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EDITORIAL

We start 2015 with the first World Rose News for the year giving descriptions of the Regional Convention held in India late last year. This appears to have been a convention with a difference and I am sure you will enjoy reading about the gathering of rosarians in this colourful country in the pages that follow. Never before have delegates ridden elephants during a rose convention!

The Heritage Rose Society of Australia held a most successful Conference in Tasmania at the same time as the Indian Convention – the first to be held on this charming island.

Helga Brichet has served two terms of three years each as Chairman of the Publications Committee and according to WFRS regulations is not eligible to stand again. We thank her for her guidance and leadership. There can't be many roles in the WFRS that Helga has not carried out! My thanks go to Diane vom Berg, our able Treasurer. I also thank the publication team, Steve Jones, Malcolm Watson and Ethel Freeman for their participation and support since October 2012 and in particular for their meticulous proof reading which has required great patience!

As always I wish to thank the contributors to this issue and in particular to those not writing in their home language. I believe it is an honour to be invited to write for WRN, but not easy in a different language. I am grateful to each one and appreciate the time spent to provide enjoyment and information for all rosarians.

Best wishes to each and everyone and I hope to see you in Lyon.

Sheenagh Harris
Immediate Past President
and *World Rose News* Editor



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January, 2015



**PRESIDENT
2012 - 2015**

Since my last message in the World Rose News, there hasn't been much activity other than Susie and me attending the WFRS Regional Convention in Hyderabad, India. We signed up for both the pre- and post-tours which took us to several gardens throughout the country. I have always wanted to visit India for the food, people, history, culture, etc. that dates back to the earliest times of written history. WFRS Vice President Ahmed Alam Khan promised us a great time and great food and he delivered.

As we found out when we arrived, January and August are the best times to see roses in India as some of the gardens were in the state of being cleaned up for the January bloom. Unfortunately with the World Convention in Lyon, the dates had to be moved up from the peak times. I was very impressed with the WFRS Garden of Excellence Award winner from 2006, the Government Rose Garden in Ooty. The garden does have a "wow" factor as you look down from the first level. Here we were met by many television and newspaper interviewers. We were also met there by government officials and members of the Nilgiris Rose Society. The garden is pruned so there are roses in bloom year round. The volunteers did an excellent job keeping the roses and rose beds nice and clean.

In Hyderabad, there were three other amazing rose gardens, all only six months old, the one at Sanjivayya Park and the two new gardens at the farm of Ahmed and his family. At the latter, there are three rose gardens here, two are new, the one at the textile company with 2500 roses from Indian rose breeders, and the fabulous garden at the Green Valley Farms complex which features 20000 roses. Ahmed himself designed these gardens. The third and older garden was near the stables where we held the closing ceremony. That garden has about 10000 roses. Imagine over 32500 roses in all!

The convention was well attended with 418 attendees, 56 from outside India. Special thanks go to Sushil Prakash and his wife for hosting the Friends dinner. I was not able to attend due to another commitment, but everyone who went had a wonderful time at a restaurant with awesome views and food. During the talks, the speeches were very good, entertaining, and educational. Many focused on the routes of roses through India and the east. At the closing ceremony there were over 2000 people attending including friends and the local community, and what a feast!

The post-tour was mostly visiting tourist places such as the Taj Mahal. We did visit the National Rose Garden in Delhi where we saw the effects of water shortages and testing to find the right rootstock for their extreme weather. We were met by the Rose Society of India officers and members. Here we met with the Minister of Horticulture for India, Dr B C Katiyar who took time out of his busy schedule to visit with us. He oversees all of the Government Gardens for the country of India. They did have a nice collection of Indian bred roses. I was thrilled to increase my rose photography collection this trip with over 500 pictures of India bred roses.

I would cover other aspects of the convention and tours, but they were expertly handled by our other authors in this edition.

Next up is the World Convention in Lyon. The turnout has been very good so far and many of the pre- and post tours are already sold out, so register soon!

Steve Jones

Reception at The Government Rose Garden in Ooty (photo supplied by D. Suresh)



Back Row Standing: TJ Meeraboi, Asst. Dir. of Hort., GK Umarani, Asst. Dir. of Hort., Mr. Sabramanian Samraj, Dep. Dir., N Mani, Joint Dir. of Hort., D Suresh, Hort. Officer, Mr. Ramji, Pres. Nilgiris Rose Soc., Vijay Nair.

Front row Sitting: Mrs Kumar, Mrs Srinivasan, Susie Jones, Steve Jones, WFRS Pres., K Krishna Kumar, Past Pres. Nilgiris Rose Soc., D Sreedharan, Dr Srinivasan, Former Atomic Energy Commission Chairman, Mr Goutham.



Taken at the Opening Ceremony (photo Steve Jones)

Convener and WFRS Vice President Ahmed Alam Khan (in brown suit) between his mother and father Mr and Mrs Shah Alam Khan, local government officials in white, Princess Esra and brother Mahboob Alam Khan (with hat).

WFRS REGIONAL CONVENTION, HYDERABAD, INDIA

Rose Eternal



PRE- CONVENTION TOUR — Text and photos Daniel Boulens (France)

When Sheenagh Harris asked me if I can do the report of the pre congress tour of this Indian Regional WFRS Convention, I must confess I was a little bit scared because it was very challenging for me. First because my English language is not so good, and second because the difficulties communicating to you the feelings we experienced during the six days in this part of India. I'll try to do my best to share with you the greatest emotional moments of this trip.

Our trip began on 23rd November from Bangalore. There were 31 people attending this pre-convention tour, representing 9 different countries. Our guide, Mr Subrahmanyam, whose nick name is Naja, escorted us and did his best to explain this so complex country, with its very rich history and multi-ethnic cultures.

We started to discover this rich culture visiting the Hindu “bull temple” dedicated to Nandi, the rogue bull that destroyed the peanut crops so the temple was built to appease him and he stopped the destruction. The temple is the biggest one in the world. That explains the number of Hindus visiting the temple at the same time as us. Let's continue to discover Bangalore.

Bangalore is the capital of Karnataka State, a big city, with more than 11 million inhabitants. It is one of Asia's fast growing cosmopolitan cities with a huge demand from technological giants worldwide, so it's called the “silicon valley” of India. Despite this industrial side, Bangalore is known as the “garden city” of India, with plenty of trees everywhere in the city, along the roads, highways or in the individual properties. Yes, we felt this green atmosphere and especially when we visited the botanical garden.

We enjoyed the visit to the Lal Bagh Botanical Garden, in the company of Mr Gunavanth, deputy director, and Mr Srilam, collector of plants. They are both perfect in their knowledge of the names of all these tropical plants and trees. It was very new for almost all of us.

Lal Bagh means “the red garden” because of the colour of the big rocks and hill in red granite in the heart of this park. The Lal Bagh Rock is said to be one of the oldest rock formations on earth, dating back 3000 million years. We climbed it!



The glass house of Lal Bagh Botanical Gardens

The garden started initially as a private garden in 1760, and was further developed and completed in 1782 by Tipu Sultan. Subsequently, the British and the Indian Doyens of Horticulture developed this garden and in 1856 it was given the status of government botanical garden. Today this garden is approximately 100 hectares with more than 1000 species of flora and some trees are more than one hundred years old.

We saw a magnificent glass house modelled on London's crystal palace built by John Cameron, the superintendant of Lal Bagh between 1889 and 1890.

We all looked forward to what the rose garden was going to hold for us. But personally, I was a little bit disappointed on discovering it. The rose garden is not open to the public; it is more like a conservatory. They started this rose garden in 2002/2003, and at this time, there were more than 800 different varieties and they improved the rose garden every year by planting 200 new varieties. However, without labels, it was difficult to recognize the varieties. Another strange thing for me was the way of cultivation. As we are in a tropical zone, the rose bushes have no real rest period and they prune the bushes twice a year in June and November, but only by reducing one third of the size of the bush, totally differently to what we are used to in our temperate climate.



The rose garden in Lal Bargh



**Richard Walsh, David Elliott, Paul Hains
in the rose garden**

After this very interesting visit, we continued our sightseeing of Bangalore, in the busy traffic of cars, buses and tuk tuks. We saw from the bus, the biggest park in the city, Cubbon Park, and some of the public buildings, like the Government Palace, the museum with its red colour and we had a stop to visit Tipu Sultan's elegant palace built with teak pillars and frescoes.

We made another short stop for a walk around the State Central Library garden. This is a rose garden that unfortunately we were not able to enter, but in a nice environment with Royal Palms (*Roystonea regia*) and many other big trees including a nice tree in full bloom with pink flowers (*Tabubeia rosea*). *Tabubeia* is from South America (Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Salvador, where it is the national tree).



The magnificent *Tabubeia rosea*

After this full day, we were pleased to come back to our hotel and enjoy a buffet dinner together. I must say, this time was important for me to create new relationships with the other companions of this pre-convention tour.

Our second day trip was from Bangalore to Mysore, approximately 150 km in a southerly direction. I forgot to tell you, that on the first day the weather was nice with the temperature between 25° and 28°C, a little bit different compared with the 6°C we had when we left Lyon (France), 2 days previously.

After 3 hours driving, our first stop was to visit Tipu Sultan's Palace and Mausoleum in Srirangapatnam, a quite charming place to visit! Tipu Sultan built this tomb as a tribute to his illustrious father Hyder Ali and his mother. It is a very elegant structure, a mausoleum in white and black marble. This place is near the summer palace, with the walls richly decorated and illustrated with the history of the battles of Mysore.



The group in the Tipu Sultan's summer residence



Walking to the Tipu Sultan's Mausoleum

Let me provide you with some information about Tipu Sultan, because this important man created the history of this place and India.

Tipu Sultan (1750 – 1799), was also known as the Tiger of Mysore; he was the ruler of the kingdom of Mysore. He introduced a number of administrative innovations during his rule, like the coinage, a

lunisolar calendar, a new land revenue system which initiated the growth of Mysore silk industry. He was a pioneer in the use of rocket artillery (especially used in the siege of Srirangapatna 1792 and 1799 against the British forces and their allies). Tipu succeeded in creating a large empire and in creating alliances (for example with Napoleon). He won important victories against the British in the second Anglo-Mysore war and negotiated in 1784 the treaty of Mangalore. He was killed on 4 May 1799, defending his fort of Srirangapatna. The Karnataka Government has been trying recently to portray Tipu Sultan as a State Hero. He is regarded as a hero in Pakistan as well.

We had our lunch in a small restaurant under a shelter near the Kaveri river. It was a nice place to stay during the warm hours of this day. Then we continued to Mysore to see the outstanding palace of this city.

Mysore is the third largest city in the state of Karnataka. It was the capital city of the kingdom of Mysore for nearly six centuries, from 1399 until 1947. The population of Mysore is a little less than one million inhabitants.

Mysore is noted for its palaces, including the Mysore Palace, and for the festivities that take place during the Dasara festival when the city welcomes a large number of tourists.



The group at the Palace of Mysore

The **Palace of Mysore** (also known as the **Amba Vilas Palace**) is a historical palace in the city of Mysore. It was the official residence and seat of the Wodewars, the Maharajas of Mysore, the former royal family of Mysore, who ruled the princely state of Mysore from 1399 to 1950. The palace houses two durbar halls (ceremonial meeting halls of the royal court) and incorporates a mesmerizing and gigantic array of courtyards, gardens, and buildings. The palace is in the central region of inner Mysore, facing the Chamundi Hills eastward.

Mysore Palace is now one of the most famous tourist attractions in India, after the Taj Mahal, and has more than 3 million visitors annually. Naturally, we had to remove our shoes to enter and visit this sumptuous palace with hundreds other visitors.

We finished the day at Windflower Hotel, quite a nice residency, with a generous and succulent buffet.

The third day, we went to Bandipur.

After 3 hours driving we reached the Bandipur National Park and our hotel located in the jungle. We had a short walk of one hour in the deciduous forest of this “jungle” with a local guide who explained the geography and history of this place to us. Bandipur National Park, was established in 1974 as a tiger reserve. It was once a private hunting reserve for the Maharaja of the Kingdom of Mysore. Bandipur is known for its wildlife and has many types of biomes, but dry deciduous forest is dominant.

The park spans an area of 874 square kms, protecting several species of India's endangered wildlife. Together with 2 other joining parks, it is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve totalling 2183 km², making it the largest protected area in southern India.



After our lunch, we went to the headquarters of the park for a safari of 2 hours in the forest. We divided our group in two subgroups; each group went in a small open jeep to discover the wildlife of this forest. We started at 4:00 pm and continued until sunset; it is the best time to see the wildlife.

Our tour started in a deciduous forest composed of teak (*Tectona grandis*), laurels, giant bamboos, and invaded with *Lantana camara*. After a few minutes, we saw many spotted deer, a peacock and a little bit later 3 Asian elephants. After one hour and half our guide shouted “tiger”. The driver hurriedly stopped the jeep. Then, I saw for a few seconds (no more than 5 seconds), on my left side, the orange and black striped back of the tiger. Those of us who saw the tiger, even for a few seconds, can be considered lucky because it is extremely rare to see tigers in the wild. On the way back, we saw, a sambar (a sort of big deer with big horns) and a group of gaurs (a kind of great oxen). We went back to the hotel at dark and shared a nice buffet.

A sambar in Bandipur National Park

On the fourth day, we travelled to Ooty. The road from Bandipur to Ooty is really spectacular. The road climbs up to 2 200 meters (elevation of Ooty), and is narrow with many curves. Our driver was excellent, but in the bus we could hear many “oooh’s” and “aaah’s” when we had to pass on-coming trucks or cars with huge precipices beside us. On the way, we had a stop to take pictures of the tea plantations under the planted trees (*Grevilea robusta*). We finally reached Ooty and the Savoy hotel by lunch time.

