ROSES FROM SLOVENIA

‘Ljubljana’

‘Portorož’ (photos - Sheenagh Harris)

‘Prešeren’ (photo – G & J Wright)
EDITORIAL

This issue of World Rose News is the third this year and I hope you have received all of them. The last one for the year will be in November. In the pages that follow you can read all about the Regional Convention held in beautiful Slovenia. It was a huge undertaking for Breda Čopi, VP for Eastern Europe and President of the Slovenia Rose Society and congratulations to her and her excellent marketing team for a smooth running and enjoyable convention. Representation from thirty-seven countries must surely be a record together with having so many new personalities during the lecture session.

Have you registered for A Fairy Tale of Roses? The Early Bird closes in November so don’t delay. I registered last week and the website registration is quite the simplest and easiest I have used, so try it today. It is so helpful to receive a summary of bookings made and a copy of the invoice. Perhaps this should be recommended for future conventions. If you have made a note of the WFRS meetings, please check the changes recorded on page 6.

I’m still looking for articles about rose stamps issued in the WFRS Member Countries. Don’t allow your country to be left out of this interesting feature in World Rose News.

Have you voted for your favourite roses to be included in the Rose Halls of Fame? To publish a true reflection of the world’s favourite rose every vote is needed, so do be in touch with your national society today if you haven’t already done so.

The next World Rose News is due in November before we get involved with Christmas and the year-end holidays. The closing date for contributions is 15 October, 2017. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sheenagh Harris
World Rose News Editor
The WFRS Regional Convention held in Slovenia was informative, friendly and well organised. I congratulate the Slovenian Rose Society and its Committee led by Mrs. Breda Bavdaž Čopi for arranging a great Regional Convention in the beautiful City of Ljubljana. Slovenia and its capital certainly deserve their "green environment" credentials. Delegates who joined the excellent pre- and post convention tours enjoyed visiting picturesque towns and villages and their parks, gardens and caves and gained a better understanding of Slovenia’s rich cultural heritage.

The Convention was a very rewarding experience. The local regional focus provided an opportunity to hear about rose gardens in Eastern European countries, many of which were unknown to most of us. New friendships and acquaintances were made with rosarians in these countries and I hope we see more representatives from this region attend future WFRS events.

During the Convention, a number of WFRS Committee Meetings were held. The Conservation and Heritage Committee settled on a WFRS definition for a heritage rose, progressed the establishment of a rose database for older or endangered roses and enthusiastically welcomed the offer by Belgium to host the WFRS 15th International Heritage Rose Conference in June, 2020. The Publications Committee focused on progressing the production of a WFRS 50th Anniversary Book to be launched in Denmark. The hard working Executive team advanced the proposals to present new Protocols for adoption in Denmark for Awards of Garden Excellence, Honours Awards and hosting future conventions. In addition, the Executive is fine-tuning the process for the postal election of future Presidents (if a vote is required). Importantly, Member Countries have all received information calling for nominations for the Rose Hall of Fame and Old Rose Hall of Fame, all WFRS positions, and Honours Awards for Individuals as well as awards for books and gardens. The WFRS is also seeking to appoint a new Editor and a new Webmaster (refer to the criteria in this edition of WRN). If you are interested in any of the positions or awards please contact your Member Country Society for further information.

There will be meetings of all WFRS Committees in Denmark and information regarding these meetings and the discussion topics will be circulated to each Member Country well in advance of the Convention. It certainly will be a busy period over the next 12 months for our Executive Director, Derek Lawrence, and our Executive team.

Following the Convention, I, together with our Convention Chairman, Mrs. Helga Brichet, had an opportunity to visit Brussels and Copenhagen to discuss progress in arranging the Heritage Conference in Brussels and the World Convention in Copenhagen. Brussels will offer a great venue and interesting programme for the Heritage Conference in 2020. Plans for the 50th Anniversary of the WFRS and World Rose Convention in Copenhagen are progressing well and registration is now open. Copenhagen, and its surrounding countryside, have some magnificent gardens, parks, historical buildings and award winning restaurants. If you have not registered to attend, please consider all the options and book as you will not be disappointed. The Danish Rose Society is waiting to welcome delegates from all over the world to A Fairytale of Roses at the 18th World Rose Convention.

Until then, I wish you continued happiness and great rewards from your love of the rose.

Kelvin Trimper
President, WFRS
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE 18TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION 2018

Copenhagen is the most fitting location to celebrate the World Federation of Rose societies golden anniversary. Rich in formal architectural magnificence, with elegant Royal Palaces, and enchanting canals, it is home to some of the world’s finest gardens. Many of these gardens contain the exquisite roses, bred by the great dynasty of the Danish Poulsen family. In essence, this splendid city is likened to a theatrical set, and will become centre stage for -

A Fairytale of Roses 2018

Please come and join us to celebrate at this very historical event, which will also mark the 25th Anniversary of the Danish Rose Society.

During the proceedings, the Federation’s gorgeous anniversary rose will be baptised amid the spectacular vivid roses and heavy scents that encompass Valby Park.

The 18th World Rose Convention will be the greatest celebration of roses ever! We hope to see you here! Register now - www.wrc2018.dk.

Sincerely, Inger Schierning, The Danish Rose Society
A PHOTO COMPETITION
for participants of the 18th World Rose Convention
“A Fairytale of Roses”, Copenhagen 2018

Conditions:

The subject of the competition is rose/roses. There are three categories:

1. Historic/OGR roses
2. Modern roses
3. Decorations

Each convention participant is entitled to submit one photo per category.

- The competition is solely for amateurs. Professional photographers or participants who receive payment for photos, may not participate.
- All photos must be sent digitally in jpg in the highest resolution, aspect-ratio 2:3. Raw format cannot be used.
- The photos may not be edited in any way.
- The name of the rose/roses in the photograph must be included with the submission.
- Only photos taken after 1 January, 2017 are eligible.

The judging committee reserves the right to refuse photos which are found unsuitable for public distribution. Rights to the photo belong to the photographer. However, the Danish Rose Society reserves the right to publish the photo in all media, both digital and printed, in connection with the competition. The three winners in each category will be exhibited in the City Hall in Copenhagen during the 18th World Rose Convention.

Photos are to be sent to: Ernst Jensen mail: egj@post1.dknet.dk no later than 1 March, 2018.
NB at the request of the Convention Liaison Committee some meeting times have been changed since advertised on the website. If you are planning to attend meetings please make a note of the venue and times as below –

**THURSDAY, 28th JUNE**
- 09.00-12.00 Executive Meeting I
- 13.00-15.00 Publications Committee Meeting
- 15.00-17.00 Awards Committee Meeting

**Venue:** IDA mødecenter

**FRIDAY, 29th JUNE**
- 17.30-19.30 Conservation and Heritage Rose Committee Meeting
- 20.00-21.00 Awards Committee Meeting II

**Venue:** IDA mødecenter

**SUNDAY 1st JULY**
- 07.30-08.30 Promotion Committee Meeting
- 19.00-20.00 Show Standardization Committee Meeting
- 20.00-22.00 International Rose Trials, Classification and Registration and Breeders Club Meetings

**Venue:** Tivoli Congress Center

**MONDAY, 2nd JULY**
- 17.30-19.00 Convention Committee Meeting
- 20.00 Council meeting

**Venue:** Tivoli Congress Center

**TUESDAY, 3rd JULY**
- 18.00 - 20.00 Executive Committee Meeting II

**Venue:** Tivoli Congress Center

- 20.00 Friends of the Federation dinner

**Venue:** IDA Mødecenter
Gregor Terbovc, the Tour Leader greeted his group each morning with the words *My Beautiful Roses* along with appropriate comments about our well-being and the plans for the day. He and fellow guide, Jure Vuga went beyond the call of duty to ensure that this tour was memorable for the delegates in both coaches.

