



**HER ROYAL HIGHNESS CROWN PRINCESS MARY IS PATRON  
OF THE 18TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION**

## EDITORIAL

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This is the nineteenth issue of WRN since I was invited to be Editor towards the end of 2012. It has been an enlightening 6 years, sometimes positive and sometimes not. The Editor is vulnerable to criticism, but the many emails of gratitude and encouragement made it all so worthwhile. In particular I enjoyed the contact with rosarians throughout the world. I tried to include as many different people as possible and from a variety of member countries of the world and I hope they have looked upon it as an honour and not a chore.

Seven pages are devoted to the important reports from the Chairmen of Standing Committees. Here we have good coverage of the governance of the WFRS – what goes on behind the scenes keeping the wheels going round.

The stamp theme has continued with another six countries participating this time. We have now enjoyed rose stamps in five issues of WRN with contributions from Australia, Bermuda, China, Denmark, Luxembourg, Monaco, New Zealand, Slovenia, South Africa, Uruguay and the USA – 11 of the 40 member countries.

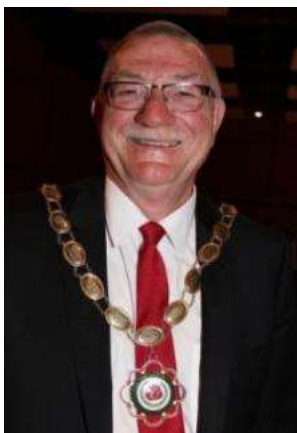
I find it disappointing that there are still a number of countries, who only put World Rose News on the website. For members to take an interest in the WFRS they need to be fed information and the best way to do this is to make sure they each receive a copy in their mail box.

As this will be my last Editorial I am taking the opportunity to thank the members of the Publication Committee for their patience and tolerance in proof reading World Rose News over the last 6 years and also the many contributors of articles and photographs from countries of the Federation. I am particularly grateful to the members from countries of a different language who have participated willingly and enthusiastically despite difficulties.

I have also had the privilege of editing the last three Triennials – 2012, 2015 and 2018. It is an enormous and important undertaking and I am grateful to have been left to include what I thought was interesting and significant remembering this is the complete summary of the previous three years plus what went before and therefore a concise history of the WFRS.

I wish the incoming Editor as fulfilling and gratifying a term of office as I have had, always remembering we are amateurs doing our best for the Federation and the love of the rose.

Sheenagh Harris  
*World Rose News* Editor



**Kelvin Trimper**  
**WFRS President**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**May, 2018**



**2015 - 2018**

**'A Fairytale of Roses'**, the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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 finished on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 and late Registration applies from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> 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 Schiarning, 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 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book will be a high quality publication and a great recognition of the WFRS achieving its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018. We sincerely thank both Lily and Tommy for their generous donations and all who are contributing to ensure the 50<sup>th</sup> 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**





## THE STORY OF “POULSEN ROSES” IS LIKE A FAIRY TALE BY HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN



Pernille (née Poulsen) and Mogens Nyegaard Olesen

Like the little grey duckling that had to go through so much adversity before it could reveal itself as a beautiful white swan, the Poulsen dynasty was founded in 1878 and in 1911 launched the roses ‘Rødhætte’ and ‘Ellen Poulsen’ on the market. More Poulsen roses followed and for many decades hybrid floribundas were synonymous with Poulsen Roses worldwide. In this review we will focus on the most recent three to four decades.

*A Fairy Tale of Roses* is the logo for WRC2018. It is born out of Hans Christian Andersen’s fairy tales. The rose features prominently in the works of Hans Christian Andersen. Early on, Poulsen Roses decided to name their new roses after famous people, who could be associated with the rose in an emotional and sensuous way. H. C. Andersen was a natural choice, together with actors, (Ingrid Bergman), royalty (Dronning Margrethe II), musicians/comedians (Victor Borge), as well as palaces (Fredensborg, Gråsten, Marselisborg, and Rosenborg Castle) etc. that could best promote Poulsen Roses locally and globally.



**'Ingrid Bergman' HT Poulsen (POUIman)**



**'Astrid Lindgren' Floribunda Poulsen (POUluF)**

*Torben Thim on the 'raison d'être' of the rose: To bloom with delight, because that is all it is capable of, except to drink the dew, feel the nourishment of the soil, bring joy, accompanied by a scent which makes even the strongest of men swoon. The rose is a contrast to science, which tries to explain the forces and order of Nature. Neither philosophers nor physicists have succeeded in penetrating the inscrutable nature of the rose by tampering with its mental life – why is the rose the fairest flower of all? It just is. Over two millennia ago, a student of the Greek philosopher Epicurus asked, "What is beauty?" and Epicurus answered, "Get up and go into the garden. To the left is a rose bush. There you'll find the answer."*



**'Elaine Paige' HT Poulsen (POUht008)**



**'Ghita Renaissance' (Syn  
'Mum in a Million' (POUlbella)**

This is quite true! The rose is the fairest of flowers. The fact that Poulsen Roses have succeeded in breaking the code by creating unique, healthy, durable and fragrant roses has greatly contributed to secure the popularity of the rose in future.

It is now four decades since Pernille (née Poulsen, the eldest daughter of Niels Dines Poulsen) and Mogens Nyegaard Olesen started afresh on the remains of D.T. Poulsen's nursery, creating Poulsen Roses. Thus they carried on the rose dynasty. Great changes were necessary in the midst of the energy crisis of the 70's. Poulsen Roses was divided into profit centres to optimise operational development and achieve satisfactory profitability. Every aspect was scrutinised.

Rose breeding is a lengthy process that is based on the desire for beauty, fragrance, colour, hardiness and durability. Early on, the couple decided to breed roses on their own roots, rather than using the well-known method of grafting on to rootstocks of wild roses. It can take up to eight years to breed a new garden rose. This is partly owing to the extensive trials carried out to make sure that only the very best roses come onto the market.

The young couple decided to take a time-out in early 1974. They acquired a second-hand Volkswagen camper van, and drove through the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany and, not least, France, which they criss-crossed from February to November. Often they had to make do with gruel to make ends meet. They learned a great deal, which has been of immense value to their life's work: Poulsen Roses. They also managed to establish strong networks with plant breeders and rose growers. These all welcomed the couple and provided them with a great deal of know-how, which, together with the ingenuity for which the couple have since become known, is the basis for their success.

The dream became a reality from a tiny beginning in the early 1980s and the following decades, when the couple became front-runners in the development of pot roses. Today pot roses form the backbone of the company.





**'Isabel 2008 Hit (POUIpah053)**



**'Berleburg, Bewitched' (POUIbella)**

Paradoxically, we all focus on historic and modern garden roses, at a time when pot roses are gaining popularity with the population as a whole. You find them in every home, both indoors and outdoors, in the wake of well-known garden roses – now in the fast track. Pot roses are sold in all pot sizes for use indoors as well as outdoors and are sold in garden centres, as well as in DIY-stores and supermarkets. In the trade, pot roses are easier to handle than garden roses. They do not require the same tender care as garden roses. And then they are cheaper to buy – and consequently fill the space in balcony boxes and on patios, thus appealing to a wider and younger group of customers.

Mogens foresaw the potential of this trend way back in 1971, and today Poulsen Roses promotes the sale of more than 30 million pot roses worldwide. The competition in this market is tough.

Mogens expresses it quite clearly, “Our life’s mission is to breed new, beautiful, fragrant, and robust roses for growing in all pot sizes. In this way we appeal to the many customers with balcony boxes and patios, and in this way we appeal to many young customers who will love roses much earlier than their parents did back in the 70s and before.”

In a parallel with the introduction of pot roses, several new garden roses were introduced. In 1983, the dark red, divinely beautiful ‘Ingrid Bergman’® came on the market. It is without a doubt one of the best roses ever bred. It has achieved countless medals for hardiness, beauty and fragrance. It has been admitted to the WFRS Hall of Fame for roses. This rose has been produced in its millions over the years and it is still one of the best selling red roses in the world.

“The success of our roses is the foundation for everything else we would like to do in our lives”, say Pernille and Mogens. Their roses have become the springboard for investments in a vineyard in France, in breeding clematis, lavender oil, truffles and running a livestock farm in South Africa – “whatever next?” add Pernille and Mogens with a subtle smile. Everything is built on the combined competences of the couple.

It has not always been a “bed of roses”. They went through a very hard and stressful period in the late 70’s and early 80’s. But the couple’s unbeatable energy, wisdom and tenacity brought them through the energy crisis. In contrast to many other companies at the time, they also survived the extremely high interest rates in the 80’s through hard work and due diligence.

Little by little, Pernille and Mogens built the foundation of the Poulsen Roses, which for so long has belonged to the world elite of rose breeders.



**'White Cover' syn. 'Kent' POUIcov)**

# **REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES of the WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES 2017**



## **AWARDS**

**Monique de Clarens (France)**

2017 has been a decisive year with the circulation of the new rules for the selection of the most beautiful gardens and books to be awarded during the World Rose Convention in Copenhagen in June 2018. Five books from four countries and ten gardens from eight countries will be presented during the Awards Committee meeting.

For the gardens, the rules are -

Maximum ten Award of Garden Excellence gardens to be presented every three years; no nomination limit per Member Country; Garden must be at least five years old to be nominated; the markings are from five to ten points; In lieu of photographs a short video, not more than three minutes to be submitted.

Following an inspection by the Regional Vice President, if the garden is not up to standard, the Garden Owner will receive a written warning and it will be re-evaluated after twelve months and if the standard has not improved, the Award will be removed from the Federation's records.

For the books, it has been added that the book must have an ISBN and is not a pamphlet or a picture book, e.g. a catalogue, but is a classical publication that will stand the test of time.

Hoping that all these nominations meet the success they deserve!

## **BREEDER'S CLUB**

**Gérald Meylan (Switzerland)**

LENS ROSES, Belgium, ROSES FOREVER AsP, Denmark and NIRP INTERNATIONAL S.A., France joined the WFRS Breeders Club in 2017.

Members of the Breeders Club held meetings on 2 March and 28 November 2017.

During the above mentioned meetings, the following items were discussed.

- Procedures to protect the names of varieties in different countries
- Intellectual Property for rose varieties in collaboration with the International Community of Breeders of Asexually Reproduced Ornamental and Fruit Plants
- Phytosanitary problems (Ralstonia, Xylella)
- Relations with the Chinese Rose Society
- Test station to be set up in Daxing/Beijing
- Relations with the International Rose Trials Committee
- Articles of the WFRS Breeders Club to be published in World Rose News and on the WFRS website

The members present, pointed out the importance of indicating the exact name of varieties during rose trials and when published in a review or on a website. They showed great interest in the protection of rose varieties in different countries. They also appreciate the production of plants with no bacterial diseases and viruses.

They wish to continue collaborating with the Chinese Rose Society and particularly with Chinese breeders and growers. They are in favour of creating a new experimental station for roses and studying regulations to enable rose trials to be set up in China.

Members of the WFRS Breeders Club will hold a meeting in Copenhagen on 1 July 2018 during the 18th WFRS World Convention.

## **CLASSIFICATION AND REGISTRATION**

**Chairman – Richard Walsh (Australia)**

We are nearing the end of the first leg of the journey and it will culminate in the Committee meeting in Copenhagen. I am grateful to Inger Schierning for organising a change to the meeting time, as it had originally been scheduled as a joint meeting with the Breeders' Club. That would have created difficulties for both committees given the time constraints and the need to make decisions based on the preliminary negotiations already undertaken by the committees involved.

It seems small steps are in order as there are still many issues to be resolved. Hopefully some positive recommendations for future action can be presented to the WFRS and ARS following the meeting.