Ooty (also called Udhagamandalam), is a town, and the district capital of the Nilgiris district in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It is a popular hill station located in the Nilgiri Hills. Nilgiri Hills can be translated as the Blue mountains, but why exactly, we don’t know...maybe the blue smoky haze given off by the *Eucalyptus* trees?

Originally occupied by the Todas (a local tribe), the area of Ooty came under the rule of the East India Company at the end of the 18th century. Today, the town's economy is based on tourism and agriculture. Its historic sites and natural beauty attract tourists. The population of Ooty is estimated to be a little bit less than 100,000 inhabitants.

The British developed the town as a residence for summertime. When the temperatures in the plains were above 40°C, Ooty provided fair temperatures (20° - 25° C). When the British discovered this place, they said “it resembles Switzerland, more than any country of Europe...the hills beautifully wooded and fine strong springs, with running water in every valley”. They named this place: the “queen of hill stations”.

After our lunch we went to the Government Rose Garden in Ooty. As we got off the bus, we were greeted by an important delegation of officials of the government, reporters and many locals.

Steve Jones was received by Mr Kristna Kumar, founder and Past President of the Rose Society of Nilgiris, by the Director of Government Horticulture, Mr Shitersenan, Mr N. Mani, Joint Director, and M. Shiva Subramian Deputy Director. He was interviewed by radio and local papers.



Steve Jones with hosts in Ooty Garden

During this time, we visited this outstanding rose garden. The Government Rose Garden (formerly known as the Centenary Rose Park) is the largest rose garden in India. It is situated on the slopes of the Elk Hill in the city of Ooty at an altitude of 2200 metres, with ideal climatic conditions for growing roses. Temperature variation is less and the rainfall distribution is uniform in this place, which results in a long flowering season. We were told that this was not the best time for the roses.

Initially, when the gardens were developed, 1 919 varieties of roses with 17 256 rose plants were planted. Today this garden has more than 27000 plants of 4 200 cultivars.

The collection of roses includes Miniature Roses, Ramblers, Hybrid Teas, Yakimour, Polyanthas, Papagena, Floribunda and roses of unusual colours like green and black. The varieties of rose plants planted here were assembled from different sources around the world.

The garden has been laid out with rose tunnels, pergolas and bowers with rose creepers. From the upper platform place we observed the entire rose garden, arranged in 5 curving terraces covering 4 hectares.

The rose garden received the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence for being the best rose garden in south Asia, during the Osaka Convention in May 2006, (at the same time as "Parc de la Tête d'Or" in Lyon, of which I am the general manager). This garden is one of the 35 gardens worldwide to have won this award.

The best season to visit this outstanding rose garden is April and May. The pruning period is the second week of February. The gardeners used a lot of mushroom compost. 120 gardeners are employed to maintain the garden in perfect condition. Many of them were present during our visit and were very proud to host us and to present their garden. They were very kind with us and we were pleased to congratulate each of them.

We spent more than 2 hours in this garden, but we had to leave at sunset, with a last group photo on the stairs with the officials.



The group in outstanding Ooty Rose Garden

Then we had an official reception, hosted by the Nilgiri Rose Society at the Gem Park Hotel. We expressed our sincerest gratitude to our hosts who provided us with such a sumptuous dinner.

On the next day, after a cool night at 2,200 m above sea level, we went to the Government Botanical Garden, called Udhagamandalam. We were hosted by Mrs Uma Rani, Assistant Director of Horticulture, and Mr Isiraj and Kannan, two eminent specialists of the botanical garden and local flora.

The Government Botanical Gardens was laid out in 1848. The Gardens, divided into several sections, cover an area of around 22 hectares, and lie on the lower slopes of Doddabetta Peak. The garden has a terraced layout. It is very well maintained by the Tamil Nadu Horticulture Department, with a staff of 200. It ascends the slopes of the hill at an elevation of 2,250–2,500 metres. As the garden enjoys a temperate climate, and an average rainfall of 140 cm, with temperatures comprised between 0°C and 28 C, it is suitable for a considerable number of plants.

The gardens have around a thousand species of plants, shrubs, ferns trees, both exotic and indigenous, herbal and bonsai plants. The gardens consist of several lawns with flowering plants and ferns laid out in an Italian style, several plots of flowering plants, and a variety of medicinal plants.

I noticed some species of botanical interests: *Cordyline australis*, *Cedrus deodara*, *Araucaria bidwilli*, *Podocarpus taxifolia*, *Cupressus macrocarpa*. In a conservatory, there were many colourful annuals like cyclamen, Primulas and Schizanthus. A flower bed of the state government is the pride of the gardeners and the locals.

This visit was too short for me because it was so interesting to be guided by so eminent a specialist who could answer all our questions about the names of the plants.

After a tea break, we had to go to our vehicles to visit a local tribe, called Todas. It was just at the upper limit of the botanical garden. The Toda people are a small pastoral community who live on the isolated Nilgiri plateau of southern India. The Toda traditionally live in settlements consisting of three to seven small thatched houses, constructed in the shape of half-barrels and spread across the slopes of the pasture. The Toda lands are now a part of The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, under consideration by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for selection as a World Heritage Site. Many members of our group bought handicraft products crafted by the Todas we met on this site.

Then, we came back to our bus to visit a tea factory. It was worth it to come here! We saw all the different stages from the entrance of the freshly picked tea leaves until they are packed, ready for sale. We could not finish our visit without tasting the real Nilgiri's tea. It was really nice, but I must admit that the shop of local chocolate was my preference!

We had our lunch once again at the Gem Park Hotel. On the way, we saw a magnificent hedge of giant dahlias (*Dahlia imperialis*). This giant Dahlia can reach 8 – 10 m high (it is a native of Central America). The flowers are lavender or mauvish-pink. Here it is considered as a weed! What a nice weed!



Mr Mahboob Alam Khan's garden

In the afternoon, we visited a private property, Mr Mahboob Alam Khan's garden. We were really surprised to see this private garden of one hectare, created 45 years ago and maintained with a staff of thirteen. The collection of roses was considerable for an individual with 1 550 different varieties, including scented roses. Roses were not the only plants; this private collector is fond of orchids (130), cyclamens (400), and ferns, fruit trees (cherry, apple, plum, and peach trees). A big *Magnolia grandiflora* stands proudly on a side of this well maintained garden. The staff was so kind to us, and they served tea on the lush green lawn.

After a last stop, to visit shops, we went back to the hotel, to participate with the cook at a "mixing cake" for Christmas (a kind of pudding). We mixed many dried fruits and filled them with different alcohols. This blend will be left to marinade for 4 weeks before cooking it with special pasta to make the cake. I can't imagine what it will be in one month. Happy Christmas for those who will taste it on this occasion!

26th November was our last day and was used to drive to Coimbatore to catch the flight to Hyderabad, so we left the quite charming place of Ooty and on the way we stopped at the city of Coonoor.

Coonoor is located at an altitude of 1 850 m above sea level. It is well known for its production of Nilgiri tea, and it is the second largest hill station in the Nilgiri Hills after Ooty. The population is around 50000 inhabitants.

The purpose of our stop was to discover another botanical garden: Sim's Park, belonging to the Department of Horticulture. We were hosted by the Horticulture Officer, Mr Moorthy, and at the end by the Assistant Director, Dr V. Ramsundar.

This park spreads over an area of 12 hectares and has a collection of over 1000 plant species, including magnolias, pines, tree ferns and camellias. The botanical garden is partly developed in the Japanese style and derived its name from J. D. Sim, the secretary of Madras Club in 1874. They told us that there is a famous annual attraction every year in May consisting of a fruit and vegetable show.



Dombeya spectabilis

During our too short visit, I noticed a nice tree with big pink flower clusters. The name is *Dombeya spectabilis*. As I am French, I wanted to tell you a little bit more about this plant. The generic name commemorates Joseph Dombey (1742-1794), a French botanist and explorer in South America, involved in the notorious Dombey affair, embroiling scientists and governments of France, Spain and England for more than two years. I suggest you read this exciting adventure of botanists and governments in the XVIII century, a real detective novel!

After a last look at the small rose collection and a tea break with our hosts, we quickly boarded our bus to go to Coimbatore. From Coonoor to Coimbatore the difference in altitude is nearly 1 400 m. and the distance between the two cities is less than 65 km, so you can imagine the general slope of the road. I don't know if we were late or not, but I have to say that it was an impressive time in the bus especially when we had to pass another vehicle coming in the opposite direction. Finally we arrived at 1:00 pm at the Coimbatore International Airport, where we thanked our guide, driver and helper and took a first flight to Bangalore and a second flight to Hyderabad to join the convention centre and the regional convention of the WFRS.

To conclude, I would like to say that this pre-congress tour was excellent with a lot to discover. All our hosts have been so kind to us that I wish to pay tribute to and give thanks for the services and high level of expertise and capability. I express my most sincere gratitude and thank them.

The highlight of this tour in the field of roses was the discovery of Ooty rose garden, a must see! However, according to me, all the botanical gardens were particularly interesting and deserve more time to better discover the rich flora they display in their environment.

We have had a brief notion of the history of this region of India, with the history of Tipu Sultan and the different palaces, a brief notion about religion visiting the temples, a brief notion of gastronomy with the spicy but succulent food, but most important of all, we felt in friendship with all the people we met. Everyone gave of their best to make this trip totally successful.

Thank you so much for all of you, and in my thanks, I would not forget Richard Walsh, from Australia, who helped me to write this text in a correct English version.



LECTURES PRESENTED AT THE WFRS THIRD ASIAN REGIONAL CONVENTION

Text - Helga Brichet – Italy - Photos – Yuki Mikanagi – Japan

COLLECTING ROSE SPECIES IN ASIA AND THEIR CONSERVATION IN QUARRYHILL

The keynote lecture was by Dr. William A. McNamara. Due to unavoidable impediments Dr. McNamara was unable to be present. His lecture was presented by Mrs. Helga Brichet.

Quarryhill Botanical Garden is situated some 70 kilometres north of San Francisco, California and is the brainchild of Jane Davenport Jansen, who bought 42 acres at the foothills of the Mayacamas Mountains in 1968. Mrs. Jansen added another 20 acres before her untimely death in 2000. An agreement was reached by which the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the Howick Arboretum, Northumberland and Quarryhill should jointly participate in expeditions to China, Japan, India, Nepal, Taiwan and Myanmar to collect seeds and herbarium material to share with botanic gardens, universities and scientists around the globe.

In China, home of the richest temperate flora on earth, plants are today threatened with extinction from rapid economic development. Thus documenting plant species in the world and providing botanic gardens with living specimens plays a major role in global conservation. Today Quarryhill has one of the most significant collections of wild-collected temperate plants from Asia in Northern American. Amongst the most significant of these are the wild roses, particularly the *R. chinensis* var. *spontanea*, found on a joint expedition in Sichuan in 1988, and the *R. odorata* var. *gigantea*, the three forms of which originate in north-eastern India, Yunnan and Myanmar. An expedition was organized in the spring of 2014 to this last country, when flowers were spotted and the position carefully noted in order to return for seeds later in the year, a goal which was accomplished the following October.

Dr. McNamara's lecture included beautiful images of the various colour forms at Quarryhill, the *R. chinensis spontanea* in Sichuan, the *R. gigantea odorata* in both Yunnan and Myanmar, and terminates with a list of species roses so far collected and now growing in Quarryhill.

N.K. Dadlani: INDIAN ROSE BREEDERS

Although India is one of the ancestral homes of wild roses and garden roses have been popular since Moghul times, it appears that no Indian varieties were raised until the beginning of the 20th century, and then in two distinct phases: Pre-independence, when most of the breeding was done by nurserymen, who provided little information as to their methods, and Post Independence, when nurserymen were joined by several amateur breeders and also research institutes.

From Bihar in the east, breeding started and the first Indian-bred varieties were 'Dr. S.D. Mukherjee' (1935) by B.K. Roy Chowdhury and 'Ramakrishna Dev' (1941) by B.S. Bhattacharji and Sons, the pioneers of rose breeding. Several nurserymen from other areas, such as Bangalore, Lucknow, Jaipur, Dehradun, Meerut, Jamshedpur and Maharashtra followed suit. Remarkable service to the Indian rose world was done by K.S. Gopalaswamiengar and Son by also introducing into commerce varieties developed by amateur breeders, who have contributed tremendously to this country's rose heritage. Two amateurs in particular, Dr.B.P. Pal and M.S. Viraraghavan, by adopting highly scientific approaches to their breeding, have ruled the numerous groups and put Indian rose breeding on the global horizon.

The 1960s heralded the era of scientific rose breeding, a powerful stimulus being provided by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, headed by the eminent Dr. B.P. Pal. More attention was given to careful selection of parents and their choice as seed or pollen parents. Other



research institutions engaged in rose breeding, include the National Botanical Research Institute, the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research.

Today the rose breeding programmes could be divided into two main areas: those for new varieties for the cut-flower trade and those for garden roses. However in the absence of the protection of intellectual property rights in India until recently, local varieties are rarely exhibited at rose shows, and only a few plants are multiplied, as the demand is low. There are no trial grounds in the country, so local varieties are not tested for various climatic conditions. Nevertheless a number of Indian varieties have received international recognition and bear testimony to the passion for roses which endures throughout the country.

Girija and M.S. Viraraghavan –

BORN IN THE FOREST, REBORN IN THE GARDEN – A TALE OF TWO INDIAN ROSE SPECIES



The question which solicits a reply is: why are Indian wild roses required for breeding roses for India and other warm regions in the world, which clearly need a separate line of breeding from those roses bred for cold hardiness in Europe and the USA? Clearly because new blood is required to reinvigorate the old Teas, Chinas and Noisettes, mainly of European origin. So the *R. clinophylla* and the *R. gigantea* seem to be the two species which indicate a logical start to warm climate rose breeding. Of the former three forms exist, from moist to warm-dry to subtropical climatic conditions, while the *R. gigantea* hails from the mountains of Manipur State, in north- eastern India. Securing plant material of these wild roses was arduous, but plantlets and seeds were collected in Kodaikanal and, by various stages, garden roses evolved from the original wild species.

