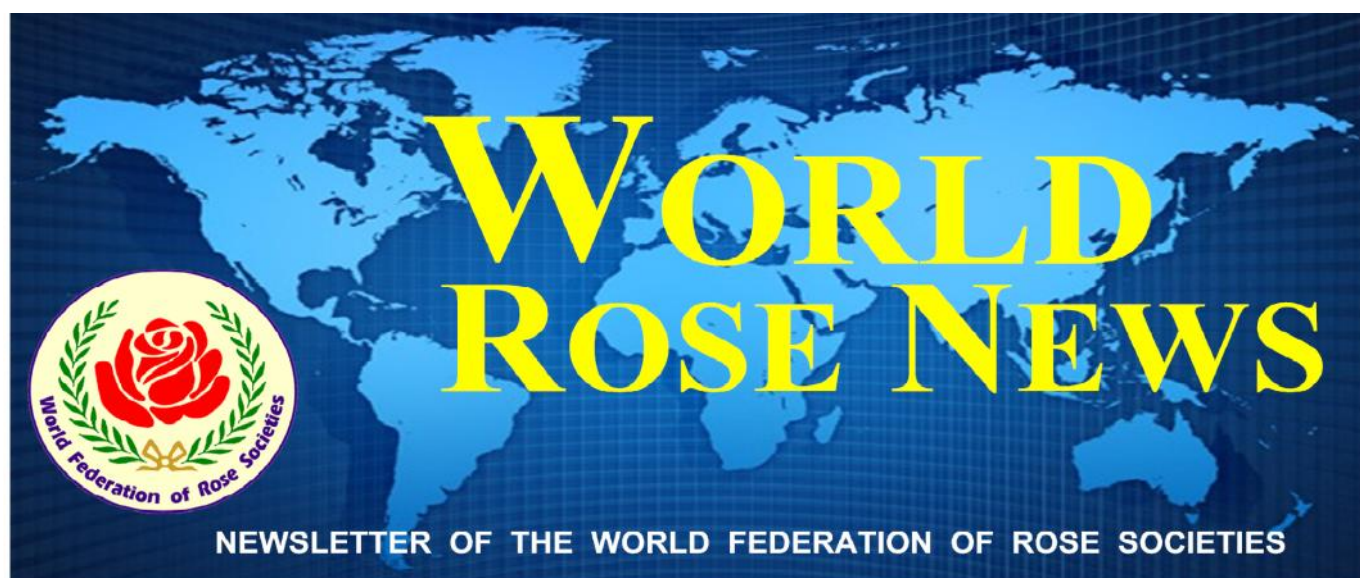


Volume 27 • Number 1 • January, 2016

PART I



CHINA

COMBINES REGIONAL CONVENTION with HERITAGE ROSE CONFERENCE



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EDITORIAL

The beginning of a new year is a good time for new resolutions, plans and changes, never more so than in the rose world. While exploring the archives for information for the 50 year history of the WFRS, the constant plea from Presidents is for improved communication. Modern technology has made this so easy and yet we constantly hear the same request for people to reply on time, sometimes even just to reply, particularly in the case of World Rose News.

At the end of this issue you will find a brief summary of the WFRS meetings held in Lyon. I am grateful to our new Executive Director, Derek Lawrence for producing this information for our members to keep them abreast of the enormous amount of work being undertaken by the Executive of the WFRS.

We welcome five new Vice Presidents - Doug Grant, Paul Hains, Inger Schierner, Rae Gilbert and Zhao Shiwei – they introduce themselves at the commencement of their reports. I am glad to say we have contributions from all Vice Presidents which can be found under WFRS Vice President reports. Not all the Standing Committee chairmen reports are in so they will only appear in the next WRN due at the end of April.

As promised, the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence and Literary Award images and descriptions are included as a tribute to the recipients, for you, the members to enjoy and as a permanent record. I am grateful to Ethel Freeman for researching the information about each garden and each book.

It is inevitable, with an ageing membership, there will be losses from time to time and 2016 is no exception as we mourn the loss of three well known rosarians - Wilhelm Kordes III (Germany) one of our best known rose breeders, Felicitas Svejda, scientist and rosarian (Canada), and Rosemarie Simmonds de Chilibröste from Uruguay. André Eve (France), known as 'the artisan of the rediscovery of old roses' died at the end of last year

Sheenagh Harris
World Rose News Editor



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January, 2016



**PRESIDENT
2015 - 2018**

The power of our collective love of the Rose is amazing.

Although the world is under constant threat from individuals and organisations who wish to harm others who do not share their beliefs, I was humbled by the way many rosarians around the world shared their Season's Greetings and best wishes to each other at the end of 2015. We rosarians come from different regions and countries and often have different political or religious beliefs – but our desire to share our knowledge of the rose and to become friends with others who share our interest is greater than our differences.

As we start a new year, I wish to offer my condolences to those who have suffered bereavement, stress or hardships as a consequence of terrorist attacks, natural disasters or personal loss in 2015 and I wish that 2016 is a better year for all of us.

In October, 2015 I had the pleasure of visiting both Japan and China to unveil WFRS Awards of Garden Excellence plaques. I was accompanied by Past President Dr. Gérald Meylan and Mrs. Monique De Clarens, Chairman of the Awards Committee.

In Japan, these awards were given to the Sakura Rose Garden, Keisei Rose Nursery and Akao Herb and Rose Garden. These are very different gardens, but all feature roses. Sakura features heritage roses from around the world in themed gardens, Keisei is a magnificent display garden for one of Japan's best rose nurseries and Akao Herb and Rose Garden highlights roses in the landscape in nine different garden areas on a very steeply sloping hillside. I also took the opportunity to revisit one of my favourite Japanese rose gardens – The Flower Festival Commemorative Park in rural Gifu.

The preparation and planning of these visits was perfect in every detail and the hospitality of our Japanese hosts was both generous and welcoming. I do recommend the post China Convention tour of Japan which will visit many of Japan's great rose gardens including those mentioned above. Those participating in this tour will be both surprised and delighted by the quality and diversity of these gardens and the Japanese hospitality.

Next I went on to China to unveil a WFRS Award of Garden Excellence plaque at the Beijing Botanical Garden. I inspected the new gardens and rose museum which will be open for the WFRS Regional Rose Convention and the International Heritage Rose Conference in Beijing in May, 2016 and also discussed final arrangements for the convention. The rate of growth in the interest of roses in China is breathtaking. Those who are going to attend the Convention in Beijing in May will witness this passion for roses and rose culture.

I am also sure that those who participate in the Pre- and Post Convention tours and the Convention will have a great experience and gain a better understanding of China's roses, including its wild roses, history and stunning scenery. Our hosts will ensure that we are well looked after. The Convention itself has a great educational lecture programme mingled with visits to the beautiful new rose museum and various other gardens, historic sites and places of interest around Beijing. It is not too late to register. Details can be found on the WFRS Events website.

In November, I had the pleasure of unveiling the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence plaque at the Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens in Victoria, Australia. This was also a rewarding experience and the garden looked splendid on the day. Details on all the gardens mentioned in this report will be in this or subsequent editions of WRN.

Finally, I hope to meet up with those who can attend Beijing or the Regional Convention in Uruguay which will be held in November 2016. In the meantime, I wish you happy rose growing wherever you are in the world.

Kelain Trimper

WFRS AWARD OF GARDEN EXCELLENCE CEREMONIES IN JAPAN, CHINA AND AUSTRALIA

Kelvin Trimper - WFRS President

During October and November, 2015 I had the pleasure of participating in the unveiling of WFRS Plaques to acknowledge the receipt of WFRS Award of Garden Excellence for three gardens in Japan and single gardens in both China and Australia.

JAPAN

Accompanied by Mrs. Monique de Clarens, WFRS Awards Committee Chairman, Dr Gérald Meylan, WFRS Past President, and Mr. Alain Meilland, world famous rose breeder, three Awards of Garden Excellence were presented in Japan.

