



The Rose Society of South Australia Inc

Bulletin

Volume 63, Number 1

Jan, Feb, Mar 2024



Fields of Fromelles

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

Calendar of Events 2024

February

- Tuesday 6th–Friday 9th** Rambling Rosarians South East Trip
- Tuesday 13th 7pm. Optional Rose Garden tour 6pm** Members' Meeting. Public may attend this time. Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Garden. A panel discussion. See page 8.

March

- Tuesday 12th 4.30pm for 4.45pm start** Members' Meeting, home of Diane and Graeme vom Berg, 124 Avenue Road, Clarence Gardens. See a practical demonstration of rose culture. A light informal meal will follow.
- Saturday 23rd** Mount Barker District Show. See page 8.

April

- Tuesday 9th 7pm** Members' Meeting, Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Gardens. Autumn Rose Show and guest speakers on new release roses.
- Thursday 25th–Friday 26th** 2024 Autumn Show. See pages 7 and 11.
- Friday 26th–Sunday 28th** 2024 Peoples Choice. See pages 7 and 11.

May

- Tuesday 7th** Members' Meeting, Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Gardens

BRANCH MEETINGS AND EVENTS: See pages 39, 40 and 41.

COUNCIL MEETINGS: The first Council Meeting will be via Zoom 7pm Tuesday 23rd January

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COVER PHOTO *Fields of Fromelles* by Celia Painter

Fields of Fromelles was bred by the late George Thomson ARA, AL CA (see p 35). The Floribunda typically grows 50 to 150cm and blooms in flushes throughout the season. It has dark green foliage and a mild fragrance. This image captures Sharyn Perrin's Champion Exhibit of *Fields of Fromelles* in the Open Australian Bred Stem or Cut section of the 2023 Spring Rose Show (pp 21–25).





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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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 www.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.

www.sarose.org.au

Members login: Peace

Wagner's code: 100%ROSES!

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EDITED by Celia Painter, 86 Grevillea Way, Grevillea Way, Woodside SA 5244. Email bulletinrssa@gmail.com or phone 0407 547 337

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The Rose Society of South Australia Inc

Patrons

Mr Rod Bunten, Government House

Vice Patron, the Honourable Jane Lomax-Smith, Lord Mayor of Adelaide

Council

President: Mr Gavin Woods	0429 021 006	gbwoods@adam.com.au
Secretary: Mrs Diane vom Berg & Immediate Past President	0416 073 957 124 Avenue Road, Clarence Gardens SA 5039	rssasecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer: Mr Paul Flavel	0493 755 760 PO Box 51, Unley SA 5061	rssatreasurer@gmail.com
Vice President: Mr Kelvin Trimper	0418 818 167	ktrimper@bigpond.net.au
Vice President: Ms Penelope Schulz	0437 505 010	
Show Manager: Mrs Joy Johnson	0418 895 438	joyjohnsonbruce1947@gmail.com
Bulletin Editor: Ms Celia Painter	0407 547 377	bulletinrssa@gmail.com
Publicity: Ms Jen McCormick	0411 777 835	rssapublicity@gmail.com
Mrs Maureen Humphries	8270 7949	magnoli2026@gmail.com
Mr Tate Hancox	0488 160 073	tate@4lilpigs.com
Mr John Bradshaw	0417 081 204	headcutter@bigpond.com

Branches

Chaffey Rose Club

President: Ms Elly Johnson
PO Box 66
Paringa SA 5340
08 8595 5206
ellyjohnson1951@gmail.com

Secretary: Mrs Dale Kerin
12 Kokoda Avenue
Renmark SA 5341
08 8586 4053 0420 383 948
dale48K@gmail.com

South East Branch

President: Mrs Marjorie Todd
'Matapara', 130 Todds Road
Poolaijelo Vic 3312
03 5586 7517 0428 440 413
matapara@activ8.net.au

Secretary: Mrs Lone Saint
PO Box 526
Naracoorte SA 5271
0409 856 156
saint@activ8.net.au

Roses on Eyre

President: Mrs Sandy McCallum
PO Box 53
Tumby Bay SA 5606
08 86884206 0407 884 234
mccallumsj@dodo.com.au

Secretary: Mrs Karen Miels
PO Box 3524
Port Lincoln SA 5606
0418 984 289
karmakazza@gmail.com

A message from the President

Since my last report, members have experienced a busy time with both our gardens and our Society.



Gavin Woods ARA

The Spring flush of bloom in the rose garden is often greeted with much anticipation. Will our plants perform well? Will all our efforts over the Winter period reap rewards? Will our new plants bloom and meet our expectations? Will dreaded thrip blow in on a hot Northerly wind and ruin all our hard work in a single afternoon?

For me, the season began in Perth for the National Rose Society’s Annual General Meeting and National Show. Our Western Australian colleagues put on a great weekend and a very creditable show for both delegates and the public. Unfortunately, no interstate blooms were exhibited, due in some part to the quarantine restrictions imposed by Western Australia. Flowers provided a colourful, fragrant display for the public; however, the quality of flowers was not as good as we would have liked.

Our own show was staged at Garden Grove the following weekend, again with a great display of colour and fragrance but quality was disappointing. Our gardens had been decimated by prolonged winds and wide-spread thrip infestations. The Rose section at Uraidla Agricultural Show presented a similar theme as did the Victorian Rose Society’s Spring Show which I attended as a judge.

Four Rose shows on four successive weekends in three states demonstrated clearly that despite the very best care and culture of our plants, mother nature has the final say. All states experienced an early Spring, most said by two weeks. The positive for our show was that our Adelaide Hills exhibitors had blooms aplenty and dominated the prize list. Good luck to them! In a normal year they struggle to find blooms.

I owe Mary Frick a huge apology, having inadvertently omitted her from my thanks to retiring Councillors in the last *Bulletin*. Mary has contributed so much to our Society over decades, as Councillor, Minute Secretary, Secretary and *Bulletin* Editor. When I asked Mary to take on the role of Editor, I could sense her reservation. To her credit (and perhaps to husband Ian’s chagrin), Mary said she would “give it a

Continued next page

Welcome to new members of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc

Gillian Bonney

Golden Grove

Garry Weinert

Lobethal

Martyn Hope

Mt Crosby

Marlene Thurlow

Tanunda

Louis Marquis and Peter Hale

Belair

**Plus four new members
who have asked that their
names be withheld.**

Andrea and Alex Szabo

Meningie

A message from the President continued

go” and in fact excelled at the role. Mary has been of enormous assistance to me in my National Society role as Chairman of Judges, having edited the new version of the Judges Handbook. To say I am ashamed at having omitted Mary from the credits is an understatement.

It was a great honour to receive the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award at the National dinner in Perth. My thanks go to our Society for nominating me. I can only reiterate what many before me have said; very few of us undertake these roles expecting reward other than the self-satisfaction that comes through volunteering; however, it is undeniably gratifying to be recognised for our efforts.

I can report that your Council has been very busy working on projects to benefit members and our Society as 2024 presents new challenges and opportunities. I am constantly impressed with the passion and commitment that many bring to our society, whether as members of Council or otherwise. To each and every one of you; know that your contribution is noted and appreciated. We are always looking for others to contribute, so do not be frightened to come forward and offer your services.

Kelvin Trimper has bravely agreed to coordinate the speaker program for the year ahead. He has already arranged two wonderful topics for our first meetings. I am keen that our speakers focus on roses and that we offer a range of meeting opportunities to our members. Meetings will be spread across days of the week, weekends and various times of the day and evening to find something that will suit every member. We are also considering filming our speakers to allow access to members who cannot come to meetings; all very exciting from my perspective. I am sure that Kelvin would welcome suggestions for meeting topics and possible speakers. Please contact him with any ideas that you have.

We are all enjoying a short break from Society activities following our Christmas function. The heat of summer means that our roses will slow down also, flowers may be smaller and with poorer keeping qualities. I tend to wander the garden early in the morning, to maximise my appreciation of the flowers and their fragrance. Provided water is copiously applied, many roses suitable for picking will be produced; with an opportunity to offer blooms to friends and neighbours. We will soon be preparing our plants for the Autumn flush, so I recommend that you enjoy the hiatus. A glass of red wine may well enhance your enjoyment of the garden!