Starting with the *R. clinophylla*, two different approaches were adopted, one involving crosses with the HT 'Mrs. B.R. Cant' and the other with the Floribunda 'Little Darling'. The former gave 'Pink-Pink', later used in further crosses at the diploid level, producing comparatively dwarf growing plants, the first to be released being 'Ganges Nymph'. The second approach eventually produced 'Virmont'. Two hybrids of which were introduced in 2005 – 'Ganges Mist' and 'Silver Dawn'. To date the best of this series is the repeat-flowering shrub 'Pat Henry', with a distinctive fragrance, which we speculate to be a gift of the *R. clinophylla*.

Also with the *R. gigantea* two types of crosses were used, one with the Noisette 'Reve d'Or' and the other with the HT 'Carmosine'. From the former several good climbers were raised: 'Amber Cloud', 'Manipur Magic', 'Sir George Watt' and 'Sir Henry Collett'. The crosses with 'Carmosine' clearly inherited this rose's broad petals and include 'Katsuhiko Maebara', 'Evergreen Gene' and 'Frank Kingdon Ward'.

Work continued with the variety 'Carefree Beauty' from the USA, resistant to cold and heat, resulting in 'Naga Belle' and 'Allegory of Spring', both repeat-blooming. The Floribunda 'Brown Velvet' was crossed with 'Katsuhiko Maebara' and eventually produced 'Golden Threshold', which performs well

in many parts of the world and has yielded a range of shrub roses in eye-catching shades. The newest teas to be released are 'Faith Whittlesey', 'Lotus Born' and 'Aussie Sixer'.

It is the Viraraghavans' hope that young rose breeders take up the challenge of enlarging the genetic base of modern garden roses, thereby ensuring that they remain the world's favourite flowers.

T. Janakiram - ROSE RESEARCH IN INDIA

Breeding by Indian nurserymen and amateurs is initiated by the earliest varieties raised in 1935, a phase dominated by B.S. Bhattacharji and the nursery of KSG and Son in Bangalore, particularly the Hybrid Teas, as well as the Jaipur nursery of Anand Roses. In recognition of contribution made by the Agricultural Research Institute in rose breeding, three of its varieties were used as fragrant postal stamps. In 1956 the Indian Agricultural Research started a National Rose Collection.

In 1969 Indian grown roses were exported to the USA, some receiving good reports and receiving recognition. As plant breeding evolved into a science rather than an art, so plant production became an industrial process.



All India Coordination Floriculture Improvement Project contributed to the documentation and conservation of genetic resources, including the 25 species roses reported to grow in the wild in India. The Indian Agricultural Research Institute, founded in 1905 has been breeding garden roses since the 1960s, also conducting mutation breeding, and is now one of the major rose breeding centres in the country.

The Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru, Karnataka is identified as the national repository for roses and is also one of the National Test Centres for DUS (Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability) testing of varieties supported by Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority. It has also taken the initiative in breeding roses suitable for protected cultivation. The National Botanical Research Institute in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh has developed ten Hybrid Teas, one Miniature and one Climber.

The Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource Technology in Palampur, Himachal Pradesh developed the country's first thornless rose, "Himalayan Wonder" for protected cultivation. It has also standardized the production and processing technologies of aromatic roses and released five varieties of the *R. damascena*. Evaluation of wild seed oil has also been undertaken with a view to better food values.

Strategies for breeding include the strengthening of germ-plasm with promising varieties and species, the bulk crossing amongst varieties suitable for cut flowers and the evaluation of promising seedling and existing varieties under poly house conditions. Rose research in the future intends to focus on the development of cut flower varieties under open and protected conditions, the development of varieties for loose flower production, the development of fragrant, garden varieties and varieties with value added production, but also to breed varieties for biotic and abiotic stress.



Robert Mattock - THE SILK ROAD HYBRIDS

(A film of the author's lecture)

It is generally accepted that those rose varieties which carry the remontant gene from Asia to Europe were transported by sea towards the end of the eighteenth century. The present thesis proposes that they arrived in Europe far earlier via the Silk Road during the classical Period of Antiquity. Indeed the roses carried along this road were hybridised en route and cultivated and multiplied by nurserymen, possibly for the production of rose water. This thesis

sets out to establish where and when those cultural exchanges, that enabled the hybridisation of remontant roses took place, through the analysis of cultural records and the exploitation of DNA genetic markers.

The author notes evidence of remontant roses in Roman times as well as in Babylon in 331BC, upon the entry of Alexander the Great into that city. At that time it is said, only two roses bloomed in the autumn, the single *R. moschata* and the double "Autumn Damask." The only wild roses displaying the characteristic of remontancy are the *R. chinensis*, the *R. fedtschenkoana* and the *R. rugosa*. As plants in general and roses in particular do not naturally trans-migrate latitudinally because their polarity is aligned longitudinally, this type of transmigration could only have occurred with the intervention of man.

Damask roses come in two distinct forms – the once-flowering summer form and the repeat-blooming autumn form. They were cultivated in profusion by the Romans, above all for their fragrance to make rose water and rose oil. Today they are still widely cultivated commercially throughout Iran. In 2000 three Japanese biochemists demonstrated that the *R. x damascena* is a hybrid of (*R. moschata* x *R. gallica*) x *R. fedtschenkoana*. The relatively thornless, scented and late flowering *R. moschata* has perhaps never been truly wild and probably arose in the area of the western Himalayas. The late-blooming *R. fedtschenkoana* is native to central Asia and North Western China, while the *R. gallica* is to be found over large areas of Europe.

Therefore the question arises, how, when and where did these three species meet? Geographical features, notably the Pamir an Himalayan ranges and the South Western China glacial refugium did not favour latitudinal hybridisation, while as said, plants do not naturally mover from east to west. Consequently this transmigration of the remontant gene in the *R. fedtschenkoana* could only have occurred through man's intervention.

What then was man's incentive? There is documentary and illustrative evidence of sophisticated cultivars being grown in China during the Classical period, but there appears to be no evidence of these having been imported into Europe. At the same time the Silk Road, a trade route which linked the Mediterranean to China from the 2nd century BC was presumed to having been populated by merchant-traders' caravans passing along and thus bringing all sorts of delights in both directions.

However a recent study by the historian Valerie Hanson of Harvard University found subsistence living and local barter as well as an important role played by the Chinese military along the route. Most important too was the evidence of waves of religious refugees fleeing north and then east. One common denominator would have been their use of rose water as an essential feature of their religious ceremonies. Thus rose growers followed the refugees, taking their best varieties to plant as they resettled. Naturally a remontant rose would supply a far greater volume of petals. Therefore it could be likely that a great incentive for importing the remontant gene was religious and economic demand.

The research continues!

Helga Brichet - ITALIAN ROSE HUNTERS IN THE EAST

Italians are renowned as travellers since earliest times and many travelled east and remained there for many years, above all, in order to carry out missionary work. The Franciscan Giuseppe Giralaldi, for whom the *R. giraldii* was named, was able to collect valuable herbarium material. The Jesuit Giuseppe Castiglione arrived at the Imperial Court in Beijing in 1715 and became a court painter, remaining there for some 50 years. Amongst the flowers painted in the imperial gardens, five roses testify to the sophisticated hybridizing accomplished at that time.

However this lecture centres upon the travels of a couple of modern-day rose lovers, Isabella and Vittorio Ducrot, who as tour operators, had the possibility to visiting many exotic places in the East. As the couple's interest in nature increased, these tours took on an increasingly botanical nature, and cuttings they took became part of their extraordinary collection in their "wild" in central Italy.

Four trips were organized with the specific purpose of searching for wild roses. The first was in 1991 to Kashmir, between the Himalayas and the Pir Panjals, which had been the preferred area of summer retreat of the Mughal Emperors. In the foothills the *R. webbiana* was spotted along with hedges of a double, thorny yellow rose, perhaps a form of the *R. foetida persiana*.



After a short visit to northern Yemen, where they found a rose similar to the *R. moschata*, with solitary blooms which appear in the spring and autumn, the Ducrots planned a trip along part of the Silk Route from Urumchi, in Sinkiang. Here they found large bushes of semi-double Rugosas in the Botanical Garden, whilst along the road leading up to Lake Tianchi at some 2000 metres, the slopes were covered with small yellow roses, emanating a scent between the incense of the *R. primula* and the stale butter of the *R. foetida*. After negotiating the Karakorum Highway they descended into the valley of Gulmit, where there was the amazing discovery of thick bushes of semi-double, red roses with the scent of the *R. foetida*, growing amongst hedges of the *R. foetida persiana*.

A third trip was organized in 1997 to Yunnan after reading the Rix and Phillips book 'The Quest for the Rose.' They followed the same itinerary as these authors, but then continued to the highlands of Zhongdian, the territories explored by the American Joseph Rock. Along the road a strange form of the four-petalled *R. sericea pteracantha* with white and pink petals was noted, as well as numerous wild roses including the *R. wilmottiae* and the *R. pendulina*. At the monastery of Ganden a large, strongly armed shrub with semi-double salmon to dark pink flowers and Moyesii-type leaves could perhaps have been the *R. prelucens*.

The last voyage in search of roses took place in 1998 in Himachal Pradesh, India. From Simla the party proceeded to Sarahan, where along the edge of the forest the *R. pendulina* and a form of the *R. moschata* were spied. At Kalpa there were clumps of the Alba rose already found at Shigar, in Pakistan, whilst the *R. webbiana* accompanied them along the road as far as Tabo.

Hopefully the Ducrot adventures have inspired all to share their joy and the privilege of seeing these flowers in the countries of their birth.

Yuki Mikanagi –

NATURAL HABITATS OF WILD ROSES IN JAPAN AND THEIR CONSERVATION



In Japan about 73% of the islands are mountains and hills, whilst most of the population lives in cities and towns on the limited flatlands. It is necessary to consider the varied habitats and the relationship between nature and the human population.

Natural Habitats of Wild Roses in Japan include 31 national parks plus 54 almost national parks aiming to preserve the natural spectacles for future generations. Many contain alpine roses native to Japan such as *R. nipponensis*, *R. hirtula* and *R. fujisanensis*. These parks are protected by rangers and the public is aware of preserving their flora and fauna.

Roses in hilly areas growing in commonage or forests. *R. onoei hakonensis* and *R. sambucina* are found along paths and streams in forestry areas, whilst *R. davurica alpestris* and *R. bracteata* are found on commonage, but as cattle do not eat thorny plants, the fate of the roses largely depends on the forestry workers and stock farmers in the area.

Roses in Satoyama (woodlands and fields near human habitats – sometimes near rice paddies.) These are places known for their rich biodiversity, but which recently face the menace of urban development and hybridization with garden varieties. Roses on riversides and seashores. Roses here often face the menace of natural disasters and damage caused by bank protection work, which may result in the reintroduction of genetically different wild roses from other localities, destroying the original colony.

The ex-situ conservation of wild roses in rose gardens and botanical gardens is proceeding in a number of sites in Japan. For example, the Hamadera Park Rose Garden has a complete collection from wild habitats with perfect data of their transfer.

There are future problems to face in order to solve the problems of large scale public works and urban development, genetic pollution, correct identification of species and also rousing public interest in wild rose conservation. A successful example of this is the conservation programme of *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta* run by the NPO and the local government offices.

Wang Guoliang - MIRACULOUS OLD ROSES IN INDIA AND CHINA

(Presented by Zhao Peng.)

This lecture focuses on the comparison of the old Indian rose 'Kakinada Red' with the Chinese rose 'Baoxiang', and the evolution and identification of the latter. These two varieties nowadays have various names in different countries, such as 'Pacific' in Bermuda, 'Maggie' in America, 'Kakinada Red' in India and 'Baoxiang' in China.

'Pacific' in Bermuda may be regarded as representative of most Chinese old roses there. It is said to have been taken to the island by Capt. Samuel Conyers Nemes (1777-1867) on a voyage to the Pacific and the same rose is said to be seen in Fiji and Caribbean islands.

'Maggie' in America was found by William Welch in Louisiana and has proved to adapt to tropical as well as cold winter weather, such as New York. 'Kakinada Red' in India was named after that port town by Girija and Viru Viraraghavan and is a rare, old variety with a sweet fragrance used for making garlands.

'Baoxiang' in Japan. For many years ornamental plants have been introduced into Japan from China. In *A Collection of Illustrative Shiowa Herbals*, published in Japanese in 1703 'Baoxianghua' illustrates a tree peony-like rose, absolutely not the Chinese 'Baoxiang' rose. 'Baoxiang' in China. The name means Royal Portrait and usually refers to Buddha. From the Song Dynasty numerous written records document the existence of this rose, which was extremely rare, with double, repeating flowers, nearly round leaflets with sharp serrate edges, a strong scent. It was also a climber and supposed to originate in Chengdu, Sichuan, but later with a very wide distribution.

Recent in-situ investigations by the author in Yunnan, Sichuan and Jiangsu provinces show all the characteristics to be the same with the exception of slight colour variations. Genetic analysis of 'Pacific', 'Maggie' and 'Kakinada Red' in Canada and in the USA has shown that all three are the same, while molecular evidence shows all three to have the same origins, despite being far apart. The above evidence of the existence of the 'Baoxiang' rose is based on written records, however the author noticed an ancient painting showing the main features of this variety a thousand years ago. A porcelain plate dating to the early 18th century too reveals a vivid and realistic 'Baoxiang'.

Thus the combined evidence supports the view that the ancient and also present rose in China is very similar to those roses variously named around the globe, all possessing almost the same characteristics. While the evidence of more direct genetic analysis is still lacking, it is to be hoped that some day this research may be completed.