## **CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE ROSES**

**Yuki Mikanagi (Japan)**

At the joint meeting of the Conservation Committee and the Heritage Rose Committee at the World Convention in Lyon on the 30th of May, 2015, it was decided, following the suggestion from the executive committee, that the above-mentioned two committees were to be combined. The Council meeting accepted this decision.

There was a discussion about the Rose Locator Database on the WFRS website at the Lyon Convention. Almost six years had passed since the original database was established and now we find many good databases on roses around the world. We thought it might be time to reconsider the role the WFRS should play in promoting the conservation of heritage roses and decided to discontinue the Rose Locator Database. We also discussed the necessity to set up country by country databases to determine in each country what roses are rare and where they are grown and preserved.

After the Lyon Convention, we had two meetings:

A meeting at the Regional Convention and the Heritage Roses Conference in Beijing, China on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016 with 33 members attending from 17 countries.

Another meeting was held at the Regional Convention in Ljubljana, Slovenia on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017 with 27 members from 18 countries.

These meetings are not exclusive to voting members and were, and always are, open to anyone who is interested in the committee agenda. All opinions are welcomed.

1. The name for the new combined committee -  
After consulting with Mr. David Ruston, the former Heritage Roses committee chairman and before the convention, it was suggested that the new committee should be titled: Conservation and Heritage Committee and was thus approved at the committee and the executive committee meetings.
2. Definition of heritage roses -  
The following was approved at the committee meeting in Ljubljana that all species and species crosses, all found roses (until they are better identified), and roses of historical importance such as 'Madame A. Meilland,' also known as 'Peace' 1945 be classed as Heritage Roses.
3. Recommended Form of WFRS Conservation Database -  
The contents of the database were decided upon in order to enable member countries to share information of their heritage roses and to focus on more practical ways of protecting rare roses facing possible extinction.
  - (1) Common name of the rose, as used by the garden
  - (2) Year, Bred or Introduced
  - (3) Breeder's code name, if known
  - (4) Garden Code, three digits determined by the country, Region, State, Province or County of the country

The next WFRS Heritage Roses Conference will be held in Brussels in June 2020. The National Rose Society of Belgium will organize this conference and the Botanical Garden in Meise will support it.



We have a plan in progress to provide an advisory group of rose experts to help with the identification of roses and to provide suggestions on how to preserve heritage roses on the WFRS website.



Delegates in Slovenia on an expedition looking for wild roses

## CONVENTION LIAISON

Chairman – Helga Brichet (Italy)

At the Regional Convention in Uruguay in November, 2016 the Executive Committee approved the application of the Bengal Rose Society to host, together with the Agri-Horticultural Society of India, a Regional Convention in January, 2020 in Kolkata, under the auspices of the Indian Rose Federation.

The President, Kelvin Trimper and I received an invitation to attend the 35th All-India Rose Convention to be held in that same city in January of 2017, thus giving us the opportunity to meet the office holders of the two hosting societies, discuss their plans for the 2020 event and see the places of interest which could be included in the programme. The rose show, staged on the property of the Horticultural Society in the very centre of the city, was a magnificent event, with fascinating methods of soil-less cultivation of roses in pots which, to date, have not been experimented with elsewhere. There is much to learn. And I can only guess how many enthusiasts around the world are already thrilled at the prospect of visiting the fabled Botanical Gardens of Kolkata, which played such an important role in the transfer of plants from Asia to the West.

In March I took the train to Trieste, an historic city which lies in the north eastern corner of Italy. Vice President, Breda Čopi kindly awaited me, so that we could drive up to the capital of Slovenia, Ljubljana, where preparations for the first WFRS Regional in Eastern Europe were well under way. In fact, there was so much interest from rosarians around the world that the organizers feared that they would not be able to cope. In the Arboretum of Volcji Potok the last roses donated by generous breeders were being planted, whilst the first signs of spring – snowdrops and hellebores – encouraged the enthusiastic gardeners.

At the end of April, the President, Kelvin Trimper, Gérald Meylan, Chairman of the Breeders' Club and I were invited to participate at the 2017 Shanghai International Rose Symposium and view the new rose gardens which are being laid out near the city. From there we transferred to Nanyang, site of the Regional Convention planned for the very end of April, 2019. The members of the China Flower Association, the Henan Provincial Flower Association and the Nanyang Municipal Government had indeed made great progress with the programme for this event. The central Chinese province of Henan is the core of rose production of the entire country as well as the hub of rose export abroad. Numerous rose nurseries, small and large, stretch for kilometres around the city. But this is not all there is to see in and around the well-ordered provincial city of Nanyang: a fascinating wetland area along the river, the mountainous scenery, the tremendous deviation of the Yangtze River, which channels water across hundreds of kilometres and brings its water to Beijing, the fabulous jade industry as well as proudly preserved traditional towns, immersed in history.

In June the Regional Convention in Slovenia, as all those who participated will agree, was a joyous event. The atmosphere was comradely and warm, starting with a welcome by the mayor at the City Hall to the Meet and Greet on an idyllic evening in the Tivoli Gardens. The daily lectures were eye-openers regarding subjects which were completely new to the majority of the participants. All the tours, half-day as well as the pre and post tours were well organized and thoroughly enjoyed. What particularly remains in my memory is the delicious picnic arranged on the lawns of the arboretum on the last afternoon, with music and families of volunteers in beautiful local costumes. Our congratulations and thanks go to the Convenor and VP, Breda Čopi and all of her great team. What a great job you all did!

During the last week of June, the President and I met in Belgium, where we were exceedingly well looked after by Vice President, Henrienne de Briey, who will be convening the Heritage Roses Conference, based in Bruxelles in June, 2020, hosted by the Royal National Rose Society of Belgium. In the short time available we managed to squeeze in a number of rose gardens, beautifully maintained as always, but most importantly, we visited, together with members of the organizing committee, the Botanic Gardens of Meise, home to the world-famous Crépin herbarium, where noteworthy events will be staged.

Vice President, Inger Schierning, Convenor of the WRC next June/July met Kelvin and me at the airport in Copenhagen, Denmark. At the Convention's headquarters, the Tivoli Congress Hotel, we discussed the programme and installations with the Meeting Planners, then visited the City Hall, the parks and rose gardens of the city. We also had time for a drive along the coast, a charming lunch with Denmark's "Mr. Rose," Torbin Thim at his nursery, and a visit to a glorious private old rose garden in full splendour. The Danish Rose Society is surely well on its way in the coordination of what will be a great celebration.

Our last two days in northern Europe were spent in and around Hamburg, possibly an aspirant host for the 2024 WRC. The President of the German Rose Society, Prof. Hans-Peter Mühlbach and members of his committee met the President and me, and we started very preliminary discussions on the subject, then proceeded to visit the rose nurseries of both the Kordes and Tantau families, where we were shown around their display gardens and greenhouses, always very special treats.

At the end of October the President and I were again in Beijing, from whence we took a fascinating train ride to Nanyang. At a meeting with the organizers we were updated with the programme, which will appear on their website, already online, over the winter months as all the components fall into place. Registration will be open from May of this year. Of particular interest are the pre- and post tours on offer, only one of each: the pre-tour starts in Shanghai and travels up through the eastern side of the country, while the post tour leaves Nanyang for the monastery where Ku Fung originated, to the home of the terracotta warriors, X'ian, and then ends in Beijing.

The application of the Japan Rose Society on behalf of the City of Fukuyama, in southern Japan to host a Regional Convention in 2022, having been approved during the summer, the President and I proceeded to meet the City authorities and members of the Rose Society in this Prefecture of Hiroshima. We were charmed by this City of Roses, thousands of which were planted everywhere – in fact one of their parks, Bara Koen, had already won a WFRS Garden Award in 2006. We were also taken to local points of beauty and interest, as well as a very special, profoundly moving day in the city of Hiroshima.

Our last evening was spent in Tokyo as guests of the JRS Executive Director, Dr. Nagata, together with Mr. Kumarou, responsible for contacts with the WFRS, Mr. Ogawa and Dr. Yuki Mikanagi, all of whom are undoubtedly looking forward to welcoming their rose friends from near and far for another Convention, which they concert so wonderfully well.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee in Beijing in 2016, there was general agreement as to the necessity of updating the generic guidelines for members who might envisage hosting a WRC, a Regional or a Heritage Roses Conference. With the help of many, generous rosarians with experience in organizing, but also those who have attended the Federation's events over the years, new guidelines have been drawn up and approved by the Executive Committee.

2017 has been a very busy year for the WFRS and the Convention Liaison Committee, in its endeavour to map out enjoyable and instructive future conferences and conventions, for the pleasure of our hosting Members to receive all those rosarians who share the joy of participating in these events.

## **HONOURS**

**Chairman – Kelvin Trimper (Australia)**

The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) Honours Committee was most productive during 2017. The existing WFRS Honours protocols and guidelines have been revised by the Honours Committee and were presented to the WFRS Executive Committee at its meeting in Slovenia. With one amendment, proposed by Past President and Editor Emeritus, Dr. Thomas Cairns, the revised Honours and Awards Protocols have been endorsed by the Executive and will be circulated to Member Countries with a recommendation that they be endorsed at the WFRS Council Meeting in Copenhagen.

During the year Mrs. Breda Bavdaž Čopi, WFRS Vice-President, Europe, received a Bronze Commemorative Medallion in recognition of her outstanding contribution in organising the successful WFRS Regional Convention in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in June 2017. As President of the Slovenian Rose Society and Convenor of the first WFRS Regional Convention in Eastern Europe, Breda and her team were congratulated and thanked for their efforts at the close of the convention.

## INTERNATIONAL JUDGES

Chairman - Luis T. Desamero (USA)

Many Member countries of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) have developed guidelines for judging roses in competition. Of notable mention are those documents developed by the Royal National Rose Society (RNRS) whose recommendations have been embraced by many countries and adapted for their particular regions and styles of rose exhibiting. Perhaps the most detailed set of guidelines that has evolved recently belongs to the American Rose Society (ARS) - more than 100 pages, certainly an encyclopaedic work of legal distinction!

However, the current development of a harmonizing set of international principles was to be more a consolidation of general consensus by WFRS rather than an expansion. What is glaringly obvious in reviewing the various formats devised for judging is the similarity of approaches in understanding the fundamental principles governing proper judging to render a fair and objective decision. As the WFRS approaches its 50th anniversary in 2018, a concerted effort has been initiated to harmonize the various guideline approaches into one cohesive set of guidelines, particularly because of establishment of a registry of "WFRS International Judges", a cadre of judges from all over the world.

Blending the various consensus approaches, taken by the Member Countries is not altogether an easy task. However, the most acceptable principles were gleaned from various national guidelines and rather than elaborate they were condensed to simplicity. Rather than take the extensive written approach the idea of a fully illustrated edition was adopted. It has often been said that "*a picture is worth a 1000 words*". Additionally, the topics of classification and growth characteristics encountered in judging have also been addressed to create a level playing field of rose knowledge to aid other member countries who were not so fortunate in having developed guidelines for themselves.

On behalf of the members of the WFRS International Judging Committee, it is hoped that our efforts will be of assistance in the future as judges navigate the pleasures of judging roses in a foreign country. Since broad-based communication within the world of roses is a prime factor in disseminating the final guidelines, it is planned to publish them in commercial book format, probably 8.5 x 4.5 inches wide. Establishing such a publication will directly benefit those countries with no guidelines whatsoever and allow WFRS to take the leadership role in harmonizing the accepted criteria for judging. It is planned to bring the completed guidelines and the proposal for commercial publication to the Triennial Convention in Copenhagen for approval by Council.

## INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS

Markus Brunsing (Germany)

Photos – Markus Brunsing except where otherwise stated.