In many ways we felt that we were on a pilgrimage as we made our first stop at Brezje after leaving Ljubljana. Mary Help of Christians is a very ornate church, rebuilt in the 19th century, which draws over 400,000 visitors a year. The unusual sculpture of the Holy Family attracted a great deal of attention.

The impressive town of Radovljica was our next treat. Although many of the buildings have a history of over 500 years, they were in immaculate condition. We enjoyed a detailed talk on the history of beekeeping during a rare visit to an apicultural museum. It was interesting to learn that beehive frames had paintings of religious themes and to see just how much colour was used to help the bees distinguish their hive from others.

The gingerbread making was fascinating and, seeing that, whet our appetite for what was to be a special lunch where we enjoyed our host's harmonica playing in the baroque hall and again in the restaurant. Home-made traditional dishes consumed in a building of that age was memorable.

Slovenians are justifiably proud of their heritage and the poet, France Prešeren is most important. Vrba was his birthplace, and the first Slovenian-bred rose, which was named after him, grows alongside his house of that time. The early season meant that we had few opportunities to see roses but fittingly ‘Prešeren’ was in bloom. We were later to learn that the Slovenian national anthem was written by him.

‘Prešeren’
(photo – Claudia Hacker)
Could it get any better? Well, yes actually. We had heard plenty about the beauty of Bled before the tour, and it certainly lived up to expectations. A large, beautiful lake with an island in the middle, a championship rowing course and a mediaeval castle high above provides a brief summary of what we viewed. We received an enthusiastic welcome and a history lesson from the mayor. As our tour progressed we became increasingly aware of the changes in governance and influences which Slovenian people have had to absorb.

![Lake Bled](image1)

![Island in Lake Bled](image2)

![Medieval castle above Lake Bled](image3)

![Kranjska Gora](image4)

To conclude Day 1 we drove to another place of breath-taking beauty, Kranjska Gora. This is a genuine alpine resort. It provided a wonderful view in the summer time, and one can only dream about the winter.

The following day, ten minutes after leaving the Alpine region we were in Italy. The impressive tunnels and engineering feats were appreciated as we made our way to Artegna across the border and into Italy. It was here that we met the charming Mrs Eleonora Garlant Fabiani. This was to be our main exposure to roses on this tour, and there was much to appreciate. The tranquility of the garden combined with the lovely climbers reminded us of what a garden should offer. Mrs Fabiani and her husband could be justifiably proud.

![‘No name’ roses cascading in the Fabiani garden](image5)
A delay on the motorway due to a burning truck slowed our progress but our drivers were able to set us down for lunch at the Milič Agrituristico restaurant. This was an unusual experience where we were served a succession of courses of food grown and prepared on the property. The hard-working and charming family made sure that our taste buds were tested.

Perhaps by this stage, at Lipica, we were not trotting or cantering but the wonderful Lipizzaner horses were. We did not see all of the 350 horses which they have but those working in the arena with their riders treated us to precision and an appreciation of equestrian excellence. We were fortunate to view this performance due to the negotiation skills of Gregor who managed to organise for the show to be delayed slightly due to being detained on the motorway.

By evening we were on the Slovene Coast at Portorož and looking out to sea from our rooms. Some wonderfully energetic members of our group actually went swimming in the Adriatic Sea. It had truly been a day where we had travelled from the mountains to the sea.

On the morning of Day 3 we continued the seaside theme to the marvellous town of Piran. Giuseppe Tartini, the violinist had been a notable resident in earlier times, and there were many reminders of this, including the Square carrying his name. The production of salt has been very important to Piran over a long period. For over 400 years it had been part of the Venetian Republic and fishing helped to sustain the community. It was once said that “All roads lead to Rome but only one road leads to Piran.” Certainly many tourist coaches now lead to the quaint seaside resort of Piran.

We managed some short stops at local rose gardens which showed promise but as often happens, we missed the peak flowering time. The town of Izola was the venue for lunch and it carries the rose as its symbol. This stop gave us the opportunity to appreciate the array of boats moored in the harbour.
After some time in the coach and some challenges for our driver we reached the Croatian town of Hum. This was the second time that we had crossed the border and the Croatians were making serious checks. Hum is billed as the smallest town in Europe, and the cobblestone roads carry people to the old houses. Our group was treated to a tasting of the local aperitif Biska which carried a considerable kick.

In the late afternoon we were back on the coast and discovering Opatija, yet another seaside resort. As with the other such places it was very inviting with its paving, landscaped areas, trees and restaurants. It would have been easy to stay at Opatija for Day 4 but the coach was at the door.

The UNESCO supported Caves of Škocjan called, and we were on our way to yet another highlight. This was an optional event and it was the most physically challenging part of the tour. It is a massive system of three kilometres in length with serious drops below the railed walkways. It involved about five hundred steps but most of our group could proudly claim to have reached their destination.

As the coaches made their way towards what we were to consider our beloved Ljubljana we reflected on a marvellous four days. A varied itinerary, good hotels, fine food, skilful drivers, knowledgeable guides, Polona and the team at Maona and fine weather all played their part. Gregor had safely delivered his “beautiful roses” ready for what was to be a wonderful convention in Ljubljana.

THE CONVENTION – LJUBLJANA – 11 – 14 JUNE, 2017
Text – Sheenagh Harris

One hundred and eighty-nine delegates from thirty-seven countries gathered in the charming town of Ljubljana, Slovenia for the first WFRS Convention to be held in Eastern Europe. The Pre-convention tour participants returned in time for a WFRS Publication Meeting while those not attending, enjoyed a walking tour of this ancient city on the Ljubljanica River. Our hard working President and Executive Director wasted no time in starting work for the Federation. They can be seen here at the Publication Meeting which took place prior to the welcome function held at the Ljubljana Town Hall.
At this gathering of delegates, the Mayor welcomed the guests to what he considered the most beautiful city in the world which he referred to, as clean, green, safe and friendly. WFRS President Kelvin Trimper, in thanking the Mayor, highlighted that this WFRS Convention was the first to be held in Slovenia. He also congratulated the Mayor on his city being voted the Green Capital of Europe. The wine flowed and delicious canapes were served and this was followed by the Meet and Greet at the Rose Garden in Tivoli Park where rose friends wasted no time in picking up the threads from when they last met, probably in Uruguay or China. Once again this was accompanied by delicious finger food and liquid refreshments and guests relaxed and enjoyed themselves prior to the more serious side of the convention with lectures which started the next day.