Mahmooda Hashmi - ROSES IN PAKISTAN AND THE INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT



Pakistan and India, like other Asian countries are rich in species roses. In the former, wild roses are specially found in the northern parts of the country, where some still await identification. The author takes some of the popular roses in this subcontinent into consideration.

Alba Rose: The original Alba is not a true wild rose, but originated as a natural hybrid. These old, white, garden roses make very elegant additions to the garden, thriving under difficult conditions. They are tall, strong and long-lived and very disease resistant. In the valleys of Swat, Chitral and Ziarat they are vigorous climbers.

R. macrophylla: This is a deciduous shrub found in the Himalayan forests in Pakistan and also in scrubland, but too in India, Nepal, Bhutan and China. The erect shrub produces dark purple stems, with deep pink blooms. The fruit is bottle-shaped and bright red. In Pakistan it is common in Parachinar, the Murree Hills, Kurram, Chitral, Swat and Hazara.

Mardan Rose: The *R. laevigata*, in Pakistan named for the town of Mardan, is to be found in two colours, white and pink, which is rare. The white form is quite common in Mardan, Peshawar, Islamabad and other towns. Its dense foliage and sharp thorns make it suitable for hedging.

R. x damascena: This rose grows wild in some areas, the blooms are often pink or white and semi-double or double. It has been grown and used for perfume, attar of roses and rose water in the sub-continent for a very long time and is therefore considered indigenous. The foliage is downy and grey-green.

R. canina: This is the most common of wild roses found the in northern hemisphere with white or pink flowers. The fruit is oval, scarlet and abundant. It is native to western Asia and Europe and grows widely in Pakistan. *R. foetida*: A vigorous shrub, this species has bright yellow, single flowers with an unpleasant odour and dark brick-red hips. It is found in Kurram, Hazara, Quetta and Ziarat, but its place or origin is considered to be the Middle East. The *R. foetida bicolor* produces petals which are orange on the upper sides and yellow on the reverse. It is to be found in Swat, Kalam, Utror and Hazara.

R. xanthina is a medium shrub with very small leaves and deep yellow, small flowers borne on short stems and may be found in Chitral, Drosh, Bumboret, Kurram and areas adjoining Afghanistan. It is native to Iran. *R. foetida persiana* is found growing in the regions of Quetta and Ziarat. *R. hemisphaerica*: A low shrub with large, very double, globular flowers, which grows on dry slopes and roadsides and which is often cultivated. It has many strong curved prickles and grey-green leaflets. In Pakistan it is found in various parts of Baluchistan province.

R. odorata pakistana: Flowers small, pink and double. It grows wild in Swat, Buner and Chitral and could be considered as indigenous to these areas. *R. bracteata*: This rose may be grown as a climber or a ground cover. The flowers are large and white with prominent stamens, borne over an extended period. It is to be found in the valley of Parachinar, Chitral, Swat and Kalam.

R. moschata: Another Himalayan rose which has long been in cultivation and is often confused with the Himalayan Musk Rose, a tall, climbing species that bears flowers in late spring, with a similar scent. *R. webbiana*: The flowers are single and lilac pink, slightly scented with prickly stems and yellowish thorns. Hips are bottle-shaped or globular and red. It forms a dense shrub with plum-brown stems when young. The leaves are small and rounded. It is native to the western Himalayas. There are a number of unidentified wild roses to be found in inaccessible areas – at least the moment.

Behcet Ciragan - TULIPS, TRADERS AND ROSES

The story of the introduction of tulips into western Europe is well known and resulted in the Dutch tulipomania of around 1636. These blooms originated from Istanbul, however it is now assumed that there were about 120 species, three quarters of which originated in central Asia. Human migration routes are covered with tulip species from central Asia to as far as the Crimea. The author proposes that women carried these bulbs on their way to unknown destinations.

By the 16th century the Ottoman Turks' skill for tending plants and blooms as Islamic representations of heaven amazed westerners, however the most significant impact in gardening terms was made by the Mughal Emperors, whose dazzling imperial gardens became as much a symbol of royal prestige as those of Koranic paradise.

Regarding traders, the author concentrates on maritime trade between China, India, the Near East and the Mediterranean, all of which came into being many thousands of years ago. In the Indus delta Roman merchants off-loaded manufactured goods and took on commodities from distant regions including Afghanistan and China. By the first century AD the shipping routes across the Indian Ocean had already been well-established. The voyage to India was shortened by using the summer monsoon for the outward voyage while coasting the shores of Oman using the northeast monsoon.

There are many records of Persian trade with China after the Arab conquest in the 7th century and by the 11th century regular sailing to China occurred. Then however, the main trade routes changed, Cairo replacing Baghdad at the western end, while in the Mediterranean maritime trade passed into the hands of the five Italian maritime republics. The return trip of Marco Polo after his 17-year stay in China was by sea from Canton to Hormuz. The role China might have played in trade in the Indian



Ocean was later taken up by the Portuguese, who also frequently attacked the Red Sea merchants, inevitably leading to the slow decline of Venice as a trading capital despite fleeting revival of the spice trade via Bagdad and Aleppo or via Damascus. Thus the author concludes that significant trade existed from at least the 11th to the 17th centuries between China, the Middle East and the Mediterranean. (Excluding the Silk Road from consideration.) That is well before the Portuguese rounded the Cape of Good Hope.

This far, the author has shown how one of the outcomes of the expansion of Islam was that many plants were imported and distributed to other countries. Seeds too could be easily moved with the means of transport existing until the 17th century. It was in countries other than those in Europe that gardening culture was in full bloom, private gardens being rare in Europe before the Renaissance.

Some possible areas of further research:

1. The popular myth regarding the introduction of the Rose de Provins or *R. gallica* 'Officinalis' into Europe by Thibaut 1V on his return from the crusades.
2. The widely cited study which is said to have demonstrated that both the summer and autumn forms of the *R. damascena* originated from the crossing of (*R. moschata* x *R. gallica*) x *R. fedtschenkkoana*.
3. Knowing that there is a whole range of moschata-type roses extending from southern France, over north Africa and as far as Japan, with further research evidence should be found that the distribution of the *R. moschata* and hybrids covered the entire Islamic world prior to the 17th century.
4. The assumption that the *R. x centifolia*, synonymous to *R. provincialis*, was imported into the Low Countries, (the 17 "provinces") would explain why it is not mentioned in Europe before 1580. While they might not have bred it, the Dutch certainly continued to perfect it.
5. The tale of the origins of the "Rose Edouard" is indeed contradictory and puzzling, already being doubted as early as 1852.

As current rose history is still much based on 19th century myths, it is now possible to come to more factual conclusions with systematic analysis, genetic studies as well as field studies, involving rose lovers and experts globally. Only so will it be possible to comprehend the travels of *Rosa* throughout the centuries.

Tuan Ching - ROSES IN SINGAPORE

Singapore has an extreme tropical climate with high daily temperatures, high rainfall and a scarcity of land. However Singapore prides itself as being a Garden City with a world-class orchid industry and two climate-controlled glasshouses. One of these is the world's largest free-standing greenhouse, called Gardens by the Bay. The cultivation of roses in urban spaces is not practiced as the city has at hand a plethora of tropical plants to choose from. However potted rose plants are imported from Holland, trucked in from Thailand and Malaysia and require a vital period of acclimatisation in order to survive the heat.



Mass urbanisation began in the 1950's, but until the 1990's it was possible to see mature specimens of the local old garden rose, commonly known as 'Village Rose' as also a pink variety very similar to the 'Rose Edouard'.

These thrived with minimal care, but are quite rare nowadays and even more rarely found in Commerce – given the preference for modern HT forms and brightly coloured, massed blooms. HTs and Chinas are the roses most commonly grown in Singapore, while climbers and ramblers rarely flower well and the once-blooming OGRs need a crucial winter-dormancy period in order to bloom.

Recently grafted modern hybrids have appeared, however the plants usually dwindle in 5 to 6 years, due to the unrelenting heat. *R. fortuneana* grafted varieties are also becoming available and hopefully will thrive as those in the southern USA.

In Singapore the majority of roses are grown in pots in apartment buildings, in corridors and on balconies. Limited direct sunlight is a blessing while protection from torrential rains save blooms from being wrecked.

A few cultural details are crucial for growing roses well under these conditions: porous, fast-draining potting media, adequate fertilising and judicious pruning. Here the most popular potting medium is burnt earth, imported from neighbouring countries. Nurseries often add coarse pulverised coconut coir and charcoal chips that are well-draining organic materials which do not disintegrate easily.

A regular schedule of daily watering with a nutrient-rich mix helps sustained growth and blooming. Additions of Epsom salts, phosphate and bone meal are also important.

Own-root roses grow slowly in the heat, thus aside from deadheading and disbudding, nothing should be pruned unless diseased or broken. Roots should be trimmed every two to three years in potted plants and the potting mix be refreshed at the same time. Hard pruning for rejuvenation and other western methods for pruning roses that go through winter dormancy must be avoided.

What is the future for rose gardening in Singapore? Local nurserymen should make more grafted, proven varieties available. Thai growers are now looking into Indian hybrids, while classic old 'Village' varieties should be reintroduced. Rose trials conducted in other hot climates might indicate the way to discover those roses which do well in our particular climate.



Kalyan Chakrabarti, N. V. Shastri, Zhang Zuoshang, Zhao Peng, Mariam Ahmad Ghazali led by Paul Hains

WFRS REGIONAL CONVENTION – Text and photos Paul Hains - Australia

The WFRS Regional Convention in Hyderabad began with a poolside Meet and Greet at the Novotel Hotel. This was a great opportunity for delegates to catch up with those from other countries and to meet many of the local delegates from India. Many of the international delegates had travelled together in the pre-tour and were excited to catch up with other friends in Hyderabad.

After lunch the delegates were allowed access to preview the rose show. As soon as you entered the room you were immediately halted by the view of Hyderabad's Char Minar gate, recreated with 100,000 roses. This structure towered above everything else in the hall. What was even more impressive was, they only started work on it at 7pm the night before. This was the main feature of the show and would become the backdrop for thousands of photos with delegates proudly posing in the foreground.



Char Minar Gate – Hyderabad



Susie and Steve Jones

A large number of rose society members were displaying roses which was great to see. Some were going slowly and methodically and others were rushing with fervour. This is a scene reminiscent of most rose shows I have attended. I was keen to see how some of the exhibits would turn out for the show.



Daniel Boulens and Nicole Gilson watch the judges

With around 800 delegates to the convention there was a gigantic hall full of excited rosarians for the Opening Ceremony of the Rose Show.

The Indian Rose Federation was honoured to have the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister, Telengana and the Honourable Home Minister present to open the Rose Show. Also present on the stage were WFRS President - Steve Jones, IRF President - Ahmed Alam Khan, IRF Past President – P.S. Rao, and IRF Secretary – Vijay Kant. Nawab Shah Alam Khan, Past President of IRF, was also in attendance for the opening ceremony.

After the key guests had given their welcoming addresses there was the Inauguration of the Convention with the Lighting of the Lamp Ceremony on the stage.

The Rose Show was now open for viewing and there were some amazing displays. Sanjoy Mukherjee's arrangements were amazing. I watched him starting to assemble the arrangements only

hours before and was amazed by what he had created in such a short time. He was nicknamed the 'Magician of the Roses' by some of his colleagues. His Indian Style entry won Best Arrangement of the Show.

Mr K. Sriram Gopalaswamiengar and his father recreated the roses from the magnificent government garden in Ooty that we had been privileged to see in the pre-tour. They used the flowers from the garden in Ooty that they had transported to the show.

Floral Art Schools had many displays around the auditorium showing different techniques and ideas for arrangements with roses.

'Blue Ocean', a rose hybridised in India by Dr Y.K. Hande, won the King of the show. It is a very large, high centred mauve HT.



Sanjoy Mukherjee's winning arrangement



The Rose Show



'Blue Ocean'

Arshad Bhiwandiwalla created a page on Facebook titled WRC Hyderabad Images that enabled delegates to share their photos with one another. This was a wonderful idea and opened us up to the ways other delegates viewed the show. It is interesting to look at things from another's perspective. After the rose show we were delighted to attend the Keynote Lecture written by William A. McNamara and presented by Helga Brichet. The topic was 'Collecting Rose Species in Asia and their Conservation in Quarry Hill.' Bill has been collecting and documenting naturally occurring plant species in the wilds of Asia for 26 years. The Quarry Hill Botanic Garden houses species roses grown from seeds collected in the wild with the primary purpose of conservation and education.

The Opening Banquet was preceded by an exquisite display of Bollywood dancing. The banquet included cuisine from the local region and gave delegates the opportunity to catch up and discuss the rose show and their travels in India so far.

The second day included four lectures in the morning and was followed by the Rose Show Awards. After the awards and lunch we all caught air conditioned coaches to visit the public gardens. The first garden was the Public Gardens, Hyderabad created by the Government of Andhra Pradesh Department of Horticulture. This was a large renovated central lawn with a fountain that was surrounded by hundreds of rose bushes. The rose garden was attached to a large public garden area where locals could be seen having picnics and gatherings with family and friends.



GHMC Indira Park

We continued on to GHMC Indira Park which included 3000 plants of over 300 rose varieties. Most of these roses were modern roses with a range from miniatures through to Hybrid Teas on display. It was a very formal garden with paving used to divide the rose gardens. Each garden bed was 3m by 3m and included 9 plants of a variety. It was very well maintained and presented an opportunity to see many international varieties and their growth habits in the Indian climate.

The final garden of the day was Sanjeevaiah Park, Rose Garden of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority. This was a magnificent rose garden that swept you across it as you took in the curving grass and paved paths that gave it a soft and welcoming feel. Dandelion fountains led you down one side and a cascading waterfall meandered gently down the slope towards you at the end of the garden. A quick climb up the steps rewarded you with a view of the entire garden. It was amazing to think that the plants had only gone in 6 months earlier. This garden is a tribute to the work of the rose growers in India with thousands of roses on display. There were many structures for climbing roses to gradually take over. It would be very interesting to revisit this garden in 2 or 3 years' time when the plants have developed more. We were also treated to a wonderful sunset at the close of our visit.



