory morning tea was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December for our short Christmas break. We resume on 9th January 2026. There is always room for more VOLLIES so if you have a spare hour or two on a Friday morning please contact me.

*Deborah Curtis* Supervisor of the Volunteers at the IRG  
[curtisnd@internode.on.net](mailto:curtisnd@internode.on.net) 0408 474 977



---

## Vale Ruth Willing

### 16th May 1928—7th October 2025

Having joined The Rose Society of South Australia on the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1972, Ruth was a contemporary of well known rosarians, Walter Duncan, David Ruston and Mrs. Paddy Muecke, and her love of roses endured throughout her lifetime.

For the past 12 months, Ruth held the title of our longest living Member.

Ruth's association with our Society was an important part in her life and this aspect was highlighted during her funeral service by a number of the speakers. The Rose Society's Certificate, acknowledging her Membership of 50 years, was proudly displayed, together with a bunch of **Madam President** roses, in the sanctuary area alongside the coffin.

During her early association with the Society, Ruth was employed in the Savings Bank of SA as Secretary to the General Manager, Mr Allan Shepherd, the Society's President from 1977–1979, and Ruth's skills as his typist were put to good use by him for the Society.



Whilst our Rose Shows were conducted in the St Peters Town Hall, it was decided that the catering provided for Show attendees would be undertaken in-house by a group of Members, under Ruth Watson's leadership. Ruth Willing was an enthusiastic team member, and participated in this task for a number of years. She enjoyed the social activities conducted by the Society and was involved in a number of our *Rambling Rosarian* trips.

Ruth was a calm, efficient lady who was very patient with those around her—a beautiful, gentlewoman.

Our sympathies were extended to her family and she will be greatly missed.

*Malcolm and Ruth Watson*

### **Lyall Douglas Howard: 17th October 1943–24th October 1925**

The Rose Society of South Australia regrets to advise of the passing of Lyall, of Koppio on the Eyre Peninsula. Lyall and his wife Jenith joined the Society in 1994.

Lyall was a skilled rosarian, rose breeder and nurseryman: a former pig farmer who transformed a hillside paddock and gully with glorious roses. *Rambling Rosarians* went to his nursery several times, enjoying Jenith's hospitality and being regaled by Lyall's wonderful stories. He supplied many roses to those on Eyre Peninsula and was known for his generosity, friendship and kindness. He will be sadly missed.

# Chaffey Rose Club

*By Dale Kerin*

Another year begins. I hope everyone had a very pleasant Christmas and New Year.

It has been another dry, hot Summer in the Riverland so we are all trying to keep our gardens watered and flourishing—not an easy feat.

Since my last missive, members enjoyed a two day-one night stay in Adelaide visiting nurseries, shopping, sharing tea at the Brownhill Caravan Park, and then on the next day, joining members from Adelaide and surrounds in the RSSA tour of Carrick Hill House and its garden, followed by lunch at Edinburgh Hotel. It was so nice to catch up with others and share a meal. We then headed back to the Riverland, with of course another nursery visit, this time to Karkoo at Oakbank, along the way.

In October, there was the Riverland Rose and Garden Festival. It was a very busy time and again very successful, bringing lots of visitors to our region to enjoy the many events and open gardens in this year's program. The Institute display was, as always, a favourite. This year's theme was *New Beginnings*.

In November, a few members joined others who visited Merv and Wendy Trimper's Garden at Oakbank. Chaffey Rose Club President, Elly Johnson, was lucky enough to win a beautiful bouquet of flowers donated by *Little Miss Fleur* (Natasha Trimper).

The finale of 2025 was a shared tea and Kris Kingle at the home of Charlene and Bill Santos, *Santospirito*, in Berri. We reflected on the garden and nursery visits and the friendships forged, strengthened or maintained through our membership.

**Coming Events:** we have a trip to the Adelaide Hills planned for March; our Annual General meeting in April; and 30<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations are on the horizon.



Chaffey Rose Club President, Elly Johnson, with the bouquet of flowers she won at the Society's visit to the Trimper's garden.



A section of the floral display in the Institute at the Riverland Rose and Garden Festival.

## South East

*By Annie Clifford*

A group of South East Branch members ventured a little further afield in mid-November, travelling over the border into Victoria to visit three beautiful but very different gardens.

The first was the 2.5 acre garden of Helen Diprose in Caramut, Victoria. Helen's garden was full of beautiful plants, proudly glorious and showcased within various hedges created by camelia, pencil pines, tall and extensive medlars, catmint, lavender and many more cultivars. The plantings within included 70 peony roses, bluebells, yellow poker plants (Kniphofia), various clematis, foxgloves, cosmos, smoke bush, digiplexis, fairy fishing rod (Dierama) and again, many more. Perennials and grasses were also a stand-out and 40 upright oak trees formed a backdrop to different areas of the garden.



A glimpse of Helen Diprose's diverse plantings.



Yellow Kniphofia created quite a spectacle.