LECTURES – 12, 13 and 14 June, 2017

At the start of the lecture session Convention Convenor and President of the Slovenian Rose Society, Breda Čopi welcomed the guests and speakers to the three days of lectures, the first day of which took place in the City Hotel in Ljubljana. WFRS President, Kelvin Trimper welcomed those present, thanked everybody involved in organising the convention and wished all participants a happy and informative few days in this beautiful city in Slovenia. Lectures on the 2nd and 3rd days were delivered in beautiful Volčji Potok Arboretum where delegates were able to wander at leisure on lecture days. The rose varieties in the Volčji Potok Arboretum were tripled in number leading up to the convention. The summary of the lectures will follow in World Rose News – November 2017.

After the first morning of lectures some delegates enjoyed a relaxed cruise on the Ljublanica River in brilliant sunshine and high temperatures, under bridges and passed interesting buildings. They disembarked at the University Botanical Gardens for a guided tour of the gardens. Other delegates braved the Postojna cave.

POSTOJNA CAVE
Text and photos – Lorna McIlroy (Canada)

Prior to visiting Slovenia for the 2017 Regional Rose Conference, I had never even entered a cave. After living merrily above ground for three score and ten, I discovered a magical underground paradise in Slovenia. The stilted diagrams in my grade school science texts, simply labelled stalactite and stalagmite, did not prepare me for this! I was amazed, humbled and rejuvenated by my first cave experience with it's high humidity and cool 10 degree C. temperature. Discovered almost two centuries ago in 1818, the Postojna Caves, located about 1.5 km northwest of the town of Postojna are the largest of 8,000 karst caves in Slovenia. The Postojna Caves contain fascinating shapes formed of soluble limestone, thanks to the action of the Pivka River over the past two million years.
We appreciated the unique, underground train that carried us the first and last legs of the journey (4 Km) as this impressive cave system is more than 24 kilometres in length and we visited just 5.7 km of it, accompanied by a tour guide for the walking portion. Cameras are allowed so plenty of selfies were taken at each new vista.

When we encounter something totally new, we tend to associate it with familiar things. My first impression was that this was a cake decorating project that had gone horribly wrong! The landscape of ashen sculptures was framed with limestone curtains and waterfalls. Totem poles appeared along with various animal shapes. One vista resembled children’s sand castles at the beach. At another turn I saw a cactus garden of ghostly succulents. One shiny white five-metre tall stalagmite has been well named Brilliant.

The acoustics are so amazing in the caves that I found myself irritated by the sound of someone who was at least 10 metres away from me, unwrapping a candy. The musical experience must be exquisite in the huge concert hall that we encountered near the end of our tour which can hold up to 10,000 people. The caves are home to more than 150 animal species. We were introduced to the resident Proteus anguinus, a rare and endangered species commonly known as human fish or olms. This pale, blind creature can grow up to 30 centimetres long. It lives up to 100 years and cannot survive outside the cave.

It was like waking from a dream to step off the little train and walk out into the brilliant June sunshine. I was reluctant to leave this cool world that was so new to me but which has existed for thousands of years. While underground, all my senses had become heightened as my eyes searched for new, fantastic structures; my ears heard every tiny rustle and drip; my nose smelled a rare subterranean essence and my skin soaked up the high humidity. My familiar world now seemed harsh in comparison. The memories of this magnificent underground world will stay with me forever.

After the second day of lectures which covered rose stories of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the Core of Central Europe, some delegates took the opportunity offered to visit the Valdoltra Rose Garden in Slovenia and the Roseto San Giovanni Rose Garden in Trieste, Italy.
HEALING GARDENS: VALDOLTRA AND SAN GIOVANNI -
Text and photos - Hilary Elkin (USA)

Vladimir Vremic was host to guests of the World Federation of Rose Societies on a half day excursion to two historic healing gardens - The Rose Garden Valdoltra in Ancarano, Slovenia and the San Giovanni Rose Garden in Trieste, Italy. Healing gardens have a long history first appearing in Europe around the Middle Ages. Hospitals and Monasteries for the sick and insane often incorporated courtyards which served as places for reflection, growing food and herbs for consumption and medicinal use, and growing flowers for use in ceremonies. What is old is new again, with renewed interest in healing gardens around the world.

As a Nurse Practitioner and Health Care Administrator, I have a special interest in healing gardens. They are sometimes referred to as therapeutic or restorative gardens. There are two such gardens in my own health service network. The first is a quiet dementia garden with design elements of a simple looped pathway to help patients with impaired way-finding, flowers to evoke pleasant memories which many patients retain, and nontoxic plants because patients with late-stage disease tend to put things in their mouths. Another garden, a showpiece at our flagship hospital, is a modern architecture design, yet a peaceful and reflective memorial rose garden that I would be pleased to show all of you when you visit the San Francisco Bay Area!

VALDOLTRA

The human body is a very complicated construct, one whose mysteries are still not completely discovered. Keeping this construct working as well as possible, such as rescuing patients not just from death but also from a life in pain, is the difficult task of every hospital. Valdoltra Orthopaedic Hospital is specific to everything relating to bones, spines and especially joints. What better place to recover and gain strength than the shores of the Adriatic. The Orthopaedic Hospital Valdoltra Rose Collection Park is in the beautiful grounds of a practicing orthopaedic hospital. The hospital and gardens are situated along the coast facing the Gulf of Trieste. Climbing roses line the driveway entrance, grace the paths and walkways, and are concentrated in a central rose garden by the sea. They are mainly a collection of shrubby roses from a donation by Professor Gianfranco Fineschi from Cavriglia, Italy.

ROSETO PARCO DE SAN GIOVANNI

The San Giovanni Rose Park was home to the former Provincial Psychiatric Hospital of Trieste opened in 1908, was designed by Ludovico Braidotti. From the 1970s, the Park was the scene of a radical psychiatric reform, made by Dr. Franco Basaglia, who for the first time in the world transformed a closed asylum into a decentralized system in the town and the area became an open public space.

In 2004 the Health Services Agency, together with the Province, the Municipality and the University of Trieste, promoted the recovery of the place and the creation of the rose garden, following a suggestion from Prof. Gianfranco Fineschi to present the idea of the evolution of the rose. Thanks to him, it was possible to include many rare varieties from the world-renowned Roseto Botanico Carla Fineschi in Cavriglia. It is now home to almost 3,000 varieties with around 6,000 plants and was given the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence in 2015 in Lyon.

The planning was carried out by Vladimir Vremec, whose aim was to develop a series of individual collections, creating what is actually a large-scale rose garden of modern design, containing the very best of old and modern production, with varieties obtained from hybridizers throughout the world. Respecting the original architectural layout of the site, the visitor’s route starts from the lower entrance in via San Cilino, linking the lower part of the park with its...
old roses and wild roses, to the modern rose collection in the upper area. When asked about his role with the gardens, with a smile and a little tune, he quoted Frank Sinatra, "I did it my way."

Vladimir Vremec leads the WFRS members down the garden path of San Giovanni Park Rose Garden

Vladimir Vremec with Sheenagh Harris and Rae Gilbert in search of Jan Herholdt roses – early South African rose breeder.