The City of Sakura Rose Garden

This garden was established to acknowledge the work of famous Japanese Rose Breeder, Mr. Seizo Suzuki (1913-2000). It contains a collection of the roses he bred together with themed sections contributed by well-known rosarians from around the world. The garden was opened in 2006 and contains 1,050 varieties, comprising 150 species, 500 old garden roses and 400 modern roses including 70 bred by Mr. Suzuki.

Under the guidance of Mr. Katsuhiko Maebara (a regular attendee at WFRS events), and over 40 volunteers, the garden is very well maintained. The use of roses on various pergolas, arches, pillars and other structures is a highlight.

The Commemorative Plaque was presented to Mayor Kazuo Warabi at the City Hall and witnessed by other City of Sakura officials. I was personally delighted that WFRS Gold Medal recipient Professor Akira Ogawa and WFRS Past Vice President, Mr. Takamasa Tsuge were involved in the ceremony along with Mr. Maebara.

This beautiful garden is relatively close to Narita Airport, Tokyo and is definitely worthy of a visit.



City of Sakura Rose Garden – photo Katsuhiko Maebara



**Mayor Kazuo Warabi, Kelvin Trimper
Monique de Clarens**



**Gérald Meylan, Kelvin Trimper, Monique de Clarens
and Alain Meilland**

Keisei Rose Garden

This splendid garden is an excellent collection of roses and supports the Keisei Rose Nursery. It provides the opportunity for clients to view mature specimens of roses they may wish to purchase. I wish more specialist rose nurseries could have display gardens such as that at Keisei.

The garden is superbly designed and occupies a site of 30,000 sq. metres. It has over 1,600 varieties including species, old roses and modern roses. Shrubs and climbers are a feature. Over 140,000 visitors experience the garden annually and the staff are most helpful to all visitors.

The Plaque was unveiled in the presence of the Mayor of Yachiyo City, Mr. Shuichi Akiba, and President of Keisei Nurseries, Mr. Yoshikazu Kaneko. A beautiful ceremony was held in the garden and included a lovely piano recital and picturesque floral backdrop. Various members of the Rose Society of Japan were also in attendance together with Keisei staff and members of the public.

Apart from the display garden, the Keisei Rose Nursery has an excellent rose themed shop and restaurant. As an outer suburb of Tokyo, it is a must visit destination.



Keisei Rose Garden – photo – Melanie Trimper



Monique, Japanese officials and Kelvin

Akao Herb and Rose Garden

Akao Resort is located at Atami on the Pacific Coast, a few hours south of Tokyo. The resort covers 82 hectares of hilly terrain and the 15 hectare Rose Garden has been cleverly designed to integrate with its surrounding steep landscape. It is divided into nine smaller themed gardens and each takes advantage of its surrounding landscape and views, which are simply breathtaking.

The garden is immaculately maintained and thousands of visitors enjoy its uniqueness every year. A rose themed shop and restaurant complement the experience.

The Award Plaque was presented to Mr. Nobunaga Akao, Mrs. Keiko Akao and Mr. Tayayoshi Gotoh in the presence of representatives of the Japanese Rose Society and other guests in the garden. The garden is beautiful and the location is a popular holiday destination.



Akao Herb and Rose Garden – photo – Yuki Mikanagi



Monique de Clarens, Kelvin Trimper, Keiko Akao and Nobunaga Akao
photo – Yuki Mikanagi

CHINA

Beijing Botanical Garden Rose Garden

This lovely rose garden is a significant feature of the Beijing Botanical Garden Rose Garden. It contains an important collection of wild roses native to China, other species of roses, heritage roses and modern roses. Some of these have been bred by Chinese Rose Breeders.

The garden has over 50,000 plants and around 1,600 cultivars. A new section has recently been developed adding further interest for the hundreds of thousands of visitors annually. Considering the climatic challenges of both heat and extreme cold, this garden is a credit to those responsible for its care and maintenance.

The Commemorative Plaque was unveiled in the presence of Dr. Zhao Shiwei, Director, Beijing Botanical Garden Rose Garden, and representatives of the Chinese Rose Society, WFRS Representatives Mrs. Helga Brichet, Convention Committee Chairman, Dr. Gérald Meylan, Past President, and Mr. Malcolm Watson, Past Executive Director. This is a truly remarkable rose garden.



Dr. Zhao Shiwei at the plaque unveiling ceremony in the Beijing Botanical Garden Rose Garden



WFRS Award of Garden Excellence plaque

AUSTRALIA

Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens

The Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens are located in the seaside town of Mornington, approximately 60 km. south-east of the city of Melbourne. This is a delightful garden comprising 4,000 roses of 250 varieties planted in 86 beds in a very well designed garden which forms the overall shape of a yacht, with sail, mast and waves.



Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens
photo – A. Gibson



WFRS Award of Garden Excellence plaque
photo – Graeme Dent



Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens – photo – A. Gibson

Volunteers maintain the garden to a very high standard and their efforts have resulted in the award. The Plaque was unveiled in front of City officials from The Mornington Peninsula Shire, Mr. Barry Johnson (Garden Designer), garden volunteers, representatives of The Rose Society of Victoria and Mr. Paul Hains, WFRS Vice President Australasia.

WFRS AWARD OF GARDEN EXCELLENCE CEREMONY IN GERMANY

On the 19th September, 2015, Helga Brichet, Past President of the WFRS had the honour of unveiling the plaque for the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence for the Roseninsel Park, Wilhemshöhe, Kassel, on behalf of the WFRS together with Manfred Zeckey, Chairman of the Association of Wilhelmshöhe Park's Island of Roses. This garden was started in 1767 and restored in the 1970's. It now comprises 1200 rose plants with 900 varieties.



Prof. Hans-Peter Mühlbach, President of the German Rose Society, Helga Brichet, Past President WFRS, and Manfred Zeckey Photos - Dr. Andreas Meier-Dinkel



Flowering small shrub roses on the Wilhelmshöhe Park's Island of Roses

WFRS AWARD OF GARDEN EXCELLENCE CEREMONY IN TRIESTE, ITALY

The WFRS Award of Garden Excellence was conferred on the San Giovanni Rose Garden in Trieste during the World Rose Convention in Lyon in May, 2015. On the 2nd October, 2015 in this garden of 6000 plants and 3000 cultivars Henrienne de Briey, on behalf of the WFRS unveiled the plaque and commended Vladimir Vremec and his team of volunteers and gardeners for the high standard they achieved in this rose garden.



Vladimir Vremec and Henrienne de Briey



The WFRS plaque for the Award of Garden Excellence

WFRS AWARD OF GARDEN EXCELLENCE CEREMONY IN WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

On 19th November, the WFRS Award of Garden of Excellence plaque was officially unveiled in the Lady Norwood Garden by WFRS Vice President for Australasia Doug Grant and Wellington City Councillor Helene Ritchie. Also in attendance were members of the Norwood family, staff and friends of the Botanic Gardens.

The rose garden's name was decided upon by the Wellington City Council as a gesture of appreciation to Lady Norwood who, with her husband Sir Charles Norwood (a former mayor of Wellington), had contributed greatly to the city's development.



**Wayne Norwood, Lyn Norwood, Cr Helene Ritchie,
Wendy Norwood, John Norwood, Jenny Brown**



Doug Grant and Councillor Helene Ritchie
photos – Hayden Foulds

REPORTS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES



AFRICA SOUTH AFRICA – Rae Gilbert

To introduce myself, I am a relatively newcomer to the world of rose growing. About 8 years ago I began work on a rose garden on the family farm, Bosky Dell, near Plettenberg Bay, South Africa, which was given the Award of Garden Excellence in Lyon, 2015. I am Vice President of ROSA, the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa as well as Chairman of the Heritage Rose Society of South Africa and I serve on the Heritage and Conservation standing committee of the WFRS. I am also a consulting rosarian for the Knysna Rose Society.



Rose growing was pretty much limited to expat and Colonial gardens in 18th to 20th Century Africa. With the independence of African countries over the last 80 years or so, there has been a shift towards populating public gardens with indigenous African material with dwindling interest in roses and rose growing in the general public as a result. Some huge commercial cut flower operations aimed exclusively at the Western cut-flower markets have emerged, however, especially in Central Africa.



