



# by any other name

the newsletter of the World Federation of Rose Societies' Heritage Rose Group

Welcome to this first edition of the World Federation of Rose Societies' Heritage Rose Group's Newsletter. That is so obviously too long a name for a publication that for present I've labelled this "by any other name" as a working title. If there are better suggestions I would be very pleased to hear them.

In this inaugural newsletter are our Chairman's report; also from Australia, Sue Zwar's delightful description of a recent tour of Tasmanian rose-filled gardens; from New Zealand, a report on the Senlis International Heritage Rose conference, and the history of Heritage Roses in New Zealand; from Portugal, an account of the magnificent rose garden of Madiera, where flower both Gallica and Tea roses; and from Japan, a history of Sakura city, and the very tempting programme for the 2001 International Heritage Roses Conference to be held there.

The newsletter will be published every seven or eight months, and may be published and circulated in member countries. Send your information direct to Fiona Hyland at [f.hyland@ihug.co.nz](mailto:f.hyland@ihug.co.nz)

## Contents

<b>the Chairman's report</b> by David Ruston, Australia .....	1
<b>a rose garden in Madeira</b> by Miguel Albuquerque, Maderia .....	3
<b>Tasmanian garden tour</b> by Sue Zwar, Australia .....	5
<b>je suis tombée amoureuse de la France</b> by Fiona Hyland, New Zealand .....	11
<b>heritage roses in New Zealand</b> by Fran Rawling, New Zealand .....	13
<b>a history of Sakura city</b> by Yuki Mikanagi, Japan .....	15
<b>2011 International Heritage Rose Conference, Sakura, Japan, 21<sup>st</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 .....</b>	16



**Paul's Scarlet Pillar** and the Senlis Cathedral  
11<sup>th</sup> International Heritage Rose Conference report, pp 11-12



**Felleberg** on the veranda at *Forest Hall*, Tasmania.  
More roses in Tasmania feature in Sue Zwar's article, pp. 5-10



Heritage Roses in New Zealand.  
a brief history, pp. 13-14

---

# Chairman WFRS report Heritage Roses Group

*by David Ruston, Australia*

---

Happy New Year to you all and now it is back to business.

All the Executive Committee were in favour of the next Heritage Rose Conference to be held in Madeira in May or June 2009.

Yuki Mikanagi, the Viraghavans, Fiona Hyland, and I would like it to be just before the WFRS Convention to be held in Vancouver on June 18<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 2009. The date will of course depend on peak flowering.

Miguel Albuquerque has told me that Madeira is sub-tropical, the average minimum temperatures in winter 17°C, and in summer 23°C. This enables them to grow in the open avacadoes, pawpaws, custard apples, chestnuts, pineapples, bananas, and citrus, which are a feature of the walk to the Quinta Do Arco Rose Garden.

Madeira is a favourite holiday resort for the English to escape the winter cold. Most people speak English.

It is amazing that the rose garden contains a vast collection of old garden roses: 38 Gallicas, including the rare:

<b>Belle Helene.</b>	Vibert, 1813
<b>Belle Virginie</b>	L'Hay, 1814
<b>Belle Doria</b>	Unknown
<b>Ambroise Paré</b>	Vibert, 1846
<b>Aimable Amie</b>	Unknown, 1813

There are 14 Damasks, 11 Albas, 17 Centifolias, 16 Mosses and 11 Portlands.

The 58 Chinas will be of great interest to those of us with warm winters. They include:

<b>Alice Hamilton</b>	Nabonnand, France 1904
<b>Alice Hoffmann</b>	Hoffmann, 1897
<b>Catherine II</b>	Laffay, France 1932
<b>Elise Flory</b>	Guillot Pere, France 1851
<b>Frederic II de Prusse</b>	Verdier, France, 1847
<b>Saint Prist de Breuze</b>	Desprez, France, 1838
<b>Unermüdliche</b>	Lambert, France 1904

The garden is famous for its Noisette collection of 37 varieties. They include:

<b>Anne Marie Cote</b>	Guillot Fils, France, 1878
<b>Comtesse de Gallard-Beam</b>	Bernaix, 1893
<b>Gribaldo Nicola</b>	Souperthe and Notting, 1890
<b>Maria Derman</b>	Geschwind, Hungary, 1899
<b>Madame Jules Francke</b>	Nabonnand, 1887
<b>Madame Triffle</b>	Levet, France, 1869
<b>Madame Julie Lasseu</b>	Nabonnand, 1880
<b>Monsieur Rosier</b>	Nabonnand, 1887
<b>Triomphe des Noisettes</b>	Pernet Pere, 1887
<b>Reine Olga de Wartemberg</b>	Nabonnand, 1881

There are 46 Teas and Climbing Teas. They include the **Comtesse de Casarta** (Nabonnand, 1877) – remember the lecture on the Casarta at Chaalis? – and **Souvenir de Francois Gaulain** (Guillot, 1889). Two modern

Teas bred by Branchi of Italy are also present: **Andreola Vettori** (1988) and **Bianca di Corbara** (1997)

Of the climbing Teas, famous for their continuous flowering, we can see **E. Veyrat Hermanos** (Bernaix, France, 1894) and **Roi de Siam** (Laffay, France, 1825).

The garden is famous for its arches for 57 Wichurana Ramblers and 43 Hybrid Multifloras, plus 5 Boursaults, 6 Sempervirens hybrids, 7 Ayrshire and 9 Setigera hybrids, 6 of them from Geschwind and seldom seen outside of eastern Europe.

Of the Wichuranas of great interest will be;

<b>Alexandre Tremouillet</b>	Barbier, France, 1902
<b>Aristide Briand</b>	Penny, 1928
<b>Claude Rabre</b>	Buatois, France, 1941
<b>Coral Creeper</b>	Brownell, USA, 1938
<b>Crème</b>	Geschwind, 1895
<b>Henri Barruet</b>	Barbier, 1918
<b>La Fraicheur</b>	Turbat, France, 1921
<b>Primevère</b>	Barbier, 1929
<b>Marco</b>	P. Guillot, France, 1905
<b>Rene Andre</b>	Barbier, 1901
<b>Renee Danielle</b>	P. Guillot, 1913

and of the Multifloras.

<b>Annchen van Tharau</b>	Geschwind, 1866
<b>Astra Desmond</b>	Rochford, 1916
<b>Belle de Remalard</b>	D'Andlau, 1998
<b>Ernst Doren</b>	Geschwind, 1887
<b>Geschwinds Orden</b>	Geschwind, 1886
<b>Geschwinds Schonste</b>	Geschwind, 1900
<b>Gilda</b>	Geschwind, 1887
<b>Leapold Ritter</b>	Geschwind, 1900
<b>Marie Henriette Gratin Chotek</b>	Lambert, 1911

This is truly an amazing collection and worthy of world recognition.

Apart from the old rose collection there is a large area devoted to Hybrid Teas (many bred in the 1920s to 1950s and in danger of being lost), Floribundas, Hybrid Musks, modern shrubs, 32 Polyanthas, and lots of climbers.

Signor Albuquerque has written an excellent catalogue of the collection from which I gained most of this information. There is a map of the garden, both in Portugese and English, and an excellent book with beautiful colour photographs, which I was given at Chaalis. This is in Portugese, but the English version is to be launched in England in June or July this year. I am looking forward with the greatest anticipation to a memorable conference.

I did not believe I could see Gallicas, Albas and Damasks flowering amongst pawpaws, bananas and avacadoes.

Turning to matters arising from the meeting at Chaalis:

1. With Europe divided into North and South, I suggest we give Miguel Albuquerque Czechia, France, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Poland for the South, and for Peter Boyd, for the Northern Europe: Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxemborg, Denmark, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Germany.

