



Rosa Eskelund's beautiful golden rose - G10-334 - given to the WFRS to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Federation, to be baptized and named in Valby Park, Copenhagen by the WFRS President and all Past Presidents attending the Convention

CONTENT

Editorial	2
President's Message	3
World Rose Convention Denmark	4
WFRS Vice Presidents Reports	
Africa	6
Australia	8
New Zealand	11
Central Asia	15
Europe (N)	17
Europe (SE)	19
Europe (S)	21
Far East	26
North America	27
North America	28
South America	30
Rose Stamps of the World	
Rose Stamps in Australia	36
Rose Stamps in Uruguay	37
A Rose Journey to Ethiopia	38
Australian Award	49
Roses from Romania	50
Victoria Jubilee Park	51
Dr. Stefan Wagner	53
International Rose Trials 2018	54
Diary of Events	54
Friends of the Federation	55
Friends only supper – Aus.	56
WFRS Executive Com.	57
WFRS Standing Committee	58
WFRS Member Societies	58
Associate Members and Breeder's Club	59

EDITORIAL

The start of a new year is usually filled with new resolutions and it would be great if all WFRS members had as a priority the prompt and accurate replies to communications! This has been the plea of WFRS Presidents and no doubt Executive Directors, (or Secretaries), for decades and despite all the most modern methods of communication we are still ignoring this entreaty! After much cajoling and near threats I am delighted to say we have a full house of VP reports. They vary enormously but make interesting reading and of course are a permanent record of what is happening in the rose world.

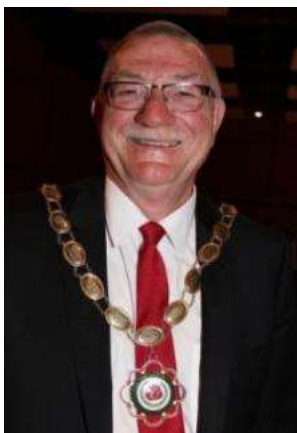
It is sad to hear of the death of our loyal and well known rosarian, Stefan Wagner, especially as this loss comes so close to the celebration of 50 years association with the WFRS. Having attended conventions since 1968 and visited countries in the Federation with tour groups from Romania his familiar friendly face will be sadly missed.

In this issue we have an excellent and most interesting article on Ethiopia with equally interesting photographs. Learn about roses in Africa where they are least expected.

We continue the series on rose stamps of the world with excellent contributions from Australia and Uruguay. We have a long way to go before receiving stamp information from all forty rose societies of the world, so don't allow your country to be left out.

By the time you receive this issue of WRN it will only be 4 months to A Fairytale of Roses. There is much to look forward to in the rose world and you can expect another WRN in May before we meet in Copenhagen.

Sheenagh Harris
World Rose News Editor



Kelvin Trimper
WFRS President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February, 2018



2015 - 2018

'A Fairytale of Roses', the 18th WFRS World Rose Convention is now less than six months away. Our hosts, the Danish Rose Society and convention organisers, The Meeting Planners, have been working extremely diligently to ensure every detail is attended to and all is ready for our 50th Anniversary celebrations and convention. Over 400 registrations have already been received from rosarians throughout the world. I suggest that if you have not already registered and wish to attend, please register now to ensure your participation. Regular Registration finishes on 28th February, 2018 and late Registration applies from 1st March to 31st May. The organisers in Denmark have ensured the Convention Programme, pre- and post tours and other activities provide an exciting combination of rose topics and garden visits together with an opportunity to explore Danish culture and tourist attractions. It certainly promises to be "Wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen" as the song suggests.

During the World Rose Convention the WFRS will be holding a large number of Committee Meetings to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our Member Countries and individual rosarians worldwide. I wish to thank the hardworking Committee Chairmen, Committee Members and Regional Vice Presidents for their dedication and hard work. Together, these officers are making a significant contribution to the WFRS and fulfilling our objectives.

During the Convention, a history book of the WFRS' past 50 years will be launched. This book "**WFRS 50 Golden Years**" is being edited by Jolene Adams, our Publications Committee Chairman. Many Past Presidents and officials of the WFRS have contributed hundreds of hours in gathering, researching and preparing content for this book.

I am delighted to announce that the WFRS has received a generous donation towards the production cost of the book from Past President and Editor Emeritus, Dr. Thomas Cairns. This donation is in addition to that already received from President Emeritus, Baroness Lily de Gerlache de Gomery.

Dr. Cairns indicated in his letter that, "The outstanding professional leadership provided by Inger Schierning, Convenor of the upcoming 2018 World Rose Convention in Copenhagen, "A Fairy Tale of Roses", and Jolene Adams, Editor of "WFRS 50 Golden Years" deserve our thanks, recognition and accolades." He further commented the "WFRS is indeed fortunate to have such leaders as Inger and Jolene with vision and forethought".

The generous donations of Baroness Lily de Gerlache de Gomery and Dr. Thomas Cairns have ensured that the WFRS 50th Anniversary Book will be a high quality publication and a great recognition of the WFRS achieving its 50th Anniversary in 2018. We sincerely thank both Lily and Tommy for their generous donations and all who are contributing to ensure the 50th Anniversary Book is a great publication.

At the time of writing this message, I am aware that parts of Northern America have had severe fires and floods, while significant areas of Europe have had extremely cold weather. Areas in Southern Africa are suffering from drought and parts of Australia are experiencing very hot weather – well over 40°C.

Wherever you are, Melanie and I hope you, your families and roses are healthy and safe.

Kelvin Trimper
President, WFRS



LECTURE PROGRAMME IN COPENHAGEN

SATURDAY 30TH JUNE – NORDIC LECTURES Moderator: Jens Otto Pedersen (Denmark)

Denmark: Speaker: **Torben Thim**
08.30 -09.30 Title: Roses in Denmark – Danish roses

Norway: Speaker: **Per Harald Salvesen**
09.30-10.00 Title: Cultural Heritage Roses Encountered in Norway
(Per Harald Salvesen, Eva Vike, Per Arvid Åsen)

½-hour coffee break

Sweden: Speaker: **Lars-Åke Gustavsson**
10.30-11.00 Title: Sweden's National Rose Gene Bank

Finland: Speaker: **Sirkka Juhanoja**
11.00-11.30 Title: The Riches of Roses in Finnish Gardens

Iceland: Speaker: **Vilhjálmur Lúðvíksson**
11.30-12.30 Title: Roses for Cold, Wet and Windy Gardens

12.00-12.30 **Presentation of future Regional Conventions**

MONDAY 2ND JULY - THE PAST – Moderator: Hans-Peter Mühlbach (Germany)

08.30-09.45 Speaker: **Tommy Cairns, USA**
Title: Fifty Glorious Years (1968-2018)
Celebrating the WFRS Golden Jubilee

09.45-10.30 Speaker: **Ingrid Verdegem, Belgium**
Title: Herbarium Crépin

½-hour coffee break

11.00-11.45: Speaker: **Doug Grant, New Zealand**
Title: Sam McGredy and his roses

11.45-12.30: Speaker: **Anita Böhm-Krutzinna, Germany**
Title: Rose breeding in Germany before 1800

TUESDAY 3RD JULY – THE PRESENT – Moderator: Sheenagh Harris (South Africa)

08.30-09.15 Speaker: **Paul Hains, Australia**
Title: Changing Gardeners' Views of Growing Roses - the Future of Rose Gardening

09.15-10.00 Speaker: **Charles Quest-Ritson, Great Britain**
Title: The Poulsens and their Roses: Past, Present and Future.

½-hour coffee break

10.30-11.15 Speaker: **Mia Grøndahl, Sweden**
Title: The Old Rose Heritage of Österlen: Lost, found and preserved for the Future.

11.15-12.00: Speaker: **Parminderjit Sandhu, Canada**
Title: Canadian roses before, now and in the future

12.00-12.30: **Presentation of future Regional Conventions**

WEDNESDAY 4TH JULY – THE FUTURE – Moderator: Paul Hains

08.30-09.15: Speaker: **Kelvin Trimper, Australia**
Title: The Future of the World Federation of Rose Societies and Rose Societies

09.15-10.00 Speaker: **Sabine Ravnskov, Denmark**
Title: The Role of Mycorrhiza in Rose Plants

½-hour coffee break

10.30-12.00 **Breeder's Panel – Paul Hains, Australia**

Among others there will be representatives from:

Poulsen Roses A/S, Denmark,
Roses Forever Aps, Denmark,
Kordes Rosen, Germany,
The House of Meilland, France

12.00-12.30: **Presentation of 19th WRC – 2021 – Australia**



'Wonderful Copenhagen'

REPORTS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES FOR THE YEAR - 2017



AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA – Rae Gilbert – South Africa 2012-2018

With the devastating drought continuing in a large part of South Africa (currently the only WFRS African member country) gardeners have been under extreme pressure to maintain their roses. This has not dampened their enthusiasm for rose related activities, however. Membership numbers overall have remained stable at just below 500 and rose societies have had full programmes.

The usual garden visits, talks (mostly about water-wise rose gardening), pruning demonstrations etc. took place throughout the course of the year. Notably, there has been a resurgence of interest in competitive rose showing. The Gold Reef Rose Society invited Paul Hains, WFRS VP for Australasia, as a guest judge to their annual show. It was a privilege to share points of view and expertise from another continent. Though the number of entries was lower than that to which he is accustomed, the judges agreed that the standard of the entries was on par. Paul also visited the Midlands Rose Society where he opened a new Heritage Rose Garden near Pietermaritzburg.



Gold Reef Rose Society members and guest judge, Paul Hains. Vivienne Black, Kathleen Paverd and her '*Rosa Prima Donna*' (judged Queen of the Show), Paul Hains WFRS VP for Australasia, and John Benfield, Show Manager.

The Free State Rose Society (Vrijstaatse Roosvereniging) held successful shows as did various smaller groups of gardeners who are not as yet members of a WFRS affiliated society. Sadly, both Mossel Bay and Knysna decided not to host shows this year because of the drought and the devastating fires in the region.



Three South Africans attended the WFRS Regional Convention in Slovenia.

South African delegates to the Regional Convention in Slovenia. Rae Gilbert, Dianne van der Hoven, Sheenagh Harris.

Addendum from the Editor –

Rae Gilbert and Sheenagh Harris were honoured to be invited to take part in the International Rose Trials in Baden Baden, where Sheenagh was asked to address the guests at the Prize Giving on behalf of the WFRS. This was Sheenagh's 5th attendance in Baden Baden in 8 years.



Sheenagh Harris at the prize giving in Gönneranlage, Baden Baden



Thomas Proll of Kordes - well known to South African rosarians



Rae Gilbert and Hilary Elkin (USA) in the Beutig Trial Garden

In November, The Heritage Rose Society of South Africa held a function in the beautiful Bosky Dell WFRS Award winning Rose Garden of Excellence (2015) together with The Gift of Gardeners to raise funds and provide plants for the victims of the ravaging fires which hit this coast in June. The Knysna Rose Society stepped in to help organise the mini rose show.



'Albertine' welcomes all to Lover's Walk at Bosky Dell Rose Garden



Beth Lamb, Carol Kennedy and Barbara Gettliffe of the Knysna Rose Society at the registration table

AUSTRALASIA

AUSTRALIA – Paul Hains – Australia 2015-2018

Kelvin Trimper continues to do an outstanding job of representing Australia at an international level as the President of the WFRS. He has travelled to many regions to assist with the management and establishment of World Rose Conventions and Regional Rose Conventions, along with participating in rose trial evaluations and attending Regional Conventions.

We also have great Australian representation with David Ruston as President Emeritus, Diane vom Berg as WFRS Treasurer, Richard Walsh as Chairman of the Classification and Registration Committee and I fill the roles of Vice President - Australasia, Chairman of the Social Media Subcommittee, Deputy Chairman of the Promotions Committee and a member of the Publications Committee.



We had more than 30 Australians in attendance at the WFRS Regional Convention in Ljubljana, Slovenia in June 2017. It was great to have the NRSA executive all present with Veronica O'Brien (NRSA President), Jim Cane (NRSA Treasurer) and Kristin Dawson (NRSA Secretary) enjoying the hospitality in Eastern Europe. Kelvin and Melanie Trimper co-ordinated an additional tour after the post tour which was well attended and the feedback on this tour was fantastic.

In Slovenia the WFRS Conservation and Heritage Committee again tackled the contentious topic of a definition of heritage roses. I was present at the meeting along with Heritage Roses in Australia (HRiA) members. Karen Meeuwissen acted as the Australian voting representative on the Committee. Also in attendance from Australia were Margaret Gregory and Coleen Houston. I forwarded the minutes of the meeting along with an email outlining the new definition to the HRiA Executive as soon as it became available to ensure their membership is kept up to date with WFRS activities and to enable them to provide input and feedback.

The next major event is the World Rose Convention in Denmark from 28 June to 4 July 2018 hosted by the Danish Rose Society. This will be a wonderful convention and our very own Aussie Princess, Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary will baptise the convention rose bred by Poulsen Roses.

The convention lectures look to be the most interesting I have seen at any WFRS event I have attended. We have two Australian speakers. World President, Kelvin Trimper, will be presenting on the future with the topic *The Future of the World Federation of Rose Societies and Rose Societies*, which I am sure will be an exciting lecture. I will be giving a lecture in the sessions on the present with the topic *Changing Gardeners' Views of Growing Roses - The Future of Rose Gardening* where I will challenge some rose growing norms and I will be Chairperson for the International Breeder's Panel.

As WFRS Vice President I represented Australia in South Africa in October where I officially opened a new Heritage Rose Garden in Garlington, Pietermaritzburg, created by the Midlands Rose Society. I judged at the Gold Reef Rose Society Rose Show with Sheenagh Harris, visited Ludwig's roses in Pretoria and visited the Western Cape Rose Society in Cape Town. South Africa is a land full of wonderful gardens, enthusiastic and friendly rose growers and a passion for roses everywhere.