South Africa is the only WFRS member country on the African continent. With only just over 500 national members, it was encouraging that 22 South Africans attended the recent World Rose Convention in Lyon. The South Africans were also well represented in the Awards rolls with 3 members being acknowledged viz. Sheenagh Harris who received the Flore Divinity medal from the Societe Francaise Des Roses, Jackie Kalley (Literary for her book *Old Roses – Survival and Revival in South Africa*) and Rae Gilbert (Award of Garden Excellence for her garden, Bosky Dell).

**Bosky Dell, WFRS Award of Garden Excellence
near Plettenberg Bay – South Africa**

The usual flurry of pruning demonstrations was followed by a number of spring rose shows in April through to November. It was particularly encouraging to see renewed interest in competitive showing and increased public attendance at these events. The Midlands Rose Society won a 'Gold' at one of South Africa's biggest flower shows which also earned the rose a lot of positive publicity.



Chairman Hugh Collier, Judges Stefanie Seydack and Sheenagh Harris



The Knysna Rose show in a shopping Mall – April, 2015



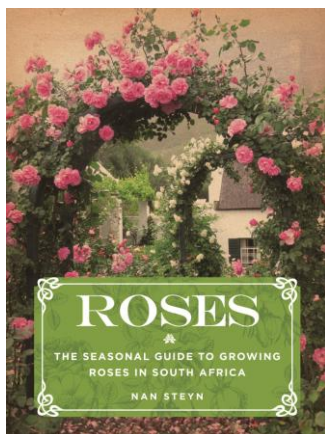
Hilary Blowe and Queen of the Show – 'Andrea Stelzer'



Midlands Rose Society Gold Medal display at the Witness Garden Show
photo – Geoff Redman



Midlands Rose Society Rose Show – October, 2015



One of our Western Cape Rose Society members, Nan Steyn, published a new book on rose care which has been incredibly well received. The book with its wonderful photographs and easy to follow chapters on every aspect of rose growing in South Africa, is sure to become a classic!

National Convention year in South Africa. It will be held over the weekend 14 to 16 October and will be hosted by the Gold Reef Rose Society which is based in Johannesburg. Besides being home to some of South Africa's best rose gardens and nurseries, Johannesburg is also the commercial hub of South Africa and offers a wide range of tourist attractions. This event promises to be a feast for rose lovers with lectures, garden visits, a rose show and loads more – hope to see you and the WFRS President there!

AUSTRALASIA

AUSTRALIA – Paul Hains - Australia

Every good story starts with an introduction so I will take this opportunity to introduce myself to those readers who don't know me. I wasn't born into a rose growing family or into a life with roses. This was something that came to me later in life. My mother impressed upon me a keen interest in plants which manifest itself in my early years mostly through a love of tropical foliage plants.



Upon purchasing my first home I inherited a rose garden and upon meeting my wife Toni I also learned how to care for and love roses. It is from here that I began entering rose competitions and decided that there just were not enough good roses for competitions in Australia due to our quarantine restrictions. I read with interest Bob Martin's newsletters from the USA with all of the varieties they had. It was at this point that a decision was made to start breeding roses. Reading everything I could from advanced rose breeders such as Jim Sproul, I began the quest. I now have over 500 roses in the ground and have more than 500 potted roses and seedlings on raised benches.



As a rose breeder, I have two roses released through a major nursery in Australia with many more in the pipeline. At the last two National Rose Shows in Australia I won the WFRS miniature rose entry with roses I bred. I have won many entries both locally and at a national level with roses I have bred, including the National Australian Bred Championship with a triple entry of three vases of roses I bred.

**'Toni',
'Governor Marie Bashir'
and 'Desley May' was
a winning entry in a local
rose show of all roses
bred by Paul Hains**



**WFRS Mini Class
Paul Hains**

In 2015 I was the President of the National Rose Society of Australia and I am the President of the Queensland Rose Society. I have held many positions in societies in Australia over the years and have a regular radio talkback show on growing roses.

Living in the subtropical part of Australia led to its own challenges with a hot and humid climate. The rose society members offered a wealth of information to help guide me on the right path. Interestingly, this was different to almost everything I could find in books on rose growing. During a visit to Steve and Susie Jones' house in California, I was inspired by Steve to write a booklet on rose growing for our climate. This quickly became a 170 page book called "Growing Roses in Subtropical Climates" that I was able to provide for the society as a fund raiser, raising many thousands of dollars for the club and helping rose enthusiasts with growing better roses.

It is a great honour to represent our region in the World Federation of Rose Societies. I am fortunate to be following in the footsteps of two previous Vice Presidents, Mr Kelvin Trimper and Mrs Margaret Macgregor. All three of us were present recently for the unveiling of the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence to the Mornington Botanical Rose Garden in Victoria. This was a fantastic event with so many rose lovers in attendance. It was wonderful to see the hard work and enthusiasm of the volunteers recognised with such a prestigious award. The garden was in pristine condition as it always has been each time I visited.

The National Rose Society of Australia held its annual rose show at the glamorous Gold Coast in 2015 which is a wonderful tourist location for all guests, both local and international. Their

Excellencies, the Governor General of Australia, Peter Cosgrove, and his wife, Lady Cosgrove, were there to officially open the rose show with close to 900 exhibits on display.

In Lyon we had 110 Australians in attendance and I am sure you all managed to meet some of us. At the Opening Ceremony Ian Spriggs, in absentia, was awarded the World Rose Award for his contribution to promoting the rose. A number of Australians took part in the Rose Trials in Lyon and Kelvin Trimper gave a presentation on Remarkable Rose Gardens in Australia while Merv Trimper was moderator for a session of lectures. Malcolm Watson was one of five distinguished rosarian men to be inducted into the brotherhood of '*Compagnons de Beaujolais*', a respected brotherhood originating in the middle ages. At the closing ceremony Malcolm Watson and Diane vom Berg, among others, were recipients of a medal presented by the Société Française des Roses.

A very proud moment for Australian rosarians was the presentation of the WFRS prestigious gold medal to Malcolm Watson, retiring Executive Director and of course the induction of the new WFRS President, Kelvin Trimper. Kelvin is the second Australian to be President of the WFRS, the first being David Ruston in 1991. I know the Editor of WRN is most grateful to Melanie Trimper and Susan Wade for their great input with WRN following Lyon Roses 2015. It is such a delight to see so many Australians attending WFRS Conventions. At the time of writing, 24 have already registered for Beijing and this is rising daily. I expect we will see many more in Beijing, Uruguay, Slovenia and of course in Denmark in 2018.

One of my other roles with the WFRS has been the formation of a Social Media and Technology Subcommittee. The prime roles have been to assess the social media channels that would best suit the WFRS and to look at strategies for the use of social media, that is, how the WFRS would use specific channels. In doing this, we have begun to develop a policy for social media use by members and moderators and also have been developing a document for explaining social media to non-users. The subcommittee will report to the Publications Committee at the 2015 Beijing Regional Convention and will look to implement recommendations after this meeting. If you have any suggestions you would like to make regarding social media use, please feel free to email me (or message me on Facebook or tweet me on Twitter).

Australia was very excited to have been awarded the 2021 World Rose Convention. We have established a 2021 World Rose Convention Committee with Mr Kelvin Trimper as the Chair. We look forward to presenting you with more information in 2018 at Copenhagen. In the meantime, please be assured we will be working hard to make this a fantastic convention to attend.

The WFRS features prominently on the National Rose Society of Australia's new website with direct links to conventions and World Rose News. I would encourage all member countries to do the same to enable easy access to members. After Beijing we should be able to provide you with information on social media to add to your country websites and social media pages.

I should mention that I work full time as a sales trainer and that growing, breeding and writing about roses is just a hobby. I look forward to working with everyone on the WFRS over the coming years and hope to see many of you in Beijing.