In the triennial from 2015 to 2018, I attended International Rose Trials in Monaco, Lyon, Paris, Saverne, The Hague and Baden-Baden. Many International Rose Trials developed well with a huge number of rose novelties and new rose breeders. Unfortunately the organizers of rose trials in Geneva in Switzerland, Monza in Italy, Baden in Austria and St. Albans in England stopped their rose trials. The reasons for the decisions to stop organizing trials might be different in the four cities, but the regrettable development could be an indicator for the current crises of economy, of selling roses and of rose societies in Europe. Nevertheless in twenty-five places in different parts of the world international expert judging of rose novelties is still taking place. Eleven of these judging panels use the Standard Criteria of the World Federation of Rose Societies. The trials that have adopted the criteria are marked on the WFRS website.



**The beautiful Rose Trial garden Beutig in Baden Baden in June 2017**

In 2015 in Lyon, the Rose Trials Committee decided to recommend a standard application form for sending rose novelties to the different rose trials in the world. More and more rose breeders and trial organizers use this WFRS Standard Application Form. I wonder that some trial organizers don't accept this form, because in my opinion rose trials must help to reduce the work and the costs for rose breeders when they send rose novelties to different trials in different countries.

During the triennial period I gave lectures about rose breeders and new roses in Slovenia, Luxembourg, Uruguay and in Germany. Lectures are a very helpful way of informing rose experts and rose friends about the tremendous work that rose breeders and rose trials do all over the world.



Another important work as Chairman of the Rose Trials Committee is the collaboration with the Breeders' Club. I attended two meetings in Aire-la-Ville near Geneva in March 2017 and November 2017. In the future the cooperation of the Breeders' Club and the International Rose Trials Committee will be important to establish new rose trials. There are new ideas for new rose trials in Switzerland, Italy, England, China and Argentina under the umbrella of the World Federation of Rose Societies. The definition of guidelines for International Rose Trials could be an important base for the work of the committee in future.



**An international group in Baden-Baden with rose experts from South Africa, New Zealand, Germany, Denmark and the USA -**

**Rae Gilbert (SA), Jan Barnett (NZ), Hans Peter Mühlbach (Ger), Inger Schierning (Den), Hilary Elkin (USA) and the leader of the group, Markus Zieler from the Isle of Mainau (Ger)**



**Novelty Rose Garden in Rome**



**Reinhard Noack – Winner of the Golden Rose of The Hague in 2017 with his Climber 'Heidtraum Plus'**

## **PROMOTIONS**

**Steve Jones (USA)**

The Promotions Committee continues to rely on the Friends of the Federation programme, social media by the Social Media sub-group of the Publications Committee and the use of our logo to promote our organization.

At the dinner you will get to meet the incoming Promotions Chairman as my term is coming to an end.

In Slovenia the Friends dinner was at Gostilna Sestica, a local restaurant featuring Slovene regional foods. About 40 friends attended the dinner meeting which was good fun.

In Denmark we will celebrate at a local restaurant on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Details and sign up for the dinner is now on the Denmark Convention website. You need to be a Friend or are planning to join to attend. Membership runs from triennial convention to the next triennial convention. Those joining in Uruguay are valid until Australia in 2021. Those before then see Diane vom Berg in Denmark. Life Members do not owe any monies.

## **PUBLICATION**

**Jolene Adams (USA)**

The Publications Committee met in Slovenia to discuss the progress being made on the history book that will be published just before the Convention in Copenhagen.



The original proofreaders, Malcolm Watson and Steve Jones were joined by the rest of the Publications Committee in order to proofread the draft texts for the Awards of Garden Excellence. Several other officers were asked to help with gathering material from member countries for the book.

Most of 2016 was spent in gathering documents and photos for the book, proofreading draft copies of chapters and asking the Past Presidents for their recollections of their time in office. By 2017 the layout was ready for the chapters to be "dropped in" and the cover design and colour was finalized. In 2018 a printer in Denmark was contacted and a contract signed to print the book and ship the copies to Copenhagen in time for the Convention. Currently the final chapters of the book are being put into the layout and the production drafts are being proofread.

*BAON* (the newsletter of the Heritage and Conservation Committee) was published once in 2016 and twice in 2017. It is eagerly anticipated by our members and also many other Heritage groups around the world.

The *World Rose News* was sent to our members four times in 2016 and in 2017. The committee and our Editor, Sheenagh Harris, feel that there is not enough exposure to this excellent publication and the Vice Presidents have been asked to send it on to their local rose societies. In the United States the *World Rose News* is sent to all the American Rose Society officer holders and it is also sent to the Editors Exchange, which is a group of over 100 editors of local and regional newsletters in the United States, Canada, New Zealand and Bermuda.

Our excellent web page is up-to-date and regularly monitored by our Webmaster Ethel Freeman. Over 1,100 people have joined the Facebook page which is regularly maintained and moderated by Paul Hains and Hayden Foulds.

The WFRS is getting good publicity with these publications. I would encourage all our readers to share the news and stories about roses with their friends and family by passing along or re-posting these publications to other rose lovers around the world.

## ROSE STAMPS

### ROSE STAMPS FOR LUXEMBOURG

Mireille Steil (Luxembourg)

In December, POST Luxembourg officially presented new postal stamps whose theme is the Luxembourgish roses. The aim of this common project of POST Courier and the Luxembourg Rose associations is to give the theme Roses of Luxembourg maximum visibility.

All those involved are convinced that the stamps will help to revalue this precious rose-heritage of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg and that the roses will soon flourish on thousands of letters.

Mrs. Marianne Majerus is the artist photographer who took the pictures of the roses on the stamps. Five of the roses are dedicated to members of the Grand-Ducal dynasty.



From L to R -

**'Grand-Duc Adolphe de Luxembourg'**  
Soupert & Notting – 1891

**'Princesse Marie-Adelaïde'** Soupert &  
Notting – 1893

**'Grande-Duchesse Charlotte'** Ketten Frères  
- 1939

**'Grand-Duc Jean'** Ann Velle - 2010

**'Grand-Duc Henri'** - Louis Lens 2001

**'Indépendance de Luxembourg'** Louis Lens  
– 1989 - created for the 150th anniversary of  
the Independence of Luxembourg

## NEW ZEALAND ROSE STAMPS

Doug Grant and Peter Bamber (New Zealand)



### World Rose Convention Stamps Issue 1971

To commemorate the first World Rose Convention held in New Zealand, a special issue of three rose stamps was released on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1971. The Convention was staged in Hamilton during November 1971. The varieties were 'Tiffany' (2c), 'Peace' (5c) and 'Chrysler Imperial' (8c).



### Rose Definitive Stamp Issue 1975

The Rose Definitive Stamp series was issued on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1975. The roses included were 'Sterling Silver' (1c), 'Lilli Marlene' (2c), 'Queen Elizabeth' (3c), 'Superstar' (4c), 'Diamond Jubilee' (5c), 'Cresset' (6c), 'Michele Meilland' (7c), 'Josephine Bruce' (8c) and 'Iceberg' (9c).

Cresset, a medium scarlet-red floribunda, was bred by New Zealander, Dr Rodney Francis, a medical practitioner and a tuberculosis specialist and was introduced in 1961. It was a cross between Queen Elizabeth (Lammerts 1954) × Cocorico (Meilland 1951).

### Provisional Overprints Issue 1979



Three rose stamps from the 1975 Rose Definitive Stamp issue were surcharged in 1979 to cover increases in postal rates. The 4c Provisional overprint on the 8c 'Josephine Bruce' stamp was issued 24<sup>th</sup> September 1979, the 17c Provisional overprint on the 6c 'Cresset' stamp was issued on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 1979 and the 20c Provisional overprint on the 7c 'Michele Meilland' stamp was issued on the 29<sup>th</sup> September.

### New Zealand – China Joint Stamp Issue 1997



New Zealand and the People's Republic of China had a joint stamp issue on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 1997. Both the New Zealand and Chinese stamps carried the same design and all four stamps appeared on the first day cover. The stamps were available as se-tenant pairs of two 40 cent stamps, as well as in a miniature sheet.

The two stamps featured *Rosa rugosa* and 'Aotearoa-New Zealand'. 'Aotearoa-New Zealand' was bred by New Zealand breeder Sam McGredy as his gift to New Zealand to celebrate the 150th anniversary in 1990 and was named at the request of David Lange, Prime Minister at the time.





### Shanghai '97 Roses Miniature Sheet

New Zealand Post commemorated the Shanghai '97 International Stamp Expo in China on 19 -23 November 1997 with a miniature sheet stamp issue. A quantity of rose miniature sheets from this issue were reprinted with black text and the exhibition logo and a border in gold foil to commemorate the Expo. This miniature sheet was issued 19 November 1997.

### Personalised Stamps

In 2006 New Zealand Post brought out their next generation 'personalised stamps'. These were distinctive stamp designs which allowed you to celebrate any number of occasions – from birthdays to weddings and anything in-between. There was the opportunity to add your own image in the adjoining tab, this was the 'next generation' of personalised stamps allowing your personal photo to be presented in both landscape and portrait format, with an increased image area.



Four issues of personalised stamps were issued as sheetlets containing from seven to twelve stamps depicting great Kiwi icons. These were reissued due to postal rate increases. Each issue contained a red rose stamp. The 45 cent stamps were issued on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2006, the 50 cent stamps on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007, the 60 cent stamps on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and the 70 cent stamps on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2012. Each issue included a red rose stamp.

### New Zealand Mail Rose Stamps

Three series of stamps in booklet form of 10 different stamps each were issued by New Zealand Mail Limited, an independent provider of postal services, set up after the deregulation of postal services in New Zealand. These series featured photographs of roses taken by Christchurch Photographer Jeff Raines.

The 2007 Series of 50c stamps was issued in June 2007 in a booklet form of ten different stamps. The varieties were not labeled.



The 2008 Series of 50 cent stamps was issued in March 2008 and included the roses 'Avalanche', 'Candella', 'Double Delight', 'Elina', 'Golden Medal', 'Graham Thomas', 'Iceberg', 'New Year', 'Peace' and 'Sweet Response'.



The 2010 series of stamps were un-denominated. These stamps, inscribed "Kiwi", are permanently valid for the basic internal postal rate within New Zealand. This rate was 50c when the stamps were first issued, rising to 60c on 1st October, 2010. The same varieties as the 2008 series were used.



## A ROYAL STAMP FOR ROSE STAMP ENTHUSIASTS - Australia

Melanie Trimper (South Australia)

The rose named in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has been chosen for inclusion in a new Australia Post stamp issue to celebrate the Queen's Birthday. The first day of issue was 17 April 2018.

For those who are unaware, Queen Elizabeth II is the Queen of Australia and our Head of State. Accordingly, she is regularly featured on our stamps, particularly for the Queen's birthday or anniversaries.



In 2018, Australia marks the 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Queen Elizabeth II with the annual Queen's Birthday issue of two stamps. The first is the domestic rate \$1 stamp which illustrates the Queen during her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in April 2016. This stamp also features a close up photo of the rose 'Queen Elizabeth' (also known as 'Queen of England' and 'The Queen Elizabeth Rose' ®). The second design for the international rate \$3 stamp features the Queen attending a 2015 service to mark Commonwealth Day.

First Day of Issue Minisheet envelope - Image Melanie Trimper (rose)

This tall growing Grandiflora rose has been regarded as one of the world's most popular roses since its introduction in 1954 and was named to recognise the Queen's accession to the British throne in 1952 and coronation in 1953. The rose 'Queen Elizabeth' was inducted into the WFRS Hall of Fame in 1979.

The stamp and product design was produced by Jason Watts, Australia Post Design. The rose photo selected for the Minisheet was one of my photos taken in Japan. We were contacted by Aust. Post because we are Rose Society members and they requested our help. I was delighted by the final designs and have great pleasure reproducing the set for you.