Christmas is often time of reflection for many. To members who have lost loved ones or are battling illness, our thoughts were with you over the festive season and continue to be so. Again, it is often our garden that can provide solace at a difficult time.

Kim and I hope you had a festive Christmas and that the joy extends into the New Year. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in 2024.

Gavin

Cut Flower winners

Gwen and Ken Moxham were winners of the Heritage and A Grade sections of the Society's 2023 Cut Flower monthly competitions.

Les Johnson won the Open and B Grade sections, and Corina and Shahid Gul the C Grade section.

In other member news, Sharyn Perrin and Jen McCormick have both been upgraded from being C Grade Exhibitors to B Grade.

The awards and promotions were announced by President, Gavin Woods, at the Society's 2023 Christmas luncheon. See luncheon photos on pages 40 and 41.



The Rose Society's Patron, Mr Rod Bunten, accompanied by his wife, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, were special guests at the 2023 Christmas luncheon. They are pictured with President, Gavin Woods ARA, and World Federation of Rose Societies President and RSSA Immediate Past President, Diane vom Berg.

Changes to 2024 Autumn Rose Show arrangements

The 2024 Autumn Rose Show (see page 11) will be held on ANZAC Day (a Thursday) and on Friday, 26th April to address unforeseen scheduling issues.

The Peoples Choice competition will run for three instead of two days for the first time on Friday 26th, Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th April.

It is hoped the public holiday date for the first day of the Rose Show will attract people in the city for ANZAC Day commemorations. Meanwhile, the addition of Friday to the Peoples Choice competition gives the National Trial Garden of Australia organisers the opportunity to capitalise on the anticipated and usual busy "foot traffic" in the Adelaide Botanic Gardens on that day of the week, as well as those attending the Autumn Rose Show.

Improved Exhibitor access

Exhibitors can stage roses between 7.30am and midday on Thursday April 25 (ANZAC Day). They can drive into the Adelaide Botanic Gardens from Hackney Road to drop off roses for exhibition virtually adjacent to the Show entrance of the Noel Lothian Hall.

Exhibitor vehicles need to be moved from the Botanic Gardens by 9am. They may be parked in one of the Garden's car parks. At the time of writing, Show Manager, Joy Johnson, was working and hoping to secure car parking tickets for exhibitors to enable them to park at no charge. Further information about this will be incorporated in the Show Schedule, available at www.sarose.org.au from the end of January 2024.

Life Membership nominations open to 10th April

Nominations for Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc are now open. You are invited to submit details about a member who you believe has provided “special, outstanding and exemplary service to the Society” by 8pm on Wednesday 10th April 2024.

This is the Society’s most prestigious award. Current awardees include; Walter Duncan ARA, Malcolm Watson OAM ARA, Patricia Wilhelm, Ruth Watson ARA, Gordon Nolan, Peter Burton ARA, Brenda Burton, Mary Frick, Kelvin Trimper AM ARA, Mervyn Trimper, Sue Zwar, Maureen Ross, Aileen Scott, Robert Gregory AM, Diane vom Berg, Gavin Woods ARA, Coleen Houston OAM, Elaine Schier, Wendy Trimper, John Humphries, Angus Irwin ARA, Chris Kelly and Pam Kelly.

Each nomination should include a one page citation explaining why the nominee’s contribution has been exceptional, including what has been achieved to promote and enhance the Society. It needs to be accompanied by a form that can be downloaded from the Members’ Section of the Society’s website www.sarose.org.au. Alternatively, email rssasecretary@gmail.com and request the form. You may also wish to use this form to guide the development of the citation.

The form can be scanned and sent as an attachment, with the written citation, to rssasecretary@gmail.com. Alternatively, post it to Diane vom Berg, Secretary, Rose Society of South Australia, 124 Avenue Road, Clarence Gardens SA 5039. Candidates deemed by the selection committee to have met the criteria will be announced at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

Don’t miss this Members’ Meeting to “kick off” 2024

Neutrog’s Dr Uwe Stroehrer, top exhibitor, Merv Trimper, from the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia, and Flower Judge and top exhibitor, Gavin Woods ARA, will form a panel, chaired by Kelvin Trimper ARA, to answer questions on planting new and replacement roses, on Tuesday 13th February, starting at 7pm. This Members’ Meeting is open to the public. It will be held in the Goodman Building at Adelaide Botanic Gardens. An optional tour of roses at the garden will start at 6pm.



MT BARKER SHOW

Calling Exhibitors

Exhibitors are encouraged to enter blooms at the Mt Barker District Show on Saturday 23rd March 2024.

Schedule available from
www.mountbarkerdistrictshow.org.au.

Information, enquiries and entries to convenors
Merv and Wendy Trimper

mwtrimper@internode.on.net or 0419 803 708

Joy Johnson is the recipient of a new award

An intensely productive year—to the Society’s benefit—saw Joy Johnson named the inaugural winner of a new Rose Society of South Australia award, commemorating and honouring the late Dean Stringer OAM ARA SMA, who passed away in October 2022.



Joy was humbled to receive the Dean Stringer OAM Award from President, Gavin Woods, at the Society’s Christmas luncheon at Auchendarroch House.

The award, established by Council upon the first meeting of its term, recognises a member who has made an outstanding contribution over the previous year. The winner is determined by the President and announced at the Christmas function.

Joy, who re-joined Council this year, accepted the position of Show Manager which she has carried out on top of her Councillor and other responsibilities. Her organisation of the Spring Rose Show was considered to be outstanding.

Joy Johnson at Auchendarroch House after receiving the inaugural Dean Stringer OAM Award.

Joy was already well known for many other activities within the Rose Society and allied organisations. Among them has been preparing suppers for Members’ Meetings and refreshments for exhibitors at rose shows, deadheading roses weekly, at the International Rose Garden, and providing maintenance on a regular basis for the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia.

As a floral designer of long-standing, including fulfilling the role of President of the Floral Design Council of South Australia for many years, Joy has brought her floral design skills, management proficiencies and creative energy to many a rose show and function. This included encouraging floral designers from many clubs to become involved in a spectacular floral display immediately outside the Adelaide International Rose and Garden Expo in late 2022. She designed and coordinated the overall display, creating many elements on the spot.

Joy is equally highly regarded for her willingness to volunteer for less obvious tasks, as well as her balanced counsel, and support and encouragement of other rosarians in their various rose-related pursuits.

The 25 Year Membership line-up is growing



Judy Barry, Ian and Mary Frick, Ros Davis, and Robert and Gillian Gregory, pictured at Auchendarroch House, with their certificates for 25 Years of Continuous Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia. Mary and Robert are also Life Members.

Several members had the honour of being presented with Certificates for 25 Years of Continuous Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia by the Society's Patron, Mr Rod Bunden, at the Society's 2023 Christmas luncheon.

Historic Auchendarroch House seemed a fitting backdrop for the presentations which are a highlight of the annual Christmas celebrations.

Recipients of the certificates who were not in attendance at the luncheon included: Rosemary Gardner-Smith, Tanunda; Christine Gurney, Millicent; Jane Hood, Mount Gambier; Suzanne Kong, Sturt; and Glenys and Barry Mulligan of Penola.



Gordon Nolan

We celebrate Gordon's return

Rose Society of South Australia Life Member, A Grade Exhibitor and rose breeder, Gordon Nolan, can be forgiven for eating too much cake in recent times.

Gordon had the privilege of cutting the President's delicious white mud Christmas cake with Her Excellency, Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, at the Society's Christmas luncheon at Auchendarroch House, as well as a cake to mark his 97th birthday, at the November Members' Meeting.

They were fitting tributes as Gordon, assisted by daughter Sue Clare, has returned to exhibiting with zest, winning "firsts" at both the 2023 Spring Rose Show and the Uraidla Show.

Rose Week 2024

2024 Autumn Rose Show Thursday 25th & Friday 26th April

NOEL LOTHIAN HALL

Adelaide Botanic Gardens, Hackney Rd, Hackney

Public Welcome ANZAC DAY 1pm to 4pm

Friday from 10am to 4pm

Volunteers needed contact Joy Johnson 0418 895 438

Peoples Choice Weekend

Friday 26, Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 April

NATIONAL ROSE TRIAL GARDEN OF AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Botanic Gardens, Hackney Rd, Hackney

Friday 11am to 4pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

Choose your top 5 favourite roses

Winning cultivar receives an award

Volunteers needed contact Merv Trimper 0407426519



Gavin receives T.A. Stewart Memorial Award

The Rose Society of South Australia's President, Gavin Woods ARA, was the recipient of the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award in November 2023.