Makota Hiraoka, Yuki Mikanagi and Paul Hains



Sanjeevaiah Park - Rose Garden of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority

Day 3 of the convention began with a number of excellent lectures and presentations from the Lyon World Rose Convention in 2015, the Beijing Regional Rose Convention in 2016 and the Uruguay Regional Convention in 2016. I am sure many delegates were inspired to attend these events. The afternoon started with a City Tour on air-conditioned coaches. This took delegates around the city to many of the beautiful sites including the Char Minar gate.



Upon returning to the hotel for a rest and catch up with friends, many of the delegates were invited to a function at Nawab Shah Alam Khan's house. This was a great honour and we were treated to a magnificent banquet prepared by Mahboob Alam Kahn, Ahmed's oldest brother. There were many local specialties that could be enjoyed and I do not think it was possible to taste everything available as there was such a big selection.

Local street vendor food

The afternoon on the final day was an opportunity to visit the garden of the Convenor, IRF President Ahmed Alam Khan. Green Valley Farms has a collection of 30,000 rose bushes that were all in full flower. This was a magnificent display for all who were able to attend. The grass paths were wide enough to allow hundreds of visitors to wander the gardens with ease. The fountains were spectacular and well-lit at night. It was a fantastic display of mostly Indian-bred roses.

The party at the house included Bollywood dancers on a large stage and a banquet of food from regions such as Kashmiri and Awadhi. There was also a presentation to Ahmad Alam Khan by Pushpanjali's owner Pranabar, Asoke Maity for the release of a new rose 'Ahmad Alam Khan.'

The Indian Rose Federation created a wonderful event for their Regional Convention in Hyderabad. I know many people have come away with the feeling that India really is a magical place to visit.

POST CONVENTION TOUR — Text and photos - Mireille Steil (Luxembourg)

We were 36 people taking part in the post-tour; some of us had already been together on the pre-tour. From Hyderabad we flew to Delhi where we were in the charge of our guide who was to accompany us for the whole week. A bus took us to Agra and even after two weeks in India, we wondered how the drivers manage to get through the traffic without major damages and what rules they follow. On the road you have plenty of yellow-green rickshaw-cars, motorbikes carrying whole families and colourful decorated buses with people even sitting on the roof – to us complete chaos.



As seen in the streets of Delhi



The city of Delhi gave me the impression of a cleaner place than all we had seen up to now. Under the bridges you could nevertheless notice there were families living there. Women with children in their arms approached the bus, asking for some money and it was very hard not to give them some rupees. But as soon as you give money to one of them, there will be 20 others appearing and you won't get out of it anymore. All the women in their saris, no matter whether they are rich or poor, always looked nice to me.

The distance to Agra was 250 kilometres, in India four hours and a half by bus. On the border of the state of Uttar Pradesh we had to pay a toll to enter the state. In the countryside there was less traffic on the roads and it was dark when we arrived in Agra. Here we had dinner on the terrace of our hotel from which we were supposed to have a view of the Taj Mahal. By night we couldn't see anything of the famous palace and even the next morning, the only thing we could discover was the top of one of the domes.

After breakfast, we walked to the Taj Mahal. It was hard to make our way through all the rickshaw drivers who wanted to give us a ride and all the owners of the little souvenir shops who offered us their souvenirs in white Indian marble. After the security check we entered through a red door and in front of us we saw the world-famous Taj Mahal. All of us were impressed and enthusiastic. This was the highlight of our journey.



Taj Mahal



The post Convention group outside the Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal was built by Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Maha, who died during the birth of their 14th child. It is regarded by many as the finest example of Mughal architecture, a style that combines elements from Islamic, Persian, Ottoman Turkish and Indian architectural styles. The construction began around 1632 and was completed around 1653, employing thousands of artisans and craftsmen. When standing in this white marble mausoleum, we forgot the thousands of tourists surrounding us; we were deeply overwhelmed and fascinated by its beauty.

We took the obligatory souvenir-picture and left the Taj Mahal for a site where we were shown the art of sculpturing the marble. Here the artists showed us how they sculpture this stone and how to polish it to get the shiny colour. As everywhere we had to cross the shop on our way out- and here you could find everything, from the marble table over the elephant, bedcovers, jewellery, scarves and so on.

After lunch, we visited the Red Fort. The fort can be more accurately described as a walled city and our guide explained the long history of the site, a story with a lot of complicated names. In the evening we had the possibility to attend the theatre where they played the story of the Taj Mahal.



The Red Fort

The next day we continued to Jaipur, the pink city, capital of Rajasthan. On our 6 hour journey by bus you could hear coughing all the time, most of us had caught a cold or had some problems with the smog and the dust.

In the evening we arrived in our hotel, an ancient Palace. It looked very glamorous but inside there wasn't the luxury the façade promised. On this first evening we were invited to another hotel where a special dinner was prepared for us, accompanied by music and dance.

On the next morning our guide took us to the Palace of Winds or Palace of the Breeze, a palace so named because it was essentially a high screen wall built so the women of the royal household could observe street festivities while unseen from the outside. After a short photo-stop we continued to Amber Fort.



Palace of Winds

Amber Fort was built by Raja Man Singh I and is known for its artistic style of Hindu elements. With its large ramparts, series of gates and cobbled paths, the fort overlooks the Maota Lake, at its forefront. The palace was lived in by the Rajput Maharajas and their families.



Amber Ffort and Maota Lake

As soon as we were out of the bus, we were surrounded by merchants offering us the traditional scarves, pictures, wooden elephants, etc. Painted elephants took us to the palace on top of the mountain, a shaky trip, and all along the path Indian photographers took pictures of us which they offered us later for money.



Amber Fort

**Elephant ride to
Amber Fort**



Amber was the capital of Kachhawaha-Rajputen until 1727. We were shown the different palaces dating from that period. The most remarkable one was the Mirror Palace.



Mirror Palace

After our return downhill by jeep, our guide took us to a factory where people were weaving carpets and printing fabric. The visit was followed by the obligatory tour through the factory-owned shop. Everybody was offered free Indian rum to inspire us to make a choice between all the carpets. And as usual, most of us returned to the bus with a bag or had ordered a carpet which is home-delivered.



Carpet sellers

On the following day on the way back to Delhi, we visited the astrological park of Jantar Mantar. The Jantar Mantar is a collection of architectural astronomical instruments, built by Sawai Jai Singh who was a Rajput king. It is modelled on the one that he built at the Mughal capital of Delhi. He had constructed a total of five such facilities at different locations, including the ones at Delhi and Jaipur. The Jaipur observatory is the largest and best preserved of these. The observatory consists of fourteen major geometric devices for measuring time, predicting eclipses, tracking the location of stars as the earth orbits around the sun, ascertaining the declinations of planets and determining the celestial altitudes and related ephemerides. Each is a fixed and 'focused' tool. The Samrat Yantra, the largest instrument, is 27 m high, its shadow carefully plotted to tell the time of day. Its face is angled at 27 degrees, the latitude of Jaipur. The Hindu chatri (small cupola) on top is used as a platform for announcing eclipses and the arrival of monsoons.



To this day, the observatory is used by astrologers, for instance to calculate the auspicious date for weddings and students of astronomy are required to take lessons at the observatory.

Jantar Mantar

Next stop was the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II City Palace. This is a large complex, with gorgeous buildings and a marvellous collection of art and artefacts. A major part of the City Palace consists of the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum. It is also the residence of the Jaipur Royal Family.



Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II City Palace

After the bus trip back to Delhi we had lunch in our nice hotel before visiting a local market. As it was Sunday, it was so crowded that our guide told us to walk in a line and to take care to keep contact in case of loss as he would never find us in this crowd. We managed to get through without losses and went to visit the Jama Masjid mosque. We, the women had to wear a Cape to enter this holy place.



Jama Masjid Mosque

This is the principal mosque of Old Delhi in India. Construction began in 1650 and was completed in 1656. It lies at the beginning of the Chawri Bazar Road, a very busy central street of Old Delhi. With three great gates, four towers and two 40 m-high minarets, it is constructed of strips of red sandstone and white marble. About 25,000 people can pray here at a time. The mosque has a vast paved rectangular courtyard, which is nearly 75 m by 66 m.

When coming out of the mosque, our guide offered us a tour in a rickshaw back to the bus. Everybody enjoyed this trip through the narrow streets lined with small shops and restaurants, with the smell of spices, fruits and the food.



Leo Watermeier and Barbara Wood enjoy a rickshaw ride in the streets of Delhi



Raj Ghat – memorial to Mahatma Gandhi

Our next stop was Raj Ghat, a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. It is a black marble platform that marks the spot of Mahatma Gandhi's cremation on 31 January 1948, the day after his assassination. It is left open to the sky while an eternal flame burns perpetually at one end. It is located on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi, India on Ring Road officially known as Mahatma Gandhi Road. A stone footpath flanked by lawns leads to the walled enclosure that houses the memorial. Ghat walls is a very quiet place in the centre of this pulsating city.

Our last day started with a site-seeing tour through the embassy quarter - the residence of the President of India. It is a very clean district where you don't find slums or dirt on the street and where we were not allowed to stop to take pictures.



Residence of the President of India



On that day we were invited to the rose garden of the Rose Society of Delhi. It is a very nice garden which, in 1982, started with 600 varieties of roses on 5 acres, but several of them have perished. They also planted 6000 wild roses, on which they are going to multiply. The members of the society had organized a lovely reception for us with tea, coffee and cake.

Reception in the Delhi Rose Society Garden



Members of the Delhi Rose Society



After lunch we were shown Qutb Minar, a soaring, 73 m-high tower of victory, built in 1193 by Qutab-ud-din Aibak immediately after the defeat of Delhi's last Hindu kingdom. Our guide always told us a lot of interesting facts about Indian history, but to me it was impossible to remember all these complicated names of the former rulers. The tower has five distinct storeys, each marked by a projecting balcony and tapers from a 15 m diameter at the base to just 2.5 m at the top.



Qutb Minar in detail

Qutb Minar - 73 metres high

With this visit our tour closed and after a little shopping tour with our guide we returned to our hotel. On this evening we had our last dinner together and we agreed that the last three weeks were really "Incredible India"

So many impressions, people, sites and monuments, without my photos, I surely wouldn't remember all of it.

HERITAGE ROSES IN AUSTRALIA TWELFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Text and photos - Sue Zwar - Australia

Australia has just held its twelfth heritage rose conference, for the first time in Tasmania, when about 150 rose lovers from all parts of Australia, as well as New Zealand, USA, South Africa and the UK enjoyed a fascinating ten days in “the apple isle” seeing and hearing about “cool roses for a cool climate”.

During the first day of the pre-conference tour we visited four gardens south of Hobart, most with magnificent views over the sea and hilly terrain. Perennials, especially delphiniums, thrived in these gardens with their cool, moist climate. We were all amazed at the size and colouring of the roses, all larger, deeper in colour and more luxuriant than those grown on the mainland. 'Albertine' seemed to be a favourite, covering trellises and archways in most gardens. The Kordes rose, 'Cinderella', made an excellent pillar and was a mass of soft pink, apple-fragrant blooms. We saw 'Pierre de Ronsard' in nearly every garden we visited, a mass of creamy pink blooms hanging from archways, pillars and trellises. And David Austin roses featured prominently in most of the gardens, all very large plants and massed with colour.



'Pierre de Ronsard' at Bracken Ridge, south of Hobart

We had one free day in which to enjoy Hobart at our leisure and many people took advantage of the afternoon bus tour which drove us to some of the many sights around Hobart coupled with a very interesting commentary.

Day three had us driving north of Hobart towards historic Richmond with its many old Georgian buildings and convict built stone bridge. On the way we visited Richard Weston's peony farm where we frantically tried to scribble down the many words of wisdom he told us about growing asparagus and other vegetables, olives and of course, peonies. Two other lovely gardens were on the agenda as well as a delicious lunch at Morville House with wonderful views from the front verandah over the rolling countryside. At the entrance to the garden a spectacular *fortuneana* style rose had us all puzzled and a quiz to name it found only three correct entries – the Alister Clark rose, 'Cherub'. It was then on to the magnificent Hobart Botanic Gardens to complete the day.



Admiring 'Albertine' at Cilbrook, Cambridge, near Hobart



'Pierre de Ronsard' at the Hobart Botanic Gardens

Day four and it was off to Launceston via Ross, a small historical village with its beautiful old convict built bridge. On the way we visited two memorable gardens, viewing both of them in the rain. Folko Kooper's garden was filled with his exquisite sculptures in bronze, glass, stone and steel and Gay and Laurie Clark's Bagdad magical garden crammed full of all sorts of goodies – a real cottage garden, my favourite here being 'Comtesse du Cayla'.



Folko Kooper's garden and bronze rose sculpture



Bagdad cottage garden in the rain

The conference began on the evening of 1st December with a buffet meal at the Old Tramsheds and an entertaining opening by Jim Cane, a horticulturist and knowledgeable rosarian. Jim went on to MC most of the conference proceedings.

Lectures began the next day with the indomitable David Ruston doing his flower demonstrations with a huge array of flowers collected especially for him. After his hour's allocation David spent another couple of hours in a back room making sure that all the magnificent flowers were used. These arrangements beautified both the stage and the meals venue for the whole conference.

Both Peter Boyd and Pat Toolan wowed us with their knowledgeable expose of respective loves, Scots Roses and 'found' roses in Australia. Sheenagh Harris entertained us all with her enlightening and often amusing descriptions of roses named for royalty from King Arthur to Queen Elizabeth II.