Mornington Botanical Rose Garden

AUSTRALASIA

NEW ZEALAND – Doug Grant – New Zealand

By way of an introduction I am a hybridiser and an amateur rose breeder and I have a large rose garden. Before joining the New Zealand Rose Society in 1983 I was a member of the RNRS and am currently serving a second three year term as President of the NZRS. I have served on the New Zealand National Council since 1990 and am a Life Member of the NZRS, a recipient of the TA Stewart Award, the New Zealand Rose Award and the Frank Penn Memorial Award.

(Editor's note: the rose behind Doug is one of his own breeding 'All My Love')



Eighteen New Zealanders attended the World Rose Convention in Lyon and had a great time, meeting old friends from around the world and making new ones. There was much to celebrate for New Zealand at the convention with several awards and appointments. Doug Grant and Mrs Sally Allison both received the World Rose Award for service to the rose. Sally was unable to attend the convention so her award was presented to her at the Heritage Roses New Zealand Annual General Meeting in October.



Some of the New Zealand contingent present in Lyon - Margaret Hayward, Jannene Butler, Clarence Butler, Rachel Solomon, Julie Solomon, Jocelyn Dobson, Doug Grant, Hayden Foulds, Peter Elliott, Peter Reed, Elizabeth Reed.

Peter Elliott received the WFRS Silver Medal for services to the World Federation of Rose Societies. Peter had served nine years as Vice President for Australasia and was the convenor for the very successful WFRS Regional Convention held in Palmerston North in 2013.

The Lady Norwood Rose Garden in the Wellington Botanic Gardens was presented with the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence. The curator of the rose garden, Rachel Solomon was on hand to receive the award in Lyon. In November, the plaque was officially unveiled in the garden by WFRS Vice President for Australasia Doug Grant and Wellington City Councillor Helene Ritchie.

At the convention in Lyon Mr Hayden Foulds was appointed as Deputy Chairman of the WFRS Rose Trials Committee, a member of the editorial board and is part of the subcommittee looking into the use of social media by the WFRS.



Lady Norwood Rose Garden in the Wellington Botanic Gardens

The New Zealand Rose Annual was produced in July by editor Mrs Rachael Chalmers and contained a range of articles from New Zealand and abroad. It continues to be a very useful publication for New Zealand Rose Society members.



November is a very busy month in the New Zealand spring calendar with numerous rose shows and two rose trials. The New Zealand Rose of the Year trials were held in Hamilton in mid November and are conducted by public vote, with VIP judging on the final day before the awards are presented. The overall winner of the New Zealand Rose of the Year 2015 went to 'Looking Good' (Sommammac), a pink blend floribunda bred by Rob Somerfield of New Zealand. This rose also won the award for best floribunda, the best New Zealand raised rose and was the pick for local school children who come to judge the roses. It glowed in the garden and stood out from across the other side of the garden so was a popular winner. It has been named for a cancer charity 'Look Good, Feel Better' in New Zealand.

Rob also won best climber for 'Double Fragrance' (Somdeewall), a climbing sport of the dark red scented bush rose 'Deep Secret'.

The 2015 New Zealand Rose of the Year 'Looking Good' at Rogers Rose Garden, Hamilton

Mike Athy, another New Zealand rose breeder won the Gifu Prefecture Governor's Award for the most fragrant rose with the dark red purple floribunda 'Caroline Bay' (Athybay). The only overseas bred rose to win an award, the best hybrid tea, was 'Midsummer' (Tan 02-280) an orange yellow blend bred by Tantau of Germany.

A week later and the National Spring Rose Show and Convention was hosted by the South Canterbury Rose Society in Timaru on the east coast of the South Island. Despite a cooler spring delaying flowering over much of the country, there were some very good roses exhibited at the show from all over New Zealand. The theme of the show was 'Lest we Forget – Roses of Remembrance' with a number of the special section classes dedicated to this and some impressive displays produced. The Champion of Champions for large roses went to a large stem of 'Dancing Pink'

exhibited by Mrs Sheree Gare from the Waikato Rose Society while in the miniature type roses, the Champion of Champions was presented to an exhibition bloom of 'Stephanie' exhibited by Mrs Janice Walker from the Northland Rose Society.



A large stem of 'Dancing Pink' entered by Sheree Gare of the Waikato Rose Society



An exhibition bloom of 'Stephanie' entered by Janice Walker of the Northland Rose Society

In early December, awards were presented for the New Zealand Rose Society Trials in Palmerston North. Rob Somerfield won the Gold Star of the South Pacific, the highest award of the trials, for



Rob Somerfield with his Gold Star winning rose 'Fireball' at the New Zealand Rose Society Trials, Dugald Mackenzie Rose Garden, Palmerston North.

'Fireball' (Somstrike). This is an orange floribunda with a silver reverse that produces a mass of bloom. This is Rob's sixth Gold Star winning rose. Rob also won Certificates of Merit for 'Shangri-La' (Somromart) a pink floribunda and 'Somicecart' a white floribunda. Bob Matthews received a Certificate of Merit for an un-named pink Hybrid Tea '08-446-02' and Colin Dickson also received a Certificate of Merit for 'Skychaser' (Diclingo), an apricot bronze floribunda.

Heritage Roses New Zealand has also had a busy year. In February, author Andrea di Robilant made a short visit to New Zealand speaking about his book 'Chasing the Rose' to audiences in Christchurch and Wellington. In November, well known Japanese rosarian Dr Yuki Mikanagi visited as a guest of Heritage Roses New Zealand speaking to groups around the country. Heritage Roses produces an excellent journal four times a year for its members. It is now being edited by Mrs Anne Cullinane. 2016 promises to be another busy year for New Zealanders.

Several rosarians will be attending the WFRS Regional Rose Convention and International Heritage Rose Conference being held in Beijing, China and hopefully some will also make it to the Regional Convention being held in Uruguay in November.

CENTRAL ASIA
INDIA and PAKISTAN
Ahmed Alam Khan – India



After the successful conclusion of the WFRS Regional Rose Convention in India in December 2014, the annual rose shows organized by the Rose Societies affiliated to the Indian Rose Federation took place in their respective cities - Mumbai, Pune, Maharashtra, Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Amravati and Delhi during January and February. Thereafter we were gearing up to visit Lyon to attend the 17th World Rose Convention. A delegation of twelve members from India visited Lyon to participate in the convention.

At the Opening Ceremony in Lyon, Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan (silver) and Mr. Vijay Kant (bronze) received WFRS Commemorative Medals for successfully convening the WFRS Regional Rose Convention 'Rose Eternal' in December 2014, in Hyderabad, India, on behalf of The Indian Rose Federation. During the elections of the WFRS, Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan was re-elected as the Vice President for Central Asia for a further term of office.



Steve Jones presents WFRS Comemmorative Medals to Ahmed Alam Khan (left) and Vijay Kant (right)



Green Valley Rose Garden

At the Closing Ceremony of the Convention, Green Valley developed by Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan received the honour of WFRS Award of Garden Excellence from President Steve Jones.

The Pakistan National Rose Society conducted the Annual Rose Show in Islamabad in April, 2015.

EUROPE
DENMARK, FINLAND, GREAT BRITAIN, ICELAND, NORTHERN IRELAND,
NORWAY AND SWEDEN
Inger Schiarning - Denmark

At the recent World Federation of Rose Societies Convention in Lyon, I was elected one of three WFRS Vice Presidents for Europe. I am grateful for all the support I have received in my nomination and election to this position. My love affair and passion for roses really began in 1985, when my husband Peter and I bought the property, Kellersiisgaarden on Zealand, North of Copenhagen. This had been the home of well known Poulsen Roses since 1908.



Niels Poulsen the internationally renowned rose breeder and third generation of the Poulsen Rose Dynasty, guided me into the world of roses and our close friendship led to a life-long fascination with this beautiful flower. It was particularly pleasurable when Michael Roberts and Ken Grapes, President and Director General of the Royal National Rose Society came to Denmark to honour Niels with the RNRS Dean Hole Medal. A surprise ceremony took place in part of the rose garden and to Niels' great pleasure, this event was attended by his life-long friends Sam McGredy and Patrick Dickson, fellow recipients of the medal.

