EDITOR’S MESSAGE

As we were preparing this edition of World Rose News, we heard of the passing of our President Emeritus, David Ruston. David was as full of life as any person I have ever met, and we were honoured to have stayed at his home in 2013. David will be missed not only for his knowledge, wit, and massive arrangements, but for his conservation of old roses that he collected and tried to identify so they were not lost to the world. In David’s words “Good night Queen Adelaide.”

As expected, we were “wowed” at the 2019 Nanyang Regional Convention. Our articles cover the convention and both the pre and post tours.

This edition contains updates on our upcoming conventions, the 2020 Regional Convention in Kolkata, India, 2020 Heritage Rose Conference in Brussels, Belgium, and our next World Rose Convention in 2021 in Adelaide, Australia. Mark your calendars and start saving your pennies now to attend these wonderful events.

As an introduction to the gardens you will see in Australia, our Secret Garden this edition is one we all hope to see during our stay.

Steve Jones, Fiddletown, CA, United States

Note: All photos and articles, unless otherwise noted, are by the Editor

DISCLAIMER

The opinions printed in the World Rose News are not necessarily those of the World Federation of Rose Societies or the Editor.

Visit our newly redesigned website at www.worldrose.org

Table of Contents

Cover Page (Composite Designed by John Mattia) …… 1
Editor’s Message ………………………………………… 2
Table of Contents ………………………………………… 2
President’s Message …………………………………… 3
Executive Director’s Message ………………………… 5
David Ruston, OAM …………………………………… 6
2021 WFRS World Rose Convention …………………… 8
WFRS - 50 Golden Years Book ………………………… 8
Nanyang Regional Convention - Pre Tour ……………… 9
Nanyang Regional Convention ………………………… 13
Nanyang Regional Convention - Post Tour ……………… 21
Nanyang Convention Rose Stamps …………………….. 23
Secret Gardens - Urrbrae, Adelaide, Australia ……… 25
A Continual Story, World of Roses …………………….. 26
Progress Report: 2021 World Convention - Adelaide … 30
2020 Kolkata Regional Convention Update ………….. 32
2020 Belgium Heritage Rose Conference ……………… 32
WFRS Office Bearers …………………………………… 33
WFRS Standing Committee Chairmen ………………… 34
WFRS Member Countries ……………………………… 34
WFRS Associate Members …………………………… 35
WFRS Breeders’ Club Members ……………………… 36
WFRS Calendar of Events ……………………………… 37
Friends of the Federation ……………………………… 37
Friends of the Federation Luncheon - Nanyang ……… 38
WFRS Exhibiting & Judging Roses Book ……………… 39

Do you receive our sister publication by any other name?
This publication is from the WFRS Conservation & Heritage Rose Committee and covers species, old garden, and historical roses and the efforts to collect and save them.
Copies can be downloaded from the WFRS website:
www.worldrose.org
2019’s second quarter of our rose calendar was certainly highlighted by the successful WFRS Regional Convention held in Nanyang, China, in April. Nanyang, one of the most important production areas of rose plants in China, was for attendees definitively a “Hometown of the Rose” and the “place to be” to see a new era of roses with new colors and new shapes.

The Nanyang World Grand Rose Garden as well as the Nanyang Rose Expo Garden were just simply amazing and the lectures were all very informative. I was really impressed by the origin and the evolution of Rugosa rose in China and by the wild roses in Xinjiang and their use in breeding to grow roses in extremely cold places.

After China, I spent three days in South Korea, kindly invited by the South Korea Rose Society and its President Mr Wook Kyun Kim.

The first day we went to the famous Rose Garden of Everland Park, which is run by the Samsung Group. Everland is South Korea’s largest theme park. Located at the Everland Resort in Yongin, a city in Gyeonggi-do. They receive 7.3 million visitors annually.

Specially noteworthy at the Rose Garden of Everland was the rose christening ceremony for Rosa ‘Baronne Lily’ in honour of our WFRS Founding President. The ceremony was jointly organised with the Korea Rose Society and Everland Roses, the newly established rose breeding division of the Everland Resort. It was the first rose naming ceremony ever in South Korea, so I was really pleased and honoured not only for my mother but also for the WFRS. The variety had been carefully chosen, which is white, rosette, medium sized, full double bloom, strong fragrance, blooms in flushes throughout the season. Its parentage is ‘Sharifa Asma’ x ‘Emil Nolde’ and was bred by Everland Roses.

After a brief lecture on the WFRS’s role and purpose at the Everland Service Academy, we went over to the South Korea Rose Society meeting and their flagship rose garden located at the Nursing Home Greenhill in Gwangju, a city in Gyeonggi-do. I learned that the South Korea Rose Society started here in 2009, long before being admitted to the WFRS in 2018 as a Member Country.
I was given a brief presentation about the yearly activities of the South Korea Rose Society. We enjoyed casual discussions sharing information and experiences on the rose with refreshments, and what a surprise again, we had a planting ceremony of Rosa ‘Barone Lily’ in the South Korea Rose Society Rose Garden.

On the second day In the morning, we travelled to Gwangju by train, the sixth-largest city in South Korea and the capital of South Jeolla Province, about 260 Km south of Seoul. Upon arrival, we had a South Korean lunch with the horticultural students of Jeonnam National University.

Then I was invited to give a lecture for the students on the WFRS and our activities. After my lecture, an inspirational talk was being held by the South Korea Rose Society members with the students; relating members’ experiences to envision what the students are going to do with their future, and was followed by a question and answer session.

After the visit at Jeonnam National University, we visited Gokseong Rose Garden. Gokseong is famous for its train village, and the rose garden annually holds the Gokseong Rose Festival at the Rose Park located within the train village. Established in 2011, the total land area is approximately 40,000m² and we can see a magic landscape of rose varieties from different areas of the world under the three themes of love, scent and dream. They started with more than 1,000 varieties and 37,000 roses plants, a really impressive rose park.

We had a commemorative planting ceremony of a new rose bred by a local breeder to Gokseong Rose Garden, attended by the Mayor of Gokseong. The varieties were ‘Yeowon’ & ‘Dawon’ bred by Mr. Han Taeho, Professor of Jeonnam National University.

The last day we went back to Seoul and I spent the afternoon visiting the city with Mr Kim as a guide and we had a very special Korean dinner together to discuss the future of the South Korean Rose Society and their role for the WFRS. I would like to thank Mr Kim and his team very warmly for these last three days of welcome in South Korea which was for me a real discovery and I went back home with lots of happy memories.

In Europe the second quarter of the year is full of International rose trials, and up to now, we can say that for 2019 new roses have benefited from a favorable climate for their growth.