I would like to get Spain involved – the brilliant coloured roses bred by the Dot family must be saved, and we also need Austria, Norway, Finland, and Russia in our group. Could any of the Committee help?

2. Regarding the matter of our Constitution, I will forward the WFRS, the New Zealand, and the Australian Heritage Constitutions to the Executive Committee as soon as possible.

Could I please have offers for a small committee to handle this important matter, I have little experience in this sphere!

3. Finally we must work out how we can raise funds to pay expenses involved with the newsletters and publicity of our group. Our Editor Fiona Hyland is keeping an expense account, as are the Secretaries David and Crenagh Elliott.

Should we ask for a donation from member countries and/or a fixed charge per person at our world Heritage Conventions? I would like your views on this matter. In this newsletter, thanks to Viru and Girija Viraghauan, is an excellent article written by Signor Albuquerque on the rose gardens of Madiera, which first appeared in the 2006 *Indian Rose Annual*.

Sue Zwar's report on our Australian tour to Tasmanian rose gardens in our most southern island state – a gardeners' paradise may be found on pages 4-XX. 94 people filled two buses.

I have just received preliminary details of the 13<sup>th</sup> Heritage Rose Convention in Sakura City from May 21<sup>st</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> 2011. The Conference is to be held in the Old Hotta House of the Shogun of Sakura. There will be a post convention tour to glorious Gifu rose garden.

Could all countries give us information on coming events for the newsletter. This newsletter will be published every seven or eight months, and may be published and circulated in member countries. Send your information direct to Fiona Hyland at [f.hyland@ihug.co.nz](mailto:f.hyland@ihug.co.nz)

Regards to all,  
Sincerely, David Ruston

---

## a rose garden in Madeira

by Miguel Albuquerque, Madeira

*Quinta do Arco Rose Garden* is located in Madeira Island, Portugal. This Portuguese island is located in the Atlantic Ocean, SE of continental Portugal (between approximately 32°N in latitude, and approximately 16°W in longitude) 737 square kilometres in area. There you can find a beautiful, varied, and rare natural heritage, which constitutes a very important botanical value from a cultural and scientific point of view. The endemic plants in Madeira ascend to 143. In 1999, Madeira's indigenous forest, known as Laurissilva and considered as a relic of the Tertiary, was classified as a natural heritage of mankind by UNESCO. The natural beauty and the mild climate – in fact, the island presents a large number of micro-climates due to the influence of the hills and wind – are Madeira's first attraction, and tourism is today its main industry.

*Quinta do Arco Rose Garden* is situated in the northern part of Madeira Island, in a beautiful spot which expands between the sea and a mountainous arch covered by a green forest. It stands in an old agricultural property, and is opened to the public between April and December. It's certainly one of the largest in Europe.

This collection displays over 1,550 different species and varieties of roses, old and modern. A total of 17,000 rose bushes have been cultivated. This rose Garden has a geometric curve structure, with wide paths, and covered with arches and pergolas.

As you walk around, you can enjoy modern and old historic roses, all of them grouped in "family" beds. The old garden rose bushes, climbing and non-climbing, include specimens of Gallicas, Damasks, Albas, Centifolias, Moss Roses, China Roses, Portland Roses, Bourbons, Noisettes, Teas, Hybrid Multifloras, Boursaults, Sempervirens Roses, Ayrshire Roses, Scottish Roses, Banksians, *Rosa laevigata* and hybrids, *Rosa bracteata* and hybrids, Bermuda Roses (Mystery Roses), *Rosa gigantea* and hybrids, *Rosa eglanteria* (Sweet Briar) and hybrids, *Rosa moschata* (Musk forms) and hybrids, *Rosa soulieana* and hybrids, *Rosa setigera* and hybrids, *Rosa filipes* and hybrids, *Rosa foetida* and hybrids, *Rosa brunonii* and hybrids, *Rosa nutkana* and hybrids, and other species. The more



recent rosebushes, climbing and non-climbing, include specimens of Hybrid Tea Roses, Floribundas, Polyanthas, Patio and Miniature Roses, English (David Austin) Roses, Shrub Roses, and Modern Climbers. In regard to the collections, we should mention Meilland (France), Guillot (France), Delbard (France), Andre Eve (France), Paul Croix (France), Sauvageot (France) Warner (UK), Fryer (UK), Dickson (UK), Le Grice (UK), Kordes (Germany), Tantau (Germany), Lens (Belgium), Barni (Italy), Poulsen (Denmark), and M<sup>c</sup>Gredy (New Zealand).

Madeira's endemic rosebush, *Rosa mandonii* (Déségl), is a unique curiosity for all the collectors and rose lovers all over the world.

*Rosa mandonii* (Déségl) is a rare plant with the following characteristics:

- inhabits ravines of the Laurissilva and other areas at higher altitudes, from 600 – 1600m.
- Perennial, deciduous, creeping shrub.
- Numerous, arch-shaped branches, reaching 4m or more in length, without prickles or with some slightly arch-shaped prickles up to 7mm.
- Compound leaves, with 5 – 7 elliptic to orbicular, serrate and glabrous leaflets, 6.5 – 37 x 5 – 23 mm.
- Small prickles and glands of glabrous main petioles and veins.
- Flowers grow in groups of three, forming terminal corymbs of 9 – 12 flowers.
- White petals, 1.3 – 3.3 x 1.2 – 2.5 cm.
- Slightly ovoid to sub spherical fruits 1.3 – 2.5 x 0.8 – 1.8 cm, maturing to red.

The garden has 150 arches distributed over the paths, a central pergola, two secondary pergolas and twenty pillars.

The visitor can contemplate a large variety of climbing rosebushes, remontant and non-remontant, which cover the above-mentioned structures. The pillars support 55 different kinds of Wichurana Ramblers. We must point out the lovely ones bred by Barbier: **Alberic Barbier**, **Albertine**, **Alexandre Girault**, **Alexandre Tremouillet**, **Auguste Gervais**, **Francois Guillot**, **Francois Juranville**, **Henri Barruet**, **Leontine Gervais**, **Paul Transon**, **Primevere**, and **Rene Andre**; Van Fleet: **Alida Lovett**, **American Pillar**, **Breeze Hill**, **Dr. W. Van Fleet**, and **Mary Wallace**; and Walsh: **Debutante**, **Evangeline**, **Excelsa**, and **Minnehaha**. In addition, there are 34 different kinds of Hybrid Multiflora Roses. Though less common, but still spectacular for the beauty of their unique blooming, are the Sempervirens rose hybrids. They have been bred by a French man called Jacques from Sempervirens Roses in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Gardener to the Duke of Orleans, later King Louis-Philippe, Jacques obtained a small group of Ramblers, which have a true unique elegance and beauty: **Adelaide d'Orleans** (1826), **Felicite Perpetue** (1828), **Flora** (1829), **Princesse Louise** (1829) and **Princesse Marie** (1829).

Besides a set of "Hybrids of Banksian" and Boursault Ramblers, I would like to point out the Laevigata Rose

and its fantastic Hybrids: **Anemone Rose** (J.C. Schmidt, Germany, 1895), **Cooper's Burmese** (introduced, 1927), **Ramona** (Dietrich and Turner, USA, 1913) and **Silver Moon** (Van Fleet, USA, 1910).

One of my favourite climbing rosebushes is **Baltimore Belle** (Feast, USA, 1843). One of the best are the Setigera Hybrids, which have 3 – 4cm very double and pale pink fading to white flowers with an occasional dark petal; they have a button centre and sometimes a green eye. The *Rosa brunonii* Himalayan Musk rose grows naturally throughout the Himalayas, from Kashmir and Afghanistan to the mountains of western Sichuan, and has given rise to many horticultural hybrids, including the rose known as **Moschata Rose**. The flowers have a strong musky scent.