Minisheet set of stamps - Image Melanie Trimper (rose)



## DANISH ROSE STAMPS

On one of the most beautiful summer days this summer, many roses were photographed in Knud E. Pedersens Planteskole, Harlev. Under Knud's knowledgeable guidance, 5 famous roses were selected in different shades as PostNord wanted to illustrate the colour symbolic meaning of the rose, as it appears from the text printed on the first-day envelope.

The colour of the rose has always had a symbolic meaning so it matters which bouquet you give to someone. The red rose symbolizes in particular love and desire while the white represents innocence and purity, but also death. A purple rose is connected with enchantment and finally a yellow rose can be perceived as an expression of falsehood.



The stamps were on sale from 2 January, 2018, thus contributing to a wonderful Rose year throughout Denmark. The price of the stamps fits a greeting to recipients throughout the world.



## ROSES AND LETTERS CONVEY MESSAGES

*One of the many things roses and letters have in common is that they are both used to convey messages. Prior to the 18th World Rose Convention in Copenhagen, PostNord issued five stamps featuring some of the most beautiful roses in the world, so you can send your letters on their way with different messages.*

## ROSE STAMPS FROM SLOVENIA

Text and photos - Matjaž Mastnak(Slovenia) except stamps which are Pošta Slovenije

In March 2017, the national postal service company Pošta Slovenije released four new stamps depicting roses. This was done on the initiative of the Slovenian Rose Society, which was about to host the WRFS Regional Convention in Ljubljana.

The decision concerning which rose cultivars to include was not coincidental. They were picked because they illustrate the history of roses in Slovenia from the Middle Ages, to the very first Slovenia-bred variety. They also highlight the diverse climate of Slovenia, which affects the choice of roses in a particular environment.

### The Apothecary's Rose

In medieval times and at the beginning of the modern era, the apothecary's rose was virtually the only red rose cultivated in gardens across continental Europe. As such, it can be recognised in the first written love poem in the Slovene language. A fragment of this survived in a manuscript from Turjak Castle, which dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century. It is a troubadour poem containing the line: "Rasi in lubi me, luba moja gartroža rumena." In English: "Groweth and loveth me, mine own lovely red rose." As explained, the red rose from the metaphor must have been 'Officinalis'.



The apothecary's rose (*Rosa gallica* 'Officinalis') is the only Rose variety that survived the cultural collapse following the end of Antiquity in Western Europe. It survived as a medicinal plant. Photo: Pošta Slovenije.

In Slovenia, the earliest known botanical illustrations of roses are three watercolour paintings commissioned by Johann Weichard Freiherr von Valvasor before 1691. The red rose is without much doubt – the apothecary's Rose.

### The Alba "Snežniška" Rose

Long into the 20th century, the garden of Snežnik Castle was noted among the locals for its giant rose. The rose came to the castle through the princely Saxon family of Schönburg-Waldenburg.

The lords of the castle had exquisite taste befitting high nobility, which led to a rose garden being created next to the castle. Located in a frost hollow, the Snežnik castle is not suitable for cultivating roses. However, the noble family brought a special alba Rose from Germany which was able to endure the harsh local winters, and which thrives to this day.

After the World War II, the political situation in Slovenia changed and all the roses next to the castle perished and disappeared. In 2008, the present caretaker Mrs Majda Obreza Špeh found the castle rose in the garden of Mrs Majda Cejan in a village in the vicinity. At her wedding, Mrs Cejan brought the rose from her native village, where she had received it as a girl from the former castle gardener. Thus, the survival of the rose of Snežnik can be attributed to the custom among Slovenian rural women of bringing a local rose from their house to their groom's house.



This white rose is classified as *Rosa × alba*, and, according to investigations in Germany, the original variety no longer exists. The re-discovered, found rose was named after Snežnik Castle the "Snežniška".

The rose brought for Snežnik castle had to be white because of the reference to snow (slov. *sneg*) in the name of the castle.

## Yellow Lady Banks' rose

The Slovenian Coastal Region and the Goriška Region are home to roses that cannot thrive elsewhere in Slovenia. The most famous Mediterranean rose in the country is the **yellow Lady Banks' Rose** (*Rosa banksiae* 'Lutea') growing next to the Palace Hotel in Portorož.

There, it drapes magnificently over a large pergola. The age of the rose is evident from its hollow stems, with a diameter of up to 25cm.

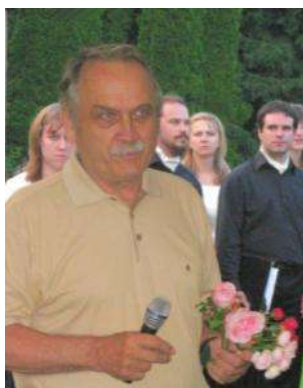


An early bloomer, the Lady Banks' rose explodes in clusters of small blossoms at the end of April. Pergola in front of the Palace Kempinski hotel in Slovenian coastal resort Portorož.

## The First Slovenian Roses

The 'Prešeren' rose is the first Slovenian-bred variety, bred by Matjaž Kmecl, who is known to the wider public as a literary historian. Mr Kmecl has devoted decades to the persistent and planned breeding of roses to create a new and valuable cultivar, in parallel to his full-time career. He accomplished this goal with several cultivars.

Matjaž Kmecl is an honorary member of the Slovenian Rose Society, which registered the variety successfully completing the plant breeders' rights process in connection with the 'Prešeren' rose. With the 'Prešeren' variety, Mr Kmecl put Slovenian rose-breeding on a par with other nations' traditions in gardening and rosarian culture.



The stamp featuring the 'Prešeren' rose is the only one that was issued in a stamp block and a sheet.

**Matjaž Kmecl presenting his rose 'Prešeren' to the public for the first time in 2008.**

## USA ROSE STAMP TO HONOUR 'PEACE'

On 21 April 2018 the United States Postal Service will issue the 'Peace' Rose Stamp (Forever priced at the First Class mail rate) in Shreveport, LA. The stamp was designed by Art director Ethel Kessler from a photograph taken by Richard C. Baer, a member of the American Rose Society.





# ROYAL ROSES FROM MONACO

Photos provided by – Matthias Meilland (France)  
(except where otherwise stated)

Text and research – Sheenagh Harris (South Africa)



Princess Grace



Princess Grace and Alain Meilland



Grace de Monaco and Manou Meilland



Francis Meilland Rose Garden - 1976



'Grace de Monaco' (1956) (MEImit)

'Grace de Monaco' was named by Francis Meilland in 1956 as a wedding gift to Grace Kelly, the Hollywood star who became a princess.  
'Peace' x 'Michèle Meilland'

Stephanie de Monaco is the youngest child of Rainier III, Prince of Monaco and Princess Grace of Monaco, and the sister of Albert II, Prince of Monaco, and Caroline.



'Stephanie de Monaco' (1971) (MEYpink)  
(syn. 'Portrait')





'Princess de Monaco' was introduced by Louise Meilland, widow of Francis Meilland in 1982. It is said that stems of this rose are ever present in the cathedral crypt at Monte Carlo where she lies beside Prince Rainier. 'Ambassador x 'Peace'

'Caroline de Monaco' honours the elder daughter of Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco. She selected the rose herself at Meilland's nurseries.

'Chicago Peace' x 'Tchin-Tchin'



**'Princesse de Monaco' (1982) (MEImagarmic)**  
(syn. 'Grace Kelly', 'Princess Grace', 'Princess of Monaco', 'Preference')

**'Caroline de Monaco' (1988) (MEIpierar)**  
(syn. 'Cameo Cream', 'Sacred Heart', 'Marcellin Champagnat')



Prince Albert II is the son of Prince Rainier III and Princess Grace. H.S.H. Prince Albert II succeeded his father, Prince Rainier III in 2005.



**'Jubile du Prince de Monaco'® (2000) MEIsponge**

**'Prince Albert II de Monaco'® (2009) MEIkady**



Prince Albert married Charlene Wittstock from South Africa in 2011.



**'Princesse Charlene de Monaco' (2014) (MEldysouk)**

**Climber 'Princesse de Monaco' (2015) (MEIbergamu)**



**'Prince Rainier III'**

This HT created by Antonio Marchese in San Remo, Italy in 1998 was offered to Prince Albert II of Monaco for HRH.  
(photo - Giuseppe Mazza)



**'Grimaldi'® Delstor (Delbard 1997)**  
(photo - Steve Jones)



**'Prince de Monaco'™ POUIart (1983)**  
This Poulsen rose was named for Prince Rainier III on the occasion of his jubilee in 1999 after 50 years of rule.  
(photo - Poulsen)

## A VISIT TO ST HUBERT

Hayden Foulds (New Zealand)



**Rosarium Pierre Joseph Redouté**

In July 2015 on my 'grand tour of Europe', I spent a few days with Marga Verwer from the Netherlands Rose Society who showed me some of the sights. On my final day with her, she took me to the town of Saint Hubert in Belgium to take part in the festival celebrating Pierre Redouté, but also to surprise Frans Thomas as he was not expecting to see me again before I travelled home to New Zealand. Imagine his surprise when we walked up to him in the town's small rose garden. Marga, Frans and I along with one other person whose name eludes me then spent time enjoying the festival which the whole town had embraced. A highlight was meeting Rudy Boudolf from Lens Roses who were selling rose plants at the market.

Pierre Joseph Redouté was born in St Hubert in 1759 into a family of painters as his oldest brother, father and grandfather were all artists. He received no formal education, leaving home young and working as a painter. Eventually he ended up in Paris where he met the botanists Charles Louis L'Héritier de Brutelle and René Desfontaines. He was encouraged to take up botanical illustration and L'Héritier became his instructor. Redouté was also introduced to the members of the court at Versailles and eventually received the title of Draughtsman and Painter to the Queen's Cabinet.

In 1786, Redouté started working at the National Museum of Natural History before leaving France in 1787 to study plants at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, near London. Returning to France in 1792, he was employed by the French Academy of Sciences and in 1798, he became the Patron of Empress Josephine and later became her official artist until her death in 1814. After some difficult years, he was appointed a master of draughtsmanship for the National Museum of Natural History in 1822 and became a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour in 1825. Redouté died suddenly in 1840 and was interred in Père Lachaise Cemetery.



**'Redoute' (AUSmary) – David Austin sport of 'Mary Rose'**



# JOSEPHINE AND REDOUTÉ

Pamela Corbett (Argentina)



Napoleon loved his Josephine  
But she loved roses more;  
She planted them at Malmaison  
Till roses were galore.

Her garden was attended  
By the amiable Dupont  
And all its need amended -  
What more could Josie want?

But every leaf must wither  
And every rose must fade,  
So Josie didn't dither,  
She had their likeness made

By one who loved her flowers  
And plied his sable brush  
And thus beguiled the hours  
While seated on the plush.

The courtiers were still now  
The Empress wouldn't play,  
They said 'She'll have her fill now  
Of this young Redouté.'

Once they were well acquainted,  
The two conversed with ease  
And steadily he painted  
And she was greatly pleased,

But gardened on at Malmaison  
Well pleased with her endeavour,  
For wars are just for generals,  
But roses are forever.

They wandered down the alleys  
New subjects there to choose,  
Enjoyed these little sallied  
And so they cured the blues.

Once Josie found a bramble,  
A hybrid grown by chance,  
And, noting Nature's gamble  
Smiled 'Vive la différence!'

She sent to Kent for roses,  
But England fought with France;  
Said Josie 'Holy Moses!  
How shall I get my plants?'

The coast was just a backcloth  
To ports securely closed;  
The roses lay in sackcloth  
And ashes, she supposed.

Therefore to every admiral  
She sent a 'billet doux'  
To beg the Fleet to change its beat  
And let her roses through.