**Gill Wilson, (Chairman MRS),
Gail Birrs (President of ROSA)
and Paul Hains (WFRS VP for
Australia) cut the ribbon at the
opening of the Midlands Rose
Society Heritage Rose Garden**



Vivienne Black and Paul Hains at the Gold Reef Rose Society Rose Show in Johannesburg



Barbara Wood (Chairman GRRS) presents Paul Hains with a gift, thanking him for his informative presentation



I also represented Australia in New Orleans USA in December at a meeting of the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society. This included a visit to Armstrong Park, a large and wonderful garden of tea roses, noisettes, and chinas amongst others, spread throughout the garden. I loved the spacing given to these roses to allow them to grow to their full potential as well as the enthusiasm of the volunteers who maintain it. It's a true credit to the society and worth a visit if you get to New Orleans.

Paul and Leo Watermeier in front of 'Yue Yue Hong' a rare China rose that some believe may be 'Old Blush'

The 2021 World Rose Convention Committee continues to work hard on the planning for the WRC under the leadership of Kelvin Trimper. Preparations are being made for the presentation of the convention in 2018 at Copenhagen and our fund-raising efforts have been going well with all Australian rose societies making contributions.



National Rose Show, Melbourne

The Australian 2017 National Rose Show was held in Melbourne in November, home of three WFRS Award of Garden Excellence gardens. Members from around Australia attended, representing the five state members of the national society. There was a magnificent rose show that was well managed and it was great to see how many exhibitors travelled as far as 1,500km to show their roses.



'Brass Band' makes a statement at the Annual State Rose and Garden Show in the Victoria State Rose Garden, Werribee, Australia



The National Rose Society of Australia's highest honour is the Australian Rose Award. At the National dinner there were two recipients. Mary Frick of South Australia and Paul Hains of Queensland were both honoured for their service to the rose.

Mary was part of the organising committee for the 2008 WFRS Regional Convention in Adelaide, she edited the 100 year history of the Rose Society of SA and was Secretary of the National Rose Society of Australia for 6 years. She has attended many WFRS conventions and has bred a number of highly regarded roses, amongst many other achievements.

NRSA President, Veronica O'Brien presents the Australian Rose Award to Mary Frick. Kristin Dawson, NRSA Secretary is in the background
(photo – Paul Hains)



I was very humbled to be the other awardee this year and to be nominated by the rose societies in Victoria and Queensland. The nominations cited my publishing, rose breeding, and service provided to societies at a local, national, and international level. Full citations for all of our award recipients over the history of the awards can be found on the NRSA website at <http://www.rose.org.au/honour.html>

We sent out the Australian Rose Annual by email this year to every member country of the WFRS via the WFRS Executive Director and encouraged distribution by email to your members. We will again be doing this in 2018 so that rose enthusiasts around the world can read of the activities of the societies in Australia.

NRSA President, Veronica O'Brien presents the Australian Rose Award to the incoming President, Paul Hains (photo – Toni Hains)

The society also elected me as the new National President for 2018 and I look forward to seeing more Australians at WFRS events. There continues to be great enthusiasm amongst our members for attending conventions and regional conventions.



Back Row – L-R Gavin Woods (SA), Kelvin Trimper (WFRS 2021 Chairman), Carl Ellefsen (Vic), John Cranwell (Vic), Tony Hanna (Sec. NRTGA), Doug Gregory (SA)

Middle Row – L-R Angus Irwin (Neutrog), Jim Cane (Honorary Treasurer), Colin Hollis (NSW), Vivienne Etter (2016 NRSA President), Sue Stallwood (Qld), Jim Cunningham (NSW)

Front Row – L-R Sandy Beverly (WA), Laurie Newman (Registrar New Rose Names), Paul Hains (Qld, 2018 NRSA President, WFRS Vice President - Australasia, NRSA Webmaster, NRSA Honorary Editor), Veronica O'Brien (2017 NRSA President), Kristin Dawson (NRSA Honorary Secretary), Barbara Watson (NRSA Chairman) (photo – Richard Walsh)

AUSTRALASIA

NEW ZEALAND

Doug Grant – New Zealand
2015-2018

Photos – Hayden Foulds except where otherwise stated

For New Zealand Rosarians, 2017 was a busy time with a number of events taking place throughout the year. Unfortunately, no New Zealanders attended the WFRS Regional Convention in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Distance to travel and the upcoming convention in Copenhagen were contributing factors.

The Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Rose Society (NZRS) was held in Christchurch at the end of April. Doug Grant was re-elected as President for another year while Janet Pike and Hayden Foulds were elected as Vice Presidents. NZRS Councillors elected were Daphne Rissman, Rachael Chalmers, Adrian Bullen and Bev Fletcher. John Ford, Allison Ludemann and Derrol White retired from the National Council.



2017-2018 NEW ZEALAND ROSE SOCIETY COUNCIL

Back Row L to R:
Rachel Chalmers, Bev Fletcher, Hayden Foulds, Adrian Bullen, Daphne Rissman

Front Row L to R:
Eileen Wilcox, Doug Grant, Heather Macdonell
Absent – Janet Pike



At the Annual Meeting the Frank Penn Memorial Award, given for service to a district rose society, was presented to Paul and Sonja Mrsich from the Northland Rose Society. They have both been long serving and respected members of the Northland Rose Society. They have also made several visits to Australia, often attending the Renmark Rose Festival to assist David Ruston.

Doug Grant, President of the NZ Rose Society with the 2017 NZ Frank Penny Memorial Award winners, Paul and Sonia Mrsich from the Northland Rose Society



The New Zealand Rose Award for service to the rose in New Zealand was presented to Val Clarke from Oamaru. Val is a highly respected rosarian and has served on both the National Council of the NZRS and National Executive of Heritage Roses New Zealand.

Doug Grant, President of the NZ Rose Society with the 2017 NZ Rose Award recipient, Val Clarke

There were two National Rose Conventions held during 2017, one in the autumn and the second in the spring. The National Autumn Rose Show and Convention was hosted by the Nelson Rose Society in March as part of their 70th anniversary celebrations. Exhibitor Janice Walker of the Northland Rose Society claimed both the Champion of Champion awards with a large stem of 'Pacific Glory' for the large-type roses and with a decorative bloom of 'Chelsea Belle' for the miniature-type roses.



'Sylvia'

In November the National Spring Rose Show and Convention was hosted by the Northland Rose Society in Whangarei. Northland is home for a number of the top exhibitors in the country so a great show was anticipated. There were many good entries across a large number of classes. Again, Janice Walker of Northland won both the Champion of Champions Awards with her exhibition bloom of 'Sylvia' for the large-type roses and her exhibition bloom of 'Stephanie' for miniature-type roses.



'Stephanie'

In early February, the 40th Anniversary of the South Island Rose Ranfurly took place in Greymouth on the West Coast. These occasions are held when local rose district societies come together and compete against one another in a fun and friendly environment. The South Island event takes in rose societies from across the whole of the South Island and it has become a must do event on the rose calendar in the South. The Westland Rose Society is to be congratulated for the great job they did for hosting this event. The Moutere Hills sub-branch of the Nelson Rose Society won the Rose Ranfurly for the first time ever.



'Super Trouper' was judged the most outstanding bloom of the 2017 40th Anniversary South Island Rose Ranfurly. The Rose Ranfurly Shield was donated by Sam McGredy.



One of the signature classes of the South Island Rose Ranfurly each year is the 'Surplus Roses in a Bucket' for both large and miniature type roses.



The New Zealand Rose Society continues to produce two excellent publications for its members. The *New Zealand Rose Annual* published in July was produced by Editor Rachael Chalmers. The *New Zealand Rose Review 2018* was produced in December under the editorship of Hayden Foulds. This publication continues to be a valuable booklet for promoting newer roses. It continues to receive excellent support from the New Zealand rose growing industry.



On a sadder note the New Zealand Rose scene lost two well-known Rosarians during the year. In early May Glyn Saunders passed away. Glyn was President Emeritus of the New Zealand Rose Society, a Past National President from 1993 to 1996 and a stalwart member of the Wairarapa Rose Society. Glyn was well known around the Wairarapa region where he was still very active right up until his passing. He was a recipient of Life Membership of the New Zealand Rose Society, the New Zealand Rose Award and the T.A Stewart Memorial Award. His passing leaves a large gap in both the Wairarapa and New Zealand Rose Societies.

Glyn Saunders, taken when he received the TS Stewart Memorial Award in 2014 in front of the beautiful 'Sahara' rose



During the year New Zealand roses also lost Bob MacDonnell, husband of New Zealand Rose Society Secretary/Treasurer, Heather MacDonnell. Bob was a noted rosarian and a highly regarded exhibitor both locally and nationally. He was a past member of the New Zealand Rose Society Council and a life member of the Manawatu Rose Society.

Bob and Heather Macdonnell



'Best Wishes' (DICdyna)



'St. Margaret's Gold' (TANellqua)



'Magnifi-scent' (JALreddelicious)



'Strawberry Hill' (AUArimini)

The New Zealand Rose of the Year trials were held in Hamilton in mid November in conjunction with the Pacific Rose Bowl Festival. The overall winner of the New Zealand Rose of the Year 2017 was the yellow floribunda 'Best Wishes' (DICdyna) bred by Colin Dickson of Northern Ireland. The local school children also voted this as their favourite rose. The Best Hybrid Tea award went to Rosen Tantau of Germany for the yellow flushed pink 'St Margaret's Gold' (TANellqua). The Most Fragrant Rose award went to Canadian breeder Brad Jalbert with the deep pink 'Magnifi-scent' (JALreddelicious), the Best Shrub rose, a new award introduced this year, went to David Austin with 'Strawberry Hill' (AUArimini).



'Scott Base' (SOMfrilla)



'Little Miss Perfect' (SOMgle07)



'All My Love' (GRAkita)



Rob Somerfield from New Zealand won the award for the best Floribunda with the white flowered 'Scott Base' (SOMfrilla) and the award for best New Zealand raised rose with the coral pink 'Little Miss Perfect' (SOMgle07). Doug Grant won best Climber with the soft pink flowered climber 'All My Love' (GRAkita).

Rob Somerfield with his Gold Star winning 'Love Bug'

The New Zealand Rose Society International Rose Trial awards were presented in Palmerston North at the end of November by the city Mayor, Mr Grant Smith. This was in conjunction with the 70th anniversary rose show held by the Manawatu Rose Society. The awards were a clean sweep to Tauranga rose breeder Rob Somerfield. He collected the Gold Star of the South Pacific for 'Love Bug' (SOMartlo), a cardinal red floribunda and Certificates of Merit for 'Nightlight' (SOMserenteen), a lemon Hybrid Tea, 'Tabasco' (SOMbousel), an orange salmon Hybrid Tea and 'Strawberry Blonde' (SOMnanmar), an apricot floribunda.



'Love Bug' (SOMartlo)



'Nightlight' (SOMserenteen)



'Tabasco' (SOMbousel)



'Strawberry Blonde' (SOMnanmar)

Veronica O'Brien, Immediate Past President of the NRSA, from Melbourne, Australia, did a short presentation on the three World Federation of Rose Societies Award of Garden Excellence winners from Victoria as part of the awards presentation. We also had the pleasure to have in attendance John and Sue Keays from Brisbane. They had been travelling around New Zealand and had taken in the rose events in Hamilton and Whangarei.

New Zealand rosarians were delighted that Sally Allison from Rangiora was awarded the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award for 2017. This award is presented to a person deemed to have given outstanding service to the rose in Australia or New Zealand. Sally has spent many years dedicated to Heritage Roses and her garden Lyddington is testament to her passion for them.

Heritage Roses New Zealand has had a busy year organising a display for the first ever New Zealand Flower and Garden Show that was held in Auckland in late November. For all their hard work their exhibit was rewarded with a Gold Award. Planning is now underway for the second ever National Heritage Rose Conference to be held in Whangarei in the spring of 2018.

For 2018 a number of New Zealand rosarians will be travelling to Copenhagen for the World Rose Convention. However closer to home, the 2018 National Spring Rose Convention and Show will be held in Rangiora, north of Christchurch, in late November.

CENTRAL ASIA
INDIA and PAKISTAN
Ahmed Alam Khan – India
2012 - 2018



The year 2017 started with a bang when the Bengal Rose Society, in association with the Agri Horticulture Society of India, under the aegis of the Indian Rose Federation organised the 35th all India Rose Convention. Delegate participation stood at 287, with delegates coming from all over India and International participation which included Kelvin Trimper, President of the WFRS and Helga Brichet, Chairman of the Convention Liaison Committee. They were overwhelmed by the roses exhibited for competition and display. The potted roses were a delight for the onlooker as each pot carried nothing less than 90 blooms, some having more than 200 blooms. The technical sessions were attended by a large number of delegates.



This was followed by the Mumbai Rose Society having their winter rose show at Mumbai which in turn was followed by an International Flower Show. There was a record number of 85,000 people attending the show, followed by Pune Rose Society, Vidharba Rose Society, Jabalpur Rose Society and M. P. Rose Society all having their winter shows with maximum public participation.

Archana Kochar admiring 'Siddharth' (Indian bred Rose) at the Mumbai Rose Show

India is a country where roses are revered by citizens. I am proud to say that our breeders have produced beautiful garden varieties of International standards and all our rose societies are working very actively in their respective areas and the winter rose shows are a time for celebration.

Hyderabad Rose Society organised a visit to the Green Valley Rose Garden, where 1100 people gathered for a visit to the garden, followed by a grand lunch in the true Hyderabad tradition. The crowd was awestruck by the beauty of the garden laid out with bushes of roses swaying gently in the wind and emitting their different fragrances.

In September the Pune Rose Society organised their 100th Rose Show which was well attended.



Waiting to be judged at the Pune Rose Show



Winners at the Pune Rose Society 100th Rose Show

The Indian Rose Federation has held regular meetings and members are being sent to different areas to start new societies. Three new rose societies were started -The Jakpur Flower Association near Kolkatta, Belgaum Rose Society (a city of Karnataka State) and the Rose Society of Andhra Pradesh, which hosted the 36th all India Rose Convention at Vijayawada, which was largely attended by the denizens of the City. Jakpur is the rose nursery village of India with some 300 nurseries dealing in rose plants and cut flowers.



Ahmed Alam Kahn addresses the audience at Kharagpur, in West Bengal. Helga Brichet can be seen behind the table and Suresh Pingale behind her.