And **Lawrence Johnston** (Pemet-Ducher, France, 1920). Few climbing roses make a better show. Originally known as **Hidcote Yellow**, the flowers are large, of a bright clear yellow. This vigorous climber, is a cross between the Hybrid Perpetual rose **Madame Eugene Verdier** and *Rosa foetida Persiana*.

The mild climate and the nature of the soil allow the remontant rosebushes to bloom from April till the end of December.

Our collection of Noisette Roses (35 varieties) and Tea Roses (45 varieties) bring to our garden the charm of old times. Personally, I have a special esteem for those bred by Gilbert Nabonnand, who built up the largest nursery in the south of France. When he retired in 1885 he handed over his nursery to his two sons Paul and Clement. The Nabonnands were prolific both with the Noisettes: **Madame Jules Francke**, **Madame Julie Lasseu**, **Monsieur Rosier**, and **Reine Olga de Wutemberg**, and the Tea Roses: **Archiduc Joseph**, **Comtesse de Caseta**, **General Gallieni**, **General Schablikine**, **Mlle Franziska Kruger**, **Papa Gontier**, and **Noella Nabonnand**.

The visitor should pay special attention to our collection of China Roses (57 varieties), Bourbon Roses, and Portland Roses. Both the old and more recent kinds of rosebushes are filled with beauty and vigour waiting for your visit. 📖



Miguel Albuquerque is Mayor of Funchal, the capital of Madeira.

---

## Tasmanian garden tour

by Sue Zwar, Australia

---

On Wednesday November 21<sup>st</sup> 2007, peak time for roses in Tasmania, ninety rose enthusiasts from every state except Tasmania, met in Hobart under the expert guidance of David Ruston to view some of the best gardens the region has to offer.

We began our touring from Hobart. Sandfly is a few kilometres to the south and it was here that we visited the home of Ros and Steve Murdock. This is a twenty year old garden cut out of undulating farming country fast being overtaken by five acre allotments. It was a casual, flowing garden with large grassed areas interspersed with garden beds of roses, salvias, lupins and other easy care plants. The salvia 'Hot lips' was a favourite along with a Tasmanian-bred rose **Light Touch**. In fact, Australian-bred roses are used extensively throughout the garden, Alister Clark's **Sunlit**, a lovely apricot, **Editor Stewart**, a clear crimson, and **Gwen Nash**, a simple semi-double salmon pink, especially taking my eye.



**Light Touch**, a Tasmanian-bred rose combines with Alister Clark's **Cicely Lascelles** and lupins to create a charming picture in Ros and Steve Murdock's garden at Sandfly.

We then travelled west to Grove, where *Stonehouse*, a unique stone house, was built in 1854 and renovated by the present owners, Dianne and Ian Smith, in 1989. The homestead looks out over lush green rolling hills many of which have been planted with apples – the Smiths have a very extensive organic apple operation with a large international market.

The entrance to the homestead was quite spectacular with a row of full blown **Just Joey** overhung with *Prunus nigra* and backed with manicured lawns, box hedges, exotic trees, and roses. We then walked through an elegant sunroom into the huge back garden where an arch of **Wedding Day** in full flower stopped everyone in their tracks.

Brick and wood edged garden beds interspersed with formal clipped hedges were planted up with old fashioned flowers – violas, aquilegias, foxgloves,

alstroemerias – and a multitude of very healthy roses, mainly David Austins, all in magnificent flower.

From this lush, green, formally planted area one could wander south around to "Frustration Hill" my favourite section of the garden, a wild overgrown woodland garden with gravelled walkways leading through rambling massed plantings of forget-me-nots, echiums, aluminium plants, kiss-me-quicks, ajuga, and other hardies, down to a natural spring incorporated into ponds, waterfalls and a fountain. Then up over a rustic wooden bridge overhung with huge leafed gunnera plants, and a lupin-edged walkway to a gazebo smothered in **Cornelia** and jasmine, where one could sit and admire the magnificent view over the valley and mountains beyond.



David Ruston inspects a section of the garden near the house Dianne Smith's magnificent garden *Stonehouse*, at Grove.



A line of **Just Joey** makes a great statement overhung by *Prunus nigra* at the garden entrance to *Stonehouse*.

South again to Glazier's Bay where we next visited *The Scented Garden*, famous for its David Austin roses. Linda Buchanan and Richard Stapleton now own this garden, which also houses a very attractive B&B. The garden certainly lived up to its name so far as I was concerned, as a long hedge of **Roseaie de l'Hay** running parallel to the immaculate gravelled drive was

awash with its delicious fruity fragrance. Behind this ran a delectable long hedge of more rugosas – *Rosa rugosa Alba*, Agnes, Mrs Anthony Waterhouse, and two favourites of mine, **Rugspin** with its magnificent single deep crimson blooms and **Martin Frobisher**, a Canadian-bred rose, smothered in delightful shell-pink fully double flat flowers. This led into a formal area densely planted with Austins, **Graham Thomas** weighed down with its mass of blooms taking pride of place.

Then on through a trellis of Japanese wisteria with metre-long racemes of mauve, and into the garden proper where climbers and ramblers – **Albertine**, **New Dawn** and offspring **Awakening**, **Sombreuil**, **Devoniensis**, **Francis E. Leister**, **Lamarque**, **Alberic Barbier** – were all growing on a variety of arches and trellises. The tough old seaside daisy looked marvellous interspersed with voluptuous Austins and a “white” area of *Crambe* and lambs ears offset **Francine Austin** and **Winchester Cathedral** to perfection.

An immaculately trimmed huge cypress hedge of National Trust significance edged the western side of the garden.



The Scented Garden at Glazier's Bay

Our last private garden for the day, covering two hectares of undulating country, was at Woodbridge. Here Anna Maria and Bob Magnus grow flowers to sell at the Salamanca Market each week, and their knowledge of the unusual and rare plants they have growing throughout their extensive garden was fascinating. Bob told us the history of the variety of echiums he has growing in a dry area under cypress trees and from there we wandered along extensive grassed walkways past long herbaceous borders filled with such plants as peonies, sedums and roses interspersed with *Mimulus longiflorus* or ‘monkey bush’ with bright yellow flowers. I was very impressed with two plants of **Altissimo** grown as bushy shrubs, an ideal way to treat what is sometimes a straggly climber. A huge range of perennials, both rare and everyday and all jostling for position, coloured the whole garden. I was especially taken by a small Mexican pine that Bob had grown from seed he had collected.

On returning to Hobart we had enough time to spend a couple of hours wandering around the Botanic Gardens

where, of course, viewing Peter Cundall’s vegie patch was a must!

Early the next morning we set off for Port Arthur where we had a short conducted tour of some of the ruins – one would need at least a full day to do justice to the history contained within the buildings and we had but two hours. But we did have time to stroll around the gardens and to relax on a cruise around the Isle of the dead.

During the afternoon we spent time in historic Richmond where we had lunch and later a sumptuous afternoon tea in a charming enclosed garden surrounded by several old timber cottages. Here old-fashioned hardy garden plants such as nemesia, comfrey, penstemons, salvia, nepeta, violets, and nasturtiums all grew in abundance. Richmond has been in the grip of drought for some time and although the countryside had browned off, the gardens still managed to maintain their freshness.

Saturday morning and the Salamanca Market where both busloads met and enjoyed what the many stalls had to offer – we and many hundred other shoppers.

Then off to Lilia Weatherley’s garden in Austin’s Ferry where we had an extremely steep walk up an asphalted common driveway until near the top we branched off to a huge rambling garden crammed full of cascading roses and hardy plants such as echium, foxgloves, euphorbias, and forget-me-nots. Lilia’s adage is “maximum effect comes from a minimum of pruning”, and one certainly sees that in her garden with roses, many of them self-sown seedlings, climbing up and falling over trees and shrubs wherever one looks. A huge mass of Alister Clark’s single pink rambler **Gladsome** had clambered high up into a large *Callitris rhomboidea*, native to the area and looked superb peering down on all of us.