View across the horizon of San Giovanni Park Rose Garden

Discover more with “Cerca rose” - Award of Excellence WFRS 2015
The search engine “Cercarose” ([http://dryades.units.it/cercarose](http://dryades.units.it/cercarose)) is a useful online tool for exploring the roses present in the San Giovanni rose garden. It has been developed by the Life Science Department of Trieste University under the SiIT (EU cross-border biodiversity) program. Users can look up some 2 000 rose cultivars and over 50 wild species, and view more than 10 000 photographs, as well as find information about the roses, such as name, hybridizer, date created, country of origin, colour, fragrance, and corolla shape.


The third and last day of lectures covered roses between the Alps and Urals and between the Adriatic and the Black Sea. This was followed by a very luxurious picnic in the beautiful Volčji Potok Arboretum. A local band provided delightful background music and a Slovenian family dressed in national costume added to the atmosphere.
After the picnic lunch a group of keen rosarians availed themselves of the tour to Kamnik, the Alpine valley of Kamniška Bistrica and an opportunity to see wild roses in the Velika Planina Mountain.

VELIKA PLANINA
Text Nimet Monasterly-Gilbert (France)
Photos – Yuki Mikanagi (Japan)

A busload of intrepid attendees arrived at the cable car which was to carry us 1410 metres up to Velika planina, the ‘big mountain plateau,’ one of the three mountain zones of the Kamnik Alps in the upper Carniola region of Slovenia. The aim was to see, in their natural habitat, as many as possible of the 25 rose species that grow in the country. Guided by Joze Bavcon and Blanka Ravnjak, who had been one of the speakers that morning, we were able to tentatively identify *Rosa caesia* Sm. on the side of the landing platform before rushing up to the clearing where the tour began.

A rocky terrain cleared of trees made a wide meadow that accommodated the ski-lift chairs which were not operating. Dotted here and there were old cow patties and the most amazing diversity of alpine plants, many in full bloom. One had to carefully place ones feet not to crush the young plants. From the edges of the forest, growing into the cleared plateau, countless numbers of *Rosa pendulina* L seemed to create a barrier to the trees beyond. Their deep pink five-petaled blooms forming a natural wreath surrounding the meadow, its colour contrasting sharply with the blues of the *Aquilegia, Campanula, Scabiosa* and orange of *Lilium martagon*. While *Rosa pendulina* L. is not tall, growing usually no more than a metre high it is easily recognizable by its stems which have few if any prickles, new growth have none whatsoever, and by its hanging fruit which contribute to its name.
As it began to rain, we were urged down to the cable car which for safety reasons cannot operate in poor weather. While we were not able to see any other specie roses, an alpine meadow in full bloom more than made up for the disappointment some might have felt.

For further information on the fascinating history of the Karst plateau: satoyama-initiative.org

FAREWELL DINNER AND CLOSING CEREMONY

Guests were required to walk to the funicular station from where they were transported up to the medieval fortress, Ljubljana Castle for a delicious dinner of Slovenian national dishes, using products of the country. Guests were entertained watching unusual flower arranging accompanied by cheerful music. The Closing Ceremony is also a time for formalities – presentations and the WFRS Flag Ceremony.

Sushil, Dipa and Prerna Prakash from India. (photo – Claudia Hacker)
Paul Hains, Kelvin and Melanie Trimper, Sanda Simic, Graham and Janet Wright - all from Australia except Sanda who is from Canada. (Sanda’s camera)

Ingrid Lehmann (Aust.), Hilary Elkin (USA), Marga Verwer (Netherlands) and Angelika Throll (Germany) (photo - Melanie Trimper)

Ken Grapes (England) and Ute Kordes (Germany), deep in conversation (photo – Sheenagh Harris)

Kim Wook Kyun), Les Johnson, Margaret Gregory, Angelika Throll, Ute Kordes and Claudia Hacker (photo – Paul Hains)

Stefan Kalok, Sanda Simic, Helga Brichet and Andreas Meier-Dinkel
Executive Director Derek Lawrence and President Kelvin Trimper present Breda Čopi with the WFRS Commemorative Bronze Medallion in recognition of her contribution as Convention Convenor. (photo – Paul Hains)

Aleš Ocepek (Voljičji Potok Arboretum) and Matjaž Potokar (Slovenian Rose Society) present gifts to Frans Thomas for Lens Roses (Belgium), Philippe Manguy for Meilland International (France) and Ute Kordes for Kordes’ Söhne in appreciation of sponsorship received for the convention. (photos – Paul Hains) (photo – Melanie Trimper)

In her absence, Rosa Eskalund (Denmark) was thanked for her sponsorship, part of which was the many potted roses used for decoration throughout the convention venues. (photo Penelope Schulz)
Thursday 15th June, started with a sad farewell, leaving a number of rose friends in Ljubljana as a bus load of delegates left for the post convention tour. We travelled east of Slovenia, along the mountainside and through tunnels, passing large fields of hops, vineyards, corn, wheat and buckwheat and wooden hay stacks typical of Slovenian countryside.

The first stop was at the Celje School for Horticulture and Visual Arts. This was once a private estate, but taken from the owners and a school was established there in 1946 at the end of the Second World War. We were met by the Director Stefanija Kos Zidar and the head teacher as well as the Head of the Rose Garden. There we were given great hospitality and divided into two groups to have alternate visits to the rose garden and an experiential walk with blind folds so we could experience something of what a tour of a garden could be for the visually impaired and blind. This has been an important component of the training for the past 10 years for the Horticulture students so they can be prepared to understand the needs of this population. The Rose Garden is 40 years old, but in its present state for 20 years with three major floods affecting the area over the past decade.

From here we travelled to the Castle of Celje a place of great historical significance as we heard the story of the time in which the area was ruled by the three Counts of Celje (14-15th Centuries) – who are represented by the three yellow stars on the Slovenian flag. After some vigorous step climbing we enjoyed a great lunch at a restaurant across the valley from the castle.
From the Castle we travelled to the old and historical Spa Town of Rogaška Slatina. We took a tour of the amazing hotel resort, the Medical Centre where we were introduced to the health benefits of the mineral water which has high levels of magnesium, then a visit to the old 1912 resort with its beautiful chandeliers and murals, followed by a visit to a museum within the resort.

On day two, Friday 16th June, leaving Rogaška Slatina we travelled to Maribor the second largest city and the capital of the north-eastern part of Slovenia. This is a well-known wine region and we just missed their very popular open air cultural festival known as the Lent festival to which artists come from all over the world. In Maribor we visited the very impressive Botanical Garden of the Maribor University Agricultural Faculty. There is an ongoing programme at the University to ensure an ecologically friendly approach to growing plants, including roses. They no longer use chemical pesticides and use soil ingredients, particularly algae and organic matter, to improve cell structure to avoid disease and improve nutrients. They took out and removed all contaminated soil as part of this programme and had even worked with local farmers for a 2-year planned change from chemicals to organic methods in their horticultural practice. The gardens are 15 years old and are very well laid out following a taxonomic ordering of the plants. The garden is especially utilised as a teaching tool for students of all ages. The rose garden was rejuvenated 3 years ago, and the roses were of many varieties, well labelled and in top condition so that our Rosarians headed to them and buzzed around like bees.