Looking forward to 2020 we have two magical WFRS rose events on our calendar:
- India in January 2020 with the Regional Rose Convention in Kolkata, registration is now open.
- Belgium for the 15th International Heritage Rose Conference in June 2020, registration will be open in October/ November 2019.

I give you all my very kind and rosy regards.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

Amid the visual impact of sumptuous rose gardens, dazzling performances from entertainers and unstinting hospitality from our hosts in Nanyang, the WFRS Executive Meeting was conducted during the convention.

For the first time in years, the attendance figures had not reached the desired quorum of nine voting Members. However, this did not prevent thought-provoking topics being aired, with subsequent lively discussions from the seven Vice Presidents and two Past Presidents whom were present. Whenever I’m in attendance at these meetings, I never fail to admire the sheer fervour from the Officers which is always prevalent during the proceedings.

The Treasurer, Mrs Diane vom Berg (Australia), reported that a number of Members were in subscription arrears. It was agreed that reminders will be sent in due course. She highlighted that there is an ongoing problem where Members’ reluctance to quote their invoice number when making international money transfers. This causes an issue with identifying where payments have come from. At the beginning of the year, the Federation’s bank made the decision only to accept electronic payments and decline payments made by cheque. Regrettably, it has caused a problem for those wishing to make a remittance by that method. At this moment, enquiries are being conducted to ascertain whether new banking facilities can be found to meet the Federation’s requirements.

The President was pleased to inform the Committee that a number of Vice Presidents and Chairmen have recently conducted sterling work on behalf of the WFRS. She praised the work of Mrs Rosario Algorta (VP, South America), who has created an excellent inventory of rose societies in her region. She commended the immense aptitude and vision of Mr. Paul Hains (VP Australasia) for designing such an outstanding WFRS website. The site is proving to be very popular, and is being visited by many worldwide rosarians. The Breeders Club has recently expanded to 26 Members, and this is largely due to the tireless energy from the new Chairman, Mr. Jean-Luc Pasquier (Switzerland). Mrs Brigid Quest-Ritson (United Kingdom) is making good progress in contacting various heritage rose groups around the world to ensure that the aims of the WFRS Conservation and Heritage Committee are met for the benefit of future generations. The President confirmed she had sent a personal letter to Mr. Luis Desamero (USA) for his exceptional new publication, *International Principles of Exhibiting and Judging Roses – An Illustrated Approach*. She also congratulated Mr. Steve Jones (USA) on his efforts in producing World Rose News to such a high standard.

It was agreed that WFRS Vice Presidents to seek further applicants with worthy rose related projects, in obtaining funds from the ‘Piaget Foundation’. The criteria required to meet the Foundation’s deliberations will be distributed to all Officers concerned. It was tabled that no applications for grants have been received from the ‘Friends of The Federation’ funding. However, all registered ‘Friends’ will be contacted and possible applications will be sought by the end of the year.

Immediate Past President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper (Australia), reported that the former Chairman of International Rose Trials, Mr. Markus Brunsing (Germany) had for many years been working on a set of comprehensive guidelines to conduct WFRS trials. A draft copy of the proposed new guidelines was presented to organisers of trials and to Members of the Executive Committee during the past year. It was generally thought the proposed guidelines were moving towards the right direction.

The Committee is conscious of the many difficult challenges that lay ahead for the continued success of the World Federation of Rose Societies. A ‘Task Force’ comprised of a handful of Officers, under the Chairmanship of Past Executive Director, Mr. Malcolm Watson (Australia), has been formed. The group is to explore possible new avenues to ensure that the Federation will continue to thrive and evolve into the future.

The President announced she intended to visit South Korea after the Regional in Nanyang had concluded. Mrs. Henrianne de Briey said she planned to visit many rose garden, and to have constructive discussions with reference to the Federation’s future growing relationship with the South Korea Rose Society. She was delighted to inform the Committee that she would be attending a baptism ceremony of a new rose cultivar named in the honour of her mother. The rose to be named, ‘Baronne Lily’. The Committee were thrilled to hear this news, and warm wishes brought the productive meeting to a satisfying close.

Derek Lawrence
DAVID RUSTON, AOM
THE PASSING OF A LEGEND IN THE ROSE WORLD

David passed away on Sunday 19 May 2019 at Renmark in South Australia. He was born on 7 March 1930 and this year celebrated his 89th birthday.

His contribution to the rose made him a world rose industry legend. His efforts were lauded and recognised throughout Australia and internationally.

David’s career with roses began on the family property in 1948. By the mid-1970s the 11 hectare orchard was converted to roses, comprising 50,000 bushes, one of the largest collections in the world. David lectured and demonstrated flower arranging at rose conferences around the world. In 1966 David was awarded the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award, the Australian Rose Award in 1982, the World Federation of Rose Societies’ Rose Pin in 1988 and Gold Medal in 2004, the Deane Ross Memorial Award in 1997 and the prestigious UK award - the Dean Hole Medal in 1994.

In 1984 David received an Order of Australia Medal for services to horticulture. He became the first president of Heritage Roses in Australia in 1986 and the President of the WFRS from 1991 to 1994.

At the WFRS World Rose Convention in 2009 the highest award bestowed by the Federation, The President Emeritus Award, was presented to David Ruston for his life-long passion, service and dedication in a variety of roles.

The fact that he was granted no less than nine Life Memberships to Rose Societies and Garden Clubs is a testament to his skills, creativity and generosity.

Truly a life with roses.

Issued by: Kelvin Trimper
Immediate Past President, World Federation of Rose Societies

From David’s Eulogy given by Kelvin Trimper, in part:

“David, we will always remember the one hand on hip, the other with secateurs in place. You have been a great leader who inspired communities around the world to love roses and use them to bring pleasure and delight to all. We celebrate your life and achievements and hope that we can all emulate some part of your passion and desire to maintain your numerous legacies.

The gardens in heaven will benefit from your presence.

We, on earth, will miss you. Thank you and goodbye my friend.”
President Emeritus David Ruston (third from right) with WFRS Officers and Past Presidents - Sandton, South Africa in 2012.

Where to find David? In his garden of course, even at age 83.
To be kept up to date with the latest news please go to the Convention website to register your expression of interest www.wrc21.aomevents.com.au.

If you missed the first update in March 2019, your details may not be on the database. Please revisit the website to include your email address.

2021 WORLD ROSE CONVENTION – DON’T MISS OUT!

WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES
50 GOLDEN YEARS
Editor: Jolene Adams

This sumptuous hardback volume commemorates the Golden Jubilee of the WFRS. The 180 pages delve into the Federation’s fascinating archives, from its founding in London on 4th July 1968 to the present. The book explores the triumphs and achievements of an organisation whose charitable aim is to promote the sheer beauty and allurement of the rose around the world. Illustrated throughout with many splendid colour and black and white images, it celebrates past Conventions, International Trials, Gardens of Excellence, and much more.