A peaceful seat under a weeping elm, which gave welcome shade on the bright sunny day, was made doubly attractive with **Alberic Barbier** meandering close by. Then there was a family of frogs offering welcome music in the pond at the bottom of the garden. *Iris pseudacorus* made a bright splash of yellow while a large rose bush, a seedling from **Penelope** was set off to perfection reflected in the water.



A restful pond in Lilia Wetherby's garden where has a beautiful seedling of the Hybrid Musk **Penelope** reflected in it.

New Norfolk, further up the Derwent River, was our next stop where we visited *Rosedown*, home of Brenda and Ian Triffitt. This garden was a series of rooms many of them divided by arches, pergolas, and other structures, most of them housing rambling roses. **Fritz Nobis**, with beautiful soft pink fully double blooms, was backed by **Francis E. Lester**, another soft pink but with clusters of small single flowers, making a lovely combination. **Perle d'Or** was growing in combination with **Nevada** and a seedling of **Rosa brunonii** which was threatening to grow up into a nearby London Plane. A semicircular metal archway was massed with huge specimens of **New Dawn**, **Crepuscule**, and **Talisman**. A large spreading **Madame Hardy** was thriving despite growing at the base of a scarlet oak while a massed bed of vivid blue iris looked magnificent growing with **Veilchenblau** and **Silver Moon**. Near the back of the garden we came across a delightful formal rose garden with a central pathway leading to a birdbath and divided by box hedging. Within this was a wonderful mix of old and modern roses with one of my favourite species, **Rosa swegenzowii**, featured several times.



Vivid blue iris backed by **Wedding Day**, **American Pillar**, and **Veilchenblau** all cascading from a wooden trellis at *Rosedown*.

Travelling northeast we came to Hamilton, a very dry area of Tasmania where the average rainfall is 14" (35cm) with only 8" (20cm) falling so far this year. Here we visited *Prospect Villa*, the home of Helen Poynder. This garden was incredible. The small front yard was designed in cottage garden style. Then one walks around to the western side and is confronted with an extensive formal Italianate garden of low box hedges and large gravelled areas with golden Italian cypress giving verticality and golden *Robinias*, statuary and citrus in large Tuscan pots all adding to the atmosphere. The bare hills of the dry landscape are an excellent backdrop to the austere formality of this side garden.

As one moves around to the back cottage garden plants again begin to take over until on the eastern side one is again amazed at the authenticity of an English-styled luxurious cottage garden with campanulas, foxgloves, iris and beautiful climbing roses interwoven with clematis covering a lengthy pergola. (This to me was reminiscent of a romantic garden we visited in France,

that of Andre Eve at Pithiviers. The beautiful fountain buddleia, *Buddleia alternifolia*, which I fell in love with there, is also growing in this garden). This eastern side of the garden is protected by a huge clipped cypress hedge running the length of the property.

On Sunday morning we bade farewell to Hobart and travelled north up the Midland Highway through some very dry country to historic Ross. Here we visited *Ross Homestead Gardens* where we walked through their neat, well-presented nursery into the garden beyond. Two huge eighty year old willows creating a cool and restful ambience dwarfed the back yard which consisted of old fashioned garden plants set amidst mown grass. The well-known Australian bred rose, **Carabella**, was an obvious favourite.

From here we had a long drive northwards to Latrobe and *Poppylands*, the home of Wendy Langton Having read Wendy's comments in the Heritage Rose Journal with much interest – she has been regional coordinator for northern Tasmania for the past two years – I was really looking forward to meeting her. I certainly wasn't disappointed. She was a charming hostess and coped admirably with ninety mainland rosarians – both busloads were in her garden for a while. Her garden also coped – no mean feat in a half acre area crammed full with cottage garden goodies. *Poppylands*, situated on a corner site, is conspicuously a rose lover's garden with ramblers closely planted and spilling over the wooden paling fence – old favourites such as **Dupontii**, **Francois Juranville** and **Albertine**. When one walks beyond the driveway, one is met by **Lady Hillingdon** and **Reve d'Or** growing over an archway with **Adelaide d'Orleans** and **Albertine** successfully hiding the neighbour's better block garage.

In another area an old Hills hoist has been put to good use with **Veilchenblau**, **Violette**, **Amethyste** and **Rose Marie Viaud** – all shades of purple – growing over each corner. This charming picture was made complete with a wonderful collection of old Mosses and Portlands growing at their feet amid a profusion of dianthus, aquilegias, species geraniums and lupins.



*Poppylands*: the delightful cottage belongs to Wendy Langton who lives at Latrobe

We then set off to Deloraine, to *Forest Hall*, the home of Susan Irvine who is well known to so many of us who have read her delightful books especially *The Garden at Forest Hall*. Here she described in fascinating detail the making of her present garden. *Forest Hall* is situated half way up a gentle slope behind a large grassed area and several huge old trees – Deodar cedars, oaks and hollies. A metre high stone retaining wall running the length of the house is topped by a narrow garden border where deep pink peonies held pride of place, toning to perfection with the crimson climbing China, **Felleberg**, that was gracing the verandah columns. Across from the house is a mass of **Carabella**, which leads on down to a variety of species roses looking superb grown in the grass where they can spread to their heart's content – **Rosa sweginzowii** and **Rosa moyesii**, and several of its hybrids, **Rosas californica plena**, **woodsii fendleri** and **glauca**.

One can then wander back towards the house through a series of arches holding such voluptuous beauties as **Constance Spry**, **Awakening**, and **Devoniensis**, past a magnificent double deutzia and under a dense covering of **Cl. Cecile Brunner**. Everywhere one looks there are roses, modern, heritage, shrubs and climbers, all frothing over with flowers. Most of the colours are subdued – apricots, soft yellows, pinks, creams and whites. But every now and then there are vibrant beauties such as **Bloomfield Courage** looking superb coupled with **Adelaide d'Orleans** and **Francis E. Lester**.

The last rose I admired as I was leaving this magnificent garden was a huge mound of Alister Clark's **Mrs. Richard Turnbull**, with masses of luxuriant new crimson growth and dotted with stunning, dinner plate sized single white blooms.



An unknown species-type rose at left, and **Ispahan** at right, at *Forest Hall*, the home of Susan Irvine.

Our home for the next three nights was Launceston, and we set off from there early Monday morning travelling south to Nile where we visited *Strathmore*, a large, historic farmstead, originally built in 1826 on 3,000 acres, and now owned by Sue and Graham Gillon. Sue led us on a fascinating personalised tour through the garden and we were all charmed both by her enthusiasm and her dedication to the garden's

development. After an initial introduction to the farm, which took place on a huge side lawn bordered with what were once stables but now are converted to entertainment facilities, we were taken through a door in a high brick wall into a breathtaking rose garden. Here a long wall houses **Blairii No. 2**, **Constance Spry**, **Albertine**, **Wedding Day**, **Lady Hillingdon** and **Rosa brunonii** with 'Hidcote' lavender thriving as a border. The clematis, 'Duchess of Edinburgh', white in the sun and green in shade and a favourite of Sue's, was featured several times. There were many Austins growing in the garden beds and beyond them were a variety of fruit trees and a very well tended vegetable garden completely encased in a large bird proof metal cage. She was using harvested poppy residue as an experimental mulch throughout the garden in the hope that the birds wouldn't scratch it out so readily. So far it seems to be working. Walking through a hedge of hawthorn and elm one comes to the newest addition to the garden, a formally laid out series of garden beds with four standard 'Mt. Fuji' cherry trees making a grand statement in the centre. Old roses are planted in abundance with the silver cerastium, 'snow in summer' used as an edging.