Gavin was presented with the award during the National Rose Society of Australia Convention in Western Australia. The award is given annually to a person who is deemed to have given outstanding service to the rose in Australia or New Zealand. It's a memorial to T.A. Stewart, a president of the Rose Society of Victoria for many years and editor of the Australian Rose Annual, a position held as its foundation editor from 1928 to his death in 1946.

The citation for Gavin described him as a "true ambassador" for the Rose Society of South Australia and the National Rose Society of Australia, "...showing leadership, a wealth of knowledge and dedication in promoting the rose in cities, regions and states over many years".

Just some of the activities outlined in the citation are as follows.

The Rose Society of South Australia Inc: 2013–2014, Vice President; 2014–2017, President; 2015–present, Coordinator of the Rose Section at the Mt Barker Agricultural Show; 2015, organised the first hugely successful Copper Coast Rose Show; 2016–present, Chief Rose Judge; 2016–present, Coordinator of rose section of Uraidla AH&F Society Show; 2016–present, coordinated and conducted the Judges Training School (4 newly Accredited Rose Judges); 2017–2020, Immediate Past President; 2019, awarded Life Membership, 2020–2023, Vice President; regularly contributes to the Bulletin; and has demonstrated rose pruning at public and country locations.

National Rose Society of Australia Inc (NRSA): 2010–present International Judges Sub-Committee; 2013–present attended a number of AGMs as an observer and SA Delegate; 2015–present, SA Judges Representative and Accredited Rose Judge; 2017, Vice President; 2018–present, NRSA Rose Breeders Representative on the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia Management Board; 2018–2019, sought information and design for badges for the Australian Rose Award recipients and Accredited Judges, then organised the delivery of the badges to the recipients; 2019, President and Chairman of the highly successful AGM held in Adelaide; 2020, Vice President; 2021, President; coordinated the Australian Bred Rose of the Year group; travelled three times to Western Australia and twice to Queensland to conduct Exhibitors and Judges Workshops which were very successful; contributed articles for the Australian Rose Annual; and travelled to New Zealand to promote the 2022 Convention and attend meetings.

World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS): 2014–2023, significant work on the World Rose Convention as Committee member, and a Sub-committee member for

Continued next page



Gavin Woods holding the T.A. Stewart Memorial Plaque. Photo: Diane vom Berg

Continued from previous page

the National Rose Show and EXPO display; attended several World and Regional Conventions, and host and lecturer at Adelaide Convention; 2018, Australian representative for the International Judges Committee meeting held in Copenhagen; 2020, Chairman of the WFRS International Judges Committee; and 2022, the Vice President Australasia.

Your responses are helping to “shape” your *Bulletin*

From Editor Celia Painter

Let’s celebrate roses more and encourage more members to contribute. These are among key themes to come out of the Rose Society of South Australia’s recent *Bulletin* survey.

Members also relayed that they would enjoy more guidance and experiences about growing particular cultivars from other members and want to see more pictures and information about roses overall. Articles and photographs about other gardens—public and private—are also on many members “wish lists”. So too are tips on exhibiting, how to deal with pests and diseases, and one-off articles about rose crafts.

There have also been practical suggestions about basic information provided in the *Bulletin*, some of which have been incorporated in this edition.

The inclusions and changes will be rolled out throughout 2024. If you would like to contribute an article aligned with the wishes of the members listed above, please contact me on 0407 547 337 or email me at bulletinrssa@gmail.com.

I wish we could give everyone a bottle of wine for all who contributed to the survey. The winners are Christine and Graham Douglass, drawn from “a hat” at the Society’s 2023 Christmas Dinner.

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Member's Pick

Mr Lincoln—Hybrid Tea



Member's Pick is being introduced to the Bulletin to enable members to share their love of a rose and/or experiences with a rose cultivar. It may be a rose that “tugs at the heart”, flourishes under testing conditions, or addresses a problem or situation. It doesn't have to be a member's “favourite”.

Text & image by Penelope Schulz

My pick of a rose will always be *Mr Lincoln*, named after the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865).

Mr Lincoln was the rose I loved most as a child.

The beautiful perfume and the colour, which is a gorgeous red, grew in my mother's garden. I always had to bury my face into the rose to remove all the perfume I could!

Although my mum always had a floral arrangement that sat on the mantelpiece, my dad would still pick flowers from the garden and present them to mum. I loved that about dad.

My mum always planted two bushes of each rose, so she could have a full vase of the same rose. I can only remember my mum always being in the garden, either tending to flowers, veggies or trees.

I always remember mum saying: “don't prune too early in the Barossa because of the frosts. Leave it closer to end of July for the Moppa area.”

My next door neighbour, Indianna, aged nine, would come over to check out the flowers in the garden, but would always look for a bloom of *Mr Lincoln*—a lovely memory.

Remember the proverb, “Take time to smell the roses.” I always do and I think of *Mr Lincoln* when I hear or read that.

Here are a few details about this timeless rose from *Help Me Find* that I would like to share with you: bred by Swim & Weeks (US 1964); introduced in Australia in 1965 as *Mister Lincoln*; dark red blooms with a strong fragrance; and blooms are high-centred and cupped with up to 40 petals and have an average diameter of 2.54cm. This rose flowers in flushes throughout the season.

Mr Lincoln grows to a height between 90 and 200cm, depending on the soil and conditions. It's width is about 60cm.

Rose of the Month

October—*Tequila Sunrise* (DICObeY), Hybrid Tea

For over three decades *Tequila Sunrise* has stood the test of time. This award-winning Hybrid Tea rose was bred by Patrick Dickson of Dickson Nurseries in the UK and was first introduced in 1989 and released in Australia in 1992.

The golden-yellow flowers are heavily edged in scarlet red, resembling the brightness of a stunning sunrise. The blooms are medium-sized and full (40 petals) in a spiral form with a slight fragrance. It is a hardy rose, very disease resistant and easy to grow, and it has strong, glossy dark green foliage.



Tequila Sunrise has an excellent repeat flowering habit throughout the growing season and the bush easily reaches 1m tall x 1m wide in our climate. This rose will provide a colourful display of blooms from mid-spring to late autumn. The attractive blooms are on strong stems, making them ideal to pick as cut flowers. Deadhead finished blooms to encourage the next flush of roses.

This rose is available from Wagner's Rose Nursery and Garden Express.

Awards:

Gold Medal	Royal National Rose Society UK	1988
Gold Medal and Best HT	Belfast, Northern Ireland	1991
Silver Medal	Glasgow Rose Trials Scotland	1991
Award of Garden Merit	Royal Hort Society UK	1993

Text: Kelvin Trimper AM

Photo: Melanie Trimper

Delbard agency is great news for SA and its rose growers

Wagner's Rose Nursery in South Australia's South-East is adding more Delbard Roses to its catalogue. This follows a visit to Australia in 2023 by the General Manager of *Georges Delbard*, Arnaud Debard, during which he signed an agreement with Wagner's.

The agency enables Wagner's to trial, grow and release new Delbard roses in Australia. It also steepens the upward business trajectory of Wagner's which has also been chosen as the Australian agent for *David Austin Roses*. In 2023, Wagner's released Italian bred *Barni Roses* onto the market last year after securing that agency. The company is also the agent for *Bruce Brundrett* bred roses.

New Delbard releases by Wagners for planting this year are *Bienvenue* and *Dolce Vita*. Releases for 2024 will feature in the next edition of the Bulletin.

Rose of the Month

November—*Princess Anne* (Auskitchen), English Shrub



Described as a favourite by David Austin Roses because of its excellent flowering and health, *Princess Anne* is a loved and recommended rose variety.

This rose was bred by David CH Austin OBE in Shropshire, England, before 2002 and was introduced in the UK in 2010. David waited for a very special rose to give it a very special name to honour Anne, The Princess Royal.

David Austin Roses has a global reputation for unique English shrub roses which have an “old-fashioned” appearance and fragrance combined with the qualities of modern roses such as a repeat flowering habit, good disease tolerance and a wider colour range.