Students at the Kolkata Convention

Two breeders from this area released their varieties to honour the President of India and in memory of his late wife at the President's Palace, known as Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

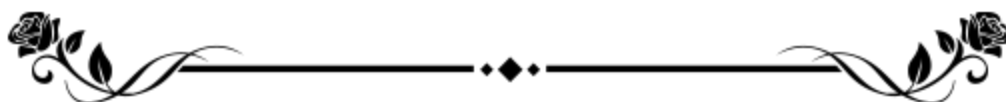
In Pakistan, The Pakistan National Rose Society organised a Rose Festival at Islamabad. Mamooda Hashmi and Mia Zafar Iqbal, Senior rosarians and patrons of PNRS are very active in organising the meetings and shows at different places in Pakistan.

Three members from India attended the Regional Convention in Slovenia.

I and members of the Indian Rose Federation wish all members of the rose family of the World Federation of Rose Societies a very happy, healthy, rosy and prosperous New Year - 2018.



Visitors enjoying the roses at Vikarabad



EUROPE

DENMARK, FINLAND, GREAT BRITAIN, ICELAND, NORTHERN IRELAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN

Inger Schierning – Denmark 2015-2018

Monarchy and fairytales. That's what most people associate with our little kingdom. And quite understandably so. Dating back to the 10th century, the Danish monarchy is among the oldest in the world. And Hans Christian Andersen's tales of mermaids, snow queens and ugly ducklings have spellbound children and adults for centuries. But what about the rose?



Fittingly, the rose weaves itself through the history of the monarchy and the fairytales. For centuries, it has flourished on canvases and in royal gardens, reflecting the love Danish kings and queens have shared for its eternal beauty. The rose recurs in Hans Christian Andersen's wonderful tales and stories, blooming in all its symbolic richness. Beyond palace gardens and enchanting tales, the rose has captured the hearts of the Danes. In public private parks and private gardens, in courtyard pots and balcony baskets, gardeners cultivate with care, adding their Nordic sentiment to the eternal charm of the rose.
(Quote: Torben Thim, Author, Rosarian and Lecturer)

With only a few more days of 2017, I must admit that time has flown faster than ever. I guess that is mostly due to the extensive preparations for the 18th World Rose Convention and the Nordic Rose Weekend combined in Denmark in 2018.

In my role as WFRS Vice President for Europe 1, I participated in the WFRS regional Convention in Slovenia in June 2017. It was my first visit to Slovenia and the beauty of the country and charm of its people was a lovely experience. Strongly contributing to the rosy atmosphere in Ljubljana, were thousands of white and pink 'Infinity' roses sponsored by Danish Rose Breeder Rosa Eskelund which made a lavish decoration everywhere. Twenty-six participants came from Europe 1. Denmark 13, England 5, North Ireland 2, Norway 5 and Sweden 1.



Like many times before, I was invited to judge roses at the International Rose Trials in Europe. It was a special honour to be invited as President of the Jury on the day at the Rose Trials in Baden-Baden and in Glasgow. In Baden-Baden, the Golden Rose went to Andre' Eve for 'Evelijar', not yet named. In Glasgow, the winner of The Golden Prize of the City of Glasgow was 'Rayon du Soleil' by Meilland, France.

Markus Brunsing, Inger Schierning, Maurice Jay, Margret Mergen (the Mayor) and Luisa Pfohl at the prize giving in Baden Baden
(photo – Nathalie Dautel)

In Belfast, the Gold Medal and the City of Belfast Award went to Kordes, Germany for 'Oh Happy Day'. I recall with joy the beautiful evening with the Kordes family in Uetersen in July 2015, when the rose was baptized by the Gospel Choir singing Oh Happy Day. Most Fragrant Rose was 'Mathilde Renaissance' by Poulsen, Denmark.

Wherever possible I gave a speech and invited all to come and join us at "A Fairy Tale of Roses" in Denmark in June 2018. At the international rose trials in Belfast, Frans Thomas (Belgium) and Marga Verwer (Netherlands) kindly represented WFRS on my behalf.



Jens Otto Pedersen gave a presentation on 'A Fairytale of Roses' in Ljubljana



Rosa and Harley Eskelund and Inger Schierning in Madurodam in The Hague at the International Rose Trials brunch in July

As a member for almost 30 years, I was very sad to receive the news of the Royal National Rose Society financial situation and closure. I'm delighted to see The Rose Society UK being formed with our ED, Derek Lawrence and good friends and rose breeders Colin Dickson and Chris Warner on the committee. I wish them every success possible: www.therosesociety.org.uk

The four Nordic Rose Societies in Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Finland are all promoting the 18th World Rose Convention and the Nordic Rose Weekend 2018 in their members magazine, just like we do in Denmark in RosenNyt. We hope to see more than 150 participants from Scandinavia in June 2018.

Preparations for the 18th WRC filled most of the waking hours and was the focus throughout 2017. Helga Brichet, Convention Liaison Chairman and Kelvin Trimper visited Copenhagen for 2 days in June in order to visit some of the venues for the 18th WRC. They were able to enjoy a non alcoholic rose lemonade on a warm summer's day and delicious food prepared by Torben the Gourmet.



Torben Thim, Helga Brichet, Kelvin Trimper and Erik Schierning enjoy a gourmet meal at Torben's nursery



I'm delighted to announce 432 participants had registered by 1, December. The regular price ends on 1, March, but registration is open all the way. Look out for news on: www.wrc2018.dk and don't miss this once in a lifetime chance for becoming part of A Fairy Tale of Roses in Denmark in June-July 2018.

EUROPE

AUSTRIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, GREECE, HUNGARY, ISRAEL, ROMANIA, RUSSIA, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA AND SLOVENIA

Breda Bavdaž Čopi – Slovenia 2012-2018

The main event in The Eastern and Central Europe Region in 2017, was the first WFRS Regional Convention, held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 11 to 14 June, 2017. It was organized by the Slovenian Rose Society and attracted more than 170 rosarians from 34 different countries.

The convention presented the rose landscape of Eastern and Central Europe. The majority of lectures came from the East region, explicitly, from Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and the Ukraine. Besides the named countries, rosarians from the region also came from Croatia and Romania.



Damianos Constantinou of the Hellenic Rose Society in Greece gave a talk on the Traditional use of roses in Greece



Peter Boyd and Matjaž Mastnak, hard working Secretary of the Slovenian Rose Society enjoying Meet and Greet in the beautiful Tivoli Rose Garden

Important information from the year 2017 is that Poland re-established its rose society, which in turn became a member of the WFRS. The key person here has been Lukasz Rojewski.

The Slovenian Rose Society's Secretary, Matjaž Mastnak, visited Slovakia on at the end of May. He took part in the rose exhibition in Hamuliakovo near Bratislava, which is the main yearly event of the Slovak National Rose Society. He also went to Dolna Krupa, where the Music Museum and local community are planting a new rose garden on the estate of the legendary rose countess, Maria Chotek.

Breda Čopi and Matjaž Mastnak visited the Hungarian rosarians in Szeged in January 2017, where the rose nursery cooperative Szőregi Virág-Dísznövény ÁFÉSZ is placed. We promoted the WFRS there, but there was no immediate effect.

Due to the Convention, the Slovenian Rose Society made contacts with Pheno Geno Company, located in Vojvodina, Serbia. The company breeds new rose cultivars, adapted to the regional continental climate. We hope to plant a sample collection in Slovenia in 2018 to test and promote regional rose breeding achievements.

In Romania, Stefan Wagner, Past WFRS Vice President for Europe East and the president of the Romanian Rose Society passed away. He was also an important personality in the Central and Eastern European Region of the WFRS and a rose breeder himself. I hope that the Romanian rose friends will soon reactivate their national association, where Stefan has been the key person for decades.

In December 2017, the Slovenian Rose Society nominated the Austrian Rose Garden in Baden near Vienna for a WFRS Award of Garden Excellence. We think the garden really deserves to receive this award and this will also be a good stimulus for additional activities of the Austrian Rose Society.

We still haven't succeeded in involving Croatian rosarians to establish a rose society and join the WFRS. We also haven't had any indication that a rose society has started in Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Montenegro, Turkey or Ukraine. These are states which belong to the region, but they do not have a tradition of gathering of amateur rose friends to societies.

The WFRS Europe Eastern Region is very interesting one, but very difficult to activate Societies. The distances, different languages and the financial situation in the countries make it difficult to organise rose events.



Erik Schierring and sister, Inger from Denmark enjoy a relaxed 'picnic' lunch with Shungu Tundanonga-Dikond, from Germany.



Vladimir Vremac (Italy) and Sanda Simic (Canada) in party mood at the end of a happy convention have a quick 'hop' a la Dick and Della Balfour!



Ann and Ken Grapes and Gerta Roberts striding it out in Ljubljana
(photo – Henrienne de Briey)



First Day Cover envelope of a rose stamp issued in March, 2017 on the initiative of the Slovenian Rose Society
(photo - Matjaž Mastnak)

EUROPE

**BELGIUM, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, MONACO
NETHERLANDS, SPAIN AND SWITZELAND**

Henrienne de Briey – Belgium

In Europe, the climatic conditions for our roses in 2017 proved to be no better than those of 2016. A very mild winter with little snow meant that the first signs of growth only became apparent in March. The successive periods of severe frost which affected certain countries at the end of April and beginning of May caused serious damage to the young shoots. To make matters worse, there was a lack of rain from April to July and a cold but rainy August. These terrible conditions allowed the classic rose parasites (and in particular rust) to spread fiercely. Nevertheless, roses have an extraordinary capacity for adaptation and in spite of everything we were able to admire them in all their glory.



To get the 2017 rose season off to a good start, in April I took the initiative of inviting several WFRS friends for a weekend in the countryside. In this way, Mireille Steil (LU), Marga Verwer (NL), Angelika Throll-Keller (GE), Beatrice Halter (CH), Monique de Clarens (FR), Frans Thomas (BE) and I were able to become better acquainted in a very relaxed atmosphere. I had great pleasure in welcoming Rosario Algorta de Carrau as well as Helga Brichet and Kelvin Trimper to Brussels in June.

INTERNATIONAL TRIALS



The first of the Southern European rose trials was held in **Spain** where the sun shone brightly. Not only did I receive a very warm welcome but I also had the honour of presiding over the international jury in Barcelona and Madrid. I was extremely happy to see, once again, our friend Bernd Weigel with his faithful camera. His photos will provide precious additions to our archives.

**Beatrice Halter (Switzerland),
Mireille Stiel (Luxembourg),
Michel Adam (France) and
Henrienne de Briey (Belgium)**



Ramon Ortiz Rosaleda, Madrid



In **France** the Lyon trial was organised in admirable fashion by Maurice Jay and the Laperrière family.

Monique Laperrière and Maurice Jay

My next destination was **Italy** where the international Rome trial was a first for me. Unfortunately, the heavens did not look kindly on us. Nevertheless, despite violent thunderstorms and heavy rain the trial took place with great elegance. The following day, under a clearer sky, I took part in the Tacita trial. Helga Brichet honoured Belgium by inviting Martin Vissers to give a talk on his favourite creation and by appointing Nicole Maisnil (the mainstay of the Roeulx trial) as president of the international jury.



'Dorothy Perkins' winds its way over a heart shaped frame over looking the Rome Municipal Garden where the trials are held. The upper portion of this garden was once a Jewish cemetery and is now laid out in the shape of a Jewish candelabra – the Menorah

After a break of several days for the Regional Rose Convention in Slovenia, the trials continued with the legendary elegant Baden Baden in **Germany**. Here, the president of the jury was our VP for Northern Europe, Inger Schierning.



Inger Schierning – Pres. of the Jury Hans Peter Mühlbach, Pres. of the German Rose Society, announcing



Meiland's as the recipient of his society's prize



Markus Brunsing welcomes the guests



Frans Thomas, President of the Belgian Rose Society

Next followed the Saverne trial in **France**. This year it was presided over by Rosario Algorta de Carrau who discovered for the first time, the charm of both this rose garden and this trial in the heart of Europe.

The Kortrijk trial saw me return to **Belgium** with Rosario who once again had the honour of being appointed president of the Jury.



Rosario al Algorta, WFRS VP for South America

In July, at the Hague trial in the **Netherlands** the roses had been badly affected by a heavily depleted soil. My season of trials ended this year with that of Roelux in September, where we were honoured to have Breda Bavdaž Čopi as president.



Breda Bavdaž Čopi, President of the jury in le Roelux with Henrianne de Brie September 2017

Frans Thomas attended the trials in Barcelona, Baden Baden, Saverne, Kortrijk, The Hague, Le Roelux and Orleans.

In summarising, I would say that the very capricious climate caused major and sometimes discriminatory contrasts in the roses presented at the 2017 Southern European trials.



Alain Meilland amongst his seedlings

MONACO

I must mention the visit to the Meilland business in July, organised for the members of Friends of the Princess Grace Rose Garden, an association chaired by Yves. G. Piaget. This guided visit by Alain Meilland and his children it was convivial.



Monique de Clarens and the roses at Meillands

LUXEMBOURG

The Friends of the Rose Lëtzebuerger Rousefrënn inaugurated a new rose garden in the grounds of the Chateau de Munsbach. This rose garden, where it is possible to admire a collection of 600 roses of 130 different varieties, will certainly restore to Luxembourg the reputation it held between 1856 and 1940 as the 'country of roses'. In addition, in honour of Luxembourg military music, a rose by Martin Visser was christened 'Salut à Luxembourg' on board the pleasure boat MS Princesse Marie-Astrid. It is pink and white with a gold centre and was awarded the gold medal at the Roelux trial in the floribunda category.

GERMANY



This summer the German Rose Society Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde made a rose trip through Luxembourg and Belgium. It was a pleasure for me to invite Hans-Peter Mühlbach, his wife Hunny Tantau and the group of 25 rose lovers for a light lunch at my country home after their visit to Hex Garden, which brought an end to their rose tour.