The 25th Jubilee of the Nordic Rose Society (Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Finland and Denmark) was also celebrated in our garden at Kellersiisgaarden. An appropriate event for a garden which had hosted many rose trials and other events over the years – in the presence of notable rose growers and breeders including Sam McGredy, John Mattock, Alan Meilland, Niels Poulsen, Patrick Dixon, Reimer Kordes, Hette Spek and many others.

I attended the WFRS World Rose Convention in Christchurch, New Zealand in 1994 at the invitation of Sam McGredy. This resulted in many invitations to judge roses around the world, including Den Haag (Holland), Monza (Italy), Baden Baden (Germany), Portland (Oregon), Rose Hills (Los Angeles) and Glasgow (UK).

In 1999, we sold Kellersiisgaarden and moved 60 km to a small manor house built in the English country style where I planted a new rose garden, continued trading in roses, gave tours and lectures and operated a B & B for rose lovers. After one season, it was more like a hotel/conference centre than a B & B!

After that, I had more time to engage with the activities of the Danish Rose Society and was elected President in March 2009. This also means a seat on the Board of the Nordic Rose Society. Currently, I am much engaged in the planning of the 18th World Rose Convention to be held in Wonderful Copenhagen in 2018.



The Lyon convention was a great success with over 300 delegates, among them 17 from the UK, 12 from Denmark, 1 from Sweden and 12 from Norway. We were pleased to have the opportunity to give a presentation about WRC2018 and our display table exposing *A Fairytale of Roses* attracted a great deal of interest.

I was privileged to accept the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence on behalf of The Geographical Gardens in Kolding, Denmark - the first garden in Scandinavia to receive this accolade. I am honoured and look forward to unveiling the plaque on the Day of the Rose on Sunday 3rd July.



The Geographical Gardens in Kolding



THE DANISH TEAM

**Front: Gunnar Krag, Ellen Margrethe Hale, Torben Thim, Marianne, Karenotilia
Behind: Lise Færch, Ulla Schierning, Jens Otto Pedersen, Birthe Lund Jensen, Erik Schierning**

My three year term of office as Vice President takes me to the World Rose Convention in Copenhagen in 2018 - the first ever World Rose Convention to be held in Scandinavia. In the next three years, I will work for more and better communication, openness and transparency between the World Federation and the member countries which I am honoured to represent.

I am planning to take part in the Regional Convention and Heritage Conference in China in May followed by a 4 day visit to rose gardens in Japan. In June I plan to attend International Rose Trials in Europe.

Then to Norway from 6th -10th July for the AGM of the Nordic Rose Society followed by the Nordic Rose Conference in Bergen, where Denmark will be in the chair for the next 2 years, until Sweden takes over in 2018. The Nordic Rose Conference in 2018 is combined with the WRC Copenhagen 2018.

I hope to attend the Belfast Rose Trials the following week and the Glasgow Rose Trials on 23 August. I very much look forward to going to Uruguay in November to attend the Regional convention Roses in the South - my first visit South America.

I wish all Rose Lovers a rosy future and a great 2016.

EUROPE
AUSTRIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, GREECE, HUNGARY, ISRAEL,
ROMANIA, RUSSIA, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA AND SLOVENIA
Breda Bavdaž Čopi - Slovenia

The 17th World Rose Convention Lyon ended in June 2015. It was a successful convention with a large attendance and a varied programme!

At the convention the WFRS Executive Committee, I Breda Bavdaž Čopi, the president of the Slovenian Rose Society was re-elected and confirmed as the Vice President for Eastern Europe. Consequently, my tenure and work that started in 2012 continues for Eastern Europe and of course Slovenia.



In Lyon, on the initiative of the Slovenian Rose Society, the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence was awarded to San Giovanni Rose Garden in Trieste. It is a significant achievement, not only for the garden but also for the societies that operate in this area, for it confirmed the quality and importance of the garden. Now The Slovenian Rose Society has an important venue for educational purposes and gardening displays.

The Slovenian Rose society is sincerely grateful to the city of Trieste and the University of Trieste, who support their activities! We take great pride in successful cooperation with the chief manager and the head of the garden Mr. Vladimir Vremec - a landscape architect and, most importantly, a member of our society.

The Award of Garden Excellence ceremony that was held on the 2nd October, 2015 in the garden was the main event for our Society after the Lyon convention in the autumn season of 2015. The event was of international importance and was attended by important officials of the city of Trieste, two WFRS Vice Presidents for Europe - Hennriene de Brie and Breda Čopi, as well as members of other European societies. The number of rose lovers from the area of Trieste and members of the Slovenian Rose Society that were present was impressive, which proves that cooperation in the world association is very effective. The event was also widely covered by the media.



**Director of Co-operative Agriculture, Mr. Carena, Breda Čopi and Henrienne de Brie
at the unveiling of the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence in Trieste**



San Giovanni Rose Garden - Trieste

The Lyon Convention was attended by two representatives of the Rose Society in Slovenia and a group of members of Volčji Potok Arboretum, who spent one day visiting the venue to get ideas for the preparation of the Regional Convention in Slovenia.

Currently, the most important work for the area of Eastern Europe concerns the organization of the 1st WFRS Regional Rose Convention in Ljubljana and Volčji Potok Arboretum near Ljubljana, Slovenia, which will be held in 2017. The programme is ready and confirmed by WFRS Convention convenor, Helga Brichet, who has visited the venue and has made acquaintance with all the activities that will take place in the period from 10th to 14th June, 2017.

The 2017 convention is a great opportunity for the WFRS to increase their knowledge of rose societies in Eastern Europe. The aim of the programme is to involve as many lecturers from Eastern Europe as possible. This way we hope to increase the attendance of members of other societies from Eastern Europe at the convention.

As a part of the 2017 convention programme, we are preparing a colourful collection of roses from the member countries in Eastern Europe in the Arboretum. The rose garden will commemorate the convention.

There are many problems involved in organizing the convention. We must be aware of numerous tensions in the world, which hamper the organization. However, there is also great enthusiasm among the members of the organizing committee and a lot of work to be done, which will hopefully result in success.

As the Vice President for Eastern Europe, I try hard to attract new members to the WFRS. Although Croatia has accepted our invitation for the convention, they still lack an organized society. There is some work being done to start a horticulture society in Poland, and we hope that the Polish society will be ready to present itself at the convention in Ljubljana. There are also some problems with the operation of the Romanian society, which remains inactive. Mr. Stefan Wagner, the former WFRS Vice President Europe and the former president of the society, is trying to restore its operation, but he lacks possibilities. We hope to solve this problem during the 2017 convention.

The President of the Slovenian Rose Society also attended other events across Europe. Being the Vice President Europe, I was President of the Jury at the trials in Barcelona at the Parc de Cervantes. Members of our society also took part in the Baden Baden Rose Trials, trials in the Parc de Bagatelle in Paris and the Saverne Rose Garden and, finally, the Geneva Rose Trials. Unfortunately, the trials in Geneva were not successful due to the poor condition of the roses, which came as a surprise to us.

EUROPE
BELGIUM, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, MONACO
NETHERLANDS, SPAIN AND SWITZERLAND
Henrienne de Briey – Belgium

2015 was quite a good year for roses in our country and although we had a cold and dry spring, they bloomed and re-bloomed to the end of October.

I was very lucky this year, 2015, as South Europe was the centre of the world with the 17th World Rose Convention hosted by Lyon, the capital of city of roses in France!

My report will therefore begin with the French rose friends, followed by the other countries I was able to visit for roses.



LA FRANCE

Everybody knows that France is a splendid and charming country. The city of Lyon, sometimes called the 'little Paris', but likewise, the "capital of roses" was of course the best place to host a world rose convention. I had the great opportunity to attend the 17th World Rose Convention in Lyon with its International Trials, as well as Bagatelle and Orleans International Trials.