The book is a must for any rose enthusiast and would make an ideal gift.

Costs:
£20.00 (twenty pounds sterling)
Plus, postage and packing charges:
United Kingdom £4.00
Europe £15.00 (By Air)
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Email: info@worldrose.org

Australian Bearded Dragon

2019 Best Overall winner Barcelona Rose Trials
MR-761-Flo by Michèle Richardier
WFRS NANYANG CONVENTION PRE-TOUR

In Shanghai, China, 26 convention attendees participated in the convention pre-tour. A majority of the attendees were as usual from Australia, with the United States second. Other countries included South Africa, Belgium, Netherlands, Chile, and Luxembourg. We were picked up at the airport and taken to our hotel outside Shanghai.

Shanghai is the second largest city in the world with over 26 million people and just as many cars it seems. With traffic at all times of the day, we spent a lot of time on the bus as we visited each place.

Our first stop was at the Shanghai Botanical Gardens, an 82 ha (about 203 acres) park. The main rose garden is located on an island in West Lake. It covers about one acre. You cross the Rose Bridge which was lined with potted baskets containing miniature roses. The roses where just coming into bloom, especially Rosa banksiae banksiae, the double white form with nice scents of violets. We saw many R. banksiae roses as it is native here. Shanghai is about on the same bloom cycle as here at home as it was the end of April when we were there. Here we experienced the first of many rose trees that we will see, about 3m tall, and all grafted on ancient Rosa banksiae rootstock. There were other rose beds near the greenhouses that were also starting to bloom, but were mostly green buds. However, despite the lack of roses, we enjoyed the azaleas which were in full bloom. We didn’t get to spend as much time here as we would have liked but had to move on to the next garden. Special treatments included ‘Rainbow’s End’ (most likely the climbing version) laying prostrate growing over rocks and trained on a fence forming a hedge. This is a very popular rose in China and is planted throughout every garden we saw.

Next, we traveled to downtown Shanghai to visit the Yu Garden, which dates back to the 1550s. The garden covers two ha (about five acres) and is quite large and unique. The ancient Chinese “gardens” are typically a collection of unique shaped rocks, mostly limestone, that have been carved by water currents over the millennia. They are connected together by mortar or during shortages, rice paste. There are a few plants among the rocks and usually by the waterways. We occasionally found a rose growing here and there, but you need to search them out. Growing over the top of a building here was a large R. banksiae banksiae which cascaded down the sides and was impressive.

The next ancient garden we visited was the Humble Administrator’s Garden in Suzhou, one of the largest ancient gardens in China at 5.2 ha (about 13 acres). The gardens were built over 500 years ago and feature many of the stones carved by water. At the entrance was several rocks, plants and a rose which looks like it could be Old Blush, but we couldn’t get close enough to it to verify. Along the waterways were species roses which had a strong multiflora/musk scent. In the corner of one garden is a large R. b.
banksiae growing over and cascading down an arbor tunnel. Another banksiae covered a gazebo just down the path from the tunnel. Nearby were some wonderful bonsai trees.

Suzhou is home to four ancient Chinese gardens including the Humble Administrators. The second one we visited was the Lion Grove Garden. This garden was much smaller. The centerpiece was a large waterfall and rock formation. It was not easy to get a photograph without several people in the way. In one corner we found another R. b. banksiae trellised on a wall cascading down as well.

Zhouzhuang is the Chinese version of Venice, Italy. The “water town” is crossed with canals, tall bridges and gondolas taking sightseers on a journey through the city. On one street the walls were covered by a climbing rose grown in pots, which similar to ‘Seven Sisters’. It was just coming into bloom.

As we arrived in Hangzhou, the highways were lined with roses in baskets and containers. Here we visited the resort area of West Lake and took a boat ride around the lake. It started to sprinkle when we arrived at the Hangzhou Flower Garden, but that didn’t stop the 26 of us who ventured into this wonderful formal rose garden complemented with statues and water features. This rose garden featured over 1,000 roses of all types, mostly in mass plantings edged by boxwoods (Buxus). There were a few more roses in bloom than we saw before, but it will explode in the next few weeks. This garden was a highlight of our pre-tour as we loaded onto an airplane and flew to the convention city of Nanyang.
Left, *R. b. banksiae* Lions Grove Garden, middle, *R. b. banksiae* in Humble Administrators Garden, right, unknown species rose

Left: Bonsai forest in Humble Administrators Garden. Right: Lions Grove Garden.

Zhouzhuang canals

Upper left: West Lake. All others Hangzhou Flower Garden in the rain.

Shows how tall some rose trees are in China
Attendees from 19 different countries attended the 2019 WFRS Regional Convention “A New Era in Roses”, in Nanyang (pronounced ni-yawn), China from 28 April - 1 May 2019. Nanyang is about 1,000 km east of Shanghai, a two-hour flight. Several attendees arrived early for the pre-convention tour of gardens around the Shanghai area.

The first night was a Welcome Banquet. Speeches were given by the Mayor of Nanyang, Huo Haosheng, and WFRS President Henrianne de Briey. There was plenty of excellent food and plenty to drink to make for an enjoyable evening.

The next day we left by bus to the new Nanyang World Grand Rose Garden for the Opening Ceremony. Our buses were police escorted to the garden. The garden entrance was a maze of people and the press. The main stage featured a large Megatron type screen complemented by two smaller ones on each side. This convention also featured the 9th China Rose Exposition. Floral dressed dancers and a quartet vocal group gave a great performance for us before the speakers. It was fun, upbeat, and very enjoyable although it was a dreary day with drizzle off and on. Zeng Chuirir, Vice Mayor of Nanyang, was our emcee. After opening comments and introducing the special dignitaries, Mayor Haosheng spoke and had a special dedication of new rose stamps, including a special commemorative stamp from Guyana. Henrianne de Briey gave her opening speech and officially opened the Convention. Yang Shuyan, Deputy Secretary-General of the China Floral Association was the next speaker followed by Zhang Zuoshuang, President of the China Rose Society. A countdown followed by fireworks ended the ceremony. Afterwards we were able to walk the grounds of the rose garden and visited the rose arrangement exhibition before returning to the hotel for lunch, including the Friends Luncheon, which was one of the best meals we had in China.