BELGIUM

Rosario Algorta de Carrau accompanied me to Enghien for the commemoration of the death, 170 years ago, of the famous Belgian rosarian, Louis Parmentier. In the 19th century he was one of the biggest rose collectors in Europe. On this occasion, Ingrid Verdegem, a passionate lover of old roses, gave a fascinating lecture on the history of the Parmentier family. In addition, in the presence of two of his descendants we inaugurated the restored Parmentier Rose Garden and paid our respects at the grave of Louis Parmentier.

In the presence of Wilhelm Alexander Kordes and Thomas Proll, the new Kordes' rose 'Orangerie' was christened this summer in Mr Luc Van Esser's Rosarium Geistinger Landhoff. I was godmother and Benoit Friart (MP and Mayor of Roelux) was godfather.

Another rose, in this case, bred by Lens Roses was christened 'Prince Alexander' of Belgium. It is a hybrid tea with large flowers going from a creamy-white to a shade of apricot. Funds raised from the sale of this rose are intended to help the sick and needy.

During Helga Brichet and Kelvin Trimper's visit in June, we went to two really enchanting places: the rose garden at Vrijbroek Park, which has become an Associate member of the WFRS and the Coloma Rose Garden. We also visited the Botanic Garden Meise in order to discuss the work being carried out to showcase the Crépin Herbier, which received a grant from the WFRS via the Piaget fund.

WFRS REGIONAL CONVENTION - SLOVENIA

One of the highlights of 2017 was, without doubt the WFRS Regional Rose Convention in Slovenia. The lectures and the visits to parks and rose gardens were diverse and interesting and everything went off perfectly. The European countries in my region were well represented - Belgium 6, France 3, Germany 12, Italy 1, Luxembourg 1, Netherlands 2, Spain 1 and Switzerland 3. I was most impressed by the simple yet professional welcome extended by our friends from Eastern Europe under the benevolent eye of their organiser, Breda Bavdaž Čopi and the richness of their rose history.

THE VII INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ROSE RESEARCH AND CULTIVATION – ANGERS, FRANCE

Another highlight of 2017 was my participation in July at this symposium held in Angers, one of the most important French centres of rose cultivars. One hundred and fifty breeders, producers and researchers from all over the world were able to share their knowledge of roses. Thirty-five lectures covered all areas of rose research and provided updates on the most recent developments in agronomy, physiology, genetics, genomics, abiotic and biotic stress, the social sciences and the humanities.

Interesting and passionate discussions covered some very specific subjects such as:

- Breeding beautiful and strong chemical-free roses while taking into account multiple new challenges such as unpredictable weather, diseases, insects, environment and limited living space and social responsibilities
- Salt tolerance in rose gardens using fresh or recycled water, seasonal changes and how roses suffer from cold, stress, etc.

There was also a round table with François Felix (FNPHP President), Alain Meilland and David Zlezak (French and US breeders), Silvia Fineschi (manager of the Fineschi rose garden) and myself (WFRS representative). Its purpose was to consider the following:

How can research be useful to breeders, producers, rose keepers and rosarians? As a rose friend, and amateur, I came to realise just how important a world-wide collaboration between researchers and breeders is for the future of the rose

The charming historic city of Angers is situated in an area dotted with rose gardens and rose cultivars. Even though we were a little late to see them in full bloom, we could marvel at the incredible collection of botanical roses in the Loubert rose garden where we were warmly welcomed by Thérèse Loubert herself.

I would like to thank Alain Meilland for encouraging me to participate in this symposium. It was a great pleasure for me to meet, not just old friends but also new people from the scientific world of the rose.

Oscar Wilde once said: 'Better to take pleasure in a rose than to put its roots under a microscope.' This is a good point of view but I believe that today the market expects a relationship between researchers and breeders.

BREEDERS CLUB

There were two meetings of the Breeders' Club in Geneva under the chairmanship of Gérald Meylan and attended by numerous breeders and two eminent conference speakers, namely Bruno Atavar contact person for the Meilland group with the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants and Edgard Krieger (Secretary-general of The International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Fruit Varieties both of whom gave more details on recent developments concerning the protection of varieties and relations with China.

CONCLUSION

2017 was a year full of very varied activities with 10 international trials, rose baptisms, a symposium on research, a regional convention and the joy of welcoming so many friends of the WFRS to my home. I took great delight in securing Associate membership of the WFRS for the rose garden at Vrijbroek Park and of seeing two new Belgian members (Vissers and Lens) admitted to the Breeders' Club.

I was also very keen to ensure the success of the Botanic Garden Meise dossier, which resulted in them being allocated a grant by the WFRS. I continue to follow up on the progress being made in the works undertaken, the results of which will certainly be seen in 2020 during the International Heritage Roses Conference to be held in Belgium.

With regard to our 50th anniversary book, it was with great enthusiasm that I contributed, by collating information on a large number of rose gardens that have obtained a WFRS award and drawing up a list of roses awarded a gold medal in the Southern Europe International Rose Trials from 1968 until the present day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped in my requests for information.

FAR EAST CHINA AND JAPAN

Zhao Shiwei - China

This year I attended the Regional Convention held in Slovenia. Nearly twenty participants from China and Japan attended the convention. We had a happy time during the convention and met with many old and new rose friends. I attended the executive meetings during the convention. The city of Fukuyama, Japan applied for the 2020 Regional Convention and the application was approved. I presented the 2019 WFRS Regional Convention to be held in Nanyang, China. Many of the rosarians were interested in coming to China.



In April, we were happy to have Kelvin Trimper, President of WFRS and Helga Brichet, Chairman of the Convention Liaison Committee in China. They spent their time in Beijing and Henan Province. The main purpose of their visit was to settle the details of the 2019 Regional Convention to be held in Nanyang. We had a general meeting and the organizers reported the progress of the preparation of the regional convention. We also had a working meeting, focusing on the details of the convention, including the lectures, programmes, website, hotels, tours and the transport. Kelvin and Helga were happy with the progress and gave some productive suggestions.

Helga and Kelvin also visited Japan and talked with colleagues in Fukuyama on the preparation of the 2020 Regional Convention.

On 27 April, the Shanghai rose show was held in Shanghai Chengshan Botanic Garden. Kelvin Trimper, Helga Brichet and Dr. Gérald Meylan attended the opening ceremony. They also gave a presentation at the forum. Madame Jiang Zehui, President of China Flower Association attended the opening ceremony and gave an address.



**Helga Brichet, Kelvin Trimper, Zhang Zuoshuang and
Gérald Meylan in Shanghai in April 2017**



**Kelvin Trimper with Madame Jiang Zehui, President of the
China Flower Association in Shanghai, April 2017**

On 28 April, 2017, I attended the Nanyang Rose Show. Nanyang is the largest production area of rose plants in China. During the show there were pot roses, rose penjing, rose flower arrangements together with local penjing competition. There are a number of rose gardens in Nanyang. It is also known as a good place for jade processing. We visited the rose gardens and were impressed by the roses grafted on *Rosa xanthina* trunks.

In May, I attended the rose show in Beijing. The Beijing Rose Festival was held in the Beijing Botanical Garden, the Daxing Rose Garden, the Nabowan Rose Garden, the Temple of Heaven Park and other sites. 2017 is the 30th anniversary of the selection of a rose as the city flower of Beijing. We had a forum in Daxing. Experts and professors from Beijing talked on the future development of roses in China.

The Chinese Rose Society recommended the Daxing Rose Garden for the Award of Garden of Excellence. We invited Kelvin Trimper and Helga Brichet to evaluate the garden. They carefully investigated the garden and gave the evaluation and recommendation when they came to China in October.

NORTH AMERICA CANADA and BERMUDA

David Elliott – Canada
2012-2018

The Canadian Rose Society continues to have difficulties with membership which remains stable. However, they have difficulty recruiting people to assist. Some regions in the country regard the CRS as being an east Canada society with a very different climate from the west!

In June, six Canadias, one from Alberta and five from British Columbia, travelled to Ljubljana, Slovenia for the Regional Rose Convention hosted by the Slovenian Rose Society. This was the first East European Convention and has been reported in World Rose News. It was small and beautifully organized and we truly enjoyed ourselves.



Throughout the year I have been involved in email discussion and decisions within the Executive Committee. As one of two Vice-Presidents for North America that share the Vice-Presidential responsibilities for Bermuda I have kept in touch with the Bermuda Rose Society through membership. They continue their propagation work with the Bermuda Mystery Roses, despite hurricanes and water shortages.

I have assisted with two Vice President applications, two Awards of Garden Excellence nominations and one literary award. I will be completing my time as Vice-President North America at the 2018 Triennial Convention and wish to thank Kelvin Trimper, our president and Derek Lawrence, Executive Director for their support over the year.

Addendum from Brenda Viney as requested by the Editor – Vancouver Rose Society. The VRS saw a variety of local speakers during 2017 including a rose auction fundraiser and a “what’s new for 2017” from local hybridizer, Brad Jalbert. A talk about the Bulgarian Perfume Roses proved to be a hit along with a perennial plant expert showing us how to avoid the ‘summer doldrums’ in our gardens. Twelve members opened their gardens in June and July and a one-day bus tour to Victoria was scheduled as we celebrated Canada’s 150th birthday on 1st July. August saw our annual garden party while we ended the year in November with our Christmas social. We are proud to record Brad Jalbert’s success in New Zealand with his rose ‘Magnifi-scent’ (Jalreddelicious), for the Most Fragrant Rose award.



Sanda Simic admiring ‘Westerland’ and ‘Pat Austin’
in her beautiful garden

Addendum from Peter Holmes and Clare Russell as requested by the Editor - Bermuda Rose Society. My last year as President started in January 2017 with a rose pruning demonstration. In February at the BRS luncheon meeting Leo Watermeier, Curator of the Louis Armstrong Park Old Rose Garden in New Orleans, Louisiana, was guest speaker. He gave a very interesting presentation about Old Garden Roses which grow well in humid areas. In April the tea meeting was held at Red Barracks, St George’s the home of Society member, Michael Spurling. Red Barracks was named after a platoon of Red Coats who were quartered there during the 1750’s.

At the AGM in May 2017 Clare Russell became Chairman - In May 2017 the Heritage Rose Foundation Annual Conference in Fredericksburg, VA, US took place and was attended by a number of BRS members. BRS general meetings commence in October and run monthly until the AGM in May each year. Oct. – Dec 2017 meetings included bench competitions and interactive propagation, exhibiting and judging demonstrations. Additionally, the membership focused on supporting two main activities - the Tulo Valley Propagation Programme and Waterville, The Bermuda Rose Society Repository Garden. The annual rose sale in November was well attended, raising funds required to maintain our two main activities aforesaid.

NORTH AMERICA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Jolene Adams – USA
2012 - 2018

Text – assisted by Laura Seabaugh

The many rose societies that comprise the American Rose Society celebrated in 2017 with rose festivals, rose shows, celebrations of roses, birthday parties, anniversary parties and garden parties – featuring roses, roses, roses.

In this year the American Rose Society itself celebrated its 125th birthday and the American Rose Center celebrated its 40th Anniversary in Shreveport, Louisiana. The Center hosted multiple educational lectures and rose-related events at the Klima Educational and Visitor's Center including the Green Thumb Seminars that are taught by noted experts in the horticultural field in the US. The Center also hosted the annual Easter Egg Roll for the children from local schools and their families, several picnics among the roses, and Christmas in Roseland which is a winter festival that is held in the grounds of the Center every night from late November to the end of December. The festival features thousands of lights among the trees and on all the buildings along with large Christmas Card posters sited throughout the gardens. There are contests for the best card and the winning school and child receives a prize. The Shreveport Metropolitan Ballet company performed excerpts from The Nutcracker ballet. Each night had some special event planned to draw people to the gardens. Especially popular was Classic Car Night which featured Hot Rods and Classic Cars of years gone by, all decorated with roses. Another night was dedicated to the military veterans and first responders. The Boy Scouts also had a special night with refreshments, games and caroling in the rose garden. A live Radio Broadcast with interviews of many of the participants in the night's events is a special feature and this year a drone video was filmed so the public could see events in the garden as they happened. These activities are covered by reporters from the local newspapers and the TV Stations in Shreveport.



The American Rose Society holds photography contests at local and District rose shows. There is also a national contest sponsored by ARS that is judged by rose society photography judges. These judges have studied the photography of roses and attended a photography judging school. This year the results of the national contest were announced and awards were given out in a webinar that was held in March. It was a wonderful way for all those across the country who were interested in rose photography to log into the webinar and watch the event in real time. ARS has placed it on their YouTube channel.

The ARS supported the Chicago Flower and Garden Show in March and had personnel at the events where literature was handed out to visitors to the rose displays and other floral events. Within the Districts the local rose societies also participated in Flower and Garden shows in their areas. Most of the local rose societies also held an annual rose show or an exhibition of roses. All of these events are open to the public and they encourage more people to grow roses in their own home gardens.

The National All Miniature and Miniflora Rose Conference and Rose Show was held in April in Monrovia, California. It was sponsored by the Pacific Rose Society and the Pacific Southwest District. Our Executive Director and our President, Pat Shanley attended the events and the large rose show. Several awards and honours were made during the four days of the Conference and at the Closing Banquet.

In May the ARS President and Executive Director attended the Coalition of American Plant Societies meeting in Chicago. The ARS is the largest member organization in this Coalition. The meeting was held at the Ball Horticulture Company headquarters. There were representatives from the Rose, Camellia, Hosta, Daffodil, Primrose, Conifer, Herb, Dahlia and American Horticultural societies, as well as the Garden Writers Association and Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Many of these plant societies have reciprocal membership invitations published in their national magazines and newsletters.

Across the country several Consulting Rosarian Schools and Judging Schools were sponsored during 2017 by the 18 Districts of the ARS. These schools are held to test and certify each Consulting Rosarian and Judge in the American Rose Society. Over 100 new CRs were certified and many new Judges were added to the list of active Horticulture and Rose Arrangement Judges.

During the year the rose gardens at the Center were undergoing renovation and the landscaping is being updated for the coming year. A new stone sign has been installed at the entrance to the Center. Many more gardens will be sited

in the areas surrounding the Klima Center and the central part of the Center. Pathways are being re-paved, borders are being planted, and new roses are being planted to bring more fragrance into the gardens.