LYON



Henrienne de Briey and the new President Kelvin Trimper, in Lyon

Let's have a little flash back to Lyon rose history:

If the golden age of the rose in Lyon took place from the second half of the 19th century to the first World War, the romance between Lyon and roses began at the end of the 18th century - thanks to the future Empress Josephine. She used to spend time in Lyon to buy silk and beautiful dresses and fortunately thanks to the splendid receptions which were given in her honour, she gave Lyon the duplicate of her rose collection in la Malmaison!

Since the rose was established in Lyon more than a hundred rose breeders have worked and played an important role in the economic, social and artistic history of Lyon.

We can certainly speak about Dynasties of Lyonnese rose-breeders, from the oldest (Guillot family) to the most globalized firm (Meilland-Richardier). Ten companies with a long tradition of rose-knowledge are still active, looking ahead and leading innovative ideas. They represent the famous Ecole Lyonnaise de la Rose.

During the convention I was given the chance to moderate some of the lectures about the history of the rose in Lyon. Lily and I warmly thank the Société Française des roses, for the 2 Flore Divinity

medals we received at the closing ceremony. Twelve members of the Belgian Rose Society attended the Convention.

BAGATELLE

We always have a good time in Paris at the Bagatelle Trials. It is definitely the place to be for rose lovers and there I feel a little bit at home. For this 108th edition of the International Trials, 98 varieties were on trial from 10 countries and 28 breeders. The weather was a little bit gloomy and cold but the roses were blooming. We had the great honour to have André Eve as President of the International Jury.

**Markus Brunswick (Germany) and
Jean-Pierre Lelievre (France)**



ORLEANS

The Orleans 57th International Trial was my first experience and I was pleasantly surprised by the rose garden as the roses we had to judge were beautifully presented with a mixed border of flowers which gave a romantic atmosphere. There were 43 varieties from Germany, Denmark, Switzerland and France. It was a splendid sunny day in September and the roses were still blooming well. We had a special speech in memory of André Eve who died early in August, leaving a large gap in the rose world. Unfortunately, as in Lyon, Orleans does not respect the WFRS trial rules. After the Trials we had a very interesting visit to Chamerolles Castle where there is a permanent exhibition of the history of perfume and finally a very good dinner and I was so pleased to share a table with Josiane Pierre – Bissley and Odile Masquelier.



Michel Adam and Mireille Steil



Frans Thomas and Henrienne de Briey

SPAIN

MADRID

My first WFRS rose activity this year was the 59th International Rose Trial in Madrid. The weather was sunny but cold. The date very close to the World Rose Convention in Lyon must be the explanation why Mr George Restellini from Monaco and myself from Belgium were the only foreigners attending the trials and consequently we had the chance to each have a translator.

The Rosaleta is a splendid rose garden founded during the 1950s where one can see more than 20,000 plants. This year we had to judge 83 varieties from 20 breeders coming from 7 different countries.

The prize for the Best Spanish Rose was presented to Mathilde Ferrer. George Restellini was President of the Jury.



Lluís Abad from Barcelona



Mathilde Ferrer
breeder of the best Spanish bred rose

After the judging we had an enjoyable concert before the results of the Trials were announced then we had a 'walking lunch' outside in the rose garden with a magnificent assortment of tapas. Quite a lot of officials and rose friends from Madrid attended the event.

BELGIUM

KORTRIJK

The International Rose Trials of Kortrijk took place on the 26th of June as usual in the rose garden of the T Hooghe Castle Park. Mr Frans Thomas had the honour to be the President of the Jury with 82 roses to judge. The rose 'La Villa Cotta' from Kordes was nominated the Golden Rose of Kortrijk 2015. Three gold and 6 silver medals were awarded to roses with unfortunately no perfume. We should observe that very often the roses which get a prize for perfume receive below the average points for the other main criteria. After 12 years as President of the rose garden during which time she achieved a great deal, Mrs Marie-Claire Van der Stichele retired. Mr. André Calus, Doctor Engineer and honorary director of the Inagro Centre of Research was nominated the new President.



Marga Verwer from The Netherlands



A beautiful Delbard floribunda

LE ROEULX

The 4th September was an unexpected sunny day if we consider what happened a couple of weeks before with a lot of strong wind and pouring rain and the roses had to fight against the laws of nature and they did it for our pleasure.

We were lucky as the jury of the 52nd International Trials was a truly International one with rose friends from Germany, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Italy, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Czech

Republic and of course Belgium. I was honoured to be asked to be the President of the International Jury.

The number of new varieties was impressive - 132 new roses from 33 breeders out of 10 countries. Fifteen breeders were present for the event and I had the pleasure during lunch to deliver a few words of a friendly message from my mother, Lily who is full of admiration for the breeders, and of course on my own I could remind them of the advantages to be part of our WFRS Breeders' Club. Due to the number of roses in the competition, a lot of prizes were distributed and two yellow roses got a prize for perfume. J.J. Claustriau, President of the permanent Jury pointed out that the pink varieties were the ones which handled the very bad weather during the days prior to the trials.

The atmosphere at the Le Roeulx Trials is always joyful due to the kindness and the warm welcome of our hosts Benoit Friard, Manu Delhove, J.J. Claustriau and their team.



Le Roeulx Rose Trial Garden

LUXEMBOURG

On the 16th July, I was honoured to attend the 35th anniversary of the Luxembourg Rose Society. The party took place in the lovely Castel of Bourglinster. Mister Carlo Conter, Head of the Horticulture Service, recounted the rose history and its outstanding past in the City of Luxembourg. Indeed, from the late 19th century millions of rose plants, farmed in the surroundings of the capital, were exported to the neighbouring countries to decorate royal and presidential properties. At that time, it was an absolute industry supported worldwide by well-known Soupert & Notting. Unfortunately, the two World Wars combined with the *phylloxera* disease made a great contribution to the decline of this incredible rose production. It took a long time to recover from this crisis but in 1980 "Les Amis de la Rose Luxembourg" was created in order to bring about a new development.

The enormous work to expand the rose industry in Luxembourg as well as the conservation of old roses was successively assured by Mr. Schmit, founder of the "Letzebuerger Rousefrenn", the Baroness de Schorlemer, Mr. Vion and Mrs Bloch, Mrs. Hely Heldenstein, current Honorary President, and Mireille Steil, who recently, with much energy took the lead of the association. New roses are regularly baptised in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and I had the chance to assist with the rose 'Rousefrenn' – 'Rosefriend' – whose breeder is none other than our friend Stanislas Zyla from Poland. Mireille Steil managed this event brilliantly and we all gathered around a wonderful birthday cake!



Henrianne de Brie with the Luxembourg Rose Society



'Rousefrenn' – 'Rosefriend'

ITALY

TRIESTE

The history of San Giovanni Park began in 1908 when the provincial psychiatric hospital was inaugurated in Trieste. It was only in the 1970's that the park and the hospital were opened to the city giving the freedom to the patients to leave the park and to the city's residents to enter the park. Today the park and the city shine as a meeting place of social enterprises, welfare and creative activities, cultural projects and further education.

The San Giovanni Park Rose Garden was inaugurated in October 2009 and the project for extending the rose garden received support from the park's four owners, namely the Regional Healthcare Services, the Province of Trieste, the Municipality and the University of Trieste.

The planning was carried out by Vladimir Vremec, whose aim it was to develop a series of individual collections, creating what is actually a large scale rose garden of modern design, one of the largest in Italy, containing the very best of old, wild and modern productions with more than 3000 varieties of roses coming from everywhere in the world.

The Rose garden respects the original architectural layout of the site designed in the past by Lodovico Braidotti.

On the 2nd of October, invited by Vladimir Vremec, I was really impressed to discover this beautiful Rose Garden and to imagine the hard work to get it so nice because of the specific Mediterranean climate in Trieste with very hot summers and strong windy winters.

I was really proud and honoured to represent the World Federation of Roses Societies for the unveiling of the WFRS plaque in the San Giovanni Rose Garden in Trieste which had received the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence in Lyon in May, 2015. The plaque is displayed on a red plate in the form of a 'zig zag'.