The Nanyang World Grand Rose Garden is made up of three separate and unique gardens. Contained in the three gardens are over 1.4 million roses of 1,500 varieties, covering an area of 103 ha (about 254 acres). The East Rose Garden is where the Opening Ceremony took place and is divided into smaller themed gardens, such as the Red Rose Garden, lakes, exhibition gardens, meeting places, etc. The West Garden is largely for sightseeing with an observation tower looking over mass plantings of roses. The North Garden is a research and development garden.
The afternoon started with lectures led by Viru and Girija Viraraghaven of India who spoke on “Intrepid Roses”. They were followed by Sui Yunji of China who spoke on the “Wild Roses of Xinjiang”, Naomi Okubo of Japan on “Floral Fragrance of Rosa Rugosa”, Ji Naizhe of China on “The Different Ploidy of Old China Roses”, and Bernd Weigel of Germany on “The Most Beautiful and Important Rose Gardens in Europe”. Afterwards Susie and I took a walk to see the large rose garden next to our hotel. The rose garden has a path with mass plantings of roses on each side. On each end is an observation platform. I do not know how many roses are here, but it is a lot. The beds run for as far as the eye can see and I calculated one bed alone had about 600 roses or more. I estimated there are around 60 rose beds on each side, running about a quarter mile, so over 70,000 roses! Most were floribundas including ‘Carefree Wonder’. On one side ran three rows of rose trees, so maybe 550 rose trees? Amazing, and not the featured gardens.
The evening featured an Awards Party and art performance at the Telecast Hall of Nanyang Radio and TV Station. Mayor Haosheng was awarded the WFRS Bronze Commemorative Medal for his work for this convention.

The lectures continued on the next morning with Ping Lim of the US, on “In Search of Eco-roses”, Li Shubin of China on “Genetic Studies Helps New Variety Breeding in Roses”, and an interesting panel discussion of international rootstocks headed by Kelvin Trimper of Australia. Afterwards we were given two presentations on up-coming conventions. The 2020 WFRS Regional Convention “Colours of Joy” in Kolkata, India, will take place between 9-12 January 2020 with pre and post tours. The website went live on 15 May, www.wfrs2020kolkata.com. It will be a joint convention between the Indian Rose Federation and the Agri-Horticultural Society of India who will be celebrating their 200th anniversary. An update was given for the 2021 WFRS World Convention in Adelaide, Australia. The dates are 21-28 October 2021 with several pre and post tour options. It is looking like a wonderful convention; one not to miss. The final preparations are coming soon as to the host hotel and the website going live.
Vice Mayor Chuirir accepting WFRS Bronze Commemorative Medal from Executive Director Derek Lawrence for Mayor Haosheng

Performances from the Nanyang TV and Radio Award Night
In the afternoon we toured the rose gardens and rose nurseries of Nanyang. The enormity of these gardens is hard to imagine. Near the main rose growing fields is the Nanyang Rose Expo Garden. There are over 1,200 rose varieties planted on the 200 ha parcel, of which 66 ha is currently planted. This is the older rose garden, which was started in 2010. On the property are greenhouses which produce over one million potted roses a year. The garden features a rose maze of climbing roses that were mostly in bloom, a large formal rose garden, and a rose tree forest in addition to statues and water features. The rose nurseries and growing fields are amazing. We drove for miles seeing nothing but rose growing areas and nurseries. I cannot imagine how many roses are here. I have been to the growing fields in Wasco, California, but the size of Nanyang was amazing. The highlight of the nurseries was the Nanyang Demonstration Park where Heyun Seedlings welcomed us to visit the rose tree propagation and growing area. I mentioned the rose trees before but here we got to see first hand how they grow these up to 3 m tall plants. Ancient stands of *Rosa banksiae* are harvested for their branches which could be up to 800 years old. The branches can be straight or curved and generally around 2-4 inches in diameter, and apparently root easily despite their age. Several of the preferred roses are grafted around the outside of the cane and sealed. The two main roses that are all over Nanyang on rose trees are called Crimson or Red Fan and Pink Fan. We know them as ‘Hi-Oghi’, a 1981 hybrid tea from Seizo Suzuki of Japan and its pink sport. We visited another large rose nursery nearby with lots of rootstock growing in the fields and own-root roses. Afterwards the WFRS Executive Committee met back at the hotel (see the Executive Director’s Report for details).

The lectures continued the next morning with James Sproul of the US on “The Creation of New Roses by Design”, Wang Guoliang of China on “The Origin of the Rugosa Rose in China”, Michael Marriot of the UK on “David Austin Roses”, Jiang Zhengzhi of China on “Roses in the Era of the Internet” and the last speaker of the convention, Dominique Massad of France on his “Forty Years Among My Roses”. Afterward a presentation was made on the 2020 Heritage Rose Conference in Brussels, Belgium, scheduled for 8-12 June 2020. Currently there are plans for pre and post tours visiting the many gardens nearby. The website is not available at this time.

In the afternoon we went back to the rose gardens and then to the jade market and exhibition hall near Nanyang Stadium. Part of the visit was the unveiling of the stone sign for the Nanyang World Grand Rose Garden presided over by WFRS Vice President for the Far East, Shiwei Zhao. The Gala Farewell Dinner was hosted that evening and included a dedication of the new “Red Rose of Nanyang”, the handing over of the WFRS Flag to India in an elaborate ceremony, and WFRS President de Briey declaring the end of the convention. During dinner we had solo musicians who played throughout the evening. It also gave us time as we bid adieu to our fellow conventioneers, many who were leaving the next day, while others continued on the post tour.
The last day featured a cultural tour of Xixia Dinosaur Park and the ancient Chinese town of Shedian, a well-preserved town worth visiting. As we drove around Nanyang, every roadway was covered with rose boxes on bridges, and streets lined with rose trees and mass rose bed plantings. It looked like they have been there for decades, yet, they are not even two years old.

We had a volunteer event back home so could not participate in the post tour.
China Rose Garden - middle, rose tree forest

Unveiling Nanyang World Grand Rose Garden Stone

Closing Ceremony, upper left turning over the WFRS Flag to India, rest happy attendees!
More happy attendees
It was May 2\textsuperscript{nd} and as the delegates were saying their goodbyes to each other at the Holiday Inn at Nanyang, 33 others were organising their luggage into the coach, ready to begin another adventure through China from Nanyang to Beijing. We came from a mixture of countries and continents including the United States, Chile, South Africa, Europe and a large number from Australia. This tour was not so much a visit to the horticultural and rose centres of China as it included only two gardens, the Expo Parks, but rather it was a visit to some of the most important cultural and heritage sites in the country.