In September the American Rose Society held their Fall National Conference and Rose Show in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. One of the most interesting lectures was given by the Director of Membership – Mr. Jon Corkern who spoke on How to Grow a Local Rose Society. Over 120 persons attended this lecture. The recording of this lecture can now be used to inspire our many local rose societies as they seek new members.

Both Pat Shanley and Laura Seabaugh were on the Judging Panel at the International Rose Trial held at the Biltmore Estate in North Carolina. The Executive Director and Vice President, Mr. Robert Martin were on the Judging Panel at the Rose Hills International Trial in Southern California. These two trial grounds are heavily advertised in their local area and are attended by many of the ARS members who love to visit the gardens after the judging is completed.

The President of the American Rose Society – Pat Shanley and the Executive Director – Laura Seabaugh were part of the Rose Parade held in Pasadena, California. They rode on a large rose-decorated float sponsored by the City of Torrance, California. Thousands of people lined the streets as the numerous floats and marching bands and mounted equestrians marched along the parade route. The event was broadcast to the nation by several TV stations and our President and Executive Director were seen smiling and waving at the crowds by millions of people who watched the Rose Parade on Television.

All in all 2017 was a good year for the American Rose Society – and we look forward to a better year in 2018!

Addendum from the Editor – Thirteen members of the American Rose Society attended the Regional convention in Slovenia.



Elizabeth and Chris Poppe, regular convention attendees from the USA
(photo – Henrianne d Briey)



Hilary Elkin (USA) and Claudia Hacker (Germany) at the Closing Ceremony in Ljubljana
(Claudia Hacker's camera)



SOUTH AMERICA

ARGENTINA, CHILE, URUGUAY

Rosario de Algorta Carrau – Uruguay

After the 5th South American Regional Convention in November 2016, when many delegates from all over the world came to Uruguay, the three South American countries, continued with their activities with even greater enthusiasm!



ROSICULTURA ARGENTINA



Autumn Rose Show at the Botanical Garden Buenos Aires

In May Renata Frischen was invited to judge at the Barcelona New Roses Trial. Six delegates from Argentina attended the Regional Convention in Slovenia in June. Susana Ferrer, President of Rosicultura Argentina, gave a lecture in San Martín de los Andes, which was named Capital City of the Rose. Susana and Renata were invited to judge at the Rose Show in Mercedes, Uruguay.



Seven members of this society travelled to Slovenia for the Regional Convention – Susana Ferrer, Christina Garcia, Maria Cabal, Nilda Crivelli, Marcelo Crivelli, Amparo Peruzzini and Christina Markez.

Nilda Crivelli in the Tivoli Garden, Slovenia.

(photo – Henrienne de Briey)



In October Rosicultura Argentina had their Spring Rose Show and this time it was held in an exceptional place - Palermo Rose Garden. The cut roses competed with the roses in the Palermo Rose Garden! It was a great challenge. They had a big marquee in the middle of the beautiful Rose garden, which was done as a joint venture with the authorities of Rosicultura and Espacios Verdes of the city.

ROSEDAL DE PALERMO - Rosario Algorta, (UR)
Lic Martin Cantera (Gen. Dir. of Espacios Verdes)
Susana Ferrer



Angela Rodríguez, Sonia Blaquier and Rosario Algorta



First Prize at the Rosicultura Argentina in Buenos Aires which was awarded the Royal National Rose Society Bronze Medal



Panoramic view of a section of the Autumn Rose Show (photo - Connie Moreno Quintana)



Valerie Chediak, Martin Cantera (Operational Manager); Connie MQ and Nicolas Quintana (Communications manger)



A society visit to Muriel Sackmann's Rose and Floating Gardens



Two members with rose cuttings in recycled bags and instructions for planting



A group of pruning volunteers together with Palermo Rose Park maintenance and management

ASOCIACION CHILENA DE LA ROSA

In 2016 Eliana Flores became the new President. In March, one of the members, Ma Angélica Errázuriz invited the group to her farm, Santo Domingo. In June, three members went to the Regional Convention in Slovenia - Eliana Flores, Isa María Bozzolo and Rosario Farias .



Eliana Flores and Rosario Farias from Chile in the rose garden at the Arboretum - Ljubljana



Isa Maria Bozzolo, Eliana Flores and Rosario Farias

Ma Angélica Errázuri gave a very interesting lecture about the Convention in Uruguay - *Roses in the South* - Punta del Este, November 2016. The Chilean Association advised on pruning, landscaping and identification of different varieties. They bought 600 rose bushes for the Parque Araucano Rose Garden. 19th to 22nd October – Lectures were given in the Gardeners Market in Parque Araucano about pruning and on Roses in English Gardens. 19th October: Prize giving of the borders of Parque Araucano. At this stage, there are 7 prospective delegates for Copenhagen.

AGRUPACION DE LA ROSA DE COYHAIQUE IN THE CHILEAN PATAGONIA

The annual Rose Show was held in February with more than a 100 flower arrangements and beautiful roses. There were pictures in local newspapers describing the success of the show! Once a year the society holds a tea, where 50 people share their experiences and knowledge of rose cultivation and then Prize Giving .



Isa Maria Bozzolo and Eliana Rodriguez at the Rose Show

Pruning demonstrations are open to the public in an effort to encourage the care of roses and attract an interest in creating more gardens in Coyhaique. Mr Ulises Sandoval, a member of the group, was the pruning demonstrator. Despite the high temperatures in Patagonia in Autumn, many people attend and receive cuttings. In this way, they can apply the knowledge in their own gardens.

The Rose Show in Coyhaique, due to the cold climate in the south of Chile, will be held in the first days of January 2018.

ASOCIACION URUGUAYA DE LA ROSA

Monthly meetings are held with interesting lectures. We have recruited a number of new members, many of them young. Mabel Franchi was invited to judge in Barcelona's New Roses Trial in May. Six delegates attended the Regional Convention in Slovenia - Inés Díaz, Irma Bosc, Angela Scalone, Rosario Algorta, Marta Blanco and Daniel Azzini..



Amparo Peruzzini (Arg), Rosario Farias (Ch), Cristina Markez (Arg), Nilda Crivelli (Arg), Rosario Algorta (Ur), Eliana Flores (Ch), Isa Maria Bozzolo (Ch) at the entrance to the Arboretum, Ljubljana.

After the Convention, Rosario Algorta together with Henrienne de Briey, went to Enghien to a lecture and visited the Parmentier Rose Garden and also to Coloma Rose Garden, which surprised her for its beauty. Rosario was invited to judge in Saverne's New Roses Trial and was President of the Day. Then to Baden Baden, where she had been on several occasions previously and enjoyed judging with an expert group! Then to the Kortrijk New Roses Trial, where she was President of the Day. Excellent new varieties of Roses in the three Rose Trials! Rosario congratulated the Hybridizers. It was a pleasure visiting Lily de Gerlache, first President of the WFRS in her beautiful home and garden



Louis Strohl Past President of the Rose Society of Saverne, Rosario Algorta and Christian Merk



André Calus, President of the Working group of the Rose Garden, Bart Nayaert Deputy of Province of Vlaanderen, Rosario Algorta de Carrau, Bert Herrewijn representing the City of Kortrijk and Mia Demeulemeester, Director of Inagro



Sheenagh Harris (South Africa), Rosario Algorta (South America) and Henrienne de Briey (Belgium) enjoying the Rose Trials on a sunny day in Baden Baden

URUGUAY HERITAGE & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE –

Inés Díaz de Licandro, as a Member of the Conservation and Heritage Committee of the WFRS, has carried out many activities-

- Heritage Rose (HR) definition: assistance to Slovenia Convention, report to AUR and definition for Uruguay;
- Inventory of Heritage Roses in Uruguay. Survey of principal HR collections and rose rustling in many towns (8/19 departments of Uruguay) and visit to many gardens and Estancias in the country;
- Rose identification, both in Uruguay and in Argentina. Trips to Patagonia (Bariloche), Buenos Aires and Córdoba. Inés Díaz de Licandro is advisor to Montevideo Municipality in the restoration of the Montevideo Rose Garden (lists of rose varieties, identification, health issues and reproduction);
- Rose reproduction for preservation and future distribution.
- Lectures both in Uruguay and in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

These activities are carried on and must be continued in the following years for the preservation of the HR stock in Uruguay. Inés Díaz de Licandro is evaluating the possibility of organising a HR event comprising visits to HR sites as well as related lectures for 2019 (both in Southern Uruguay and the Buenos Aires region).



Inés Díaz de Licandro identifying roses at the Rosedal del Prado in Montevideo



Rafael Maino and Inés Díaz de Licandro rose rustling at night!



Rosario Algorta, Cecilia Elroza and Inés Díaz de Licandro rose rustling in the garden of this beautiful house

On the 7th October, Rosario Algorta as VP of the WFRS for South America and member of the Committee of the Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa went to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Rose Garden of Mercedes, Soriano, in the western area of Uruguay. She congratulated the authorities for the great effort in preserving the roses which suffer every now and then from floods from the Black River. There were several lectures during the week and finished with a homage to Rosemarie Symmonds de Chilbroste, a great rose lover, who had passed away.



On the 28th of October members of the Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa went to celebrate the 25th anniversary of one of its branches - Amigos de las Rosas de Tarariras, which is in Colonia, the western part of Uruguay. In the morning we listened to a very interesting lecture on Companion Plants for Roses, had lunch with birthday cake and singing and in the afternoon visited Elba Simson's beautiful park, which had been visited during the convention in Uruguay.

Elba Simson, Rosario Algorta, Juan Moreira (Pres. Amigos de las Rosas de Tarariras) and Patricia Cummins



On the 26th October 4 Judges from Uruguay were invited to judge in the Rosicultura's Rose Show - Dolores Llovet, Marta Blanco, Rosanna Ottieri and Rosario Algorta. It was a different experience to judge amongst the roses in the Palermo Rose Garden. As VP for South America, Rosario Algorta congratulated the authorities of the Palermo Rose Garden for the excellent maintenance. It is in magnificent condition and is still worthy of the Award given by the WFRS in 2012.



On the 31st October we had our Spring Rose Show together with the Garden Clubs of Uruguay.

The 5th December was the final farewell of 2017, where pictures of all the activities of the year were shown.

In October, Rosario Algorta went with Inés Díaz de Licandro and Rafael Maino from Argentina to visit farms and small villages in the countryside to do Rose rustling and identifying old varieties which they discovered growing in incredible places. They were so enthusiastic that they finished after dark with flashlights!

As of July 2017, Patricia Cummins is the new President of the rose societies in Uruguay. I thank all the authorities and members of the three countries that belong to the WFRS in South America for all their support and help to make this report possible.

AUSTRALIAN ROSE STAMPS

Text - Doug Hayne from various sources

In many countries throughout the world, various aspects of a society have been depicted on stamps since the concept that came into being in 1840 in England. The first stamp was the Penny Black.

The first true Australian stamp came into being on 2nd January 1913. In 1982 Australian Rosarians were bestowed a great honour when a set of four stamps came out depicting Australian bred roses. The roses chosen for the stamps were *Marjorie Atherton* (27c), *Imp* (40c), *Minnie Watson* (65c) and *Satellite* (75c). The rose varieties were selected in consultation with the National Rose Society of Australia.

Betty Conabere, a botanical illustrator, who lived in Mansfield, a country town in Victoria, designed the stamps. Betty Conabere is best known for a two-volume limited edition book *Wildflowers of South Eastern Australia* published in 1974. The original paintings for this work were purchased by the Victorian Ministry of The Arts and presented to the La Trobe Library.



The four varieties selected of distinctive colour, form and fragrance and all four are good examples of hybrid roses developed in Australia.



'Marjorie Atherton' was bred by Ron Bell, by crossing 'Mr Shashtra' with 'Peace'. 'Mr Shashtra' is a tall growing fragrant white rose with a slight hint of pink, whereas 'Peace' is yellow with pink edged petals. The resultant 'Marjorie Atherton' has fragrant maize yellow double blooms. 'Marjorie Atherton' is named in honour of Ron Bell's sister. Royalties from this rose were directed to the Rose Society of Victoria.

Although Ron Bell was an outstanding administrator he will be best remembered as a major Australian rose breeder. His rose breeding career started in 1967. His first Australian rose introduction was 'Marjorie Atherton' and the royalties from it were directed to the Rose Society of Victoria. Other roses of note that he bred, included 'April Hamer', 'Our Rosamond' and 'Janette Murray' all fine roses ranking with the best imported ones of the day. Royalties from 'Janette Murray' were directed to the Red Cross. Ron also donated the rose that was named 'Bicentennial Rose' for the 1988 World Rose Convention hosted by the Rose Society of New South Wales. In 1991, Ron Bell founded the Australian Rose Breeders Association and around that time he produced the booklet "Amateur Guide to Rose Breeding". As a result of his rose breeding Ron was presented with the Queen Mother's International Award in 1999 for Rose Breeding. This was the first time the award had been made outside of Europe.



'Imp' bred by George Dawson is an unusual rose with a double dose of 'Peace' in its breeding, with the cross being 'Daily Sketch' x 'Impeccable'. 'Daily Sketch', being a bushy plant with pink and silver clusters of large double blooms, while 'Impeccable' is a deep red double. The name 'Imp' came from the first three letters of 'Impeccable'. Even to this day 'Imp' is winning champion ribbons on the show bench.

George Dawson was born and first worked budding roses in England before immigrating to Australia in 1928 at the age of 24. George set up a market garden at Ferntree Gully and carried out some breeding in conjunction with his livelihood. In 1966 he retired from market gardening and moved to Bunyip at the age of 62 and took up breeding roses seriously. At his peak he planted 20,000 seeds a season and produced many fine roses, his main objective being colour and perfume but he also raised a number of roses with good form. He was always willing to help newcomers and donated much of his royalties to the Rose Society of Victoria. Not in good health in later life, he had both hips replaced and he named the rose 'Rae Duncan' after his surgeon.



'Minnie Watson' was bred by Richard (Dick) Watson of Warrane, Tasmania in 1965. The rose is most unusual as the seedling was the result of a self-pollinated seed of 'Dickinson's Flame'. A compact bush with glossy foliage, salmon semi-double blooms with a lighter reverse that are slightly fragrant. The rose was named after the breeder's mother.