Sheenagh Harris overwhelmed by 'New Dawn'

Noel Button gave an interesting discourse on iris and their requirements with special emphasis on bearded, siberian and spuria iris. Neutrog, as the major sponsor, had their marketing manager, Vince Davey, give a very interesting outline of the company and its past, present and future direction. But the undeniable highlight of the conference was the moving and passionate tribute New Zealander, Murray Radke, paid to his love, 'Brandy Hill' – the name of his garden at Alexandra - and the gradual collection he has made of the many old roses in New Zealand. There wasn't a dry eye in the auditorium as we all rose in a standing ovation at his conclusion. It was not an easy task for Sheenagh Harris to then close the conference but she managed admirably in her usual competent and professional way.

Part of the conference included, of course, garden visits and we were taken to four large and beautiful gardens as well as to fascinating Brickendon Village where we viewed life as it was in the 1830s on a large self supporting farm.

The conference concluded with a grand gala dinner, a superb meal in the Tramsheds complex. A very accomplished young harpist, Joanne Mitchelson, entertained us through the evening with an added compelling excerpt of "Danny Boy" played on the panpipes. The Dean Ross Memorial Award was made to Pat Toolan for her untiring contribution to the collection of old roses and Life Membership was awarded to George and Jacqui Davies for the enormous effort they have both committed to the rose garden at Araluen in the Perth foothills.

The post conference tour covered two days of garden visits. The first was centred around the beautiful landscape west of Launceston in the Deloraine area where the Western Tiers formed a majestic backdrop. 'West Park' was surrounded by magnificent dry stone walls and the large garden had many beautiful trees around which were restrained garden plantings. Another garden surrounded by a high stone wall was 'Old Wesleydale' This remarkable garden was made up of many rooms, the outer garden enhanced by wonderful old farm buildings and the extensive use of rugosa roses and the inner garden being very English with masses of formal hedging. Here the delphiniums were a real highlight. After strolling along Chudleigh's main street where rose plantings, especially rugosas and

hybrid musks, made a great statement, we visited two gardens in Deloraine both of which housed many cottage garden delights along with dogwoods, camellias and deutzias.



Delphiniums and lupins at Old Wesleydale

The second day honed in on the historic homesteads, Clarendon House, Franklin House and Entally House. We were also able to look through the homesteads all furnished in the traditional lifestyle of their time. The bonus of the day was our tour of the Brickendon garden, the homestead still owned and lived in by the seventh generation of Archers. This garden is a plantsman's paradise with a huge array of unusual perennials, shrubs and trees. Amidst many spectacular roses 'Sally Holmes' held pride of place, a huge mass of creamy single blooms.



An overview of the walled garden at Entally House

Sadly all conferences have to end but all delegates agreed that the organisers, Dorothy Lane and Gail and Richard Yellowley, had done an excellent and very professional job in showing us all what a beautiful garden state Tasmania is.

FUTABA ROSE GARDEN LOST FOREVER

Akira Ogawa - Japan



Futaba Rose Garden prior to the calamities of 2011



The deserted garden after the family were forced to evacuate due to the 2011 disaster

More than three years have passed since the north-eastern areas of Japan were hit by magnitude 9 earthquakes and a tsunami. In the same year, Australia, New Zealand, the US, and South American countries also suffered from terrible natural calamities: floods, earthquakes, forest fires, etc. Mr. Richard Walsh, the then editor of the *WRN*, kindly spared pages of Vol. 22 of the journal (June 2011) for reports of those disasters, and the Japan Rose Society reported on the situation after the disasters, extending our sincere gratitude to rose loving friends of the world for their kind concern. In this report, we briefly referred to a rose garden located near the nuclear power plant damaged by the earthquakes and tsunami, reporting that the owner of the garden had to evacuate with his family. In the next issue of the journal (Vol. 23, Oct. 2011), Yuki Mikanagi gave more detailed descriptions of this garden, and expressed her regret that the roses, to which the owner of the garden had been giving all his tender loving care, would now have to bloom without being admired by anyone when the flowering season came.

Futaba Rose Garden was opened about 40 years ago by Mr. Katsuhide Okada and his family and was taken care of by their own hands. Though not so large in area, it was praised by many rose lovers for its excellent design, a design which appealed to the traditional sense of beauty the Japanese have long entertained. Skillfully arranged roses and companion plants looked really beautiful, though not excessively gorgeous, and well harmonized with the green of the trees. Distant mountains and fields provided a splendid background for the scenery of the garden. However, what appealed most strongly to the visitors to the garden was the thorough and scrupulous care Okada and his family gave to the roses and other plants in the garden throughout the year. Their affection was well reflected in every scene and every plant in the garden, and left an indelible impression on the mind of everyone who visited the garden.

We can hardly imagine how disappointed and sad Okada and his family felt when they were forcefully evacuated from their hometown, leaving behind the rose garden they had so sincerely loved and taken care of, because of the fear of radioactive contamination in the surrounding areas of the nuclear power station in trouble. We hear that when he visited the garden several months later, wearing protective clothes – the townspeople were allowed to visit their old homes once in three or four months to see the conditions of their houses and to pick up necessary belongings – Okada heard the roses saying to him, “Why did you come to see us now?”, and when he left the garden, “Are you leaving so soon?” As months passed by, the weeds in the garden grew thick, wild hogs dug up the rose beds, and many roses began dying. It must have been a heart-rending experience for him to see the deserted garden, almost reverting to the wild, the scenes he had never imagined before the accident took place in the nuclear power station. He says he could not bring himself to grow roses in the garden of his new home, because he could offer no excuse to the roses in Futaba, which he was obliged to forsake.

In February last year, a group of amateur photographers in Yokohama who used to admire Okada's garden in Futaba and often visited it to take photos there before 2011, staged in Tokyo a photo exhibition: “Futaba Rose Garden, Past and Present”. One of the group members, Ms. Emi Kinebuchi, who, before 2011, used to visit the garden for ten consecutive years to take photos of the roses there,

wrote a letter to encourage Okada, and then the photo instructor of the group, Ms. Hisako Matsuda visited him, showed beautiful photos of Futaba Garden and its roses Kinebuchi had taken, and tried to persuade him to join in and support their plan. Okada was not so willing at first, but seeing the beautiful photos of his garden, he accepted Matsuda's request, and when he visited his old home next time, took photos of the garden deserted after the accident in the nuclear power plant.

The exhibition, which displayed photos of many beautiful roses in the garden, as well as those of various scenes of the garden taken by group members side by side with those of the same scenes Okada took after 2011, was a great success. Okada came to the exhibition hall, and while talking with visitors about the past and the present of the garden, felt he was taking back his former self little by little. The exhibition has also been staged in five other cities after that, and has achieved big success as it did in Tokyo.

This year, two other records of Futaba Garden, in different genres, were published. One was a book entitled *The Rose Garden of Fukushima* written by Ms. Maya Moore, an American lady who has had her home in Japan since her father's generation. Ms. Moore visited the above-mentioned photo exhibitions in different cities, and came to the idea to leave the record of this garden in a solid form. She discussed her plan with members of the group who staged the photo-exhibitions, and wrote a history of Futaba Garden, from how Okada came to conceive deep love of roses, to open the rose garden in the lot which used to be his father's fruit orchard, how he and his family took care of the roses with sincere love, and after the misfortune in the 2011, how those who used to love this garden came to stage photo exhibitions in Tokyo and other places, and how Okada came to retrieve his energy and to bring himself to grow roses once more.

The book is filled with beautiful photos taken by the photo group members which reminds us of the wonderful rose garden lost forever, as well as those taken by Okada, encouraged by Ms. Matsuda, when he visited the garden after the accident in the power station. It is an important document which, not just records the history of a rose garden, but eloquently tells us how the rose can move people's hearts in different directions, sometimes to sadness, sometimes to joy, and how the common love of this flower can create and strengthen the ties between people.

Very favourable comments have already been given to this book by some distinguished people, including the former U.S. ambassador to Japan. The book is available on amazon.co.jp.

The other record is a 26 minute documentary entitled *My Dear Rose Garden Lost Forever* made by You Production in Tokyo. It is made up of interviews with Okada, and displays various scenes of the garden and related events including the photo exhibitions mentioned above. Okada's quiet way of speaking impresses on its viewers the deep sorrow he has suffered at the loss of his dear rose garden. The documentary starts with the quotation of Thomas Gray's famous lines: *Full many a flower is born to blush unseen and waste its sweetness on the desert air* – referring to the sorrow of the roses in the garden no more visited by their admirers. Okada explains how he came to love roses and to open his rose garden; how he heard the voice of his roses when he visited the garden after the accident of the nuclear power plant; how he managed to bring himself to grow roses in the garden of his new home. The cameraman accompanied Okada on his visit to his deserted rose garden, and made scrupulous records of the lost garden and the sorrow Okada felt at different scenes of the desolation. The documentary ends with a song "Don't Desert Me" – the voice of the roses who have lost their master. The language and captions are in Japanese, but a version with English subtitles is also available by connecting to U-tube.

In conclusion, these records impress us with the power roses exert on our hearts. We realise how in their beauty we find peace of mind, and how sad it is to lose opportunities to appreciate their beauty. The rose is always the flower of our hearts.



Lost Garden Preserved in Memory - Thanks to a Recently Published Book Maya Moore

Thank you, my dear rosarians, for allowing me to introduce my book, *The Rose Garden of Fukushima*, that has just been published.

In 2011, I believe some of you were preparing to visit the Futaba Rose Garden in Fukushima but had to abandon the plan when a massive magnitude 9 earthquake shook Japan. Especially hard hit were the towns and cities along the shores of the northern Tohoku region.

The shocking visuals of the tsunami waves washing away cars, houses, towns... and lives, will stay imprinted on our minds for years to come. But something much more sinister and invisible to the eye still wreaks havoc in Fukushima, even now — that of radiation from the meltdown at the Fukushima nuclear plant.

Among the countless victims from that colossal catastrophe were Mr. Okada and his rose garden. But now, although not the real thing, we can still enjoy the beauty of this very special place in the form of a book. I saw a short report about what befell this garden on the morning news one day, and felt compelled to tell the story to the world.

The book is made up of short chapters and stunning photographs taken by Mr. Okada and members of an amateur photographic club, The Yokohama Photographers of Roses. It tells the process in which the garden was built and the devastation felt by Mr. Okada as he lost everything he had worked for, for nearly fifty years.

I know from interviewing Mr. Okada on numerous occasions that one of his biggest disappointments and regrets was the fact that he could not welcome you to his garden in 2011. So I hope you will give yourselves a chance to vicariously visit the Futaba Rose Garden through this coffee table book. I am sure that flipping through the pages will make you feel like you've taken a walk through a most sacred garden!

The book is available from amazon.co.jp. Just type in the title: *The Rose Garden of Fukushima*.

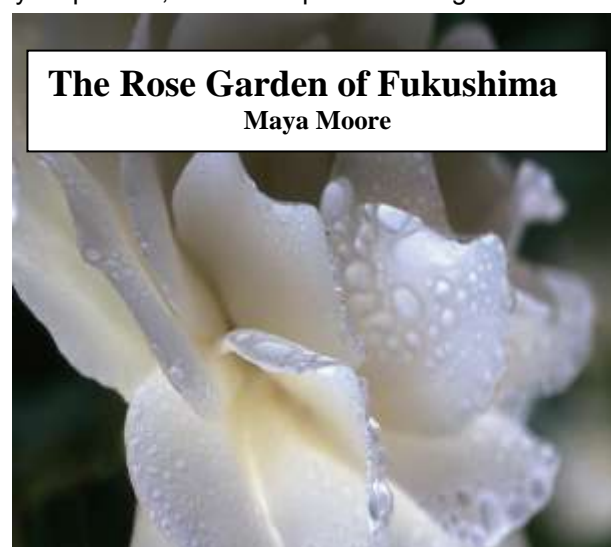
Comments about the book:

"The incredible tale of Katz Okada and his Fukushima rose garden as told here by Maya Moore is one of those stories of hope and how it was found through a personal journey and with the help of others. The book, told through beautiful photos of his famous roses in Fukushima, tells the story of both the creation of Okada-san's dream garden and its sudden abandonment. It gives you a small window into what the people of Tohoku faced in the aftermath of a terrible tragedy that robbed many families of homes and dreams, the resilient spirit in which they responded, and the hope that emerged."

From the Forward written by John V. Roos, U.S. Ambassador to Japan, 2009-2013

"I want to share my enthusiasm for this book. It is a worthy, wonderful, and heartfelt story, beautifully told and gorgeously presented. Like the visitors at Chako's first gallery exhibition, I found myself near tears as the harsh reality of the garden's fate became clear to me. Throughout the book, the photography is magnificent. Just by looking at the pictures, my olfactory memory could conjure up fragrances in my head."

Mary Ord, Writer and Editorial Consultant





LYON ROSE 2015

Preparations for the 17th World Convention of the World Federation of Rose Societies are now entering their final stages. The organising committee is doing its utmost to ensure that the 470 delegates who registered as of 11 December 2014 will enjoy a memorable stay in this beautiful region of Lyon, the birthplace of many famous roses, including 'Peace', which was the first rose to be nominated to the WFRS Hall of Fame in 1976.

The final programme will be available on the WFRS website, www.worldrose.org, and that of the organising committee, www.lyon-roses-2015.org at the end of March 2015, along with detailed information concerning the opening and closing ceremonies, lectures, excursions and schedules.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the organising committee by email info@lyon-roses-2015.org. If necessary, I am also at your disposal g.meylan@bluewin.ch.

I look forward to seeing you all in Lyon and sharing some precious moments of friendship.
Dr Gérald Meylan, Past President WFRS, Chairman Convention Committee

Dr Gérald Meylan,
Past President WFRS,
Chairman Convention Committee



17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION

FOREWORD

The 17th World Rose Convention in Lyon

The next meeting for all you rose lovers will take place this year in France, more precisely in Lyon.