Princess Anne features large, rich pink blooms, numbering about 10 per stem. The young flowers are deep pink, almost red, fading to pure cerise pink. Blooms have 85 petals with a hint of yellow on the reverse and a moderately strong Tea Rose fragrance. This sturdy upright bush flowers freely and in abundance throughout the year. It grows approximately 1m x 1m.

Suitable for cut flowers, mixed borders, pots and containers, rose hedges and shady areas, *Princess Anne* is a highly recommended David Austin English Shrub Rose.

This rose is available from Wagner’s Rose Nursery and Treloar Roses.

Text and photos: Melanie Trimper



Rose of the Month

December—*Twilight Zone* (WEKebtidere), Floribunda

“Eye-catching” *Twilight Zone*, bred by Tom Carruth at Weeks Roses in the US, was introduced onto the market in 2012.

This beautiful, rich deep mauve rose has velvet-like petals—a uniquely coloured rose.

Twilight Zone features large, fully-double, old-fashioned blooms, each with 80–100 petals, borne as solitary blooms or in small clusters of up to five per stem.



Apart from its extraordinary colour, the strong, spicy clove and lemon citrus fragrance is most attractive.

Twilight Zone is a sturdy, well-proportioned bush growing 1.25m tall and 1.25m wide with tough, deep green, disease resistant foliage.

Deadheading is often recommended to encourage faster repeat flowering throughout the growing season.

This highly recommended rose performs well in every season and suits our climate. It can be used for beds, borders, as a container rose or as a cut flower.

This rose is available as a bush or a standard rose from Knight’s Roses, Wagner’s Rose Nursery, Swane’s Nurseries and at rosesalesonline.com.au

Award:

Most Fragrant Variety

Rose Hills International Rose Trials US 2013

Text: Kelvin Trimper AM

Photo: Benedetta Rusconi



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 or 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.

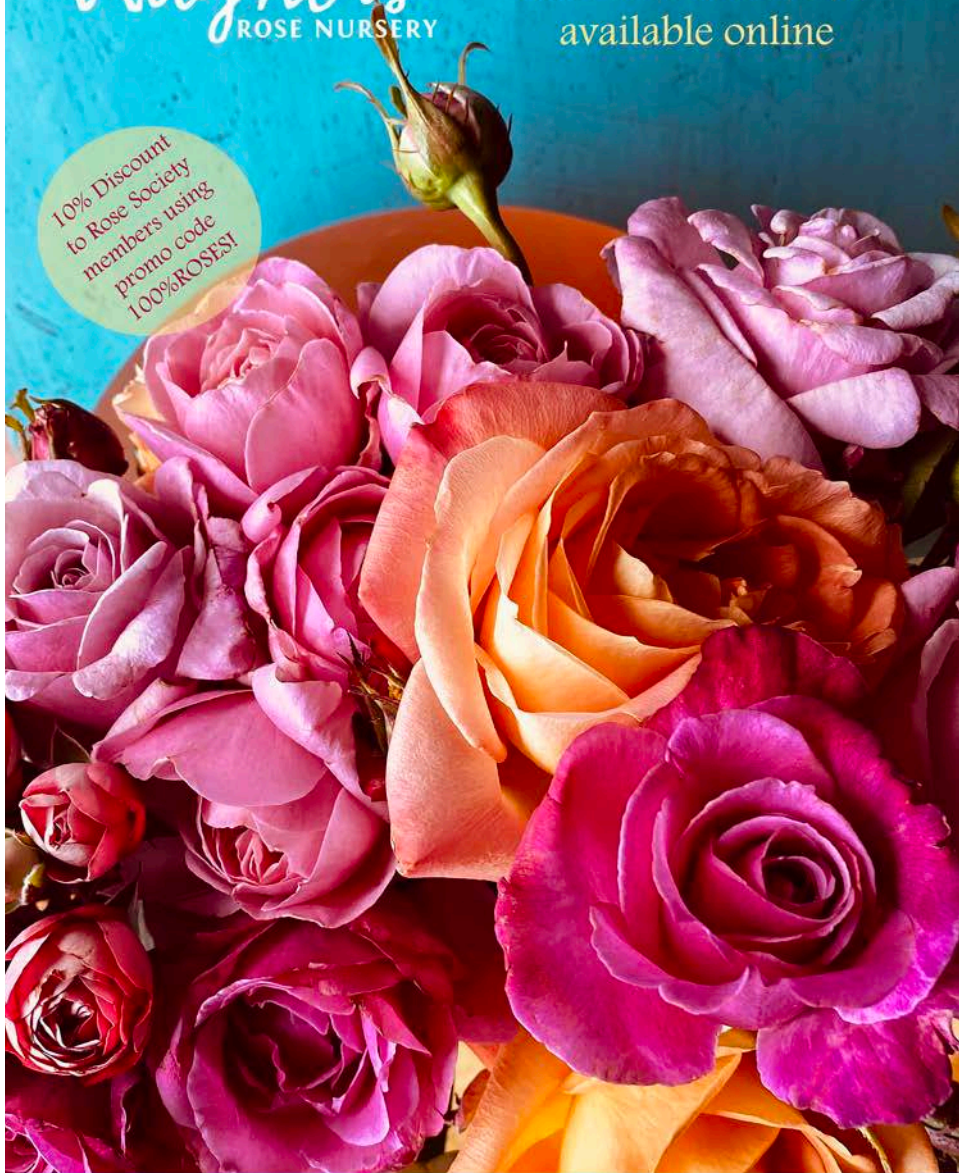
Questions regarding ordering should be referred to Neutrog or Paul (RSSA) on 0409 096 758.



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Kim to undertake a study to help future proof our roses

By Celia Painter

Prominent gardening identity Kim Syrus is to embark on an international study tour that has the potential to make Australian rose growing production more sustainable and which could change rose growing for the home gardener.

Kim, Chair of Rose Introducers of Australia and a speaker at the Rose Society of South Australia's 2023 Spring Show, has been awarded a prestigious Churchill Fellowship for Horticultural Innovation to study growing roses from cuttings, on their own roots, versus using traditional budding methods.

Kim will visit Europe and the United States to explore the benefits, pitfalls and other points that could impact on the adoption of innovative rose propagation methods across Australia.

"This is something the industry here has been talking about for 10 to 15 years," says Kim, "and it would be valuable to be able to produce an education module to give growers a blueprint that could make it happen if there are benefits to be had."

He says that if "own root" roses prove worthy and popular with producers, they will be relieved of their current Jan–Feb to Apr–May heavy and congested burden of budding, grafting, cutting and callousing understock and then digging new stock. The shortage of people with rose budding skills will also be addressed.

"They could also produce using up to half the space and use less water and fertiliser, so overall input costs could be reduced substantially," he says.

"That would make the industry more sustainable.

"In the last decade or so I have seen the number of growers decrease by 30% or more.

"We need to stem that tide by enabling rose producers to extend their time in the industry and see a new generation of people wanting to join the industry."



Landscaping with roses was the theme taken by presenter Kim Syrus, one of several high profile Lecture Program speakers, at the 2023 Spring Rose Show at Garden Grove.

Kim is pictured at the show with *Zepeti*, the Meilland-bed compact and hardy miniature rose, with fire engine red blooms, that can be used as individuals, in clusters or to create a border.

Continued next page

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Q & A

Q&A has been introduced to enable you to have questions about using Neutrog products answered “straight from the horse’s mouth”.

Do I use POPUL8 if I am already using GOGO Juice?

In short, the answer is yes. *GOGO Juice* is more about beneficial microbes (bacteria and fungi) for day-to-day soil and plant health. *POPUL8* is more for soil borne disease, and preventing, protecting and increasing resilience against plant and soil pathogens. You would use *POPUL8* if your plant is not performing; maybe a plant that you have transplanted and is sulking, or where you have non-productive soil or an obvious disease affected area or plant.



**Have a question?
Send it to:**

**bulletinrssa@gmail.com
or phone 0407 547 337**

It will be forwarded to Neutrog.

Kim’s study tour continued

From page 19

Kim says there will also be many possible benefits to the home gardener because own grown roses do not have suckers.

“They also flower for longer periods, and tend to be smaller in stature, making them suitable for modern smaller gardens,” he says.

One of the most common questions asked of Kim—also the Australian Master Agent for French based rose breeder Meilland International and Managing Director of Corporate Roses Pty Ltd—is: could the range of roses made available to the public shrink as a result of mass own root plantings of varieties by producers?