Our first stop after lunch and several hours of travel was at the Zhengzhou Garden Expo Park. This garden was the site of the 11\textsuperscript{th} China International Garden Expo in 2017, covering an area of about 119 hectares. It obviously was well appreciated by the local population with thousands of people wandering in the park and children enjoying the many child friendly playgrounds scattered throughout. It was only the younger and fitter members of our group who decided to walk around the park rather than endure the long wait, as most of us did, for the trolley car to take us on the round trip. As we whizzed around the park, we saw the various international exhibitions such as the West Flanders Garden of Belgium, a Russian exhibit, the Hanover Garden of Germany and the Inchon Garden of Korea. These gardens exhibited in miniature the landscape of the area fusing in with local customs and practices from all over the world. However, travelling by trolley car we could only see them from a distance, with the many sculptures along the way. On arrival back to the entrance we preferred to wander amongst the rose beds and cool off with an ice cream and a drink.

After Zhengzhou we travelled on to the land of Kung Fu in the mountainous region of Dengfeng where our evening was taken up with the most memorable and spectacular presentation of the Zen Music Shaolin Ceremony. This is held in the mountains which form the backdrop and stage with a performance by about 600 musicians, dancers, local village people and Kung Fu Monks. The music and scene depict five movements of Water, Wood, Wind, Light and Stone. Extraordinary lighting and laser beams controlled by computers from the foot of the mountain to the 1400-metre-high top coloured the landscape, actors and scenes for each movement. There was the delight of villagers dancing, carrying out everyday activities such as fetching water, herding goats and riding horses, and changing scenes from spring to winter and of the mountains, the waterfall, stream, the moon and snow and of ancient temple and pagodas. This was a most extraordinary experience for us all sitting on the benches gazing down and up, trying not to miss a single movement.

Whilst in the Shaolin area we visited the Shaolin Temple with thousands of the holidaying Chinese population, and were entertained by exhibitions of Kung Fu by the young men and boys of the martial arts schools from this area. Our last visit there was to a very ancient Songyang Academy, one of four in China.

We were then back on the coach heading to Luoyang, the Peony Capital of China, where the four-week Peony Festival had just finished. Rather than the roses that lined many of the city streets and highways we travelled on, the city of Luoyang was lined with peonies. On the next day we visited the Luoyang Longmen Grottoes and giant buddha and carvings. Those who took the stairs to the heights to see the Giant Buddha would have been greeted by the large pots of peonies decorating this site.

The next part of our adventure from Luoyang took us by bullet train to Xian. What awaited us was a very bright and interesting city that we travelled into by coach after our amazing dumpling dinner. The hotel was situated very close to this very beautifully lit city with its spectacular buildings. Unfortunately, the stay was brief and there was no time to explore it as we arrived late at night and had an early morning drive to the Museum of the Terra-Cotta Warriors. This of course was one of the highlights of the tour and thankfully with the four-day holiday period over for the locals, we had plenty of space to move around with ease to view these extraordinary sculptures.

By this stage many were feeling both tired and unwell with the fast pace of this tour. We still had one more day left, and a plane to catch to Beijing. However, before we travelled to the Xian airport there was one more site, the Huaqing Hot Spring in Xian, a palace built around the hot springs in the period of 1046-771 BC. An interesting part of its history is that Chiang Kai-shek used it as a temporary residence and was kidnapped from there in 1936 and forced to lead the National Revolution.
We all waited patiently at the Xian Airport for the plane to Beijing, delayed for more than two hours because of weather conditions. It was with relief we finally arrived at the hotel in Beijing after our late dinner to prepare ourselves for the final excursion of the post tour to the Beijing World Horticultural Expo the next day.

Beijing World Horticultural Expo 2019

We set off early on the 6th May from the Beijing Airport Hotel to travel to the Expo site located along the banks of the Guishui River in the Yanquing District of Beijing. This drive took about two hours and we were quite excited to see remnants and lengthy portions of the Great Wall along the way. The Expo Garden is situated in an extensive area of 503 hectares and the theme of the Expo is “Live Green, Live Better”. The garden is laid out with one centre, the core that includes the China Pavilion together with the International Pavilion and the Performance Centre together with the lawn Theatre. The two axes consisted of the axis of Chinese horticulture and the other of International horticulture. The three belts around the park included the belts of horticultural life experience and the Horticultural Industry Development belt, and the eco-leisure along the Guishui River. Multiple zones included various exhibitions including International and Chinese Horticulture.

On entering the park, we were greeted along the route with the huge sculptures we have become accustomed to in Chinese parks made up by plants and topiary. There were many beds of annuals and perennial flowers which added colour to the venue. Our first visit was to the International Pavilion housed in a beautiful structure with huge tree like pillars that cast shadows of stars on the ground. Inside the building there was a wide array of educational and interactive exhibits, exhibits from many countries and displays of plants including many of peonies. However, the crowds were so great it was difficult to spend any time focussing on any of the exhibits. Given our weariness at this stage and the vast amount of the park to cover, many of us took to the trolley car again for a tour around the park. Others ventured into the magnificently structured China Pavilion and were amazed at the beauty of the exhibits and particularly of the orchids.

This was the last excursion and last night that we would all be together. We celebrated together at dinner on our way back to the hotels we all were staying at before flying back to our various homelands. We were most grateful to Duncan who was our guide throughout this tour and took amazingly good care of each of us with our varying needs.

(All photos courtesy of Kristin Dawson.)
NANYANG ROSE STAMPS

At the 2016 WFRS Regional Convention in Daxing, China, a program and book was presented on *The Cultural Special Issue of Rosa Chinensis Stamp Collecting*.

At the Opening Ceremony for the 2019 Nanyang Regional Convention, a special presentation was made with the new stamps for the event. One was a special stamp from Guyana, celebrating the Regional Convention in Nanyang. The stamp is for $800 Guyana dollars, about four dollars US. The other was a commemorative page from China for the Nanyang Regional Convention.

At the end of the convention, the Mayor of Nanyang presented several of us with a nicely done book, containing all of the stamp sheets, about 12 in all. The main rose stamp appears to be 'Red Fan' and 'Pink Fan' which is on most of the sheets. Each sheet is a little different with emblems and other non-denomination stamps of roses. The book is a true keepsake and I will treasure it forever.
HISTORIC URRBRAE HOUSE AND ROSE GARDEN, ADELAIDE

One hundred years ago pastoralist and businessman Peter Waite generously gave his land and house to The University of Adelaide, a very far-sighted bequest – his Urrbrae estate comprised a mansion and 54 hectares of prime land. His gift specified that half was to be made a park or garden for the enjoyment of the public and the other half to be used for the study of agriculture. Waite understood that if agriculture and forestry were to continue to flourish they needed to be underpinned by science. His legacy is the Waite Arboretum established in 1928 and the Waite Institute which has achieved an international reputation for agricultural teaching and research. Waite was truly a man of great vision.

In 1991, the centenary of Urrbrae House, an ambitious project commenced to make this historic precinct the social and cultural centre of the university campus.