A few kilometres north brought us to Evandale and *Clarendon Homestead*, owned by the National Trust. A very knowledgeable and interesting guide showed us through the two-storied mansion after which we wandered around the grounds. The formal gardens were contained within two walled areas and were maintained by volunteers most of whom were over seventy years old. Here I was particularly impressed with a bronze/apricot China, **Comtesse du Cayla**.

Our next stop was Hadspen and another public homestead and garden, *Entally House*. The Tasmanian government purchased the property in 1947 and it was opened to the public in 1950. It was later leased by the Gunns company and is all maintained by volunteers, a mammoth achievement as the house, outbuildings and garden are all beautifully restored and presented. Behind the house is a formal walled garden with clipped box hedges, masses of nepeta and beautiful roses all mulched with thick layers of pea straw. Tall spires of magnificent delphiniums and a central iron framework housing two superb clematis (double white and single blue) gave a vertical aspect.



*Entally House*

Another very pretty, long narrow rose garden held up by a dry stone wall over which spilled masses of nepeta covered with bees on the sunny day that we were there, ran the length of the front of the house. Beyond that one could look down over the valley and a park of huge conifers, elms and oaks.



Entally House

We then had a long drive to the west, to Mole Creek, and the hectare garden of *Witchwood*. This is a plantsperson's delight with huge borders filled with unusual perennials, grasses and shrubs. Large copses of silver birch create a lush and relaxed entrance to the garden and casual curved beds, concrete edged borders and well-mown lawns show how meticulously it is maintained. Walking further into the garden one comes across hedges of Rugosas and a lovely shrub, *Rosa spinosissima* **Altaica** with glistening single white flowers. This rose and another *Spinosissima* nearby, the **Dunwich Rose**, also with single white flowers but much smaller, were given to the owner by Susan Irvine. Long clipped hedges along with tasteful modern sculptures give some formality to the garden. In one section a vigorously suckering *Rosa californica* looked superb with pink foxgloves peering through. Moss roses appeared in most of the gardens we visited – Tasmania's climate obviously suits them – and this garden was no exception with **James Mitchell's** clear pink flowers and attractive foliage looking especially attractive.

Our last stop for the day was at *Franklin House*, built as a gentleman's residence in 1838 and bought by the National Trust in 1961, the first National Trust house in Tasmania. The front yard is formally laid out with most of the garden being at the back. The colour scheme is mainly white with a large gazebo covered in **Lamarque** and **Cl. Iceberg** taking centre stage. A very attractive trimmed purple hebe hedge is used as a garden divider and the backdrop consists of huge old trees, pines, blackwoods and oaks. A large, dense *Mermaid* rambler blends beautifully with the buff colour of the handmade bricks and is trained up and around the first storey windows.

Tuesday saw us travelling south again, to Longford and *Brickenden*, historic farm and garden of the Archer family. At the entrance to the property a delightful coachman's cottage had been made into a B&B with the modern shrub rose **Angela** making a bright pink splash of colour. We then walked through a brick gate

way into an extensive lawned area surrounded by large curved beds massed with magnificent roses and perennials. The lovely soft pink **Jacques Cartier** filled in one corner while **Sally Holmes** and **Jaquenetta** blended beautifully with **Windrush** in another. Perennials were growing in large swathes, especially *Lady's Mantle* or *Alchemilla mollis*, a plant I can but dream about in my part of South Australia.

Curved pathways led on through large shrubberies with an enormous variety of unusual plants such as a variegated deutzia, dogwoods, an exquisite *Styrax japonica* with delicate small white hanging bell shaped flowers and a *Stewartia pseudo-camellia* looking like an exotic camellia. From here the paths wandered on into a vast undergrowth of vinca and agapanthus under old oaks, cedars and pines.

The open front of the house had a circular gravelled drive with a huge old Bunya Pine dominating the area and offset by a Linden and Oak all trees probably from the original plantings in the 1820's.

From there it wasn't far to *Woolmer's Estate*, a large historic estate run by the Archer Trust Foundation who took over the property in 1994 after the last of the Archers died. This property, situated on the banks of the Macquarie River at Longford, displays one of the finest collection of roses in the southern hemisphere where nearly 4,000 roses have been planted representing all of the recognised families in the rose world. When one enters the garden a long pergola of the modern apricot/orange climber **Westerland** immediately takes the eye, then there is a long wander up the rise past bed after bed of massed roses until one reaches a large but simple gazebo where one can sit and admire the magnificent views, either over the garden or the surrounding beautiful countryside.

Another highlight of this garden is the kitchen garden, a great learning experience for all vegetable growers. It is very well set out, immaculately maintained and overlooked by the resident "scarecrow", very well dressed with a glass of wine in hand.

Pauline Edmund's garden at Sidmouth, *Petticoat Lane*, was a mass of roses and shrubs making a dense thicket along the road and up the drive. A gigantic mound of **Alberic Barbier** coupled with the white potato creeper, *Solanum jasminoides*, contrasted beautifully



John Zwar admires **Alberic Barbier** at *Petticoat Lane*.

with a nearby copper beech that had *Philadelphus mexicanus* meandering through it. Seedling roses, most of them white ramblers, abounded and scrambled over large shrubs, trellises and arbours. This abundance of self-sown beauty made me decide to nurture some of my own seedlings.

Idiosyncratic oddments scattered throughout made this a unique place. "Mowtown", a graveyard of push mowers nestled amongst a large privet while a "frog house" was secreted away under overhanging trees and shrubs.

There were many rugosas, **Mrs Anthony Waterer** and **Scabrosa** as well as lots of seedlings. These contrasted with the hebes that were grown extensively especially a lovely soft blue one and a beautiful spinosissima, probably **Single Cherry**.

Huge trellised walkways divided one garden room from the next until the area opened out onto an orchard with a casual pond and attractive fountain.



A magnificent array of self-sown seedlings at *Petticoat Lane*

Upstream on the Tamar Estuary at Exeter was our final garden, that of Geraldine Flood, *Comnel Cottage*. This garden sits high on a hill with magnificent views from the front garden over the Tamar Estuary. Shrubs and roses are massed around the boundary. Colourful **Dortmund** grows on a pole in the corner while nearby **Complicata** is a mass of blooms despite being shaded by three willows. A series of steps lead down to **Lamarque** housing a lovely little statue.

In the side garden overlooked by the kitchen window a dear little arbour covered with **Constance Spry** looks out to a formal grassed area with **Seagull**, **Lamarque** and **Albertine** smothering the fence beyond.

The back yard is dominated by a magnificent vegetable garden with a difference. Along with the usual vegetables, all formally laid out and very healthy, there are trellises of roses and clematis with a clipped hedge on each side, as well as a variety of herbs, some edible and some not. **Cl. Pinkie** grown along the central axis was making a great show as was **Hero**, covering a small arbour and **Paul Ricault** smothering the outer fence in pink blooms. Many of us commented on the largest **Apricot Nectar** we'd ever seen, grown as a climber and about ten feet high.

I can't leave this garden without mentioning **Pierre de Ronsard**, covering a fence and a mass of soft pink. This rose is obviously a favourite of Geraldine's as she has it growing to perfection in several areas.

Our Tasmanian holiday was filled with beautiful gardens owned by knowledgeable and enthusiastic gardeners and organised by the most knowledgeable and enthusiastic gardener of them all, David Ruston. To him must go our heartfelt thanks for a most memorable holiday. 📖



**Pierre de Ronsard** grown to perfection by Geraldine Flood

John and Sue Zwar live on a small farm in South Australia at Coonawarra, *the* premium wine growing region of Australia they say (with no bias of course). They have a ten acre garden which they started from scratch in 1976 when they bought the property, built their house, and began the garden.