“I can understand home gardeners might be concerned about this” he says, “but I think what we will ultimately see is a mix of practices being adopted by producers and even some niche producers emerging.

“We could see a producer providing tube stock, for example, that could suit particular situations and also budded stock for other varieties, or we could see producers specialising to meet needs of a particular market.

“The good thing about this study is that I will be able to get an insight into the own root producer practices and the impact of it on producers and markets. I’ll be learning, seeing and hearing things, warts and all, and bringing that information and experience back to Australia.”

The Post & Rail nails nursery approval

Member, Cindy Bunt, who operates *The Post & Rail*, a fun and innovative cooking, gardening and art school at Compton, about 5kms from Mt Gambier’s centre, has added a nursery to her business’s bow.

After several months securing approvals, Cindy has opened her onsite nursery. Rare and unusual perennials and shrubs are a feature.

Congratulations Cindy.

Community blooms add to the quality of roses exhibited at the Society's 2023 Spring Rose Show

By Joy Johnson

As Show Manager for the first time, I was more aware than ever of the value of “taking the rose to the people”, made possible by the Garden Grove location.

Members of the community milled around the exhibits, asked Society members many questions and enjoyed themselves.

We had a ready audience—regular visitors to Garden Grove complementing those who came especially to see our roses.

This was reflected in the number and quality of exhibits in the Community Class—63—won by Garden Grove “regular”, Gillian Bonney, with *Maurice Utrillo*.

We had 21 Society exhibitors and 263 exhibits which made for a joyful display, added to by skillful displays presented by the Woodville Academy of Floral Design Inc which demonstrated and sold arrangements during the Show.

It was wonderful to see National Rose Society of Australia Inc NRSA Treasurer, Jim Cane ARA, join our already illustrious judging team. There was Kelvin Trimper AM ARA, Gavin Woods ARA, Peter Burton ARA, Diane vom Berg, Wendy Trimper, Merv Trimper and Gwen Moxham forming the judging team. NRSA President, Sandra Turner, also attended and made the presentations to trophy winners.

The raffle and lucky door prize each added to the staging of the show overall. The latter was won by Society member, Sharyn Perrin and the raffle was won by a member of the community who wishes to remain anonymous. Another nice touch was the distribution of a bloom, provided by exhibitors, to about 140 show

Continued p 23



Grand Champion of the Show, a bunch of Roald Dahl, exhibited by Merv and Wendy Trimper Image by Paul Flavel



Show Manager Joy Johnson with lucky draw prize winner Sharyn Perrin.



Member Rowan Vallance, of Armidale, with judges Gavin Woods and Jim Cane.

Congratulations to the Championship winners

CHAMPIONSHIP	WINNER	VARIETIES
Open SA State Spring Rose Championship	P&B Burton	
B Grade SA State Spring Rose Championship	D vom Berg	
C Grade SA State Spring Rose Championship	S Perrin	
A Grade Champion Exhibition Rose	P&B Burton	Marilyn Monoe
B Grade Champion Exhibition Rose	D vom Berg	Moonstone
A Grade Champion Decorative Rose	M&W Trimper	Camp David
B Grade Champion Decorative Rose	D vom Berg	Tequila Sunrise
A Grade Champion Full Bloom Rose	P&B Burton	Marilyn Monroe
B Grade Champion Full Bloom Rose	D vom Berg	Just Joey
A Grade Champion Shrub Rose	P&B Burton	Rock 'n' Roll
B Grade Champion Shrub Rose	D vom Berg	Love's Gift
A Grade Champion Floribunda Rose	P&B Burton	Fabulous
B Grade Champion Floribunda Rose	D vom Berg	Afternoon Delight
A Grade Champion Miniature/Miniflora & Polyantha Roses	G Woods	Magic Show
B Grade Champion Miniature or Miniflora Rose	D vom Berg	Jean Kenneally
Open Champion Australian Bred Stem or Cut	S Perrin	Fields of Fromelles
Open Roses Introduced Prior to 1900	T Hancox	Autumnalis
Open Champion Sundry Classes	M&W Trimper	For Your Eyes Only
A Grade Champion Bunch of Roses	M&W Trimper	Roald Dahl
B Grade Champion Bunch of Roses	D vom Berg	Sally Holmes

of the Rose Society's 2023 Spring Rose Show

goers. This seemed to really attract the interest of children accompanied by adults.

Finally, we should all take our hats off to our volunteers. Without them, we wouldn't have had a show.

While every volunteer made important contributions, I make special mention of Pam and Chris Kelly, and Maureen and John Humphries. Pam and Chris do so much "behind the scenes" work in recording and tallying scores, and John and Maureen Humphries cart essential equipment to and from our storage unit and help with the set-up and clean-up. We are all very much indebted to you.



Some of the blooming beauties

FROM LEFT: B Grade Champion Miniature or *Miniflora*, *Jean Kenneally*, Diane vom Berg; A Grade Champion Decorative Rose and winner of the *Christine Mitchell Cup*, *Camp David*, Merv and Wendy Trimper; Open Grade Champion of Roses introduced prior to 1900 and the winner of the *Judith Waters Memorial Trophy*, *Autumnalis*, Tate Hancox.

CHAMPIONSHIP	WINNER	VARIETIES
A Grade Champion Bowl of Roses	G Woods	Chevy Chase
B Grade Champion Bowl of Roses	D vom Berg	Blushing Pierre de Ronsard
Open Champion Multi Stages	M&W Trimper	Tuscan Sun
A Grade Champion Six Stems/Cuts	P&B Burton	Irrisistible, Mini Champagner
A Grade Three Stems/Cuts	P&B Burton	Rock 'n' roll
B Grade Champion Three Stems/Cuts	D vom Berg	Jean Kenneally
C Grade Champion Multi Stems/Cuts/ Bunches	T Hancox	Cornelia
A Grade Champion Floral Arrangement	H Grant	
B Grade Champion Floral Arrangement	T Hancox	
C Grade Champion Floral Arrangement	T Bentick	
Competition Grand Champion Floral arrangement	H Grant	

2023 Spring Rose show Trophy winners

TROPHY	CONDITIONS	WINNER
NRSA Medallion	Winner of the SA State Rose Championship	P&B Burton
Grand Champion of the Show	Champion of cut flower champions	M&W Trimper
The President's Trophy	Most successful exhibitor	M&W Trimper
H Charles Thomas Memorial Trophy	Winner of State Spring Rose Championship	P&B Burton
Allan Campbell Trophy	Best champion exhibition rose	P&B Burton
T Howland White Memorial Trophy No 1	Best champion exhibition rose B or C Grade	D vom Berg
Christine Mitchell Cup	Best champion decorative rose	M&W Trimper
Keith Copas Memorial Trophy	Most successful bunch class exhibitor by aggregate	M&W Trimper
Jack Moule Memorial Trophy	Champion miniature rose, single stem or cut	G Woods
Heather Burnard Memorial Trophy	Most successful exhibitor of miniature roses, by aggregate	P&B Burton
Emma Voke Memorial Trophy No 1	Best champion bunch of roses	M&W Trimper
Helen Sunter Memorial Trophy	Best champion bowl of roses	G Woods
Eric and Myrtle Trimper Trophy	Best champion Floribunda or Grandiflora, cut or stem	P&B Burton
The Royal National Rose Society Trophy No 1	Most successful B Grade exhibitor of cut	D vom Berg
The Royal National Rose Society Trophy No 2	Best champion any other type	M&W Trimper
Judith Waters Memorial Trophy	Champion Cut Flowers–Roses introduced prior to 1900	T Hancox
Ross Roses Centenary Award	Most successful C Grade exhibitor in all cut flower classes, by aggregate	S Perrin
T Howland White Memorial Award No 2	Best champion six stem/cut exhibit	P&B Burton



Above: Woodville Academy of Floral Design outdid itself.

Left: Grand Champion of Floral Arrangements by Helen Grant.

Presenter of all awards, National President Sandra Turner is pictured with winner of the Ivy Gerard Award (2), John Bradshaw.