After the Botanic Garden we travelled into the city of Maribor to the site of the oldest grape vine. It was located on the wall that once was the town hall. Here we enjoyed tasting the excellent wine from this region, which produces mostly white. After this, lunch was enjoyed at a vineyard at the top of the mountain.
After lunch as we travelled across the border to Austria we waved a sad goodbye to Slovenia. We arrived in Vienna, found the hotel then took a long walk to the Old City of Vienna to a restaurant for dinner. We were somewhat exhausted but nevertheless in awe of the magnificence of the architecture.

On day three we visited the Schönbrunn Palace and the park, learning something of the history and life of the ruling Hapsburg Dynasty. We had time to roam the geometrically shaped gardens, the sculptures and fountains as well as the palace.
After the visit to the Schönbrunn Palace we travelled to the town of Baden south of Vienna to enjoy lunch and explore the garden. We were introduced to the garden by Gerhard Weber during the lecture given in Ljubljana, which informed us of the effort by the administration to ensure organic methods are used to maintain the garden including the roses. This is the largest rose garden in Austria and employs 100 gardeners. The roses look very healthy - there being many Floribunda, pillar and impressive bank of Climbing Roses, Old Garden and Heritage Roses as well as spectacular Ground Cover Roses. The mass planting of the same type provides a vibrantly colourful spectrum to the garden. We all so much enjoyed wandering through this wonderful garden, with elegant buildings including an orangery and a small lake. We enjoyed the variety of roses which kept our cameras busy so as to take home as many photos as possible of these magnificent roses.

Dinner at the wine growing suburb of Grinzing marked our final time together. It was sad parting with new and old friends the next morning when we said our goodbyes at the hotel in Vienna and set off on our various ways. Our thanks to the Slovenian Rose Society for such a memorable Convention.
RELAXING ON THE SLOVENIAN COAST
Text and photos – Penelope Schulz (Aust.)

As we were the relaxing tour, we were able to have a sleep in! With our guide Mateja, we only left Ljubljana at 10am with 18 on board, and we had Sheenagh and others waving us off as we made for the Slovenian Coast. We were not even out of Ljubljana and we were caught in a traffic jam, but this meant we took the back roads which enabled us to see lots of Roses, flowers, old buildings and narrow streets. Our first stop was Stanjel, where we walked round the small but nice Botanical Gardens with a guide.

Winding roads led to Kobdilj, a very old town on a hill. Lunch was served in a restaurant high on the hill with a magnificent view. Here we were given meat which took 23 months to cure in the Bora winds and cheese which took 12 months. It was served with pickled olives and garlic.

The group in anticipation of a delicious lunch

It was a pleasant walk to the Ferrari Gardens, in Kobdilj along narrow streets and passed old and interesting buildings.

Underground storage tanks which supplied water to each building were of particular interest in the garden. The route continued via winding roads and through tunnels to the highway with a stop for a view of the beautiful fishing village of Izola on the Adriatic coast prior to arriving at Hotel Bernardin, in Portorož, a seaside resort with wide sandy beaches.
Next day, continuing in the relaxed mood, the group took a leisurely walk along the beach to board a bus to Piran in temperatures of 32 degrees C.

In the main square is a statue of the well known violinist and composer, Giuseppe Tartini, who was born in 1692. The Mayor of Piran welcomed the group in the Mayor’s boardroom. He was originally from Africa and came to study medicine. Piran is known for its long pier and Venetian architecture.
On account of the Bora winds the boat trip along the coast to Portorož was postponed to the next day. Seen from the boat were the salt pans of the famous Piran salt, where the salt is still harvested by hand. This is the area where the Sea Bass fish grow.

The last day took the group from Portorož along the Adriatic Coast to Miramare Castle, Trieste and back to Ljubljana.

Trees supposedly planted by Napoleon between Portorož and Izola

Miramare Castle, built between 1856 to 1860 on a rocky promontory overlooking the Adriatic Sea for Austrian Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian and his wife Charlotte of Belgium.

Miramare Garden on the Gulf of Trieste

Lunch was enjoyed at the Milic agro-tourism farm house restaurant (same as pre-tour) where once again home cured meats, salads, sausages, vegetables and wine were served. Vladimir Vremec’s Grandmother had lived on this farm - he joined the tour in Trieste and bade the tour group farewell as they returned to Ljubljana.

Neoclassical buildings in what is referred to as the heart and soul of Trieste
THE ROSE RISES FROM THE ASHES
Text – Rae Gilbert (South Africa)
Photos – as marked

Panorama of the Knysna ‘amphitheatre’ (photo - Andries De Wet)

This winter, on the 7th June while delegates were enjoying the Eastern European Pre-Convention tour in Slovenia, the biggest natural disaster in recent South African history struck a small coastal town called Knysna (in the native Koi language, the name means “Place of Ferns”). On that fateful day, a particularly dry summer and autumn, gale force winds gusting at 160kph and daytime temperatures over 36°C converged to create the perfect ‘thermal storm’.

The town was surrounded by some 26 wild fires running out of control and sweeping along the hilly ridges that form the Knysna ‘amphitheatre’. The main access routes were closed as choking smoke, falling trees and the howling gale made road travel extremely hazardous. The only way in and out – by air or sea. By the 8th June, huge fire balls had touched down, much as a tornado does, and razed even residential areas lower down – over 260 homes were destroyed in one suburb alone. It is estimated that the fires were burning at 2200°C at times – enough to render marble and granite to ash, and to liquify glass! It took weeks to put most of the fires out.

The final toll in Knysna and the surrounding coastal belt – nine souls lost; over 1,000 homes destroyed and hundreds more damaged; thousands of lives and livelihoods changed forever; countless animals, wild and domestic, killed and wounded; 25,000 ha left without so much as a blade of grass. The emotional toll immeasurable.

Being from a temperate climate (both Sheenagh Harris and I live within the belt hit by these fires), I tend to switch off when folk at conventions chat about ‘hardiness’. Although we do have frosty mornings and some snow, the ground never freezes in Southern Africa. We are generally far more concerned about drought resistance. A ‘hardiness’ rating in South Africa indicates the plant’s ability to survive with minimal water. But whoever thought that being resistant to fires would be a rating relevant to roses! I certainly have never even given it a thought. But I’m thrilled to say that along with their lives and homes, Knysna’s roses are rising from the ash.

Some of the unfortunate residents that lost everything are members of the Knysna Rose Society and the Heritage Rose Society of South Africa. Note the roses in the foreground of this photo of her home, Narnia, by KRS member, Stella Sohn.

Narnia and her roses after the fire

Besides being delighted when I saw these photographs, I thought that the early signs as seen in this shrub in Knysna Heights might be rootstock only and that perhaps the temperatures hadn’t been as high in this end of the garden as it is quite far from the house (that is no more).

Shrubs with basal shoots after 5 weeks
(Photo - Lana Du Plessis)
The roses were ‘rescued’ and replanted to make way for the demolition crew. They were next to a house that burnt so hot the granite kitchen tops were turned into a fine powder.