Those flowers earned an accolade,  
Their fragrance worth the smelling,  
And how they passed the Great Blockade  
Our Josie wasn't telling,

# A ROSE JOURNEY TO LUXEMBOURG AND BELGIUM

Text and photos - Hans-Peter Mühlbach and Hanny Tantau (Germany)

Sunday morning, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2017: All the travel-loving rose friends of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde (Society of German Friends of Roses) arrived on time (8.00 am) at the meeting point Frankfurt Central Station, where our bus was waiting. The luggage was quickly stowed and we could immediately start on our way to our first destination, the Garden of the Senses in Merzig (Saarland).



**Garden of the Senses**



**'Parade' (Boerner 1953)**

This romantic garden is part of the European project Gardens without Limits, which is a unique network of currently 23 gardens in Germany, Luxembourg and France. The Garden of the Senses shows very atmospheric garden rooms, in which beautiful variations of gardening are realized: a small collection of roses such as the rarely found climber 'Parade' (Boerner 1953), a garden of fragrances or a touch garden that allows tactile contact to the plants. Also very impressive were stone-garden areas with rare dry lawn plants. It was a very good place for a short and relaxing walk and thus a successful start to our journey.



**Rose Garden in Mondorf-les-Bains**

Soon afterwards we arrived in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and stopped in Mondorf-les-Bains (Bad Mondorf) to visit the restored rose garden. Oskar Scheerer, the great garden designer from Zweibrücken, planned this garden, which was opened to the public in 1962. Unfortunately later, the garden was somewhat neglected and even fell into oblivion until it was revived in 2016. The terrace-like, romantic complex with some wild roses and numerous polyanthas, shrubs and climbing roses, unfortunately still without sufficient signage, gave much reason for intense discussion.

In the evening we reached the capital of Luxembourg, which we were able to get to know the next morning with an exceptionally competent leader. We learned a lot about the history and culture of the Grand Duchy, from the time of building the castle on top of the Rock Promontory, which is the nucleus of the City of Luxembourg, dating from the early Middle Ages, to today's futuristic administrative buildings, in which institutions of the European Union are housed.



On the tour we also got a short look from the bus at the house of the rose breeder Soupert (*Maison Soupert*), well known for beautiful roses such as 'Tour de Malakoff' (Soupert & Notting 1857). And even a memorial stone on the occasion of a stay of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe in Luxembourg was to be admired, citing a sentence of Goethe (in German, translated): "Here is so much grandeur with grace, so earnestly connected with loveliness that would be to wish, Poussin would have been exercising his glorious talent in such spaces. Goethe on Luxembourg, Campagne in France, 15 October 1792." (Poussin was a Baroque painter, whom Goethe obviously admired).



**The City of Luxembourg with Bock Promontory (left side)**



**House of the rose breeder Soupert**



In the afternoon we drove through the romantic Mullerthal in the so called Luxembourg's Little Switzerland to Echternach, the city where the famous Echternach Dancing Procession was invented. On the way we stopped once, because the imposing ruins of the Beaufort Castle from the 12<sup>th</sup> century were worth a short break.

**Beaufort Castle**

In Echternach we visited the impressive Romanesque Basilica of St. Willibrord from the 11<sup>th</sup> century, which after the severe destruction in the Second World War was rebuilt authentically. In the Carolingian crypt deep beneath the ground is the tomb of Saint Willibrord. He was an Anglo-Saxon missionary who founded the abbey of Echternach in the 8<sup>th</sup> century.



In the evening we were welcomed by Nicole Trossen-Gilson, Secretary of the Luxembourg Rose Society (Lëtzebuerger Rousefrënn) and her rose friends, with a delicious Crémant reception at the nearby Château de Munsbach. In the park of the Château, the rose friends created a rose garden in which all old and new roses bred in Luxembourg are currently being planted as well as roses with direct reference to Luxembourg and Luxembourg personalities.

For example, the crimson 'Reine Marguerite d'Italie' by Soupert & Notting (1904) could be admired with its strong Centifolia fragrance in beautiful blooms, or the soft pink blooming 'Rousefrënn' ('Rose Friend') named in Luxembourg language by the Polish breeder Stanislaw Zyla (2015), among many other roses.

**Nicole Trossen-Gilson and her team serving the Crémant of Luxembourg**



**'Reine Marguerite d'Italie' (Soupert & Notting 1904)**



**'Rousefrënn' (Zyla 2015)**



Nicole explained the ambitious concept of the rose garden, making it clear how difficult it is to find any old and possibly lost varieties of roses. Also, it is not easy to attract enough volunteers for the sophisticated care of such a garden. Nicole Trossen-Gilson also invited us to her garden the next morning, where we enjoyed not only seeing her beautiful roses, but also the proverbial "lëtzebuergerisch" hospitality.

**The romantic garden of Nicole Trossen-Gilson**



Nicole then accompanied us to our next destination, the French Terrace Gardens of the Castle of Ansembourg. Of course, the newly designed rose garden was in the foreground, which impressed by stylish rose arches. The rose garden is further expanded and maintained by a group of the Luxembourg Rose Society and the castle is also being completely restored. The park with its numerous statues and old fountains is an important landmark, too. But here we had to say good-bye to our lovable and competent rose-friend Nicole, and with these beautiful impressions we drove further North to Wallonia in Belgium.

**The rose garden at Castle Ansembourg**

In the vicinity of the city of Malmedy there lies the interesting rosary Daniel Schmitz Roses (Les Roses de Daniel). The rose grower markets the roses of Australian breeder Warren Millington in Europe in particular, but he also places special emphasis on his own rose creations. His latest achievements are 'Doux Secret' (2011), a small shrub rose (80 cm high) with a Hybrid Tea-like, double white blossom that exudes a fine fragrance of of jasmine flowers. Another one is 'Elégante Danseuse' (2010), a shrub rose with countless single pink blossoms, which is a very good recurrent bloomer.

**'Elegante Danseuse' (Schmitz 2010)**



Daniel Schmitz is also known for collecting and propagating Old Roses (*Les roses de temps passé*). He gave us some insights into his work, which is strictly based on organic techniques and does not make use of any pesticides. After an intensive discussion, in which the rose grower told us some of his secrets, we had to leave, in order to reach our next location, the old city of Mechelen in the centre of Belgium, in daylight.





**St. Rumbold's Cathedral and old town houses in Mechelen**

We became acquainted with Mechelen through a tour with a very eloquent, informative and knowledgeable city guide. From him we learned that the grandfather of the composer Ludwig van Beethoven was born here. Among the most important monuments are St. Rumbold's Cathedral with its 98 m high but unfinished bell tower, old townhouses with magnificent facades, partly from the 15<sup>th</sup> century and the Large Beguinage. The Beguins were Christian communities of women living together in the Beguinage. Compared to monastic communities, they differed in the fact that women were able to leave the community and get married. The buildings are of simple, appealing architecture, and form atmospheric ensembles.

From Mechelen it was easy to reach the Rose Garden at the castle of Coloma. The castle, originally a 16<sup>th</sup> century moated castle, is located in the town of Sint-Pieters-Leeuw. In the expansive rose garden with 2.2 hectares more than 3,000 varieties of roses from 26 different countries are displayed, among them 250 roses by Belgian rose breeders alone. The rose garden is divided into several garden areas such as the International rose garden, Japanese and Chinese rose gardens, the Old Rose garden, the Flemish rose garden, and some others.



There we met Prof. Jos Rogiers from the Belgian Rose Society, called "Rozenvrienden", who told us a lot about rose breeders in Belgium. The most famous of them in the past is certainly Louis Lens, who gained great fame through his enchanting Hybrid Musks like the unique 'Guirlande d'amour' (1993). The pink, double 'Walferdange' (1990) or the beautiful 'Bukavu' (1998), whose single blossoms in cherry red to carmine rose with white centre attract attention from afar, are further celebrities from his large collection of excellent roses.

**Prof. Jos Rogiers in Coloma Rose Garden**



**'Bukavu' (Lens 1998)**



**'Coloma' (Vissers 2015)**



Another well-known rose breeder in Belgium is Martin Vissers (VIVA International), who is represented with his white-flowering 'Europa Nostra' (2010) and the semi double light yellow 'Coloma' (2015). Also, the roses of Delforge like 'Trocadero' (1989), a red hybrid tea with a yellow undertone, could not be missed.

In addition to the roses of Belgian rose breeders and local wild roses, there are varieties from all over the world to be seen in the International Rose Garden. Extraordinary rose varieties from China and Japan as well as interesting compilations of stem roses and climbers made the visit to this beautiful rose garden a wonderful experience, which was only abruptly terminated by a fast-growing thunderstorm.



In Belgium, of course, there are also gardens designed for International Rose Trials, such as the garden in the Beutig in Baden-Baden. We had the opportunity to visit the rose trial garden in Le Roeulx. When we arrived, we were officially greeted by the mayor of the charming city and introduced to the history of the city and of the rose trial ground. The special feature of this trial garden is that it usually takes place in September, when the second bloom is judged.

**Rose Trial Garden in Le Roeulx**

An examination at this stage is more meaningful, because the disease resistance of the roses, in particular to fungal infections, is more clearly visible. About 5,000 rose plants in 800 varieties are found here. From the results of the 2016 trials we could see that in addition to roses from breeders in Belgium (Lens, Vissers and others), many roses of French breeders received awards (Meilland, Laperriere, Adam) but also some of the most recent creations of Kordes and Tantau. With an invitation to a tasting of the famous "champagne beers" from the in-house brewery of the mayor, this informative and eventful visit was concluded.

In the programme for the next morning was a visit to the very interesting rose garden of Luc Van Esser in the small village of Geistingen. In the private garden of approximately 7,000 m<sup>2</sup> in size are about 3,500 rose varieties on display, mostly roses with the award of ADR (in German - **Allgemeine Deutsche Rosenneuheitenprüfung**: General German Rose Novelties Testing). Therefore, the garden is proudly called "*International ADR-Rosarium Geistingen Landhoff*". The rose grower Luc Van Esser cultivates his magnificent collection of roses on his own!



**The International ADR Rosarium Geistingen Landhoff of Luc Van Esser**

Due to the combination of disease-resistant varieties with the ADR-predicate, the romantic and natural-looking plant can be maintained completely organically, i.e. without the use of chemical plant protection compounds. Part of the biological protection measures - a freewheeling, busy chicken flock accompanied us during our visit at every step. All roses looked strong and healthy, their abundant blooms called for a lot of enthusiasm. Climbing roses are attached to rose arches made from tall willow branches and reinforce the natural impression of the garden.



**'Stadt Rom' (Tantau 2000)**



**'Europa Nostra' (Vissers 2012)**

Since mainly roses which bear the ADR seal are used, the selection of roses is focused on the rose varieties of Noack, Kordes, Tantau and Meilland, but also roses such as the beautiful 'Europa Nostra' by Martin Vissers or the *Rugosa* hybrid 'Rote Hannover' of the Dutch Breeder Kraan meet here. We would have wanted to engage much longer with Luc Van Esser, who was full of enthusiasm talking about his life's work - and without complaining about the hard labour, but after a good two hours stay, we had to reluctantly say goodbye, because we had another beautiful experience to go to.



**Rosarium Vrijbroekpark**

The Rosarium Vrijbroekpark, was our next destination. It is located on the outskirts of Mechelen, as part of an extensive landscape park. However, it was created on a terrain that appears to be not well suited for planting roses due to a very high level of ground water. Nevertheless, the roses were in good condition, so it is not surprising that in the year 2003 the rose garden received the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence. We were welcomed with homemade ice cream flavoured with rose essence before we started to explore the spacious park. Our expert and charming rose guide Sonja Deneve acquainted us with many details of the creation of the entire facility and explained the importance of this 50 hectare park for the population of the nearer and wider surroundings.