Vladimir Vremec and his team of volunteers and gardeners are to be commended for the high standard they have achieved in this rose garden. As a surprise I read a letter addressed to them from Kelvin Trimper. Mireille Steil from Luxembourg was there too, and we all had a very nice dinner the evening before in the beautiful centre of Trieste.



San Giovanni Rose Garden - Trieste

GERMANY

My visit to Germany this year in relation to roses was very, very special. In April, I went North East of Berlin to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the prisoners from Ravensbrück Concentration Camp.

In November 1938, the Concentration Camp Ravensbrück for women was built by Himmler near the city of Fürstenberg (Prusse). In 1944 the camp was fitted out with a gas chamber and a crematorium. In total, 132,000 women entered the camp, 92,000 of them died of starvation, gassed or killed. In April 1945, the Soviets came to release Ravensbrück and found 3,000 sick women, 7000 had already been liberated by the International Red Cross. My mother Lily van Oost – de Gerlache, captured for being a Resistant in the Secret Army, was among those who were miraculously saved.

Curiously the rose was quite widespread in the camp through lots of poems, pieces of embroidery, drawings etc., and was a symbol of friendship in this indescribable context. The Ravensbrück Association was created in 1945 as soon as the surviving women came back from captivity, to celebrate peace and to pay homage to those who didn't survive. The Association was looking for a rose which could be a symbol of peace and friendship to dedicate to the women who never came back. This rose needed to be a special one with a colour depicting eternity and with glints of gold. It took a long time to find a suitable rose but finally in 1974, Mr Kriloff (1916-2010), a French breeder, produced the rose which suited the wishes of the Ravensbrück Association perfectly. The rose was named 'Resurrection'.

In 1975 for the 30th anniversary of the Liberation, the rose 'Resurrection' was planted in important memorial places, as well as in public rose gardens, green spaces, private gardens, cemetery of the "Pere Lachaise" in France but also in Belgium, Czechoslovakia, in Norway,... and of course in Ravensbrück.

The rose 'Resurrection' was awarded a lot of prizes but a few years ago the rose was unobtainable on the market. Fortunately, in a sudden fit of generosity the French firm Orard took the decision to bring the variety back to life. The Ravensbrück Association was lucky to be able to honour its commitments taken soon after the second World War and for the 70th anniversary of the Camp Liberation which was

celebrated in April 2015, a thousand 'Resurrection' roses were planted in front of the Nation Wall in Ravensbrück.

I took part in this thrilling ceremony, representing Lily, and I with my family had the honour of planting 15 roses 'Lily de Gerlache' amongst the 'Resurrection' roses, In memory of her friends who didn't come back from Ravensbrück.

A very interesting exhibition on roses and its history in Ravensbrück was presented in the jail where Genevieve de Gaulle (General de Gaulle's niece), stayed as a political prisoner. Now the exhibition has been forwarded permanently to Sangherhausen.

'Resurrection' has now carried the memory for 40 years. It is a splendid rose for the future.

I was told by Lluís Abad Garcia that in the Parc of Cervantes in Barcelona where, each year the International Rose Trials take place, a bed of 'Resurrection' roses was planted in March 2015 in memory of the "Dones de Ravensbrück".

Even if I didn't get the chance to go to Baden-Baden Trials this year, I thought that I would like to share this special rose experience in Germany with you.



'Resurrection'

OTHER ROSE TRIALS

Frans Thomas, President of the National Rose Society of Belgium attended the following Rose Trials:

BADEN-BADEN in Germany where a very special rose from Michel Adam (France) was granted 3 prizes: Gold Medal, the Perfume prize and the Golden Rose of Baden-Baden: congratulations Mr Adam!

SAVERNE in France where the roses had to survive having experienced very high temperatures.

THE HAGUE in the Netherlands there were a lot of beds to judge and the Golden rose of the Hague 2015 was awarded to the Hybrid Tea 'Elaine Paige' from Poulsen (Denmark).

GLASGOW in Scotland where 'Cherry Bonica' from Meilland International (France) received the Golden Prize of the city of Glasgow.

CONCLUSION:

To conclude this 2015 report, it was a great year with a very successful World Rose Convention in France, many interesting meetings, lots of trials and rose garden visits, always making the acquaintance of new people, having always in mind that the rose world is a big family. Lily and I were so pleased and honoured to have the visit of Malcolm and Ruth Watson in Belgium for a couple of days. Time is running fast, we are working to collect memorabilia for the China Museum and I am really looking forward to meeting you all again in Beijing and in Punta del Este in 2016.

FAR EAST CHINA AND JAPAN

Zhao Shiwei - Japan

In 2006, in Osaka I was the first speaker from China to take part in a WFRS convention. As secretary-general of the Chinese Rose Society I was involved in organizing the 2010 Changzhou WFRS Regional Convention and at present am involved in the Conference/Convention to be held in Beijing in May 2016. I spoke at the conventions in Sakura, Japan and South Africa.

I attended the Lyon convention and was elected as the Vice President for the Far East. During the convention, I reported on the preparation of the 16th WFRS Regional Rose Convention jointly with the 14th International Heritage Rose Conference to be held in Beijing in May 2016.



After the Lyon convention, I transferred my focus to the organization of the Regional convention jointly with the Heritage Rose Conference. In order to prepare for the convention, a team of more than 20 people was formed in Daxing District, Beijing. Mr. He Rui, the vice-governor of the Daxing District became the head of the team. His responsibility includes all the aspects of the organizing and around him, there are a few sections, i.e. meeting, hotel, promotion, tour, safeguarding and general administration. In order for this to progress well, we usually have a meeting together every two weeks. People from the Municipal Department of Parks, Municipal Parks Administration Centre, Daxing District and Chinese Rose Society attend the meetings. The problems and important issues are discussed during the meetings.

Also, I was involved in the collection for the new rose museum to be opened during the Regional Convention. We had a number of meetings to decide what to display in the museum and how to collect the items. After many discussions, we reached the agreement on the plan of the museum. And we made a plan for collecting items from China as well as abroad.

After October's one-week holiday, we were happy to welcome our new President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper to Beijing. Dr. Gérald Meylan, Chairman of the Breeder's Club, Helga Brichet, Chairman of the Convention Liaison Committee and Mr. Malcom Watson and his wife Ruth also came to Beijing. We had meetings in Daxing District, talking about the preparation of the convention and also the collection for the museum. We sorted out the details of the convention and the problems to be solved. The meetings were very effective.



To date we have had about 200 foreign rosarians register for the convention, which is a big number for a Regional Convention. The team are working hard to solve the unexpected problems to make the registration easier.

**WFRS Award winning Garden of Excellence
in Lyon, May, 2015
Beijing Botanical Rose Garden**

With a new rose museum, millions of roses along the street, a few new rose gardens and sixteen high-level speakers from around the world, all participants will experience special hospitality in China. I look forward to seeing you in Beijing in May.

NORTH AMERICA BERMUDA, CANADA, USA David Elliott – Canada

This year has involved less travel than some, just for the 2015 World Rose Convention in Lyon France in May.

In preparation for the conference with Yuki Mikanagi, WFRS Conservation Committee Chairman, concerning the future of Rose Location Data Bases, we recommended at the committee meeting that rather than one world wide data base be created each country be asked to prepare a country wide data base to determine what is where and what is rare. We are continuing this work. We feel that separate data bases by country are better than an international one as many countries have severe problems with the import and sometimes export of all plant material including roses. Heritage Roses New Zealand are setting an example with their work which can be accessed on their website available for all to see.



I prepared a proposal that the Conservation and Heritage committees be merged. Meetings of the two committees have been held combined since the Heritage committee in 2009 and the objectives of the two committees are similar. This proposal was approved at the conference with Yuki Mikanagi as the chairman and myself as vice chairman. After the conference Kelvin Trimper, our president, conferred with David Ruston and confirmed that the combined committee title should be the Conservation and Heritage committee.