From the stately old red gums scattered throughout the farm and the garden John made up the farm's name of *Camawald* from the botanical name for red gum, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*.

Sue's chief garden loves are trees and heritage roses. Sally Allison wrote a description of our garden after she visited it *en route* to New Zealand after the Busselton Conference, and Sue told her to say that we would always welcome any rose enthusiast who would like to visit us.

"I never tire of chatting about roses. They certainly become a passion".

To adequately describe the three days of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Heritage Roses Conference within a 1,500 word article is challenge I'll only manage by committing the crime of not mentioning the fabulous grand rose gardens of Paris – *Bagatelle* and *Roseraie de l'Hay*. These gardens were everything I'd seen in books and then some, even though an unseasonably beautiful April followed by an equally unseasonable terrible May had resulted in a somewhat rose-less June.



*Bagatelle*: a beautiful garden, but not reported on here

There were 134 attendees at the Conference, representing 23 different countries. The largest contingent was 23 attendees from New Zealand. This presented quite a puzzle to those aware that New Zealand was the smallest and most farthest-flung country, while the Kiwis preened and smugly felt that their reputation for being the world's most enthusiastic heritage rosarians was now globally secure.

The lectures and Conference banquet were held in the Orangery of the *Abbaye Royale de Chaalis*, just outside Senlis, 50km north of Paris. Originally a Cistercian monastery, the *Abbaye* is now most famous for its museum, Italian fresco, and the rose garden created by André Gamard in 1998. Possibly because of its more domestic scale, the *Abbaye* rose garden was our favourite French rose garden, and I strongly recommend this garden be placed on your must-see list of gardens.

André Gamard was also the first presenter at the Conference. The seeming puzzle of his topic, *Wild roses in today's therapeutics*, was explained by André's having trained as a pharmacist before realising that his heart lay in landscape gardening. It was an excellent presentation, and the audience endorsements of the products mentioned were a fascinating addition.

Peter Boyd's presentation on his collection of rose in his hillside Shropshire garden, *Scots Roses and Pimpinellifolias*, was one of the Conference highlights, and left us eager to learn more of these roses.

The next speaker was the extremely witty and entertaining Stephen Scanniolo, talking about *Early French Roses in America*, and about the many rose legends – “hundreds and all true” – of the roses that were sent across from Josephine's garden to an unknown American garden, and of the many “Shipwreck Roses” from the 1842 grounding of the *Louis Philippe*, of which investigations revealed that only one, **Celsiana**, could possibly have come from that ship. It's good to know that other countries have these myths (and myth busters), but equally easy to understand how many people would prefer to keep the fairy dust on their myths and on their roses.

The first morning's lectures ended with Odile Masquelier's amazing talk on *Lyon Rose Breeders and Lyon Painters* - Odile has actually managed to identify and name roses painted on the old Lyon canvases!

Helga Bricchet, who was born in South Africa, married a Belgian, and now lives adjacent to Tuscany in Umbria, 400m above sea level, was the first to present on the second day. Helga's passion is her **Rosa gigantea** hybrid collection – the Alister Clark hybrids, and we saw some photos of these trained up into olive trees: the grey foliage certainly flatters their bright blooms! Helga spoke on *Some Little Known Roses in Europe*, including rarities **Rosa rapinii**, reputed to be the ancestor of the golden **Rosa hemispherica**, and the similar but differently descended **Rosa foetida**.

Dr Yuki Mikanagi followed with a brilliant presentation on rose colours, having isolated and analysed the chemical responsible for the bright red colour in China roses, and found it distinctly different to that of the red Gallica roses. Analysing the red pigment in different roses has allowed her to determine which red roses owe their colour to China parentage, and which to Gallica parentage. Yuki reminded us all that we live at the end of only 200 years of coloured roses, with Shakespeare and Botticelli having lived and died without ever having seen a truly red rose. The *Curtis Botanical Magazine* introduced England to real red roses in 1794, so it's very probable that Robbie Burns in “My love is like a red, red rose” was talking about the real thing

From dwelling on the sense of sight we sashayed into a treatise on scent with M. André of France. Modern rose breeders use professional perfumers to help them describe fragrances both to themselves and to their customers, who still need to be educated much more about scent. In addition to the quality/quantity dichotomy, we need to understand that roses are most fragrant from 11am to 1pm, and that scent changes during the day, and with the season, the current weather, and the weather a couple of days ago. As an example, **Souvenir de Marcel Proust** (1993), smells of lemongrass between 10am – 1pm, then of tea until 3pm, and then of nothing at all.

The final fascinating presentation of the second day was *Wild Roses in India*, from Vira Viraraghavan. Having known little of Indian roses, I soon learnt about the world's only tropical rose *Rosa clinophylla*, growing on islands in the Ganges; *Rosa microphylla*, sporting the largest hips of any rose on the planet; and the yellowest variant of *Rosa gigantea* yet discovered, at 2,200', with buds as yellow as **Lady Hillingdon's** and hips that mature yellow. *Rosa clinophylla* particularly caught my attention – it lives submerged for six months of the year before being baked for several months in 45°C of dry heat – what a survivor!



Morning tea at the Abbaye

The last day of the Conference was very grand, with presentations on the *Reggia di Caserta*, *Malmaison*, Charles Quest-Ritson's on *Imperial Splendour, the British contribution to rose breeding*, and the sartorial splendour of the Conference dinner.

Francesco Canestrini is the architect and Curator of the English Garden at the *Reggia di Caserta*. This garden appears to have originally arisen as the result of sibling rivalry on a regal scale between Marie Antoinette and her elder sister Maria Carolina, the wife of Ferdinand IV de Bourbon, and is a botanical collector's dream planted around typically Italian bits of landscape and sculpture – the *Bain de Venus* was very picturesque, although I was pretty taken with the *Nymphaeum* having two nymphs myself at home to house. In restoring the rose garden, Francesco had to balance the botany and picturesque-ness of the gardens with the architecture and history, and discover the original position of the rose garden, which turned out to be under glasshouses constructed in the 1980s. The design of original garden proved no problem in the end, once the plans had been located in the enormously extensive archives that still remain as *la Biblioteca Palatina* – this appears to have been a royal establishment that threw nothing away.

Tackling the archives had been an enormous task, but clearly of much help to Silvana Panadisi and Stefania Perito, who planned and stocked the garden with historically authentic roses. This planting has only recently been completed, so by the time I've saved up enough money to return to Europe the roses will have grown and fulfilled their promise. The presentation went on to point out the affinity and similarities between Naples and Paris during the 1803-1873 period, and encouraged us to reflect on the fashion and passion for collecting things at that time in history. To everyone's surprise, the French influence in the archive catalogues studied was considerable, and the choices made in designing and stocking rose gardens in France and Italy were quite similar. The biggest surprise though was that of the 104 roses identified as having been in the *Caserta* gardens, 48 had been pictured by Redouté.

The last presentation from François Joyaux concerned the roses of *Malmaison*. In researching *The Collection of Roses of the Empress Josephine* François has had a much tougher time than the Italian ladies, as politics played a substantial role in what historical material was preserved, however he discovered that Josephine ordered roses from the Vineyard Nursery of Hammersmith, England, that she could just as easily order from local suppliers – a true indication of her love of all gardening things English. After very extensive study, only 25 species and varieties of roses can be affirmed as having been grown at *Malmaison*, and ten of these either cannot be identified or are not being grown anymore. This is distressing given that François estimates there would have been between 500 and 800 species and varieties among the 2,500 rose bushes growing at *Malmaison* in its heyday.