2023 Spring Rose show Trophy winners cont'd

TROPHY	CONDITIONS	WINNER
Ivy Gerard (1)	Separate awards to each of the best exhibits in B Grade (1 of 3)	D vom Berg
Ivy Gerard (2)	Separate awards to each of the best exhibits in B Grade (2 of 3)	J&D Bradshaw
Ralph Smith Memorial Award	Best of multi-stage classes	M&W Trimper
Herbert Kemp Award	Most successful exhibitor of three stems or cuts classes, by aggregate	M&W Trimper
Alexander Ross Memorial Award	Best champion full bloom rose	P&B Burton
Oliver Travel Trophy	Best exhibit of in the SA State Intermediate Rose Championship class	D vom Berg
WH Ifould Trophy	Best C Grade exhibitor in SA State C Grade Rose Championship	S Perrin
Women's Weekly Trophy	Grand Champion of Cut Flowers	M&W Trimper
Grand Champion of Floral Arrangements	Best of champions of all floral arrangement classes	H Grant
Rose A Thomas Memorial Trophy	Best champion floral arrangement	H Grant
A Grade Floral Champion Trophy		H Grant
B Grade Floral Champion Trophy		T Hancox
C Grade Floral Champion Trophy		T Bentick

Summer Culture Notes

With Les Johnson

As I write this in the middle of November, many are predicting a hot summer. Certainly, the mercury climbed to 40°C in Adelaide on the 10th November, a temperature that matched the record set in the 1890s.

Water is the critical factor for your roses in Summer, and regular deep watering will ensure your roses develop a strong root system and remain healthy. During the era of water shortages, the government encouraged gardeners to install drippers. For many rosarians on sandy soil the inline drippers proved a disaster. The sprinkler type where water is spread evenly across the bed is the way to go for sandy soils.

Watering in the early morning ensures there are no resultant fungal problems as the leaves dry quickly. If a heat wave is expected, water the day before so the rose can maximize its water intake. Top up the Spring mulching with Neutrog's *WhoFlungDung* if required. Spider mite can be a problem in Summer, but a moist environment discourages them and misting under the leaves at the first sign of the mite assists with minimizing the problem.

Protection and support

Potted roses can be moved to a shaded area of the garden. A favourite rose can be protected by shade which could be as little as throwing an old sheet over the rose on extreme days. Avoid any dead heading when a heat wave is expected as every bit of foliage helps to protect the rose. The bottom line is the hardiness of roses usually results in plants sailing through Summer with the minimum of damage.

Wind can damage new water shoots and staking will ensure their survival. Remember you are providing additional support of the cane where it leaves the crown or bud union. Thus a tall stake that matches the shoot is not necessary, and a relatively short stake can do the job.





ABOVE: A low throwing sprinkler type of watering system is best for sandy soils. Photo: Les Johnson

RIGHT: Bring blooms inside before hot weather. *Tinkerbell* holds well in a vase.



Preparing for a special event

As the Autumn Rose Show will be on 25–26th April this year, the date to dead head your roses is around the end of February. This is the 50–55 day rule required to ensure a plentiful supply of blooms for any special autumn event. As it was described to me many years ago, deadheading is a simple prune back as if you were picking a bunch of roses. You are giving the roses a light trim rather than a prune. Following the trim, apply a generous feed of Neutrog's *Sudden Impact for Roses* and increase the watering. At other times, simply snap off the developing hip to encourage new growth.

Planning starts now

Summer is also the time to check out your roses and decide whether old and underperforming roses should be removed. If you are hoping to replant in the same location, now is the time to remove and prepare the soil. When removing the old rose try to get as much of the old roots as possible. Fill the resultant hole with good garden loam, compost, animal manure, and a generous dose of *Seamungus*. This will ensure the bare root rose has a good start when planted in late winter.

Be “sun smart”

The Summer months are also a time to ensure we protect ourselves by being sun smart and only working in the garden in the cool of early morning and the evenings. Rose blooms may be smaller but can be saved on hot days and enjoyed in a vase inside.

Want more notes on rose culture?

Sign into the Members' Section of www.sarose.org.au and type culture notes in the search bar.

Uraidla Show: Wendy and Merv “shine” again



Grand Champion winners Wendy and Merv Trimper with their winning exhibit of *Eva*.



A bounty of blooms provided by just several exhibitors in the Rose Section.



The B & C Grade Champion Penelope Schulz at the show with her winning cut of *Bonica*.

Hot on the heels of taking out Grand Champion of the Rose Society of South Australia’s 2023 Spring Rose Show, Merv and Wendy Trimper triumphed at the Uraidla Show held on the 5th November.

Their exhibit of *Eva* was named the Champion of all classes and they were awarded the Uraidla and Summertown Show 2023 Spring Champion Cup.

The B and C Grade Champion was Penelope Schulz with a cut of *Bonica*.

The Uraidla and Summertown H&F Society, which stages the Uraidla Show, congratulated and thanked the Rose Society of South Australia for bringing so much Spring colour to the show benches.

Convenor, Gavin Woods, thanks all members who exhibited and judged.



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National Rose Trial Gardens of Australia Awards

By Chris Kelly

The National Rose Trial Garden of Australia (NRTGA) 2023 awards for the roses entered in the 2021–2023 trial were announced on Monday October 30 at the Robin Hood Hotel in Norwood. Fifty-eight attended, including exhibitors, rose assessors, the garden's volunteers and others.

Roses bred by W. Kordes' Sohne, Germany, received one Gold Medal, one Silver Medal and seven Bronze Medals. Elton Treloar, Manager, and Lauren Mallen, Marketing Manager, represented Treloar Roses from Portland, Victoria to collect their awards.

In addition to the medals, Treloar Roses also received: the Gerald Meylan Perpetual Trophy for best Shrub or Ground Cover for *Corazon*; the Hamilton Gardens NZ Perpetual Award for Best Hybrid Tea Rose with *Spicy Parfuma*; the Irwin Award for the Most Pest and Disease Resistant Rose for Bed 69, a rose unnamed at present; the Governor of Gifu Award for The Most Fragrant Rose of the Trial for *Spicy Parfuma*; Rose Hills Perpetual Challenge Bowl for Best Floribunda Rose *Fur Elise*; and finally, the Marion de Boehme Memorial Award for Best Rose of the Trial awarded for *Fur Elise* and named Australia's Rose of the Year.

A Certificate of Merit and the David Ruston Trophy for the best climber of the trial was awarded to a rose with the code 5246-94-AMI entered by Corporate Roses and bred by Meilland International, France.

The Australian Bred Rose of the Year was awarded to a shrub rose with the code 5037, bred by the late Bruce Brundrett and exhibited by Wagner's Rose Nursery. This rose was also awarded a Certificate of Merit and the Davis Trophy.

Forever Yours, a hybrid tea, was awarded a Certificate of Merit and the World Federation of Rose Societies People's Choice Award 2023. This rose was exhibited by Knight's Roses and bred by Rosen Tantau, Germany.

Thanks to our assessors and volunteers for another successful year in the NRTGA which is situated in the Adelaide Botanic Garden.



Lauren Mallen and Elton Treloar from Treloar Roses with a bounty of awards.



National Rose Society of Australia Treasurer Jim Cane ARA (left) with Brian Wagner and Benedetta Rusconi from Wagner's Rose Nursery, winners for the best Australian Bred Rose, at the presentation night.

National Trial Garden of Australia Top Roses

By Les Johnson

Results from the 2023 trial gave Kordes Roses and their agent, Treloar Roses, an almost clean sweep, taking out the top nine awards and 10 of the 14 awards presented.