Redevelopment of the gardens began in 1994 and they opened in 1996. The result was a unique blend of history, heritage, art and landscape design incorporating a Twentieth Century Rose Garden with 200 varieties represented, recreation of the rose arbors and lavender walk and a series of artist’s gardens: The Sensory Garden, The Garden of Discovery and The Mallee. The gardens have continued to evolve with the addition of a Heritage Roses Parterre.

True to the wishes of Peter Waite, the gardens are open to the public, free of charge, every day from dawn until dusk for the enjoyment of the whole community. Two roses still survive from Peter Waite’s time, a ‘Mlle Cecile Brunner’ hedge and ‘Madame Carriere’ planted in 1879, both of which are located near the house. A group called “the Tuesday Morning Volunteers” proudly work to maintain this garden to a very high standard. Urrbrae House is just 5.5 km from Adelaide’s Central Business District. (All photos courtesy of Melanie Trimper.)

By Aline and Daniel BOULENS (Lyon, France)

From May 27th to June 2nd 2015, Lyon celebrated the rose and all its aspects. Under the umbrella of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS), France and especially Lyon hosted a World Rose Convention for the first time. More than 600 persons from nearly 40 countries participated in this major event which was organized successfully by the French Rose Society, the Heritage Rose Society, the Lyon Horticultural Society and the public Parks and Gardens Department of the City of Lyon. It was a huge task of almost 5 years, with a major contribution from national rose breeders, horticulturists, landscape professionals, and the landscape colleges and universities.

Jacobins Square fountain was transformed in one night in a nice perfumed waterfall of roses, Republique Square fountain became a carpet of floating roses, Terreaux Square (meaning in French good soil), was dressed with 90 mini gardens, including roses, the City Hall courtyard became a parterre of brightly coloured roses and the atrium exploded with floral arrangements.

In Tete d’Or Park, the rose garden was effervescent with many artistic works and displays embellished for the occasion.

More than one million people viewed these floral displays in the city centre and more than 250,000 visitors came to Tete d’Or Park during this weekend. The artistic works and displays in the Park were designed by the artist Nicolas Roux dit Buisson. The public could view this for the next 6 months.

This major event is held every 3 years. Following Lyon was Copenhagen (Denmark) in 2018. We were pleased to attend with a group of 12 French people.

Copenhagen 2018: A Fairytale of Roses!

Being in Andersen country it could not have been a more appropriate title.

On behalf of the Danish Rose Society and their President, Mrs Inger Schierning, and the effervescent master of ceremonies Mr Jens Otto Pedersen, the 2018 Convention has been as Lyon, a very successful and excellent time to meet people and share their common interest with roses.

For both of us, Copenhagen was a real discovery. When we arrived at the airport we were really surprised to see dry, yellow fields because there was no rain for two months. It was totally unusual for this Nordic country, more used to the sea breeze and the cooler climate!

The Opening Ceremony was held in the large atrium of the City Hall, and on behalf of the WRFS President, Mr Kelvin Trimper and
the young dynamic Mayor of the City and many Danish rose breeders and rose lovers.

We were gifted with a parade of the young Tivoli Guards, children from 8 to 16 years with traditional dress, playing fifes and drums and a group of singers on the stage.

The afternoon was spent in the garden of the Rosenborg Castle, well named after the rose. We discovered a temporary garden decorated with Danish and German roses (in particular Poulsen, Tantau and Kordes), all enjoyed under a blue sky.

The Conference and garden visits continued on 30 June, and 1-4 July. More than 500 delegates attended with enthusiasm to hear this programme.

The visit to Valby Park included the performance relating to Andersen tales and a fashion show, very unusual because the models wore recycled materials.

In this park, roses were in full bloom. We also visited Gerlev Park and the Poulsen Rose Conservatory.

Nestled in the middle of the forest this conservatory was maintained only by volunteers. It is really worthwhile according to the importance of the collection.

Another very nice tour took us to the summer residence of the Queen, Fredensborg Castle. It is a huge park, perfectly manicured with a special rose garden bordered by topiary Buxus hedges. In this rose garden, there were essentially Danish and English roses, but also very interesting Heritage roses.

The lectures were particularly interesting, more than 20 and some with Nordic topics.

But I would like to highlight three in particular - Tommy Cairns about the 50 years of the WFRS. It was a real American presentation with lots of detail about the history, Kelvin Trimper about the future of the WFRS and Paul Hains, President of the National Rose Society of Australia, about the necessary evolution we must have to develop our passion for the roses. He gave us his enthusiasm to have a new vision to go forward to the future.

The Conference held many committee meetings, awards, in particular to Bill Radler for the Hall of Fame rose ‘Knock Out’, and the election of a new President of the Federation, from a neighbouring country, Belgium, Mrs Henrianne de Briey!

The Conference closed with a Gala Dinner near the famous mermaid statue, with good humour and conviviality, giving us a farewell to meet again for the next World Conference in Adelaide, Australia in 2021.
Adelaide 2021

Strangely, when Mr Maurice Jay, the President of the French Rose Society, asked me to write an article on these conventions, I could not imagine I would write it while in Adelaide, on holidays. Yes, at this time it was the end of October, and in France the forecast there was for a snow fall, and I was enjoying the spring, Mediterranean climate in Adelaide, in Australia!

I attended a World Congress about parks and gardens in Melbourne a few days before, where I gave a lecture about the role and attractiveness of the green spaces in our cities for the future; I took the opportunity to visit this “down under” country.

Thanks to the good contacts created during the Copenhagen Convention, we were pleased to be hosted at the home of Wendy and Merv Trimper (Kelvin’s brother). It was a fantastic time together, in a nice accommodation and rose garden. We discovered Adelaide, gardens, roses and koalas!

Our rose friends from Australia are working with energy and conviction to organise the 19th World Convention in 2021 in Adelaide. Planning is well advanced and I invite you to write in your diaries: from 21 to 28 October 2021.

As with other Conventions you will have the opportunity to hear good lectures, but also discover the recent history of this continent. Australia could have been French, if only the explorer Baudin arrived a week earlier than Flinders.

Australia is 14 times bigger than France but with only 25 million inhabitants, concentrated in five major cities – Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide. The capital? Canberra! You will understand it is a very vast territory covered with bush and desert.

Adelaide is a quite charming city, with a Mediterranean climate, has a geometric grid pattern of roads, with the city centre surrounded by a high quality green belt including the Botanic Garden and its superb rose garden.

Australian people are very open, easy going and show warm hospitality.

You will find many restaurants and above all excellent wines that we have discovered with pleasure. Finally, the Australian barbecue is something you cannot miss, and the Australian’s say about it: “a very good meat, excellent for vegetarians”.