There is certainly nothing that I could find in the literature about roses that suggests that they are fire tolerant and it would appear that they fall into the category of ‘resprouters’ (Wikipedia defines resprouters as “plant species that are able to survive fire by the activation of dormant vegetative buds to produce regrowth”). Most ‘resprouters’ produce those buds at a basal level much as we see roses doing after winter dormancy or hard mechanical pruning. In the South African Fynbos shrublands, bulbs and corms are usually the first to start ‘resprout’, but the vegetative structures responsible for this are situated far below the surface of the soil.

Above and below: The foliage on these bushes is clearly that of grafted material. This bed is mere metres away from the stone walls where the windows melted. Note the irises are also growing happily. Photos taken by Knysna Rose Society member, Stella Sohn, in her garden, before and after the fire.

But to have imagined that resprouting has also occurred from a bud-union which is seldom planted more than a few centimetres below the soil if at all where the conventional wisdom would be that temperatures are way too high for our woody, herbaceous friends to survive! We are now desperately anxious to see which varieties they are (of course, all the labels are gone!)

Perhaps our Rosarian friends in California, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Croatia and France that have also experienced such devastating fires this year, will be able to shed further light on the matter once their gardens start recovering.
ROSE SOCIETY NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

Gérald Meylan presents Raymond Tripod with a letter of congratulations on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Société Romande des Amis Roses

The Société Romande des Amis des Roses (SRAR) (French-speaking Swiss Rose Society) celebrated its 50th anniversary on 20 May 2017 during the Annual General Assembly.

Over the past fifty years the SRAR has distinguished itself in the following undertakings:

- Creating a scented garden for the blind in the Botanical Gardens of Geneva
- Setting up a garden of modern roses in Estavayer-le-Lac
- Actively participating in the International Rose Trials of Geneva
- Providing for the maintenance and renewal of old roses at the “Arboretum du Vallon” in Aubonne
- Participating in many horticultural events for the promotion of the rose
- Organising pruning sessions, conferences and tours linked to roses

On the occasion of this anniversary, one of the founding members of SRAR, Gérald Meylan, had the pleasure of presenting Raymond Tripod, President of SRAR, a letter of congratulations drawn up and signed by WFRS President, Mr Kelvin Trimper.
BREEDERS – NOT JUST A JOB, BUT A PASSION

Dr Gérald Meylan - Chairman - WFRS Breeders Club

This is the second contribution in the series on Rose Breeders.

ROSERAIE LAPERRIÈRE

www.rose-laperriere.com

PAST

Our ancestor Joseph Marin LAPERRIERE passed on his passion for roses to his descendants. This passion still continues after 150 years.

PRESENT

Since 1864, our family has been growing, selecting and creating roses for the garden, with the greatest respect for tradition. We are contributing to the development of the world of roses and we continue to do so.

FUTURE

Our hope for the future is that one of our children will carry on this family tradition, which I find difficult, certainly, but exciting - creating roses that are more and more beautiful, which people will remember and that will be sought after to plant even in 50 or 100 years, as today, and the desire to revive old types of roses.

OUR 5 FAVOURITE ROSES:
George Sand® (LAPsan); Roxane® (LAPdal); Quincy Jones® (LAP 12807); Jet Set® (LAPra); Plein Sud® (LAPsud) Climber.
PÉPINIÈRES ET ROSERAIES - Georges Delbard
www.georgesdelbard.com

PAST
First and foremost, the story of Georges Delbard represents an overwhelming passion for horticulture and an incredibly strong love of Nature. Since the 1950s, breeding different varieties has become the company’s driving force. In 1980, an in vitro laboratory in Commentary was established, in addition to the research centre founded in the year 2000.

PRESENT
Each year we invest 10% of our turnover in research and we market two or three new varieties. More than 15,000 flowers are hybridised each year, to enable us to select our varieties. Today, more than 250 varieties have been created, to the great joy of gardeners!

FUTURE
It takes four to six years to breed a rose variety, so we’re already thinking about tomorrow! In the medium term, our challenge is resistance to diseases, which is essential today, and ensuring that the habit of the plant is suited to more urban environments. Finally, fragrance is still central to all our creations.

OUR 5 FAVOURITE ROSES –

La Rose de Molinard® (DELgarose) for its hardiness and heady fragrance
Pink Paradise® (DELfluoros) for its compact habit
Amélie Nothomb® (DELathom) for its delicate tea-scented fragrance
Marc Chagall® (DELstriojacre) for its elegantly striped flowers
Amnesty International® (DELcréja) for its exceptional vigour
David Gilad was a committed rosarian for most of his 85 years having graduated from Mikveh Israel Agriculture school where he specialised in Floriculture at the age of 18. The Rose was his hobby and his profession and he was known in Israel and abroad as The Rose Man of Israel. During his tenure as a Senior Rose Specialist in the Floriculture Department, Israel Ministry of Agriculture, Israel became one of the leading countries exporting cut roses.

David was a founder member and President of the Israeli Rose Society in the early 1950’s. He was the Israeli official delegate in Chicago for the WRC Roseworld’74 and Deputy President and Management Chairman of the WFRS from 1976 – 1979.

He initiated, and was one of the founders of the Wohl Rose Park in Jerusalem, which was inaugurated in 1981 during the WRC and today is a WFRS Award of Excellence Garden. David was appointed Curator of the Park in 1980.

David Gilad served as the 6th President of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) from October 1979 to October, 1981. While President of the WFRS he organized and hosted the 5th World Rose Convention in Jerusalem - Rose Pilgrimmage ’81. In an email from David he said “One thing I did contribute to the Federation - for Presidents without funds to cover travelling expenses, I suggested the election of Regional Vice Presidents and the holding of Regional Conventions, for which I’m very proud. It revived the WFRS and let more people get involved”.

During his lifetime, he received a number of awards connected with the Rose. In 1969 he was awarded the City of Paris Floralies International Commemorative Medal. In 1978 he received the American Rose Society Life Accredited Judge certificate. In 1982 he was awarded the Golden Rose of the German Rose Society. 1984 saw David receive the Japan Rose Society Gold Medal, and the White Lightning Rose Award from the Friends of the Rose in Bombay, India and in Toronto, Canada at the WRC in 1985 he received the WFRS Gold Medal for Service to the Rose and the WFRS. Later, in 1994 he was awarded the Dr. Rudolf Maag Award in Regensberg, Switzerland and in 1995 the Prof. E. Gnau Medal in Sangerhausen, Germany.

His experience included extensive travels in Europe, Central and South America, New Zealand, Australia, the Far East, India and South Africa. Throughout the years of his association with roses, David published numerous articles and publications about roses - mostly in Hebrew.

His memoir (in English) were first published in Switzerland in 1994 by the Lotte and Willi Gunthart-Maag Foundation.

During their late retirement David and his wife Ora lived in Rossmoor, Walnut Creek, California. He died on 29th July 2017 and is survived by his wife of 62 years, three children and six grandchildren to whom we extend our deepest sympathy in their sad loss.
IMPORTANT NOTICE

2018 is a Triennial year for the World Federation of Rose Societies and with it comes changes in the officials who voluntarily administer this great organization on our behalf. Ethel Freeman, our Webmaster and Editor of the World Rose Directory since 1999 has given nearly 19 years of devoted service to the WFRS. She has decided the time has come to retire and therefore the WFRS is looking for a new Webmaster. Don’t be shy in applying for this interesting post which keeps you in touch with the rose world.