Crenagh and I took part in the Lyon Conference Pre- and Post tours which gave us the chance to meet old friends and make new ones. Thirty-five Canadians attended the World Rose Convention in Lyon - from Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

During the conference we were all kept very busy with lectures, afternoon tours and evening committee meetings which meant 12 hour days, quite exhausting. Fortunately Canada was also represented at these meetings by Ethel Freeman, Past President WFRS; Elizabeth Schleicher, whose main interest is Rose Showing and classification and myself. Thanks are due for their support. I have done further work on the Rose Locator data base proposals and will be following up with Yuki Mikanagi.

Crenagh and I continue to assist with the proofing of the WFRS Heritage Group newsletter "by any other name" which is available on the WFRS web site.



Terry Martinech, Brenda Harvey and Darlene Sanders – St. Galmier

photo – Dale Akerstrom



Philippe Laperrière and Helmut Schleicher at the Laperrière nursery

photo – Elizabeth Schleicher



Ethel Freeman, Recipient of the French Flore Divinity medal

photo – Elizabeth Schleicher

**NORTH AMERICA
BERMUDA, CANADA, USA
Jolene Adams – USA**



Touring France and attending the WFRS Convention was the highlight of 2015.

Once home again I took up my duties as President of the American Rose Society and began traveling to various Districts around the United States. I attended a lovely ARS Mini Conference and Rose Show in Columbus, Ohio. We also held a lovely rose show with many, many entries from the people in the area. Some people even flew in their roses from thousands of miles away. At that Conference I was very pleased to award the Klima Medal for outstanding service in rose education to my good friend Baldomero Villegas.



**Linda Burg, Ed Yesan, Jolene Adams, Baldomero Villegas,
and Joan Goff at the Klima Award Ceremony in Columbus**

As our summer progressed I judged several rose shows in the states of California and Nevada as well as Arizona. I loved noting how the colouration of the same rose would differ, dependant on the microclimate where it was grown. Our Judges really have to work hard to travel and visit as many rose gardens in each of our areas as possible so they will not make mistakes when identifying these roses.

I often am called as a Consultant for one of the Public Rose Gardens in the San Francisco Bay area of California. One of my favourites is the Morcom Amphitheatre of Roses in Oakland, CA. It has a large promenade leading from the entrance, past many beds of modern roses and leading up to a

Florentine-style Garden where the roses from the 1860's through the 1930's are bedded. The Manager of the Garden in the early days was determined to have the parents of each of the All America Rose Selection roses in our beds also. I helped revise the map of the Garden to bring it up to date and planted several lovely old roses that had been brought from our nursery to replace roses that had withered and died.

My speaking engagements took me to Washington, Oregon, more of California, Nevada and New York. It is always such fun to meet and visit with Rosarians from other places in North America – to hear how they “do it” and which roses they grow and cherish.

In September I traveled to New York to attend the ARS Fall Convention, held in Syracuse. This was my last Convention as President and I handed the title and the job to my Vice President – Mrs. Pat Shanley – who became the 55th President of the American Rose Society. What a happy night! And there was a surprise Birthday Party for me afterward that was attended by good friends and many well-wishers.

In October I traveled to Southern California to judge at the Trials in Rose Hills. What a fun time we all had! The roses were in good condition and the Golden Rose was 'Anastasia' – what a lovely sight to see in a full bed of blooms.

The Holidays were packed with activities – both with my rose friends and with family. Every day seemed to bring more friends to the house and often we would go out to a party or luncheon with rose friends.

I am working with the Master Gardeners group in my part of California – we are busily holding Training Classes for a new group of people who wish to become Master Gardeners. This educational endeavor is sponsored by the University of California. It is fun to work with them – they are all so motivated and eager to learn. Some of them have gotten excited about roses too – and are joining our local rose societies.

Now is the time to prune roses along the West Coast of North America – from the San Francisco area down to the Mexican Border. I am engaged every day with one garden or another and I have to dodge out early in the day or late in the afternoon to care for my own roses! They are done at last and a thick mulch has been laid down. We are finally enjoying rain – eleven storms in January with one or two days between them. We need the water, but it makes pruning that much more difficult.

I am looking forward to Spring and the first blooms which should start appearing in April. They will be my reward for aching muscles and sore joints from pruning all month.

I hope all of you reading this are enjoying your roses, wherever they grow!



**Rose Hills Rose Garden, California
WFRS Garden of Excellence - 2006**

SOUTH AMERICA ARGENTINA, CHILE, URUGUAY

Rosario de Algorta Carrau – Uruguay

What else may we say about the excellent World Convention in Lyon 2015, besides congratulating the organizers of the event? It was a fantastic opportunity to meet old friends and get to know new ones in a beautiful environment, right from the start of the Pre- tour in La Provence. I was happy to be a moderator for one session of lectures.



Twenty-eight rosarians from Uruguay went to Lyon: Maureen Hyland, Rosario Gibernau, Moira Capurro, Anne Engel, Ines Garcia, Carmen and Federico Palazzi, Ines Díaz, Irma Licandro, Octavio Sciandro, Teresita Schiaffino, Cristina Cavestany, Martín Rodríguez, Martín Sporturno, Graciela Pereira, Estela Chapt, Marta Ingold and her husband, Marta Azzini, Heidi Menéndez, Andrea Vejo, Mercedes Villar, Marita Lindner, Angela Burgueño, Elba Corral, Nivia Salaberry, Patricia Cummins and Rosario Algorta.



**Josianne Pierre-Bissley,
Rosario Algorta and
Daniel Boulens in Lyon**



The Uruguayan Delegation presenting Maurice and Katherine Jay with a leather tray embossed with the Uruguayan Rose Society crest



Lyon – Closing Ceremony
Angela Burgueño (President of the Eastern Branch of the Uruguayan Rose Society), **Nilda Crivelli** (Rosicultura Argentina) and Past VP for South America), **Elba Simson** (Tarariras Friends' Branch of the Uruguayan Rose Society), **Teresita Schiaffino** (Western Branch of the Uruguayan Rose Society) and **Gisela Avila** (Rose Society of Chile)

THE EASTERN BRANCH OF THE URUGUAYAN ROSE SOCIETY - PUNTA DEL ESTE ROSE SHOW IN SPRING



Rosario Algorta, Patricia Cummins and Moira Capurro
judging at the WESTERN BRANCH SHOW

URUGUAYAN ROSE SOCIETY SPRING ROSE SHOW



Renata Frischen (Argentina) **Susana Ferrer** (President of Rosicultura Argentina) **Rosario Enríquez** (President of the Uruguayan Rose Society) **Patricia Cummins** (Uruguay)





Rosario Algorta as VP for South America visited the PALERMO ROSE GARDEN in Argentina to see if it had maintained the standard of the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence - excellent!



The Uruguayan Rose Society spent a beautiful day amongst roses in the garden of one of their members, Elizabeth Plennerth.

The number of members increased this year to nearly one hundred.



CHILE's Report: The Chilean Association worked at the Parque Araucano Rose Garden helping to maintain it by pruning and deadheading. They searched and bought perfumed rose bushes for new borders of the Rose Garden. They had regular meetings at their headquarters in the Corporación Cultural Las Condes.

Three members from the Chilean Association attended the Convention - Roxana Avila Solari, Gisela Avila Solari and Isa María Bozzolo.

ARGENTINA's Report: Two members of Rosicultura Argentina, Alisia Frega and Nilda Crivelli attended the Lyon World Convention. Rosicultura Rose Show In Buenos Aires, Argentina



Nilda Crivelli and Derek Lawrence at the Closing Ceremony in Lyon



Table for a barbecue: Susana Ferrer at the Rosicultura Rose show in BA, Argentina

2015 was a year in which every Association from South America did their best ! There were representatives of the three countries in Lyon and we are working hard preparing the future 5th Convention of the area.

There will be a Pre- Pre- tour to Argentina before coming to Uruguay, so please contact Nilda Crivelli: nildacrivelli@fibertel.com.ar

WELCOME TO SOUTH AMERICA!