We then travelled to Dunkeld where we enjoyed lunch before heading to Hamilton to visit the garden of Rhonda Taylor and her husband. They have created an amazing garden on a moderately sized block in the centre of Hamilton. Large boulders, rocks and dirt have been used extensively to build the garden up and this has allowed more ground space to plant many David Austin roses along with perennials, ferns, hydrangeas, camelias, fuschias, irises and cyclamens. There were interesting statues, old rusty ornaments and a lovely potting shed, sheltered by a beautiful pink horse chestnut. It was such a lovely, relaxing garden with seating hidden under weeping trees and on the terrace overlooking the stunning roses and magical pathways.

*Continued next page*



A variety of scenes from the garden of Rhonda Taylor and her husband at Hamilton.

## South East



The colour and fragrance of roses filled the room adding joy to the Christmas meeting.

South East members, some holding gifts of roses from Wagner's Rose Nursery for Christmas.

### *Continued from previous page*

From the Taylor's inspiring garden we ventured a short distance to the Hamilton Botanic Gardens to admire some of their roses which were all named. Curved pathways led through the tall majestic trees which were planted in the 1870's. Fountains, lakes, rockeries, bridges, sculptures and beautiful colourful plantings are scattered throughout the 4 hectare garden which also has stunning views.

A most enjoyable day was had by everyone and we are already planning another trip, again into Victoria, for next year, possibly over two to three days.

To mark the end of the year, 20 members attended our Christmas meeting at Red Shack, Penola. After the short meeting, a delicious two-course meal was enjoyed by all. There was much chatting, laughing and catching up on everyone's news. **As a Christmas gift we each received a beautiful bunch of the 2026 new release roses from Brian and Benedetta Wagner of Wagner's Rose Nursery.** These stunning roses decorated the tables for our luncheon and members chose an individual bunch to take home and enjoy. The perfume was intoxicating and the roses spectacular. Thank you so much Brian and Benedetta.

It is hard to believe how fast 2025 went by. We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas, full of love, joy, friendship and family.



# Roses on Eyre

By *Karen Miels*

Roses on Eyre's Spring meeting was held at Minnipa Bowling Club. Despite an unexpected hailstorm, the day was a success.

Twenty-one ROE members and a whopping 18 local guests attended the meeting. We had lunch before visits to the rose gardens of John Post and Melissa Wendland and followed up with some retail therapy at the Waterwise Nursery. Yes, ROE members do buy plants other than roses!

Members had a minute's silence to remember Lyall Howard, local rose breeder from Koppio, who passed away the week before. It seems everyone here has Lyall's roses in their gardens.

Our Show Bench competition winners were:

Single Exhibition Rose—1st Karen Miels with ***Chippendale***

Full bloom and Best Rose—1st Karen Miels with ***Fearless***

Multi stage Bud/ Mid/ and Full—1st John Post with ***Cardinal***.

Everyone enjoyed the meeting, lunch and the garden visits. The Bowling Club volunteers provided us with a great lunch and we were also grateful for the use of the facilities.

Many ROE members are dedicated and obviously enjoy our gatherings. It was a huge day for many with some members doing a 560km round trip to attend.

The next ROE meeting will be on Sunday 8th February at the home of Lynne and Ken Walmsley at North Shields.



Beautiful Spring blooms graced the Show Bench.



Members and guests listening to Melissa Wendland in her colourful garden. John Post amid his roses, all bred by the sadly and recently late Lyall Howard.

# Christmas festivities topped off a busy year





## NEXT EDITION: We're coming up roses!

Those who attended the 2025 Christmas lunch were treated to a show-and-tell of roses being released by Wagner's Rose Nursery this year, with Brian Wagner introducing blooms and passing them around the room.

Our annual round-up of newly released roses will feature in the next edition of the Bulletin, but remember you can start ordering them online and by phone now.

## Bulletin deadlines for 2026 and early 2027

EDITION	RESERVE SPACE BY	PROVIDE MATERIAL BY
April, May, June	9th February	25th February
July, August, September	9th May	25th May
October, November, December	9th August	25th August
January, February, March 2027	9th November	25th November



## Ordering and Delivery

### Neutrog's online store is always open

Dates and times for collection at Metropolitan and Kanmantoo sites will be provided with the confirmation of your order. A general collection date (eg late March) will be provided for regional collection points. You will be contacted by a collection coordinator to arrange collection once the delivery has been confirmed with Neutrog's carrier.

Questions regarding ordering should be referred to Neutrog or Paul (RSSA) on 0409 096 758.



BACK COVER PHOTO **Gold Bunny** by Celia Painter

**Gold Bunny** is often regarded as one of the Eveready batteries of the rose growing world, a Floribunda which blooms early and abundantly, its clusters of lemon-yellow blooms heralding the start of Spring. **Gold Bunny** blooms in flushes throughout the season. It's leathery foliage is dark and semi-glossy. The three stems pictured here were exhibited by Gavin Woods at the 2025 Spring Rose Show in Nuriootpa (see pages 23–28).

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