We were able to discover many wonderful roses that are not often found in other rose gardens. For example, known personalities of the world of roses are found here, such as 'André Brichet' (DVP 2003)(husband of Helga Brichet) or the enchanting Hybrid Tea 'Hélène de Gerlache' (Lens 1982).(daughter of Lily de Gerlache de Gomery).But also many older rose varieties such as the Hybrid Teas 'Tiffany' (Lindquist 1953) or 'Grange Colombe' (Guillot 1912) could be admired.



**'Hélène de Gerlache' (Lens 1982)**



**'Grange Colombe' (Guillot 1912)**



An important aspect in this rose garden is the impressive way in which the history of garden roses has developed and whose important representatives are planted together in a separate area. Here, enthusiastic visitors can take a look at the long history of our modern roses, which is documented with well-selected examples.

**'Climbing Devoniensis' (Tea rose, discovered by Pavitt 1858)**

The next morning the hour struck for the early risers because we had a long drive ahead of us. Our destination was far in the West of Belgium, between Bruges and Ostend, almost near the canal coast. There, in the small village of Oudenburg, the rosary of Louis Lens (*Lens Roses*) is situated, certainly the most famous one among Belgium's rose



hybridizers. Louis Lens bred the WFRS Hall of Fame rose - 'Pascali' (LENip). His company has now been taken over by Rudy and Ann Velle-Boudolf, who in turn developed rose varieties of great success such as 'Dinky' (2002), a deeply pink, doubled, excellent shrub rose, with which the young rose growers became famous immediately.

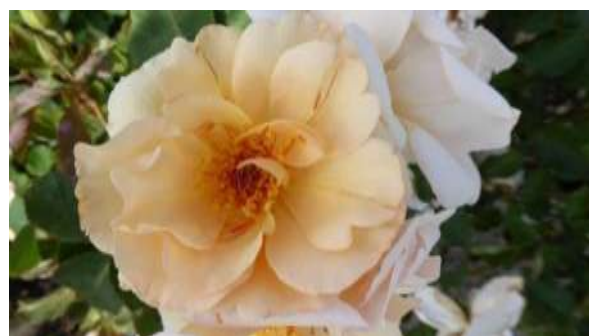


The well-known rose hybridizers were so kind to receive us personally on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> July, a national holiday in Belgium, so that we could visit their world-famous company and the most recently developed rose varieties. Since the success with 'Dinky' they have released a whole series of excellent rose varieties, with the focus on Hybrid Musks. We were especially impressed by the fancy 'Edouard Vermeulen' (2014) with an unusual colour gradient from dusty pink to soft purple to pink, combined with fine fragrance. The rose had been baptised in honour of a well-known couturier and purveyor to the court.

**Ann and Rudy Velle-Boudolf**



**'Edouard Vermeulen' (Velle-Boudolf, Lens Roses, 2014)**



**'Stéphanie d'Ursel' (Velle-Boudolf, Lens Roses, 2015)**

Also the beautiful 'Stephanie d'Ursel' (2015) was admired because of the creamy white flowers with a bright yellow heart. Unfortunately, in the vast number of roses we could not detect the enchanting light pink Hybrid Musk 'Eilike', which was baptised in honour of our rose expert Eilike Vemmer during the International Heritage Conference in Sangerhausen (2013). Ann Velle-Boudolf, who visits Germany regularly due to her close connections with German rose friends, gave us detailed information in answer to all our questions. Invigorated by a wonderful picnic we were able to get back on our way. Of course this exceptional opportunity could not be left unused, so many of the most recent container roses were taken as could fit into the luggage compartment of the bus, and the finest fragrance of roses accompanied us on our tour.



**City of Bruges**

After this lovely impression of the current state of rose growing in Belgium, we took the opportunity to visit the picturesque city of Bruges, which was located just next door. In an entertaining city tour we got to know the excellently preserved medieval town centre (UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2000) and enjoyed the atmosphere around the romantic canals.



**Bruges Madonna (Michelangelo 1505)**

Of course, we could not miss a glimpse of the Bruges Madonna in the Church of Our Lady, because it is the only marble sculpture of Michelangelo north of the Alps. The statue, in contrast to classical depictions of Mary with the standing Infant Jesus in his mother's arms, provided in its full perfection a deeply touching experience.



It was hard to believe how quickly the last few days had passed! The next morning (Saturday) our last travel day began. Now we had to make our journey home with a heavy heart. But this day still offered two more wonderful highlights.

On the mediation of our rose friend Countess Henrienne de Briey, WFRS Vice President for Western Europe and a member of the Royal and National Rose Society Rosa Belgica, we had received permission to visit the park and gardens of Kasteel Hex, which is usually not possible on Saturdays. The Hex summer and hunting castle was built at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century by the Liege Prince-Bishop of Vellbrück. Today it is the property of the family of Count d'Ursel. The castle itself is located in a huge landscaped park, where the French gardens with an impressive rose garden were of special interest to us.



**Kasteel Hex**



**'Omi Oswald' (Lens 1988) Kasteel Hex**

The rose garden received the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence in 2003. Lens roses in large numbers, native wild roses (which of course had already blossomed) and many historical roses made the gardens, grouped around the castle, an extraordinary experience. Our guide acquainted us with many details of the history of the castle and at the end of our visit we were greeted in person by the Lord of the castle, Count Ghislain d'Ursel.



**Sculptures in the historic rose garden in front of the Noisette rose 'Madame Alfred Carrière'**

But that was not the end of our journey, because Countess Henrienne de Briey had invited us to a lunch at her nearby castle. There, in the courtyard of the castle, under the bright sun and with a view of the beautiful rose garden, we were personally hosted by the Countess and enjoyed the individually prepared delicacies from the kitchen (and of course from the wine cellar). After such great pleasure, the farewell was difficult, but we had to leave, because in the evening the participants of the journey needed to be back in Frankfurt on time.



**Countess Henrienne de Briey invited us to her home.**

**Countess Henrienne de Briey and Hans-Peter Mühlbach**

Our thanks are to Mrs. Konstanze Ruge (Travel Agency Ruge-Reisen, Hamburg) for the excellent organization of this wonderful rose journey, and to our bus driver Mr. Joachim Slanina for his always safe and calm kind of driving.

# REGISTERING A NEW ROSE

Richard Walsh (Australia) (with advice and notes from Marily Williams - USA)

As Chairman of the Classification and Registration Committee I would like to publish a statement on some of the issues regarding the registration of roses.

*Why register?* There are a number reasons why a rose cultivar should be registered.

1. To help with identification down the track;
2. For the information of rose researchers;
3. For breeders wanting to know where a particular characteristic came from or to identify what characteristics may be dormant in a cultivar;
4. To prevent duplication in cultivar naming.

*What to register:*

1. All roses in commerce or that are planned for commerce or have commercial potential;
2. Roses distributed for trial or sent to trial gardens, because once in the public domain they have the potential to be out there and pose a problem with ID for future rosarians;
3. Cultivars which have been entered in rose exhibitions, or which may be entered in the future.

*Naming a rose:* Undesirable as it may be, a rose may have a number of names:

1. The official registered name (code name) which usually starts with the first three letters of the breeders name. These were once capitals, such as 'HARKaramel', now 'Harkaramel'. It should be unique, but there are some exceptions such as 'Harhero' 1977 ('Marjorie Fair' in this case not the registered name but a synonym) and 'Harhero' 2001 (**City Livery**). There is no reason why the code name cannot be given with capitals on the label so that roses like **Harbinger**, LCI, Clark 1923, is not confused with 'HARbinger' (**Julie Y**), HT, Harkness 1994.

Notes: the official registered name is not necessarily a code-form name. Cultivars can be registered under a "fancy" name as long as there is no legal protection (trademark, etc.) claimed for the name. Breeder "prefixes" are not reserved, so care must be taken when submitting with what one assumes is a unique prefix.

2. The "fancy name" or ARS approved exhibition name (AEN) e.g. **City Livery** for 'Harhero'. Ideally there should also be no duplication here either;
3. Synonyms e.g. 'Honor Elizabeth' for 'Harhero' (**City Livery**) 2001. Synonyms are often used when the name (AEN) is not an appropriate (marketable) name where the plant is to be (also) sold, or the rights have been given or sold on.

Notes: Technically, any name other than the registered cultivar denomination is a synonym. The AEN has nothing to do with registration or marketability; it is simply a construct used for rose shows in the USA.

It is also worth noting that not all roses listed in MR are registered. Look carefully at the heading to see whether the first mentioned name has "Name:" or "Registered Name:" beside it.

*How to register:*

1. Go to the website of The American Rose Society <http://www.rose.org/>
2. Click on "Resources";
3. Find "Interesting Links" and click on "ICRA-R";
4. Click on "Rose Registration";
5. Click on "Apply for Authorization" and follow prompts;
6. If you have never registered before, click on "New Code" and fill in application including your nominate code...make sure you remember/record your code and password (your assigned code is used for access to the website. The ICRA does NOT require that it be used in naming the cultivar);
7. Once you have been authorised, click "Sign In" and enter your Code, Password and Email;
8. Once Sign In is completed, click on "Submit Registration" and follow on-screen prompts;
9. You will need to re-enter your authority after finishing and clicking on "Submit". It is the equivalent of your signature;
10. An image can then be emailed separately to the registrar, Marily Williams [roseynut@aol.com](mailto:roseynut@aol.com). Images are required for registration of sports.



Australians who wish to register a rose may do so by contacting the Australian Registrar, Warren Millington, at [warrenroses@yahoo.com](mailto:warrenroses@yahoo.com) and he will be able to assist. I am not aware of any other national rose society that has appointed such a position.

### *The importance of publishing parents of each cross:*

As stated above, the parents are beneficial for both researchers, breeders and perhaps just the plain curious. I am not sure what benefit some breeders believe is gained by keeping their crosses secret (and “seedling x seedling” is no better than no information). The chance of reproducing the same outcome from a cross is negligible and even if by chance someone was able to do this, why put another rose out there identical to one already there and with a good head-start. Regardless of whether or not a breeder knows the parents of a rose he believes will contribute to his/her breeding, the rose that is commercially available can always be used for breeding purposes. It makes no sense to keep such secrets. In the case where a cultivar is the result of a cross including one or more unnamed seedlings, it is still beneficial to list the extended parentage, e.g., ‘Irish Gold’ = (Kordes’ ‘Perfecta’ × ‘Governador Braga da Cruz’) × ‘Piccadilly’.

## FÉLICITÉ ET PERPÉTUE

Text and photos - Claudia Hacker - Germany



‘Félicité et Perpétue’ intertwined with Clematis Warzaska Nike

It just so happens that if I admire a rose I also fall in love with it and therefore want to know as much about the rose as there is to learn. To do this I search through my large collection of rose books - their ancestry, breeders and their good and bad characteristics. I am particularly fascinated by ramblers. A large number of the roses that I admire belong to the series of the Synstylae-group, species as **R. multiflora**, **R. wichurana**, **R. sempervirens** and **R. moschata**.

My weakness is for sprays or fronds of flowering climbers and ramblers, which have a captivating effect on me. They have large quantities of small, mostly white flower petals and flowers in big clusters and some have a Musk fragrance. The wild species of the Synstylae-group are a group found in the Northern Hemisphere, from North America over Europe to Asia, especially in the Himalayas and in West China.

It is fantastically beautiful when these roses climb into trees and tumble down just like a waterfall, or grow over and along a pergola making a superbly enthralling place to sit and pass the time of day. What could be more appealing



than sitting under a pergola decorated with roses entwined and tangled while sipping a cup of aromatic tea with a friend?