Overall it was a fantastic Conference, and we owe it all to François Joyaux, who single-handedly masterminded and organised the entire Conference. In this he appears to have departed the plain of mere mortals, and entered the realm of the demi-gods – and more importantly, has set an example which others are keen to emulate, as offers of Conferences in Madiera and Japan have already been received.

Thank-you François, for an unforgettable Conference, and the opportunity to meet and mingle with like-minded rosarians. 📖



François Joyaux, the mastermind behind the Conference

# heritage roses in New Zealand

by Fran Rawling, New Zealand

Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc. is the result of a dream shared by two old rose enthusiasts: Toni Sylvester and the late Ken Nobbs. As Guest Editor for the September 2005 HRNZI Journal Toni wrote:

It is hard to believe that 25 years have passed since Ken and I took a big leap in faith and founded Heritage Roses New Zealand. And yes, I have had an awful lot of fun along the way.

Back in 1980 when Heritage Roses New Zealand began, our main objective was to seek out and make contact with other old rose lovers – both to share information and personal experiences, but especially to learn from, and pass on, the knowledge of the real old rose experts, such as Nancy Steen, Ann Endt, Alison Drummond, Jessie Mould and Lynley Wood, while it was still possible.

The tentative beginnings of a small group quickly burgeoned into a very active society, with keen members all over New Zealand and overseas. Interest in old roses had been greatly stimulated by the publication of Nancy Steen's inspiration work *The Charm of Old Roses*. At that time in the fast moving area of social change people were looking for constancy in their lives, and the timelessness of old roses and the nostalgia they evoked had great appeal.

The first AGM in June 1981 saw a membership of 245, with the Society's garden visits attracting 300 visitors. The production of a biannual Journal proved so popular that in June 1983 it became a quarterly production, and has remained so for 25 years. Also in 1983 the draft constitution was granted approval by the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, and the document signed by 20 members.

The following year, after many hours of negotiating and planning, *The Nancy Steen Garden* was officially opened in Parnell, Auckland. In 2005 this garden was awarded one of the three inaugural HRNZI Plaques in recognition of a significant planting of heritage and historic planting of old roses.

In early 1984 a very keen Taranaki member suggested New Zealand should host the very first International Heritage Roses Conference. With Roger Sringett at the helm, after 10 months of planning the event took place in the small rural community of Hawera, with an attendance of 170 delegates. Featuring international speakers and local garden tours the Conference was by all accounts a "raging success".

The Auckland Region administered and nurtured HRNZI for eight years, during which time members ensured the society was firmly entrenched in New Zealand's horticulture scene. It was then time for new blood, and Christchurch became the first South Island National Executive in June 1988. This group was responsible for organizing a speaking tour to Auckland and Christchurch by Christopher Lloyd and Beth

Chatto, which proved to be very popular with members. This same group also hosted the Fourth International Heritage Roses Conference in Christchurch, a Conference that is still talked about today as one full of roses and friendly hosts who provided an outstanding programme.

The National Executive stayed with Christchurch until May 1995, during which time the financial membership grew to 1648.

The Southland Region then manned the helm for next three very busy years. Their highlights included a sponsored visit by Rosamund Wallinger in November 1995; a two day *Celebration of Roses Conference* in 1996; a visit by Walter Wilde; and, in November 1997, Odile Masquelier was brought out to New Zealand on a speaking tour. During this time membership rose to 1989 financial members, which remains the peak of popularity for the society. The Journal continued to be published quarterly and continued to provide a vital communication link for old rose lovers.

In October 1998 the National Executive returned to the North Island to be managed by members of the Bay of Plenty Region. Under their administration the Constitution was formalised, with special reference to membership rules; a website was introduced; and the President began the practice of writing to Convenors on a regular basis to keep them informed of happenings at the National Executive level. The Journal went to colour, and in November 1999 the membership stood at 1466. Convenors were asked to compile a list of old rose gardens in their region which were published on the website.

The highlight of the Bay of Plenty term in office was the bringing of Peter Beales from England to New Zealand for a ten-day tour in November 2000. The following year Gerry Kruger of the USA toured New Zealand following a speaking engagement in Marlborough.

Membership dropped dramatically from 2000 to 2001. Garden trends were changing and televised programmes were promoting "easy-care, unchanging gardens". In November 2001 membership ad dropped to 725 when Bay of Plenty ended its term as National Executive.



In 2001 a very enthusiastic member of Otago not only offered Otago as the region to take over National Executive, but also bid for the tenth International Heritage Roses Conference to be held Dunedin. Both offers were accepted, but unfortunately the member then moved out of the region on promotion, and was unable to partake in either venture. However, Otago old roses lovers are not daunted by a challenge, and so began their six years of nurturing HRNZI.

In January 2002 Otago took over as the National Executive, and immediately brought together a team to plan for the 10<sup>th</sup> International Heritage Roses Conference. In this first year as the National Executive Pat Toolan was brought over from Adelaide to share her enthusiasm for, and to emphasise the importance of conserving the old roses that had been planted in cemeteries. Pat toured New Zealand for two weeks, inspiring members in all the regions.

Otago also assembled a complete set of all Journals and HRNZI publications, and made arrangements for them to be stored in the Hocken Library, an archival library based in Dunedin. With a copy of each Journal being sent to the library following publication, our Society's information has been secured, and can be sourced by future generations.

In 2004, as a result of savings made on Journal costs, and to promote a love of old roses, the National Executive gifted \$200 to each of the nineteen regions for the planting of old roses in a public garden. Eighteen regions enthusiastically took up the challenge.

2005 saw the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc. The logo was altered to include "Established in 1980" and three awards were introduced. These were:

- *The Nancy Steen Award*, to recognise New Zealanders who had made a significant contribution to promoting old roses
- *The HRNZI Service Award*, to recognise members who had made a significant contribution to HRNZI
- *The HRNZI Plaque*, to recognise significant plantings of old roses in public places which are open for the public to view

The inaugural presentation of these awards was made at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Heritage Roses Conference in December 2005.

This Conference brought together old rose lovers from twelve different countries to explore the theme "old roses: ours today, theirs tomorrow". In the words of one of the international seminar presenters "[The Conference] was like I had died and gone to rose heaven"!

Post-Conference activities saw the introduction of *The Heritage Roses New Zealand Research Scholarship*. An investment has been made to cover the research grant and costs involved in its administration. The scholarship will be presented annually to a New Zealand resident HRNZI member for rose-related research to be undertaken and written up for the

HRNZI Journal within twelve months of the scholarship being awarded. Two scholarships are presently on offer for 2008.

To promote collegiality amongst members at a regional level the National Executive introduced two initiatives:

1. In mid-2006 each region was offered \$1,000 to host a seminar to promote a love of old roses in their community. To date most South Island regions and many North Island regions have risen to the challenge, bringing in notable speakers and incorporating other stimulating rose-related activities.
2. Our Editor toured each region to meet members and learn of the historic tales of old roses that have been known only to locals for so many years. These stories will now be shared through our Journal, which continues to be published quarterly.

In October 2007 Otago finished their extended term as National Executive, and passed the baton to new President Jocelen Janon and his Auckland team to lead Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc. into the future.

The Auckland National Executive have reaffirmed our commitment to the conservation of rare roses, and in partnership with Joanne and Norm Knight of Katikati, have budded a selection of rare roses no longer commercially available, and will offer these 500 roses to New Zealand members in about eighteen months time.

The HRNZI website <http://www.HeritageRoses.org.nz> has been updated and its presentation now incorporates the colours, theme, and layout of the new-look Journal.

Presently our financial membership stands at about 750, with the population in our country just recently exceeding four million.

The regional seminars were successful in raising the profile of Heritage Roses at a local level, while articles in national gardening magazines have kept us in the spotlight nationally. New members continue to join our ranks around the country, and the passion for growing old roses in New Zealand continues. 📖



Roger Phillips, Sally Allison, Tina Milanovic and Mike Shoup: keynote speakers at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Heritage Roses Conference held in Dunedin, New Zealand in December 2005.