AWARD: Gold Medal
TROPHIES: Marion de Boehme Award for the Best Rose of the Trial; Australia's Rose of the Year; Rose Hills Perpetual Challenge Bowl (USA) for the Best Floribunda of the Trial
BED NUMBER: 68
CODE: KORelifur
NAME: Fur Elise
TYPE: Floribunda FRAGRANCE: Strong
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Silver Medal
BED NUMBER: 66
CODE: KORfliaumi
NAME: Bee Scene
TYPE: Floribunda
FRAGRANCE: Slight
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Bronze Medal
TROPHY: The Irwin Award for the Most Pest and Disease Tolerant Rose of the Trial
BED NUMBER: 69
CODE: KORunischo
NAME:
TYPE: Floribunda
FRAGRANCE: Slight
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Bronze Medal
TROPHIES: The Governor of Gifu Award (Japan) for the Most Fragrant Rose of the Trial
Hamilton Gardens NZ Perpetual Challenge Award for the Best Hybrid Tea of the Trial
BED NUMBER: 60
CODE: KORbrocaze
NAME: Spicy Perfuma
TYPE: Hybrid Tea FRAGRANCE: Strong
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



WARD: Bronze Medal
BED NUMBER: 55
CODE: KORpiadyla
NAME: Bridal Bouquet
TYPE: Hybrid Tea
FRAGRANCE: Strong
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Bronze Medal
BED NUMBER: 63
CODE: KORzwanlio
NAME: Coral Lions-Rose
TYPE: Floribunda
FRAGRANCE: Moderate
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Bronze Medal
BED NUMBER: 61
CODE: KORbabagol
NAME: Roselina
TYPE: Floribunda
FRAGRANCE: Slight
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Bronze Medal
TROPHY: Gerald Meylan Perpetual Trophy, Best Shrub or Ground Cover of the Trial
BED NUMBER: 50
CODE: KORneumaid
NAME: Corazon
TYPE: Shrub
FRAGRANCE: Slight
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Bronze Medal
BED NUMBER: 52
CODE: KORvesumi
NAME:
TYPE: Hybrid Tea
FRAGRANCE: Moderate
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Certificate of Merit
TROPHY: The David Ruston Trophy for the Best Climber of the Trial
BED NUMBER: 182
CODE: 5246-94-AMI
NAME:
TYPE: Climber
FRAGRANCE: Moderate
BREEDER: Meilland International, France
EXHIBITOR: Corporate Roses, Australia



AWARD: Certificate of Merit
TROPHIES: The Davis Trophy; The Australian Bred Rose of The Year; NRSA Sponsorship;
BED NUMBER: 72
CODE: 5037
NAME:
TYPE: Shrub
FRAGRANCE: Moderate
BREEDER: Bruce Brundrett, Australia
EXHIBITOR: Wagner's Rose Nursery, Australia



AWARD: Certificate of Merit
BED NUMBER: 74
CODE: A 041
NAME:
TYPE: Shrub
FRAGRANCE: Slight
BREEDER: Bruce Brundrett, Australia
EXHIBITOR: Wagner's Rose Nursery, Australia



AWARD: Certificate of Merit
BED NUMBER: 65
CODE: KORfloci111
NAME: Baby Iceberg
TYPE: Floribunda
FRAGRANCE: Slight
BREEDER: W. Kordes' Söhne, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Treloar Roses, Australia



AWARD: Certificate of Merit
TROPHY World Federation of Rose Societies People's Choice Award 2023
BED NUMBER: 54
CODE: TAN 08242
NAME: Forever Yours
TYPE: Hybrid Tea
FRAGRANCE: Slight
BREEDER: Rosen Tantau, Germany
EXHIBITOR: Knight's Roses, Australia

Volunteers in the International Rose Garden

By Deb Curtis—Rose Society Supervisor of Volunteers at the garden

A select group returned late September to tidy up the French Tea roses after their Winter performance. The return to deadheading this Spring was a little slow. Firstly, we had to find the roses bushes under the weeds!

The roses are now looking beautiful, as is our “Wildflower Meadow”, planted within the International Rose Garden. This was planted for a bit of spring colour and to encourage beneficial insects to the garden. The public has really enjoyed it so a special thanks to Lilith Tremmery from the Adelaide Botanic Gardens for planting it.

We are having a short break over the holiday season, last working on the 15th December and resuming on the 5th January 2024, providing the weather isn’t too hot.

We are always looking for an extra pair of hands to help, even if it’s only an hour every couple of weeks. Every bit helps to keep the roses looking their best. 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

Rose Society among patronages “applauded” by our Patron, Mr Rod Bunten, and the Governor

After a week of tragedy for South Australia’s boys in blue in November, special mention of their work and sacrifice was made by South Australia’s Governor, Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, at a garden party at Government House, held to thank volunteers of Patronages held by her and her husband, our Patron, Mr Rod Bunten.

A total of 175 South Australian charities were represented at the party.



Patron of the Rose Society of South Australia, Mr Rod Bunten, is pictured with Joy Johnson, Diane vom Berg and Celia Painter.



Caroline Robson weeds out a trouble maker—a giant thistle—getting in the way of deadheading.

IRG vllie parking

If the cost of city parking is putting you off trying your hand at deadheading roses in the International Rose Garden, perhaps reconsider.

Parking in the car parks adjacent to Adelaide Botanic Gardens and Plane Tree Drive is free for our volunteers while working in the garden.

You will need a parking permit. The first time you come to deadhead, seek out Supervisor of the Volunteers in the IRG, Deb Curtis, who will liaise with the Senior Horticultural Curator, Andy Hart, to arrange this.

Vale George Thomson ARA, AL CA

By *Sandy and Phyllis Thomson*



George Thomson ARA, AL CA
Life Member, RSSA

George Thomson sadly passed away on 8th October 2023. His remarkable contribution to the Society was highlighted in the last edition of the *Bulletin*.

George was born the eldest son of Mary and George Thomson in the north of Scotland in January 1938.

It was a very tough period; his father was a farm manager and he was paid £25 pounds at the completion of each year. The family had to be self-sufficient by growing all their vegetables and relying on wildlife for meat.

His father's passion was showing flowers and vegetables, and he won many championships between Aberdeen and Edinburgh—always with little George by his side.

His father taught him how to pollinate flowers and at just 10-years-old George successfully bred a new red potato. This won him his first championship and the nickname "Spud Thomson".

George went onto university where his love of roses grew, and then he secured an apprenticeship at

Sissinghurst, known today as Sissinghurst Castle Garden.

In 1958 the family moved to Australia to a cattle stud in Victoria, however George remained in Scotland, undertaking National Service with the Gordon Highlanders for two years, before also coming to Australia.

George and his younger brother, James, became well known as rabbiters in Victoria, sometimes getting 200 per day. Two trotting horses and later a few racing greyhounds added to the animals.

The family moved to Adelaide for their mother's health, with James staying in Victoria. George rekindled his love of roses and after a few jobs in Adelaide he settled at *The Laurels* at Mt Barker. There he became well-known for breeding roses.

The owners of the *The Laurels* eventually passed away and their other family members sold the property to developers. George then moved to Willunga and continued breeding and showing his beautiful roses. He ultimately settled in Naracoorte, spending four years there.

George's influence on the family will be lasting. He was a treasured brother, brother-in-law and uncle of nieces and nephews, many of whom have George's roses growing in their gardens, which like him, will be treasured forever.

Vale Jean Reid

A celebrated member of the Rose Society of South Australia, Jean Reid, passed away, aged 95, in November 2023. She had joined the Society in April 1964.

Held in high esteem throughout the rose world, Jean was particularly recognised for her dedication to the rose and a willingness to share her expert knowledge of heritage roses. She organised displays and information tables for heritage roses at many of the Society's Spring Shows and contributed to and organised suppers for many years.



Jean's contribution to the Society was such that she was featured in *The Rose Society of South Australia Inc's 1908–2008 History Book*.

In that she recalled her first purchase of rose bushes in 1958 and being gifted membership to the Society after they struggled to survive; "starved" of soil preparation and ongoing cultivation.

She also remembered the first time she exhibited at Adelaide Town Hall, "leaving home to catch a bus and carrying a container full of *First Love* and *Duet*. I arrived at the Town Hall at 7am and, with help from others, staged my exhibits and then headed off to work. Arriving back after work, I was delighted to find I had won two prizes. I have been hooked on roses ever since".

It was ultimately Heritage Roses that became Jean's main focus and she became a driving force in encouraging others to grow and exhibit them.

Jean described her involvement with the Society as "40 years of pleasure and friendship through the rose".

Vale Rodger Todd

In another loss for the Society and the South-East, Rodger Todd passed away, aged 86, on the 3rd October 2023.

Rodger was a very active and supportive member of the South East Branch for many years. He was involved in Branch and Adelaide meetings and supported his wife's, Marjorie's, life-long interest and involvement in rose growing, gardening and all aspects of rose cultivation and "rose travels".



Marjorie undertook many rose journeys to many parts of the world to attend rose conferences with Rodger's full support.

Of Rodger and Marjorie, one South East member said behind every successful woman is a supportive man.

Vale Bruce McCallum

By Christine Douglass



I have known Bruce and Dianne for 50 plus years. Our families grew up together in Banksia Park and we regularly enjoyed social card nights.