**Rosa sempervirens** was already known at the time of Roman antiquity, but it was only in the 19th century that French breeders began to breed with *R. sempervirens* with its long lasting blooms. One of the most successful breeders with **Rosa sempervirens** was **Antoine Jacques** of France. He was a botanist, writer and administrator and head gardener for the Duke of Orléans, later King Louis Philippe. His hybrids were unique. Most of Jacques' roses are named for his Orléans employers and it is suggested that this one commemorates the early Christian saints who suffered a cruel martyrdom together in Carthage in 203 AD. According to Peter Harkness the connection with the Orléans family is that, in the words of Barbara Tchertoff, 'they had a particular attachment to Carthage and had endowed a Chapel there'.

The best known Sempervirens-Hybrids are – 'Adélaïde d'Orléans' (1826), 'Félicité-Perpétue' (1826), 'Princesse Louise' (1829).

**Félicité et Perpétue** is a **R. sempervirens-Hybrid** that grows in my garden on a broadloom rose arch, which I had made to go from the upper garden into the lower garden. It had to be as wide as high to allow the mowing-tractor to drive through it!



The small buds of the rose 'Félicité et Perpétue' are carmine pink at first and open to cream-white multi-petalled small rosettes with a small eye in the middle and are enchanting with their unforgettable charm.

Félicité et Perpétue, was bred in 1827 from *Rosa sempervirens* x 'Parson's Pink' (Syn. Old Blush Cl.)

In the literature of roses one can find speculations on the name of the rose. In the Jacques family there were twins with the names Félicité and Perpétue, another story is from Saint Felicitas and Saint Perpetua, which were early Christian martyrs. There is also a sport of the rose Félicité et Perpétue, a lower and repeat flowering Rose with the same characteristics and with the name 'White Pet' or 'Little White Pet'.

The small buds of the rose 'Félicité et Perpétue' are carmine pink

Sometimes Floribunda and Hybrid Tea climbers produce a sport as a climber, but the other way around, from a climbing rose to a bush rose is a rarity.



Cream-white multi-petalled small rosettes - 'Félicité et Perpétue'

# ROSE TESTING IN AMERICA

Jeff Wyckoff (USA)

Every year hundreds of new roses are introduced around the world, nearly all of which, according to the catalogues and websites, have excellent disease resistance, outstanding fragrance, vigorous growth, *ad fin*. However, most experienced rose growers take these claims with a pinch, if not a pillar, of salt, relying on other sources for accurate information. These could include viewing a new variety in a private or public garden or taking advice from a trusted rose friend.

Another source of information on new rose varieties is trials, in which plants are observed over a period of time and evaluated by knowledgeable rosarians. These fall into two categories: single site and multiple site trials. Many countries around the world have single site trials, the results of which are available on the WFRS web site. The only multiple site trial outside the United States of which I am aware is the ADR Trials, held at eleven different locations in Germany.

Beginning in 1938, one of the largest and most successful multi-site rose testing programmes was initiated in the United States, the All America Rose Selections. In its heyday it consisted of 21 test gardens across the country and had well over a dozen member firms. Unfortunately, its business model became obsolete and in 2013 it closed its doors with the last AARS winner, 'Francis Meilland'.

At present the U.S. contains two single site trials, the Biltmore Trials in Asheville, North Carolina and the Rose Hills Trials in Whittier, California. While the average annual temperature of the former is 13.6 C and that of the latter 17.4 C, this modest difference does not represent the climatic extremes to be found in the continental U.S. where the hottest and coldest recorded temperatures are 56.6 and -56.5 C respectively.

Although they don't receive much world publicity or even mention, the U.S. also has three multi-site trials, the oldest of which are the Earth-Kind® Trials. Begun in the 1990's at Texas A & M University under the direction of Dr. Steven George, the Earth-Kind Environmental Landscape Management Programme has sponsored tests on roses and other plants through their Agri Life Extension Service. In a nutshell, the tests are designed to find rose varieties that will not only survive but thrive under the harshest of climatic and cultural conditions.

For the original Earth-Kind® Trials in Texas and the south central states, 116 varieties of all rose types and families were selected. The process begins with four years of randomized, replicated research during which plants are evaluated by university trained personnel. At the conclusion of each 4-year study, performance results are analyzed using standard horticultural analytical processes. This is then followed by four more years of conformational field trials in locations representing multiple cold hardiness zones and soil types.

The Earth-Kind® testing protocol calls for four randomly replicated block plantings with one study variety in each of the blocks. The cultural treatment of the specimens is severe, and includes:

- At least a 70% reduction in supplemental water once the plants are established
- No applications of fertiliser
- No applications of insecticides, fungicides or miticides
- No pruning, grooming or deadheading
- No winter protection

Data consisting of number of blooms, percentage of bloom coverage, presence of disease and percentage of plant tissue affected there from, and presence of insects and amount of plant damage is collected during the second, third and fourth year of the trials. Vigour and overall plant performance is rated on a scale of 1 to 10. Additional data on winter kill, presence of chilli thrips and rose rosette disease is also collected.

Beginning with the first awards in 2002, 23 varieties have been declared Southern Earth-Kind® Roses:

'Belinda's Dream'	'Knock Out®'	'New Dawn'
'Caldwell Pink'	'La Marne'	'Perle d'Or'
'Carefree Beauty'	'Mari Daily'	'Reve d'Or'
'Climbing Pinkie'	'Mlle. Cecile Brunner'	'Sea Foam'
'Ducher'	'Mme. Antoine Marie'	'Souv. de St. Anne's'
'Duchesse de Brabant'	'Monsieur Tillier'	'Spice' ("found" rose)
'Else Poulsen'	'Mrs. Dudley Cross'	'The Fairy'
'Georgetown Tea' ("found" rose)	'Mutabilis'	





**'Belinda's Dream'**



**'Caldwell Pink'**



**'Carefree Beauty'**



**'Else Poulsen'**



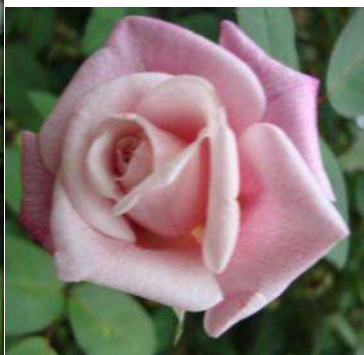
**'Knock Out®'**



**'Mari Daily'**



**'Mlle. Cecile Brunner'**



**'Mme. Antoine Marie'**



**'Mrs. Dudley Cross'**

It will be noted that the majority of this Earth-Kind® roster is composed of shrubs and Old Garden Roses, and further that nearly all varieties are out of patent in the U.S. ('Knock Out', introduced in 2000 will soon be out of patent). While inadvertent, this has proven to be a boon to the many small and primarily own-root nurseries in the country that carry many of these varieties. For a variety of reasons, all Earth-Kind® trials are conducted with own-root plants, and all Earth-Kind® Roses sold under that name must be own-root as well. A number of 21<sup>st</sup> century hybrid teas and floribundas were part of the test group but none apparently made the grade. (Note: *The American Rose Society has determined that 'Caldwell Pink' is synonymous with 'Pink Pet'*).

As of September of 2016 there were 52 trials sites for Earth-Kind® roses and other plants, 30 in Texas and 22 in other states. In 2008 the programme was expanded to include formal plantings in a number of north central states such as Iowa and Minnesota. Twenty varieties were selected for these trials, of which, with the exception of two large-flowered climbers, all are shrubs; two of these are 'Sea Foam' and 'Carefree Beauty', already south-central winners. Sites in Kansas and Texas were also selected for this round of trials to see how these "northern bred" roses would fare in warmer climates. As testing, replication and data analysis continues, it is anticipated that North-Central Earth-Kind® Roses will be announced in the near future.

Earth-Kind® trials are also under way in over two dozen states, primarily in the mid-west, southwest and east. These are conducted under Earth-Kind® protocols with the supervision and cooperation of universities and botanic gardens, as well as partnerships with extension agents, Master Gardeners, municipalities and others. The trials have served as a great educational resource for everyone interested in beautiful, easy-care landscape roses.



# HARDY ROSES IN ICELAND

Text - Vilhjálmur Lúðvíksson (Iceland)

Photos - Vilhjálmur Lúðvíksson (VL), Kristleifur Guðbjörnsson (KG), Jóhann Pálsson (JP), Pirkko Kahila (PK)



The Nordic Rose Weekend was hosted by Iceland on a sunny July weekend in 2012 (photo - VL)

## PROBLEMS OF CLIMATE AND HARDINESS

Icelanders are relative newcomers to growing roses. While individual amateur gardeners have been growing roses for decades with varying success it was not until the Rose Club of The Icelandic Horticultural Society was established in 2002 that organized trials were started and the dissemination of knowledge about rose gardening appropriate for our geographical situation really started.

The Rose Club currently counts about 340 members and has established three rose collections for trials under different growing conditions. The members also share experiences from their own gardens at regular sessions during the winter months as they prepare for new experiences and place common orders for new roses from local and international nurseries.

Frost hardiness is not the most important test to rose hardiness in Iceland. Winter temperatures never fall very low - nowadays rarely below minus 10-12 °C in the south and west. The cool summers and the lack of sunny days during the growing season are more frequently a limiting factor which affects both the flowering and the maturing of stems before winter sets in. The alternating periods of wet thaw and dry frost, especially during the late winter months, are an excruciating test for most cultivated varieties of roses. Those that survive the ordeal over many years are those we can call "hardy" in our case. Thus we have to take the North American as well as the Nordic hardiness scales with a grain of salt. Only experience by growing on location can prove which varieties are suitable.

## EXPERIENCING THE HARD WAY

After nearly a decade of increasingly sunny and warm summers in the early years of the 21st Century Icelanders felt they were blessed with the favourable side of global warming. The summers of 2009 to 2012 were all among the sunniest and warmest on record. We even ventured to host the Nordic Rose Weekend in July 2012. Then came the summer of 2013 and we woke up to the reality of our global position. It was one of the wettest on record in south-western Iceland. The pattern was familiar to those of us born before the middle of the 20th century. The sun did not show for weeks on end and the monthly average temperatures for June, July and August remained more than a degree Celsius below average for the previous thirty years - reminding us of the miseries of 1983, 1975, 1955 and even 1949, depending on our living memory!

This put roses and flowering shrubs to a severe test and our gardening patience as well - but very good for learning how different species and varieties of roses respond. While the green growth was reasonably strong during this rainy summer the flowering and the setting of fruit was absent for many varieties or delayed by anywhere from three weeks in some to two months in others. The upside was, however, that quite a few individual rose varieties showed remarkably good performance and one could also observe how different classes of roses performed under stress. This was therefore a year that put our roses to a real test.

Thus most of the alba Roses never managed to open their buds, except 'Celestial' which started to flower in September. Another alba Rose, 'Blanche de Belgique', has since shown remarkable performance. Somewhat surprisingly the spinosissimas (or pimpinellifolias) appeared to tolerate rain and cold worse than we expected while most rugosa varieties and even some more complex hybrids with rugosa blood in them generally did quite well.



The Swedish beauty 'Huldra' did not let rain and cloudy sky deter its blooming (Photo - KG)



A ravishing 'Aicha' basking in the rare sunrays of 2013 (VL)

There were however notable exceptions in the spinosissima family. Thus the rather recently Swedish bred 'Huldra' ('Poppius' × *Rosa rubiginosa* L.) remained in flower unaffected by the rain from early July until end of September, showing its relationship to its 18th century hardy mother 'Poppius' of pimpinellifolia origin. Another good and more unexpected performer was the Danish born 'Aicha' from the fingers of the legendary breeder Valdemar Petersen. A few days of sunshine in late July produced a rich flush of golden flowers on 'Aicha' that kept long into the cloudy period that followed. A third exception was the Canadian 'Kakwa' bred by John Alexander Wallace which gave a real show of full and fragrant flowers. Finally a Finnish found spinosissima-rose named 'Linnanmäki' gave a splendid show of large, cream-white, single flowers for an extended period and repeated the show accompanied by black hips and splendid leaf colours in the late fall.