Why has Lyon been chosen for this 17th World Rose Convention? Simply because the city's history has been tied to that of the rose for almost two centuries. This outstanding rose culture continues nowadays, and Lyon is still the leader in rose creation in Europe and in second place for the production of rose bushes. There is also the promising future of local and national contributions to scientific research.

Lyon is not only the historical capital of the rose, it is a city with a wealth of attractive features. It has the very special privilege of being a city with a comfortable size and an international presence. The second largest urban area in France, Greater Lyon is home to 1.3 million inhabitants and metropolitan Lyon has no less than 2.6 million. Located at the confluence of the Rhône and Saône rivers, Lyon benefits from an extremely favorable geographical setting. The city is 150 kilometers from Geneva, Switzerland, and two hours from Paris on the TGV high-speed train. The Lyon Saint-Exupéry International Airport provides daily links to all of Europe and direct lines to the world's major countries.

We invite you not only to this *Terre des Roses*® (Land of Roses), but also to the heart of a historical city with over 2,000 years of existence that has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

For 3 years, this major meeting has been prepared by French rose lovers, mainly from 3 associations: the *Société Française des Roses*, *Roses Anciennes en France*, the *Société Lyonnaise d'Horticulture* and by the City of Lyon that accompanies them.





17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION PROGRAMME

Featuring the roses of France

We will not give the full programme of this upcoming meeting here, since you can find it on our web site:

www.lyon-roses-2015.org

The Lyon 2015 Roses meeting, will focus on major points of interest with:

- **24 conferences** grouped in 4 themes:
 - Lyon and the men who wrote the history of Rose,
 - Rose in garden of excellence around the world,
 - The Scientific advances in the knowledge of Rose,
 - Preservation, conservation, authentication and fragrance of Roses.
- **14 different local tours destinations** to explore beautiful gardens, outstanding rose nurseries and breeders,
- And third focus further developed along these pages: **the Rose Festival**.

In Lyon alone, 5 days will not be enough to discover everything, with visits to rose gardens, the city and its monuments and gastronomical outings, among the city's many attractions. We are thrilled to welcome you to our area and have prepared an exciting programme of discovery. This will be a unique opportunity to take advantage of the innumerable attractions in the region, but also of other French regions and nearby countries.

You will be captivated by the pre- and post-programmes for discovering Provence (unfortunately, this trip is already fully booked), the Alps, Anjou and the Loire Valley, the Paris area, Alsace and even Geneva and Baden-Baden. Prestigious rose gardens such as *Bagatelle* in Paris that you've heard so much about are awaiting your visit, as well as others you've only dreamed of, where you will meet those who created or are responsible for them. You'll be pleasantly surprised to see how you are welcomed to these partner cities, where the mayors are most happy to host your visit.

Also note that you will meet in Lyon professionals from all around France: breeders, producers and distributors from the main horticultural regions (Rhône-Alpes, Anjou and Loiret, Provence, Alsace...).





17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION PROGRAMME

A Convention Centre “*in the midst of roses*”

Unbelievable but true: our meeting will take place “*in the midst of roses*”. This is more than a catchphrase, since the magnificent *Palais des Congrès* is located right next to Tête d’Or Park and its rose gardens. You can admire this exceedingly modern building, where most of our conferences will be held and where we will gather in a superb 800-seat amphitheatre, the *Auditorium Lumière*.

As you can see, nothing has been overlooked in welcoming the meeting attendees. There are luxury hotels, high-quality dining and easy transportation. Of course, though in the country of Molière, all conferences and visits will be in English.

In front of the *Palais des Congrès*, you will discover Tête d’Or Park, which the people of Lyon are justifiably proud of. With more than 100 hectares, it is one of the largest and most beautiful urban parks in France. Designed in 1856, it includes France’s first botanical garden, a zoo that was renovated in 2006 and, of course, three exceptional rose gardens:

- **The large international rose garden**

Created in 1964 and inaugurated by Princess Grace of Monaco, this landscaped rose garden features around 25,000 rose bushes. At the latest Osaka convention in 2006, it was awarded the “*Garden of Excellence*” label.

- **The botanical rose garden**

With over 700 different varieties, it tells the story of the rose from the first wild roses to modern-day roses. It offers a trip through time, with, of course, a nod to the celebrated rose growers of Lyon.

- **The contest rose garden**

Since 1937, it has organized international contest for new roses.

And nearby, in the city of Caluire, the fourth and **new Botanical Rose Garden** with over 100 species of the genus *Rosa*.





17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION LYON, TERRE DES ROSES®

Lyon, *Terre des Roses*®

Over 5,000 varieties of roses were born in Lyon and over a hundred have kept this filiation in their name, as if to export this extraordinary creative renown. These include: 'Belle Lyonnaise' (Lacharme), 'Merveille de Lyon' (Pernet Père), 'Prestige de Lyon' (Meilland), 'Bijou de Lyon' (Schwartz)...

These were produced by prestigious breeders who contributed to Lyon's international reputation over several generations. Although Lyon is famous for creating new roses, it is also known for discovering new techniques. In 1850, J.B. Guillot Jr. of Lyon invented cleft grafting on sweetbriar collars and later put the first hybrid tea rose, named 'La France', on the market in 1867 and obtained the first *Polyantha*, named 'Pâquerette', in 1875. In 1900, J. Pernet-Ducher obtained the first yellow rose in the *Pernetiana* group: 'Soleil d'Or'.

For an even greener city

Today, Lyon can be proud of its 430 hectares of green areas in the city centre that allow residents to enjoy a pleasant and varied living environment. The City of Lyon has made improving the living environment for residents one of its priorities. For this reason, urban development programmes now include this essential "green dimension", without which they would have no future in Lyon.

Among the most recent projects, the beautifying of the Rhône riverbanks received a Golden Award for Landscape Improvement from the United Nations for the Environment. As Daniel Boulens, Director of Green Areas for the city, likes to put it: *"Human beings have become urban beings, and our role is therefore to design the city of today and tomorrow so that it will be as pleasant and enjoyable to live in as possible. Parks, gardens, flowers and, of course, roses have become indispensable elements in the new sites created for our daily environment"*.

Lyon also features many private gardens whose owners will be delighted to welcome us.

Among these gardens is Odile Masquelier's very famous *Jardin de la Bonne Maison*. This collection of roses and perennials is truly enchanting. We will be received by the owner, who also founded the Association *Roses Anciennes en France*.

A bit further along, in the Beaujolais vineyards, the rose garden of the Château de Bionnay is waiting for us. In addition, there will be many other meetings with the famous heirs of the Lyon rose growers, whose names are part of rose history and part of the roses themselves: Croix, Dorieux, Ducher, Gaujard, Guillot, Laperrière, Meilland, Orard, Reuter, Félix...



'La France'



'Pâquerette'



'Soleil d'Or'



17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION

LYON, TERRE DES ROSES®

UNESCO World Heritage

As you see, there are many rose-related reasons to come to Lyon, but as in the other countries our passion has led us to visit, there are also many other attractions that make Lyon a very special destination:

From Lugdunum, capital of Gaul, to Lyon 2015, over 2,000 years of history have left their mark on the city. Some of the buildings and districts you will enjoy discovering are:

- The Gallo-Roman theatre and the odeon,
- Saint-Jean Cathedral and Old Lyon, a renaissance district listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site,
- The Fourvière Basilica, a noted symbol of the nineteenth century,
- More recently, the Opera, reworked by Jean Nouvel, the *Cité Internationale* by Renzo Piano,
- The Part-Dieu skyscrapers, from the “Oxygen” building to “Incity”, the latest addition, just to name a few.

Would you like to “embrace these two thousand years of history”?

Meet on the Fourvière esplanade, where, when the weather is clear you have a superb panoramic view of the entire city, as well as the surrounding region and, in the distance, the Mont Blanc. It will be easy to see why Lyon is so attractive. Take a few more steps and you’ll find yourself in the *Parc des Hauteurs* or in the old rose garden near the Basilica.

Did you say “Lyon”? Then you must mean “silk”!

This is because Lyon also stands for silk, a flourishing industry in the 18th and 19th centuries; entire city districts were devoted to silk workshops and weaving.

Take the time to visit the *Croix Rousse* district and its innumerable “*traboules*”, which are small passageways that linked the workshops to the city centre, where the more luxurious merchant districts were found. We are never far from our passion because this industry, as you will see, was greatly influenced by flower designs and, obviously, by the rose.

For those of you who love museums, you will find just what you’re looking for among the numerous museums dedicated to archeology, history, painting, the decorative arts, fabrics, printing and communication, contemporary art and even to the automobile! But perhaps your favourite will be the Musée des Confluences, the city’s latest museum, which just recently opened its doors.

For the occasion, all will be in unison with the rose to join the party.





17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION

LYON, TERRE DES ROSES®

Take a break with friends

As you know, Lyon gastronomy has a reputation that extends well beyond the city itself. Paul Bocuse and other Lyon chefs have made a major contribution to this international renown. Here, we are proud to count 15 tables with Michelin stars, which are the highest rating French restaurants can achieve.

It's no secret that our trips also provide an opportunity to meet with friends and share a good meal. Rest assured, you can easily find a "great restaurant" worthy of the name.

We also suggest you try one of Lyon's famous "*bouchons*". These small restaurants serve traditional dishes accompanied with a Beaujolais wine. You'll truly enjoy discovering their warm atmosphere and high-quality products. And don't forget to visit the Halles market area, where you will find regional products, cold cuts, cheeses and, of course, French wines!

By the way, the Convention Farewell Dinner will be cooked by the *Toques Blanches Lyonnaises*!

Lyon, the City of Light...

In the evening, Lyon lights up, making the city as beautiful at night as it is during the day!

From a tradition the city created a festival, the Festival of Lights, which takes place each year in early December. Lyon, the City of Light, welcomes more than four million visitors over a four-day period. This popular success attracts visitors from all over Europe. In May, of course, you will have only a limited idea of what this represents. However, you will be compensated with a gift from the City of Caluire, which has created a special programme for us for our meeting: a magnificent fireworks display in the midst of roses!

... And a competitive leader

Feeding on a rich past and deep roots, Lyon has developed superbly. It has become one of the leading French economic centres, and many companies have installed their headquarters here.

Lyon has fostered innovation for decades, and ensuring a high quality of living is a priority. Therefore, you won't be surprised to find many international institutions here, including Interpol, Euronews, the World Health Organization and the International Centre for Cancer Research. For many years, Lyon has been a focal point for the chemical industry (because of its roots in silk dyeing), cutting-edge scientific research, health, biotechnology and digital recreation.

And we mustn't forget to mention what interests us in particular: the *Ecole Normale Supérieure* research unit laboratory dedicated to "*plant reproduction and development*", which brings together scientists whose work on the rose genome involves botany, agriculture and medicine.





17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION THE ROSE FESTIVAL

But that's not all...

As we already mentioned, we're preparing a very nice surprise for you. Lyon is so proud to host this meeting, which, as you know, is being held for the first time in France, that Gérard Collomb, Senator-Mayor of Lyon, wanted to make it a city event.

... A unique event awaits you: the Rose Festival

This strong commitment will result in a **Lyon Rose Festival** to which you are invited and where you will meet the great crowd of Lyon with over **200,000 visitors expected**.

Cultural institutions, museums, libraries, other institutions, associations, residents and school children will all be mobilized for this exceptional event. Although many activities will take place during May throughout the city, the festival's grand finale will take place on May 30 and 31, as if to honour your visit.

So that you can take full advantage of this event, we have left you a free period during the afternoon of Sunday, May 31. Undoubtedly free, but most certainly with much to do!

You'll probably not know which way to turn to take in all these festivities. In any case, don't miss visiting City Hall, where you are invited to discover a veritable rose garden created for the occasion and offered by our Lyon rose specialists. Next, you can join local residents at the *Grande Roseraie* in the park, where a large "garden party" will be held.

Everyone in Lyon has been invited to share this convivial moment. All facets of the rose will be presented by participants – who will include numerous rose growers, creators, breeders and distributors – along with many other activities, such as parades, music, choreography, stamp collecting and exhibitions.

Finally, as an end to these two festive days, the City of Caluire will offer us a bunch of flowers: a magnificent fireworks!





17th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION

FRANCE AND LYON ARE WAITING FOR YOU

France and Lyon are waiting for you

Have you already signed up?

If not, don't wait any longer because it would be a real pity to miss this exciting opportunity to attend the Convention, the Rose Festival and to discover Lyon and France.

As you see, unless the weather plays tricks on us, much effort has gone into making this trip a truly convivial, happy and passionate experience. And, don't forget, the roses themselves are also getting ready.

Maurice Jay, the Convenor of the 17th Convention, the Presidents of all French rose associations, Gérard Collomb, Senator-Mayor of Lyon, Alain Giordano, Deputy Mayor in charge of parks and Gilles Buna, Chairman of the Organising Committee, are looking forward to seeing you in Lyon, the historic capital of roses, starting on May 25 to take full advantage of these events.