Richard (Dick) Watson was born in Newcastle on Tyne, England in 1916 and came to NSW, Australia in 1925. He moved to Tasmania in 1951, where he became interested in roses and joined the Tasmania Rose Society. As his interest gained momentum, he wrote articles for the Australian Rose Annual and bred four roses these being 'Elaine Holman', 'Heather Jenkins', 'Madeline Correy' and 'Minnie Watson'.



'Satellite' was bred by John Priestly of Melbourne in 1958. An early flowering rose with deep crimson double blooms and glossy foliage comes on a compact plant. 'Satellite' resulted from crossing *Editor McFarlane* with *William Harvey*. *William Harvey* is a rose with scarlet and strongly fragrant blooms, while 'Editor McFarlane' produces glowing pink fragrant double blooms. The breeder chose the name at a time the Russians put up the satellite Sputnik in which there was worldwide interest.

In the true sense of the word, John Priestly was not a rose breeder, but rather an administrator who happened to breed three roses. As an administrator, he had no peer guiding the then newly formed National Rose Society of Australia, as Secretary, from its inauguration in 1975, until he stood down in 2000. During his tenure as National Secretary, he was actively involved in the setting up of the Victorian State Rose Garden at Werribee Park Estate, eventual passing of the Bill for Plant Varieties Rights Legislation and development of the Australian Rose Annual. As a result of his ability as an administrator, he received a number of prestigious Rose Awards including "The Australian Rose Award" and "National Rose Society Service Award".

ROSE STAMPS FROM URUGUAY



Beautiful Uruguayan rose stamps received from Inés Díaz de Licandro with the rose names clearly marked but unfortunately no history.



Acacia Trees in the Highlands of Ethiopia

A ROSE JOURNEY TO ETHIOPIA

Hans-Peter Mühlbach and Hanny Tantau

"A rose journey to Ethiopia? What a crazy idea! Are there any roses at all?" These and other comments are what we received when we thought about a rose journey to Ethiopia for members of the German Rose Society. However, our research about roses in Ethiopia and the enthusiastic narration of our travel agency *Via Cultus* made it clear that the more or less unknown country at the Horn of Africa would be worth travelling to – even for a group of rose lovers. It's not only a region, which has been recognized – among others – as birthplace of the human race, which is documented by the remains of the four million year old "Lucy" (*Australopithecus afarensis*) in the National Museum of Addis Ababa, but is also a country of breath taking landscapes and ancient Christian culture. The most important attraction for rose lovers, however, is the fact that Ethiopia is one of the rare countries where the wild rose species *Rosa abyssinica* can be found at its natural location. *Rosa abyssinica* is the only wild rose species on the African continent. Last but not least, Ethiopia has become a hotspot of rose cultivation, in particular for producing cut roses, but also for the extraction of rose oil.

We were a group of 15 adventurous rose friends, who met at the gate of Turkish Airlines in the airport of Istanbul for the flight to Addis Ababa. After arriving in the Ethiopian capital, and after a very short night, we started to explore Addis Ababa, together with Ludwig Taschner, the well-known rose grower from South Africa, who joined us there. Our travel guide, Gabriel, accompanied us throughout the journey with great attention and the claim to bring us closer to the culture of his home country. And we tried to put our fascination for roses across to him, but the 13 days of the journey were probably not quite long enough, because over and over again, when we enthused with posed cameras over a rose, his comment was: "You are all crazy!"



View from Entoto-Mountain near Addis Ababa

First we drove to the Entoto-Mountain in the north of Addis Ababa with its highest elevation of 3,010 m, which offers a magnificent view over 'Addis', as the capital city of Ethiopia is casually called. Addis Ababa itself is situated on a high plateau at a height of around 2,100 – 2,400 m and is characterized by a very pleasant climate. The forests around Addis had been largely cut down in earlier times, and recently they are being reforested with fast-growing eucalyptus trees, which are of ecological concern because of their high water demand. On the journey we met many women who, laboriously dragged large bundles of wooden sticks on their backs, from the woods into the city. There, as explained our guide, they can sell the wood after a kilometre-long march for a few Ethiopian birr: a frighteningly realistic impression of the great poverty in Ethiopia.

In the afternoon we visited the first rose company, which is located at the Sabata area close to Addis Ababa. The ENYI rose farm is a small company with only around 400 employees, where cut roses are being produced for the European market. We learned that roses are cultivated around the year in five greenhouses covered with plastic foil, each with approximately 2.3 hectares of land. The quality of the cut roses was excellent, long solid stems and large, strikingly beautiful flowers. Every day, 60,000 roses are cut in every foil house, then mostly carried by women to the main building, sorted, packaged, refrigerated and finally delivered by plane to Europe.



Harvesting the roses



Packing roses for transport

The cultivation of the roses at a height of more than 2000 m lends itself to very good quality. The location close to the equator ensures sufficient exposure and even temperatures all year round. Labour is inconceivably cheap, so that this production method is economically very successful. Almost idyllic in contrast, was an organic farm cultivating Damask roses, which we visited the next day. It is located at about 2,900 m above sea level near the town of Debre Birhan, about 125 km northeast of Addis Ababa. One cannot imagine that such a distance could be accomplished in about two hours. Even if a section of the track is on a fairly well-developed road, the roadway is so crowded with pedestrians, highly-packed donkeys, cattle and goat herds that there is no hope of a brisk pace. We experienced this throughout the journey, and the fact that some interesting destinations can only be reached on extremely winding and endless gravel tracks was an additional challenge.



Typical road scene with livestock taking preference

The organic rose company 'Terra PLC' is run by Fekade Lakew, who collaborates with the German company Wala, to grow Damask roses from which rose oil is extracted. This is not only an important component of many perfumes, but is also included in numerous homeopathic products. Here we saw how, from tons of petals, the rose oil is extracted via water vapour distillation.



Rose petals collected for distillation



Fekade Lakew Explaining Water Vapour Distillation for the Extraction of Rose Oil

Mr. Lakew, who spoke excellent German, did not tell us how much rose oil he gets out of his fields, but from the classic rose oil production it is known that for 1 kilogram of rose oil around 3 tons of rose petals are usually required. Such quantities can be harvested from a field with about one hectare of land over a year. Most of the roses were already harvested at the time of our visit, but we could still enjoy some beautiful examples of the enchanting fragrant *Rosa x damascena*. The organic farm, which even held a herd of cattle under animal welfare conditions (with bull and calf) for its own fertilizer production, was particularly admired. Of course, we were not allowed to leave before participating in and enjoying the typical invitation to the coffee ceremony, which was a unique experience in a romantic setting.



Coffee Ceremony at the Rose Farm Terra PLC

For this event, raw coffee beans are roasted on an open fire, mashed in a mortar to powder and brewed with boiling water. For the special atmosphere, a little incense resin is often burned in the fire. The coffee, served in delicate porcelain bowls is delicious. After this special experience, we were completely spellbound by the atmosphere in Ethiopia.

On the long journeys, Gabriel often told us stories and myths from the past of Ethiopia, so on the way back from Debre Birhan, we learnt where the name of the town comes from. It must be said that the history of Ethiopia is documented only in a fragmented way in reliable sources, much of what is reported is based on "oral tradition", as the guidebook carefully calls it. In the year 1456, a bright light was to appear above a mountain near the present city, which prompted the emperor to build a church there. The place was called Debre Birhan, Mountain of Light. Today one assumes that the light could have been Halley's Comet, which must have been visible at that time.

The next morning we had to get up early because we left Addis and flew to Axum in the north of Ethiopia. Axum was the capital of the Axumite Empire, which had its heyday between the 2nd century BC and the 6th century, stretching from the north of Ethiopia to the southwest of the Arabian Peninsula. To this day, Axum is the most important religious centre of the Orthodox Christians of Ethiopia. Every year at the end of November, festivities are held in honour of Holy Mary. However, the remains of a monumental temple in Yeha, a village near today's Axum, indicates a high ethnicity that existed even long before the time of the Axumite Empire. We stopped on the drive from the airport and visited the giant temple ruins.



Temple Ruins in Yeha



Stone Relic with the Symbol of the Moon Deity

The Great Temple of Yeha was probably built in the 7th century BC by the Sabaeans, immigrants from Arabia, from the land of the legendary queen of Saba. It was consecrated to the moon and today, after almost 2700 years, is still a very impressive building, whose outer walls, up to 14 m high, consist of large, precisely hewn limestone blocks, which are placed on top of each other without mortar. We were fortunate that in our group we had Professor of Archaeology, Dr Heide Froning-Kehler, who could give us a lot of detailed information on the history of this cultural historical treasure.

From here we reached the city of Axum in the evening after a nice ride through varied landscapes. Hordes of white-clad pilgrims, who had come to Axum for the annual Feast of Mary, had already flooded the city. In the courtyard of our hotel tents had even been pitched to accommodate the masses of visitors and even for us as long-registered guests there were only very basic rooms left. But who needs warm water for showers or other luxuries at such high summer temperatures?



A merchant in Axum



Pilgrims in front of the Cathedral Mariam TSION in Axum

On another morning we went to the church area of Axum, past countless merchants for all kinds of commodities, beautiful fabrics, leather goods, spices and food, travellers with and without camels and pilgrims who had mostly slept on the roadside. The central place of the festivities is the Cathedral Maryam TSION, a huge modern building in the style of the typical Ethiopian round churches. Inside, it was adorned with large illustrations of biblical episodes of the Old and New Testaments. Equally striking, were images of Ethiopian saints whose sufferings were considered as martyrs in an extremely realistic way. Thousands of pilgrims gathered in the church, chanting or meditating in deep devotion. When a church dignitary appeared or even the patriarch moved into the church, the congregation fell into a long-drawn high trill with an extremely strange effect.



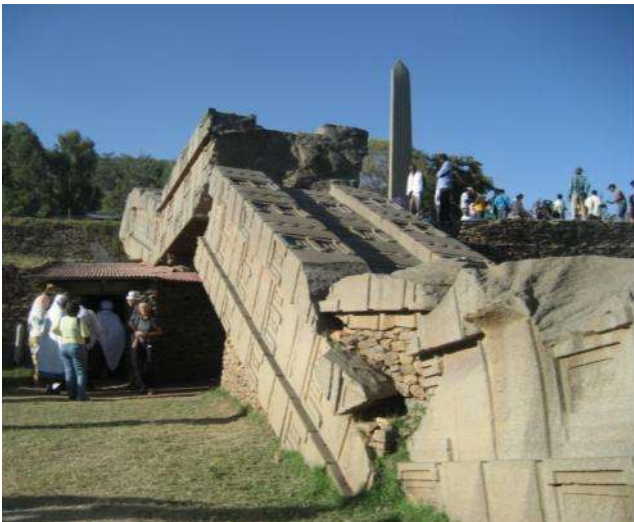
Pilgrims in the Cathedral Mariam TSION in Axum



Priest with Drums Having a Break

Next to the cathedral there is an older church building in which the Ark of the Covenant with the stone Laws of Moses is kept from the Temple of Jerusalem. But no one is allowed to see it except the guard who guards for a lifetime. According to the traditional oral tradition, the Ark was robbed from the temple in Jerusalem by King Melenek, the legendary scion of the Queen of Saba with King Solomon and brought to Axum. The Feast of Mary also includes huge processions, which throughout the day were singing, dancing and making music through the city and spreading an exceptionally moving spiritual mood.

Something very special in Axum is the Park of Steles, a unique testimony to the Ethiopian culture, which allows us to look back in time to about 2000 years ago. The steles are huge, meticulously carved monoliths with ornaments in a storied arrangement. They were probably erected on graves as a sign of the importance of those buried there. The scientific interpretation of the steles is the result of a German team of researchers who, under the direction of the ethnologist Enno Littmann, had obtained permission for archaeological investigations in Axum in the year 1906. The numbering of the steles according to their size is valid to this day. The stele No 1 of 33.3 m long is the largest and the heaviest with a weight of 517 T. It is the largest carved monolith of ancient times known today. It is in ruins on the ground, with the view that it must have been shattered when it was set up. A representation painted from today's point of view shows how one could imagine the transport of a stone quarry about 20 km away and the setup of such a massive stone mass. A place more impressive than this park of Steles, which probably corresponds to an ancient cemetery, can hardly be imagined.



Park of Steles in Axum, Broken Stele No 1



Modern Representation of Transport and Setup of the Steles

After this deep immersion in the ancient history and Christian culture of Ethiopia, our next aim was to encounter the no less impressive nature of this fascinating country. So the next morning, 1st December, the suitcases were loaded back on to the roof of our bus and we made our way to the Simian Mountains National Park with its over 4,000 m high peaks. The long journey took us through vast areas of agricultural land, where the grain Teff (Dwarf millet, *Eragrostis*

teff), commonly used in Ethiopia, is often cultivated. Teff is usually mowed by hand with a sickle. The tiny seeds are gluten-free and rich in essential fatty acids, so they are now regarded as a valuable cereal substitute in Europe. Teff is the basis of the Ethiopian Pita Bread Injera, which is served with every traditional dish.



Peasant Woman Carrying the Harvest



Hut of Peasant Family

Everywhere we could see how hard the life of the peasants in Ethiopia is. Machines are virtually absent and most of the work is done by hand. For threshing, the mown grain is placed on the ground. Horses or cattle are driven in a circle, until the glumes are broken. Then everything is thrown into the air by hand or with forks and the wind separates the chaff from the grain. The huts in which the families live are very simple built of branches, mud and straw. A hearth in the middle is the stove and heating. Water is brought in canisters from a ditch between the fields. At the mediation of our travel guide, Gabriel the friendly peasants readily showed us all.

A special highlight of our trip, was the finding of a few incense trees (probably, mostly *Boswellia papyrifera*, Ethiopian incense) on a steep mountainside whose resin was scraped by some rose friends as a unique souvenir of the voyage. Hour after hour as we approached the breath taking scenery of the Simian Mountains National Park and the closer we came, the more spectacular was the view to the impressive rock massifs.