But even the usually very reliable 'Hurdal' (*R. villosa*/*R. alba* cross ?) which we got from Norway in the eighties was both greatly delayed and reduced in flowering. The same happened to *R. francofurtana* 'Frankfurt', (syn. *R. gallica* 'Splendens') which normally is quite reliable.



Interestingly many Canadian rose varieties with rugosa genes in them performed particularly well (see later). Other rugosa varieties that did well that year were the Latvian beauty 'Ritausma' (also known in Germany, US and Canada as 'Polareis') and the red hot 'Hansaland' from Kordes Rosen flowered largely unaffected.

'Hansaland' -  
"Rose of the year 2013" (VL)

## FINNISH ROSES DO WELL

Finns have since the early eighties done a lot of work in identifying and classifying roses that have survived a harsh and variable climate which in some ways resembles that of Iceland, especially in the early spring and summer. In 2007 members of our Rose Club visited Finland and brought back information which led to the import of a number of varieties that have since proved quite successful in Iceland. Roses have been cultivated in Finland over several centuries, originally by the Swedish and later Russian upper classes under their respective periods of rule. In later years Finns themselves have rediscovered old and hardy varieties as well as spontaneous newcomers that the bees and the birds have generated, often in the most unusual locations such as parking lots and railway stations. One such rose is 'Ruskela' named after the town in which it was found. This spinosissima variety does normally very well in Iceland as does 'Ristinummi', a probable natural *spinosissima* × *rugosa* cross named after the railway station where it was found.

'Ruskela' is a Finnish foundling that "has got talent"! (VL)







Finns have also produced roses by crossing known varieties some of which also do well in Iceland. One such is 'Sointu' ('Snow Pavement' x [Rosa x Polyantha]), a very floriferous rugosa derivative released by the British born Peter Joy and his co-workers who started a rose breeding programme originally under a programme at the University of Helsinki. They have released another five varieties that also look promising. Among them is 'Tove Jansson' ('Red Nelly' x 'Poppius') a beautiful deep purple and velvety flowered rose. A particularly tough one among their releases is 'Lumo' (a seedling of Griffith 'Buck's Apple Jack') which has demonstrated full hardiness in Iceland growing up to 2 m and producing a generous flowering display - disdainful of rain and cold weather.

**'Sointu' a Finnish rose bred by Peter Joy and co-workers (Photo - PK)**

### **CANADIAN ROSES IN ICELAND**



Canadian roses have slowly found their way to Iceland and some of them have proved their excellence. The roses bred by F.L. Skinner such as 'George Will', 'Wasagaming' and 'Mrs. John McNabb' have performed particularly well while 'Suzanne' and 'Betty Bland' are somewhat less reliable. 'Haidee' and 'Will Alderman' just found their way to Iceland via Denmark and it is too early to say how they perform.

**'George Will' a lovely and hardy rose in Iceland (VL)**



Some of George Bugnet's roses are doing extremely well, in particular 'Lac Majeau', 'Marie Bugnet' and 'Louise Bugnet'. The last named was chosen rose of the year in 2011 in Iceland by members of the Rose Club and 'Lac Majeau' was elected rose of the year in 2014 because of her amazing performance through rain and storm during the miserable summer of 2013. Her only problem in the popularity competition is that she is not widely available in garden centres as yet! The well known 'Therese Bugnet' is on the other hand somewhat less reliable a performer in Iceland than her other sisters. She probably needs warmer summers than Iceland can offer. She loses parts of her summer growth in the winter and produces much fewer flowers. We would love to get our hands on 'Rita Bugnet' and 'Lac La Nonne' and other Bugnet roses which have not arrived in Iceland as yet.

**'Lac Majeau' gave an astonishing performance in 2013 (KG)**

Many roses from the Explorer Series bred under the direction of Dr. Felicitas Svejda have done very well in Iceland. 'Jens Munk' is a particularly great performer and also competed for the "Rose of the Year" title with 'Lac Majeau' 2014. Both these roses produce flowers summer long until frost cuts them off. Yet they show remarkably little frost damage the following spring. 'Martin Frobisher' is another amazing Explorer rose that easily grows to 2.5 m height and is really a candidate for a climber in Iceland. It needs help with tying because it lacks the prickles and thorns to hang on. No frost damage and summer long flowering and rain tolerance promises to give this rose a bright future in Iceland. 'Henry Hudson' does normally very well but was rather slow to open his flowers in the summer of 2013. 'David

Thompson' is not widely known here but produces beautiful flowers and is likely to receive more attention in the years to come. The same thing holds true for 'Charles Albanel'. On the other hand 'Alexander Mackenzie', 'Champlain', 'J.P. Connell' and 'John Franklin' are all late bloomers in Iceland and need very sheltered warm locations close to walls to produce good flowering. 'Lambert Crosse' is a relative newcomer but shows some promise.



**'Jens Munk' smiling on Sept. 28. 2013. (KG) 'Martin Frobisher' an Explorer with a bright future in Iceland (VL)**

Of other Explorer roses both 'Henry Kelsey' and 'John Cabot' are fairly well known but also need higher summer temperatures to flower and mature well. 'John Davis' generally shows a rather weak growth and is normally short lived in Iceland.



'Prairie Dawn' bred by William Godfrey is yet another Canadian that has proven very hardy, wind tolerant and floriferous in Iceland but needs a sunny location. There are examples of plants growing up to 5 meters in height, flowering from June to frost.

**'Prairie Dawn' hardy and flowering all summer**

The Parkland Roses bred by the Morden Farm Experimental station are having a harder time in Iceland than the Explorer roses. They generally seem to want warmer summer days and more sunshine than we can offer. 'Morden Fireglow' is perhaps the longest survivor and most promising of the family. It freezes down in the winter but emerges in the early summer to produce some fine flowers in the mid to late summer sun.

**'Prairie Dawn' has reached nearly 5 meters here**

## WHAT ABOUT OUR OWN ROSE BREEDING?

The first examples of locally raised roses came in the 60's and 70's from rather accidental sourcing of imported rose seeds. Thus the hardy spinosissima variety 'Katrín Viðar', the tough rugosa variety 'Skotta' as well as the beautiful but botanically ill-defined 'Métis'-like 'Yndisrós' (seed marked *Rosa hypoleuca*) all emerged as noticeably floriferous seedlings and were selected from groups of less interesting siblings at the Reykjavik Botanical Gardens. A young and emerging professional gardener, Ólafur S. Njálsson, raised from imported seed, supposedly *R. spinosissima* var. Altaica, the wonderful single flowered 'Lovísa' and named it for his mother. Most importantly the former head of Reykjavik Gardens, Jóhann Pálsson, started breeding experimentation in the early 90's by controlled cross pollination between hardy species and varieties to attain new varieties adapted to the Icelandic environment. Thus emerged 'Hadda', 'Logafold', 'Hilda', 'Guðfinna', 'Drífa' and 'Fönn' and several more named varieties that now have become popular in Icelandic rose gardening. Common to all of these and more varieties is a *R. rugosa* background, some derived from Canadian varieties like Charles Albanel, Henry Hudson, and Prairie Dawn mixed with hardy species like *Rosa pendulina*, *Rosa x kamtchatica*, and *Rosa francofurtana*, 'Frankfurt' or German rugosa varieties like 'Schnee-





'Katrin Viðar' (Photos – VL)



Jóhann Pálsson at his rose trial collection

Eule' and 'Rotes Meer'. These rose varieties from Jóhann Pálsson's pioneering effort in Iceland have attracted some attention in the Nordic countries.

The above mentioned Icelandic varieties are all included in the Nordic Collection to be inaugurated in Valby Parken at the WRC 2018 in Copenhagen.

'Logafold' by Jóhann Pálsson (Photo - JP)

### ICELANDIC-NORDIC AND CANADIAN ROSE RELATIONS

As noted above Icelandic rose lovers have learned a lot from their Nordic neighbours and The Rose Club joined the Nordic Rose Society in 2006. We have participated in the biennial Nordic Rose Weekends which are organised alternately by one of the 5 Nordic Rose Societies. In 2012 the Icelandic Rose Club hosted the Nordic Rose Weekend (see opening photo) - a risky venture given the limited experience and range of mature rose gardens to show.



Visit to Bugnet plantation - Thorsteinn Tomasson, Margit Schowalter, Lorraine Taylor and Gary Chen from the Alberta Historical Resources Management Branch (VL)

Good reasons have also emerged for strengthening Icelandic-Canadian rose relations. One of course is the mounting positive experience with many Canadian roses under the difficult climatic conditions in Iceland. Another maybe helping to preserve Canadian Heritage Roses that no longer are available on the general market but might provide important contribution to rose growing in Iceland.

The first steps were taken at the beginning of 2015 when a lively exchange started at the initiative from Paul Olsen and Margit Schowalter. In the fall of 2018 the author visited Alberta and Saskatchewan with an Icelandic friend and plant breeding expert

Thorsteinn Tomasson. Guided by Margit Schowalter we paid visits to many sites of cultural heritage in plant breeding for roses as well as other ornamental and fruit bearing trees and shrubs. The long tradition in Canada of breeding flowering garden shrubs and fruit trees in the Prairie Provinces looks particularly interesting to Icelandic garden lovers as it demonstrates the rewards of long term thinking and perseverance under difficult environmental conditions. The fact that the effort of amateur breeders is continuing with notable success is particularly encouraging as the photo of the rose named 'Maybe Margit' by Terry Roszko attests.



Some Canadian garden enthusiasts and professionals have already started to visit Iceland and we would welcome more in the future. The fact that Icelandair is now flying direct from Keflavik, Iceland to Halifax, Toronto, Montreal, Edmonton and Vancouver with direct connections to many European cities has opened up a whole spectrum of new opportunities! Canadian rose enthusiasts on their way to Europe via Iceland are welcome to contact our Rose Club.

e-mail: [vilhjalmur.ludviksson@gmail.com](mailto:vilhjalmur.ludviksson@gmail.com)

For more information see websites: [www.gardurinn.is](http://www.gardurinn.is)

A new Canadian rose by Terry Roszko named 'Maybe Margit' (VL)

## 2018 INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIAL DATES IN EUROPE

Monaco	4 May, 2018
Barcelona, Spain	11 May, 2018
Madrid, Spain	18 May, 2018
Rome, Italy	19 May, 2018
La Tacita, Italy	20 May, 2018
Lyon, France	1 June, 2018
Nantes, France	8 June, 2018
Hradec Králové, Czech	16 June, 2018
Baden Baden, Germany	19 June, 2018
Saverne, France	20 June, 2018
Paris	21 June, 2018
Kortrijk, Belgium	22 June, 2018
National Echigo	June to October
The Hague, Netherlands	12 July, 2018
City of Belfast	20 July, 2018
City of Glasgow	25 July, 2018
Ville du Roeulx	7 September, 2018
Biltmore Estate	28/29 September, 2018
City of Orléans	September, 2018
Rose Hills	12/13 October, 2018
National Rose Soc. Aus.	23 October, 2018
Gifu, Japan	October, 2018
Hamilton, NZ	8/11 November, 2018
Palmerston North, NZ	December, 2018

## DIARY OF EVENTS

28 June – 4 July, 2018	WFRS 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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  
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or the Editor**





[www.worldrose.org](http://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.

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***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 who register now, will remain a 'Friend' until the conclusion  
of the 19th World Rose Convention, Australia in October 2021.***



**A group of Friends of the Federation met at the home of Henrienne de Brie in April, 2017  
Monique de Clarens (France), Angelika Throll (Germany), Henrienne de Brie (Belgium)  
Marga Verwer (Netherlands), Frans Thomas (Belgium), Mireille Stiel (Luxembourg) Beatrice Halter (Switzerland)**

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- 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
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- 1985 Uruguay - Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa

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