After returning from living and working in Sydney, Bruce and family settled in Mount Barker. We quickly renewed our friendship and Bruce and Dianne joined the Rose Society of South Australia in May 2012.

Bruce soon became an active volunteer in the Society and also a reliable volunteer in the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia's (NRTGA's) maintenance team. He also helped at the People's Choice weekends.

In recent years Bruce was also a dedicated NRTGA assessor. Even after loss of mobility, due to Motor Neurone Disease, he recruited family members to push his wheelchair around the trial garden to enable him to complete his monthly assessments.

Bruce served for two years on the RSSA Council. He was also an ever-reliable volunteer at the Spring and Autumn Rose shows and would often be seen at the entrance or raffle table with Brian Slack, solving the problems of the world in between greeting visitors and members to the show.

At his Mount Barker home, Bruce enjoyed growing many roses, Camellias, and fruit trees in his extensive garden, but roses were his passion. In the Mount Barker community, Bruce was a very valued and an active volunteer for many charity groups.

Bruce will be sadly missed by his many Rose Society friends and especially by his wife and soulmate, Dianne, and family members.

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Chaffey Rose Club

Text and images by Dale Kerrin

We are waiting for late Spring rains in the Riverland as I write this. We have been getting lots of wind, some cold days and nights and a few very hot days, just to let us know what is likely to come over the Summer months.

On Friday 22nd September 19 Chaffey Rose Club Members from Renmark, Paringa and Loxton met up in Waikerie at the Viewpoint Café for Morning Tea. We then visited the *Flowers on Segneri* Flower Farm Florist Garden for a tour and talk by owner and florist, Natasha Waanders, on growing and using native flowers in her business.

Next, it was time to travel across the river by ferry to Overland Corner to have lunch at the Overland Corner Hotel to finish off a great day together, enjoying good friendships, food and gardening discussions.

The *Riverland Rose and Garden Festival* was the highlight in October. It was 10 days of events and open gardens which brought lots of visitors to our region. The theme for the Institute Flower Display was “Riverlanders are Rocking”. It was a fitting ode to the 2022–2023 River Murray Flood, portraying, through the use of flowers, how resilient Riverland residents kept “rockin’ along” throughout the natural disaster.

Several of our members are involved in this festival each year—picking flowers, organising and setting up the flower display in the Institute, opening their gardens or volunteering where needed.

A display of David Ruston memorabilia is now housed and on display in Olivewood National Trust Homestead in Renmark. It is nice to see this project completed; to know these items are on display for all visitors to Olivewood to view and enjoy. Thank you to Fleur Carthew and Shann Hausler for all the work they put into this project and to Ann Ryan at Olivewood Homestead for her support.

Some coming Events for 2024: February—Committee Meeting with AGM planning; March—2 day/1 night trip to Mildura; Thursday 4th April—visit to Jill Obst’s Garden at Wanbi; Sunday 14th April—Chaffey Rose Club AGM at Olivewood Homestead, Renmark. The meeting will be followed by lunch, an acknowledgment of the David Ruston Memorabilia Display and time to enjoy Olivewood’s garden.



Displays at the Riverland Rose and Garden Festival.

South East Branch

By Ione Saint

The November meeting of the South East Branch was an enjoyable afternoon, set against the backdrop of Marjorie Todd's tranquil garden.



Ian Cunningham, South East Branch President Marjorie Todd and the Society's Council Committee Liaison with the Branch, Tate Hancox.

Despite the picturesque scene of healthy roses in full bloom, it's worth noting that just over 12 months ago, this very garden, Marjorie, and her family, bore the heartache and trauma of a bushfire. Yet, with unwavering determination, hard work, and a help from bags of Neutrog, the garden has made a remarkable recovery and it looked absolutely stunning for our November gathering.

In August, our spirits soared as we celebrated well-deserved recognition of George Thomson ARA, AL CA. He was honoured with a Life Membership for his significant contributions to the Rose Society of South Australia. However, our joy was short-lived, as we found ourselves mourning his passing at our very next meeting. George's friendship and generosity left an indelible mark, and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

On a positive note, our branch has been fortunate to welcome Tate Hancox as our new liaison person with the State Committee. We eagerly anticipate his visits at our future meetings, and his presence is sure to enrich our discussions and activities.

With the New Year upon us, we extend best wishes to all our members for a safe, healthy and prosperous year ahead.

We'll reconvene in 2024 in the historic garden of Yallum Park at 4325 Mount Burr Road, Penola, on Sunday, 25th February at 1pm. Please bring along a plate to share for afternoon tea, your chair, and a thermos. In the spirit of friendly competition, we'll also be hosting a bloom competition, so scour your gardens for that winning rose and come prepared to claim your bragging rights.

Here's to a wonderful holiday period and the anticipation of another year filled with the beauty of roses and the friendship it brings.

Roses on Eyre

Text and images by Karen Miels

Twenty-one members met at Ken and Lyn Walmsley's home in the small seaside town of North Shields, 10kms from Port Lincoln, in October.

After the general meeting, Peter Hughes gave an interesting talk on his extensive involvement with local horticultural shows which has spanned 30 years.

Peter has held all the offices on the branch's committee, and he is currently



Full bloom bench exhibits at Roses on Eyre's October meeting at North Shields.

the Treasurer. Peter also convenes the impressive pavilion exhibits each year.

Peter has resided in the district all his life, is a keen gardener—particularly orchids and roses—photographer and artist, and he is a regular competitor at the Port Lincoln and surrounding towns agricultural shows.



Roses at Ken and Lyn Walmsley's home were coming into bloom.

garden—the roses were looking fabulous—and then Lyn Miller's garden, which is only 18 months old and was bursting at the seams!

Lyn and her husband have downsized from a farm sized garden to a house block but have still managed to plant at least 40 roses and are looking for more. Considering it was a blank canvas 18 months ago, the garden is full of colour and interest.

The three gardens are on the foreshore and the roses seem to enjoy the salty conditions.

The next meeting is at Tumby Bay Senior Citizens Building on Sunday 11th February 2024. The guest speaker will be Paul Dipuglia from Neutrog.

After lunch, members toured Ken and Lyn's garden, then visited Lorraine Fuller's



Raelene Harradine with winning blooms *Apricot Nectar* on the left and her lovely *Solero* on the right.

Friendships and good cheer made the Society's



2023 Christmas celebration a memorable event



Want to advertise in the Society's Bulletin?

The Bulletin is pleased to offer a limited amount of advertising space to members and associations whose activities align with the members' mutual interests in roses, gardening, leisure activities and services. The offerings cannot be at odds with the Society's business interests. Enquiries and booking requests can be sent to Bulletin Editor, Celia Painter bulletinrssa@gmail.com or phone 0407 547 337.

Basic Advertising Costs

Full page (A5) \$120

Half page (A6) \$60

Quarter Page (A7) \$30

Submitting advertisements

Pending confirmation of your booking, it's best to send a pdf of your advertisement to bulletinrssa@gmail.com. Alternatively, send wording, high resolution jpeg photographs, diagrams and details of fonts that may be required.

Bulletin deadlines for 2024–2025

The earlier you make your bookings and provide your materials makes production so much easier. It's greatly appreciated.

EDITION	RESERVE SPACE BY	PROVIDE MATERIAL BY
April, May, June	8th February	25th February
July, August, September	8th May	25th May
October, November, December	8th August	25th August

Have a story idea or want to send an article?

Ideas, feedback, stories and great photos are always welcome. Articles can be supplied as an email attachment in Word file format or write them straight into your email.

About 450 words fills a page but remember to submit less (about 320 words) to allow for a heading and a picture. It does not matter what font and type size are used. Everything is converted by the Editor to a consistent font and type size.

Photographs must be supplied in their original jpeg size and be 1MB to 10MB to be printed. If you have more than one photograph, send each in separate emails, or together using a file transfer program like We Transfer or Dropbox. Do not embed photographs in a Word document.

We hope you consider contributing something to your Society publication in 2024.

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2023
Urquidilla Spring Champions



Society of South Australia
Urquidilla Spring Rose Show 2023
Champion
Champion Rose from all classes
Awarded to: Mrs. Wendy [Name]
Variety Name(s): *EVA*
5 November 2023

Rose Exhibit