Simian Mountains National Park with 4,000 m High Peaks

It was almost dark, when we reached the village of Debark, the entrance to the National park. Two rangers with rifles entered the bus to escort us. Laboriously, our bus climbed up the barely paved gravel track to the Simian Lodge, where we spent the night in the middle of the National Park. Our bus driver, as in the whole trip, made a great job and was never out of the way. We were all happy when we finally sat safely in the large hall of the elegant lodge at the cosy crackling fire and reminisced about the experiences of the days before.



Morning Light in the Simian Mountains National Park

Early in the morning we went on a hike through the National park, safely escorted by our two rangers, who always made sure that no one was lost. This, indeed, could easily have happened, concerning the breath taking views that arose at almost every step, and the numerous botanical species, which had to be carefully photographed.

Tree-like specimens of the St.-John's-wort (*Hypericum revolutum*) and the medicinally significant Kusso tree (*Hagenia abyssinica*), but also tiny lily plants, which barely looked out of the grass, drew our attention. But the true highlight of our Ethiopian journey appeared suddenly as huge bushes in front of our eyes: It was the endemic *Rosa abyssinica*, known as 'Abyssinian Rose', the only wild rose species on the African continent. Up to a height of 4 m and stretched along the branches, covered with a multitude of large plain creamy-white flowers. What a stunning sight!



***Rosa abyssinica*, the Only Wild Rose Species in Ethiopia**



Rosa abyssinica, which is related to *R. brunonii* and *R. moschata*, thrives here, at a height of about 3,000 m, in an unimaginable splendour. For this experience alone, the effort of the trip had been worthwhile! There is no question that all memory cards were almost glowing here.

And soon thereafter, we met another highlight of the National park: a large herd of endemic blood-breast baboons (*Theropithecus gelada*). Unmoved by the cautiously creeping people, they happily took their grass meal, while the hatchlings merrily romped around in the branches of the trees. This was also a very special encounter!

Photo-Shooting *Rosa abyssinica*



The Endemic Blood Breast Baboon



A ranger with his rifle

We could not linger for too long, because we had to leave this magnificent mountain world and make our way to the next destination. This was the old imperial city of Gondar. In the evening we arrived at our hotel, located on a mountainside, which offered a wonderful view over the city. Even the wide area of the former palace complex, the Gemp, could be seen from the hotel terrace. The palace district of Gemp from the 17th and 18th centuries was visited the next day. Of most buildings, only the massive walls have been preserved. We found a strange architectural style blend, in which European, Indian and Oriental influences were visible. Another important building, the church Debre Birhan Selassie, which is located off the Gemp, left an even greater impression. After the destruction of the original round church at the end of the 19th century by Sudanese Mahdi troops, it was rebuilt in the form of a rectangular basilica, unlike Ethiopian churches.



The Church Debre Birhan Selassie in Gondar

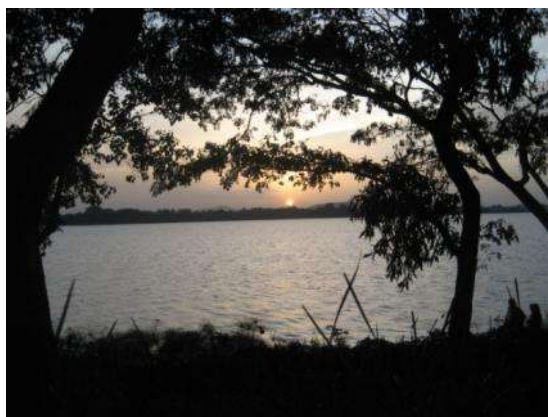


Angel Faces Painted on the Ceiling

The most famous decoration of the church is the ceiling painted entirely with the faces of angels. We were reluctant to take ourselves from this and from the countless paintings on the church walls, which in a typical Ethiopian manner linked biblical stories with sacred legends and historical events. However, our next goal, Lake Tana with the origin in the Blue Nile, enticed us with new, promising impressions, so we climbed back into our bus and made our way to Bahir Dar at the southern end of Lake Tana.



Chilli-Market on the Road to Lake Tana



Sunset at Lake Tana



This lake is about 1,800 m above sea level, so the climate is moister and slightly warmer than in the mountains. Lake Tana covers an area of about 3,000 km² and is fed by numerous rivers. It is known for its abundance of fish. There we enjoyed a delicious, very tasty typical fish dish, cooked in aluminium foil and in the evening a romantic sunset at the lake. Next morning we went by motor boat to the peninsula Zeghie with the famous monastery Ura Kidane Mihret. During the boat trip across the lake – the water as smooth as glass – we were watched by pelicans from a safe distance and we could see the fishermen in their characteristic papyrus boats, trailing their net

A fisherman with a papyrus boat at Lake Tana

The walk to the monastery complex turned out to be a sedate march through a dense jungle with numerous coffee shrubs, of which the half-to-ripe fruits we were interested in. The monastery consisted of a collection of reed huts, but the novices were taught outdoors. The centre of the site was formed by a very artfully wooden round church with a broad roofed round way. On the walls of the inside square cube it was adorned with exceptionally colourful paintings. The cube itself must not be entered, but is reserved for the priests. The task of a bell is fulfilled by a large stone slab hung on ropes, which gives a melodic sound when struck with pebbles.



Wild Coffee (*Coffea arabica*) on Peninsula Zeghie (Lake Tana)



Priest in the Monastery on the Peninsula

That afternoon, we experienced another special point of interest - the cataracts of the Blue Nile (Tis Issat), which are embedded in a landscape that is like a comparison with the Garden of Eden. However, we had to learn that the entrance to paradise is usually associated with great hardships. This was, in our case, a ride on an endless gravel track with huge, water-filled potholes, so that we, thoroughly shaken, arrived after a torturous trip in the village Tis Abay, the access to the cataracts of the Blue Nile.



Farmer at work using historic plough

Crossing the Blue Nile

The effort was rewarded most beautifully, first with an adventurous boat ride on the Blue Nile, then with a hike through a truly idyllic and extremely fertile landscape with lush fields full of sugar cane, cereals and various other crops and lastly with the fascinating sight of the waterfalls.



Rising out of Lake Tana, the Blue Nile falls down over 45 m with a great roar, before making its long path to the Mediterranean Sea. Even at the beginning of the dry season, it is a great sight and a wonderful experience.

Cataract of the Blue Nile

A very long bus ride the following day offered the opportunity to look back at the abundance of impressions we had made so far, but the spectacular landscape of the barren central high plateau drew our attention. Very frequently, we stopped for a picture of an even more beautiful view over the partly gentle, partly rugged hills, with their picturesque terraced fields and wherever we stopped, the bus was immediately surrounded by children and young people who came running from their fields to say a few words to the strangers and receive small gifts.



Children and young people coming to the bus



The Highlands of Ethiopia

We wanted to visit the city of Lalibela, 290 km away from Bahir Dar, located in the centre of the Ethiopian highlands. Lalibela may be described as the culmination of the medieval Christian architecture in Ethiopia, because this city harbours many interesting churches, which are called Monolith Churches or rock churches. Its origins date from the 12th to the 13th century. These churches were not built stone on stone, but were cut out from the rocks in one piece. This was done with such precision and accuracy, hardly imaginable. It is not for nothing that the legend says these churches were created under the help of Angels. This impressive technology could probably be used because the rock was made of tuff, which is not as hard as granite. By the way, these churches are still run by priests and are visited daily by countless believers.

Our tour started with the Bete Medhane Alem (Church of the World Redeemer), the largest of the rock churches in Lalibela. Its huge roof rests on 34 rectangular pillars connected at the corners by a rock strip. This building must be considered as an incredible architectural achievement of medieval stone masons. The interior is a reminder of a basilica with several rows of columns, but the decorations and paintings were barely recognizable.

In contrast, in a much smaller Bete Maryam (Church of Our Lady), numerous paintings were seen directly on the rocky underground. Portraits of Saints were to be discovered, but also various symbols and animal representations could be identified in the faint light. Another rock church called Bete Golgatha (Calvary Church) was a peculiarity holding almost life-size reliefs of sacred figures in rock niches. Most impressive, however, was the somewhat remote Bete Kiddus Georgiys (Church of St. George). In the form of a Greek cross, it is carved into the rock in a way that the roof of the church finishes at ground level. Thus the church was not to be discovered in antiquity at a distance. A technical feat! In addition, the outer side is visually divided into four floors by bands with a single row of windows allowing light to fall into the simple interior.



Bete Kiddus Georgiys - the ground-level roof of the rock Church of St. George in Lalibela



An Impressive height of 12 m - The Rock Church of St. George



Scenery along the road in the Highlands of Ethiopia



Rose Lovers at the end of their tour

Deeply impressed by the performance of the Ethiopian builders of the Middle Ages, we made our way to the airport of Lalibela, from where we returned to Addis Ababa. After a short refreshment break and a dynamic folklore performance with typical Ethiopian delicacies we had to take the flight the same evening. This dreamlike journey brought us into a completely different world and time, from which we returned with unforgettable impressions and moving memories.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PRESIDENT

KELVIN TRIMPER APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AM)



Kelvin Trimper was appointed as a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) with effect from 26 January 2018 – Australia Day.

Kelvin has lived and worked in Northern Adelaide for 35 years. There are numerous instances of him assisting the community using his skills and experience and volunteering his time in many ways, over a long period of time. He developed an important and valuable sense of community as a result of being born and raised in the small rural town of Renmark in South Australia, where he learned, in many cases from example, how to help look after those less fortunate, those in need, and how to volunteer one's time for the good of the community. Now over 60, that ethos stayed with him his whole life. Renmark is also where he developed a love for plants – both indigenous and exotic. Vegetables and roses became passions.

Kelvin has worked nationally with State and Local Governments, Business Leaders and Education and Community Service Providers during his career in urban development. He joined Delfin Limited in 1987 after spending twelve years in the Education Department in School Facilities delivery and Administration. He was instrumental in establishing Delfin Lend Lease's leadership in the provision of education services, including those in the award winning Golden Grove development. He played a key role as Project Director in the winning and establishment of the highly awarded, mixed-use Mawson Lakes project in Adelaide and was involved with Mawson Lakes throughout its entire development.

A natural leader, Kelvin is an innovator and educator who believes in every individual, irrespective of culture, ability and status having the opportunity to realise their full potential. He enjoys working collaboratively and sharing ideas, knowledge and experience. He knows how to achieve results, even in challenging and hostile environments and believes that "if at first you don't succeed, you should try again" if something is worth pursuing.

Kelvin is currently President of The World Federation of Rose Societies. Since 1999, he has lectured at many rose conventions all over the world. He is a past President of The National Rose Society of Australia and Rose Society of South Australia, who awarded him Life Membership in 2012. Kelvin received the Australian Rose Award in 2012 and T.A. Stewart Memorial Award in 2013 for services to the rose in Australia and New Zealand.

Kelvin is a Fellow of the University of South Australia, Fellow of the Urban Development Institute of Australia (SA Division) and was given the Australia Day Honour of City of Salisbury Citizen of the Year in 2012.

Established in 1993, Kelvin and Melanie's home garden in South Australia is over one acre in size and contains 2,000 roses of all types.

Kelvin loves and supports his family, extended family and friends and is very loyal and committed to their success. His devotion to his children's education saw both achieve University Degrees and have full-time employment. Kelvin also has the unwavering support of his wife, Melanie.

Finally, Kelvin is passionate about growing plants, especially roses, fruit trees and vegetables and enjoys good wine and food. Whatever knowledge he has – he is happy to share it.

ROSES FROM ROMANIA

Jeff Wyckoff (USA)



A previous ARS Executive Director, Jeff Ware liked to say that rose societies are not just about roses but, perhaps more importantly, about rose people. He probably thinks he came up with that on his own, but it's more likely that he plagiarized it from somewhere. Nonetheless, the statement rings true. We go to rose society meetings, rose shows, and rose conventions not just to learn more about roses and their culture but also to visit with rose friends, people we have known for years with whom we share a common interest, people whose lives, joys and sorrows we have followed for years, a community of like-minded people.

This camaraderie also exists among rose people not just within the U.S. but from around the world as well. Attending rose events outside North America allows us to see new countries and cultures, roses we have never seen before and often will never see again, and rose friends we have made from previous travels. The World Federation of Rose Societies triennial conventions are yet another opportunity to do all of these things, and I would encourage all of you who can to take advantage of these unique opportunities.

Although Kathy and I have made many friends from around the world of roses, a special one is Dr. Stefan Wagner from Romania. We first met him and the WFRS Conference in New Zealand in 1994 and have had the pleasure of his company at a number of WFRS events since. Dr. Wagner founded the Romanian Rose Society in 1990 and is its Honorary President for Life. He has received numerous honours from the WFRS, which include the World Rose Award and the WFRS Silver Medal. He is the author of two books on roses, *The Rose – From Myth to the Millennium* (English translation) and *Trandafiri cu parfum* (Fragrant Roses). He was also head horticulturist at the Bucharest Botanical Gardens

In addition to his other rose activities, Stefan Wagner was also a hybridizer, responsible for some 47 varieties, to include a dozen or so in collaboration with another individual. His first introduction, '*Foc de Tabara*' (Campfire), a cross of 'Paprika' x 'Coup de Foudre', dates from 1970, the beginning of a breeding career that stretches for 35 years. Another early introduction was 'Rosabunda', a floribunda resulting from a cross between 'Frankfurt au Main' and 'Maria Callas' (AEN 'Miss All American Beauty'). 'Rosabunda' appears as the seed parent in three of his subsequent roses.

In his book *Fragrant Roses*, Wagner modestly lists five of his own roses as being exceptionally fragrant. These include the aforementioned 'Rosabunda', the hybrid teas 'Doamna in Mov' (Lady in Purple), ['Lavendula' x 'Mainzer Fastnacht' AEN 'Blue Moon'], 'Simfonia' ['Mt. Shasta' x 'Pascali'], and 'Romstar' ['Baccara' x 'Coronado'], plus the floribunda 'Rosagold' ['Vigorsa' x 'Allgold'].