***France and Lyon host the roses
and
welcome you in 2015***

Address of Organisation Committee

Congrès 2015 Lyon Roses - Parc de la Tête d'Or - 69459 Lyon Cedex 06 - FRANCE
www.lyon-roses-2015.org - info@lyon-roses-2015.org

Registration

www.lyon-roses-2015.org/registration.htm

Photos Credit: Ville de Lyon, Grand Lyon, Only Lyon, Lyon Tourisme et Congrès, Direction des Espaces Verts, Muriel Chaulet, Laurent Berthier, J. Léone



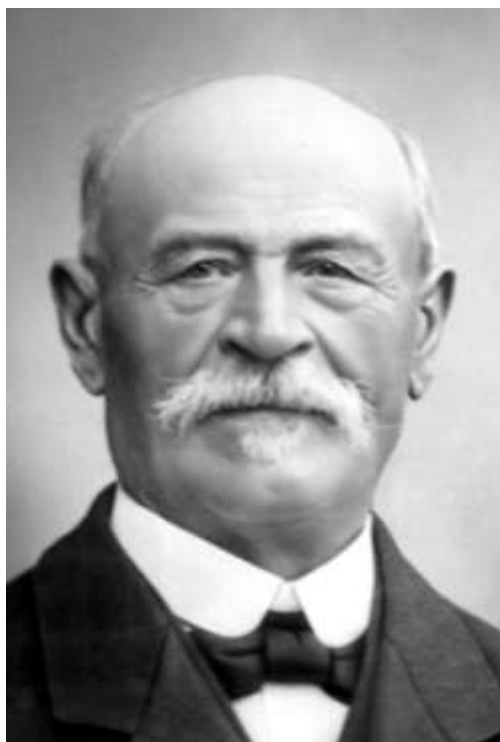
THE ROSE CENTRE OF THE LAPERRIÈRE FAMILY FOR 150 YEARS 1864 – 2014

Gérald Meylan
Photos Laperrière

The story of a passion

The wonderful adventure of the illustrious Laperrière family dates back to 1864, when Joseph-Marin Laperrière (1846-1927), a farmer, came to settle on the outskirts of Lyon and founded the Roseraie du Mont d'Or in Champagne au Mont d'Or. Over a period of 50 years, his company continued to flourish - the production of roses rising from 20,000 in 1910 to 45,000 in 1920. Joseph-Marin is in keeping with the history of roses in Lyon, since he created the 'Madame Joseph Laperrière' rose in 1899, the first of a series of 100 roses with the Laperrière signature.

On the death of his father, Louis Laperrière (1880-1953) developed what was to become the Grande Roseraie du Mont d'Or. At this time the first catalogues in English also appeared on the market. In 1930, a remarkable rose by the name of 'Professeur Bérard' was commercialised.



**Joseph-Marin Laperrière (1846-1927),
founder of the Roseraie du Mont d'Or**



Louis Laperrière (1880-1953)

The third generation led by Joseph Laperrière (1907- 1983) pursued the work already undertaken and from 1953 onwards almost 100,000 roses were produced each year. 1955 saw the setting up of the Edition Française des Roses company, the aim of which was to promote the wide distribution of roses created by Laperrière. Joseph contributed to the setting up of legal documents relating to their horticultural production and especially roses. It was during this time that the first catalogues in colour were printed, which will become the pride of the Laperrière company.

In 1960 the fourth generation came on the scene with Robert continuing the development of the firm. In 1968, he relocated the company to another region close to Lyon,

“one does not create new roses simply to create, but rather to improve the colour, fragrance, vase life and a better resistance to disease. Each year, Monique and I devote the month of June to the marriage of roses”.

-ROBERT LAPERRIÈRE

thus enabling it to produce 120,000 roses per year’

Since 1988, the fifth generation with Philippe has shared the responsibility of running the business alongside his father. The number of roses produced has doubled and now reaches 250,000 roses per year. Richard joined his brother in 1998 and since 2004 Philippe and Richard are now in command and perpetuate the tradition of the dynasty. Their parents, Robert and Monique remain present and readily advise the younger

Robert and Joseph Laperrière

generation whenever necessary. The yearly production now totals over 300,000 roses.



selecting new varieties in the 60's



“My wish is to create even more beautiful flowers resistant to disease. Flowers, which one will remember and look for to plant in 50 or 100 years’ time, just as we today have a desire to make old roses come to life once again.”

-PHILIPPE LAPERRIÈRE

Philippe & Richard Laperrière

In the year of its 150th anniversary, the Laperrière dynasty has demonstrated its capacity to undertake successfully the challenges of the 21st century. Their professional commitment, willingness to produce roses of a high standard and concern for the environment by applying strict production measures, are all qualities which indicate that the future will be extremely promising.



‘Jubilé Laperrière’ var. Lapjub

The Laperrière family places great importance on participating in events linked to the queen of flowers and taking an active part in societies and associations. Robert is Vice-president of the French Rose Society, while Monique serves as its secretary. Both are very much involved in the organisation of the World Convention in Lyon in 2015. In addition, Philippe and Richard are active members of the Breeders Club.

The World Federation of Rose Societies awarded the Rose World Award (bronze medal) in 2006 to Robert, thus showing a few years in advance its gratitude to the Laperrière dynasty for its commitment, dedication and passion concerning the knowledge, development and distribution of our favorite flower – the rose.

Our sincere congratulations to the Laperrière family on the occasion of this magnificent anniversary and our very best wishes for its future activities.

A few figures since 1864:

113 varieties created and commercialised

68 varieties totaling 105 awards in different rose trials

11,400,000 roses produced



Robert, Monique and their children, Philippe and Richard Laperrière - 'Jet Set'®, LAPra,

OBITUARY

Edmund Griffith – 1937 - 2014



(photo – Richard Walsh)

WFRS Silver Medallist, Ed Griffith died on the 19th June, 2014. Ed had been in hospital since early May following a fall earlier in the year and his health had deteriorated since then.

The Federation awarded Ed its Silver Medal during the 2009 Vancouver World Rose Convention to acknowledge the work undertaken in his capacity as Chairman of the Shows Standardisation Standing Committee - a position that he held from the establishment of the Committee in 2001 until 2012.

Ed successfully established and implemented not only WFRS Challenge Classes in Rose Shows, but also authored the WFRS Guidelines for Judging these classes and through his committee established the concept of WFRS International Rose Judge positions.

As an authority on judging roses, Ed was well known throughout the world for his educational presentations. Ed lived in Mobile, AL, where he was very active in the local rose society and had served as a District and Regional Director in the American Rose Society.

At the Council meeting in Vancouver, it was through Ed's suggestion, that the "Friends of the Federation" initiative was implemented. He had pointed out the merits of the "Patrons of the American Rose Society" to that organisation, and how individuals would be able to financially support the aims of the Federation through such a fund raising endeavour.

The Friends of the Federation has grown to the current level where more than 70 individuals from around the globe have contributed almost 4000 pounds.

Malcolm Watson (Australia)

ROSEDAL DE PALERMO, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA WFRS AWARD OF GARDEN EXCELLENCE 2012

Nilda Crivelli – Argentina



Members of the Asociacion Argentina de Rosicultura



On Monday 24th November 2014 the Rosedal celebrated its 100th anniversary but in Argentina that day was a holiday, so the celebration of the unveiling of the WFRS plaque for the Award of Garden Excellence took place the following day.

The Rosedal is an historical garden: nothing can be added or modified without the approval of the legislature. It took two years to obtain the authorisation for the placement of the plaque. Our association had planned and organized the function for the last week of October because the date was suitable for the WFRS President Steve Jones and the WFRS Vice President for South America, Rosario Algorta de Carrau. Nature celebrated with us - it was the only sunny and dry day in that whole week!

My speech at the Rosedal -

Good Morning Mr Rodriguez Larreta, Buenos Aires City Vice Mayor, Mr Gustavo Cenzone, Environment and Public Areas Minister, Mr. Alejandro Perez, 3 de Febrero Park Director, Mr. Nicolas Quintana, Rosedal de Palermo Director, Mrs Bettina Crosta, AAR President, members of AAR Executive Committee and rose lovers...

Here we are at last, all of us members of Asociacion Argentina de Rosicultura, AAR, are very proud and glad to share this moment with you. I am now representing the WFRS as the former WFRS Vice President for South America. I am very pleased to be accompanied by our Honorary President and Curator of the Rosedal, Mrs Valentina Casucci. I particularly appreciate Mrs Isa Maria Bozzolo's presence, Past WFRS Vice President and member of the Asociacion Chilena de la Rosa and the Coyhaique group Treasurer from the Chilean Patagonia.

I am also very grateful to the Asociacion Uruguay de la Rosa represented today by its President Mrs Rosario Fazzio and five members, Unfortunately, the WFRS President, Mr. Steve Jones and the WFRS Vice President for South America, Mrs Rosario Algorta cannot be here today with us because they are both attending the WFRS Regional Convention in Hyderabad, India.

The Asociacion Argentina de Rosicultura was founded in 1951 by four gentlemen. It is a non profit organization which promotes the cultivation of roses and the knowledge on all matters related to them. In addition to the monthly meetings, courses, workshops, visits to nurseries and private gardens, one day seminars are organized.

In our spring rose shows, our garden roses show the attention and care given to them during the whole year. On the Association website and in the annual magazine you may find different articles with the latest news about roses and lots of photographs. Some members of public areas ministry asked me and probably you are wondering too, what the World Federation of Rose Societies is and why the plaque to be unveiled today was so important. The World Federation of Rose Societies is the umbrella society for all rose societies in 39 countries of the world, including Argentina, and it represents more than 100000 rose lovers. It was founded in London in 1968. The objects are educate, develop and improve the public's knowledge on matters concerning the rose, encourage and facilitate the exchange of information between the national rose societies, work towards establishing a worldwide standardisation of rose classification and a common standard for judging new roses; encourage regional and international conventions and rose shows.

Besides honours to members for their services, awards in connection with the rose are granted at World Rose Conventions. In October 2012, at the WFRS World Rose Convention in South Africa, the book *Historia del Rosedal y la Glorieta Patio Español de Buenos Aires*, written by Mrs Sonia Berjman and Roxana di Bello, received the literary award and the Rosedal de Palermo, Buenos Aires, Argentina, received the Award of Garden Excellence, both nominated by me on behalf of our association as its President at that time. My nomination was supported by Mrs Graciela Barreiro, the botanical garden director and by Mrs Sheenagh Harris who had visited the Rosedal on her tour to Argentina, Uruguay and Chile the previous year. This award demands that the Rosedal should continue to flourish and be well cared for as it is today, thanks to the gardeners whose work and commitment under Eng Juan Cruz Petracchi's supervision made it possible.

There is one matter left - that Buenos Aires Government and Public Areas Ministry must solve: the reactivation of the trial ground and new roses contest. Buenos Aires is up to now, the only city in South America where it takes place: we cannot lose such a privilege. Mrs. Valentina Casucci worked very hard in 1998 to make it happen.





www.worldrose.org

DIARY OF EVENTS

26 May - 1 June, 2015	WFRS 17 th World Rose Convention – Lyon, France
18 – 24 May, 2016	WFRS Regional Rose Convention – Beijing, China WFRS 14 th International Heritage Rose Conference – Beijing, China
9 – 12 November, 2016	WFRS Regional Rose Convention - Punta del Este, Uruguay
12 – 14 June, 2017	WFRS Regional Rose Convention – Ljubljana, Slovenia
28 June – 4 July, 2018	WFRS 18 th World Rose Convention – Copenhagen, Denmark

Disclaimer

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

THE NEXT ISSUE OF WORLD ROSE NEWS

will be in July 2015 and will cover the
WFRS World Rose Convention in Lyon, France.
Closing date for contributions is 1 July, 2015.
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WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES

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2012 – 2015

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Executive Director	Mr. Malcolm Watson 29 Columbia Crescent, Modbury North, Australia 5092 (+61) (0)8 8264 0084; malcolmw@senet.com.au

MEMBER SOCIETIES

The World Federation of Rose Societies, also known as the WFRS, is the umbrella organisation for 39 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.

Argentina	Rose Society of Argentina
Australia	National Rose Society of Australia
Austria	Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Gartenbau-Gesellschaft
Belgium	Société Royale Nationale 'Les Amis de la Rose'
Bermuda	Bermuda Rose Society
Canada	Canadian Rose Society
Chile	Asociación Chilena de la Rosa
China	Chinese Rose Society
Czech Republic	Czech Rosa Club
Denmark	The Danish Rose Society
Finland	Finnish Rose Society
France	Société Française des Roses
Germany	Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde
Great Britain	Royal National Rose Society
Greece	The Hellenic Rose Society
Hungary	Hungarian Rose Friends Society
Iceland	Icelandic Rose Society
India	Indian Rose Federation
Israel	The Jerusalem Foundation
Italy	Italian Rose Society
Japan	Japan Rose Society
Luxembourg	Luxembourg Rose Society
Monaco	Société des Roses de Monaco
Netherlands	Nederlandse Rozenvereniging
New Zealand	New Zealand Rose Society
Northern Ireland	Rose Society of Northern Ireland
Norway	Norwegian Rose Society
Pakistan	Pakistan National Rose Society
Romania	Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania
Russia	Russian Association of Rosarians
Serbia	Royal Serbian Rose Society
Slovakia	Slovakia Rose Club
Slovenia	Slovenian Rose Society
South Africa	Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa
Spain	Asociación Española de la Rosa
Sweden	The Swedish Rose Society
Switzerland	Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde
USA	American Rose Society
Uruguay	Asociación Uruguay de la Rosa

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Australian Rose Breeders Association
 Heritage Roses Australia Inc. Australia
 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'Haÿ-les-Roses, France
 Roses Anciennes en France, France
 Fondazione Roseto Botanico "Carla Fineschi" di Cavriglia, Italy
 La Tacita S.R.L., Italy
 "Hana no Miyako Gifu" Centre for Promotion of Flowers and Greenery, Japan
 The Rose Culture Institute, Japan
 Quinta do Arco Rose Garden, Portugal
 Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc., New Zealand
 Associacio Amics des les Roses de Sant Felieu de Llobregat, Spain
 Scottish Sweet Pea, Rose & Carnation Society, Scotland
 Rosas Antiguas en Argentina, Argentina.

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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. The most recent was in Hyderabad as part of the Indian Rose Society’s Regional Convention and attracted about 20 Friends for a very pleasant dinner.

During the Hyderabad Regional, we were pleased to welcome
Steve and Susie Jones – *Friends for Life* – USA;

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

Benefits include –

Exclusive invitation 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.