There are a range of hotels with prices accessible for everyone, as the exchange rate is favourable.
Finally, the history of introduction of roses into Australia is interesting, and their roses are extraordinary. Alister Clark set the way for Australian breeders in the early 1900’s. Since then there have been others like Bruce Chapman, George Thomson, Bruce Brundrett, Richard and Ruth Walsh and Warren Millington. And a new promising breeder, Paul Hains. All have created superb rose varieties.

You will be able to find iconic roses that we know very well in Europe, such as ‘Iceberg’, ‘Peace’, ‘Seduction’, ‘Oklahoma’, ‘Gold Bunny’, ‘Mr Lincoln’, ‘Pierre de Ronsard’ etc., you will be very surprised at how vigorous they grow and their high quality.

You can find roses of the major rose breeders of the world in Adelaide: Meilland and Delbard, as well as Kordes, Tantau, Warner, Mc Gredy, and Austin.

I encourage you to come to discover Australia and our Australian friends. Come to Adelaide in 2021, and take the opportunity to visit Sydney, Melbourne, the Great Barrier Reef, and many other riches of this extraordinary country with diversified floral and fauna. You will be surprised to see kangaroos, wallabies, wombats and koalas, but overall you will come as a visitor and you will go back having made many good friends because Australians are very kind people.

Last piece of advice you can have a look at the website of the Convention, www.wrc21.aomevents.com.au, and register your interest. So you will regularly receive updated information about this Convention.

This Convention will be a very nice that you should not miss.

(All photos courtesy of the authors.)
REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE 2021 WORLD ROSE CONVENTION COMMITTEE (ROSE SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, INC.) AND THE WFRS CHAIRMAN OF CONVENTION LIAISON COMMITTEE

By Helga Brichet - WFRS Chairman of Convention Liaison Committee

The meeting was held on 23 April, 2019 at the home of WFRS Treasurer, Diane vom Berg, in Adelaide, South Australia. The Chairman, Mr Kelvin Trimper, welcomed me and introduced the Committee members. After the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting, the following points were examined:

Sponsorships and Partnerships: to whom a proposed letter had been drafted which would be sent out later in the year.

It is necessary to provide 4,000 to 5,000 buds of new cultivars, nationwide, for 2021 promotion and enable flowers to be available for the October 2021 Exhibition. The Chairman of the WFRS Breeders’ Club, Jean Luc Pasquier, will be contacted for support. Special emphasis would be given to contact breeders such as those in New Zealand, but also in in European countries.

Potential sponsorship should be sought from Felco Tools, Fiskars and China Southern Airlines amongst others.

The 2021 Convention Presentation to be given at the Regional in Nanyang was somewhat reduced from that given in Denmark, but would have a simultaneous Chinese translation. A WRC table would be set up with brochures in both languages.

Publicity and Communications: Articles would be published in every World Rose News edition, while a detailed article had been circulated to all Australian state societies. Various Facebook sites had also received copies, while the WRC website had been updated.

The emailing list - those who have registered interest would receive regular ‘e-blasts’, providing updated information, announcing the official convention hotel and various other accommodation options, etc. The forthcoming WFRS Regional Convention in Kolkata in January, 2020 would be another opportunity to encourage participation.

Fundraising: These include the sale of wines and also the sale of the rose ‘Unconventional Lady’. This variety having raised over $4,000 in royalties to date. A rose tapestry had also been put up for sale and had raised $800.

Pre and post tours: Various possibilities were still in discussion, much depending upon the weather and the dates proposed.

Lecture programme: A list of potential international speakers from various regions was put forward as well as local speakers and breeders. It was found important to have new topics and speakers whom had not recently lectured at other conventions.

The International Rose Judging: due to the number of people attending it was suggested that two shifts be scheduled. A jury of about 150 members could form suitable groups at the Botanic Gardens for the judging. These would then join the first shift visiting Carrick Hill, where the awards would be presented during a sit down function for 250 participants.

Analysis of the Convention Programme

Thursday 21st October – Registration opens at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Evening reception “Meet and Greet.”

Friday 22nd October – Opening Ceremony at the Centre – eventual special guests. Arrangement for lunch. Setting up of the Rose Show and Exhibition - international guests could visit the Cleland Wildlife Park. Evening free or visit to the Exhibition.

Saturday 23rd October and Sunday 24th October - WFRS Committee meetings. Options of visits to the Rose Show and Exhibition, the National Dinner, visits to Kangaroo Island or Barossa Valley, optional sightseeing tours.*

Monday, 25th October – Morning: lectures. Afternoon: International Rose Garden, trial judging (by invitation) and visit to Carrick Hill. Evening: (for invited guests) NRTGA Awards presentation and cocktail party, or evening free.

Tuesday, 26th October – All-day tours.

Wednesday, 27th October – Morning: lectures. Afternoon: Adelaide rose gardens. Evening: WFRS Friends of the Federation Dinner (members only) or evening free.

Thursday 28th October – Morning: lectures. Afternoon: free time for shopping etc. Evening: Gala Farewell Dinner, the Convener of this Dinner being the Committee.
The Rose Show and Exhibition would run for two and a half day with from 5,000 to 10,000 people paying to attend the event. This will include a multi-faceted floral display to be advertised as Adelaide’s biggest indoor floricultural expo for decades. The organisers of the Iris Show will be encouraged to join in. A quilting competition with a rose theme, milliners, porcelain painters and artists will be welcome participants. A stage area for demonstrations etc will be available, while catering will be demonstrated in the foyer areas. On-line tickets will be available, while participants to the Convention will have their admission included in their registration.

Other business included options of one day tours, an Australian bred Convention Rose, the involvement of the Heritage Roses in Australia, budget details, the registration form and the date for the next meeting of the Committee: Friday 21st June, 2019.

During my all too short visit to Adelaide, I had the opportunity to visit the charming, tree-lined central area of the city, the modern Adelaide Convention Centre, the East wing to be available for lectures with ample areas for coffee breaks and the West wing with the ballroom for the Gala Farewell Dinner. In addition we visited the two hotels still in consideration and all agreed that the Intercontinental Hotel is that most appropriate for an event of such prestige. It is very close to the Convention Centre and is offering good packages. Another day was spent visiting the Adelaide Botanic Garden and the Mount Lofty Gardens housing indigenous flora. Additionally we visited a number of public and private gardens whose owners I should like to thank for their hospitality. Also I am most particularly grateful to Melanie and Kelvin Trimper, Ruth and Malcolm Watson and Diane Vom Berg and her husband for their warm reception.
The website for the 2020 WFRS Regional Convention in Kolkata, India is now online. Early bird registration continues until 30 September 2020. The website lists a pre and post tour, plus customized tours for travel to other parts of India.