The original website was set up in 1997 by the first Webmaster – Jolene Adams and the worldrose.org domain was registered by Ethel Freeman who acted as the Web Editor to collect the information for the site. Ethel became the second Webmaster in 1999 and has remained so until today.

WFRS WEBMASTER –
Jolene Adams – Chairman of Publications - jolene_adams@sonic.net

The webmaster maintains the site using html, css and asp. The design is updated as the years go by so the site continues to look fresh and new. Most of the information that is used to refresh the WFRS site each year is sent to the webmaster by the Chairmen of various committees and the Officers of the WFRS. The webmaster sends reminders to each of the committees to encourage them to send the results of rose trials, awards, coming events and to send updates to lists of contact information for each member society. The latest issue of World Rose News and of the WFRS Heritage Group Newsletter (by any other name – baon) is available for download from the site.

The Webmaster is answerable to the Publication Committee Chairman and the President.

Applicants are encouraged to visit the website for a better understanding of what the site provides in services to the World Federation.

WFRS WORLD ROSE NEWS EDITOR
Jolene Adams – Chairman of Publications - jolene_adams@sonic.net

The Editor is recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by Council. They are a member of the Publication Committee and report to the President and the Chairman of the Committee. The incumbent in this position must have a very good command of the English language, an exceptional command of grammar, syntax and spelling and the ability to research and fact-check information to be published. Proven skills with electronic publishing, use of a computer and software associated with desktop publishing is required.

The World Rose News Editor is required to produce the electronic WFRS Newsletter three to four times each year, as soon after a convention as possible with articles relevant to the proceedings of that Convention and the remaining issues interspersed as evenly as possible.

It is preferable for the Editor to attend all conventions. The incoming Editor needs to agree to a commitment for 3 years, from one WRC to the next with renewal for a further 3 years (maximum of 6 yrs) by mutual consent.

World Rose News is composed by the Editor, proofread by members of the Publication Committee and sent to the Executive Director for distribution to all members as a compressed PDF.

Articles of interest to the members are to be solicited by the Editor for each issue.

All enquiries should be made to the Chairman of the Publications Committee or Executive Director. Send your application to the Chairman of the Publications Committee by 30 April, 2018 with copies to: the President – ktrimper@bigpond.net.au and the Executive Director – dereklawrence@talktalk.net
WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES

PATRON
Mr. Yves Piaget

PRESIDENT
Mr. Kelvin Trimper
Oradala Court, Salisbury Heights 5109, Australia. (+61) 8 8299 6511
ktrimper@bigpond.net.au

PRESIDENTS EMERITUS
Baroness Lily de Gerlache de Gomery
Mr. David Ruston

EDITOR EMERITUS
Dr. Tommy Cairns

OFFICERS
MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Mr. Derek Lawrence
76 Bennetts Court, Yate, South Glos., BS37 4XH England  (+44) 1 454 310 148
dereklawrence@talktalk.net

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Mr. Steve Jones
20340 Vineyard Lane, Fiddletown, CA 95629 USA (+1) 209 245 3355	scvrose@aol.com

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

AFRICA
Mrs. Rae Gilbert
PostNet Suite 248, Pkt Bag X1006, Plettenberg Bay
South Africa, 6600 (+27) 44 533 0074
rae@boskydell.co.za

EUROPE cont.
Countess Ghislain de Briey de Gerlache
Avenue du Prince Héritier 181, Bruxelles, Belgium, 1200.  (32) 2 732 9778
hdebriey@hotmail.com

AUSTRALASIA
Australia – Mr. Paul Hains
PO Box 4355, Gumdale, Queensland
4154, Australia (+61) 412 609 774
paul@hainsroses.com

FAR EAST
Dr. Zhao Shiwei
Wofosi Road, Xiangshan, Haidian, Beijing 100093, China. 0086-10-62591283
zhaoshiwei@beijingbg.com

New Zealand - Mr. Doug Grant
326c Patumahoe Road, RD3 Pukekohe 2678
New Zealand (+64) 9 2357223
douggrant99@gmail.com

NORTH AMERICA
USA - Ms. Jolene Adams
776 Pinedale Court, Hayward CA 94544
(+1) 510 537 2326
jolene_adams@sonic.net

CENTRAL ASIA
Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan
1/7/140Musheerabad Hyderabad, India 500 048
(+91) 40 2761 6658
alamkhan.ahmed@gmail.com

Canada and Bermuda - Mr. David Elliott
3125 Qu’ppelle Street, Victoria BC Canada V9A 1V5
(+1) 250 383 5906
theelliotts@shaw.ca

EUROPE
Mrs. Inger Schierning
Vejdammen 114, DK-2840 Holte, Denmark
(+45) 3331 1103; (+45) 2311 0118
mail.rosenselskabet@gmail.com

SOUTH AMERICA
Mrs. Rosario Algorta de Carrau
General French 1930, Montevideo, Uruguay UR11500
UR11500 (+598) 2 800 6417
rosal3004@adinet.com.uy

Mrs. Breda Čopi
Kovačičeva 36 Koper, Slovenija 6000
(+386) 31 599924
breda.copi@gmail.com
STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Council
The President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper

Executive Committee
The President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper

Awards
Mrs. Monique de Clarens, 30 rue de l’Innonciation, Paris, 75016, France
(+336) 8331 8871
monique.declarens@dauphine.fr

Breeders’ Club
Dr. Gérard Meylan, 28 Chemin de la Dronde, CH-1288 Aire-la-Ville, Switzerland
(+41) 22 757 30 44
gerald.meylan@sunrise.ch

Classification & Registration
Mr. Richard Walsh, 6, Timor Close, Ashtonfield, NSW 2323
(+61) 2 4933 2304
walshroses45@yahoo.com.au

Conservation & Heritage Roses
Dr. Yuki Mikanagi, Natural History Museum & Institute, Chiba955-2 Aobo-Cho, Chuo-Ku, Chiba City, Japan, 260 8682
(81) (0) 43 265 3111 (Office)
mikanagi@chiba-muse.or.jp

Convention Liaison
Mrs. Helga Brichet, Santa Maria 06058 San Terenziano, Perugia, Italy
(+39) 0742 99288
helga.brichet@virgilio.it

Honours
The President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper

International Judges
Mr. Luis T. Desamero, 3053 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, Studio City, California 91604
T: (213) 654-0626
LuisDesamero@aol.com

International Rose Trials
Mr. Markus Brunsing, Gartenamt Winterhaltestrase, 6, Baden-Baden, Germany
76530; T: 0049 (0) 7221 931200
markus.brunsing@baden-baden.de

Promotions
Mr. Steve Jones

Publications
Ms. Jolene Adams

Editor - World Rose News
Ms. Sheenagh Harris, PO Box 1847, Plettenberg Bay, 6600, Republic of South Africa.
(+27) 82 325 4888
rutherg@iafrica.com

Web Master
Mrs. Ethel Freeman, 15 Chiltem Hill Road, Toronto, Ontario, M6C, 3B4, Canada
roseguys@rogers.com

MEMBER SOCIETIES

The World Federation of Rose Societies, also known as the WFRS, is the umbrella organisation for 40 national rose societies around the world. Taken together, these member societies have about 100,000 members, all of whom share a love of the rose. The list below also annotates their year of joining the WFRS.