One of Stefan Wagner's most beautiful roses is the floribunda 'Auriu de Cluj' (Golden West), a cross of 'Orangeade' x 'Western Sun'. Unfortunately, as you might expect, neither it nor any of his other roses are available in North America. However, I consider roses such as these from faraway places in the same way as I do works of art in the Prado or the Hermitage: I know I'll never possess them, but until I can hopefully see them in person I can still appreciate their beauty through visual representations.

VICTORIA JUBILEE PARK

Wellington, South Africa

Text - Gwen Fagan (South Africa)

Photos – Sheenagh Harris and Elsibe McGuffog (South Africa)



The 1902 entrance to Victoria Jubilee Park



'Blossom Magic' at the start of the bridal walk into the upgraded Victoria Jubilee Park

In the main street of the little town of Wellington, 72 kilometres from Cape Town, there is a fenced-off stretch of land known as Queen Victoria Jubilee Park. When walking over this precious piece of earth, one's mind wanders back to those early days when the rich earth provided grazing for the many cattle of the Khoi, the first humans to roam here freely.

In the late 17th century, after a Dutch settlement had been established at the foot of Africa in Table Bay, this remote area became known as the Limiet valley (The distant valley) for it was cut off from the new settlement in Cape Town by mountains and a river. However, the rich soil soon attracted the earliest settlers to move there with their cattle. In 1699 the Governor at the Cape, WA van der Stel, confronted with the problem of providing land for a number of French Huguenots who had been sent to the Cape by the VOC from the Netherlands, decided that the Limietvallei was just the place to grant farms to these new settlers. The Frenchmen soon proved their worth, not only as successful farmers but also as wagon makers. As a result this valley soon became known as the Wagon makers Vallei or the Val du Charron.

These early farmers had to attend church at the town Paarl, situated a distance away over the mountains, so after four years they requested their own church, but it was only in 1837 that deacon, John Addey of the Paarl congregation, was instructed to choose a place where a church of their own could be erected. Addey chose the farm Champagne as a suitable place and near to the position marked out for the church, an area was identified where bricks could be made to build the church. This is the very land which later was chosen for the Jubilee Park.

Once there was a church, surrounding plots were soon set out and a small town established in 1840 which was called Wellington in honour of the Duke of Wellington who had conquered Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. Prominently situated on the main road, the beautiful arch at the entrance enticed visitors to enjoy the park with its fountain, show of beautiful roses and to listen to the Wellington Brass Band, who built their own stand in 1905. The garden became a popular public venue for many years, so that in 1970 it was declared a Heritage Site. Who can imagine that such a valuable meeting place in a small town should gradually fall into disarray – that the bandstand and the fountain should disappear, that the plaque designating the Victoria Park Archway should be stolen and that the once beautiful garden should now be lacking in flowers?

Concerned public members were dismayed at the disappearance of the plaque on the arch together with the plaque on their church. Fortunately tireless searchers discovered the missing items at a local scrap yard, but the beautiful fencing on the side boundaries which had been demolished, could not be replaced.

Now a newly established Jubilee Park Association decided to restore the park to its former beauty. The energy and commitment of these individuals and numerous volunteers who by their financial contributions, hard labour and donations of equipment and materials, were to clean up, reconstruct and replant this wonderful venue with roses.

There was no end to the enthusiastic drive of the directors of their Restoration Committee and especially by their hardest driver, Amanda Kreitzer.

Experienced South African rosarians, Sheenagh Harris and Gwen Fagan were asked to help with the design of the garden and were only too excited to draw up plans and suitable plant lists.

The opening of the restored garden on the 31st October was an inspiring event for locals. The guests of honour were taken for a drive through the town in a most beautiful horse drawn carriage drawn by four magnificent black Friesian horses. Local musicians enchanted the visitors and the mayor cut the ribbon for the re-opening of Wellington's oldest entertainment venue.

Pride shone from the eyes of those who have saved the Victoria Park from total oblivion. No one in the future will let this town's pride again be threatened with careless lack of attention or destruction by turning it into a parking lot just to make money. Let visitors from all over the globe be attracted to Wellington's Jubilee Park to meet their friendly locals, see their Heritage roses flower, enjoy their local products, taste their many wines and hear their musicians, especially their bands every Friday.



Sheenagh Harris and Gwen Fagan arrive for the opening of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Park rose gardens in a horse drawn carriage



Sheenagh Harris pays tribute to Amanda Kreitzer, the inspiration behind the upgraded garden



Christephine Kearns, Amanda Kreitzer, Sheenagh Harris and the Mayor as he cuts the ribbon to open the rose gardens



Gwen Fagan and 'Gwen Fagan'



Dr. Stefan Wagner
1952 - 2017

Stefan Wagner died in his home town, Cluj in Romania in December, 2017 at the age of 85 after a short illness. Until his death he was one of 5 surviving delegates who had attended the inaugural meeting of the World Federation of Rose Societies in London in 1968. At this meeting together with other delegates he was presented to Her Majesty, the Queen Mother and Stefan's own words about the occasion were 'one of the proudest days of my entire life'.

This much respected rosarian founded the Romanian Rose Society in 1990 which joined the WFRS in 1992. He was a keen and loyal member who attended 9 of the first 18 conventions and organised many rose tours to other countries for fellow Romanians. He was an enthusiastic and successful amateur rose breeder and wrote two books about Roses.

Stefan served the WFRS as WFRS Vice President in Eastern Europe - Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, Israel from 2006 to 2012. In Vancouver in 2009 he received the WFRS Silver medal in recognition of outstanding service to the Federation.

Stefan Wagner who had been involved in WFRS activities since its inception was the first "official" Friend of the Federation and was a Friend for Life. He will be sorely missed in Denmark particularly for the 50th anniversary celebrations.

Sheenagh Harris

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES 2018 INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIAL DATES

Monaco	4 May	Kortrijk, Belgium	22 June
Barcelona, Spain	11 May	The Hague, Netherlands	12 July
Madrid, Spain	18 May	Belfast, N. Ireland	20 July
Rome, Italy	19 May	Glasgow, Scotland	August
La Tacita, Italy	20 May	Orléans, France	September
Tokyo, Japan	May to October	Le Roelux, Belgium	7 September
Echigo, Japan	June to October	Ashville, USA	30 September
Lyon, France	1 June	Gifu, Japan	October
Nantes, France	8 June	Rose Hills, USA	12-13 October
Hradec Králové, Czech	16 June	Adelaide, Australia	23 October
Baden Baden, Germany	19 June	Hamilton, NZ	8 November
Saverne, France	20 June	Palmerston North, NZ	December
Bagatelle, Paris	21 June		

DIARY OF EVENTS

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

Disclaimer

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



www.worldrose.org

FRIENDS OF THE FEDERATION

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

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

Benefits include –

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

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



**Friends only dinner in Ljubljana, Slovenia with members from
South America, the Netherlands, Australia and USA
(photo organised by Rosario Algorta)**

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES FRIENDS ONLY SUPPER – AUSTRALIA

Text - Mary Frick – Friends of the Federation WFRS representative in Australia.
Photo – Mary Frick's camera



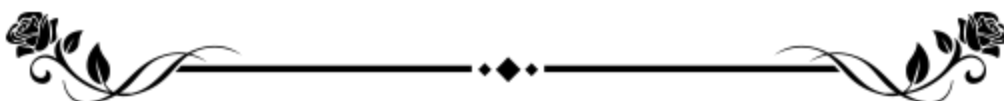
**Jim Cane, Les Johnson, Gavin Woods, Malcolm Watson, Kelvin Trimper
Ruth Watson, Mary Frick, Diane Vom Berg and Karen Meeuwissen**

On 10th November 2017, in conjunction with the 2017 National Rose Society of Australia's (NRSA) AGM Weekend, hosted by the Victorian Rose Society, the second Australian World Federation of Rose Societies *Friends Only* Supper was held.

At the conclusion of the Meet & Greet function held in the Novotel, Glen Waverley, Melbourne, Victoria, a group of Australian Friends of the Federation strolled to the nearby Pancake Kitchen for supper (and of course pancakes and ice cream!). The relaxed atmosphere encouraged much camaraderie and discussion with the main topic being all things rosey and WFRS Rose Conventions, both past and future.

The next Friends of the Federation Supper in Australia will be held in conjunction with the 20 NRSA AGM Weekend to be held in Brisbane, Queensland on Friday 5th October 2018. However, the next Friends of the Federation dinner will be held in Copenhagen on Tuesday, 3rd 2017.

All WFRS Friends of the Federation are welcome, so if you are not already a WFRS Friend, download an application form from the WFRS website www.worldrose.org and forward payment to the WFRS Treasurer, Diane vom Berg and join us.



WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES

PATRON

Mr. Yves Piaget



PRESIDENTS EMERITUS

Baroness Lily de Gerlache de Gomery

Mr. David Ruston

EDITOR EMERITUS

Dr. Tommy Cairns

OFFICERS MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Mr. Kelvin Trimper

Oradala Court, Salisbury Heights 5109,
Australia. (+61) 8 8289 6511

ktrimper@bigpond.net.au

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Derek Lawrence

76 Bennetts Court, Yate, South Glos.,
BS37 4XH England (+44) 1 454 310 148

dereklawrence@talktalk.net

TREASURER

Mrs. Diane vom Berg

124 Avenue Road, Clarence Gardens, 5039,
Australia (+61) 8 8297 2645

vombergs@bigpond.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Mr. Steve Jones

20340 Vineyard Lane, Fiddletown,
CA 95629 USA (+1) 209 245 3355

scvrose@aol.com

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

AFRICA

Mrs. Rae Gilbert

PostNet Suite 248, Pvt Bag X1006, Plettenberg Bay
South Africa, 6600 (+27) 44 533 0074

rae@boskydell.co.za

EUROPE cont.

Countess Ghislain de Briey de Gerlache

Avenue du Prince Héritier 181, Bruxelles,
Belgium, 1200. (32) 2 732 9778

hdebriey@hotmail.com

AUSTRALASIA

Australia – Mr. Paul Hains

PO Box 4355, Gumdale, Queensland
4154, Australia (+61) 412 609 774

paul@hainsroses.com

FAR EAST

China & Japan - Dr. Zhao Shiwei

Wofosi Road, Xiangshan, Haidian, Beijing 100093,
China. 0086-10-62591283

zhaoshiwei@beijingbg.com

New Zealand - Mr. Doug Grant
326c Patumahoe Road, RD3 Pukekohe 2678

New Zealand (+64) 9 2385723

douggrant99@gmail.com

NORTH AMERICA

USA - Ms. Jolene Adams

776 Pinedale Court, Hayward CA 94544

USA (+1) 510 537 2326

jolene_adams@sonic.net

CENTRAL ASIA

India & Pakistan - Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan

1/7/140Musheerabad Hyderabad, India 500 048

(+91) 40 2761 6658

alamkhan.ahmed@gmail.com

Canada and Bermuda - Mr. David Elliott

3125 Qu'pelle Street, Victoria BC Canada V9A 1V5

(+1) 250 383 5906

theelliotts@shaw.ca

EUROPE

Mrs. Inger Schierning

Vejdammen 114, DK-2840 Holte, Denmark

+(45) 3331 1103; +(45) 2311 0118

mail.rosenselskabet@gmail.com

SOUTH AMERICA

Mrs. Rosario Algorta de Carrau

General French 1930, Montevideo, Uruguay UR11500

UR11500 (+598) 2 600 6417

rosal3004@adinet.com.uy

Mrs. Breda Čopi

Kovačičeva 36 Koper, Slovenija 6000

(+386) 31 599924

breda.copi@gmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Council

The President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper

Executive Committee

The President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper

Awards

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

Breeders' Club

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

Classification & Registration

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

Conservation & Heritage Roses

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

Convention Liaison

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

Honours

The President, Mr. Kelvin Trimper

International Judges

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

International Rose Trials

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

Promotions

Mr. Steve Jones

Publications

Ms. Jolene Adams

Editor - World Rose News

Mrs. Sheenagh Harris,
PO Box 1847, Plettenberg Bay, 6600, Republic of South Africa.
(+27) 82 325 4888 rutherg@iafrica.com

Web Master

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

MEMBER COUNTRIES

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

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

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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

THE BREEDERS' CLUB

David Austin Roses (David Austin Sr.)
michael@davidaustinroses.co.uk
Website: www.davidaustinroses.com
Rose Barni s. s. (Beatrice Barni)
beatrice@rosebarni.it
Website: www.rosebarni.it
Roseraie Laperrière (Philippe and Richard
Laperrière) rose.laperriere@wanadoo.fr
Website: www.rose-laperriere.com
Meilland International S. A. (Alain Meilland) Website:
meilland.matthias@meilland.com
www.meilland.com
Meilland International S. A. (Matthias Meilland)
meilland.matthias@meilland.com
Website: www.meilland.com
Roseraie Reuter (Frank or Regis Reuter) franck@reuter.fr
Website: www.reuter.fr
Roseraie Fabien Ducher (Fabien Ducher)
info@roseraie-fabien-ducher.com
Website: www.roseraie-fabien-ducher.com
Roseraie Guillot (Jean-Pierre Guillot)
guillot@roses-guillot.com
Roseraie Orard (Pierre Orard) rosesorard@aol.com Website:
www.roses-orard.com
Société Nouvelle Des Pépinières et Roseraies Georges Delbard
(Arnaud Delbard)
adv@georgesdelbard.com
Petrovic Roses (Radoslav Petrovic) petrovicroses@gmail.com
Website: www.petrovicroses.rs
Viveros Francisco Ferrer (Matilde Ferrer)
mati@viverosfranciscoferrer.com
Website: www.viverosfranciscoferrer.co
Keisei Rose Nurseries Inc. (Chiaki Tazama)
Tazama@keiseirose.co.jp
Website: <http://www.keiseirose.co.jp>
Martin Vissers
Viva International BVBA
Email: viva.int@skynet.be
Georges Dorieux
Email: contact@dorieux.fr
Website: <http://www.dorieux.fr>
Bill Radler
Viva International BVBA
viva.int@skynet.be
Jim Sproul
Sproul Roses By Design
Email: rosesbydesign@earthlink.net
Roses Forever APS
Website: www.roses-forever.com
Email: re@roses.com
Lens Roses
Website: www.lens-roses.com
Email: info@lens-roses.com