The pre tour (5-7 January 2020) takes us to the Sundarbans, the Magic Delta, home to mangroves and rare tigers. The convention covers the dates 9-12 January 2020. The post tour (13-18 January 2020) takes us to the Himalayas and Darjeeling, home to some of the finest tea in the world.

wfrs2020kolkata.com

2020 HERITAGE ROSE CONFERENCE - BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Planning for the 2020 15th Heritage Rose Conference in Brussels, Belgium is well underway. Hosted by the Royal National Belgium Rose Society, the conference will have garden tours and lectures from 8-12 June 2020, and pre tour visits to gardens in Bruges, Antwerp, and Ghent from 6-8 June 2020, and a post tour visiting gardens of Namur, Saint Hubert, and Luxembourg from 13-15 June 2020. We anticipate the website will be available by November 2019.
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MEMBER COUNTRIES

The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) is comprised of 40 national rose societies from all around the world. The list below also annotates their year of joining the WFRS.

Argentina (1977) - Rose Society of Argentina
Australia (1968) - National Rose Society of Australia
Austria (2001) - Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Gartenbau-Gesellschaft
Belgium (1968) - Société Royale Nationale ‘Les Amis de la Rose’
Bermuda (1981) - Bermuda Rose Society
Canada (1968) - Canadian Rose Society
Chile (2000) - Asociación Chilena de la Rosa
China (1997) - Chinese Rose Society
Czechia (1994) - Czechia Rosa Club
Denmark (1994) - The Danish Rose Society
Finland (1997) - Finnish Rose Society
France (1979) - Société Française des Roses
Germany (1968) - Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde
Great Britain (2018) - The Rose Society UK
Greece (1997) - The Hellenic Rose Society
Hungary (2008) - Hungarian Rose Friends Society
Iceland (2007) - Icelandic Rose Society
India (1968, 1982) - Indian Rose Federation
Israel (1975) - The Jerusalem Foundation
Italy (1968) - Italian Rose Society
Japan (1968) - Japan Rose Society
Luxembourg (1983) - Luxembourg Rose Society
Monaco (2012) - Société des Roses de Monaco
Netherlands (1976) - Nederlandse Rozenvereniging
New Zealand (1968) - New Zealand Rose Society
Northern Ireland (1982) - Rose Society of Northern Ireland
Norway (1988) - Norwegian Rose Society
Pakistan (1992) - Pakistan National Rose Society
Poland (1981, 2017) - Polish Rose Society
Romania (1992) - Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania
Russia (2007) - Russian Association of Rosarians
Slovakia (1997) - Slovak National Rose Society
Slovenia (2000) - Slovenian Rose Society
South Africa (1968) - Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa
South Korea (2018) - South Korea Rose Society
Spain (1992) - Asociación Española de la Rosa
Sweden (1994) - The Swedish Rose Society
Switzerland (1976) - Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde SA
United States (1968) - American Rose Society
Uruguay (1985) - Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa

Note: for website information on the above Member Countries, go to the WFRS website.
WFRS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Agency for Nature and Forest Flemish Government, Belgium

Associació Amics de les Roses de Sant Feliu de Llobregat i de Catalunya, Spain

Association de la Rosa de Coyhaique, Chile

Associazione ‘La Compagnia Delle Rose’ Italy

Changzhou Gardening and Greening Management Bureau, China

Fondazione Roseto Botanico “Carla Fineschi” di Cavriglia, Italy

Geografisk Have, Denmark

Hana no Miyako Gifu Flower Festival Commemorative Park, Japan

Heritage Roses Australia, Inc.

Heritage Roses New Zealand, Inc.

Laizhou Chinese Rose Garden, China

Les Amis de la Roseraie du Val de Marne à L’aï-les-Roses, France

Pasco El Rosedale of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Rosas Antiguas en Argentina

Roses Anciennes en France

Royal Society for Agriculture and Botany, Belgium

Shanghai Botanical Garden, China

Shenzhen Remin Park and Shenzhen Rose Centre, China

Société Nationale d’Horticulture de France

Taicang Rose Society, China

The Botanic Garden, Meise, Belgium

The Rose Culture Institute, Japan

Vrijbroek Park, Belgium

Note: for website information on the above members, go to the WFRS website.
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WFRS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9-12 January 2020  WFRS Regional Convention - Kolkata, India - www.wfrs2020kolkata.com
8-12 June 2020   WFRS 15th Heritage Rose Conference - Brussels, Belgium
May 2024        WFRS 20th World Rose Convention - Fukuyama City, Japan

FRIENDS OF THE FEDERATION

Since its introduction in 2010 over 100 individuals from around the globe have donated funds 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
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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.
Donations, with the exception of Friends for Life, cover the period until the conclusion of the 2021 World Rose Convention in Australia.

Friends donor forms can be downloaded from the WFRS website - www.worldrose.org

Welcome New Friends!
WFRS FRIENDS’ LUNCHEON

Sunday 28th April 2019, Nanyang China

A great Friends of the World Federation of Rose Societies lunch was held at the superb Nanyang Holiday Inn Hotel during the WFRS Regional Rose Convention held in Nanyang China. Around 25 Friends joined WFRS President Henrianné de Briey at the Chinese-themed luncheon.

Arranged by our host and Friend, Dr. Shiwei Zhao, the traditional Chinese luncheon featured many local specialties which catered for all tastes. The luncheon provided an opportunity to update those present on various matters concerning the Friends.

Firstly, we now have over 100 Friends of the Federation, with approximately 25% of these being “Friends for Life”. Secondly, the new protocols to be used in relation to the Friends’ events were well received and certainly made the administration arrangements for our hardworking Executive Director, Derek Lawrence, and Treasurer, Diane vom Berg, easier and more efficient.

Finally, those present were reminded that we are seeking potential projects/initiatives which might be supported by a “grant” from donations received from the Friends.

The aim of the Friends of the Federation is to provide an opportunity for individuals to support and promote the World Federation of Rose Societies and its objectives which are for the advancement of education for the benefit of the public in Horticulture and the conservation, cultivation and classification of the Rose.

One suggestion received is that we could use some funds to assist in translating notable rose related books into English. Another suggestion is to support a scholarship for a student or graduate to experience work in a famous rose garden in another country. Other suggestions are also welcome. Please send your ideas to our Executive Director dereklawrence@talktalk.net.

It would be great if we could decide on one or more projects when we next meet in Kolkata in 2020.

Finally, new ‘Friends’ are always welcome. You will find the details for joining the ‘Friends of the Federation’ group on our website.

Kind regards,

Kelvin Trimper AM
Chairman, WFRS Promotions Committee
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**June 2019**

WFRS World Rose News 39