1977 Argentina - Rose Society of Argentina
1968 Australia - National Rose Society of Australia
2001 Austria - Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Gartenbau-Gesellschaft
1968 Belgium - Société Royale Nationale ‘Les Amis de la Rose’
1981 Bermuda - Bermuda Rose Society
1968 Canada - Canadian Rose Society
2000 Chile - Asociación Chilena de la Rosa
1997 China - Chinese Rose Society
1994 Czech - Republic Czech Rosa Club
1994 Denmark - The Danish Rose Society
1997 Finland - Finnish Rose Society
1979 France - Société Française des Roses
1968 Germany - Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde
1968 Great Britain - Royal National Rose Society
1997 Greece - The Hellenic Rose Society
2008 Hungary - Hungarian Rose Friends Society
2007 Iceland - Icelandic Rose Society
1968, 1982 India - Indian Rose Federation
1975 Israel - The Jerusalem Foundation
1968 Italy - Italian Rose Society
1968 Japan - Japan Rose Society
1983 Luxembourg - Luxembourg Rose Society
2012 Monaco - Société des Roses de Monaco
1976 Netherlands - Nederlandse Rozenvereniging
1968 New Zealand - New Zealand Rose Society
1982 Northern Ireland - Rose Society of Northern Ireland
1988 Norway - Norwegian Rose Society
1992 Pakistan - Pakistan National Rose Society
1981, 2017 Poland - Polish Society of Rose Fanciers
1992 Romania - Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania
2007 Russia - Russian Association of Rosarians
2008 Serbia - Royal Serbian Rose Society
1997 Slovakia - Slovak National Rose Society
2000 Slovenia - Slovenian Rose Society
1968 South Africa - Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa
1992 Spain - Asociación Española de la Rosa
1994 Sweden - The Swedish Rose Society
1976 Switzerland - Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde SA
1968 USA - American Rose Society
1985 Uruguay - Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Australian Rose Breeders Association
Heritage Roses Australia Inc.
Agency for Nature and Forest Flemish Government, Belgium
Royal Society for Agriculture and Botany, Belgium
Montreal Botanical Gardens, Canada
Association de la Rosa de Coyhaique, Chile
Changzhou Gardening and Greening Management Bureau, China
Laizhou Chinese Rose Garden, China
Shanghai Botanical Garden, China
Shenzhen Remin Park and Shenzhen Rose Centre, China
Taicang Rose Society, China
Les Amis de la Roseraie du Val de Marne à L’aï-les-Roses, France
Roses Anciennes en France
Fondazione Roseto Botanico “Carla Fineschi” di Cavriglia, Italy
La Tacita S.R.L., Italy
Hana no Miyako Gifu Flower Festival
Commemorative Park, Japan
The Rose Culture Institute, Japan
Quinta do Arco Rose Garden, Portugal
Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc.
Associacio Amics des les Roses de Sant Felieu de Llobregat, Spain
Rosas Antiguas en Argentina
Société Nationale d’Horticulture de France
Associazione ‘La Compagnia Delle Rose’ Italy
La Compagnia delle Rose, Italy
Geografisk Have, Denmark
Pasco El Rosedale of Buenos Aires, Argentina

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THE BREEDERS’ CLUB

David Austin Roses (David Austin Sr.)
michael@davidaustinroses.co.uk
Website: www.davidaustinroses.com

Rose Barni s. s. (Beatrice Barni)
beatrice@rosebarni.it
Website: www.rosebarni.it

Roseraie Laperrière (Philippe and Richard Laperrière) rose.laperriere@wanadoo.fr
Website: www.rose-laperriere.com

Meilland International S. A. (Alain Meilland)
meilland.matthias@meilland.com
Website: www.meilland.com

Meilland International S. A. (Matthias Meilland)
meilland.matthias@meilland.com
Website: www.meilland.com

Roseraie Reuter (Frank or Regis Reuter) franck@reuter.fr
Website: www.reuter.fr

Roseraie Fabien Ducher (Fabien Ducher)
info@roseraie-fabien-ducher.com
Website: www.roseraie-fabien-ducher.com

Roseraie Guillot (Jean-Pierre Guillot)
guillot@roses-guillot.com

Roseraie Orard (Pierre Orard) rosesorard@aol.com Website: www.roses-orard.com

Société Nouvelle Des Pépinières et Roseraies Georges Delbard (Arnaud Delbard)
ad@georgesdelbard.com

Petrovic Roses (Radoslav Petrovic)
petrovicroses@gmail.com
Website: www.petrovicroses.rs

Viveros Francisco Ferrer (Matilde Ferrer)
matti@viverosfranciscoferrer.com
Website: www.viverosfranciscoferrer.com

Keisei Rose Nurseries Inc. (Chiaki Tazama)
tazama@keiseirose.co.jp
Website: http://www.keiseirose.co.jp

Martin Vissors
Email: viva.int@skynet.be

Georges Dorieux
Email: contact@dorieux.fr
Website: http://www.dorieux.fr

Bill Radler
Viva International BVBA
viva.int@skynet.be

Jim Sproul
Sproul Roses By Design
Email: rosesbydesign@earthlink.net

Roses Forever APS
Website: www.roses-forever.com
Email: re@roses.com

Lens Roses
Website: www.lens-roses.com
Email: info@lens-roses.com
FRIENDS OF THE FEDERATION

Since its introduction in 2010 almost 80 individuals from around the globe have donated funds, totalling in excess of £4000, toward the work of the World Federation of Rose Societies. These donors have received invitations to exclusive “Friends Only” functions at WFRS events.

Become a Friend of the
World Federation of Rose Societies
and join a group of generous financial donors
supporting the work of the Federation.

In Slovenia Debra Bagley from the United States joined the Friends of the Federation.

Benefits include –

Exclusive invitations to ‘Friends Only’ activities;
Individual electronic copy of World Rose News;
Opportunity to correspond with ‘Friends’ to exchange
rose growing knowledge, information on rose gardens,
accommodation and other points of interest relative to their region.

Donor forms can be downloaded from the Federation’s website. Donations, with the exception of “Friends for Life”, cover the period until the conclusion of the World Rose Convention in 2018.

DIARY OF EVENTS

28 June – 4 July, 2018
WFRS 18th World Rose Convention – Copenhagen, Denmark
April / May, 2019
WFRS Regional Convention - Nanyang, China
January, 2020
WFRS Regional Convention – Kolkata, India
June, 2020
WFRS Heritage Rose Convention, Belgium
21 - 28 October 2021
WFRS 19th World Rose Convention – Adelaide, Australia
19 – 22 May 2022
WFRS Regional Rose Convention Fukuyama City, Japan

Disclaimer
The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the World Federation of Rose Societies or the Editor