---

## the history of Sakura city

by Dr Yuki Mikanagi, Japan

---

Sakura is a city located 15km from the Tokyo International Airport of Narita (Chiba Prefecture), and 40km from metropolitan Tokyo (formerly named Edo). The climate is relatively temperate, with an average annual temperature of approximately 15°C.

Sakura has a notable history. Especially during the Edo era, spanning about 260 years (1603-1867), Sakura prospered as a castle town, which dignitaries of the Tokugawa (Edo) Shogunate were appointed as feudal lords to govern. In the mid nineteenth century, when Japan emerged from its period of isolation and the new Meiji government was established, central government infantry regiments were stationed at the former site of Sakura Castle. During World War II, many young men were sent from the Sakura regiments to overseas battlefields, never to return – a sorrowful page in our city's history. After the end of the war in August, 1945, most of the military facilities were demolished. Sakura became a modern city, with cultural facilities such as museums of art and Japanese history arranged amidst its abundant greenery and natural beauty.

During the period of isolation in the Edo era, Japan had diplomatic relations only with Korea, and conducted overseas trade only with the Netherlands and China. The reason for these restrictive measures was that the shogunate was wary of any Christian influence in Japan. Little contact with foreign countries had resulted in peace generally prevailing throughout the Edo era. In the mid nineteenth century however, vessels from foreign countries such as the U.S. and Russia frequently entered Japanese waters to demand the opening of Japan's ports.

The feudal lord of Sakura at that time, Masayoshi Hotta, was simultaneously the prime minister and foreign minister of the shogunate government. He was convinced that, "To compete with Western countries, Japan needs to enhance its strength through foreign trade." He decided to open the country, and tried to first negotiate a commercial treaty with the United States. However, he was in the minority in Japan, with the conservatives who insisted on maintaining isolationism being in the majority. Nevertheless, in 1858, the shogunate government forced through the signing of "The Commercial Treaty between Japan and the US", followed by the signing of treaties with the Netherlands, Russia, Great Britain, and France successively. It was an epoch-making event for our country. Hotta's dream of "opening the country to the outside world" was finally realized.

On the other hand, among the reforms Hotta promoted during his domain-administration

duties, his work to develop outstanding human resources via his special focus on educational reform is viewed as a great contribution – not only to Sakura, but also to the nation's modernization. The talented students who emerged with this education played prominent and leading roles in the process of modernizing Japan, in a wide range of fields – including politics, economics, military affairs, education, medicine, art, and the world of thought.

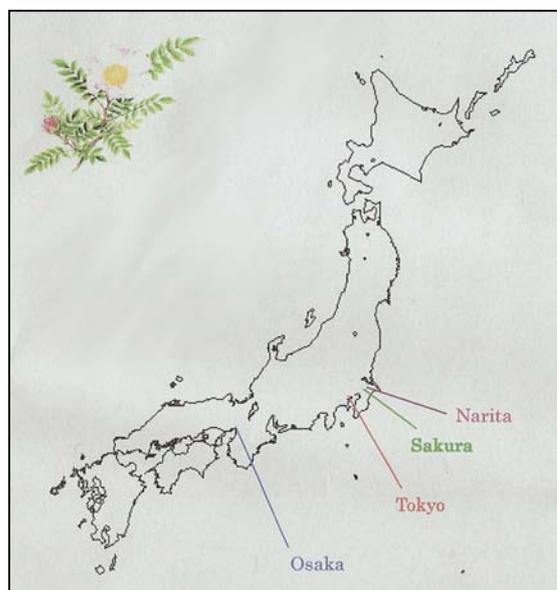
Concerning the field of rose-growing, one notable person was Sen Tsuda. He sought a method of agriculture based upon the teachings of Christianity, and invested his own money in the establishment of an agricultural school, which was credited with nurturing future leaders of Japanese modern agriculture. Clara Mary Leete, the wife of James Curtis Hepburn, a contemporary American medical missionary in Japan, wrote in her diary:

May 24, 1876 – Sen Tsuda invited us to pick strawberries, and I found blooming in his garden the most beautiful roses I've ever seen.

In Tokyo there is a college named *Tsuda Juku Daigaku*, one of the top-level women's colleges in Japan. It was founded in 1900 by Umeko Tsuda as a pioneering all-female advanced education institution stressing academic achievement – a contrast to the then-prevalent focus on teaching women domestic arts. This Umeko Tsuda was the daughter of Sen Tsuda.

Another Sakura resident, Count Masatomo Hotta, the son of Masayoshi, became the first president of "The Imperial Rose Society of Japan".

It seems fate meant for Sakura City (whose name is pronounced the same as "cherry blossom" in Japanese) to be linked with roses... 📖



---

# International Heritage Rose Conference, Sakura, Japan

## 21<sup>st</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2011

---

### programme

#### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

Registration and Information at the hotel  
Welcome Party at Kusabue-no-oka Rose Garden

#### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Registration and Information at the hotel  
Pre-Conference Tour  
to "International Roses and Gardening Show"

#### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

Morning Lectures  
Afternoon Bus Tour to Sakura Castle Park,  
National Museum of Japanese History, and Sake  
Tasting at Traditional Brewery

#### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

Morning Lectures  
Afternoon Bus Tour to Kusabue-no-oka Rose  
Garden and Kawamura Memorial Museum of  
Art

#### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

Morning Lectures  
Afternoon Bus Tour to the garden of Keisei  
Rose Nurseries and Naritasan Shinshoji Temple  
Farewell Dinner

#### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

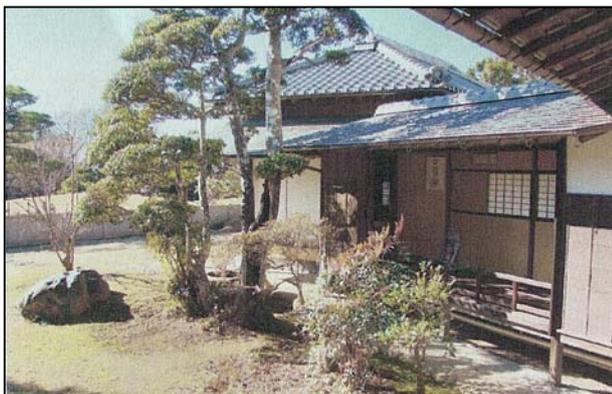
##### **Optional Post-Conference Tour**

Choose one of the following three tours:

- Tour 1 Flower Festival Commemorative Park,  
Gifu
- Tour 2 World Heritage "Shrines and Temples of  
Nikko"
- Tour 3 Echigo Hillside National Government  
Park Rose Garden

### the venue of the Conference

Old Hotta House: the former residence of the  
last Lord of Sakura



### accommodation

Wish ton Hotel Yukari  
4-8-1 Yukarigaoka,  
Sakura-City,  
Chiba, 285-0858,  
JAPAN  
Telephone: 81-43-489-6111

### transportation

If you come from Narita International Airport,  
there is a direct train service between the airport  
station and the Yukarigaoka station.

The hotel is located just beside the Yukarigaoka  
station.

The train starts every 20 minutes from the  
airport (Keisei Line) We are planning on  
providing a shuttle bus service between the hotel  
and venue of the conference.

### Contact

Heritage Rose Conference in Sakura Organizing  
Committee

Chairman: Mr. Katsuhiko Maebara

NPO Rose Culture Institute  
Sakura Kusabue-no-oka Rose Garden  
820 lino,  
Sakura-City,  
Chiba, 285-0003,  
JAPAN

Fax: 81-43-486-9356

e-mail: [maebara0393@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:maebara0393@yahoo.co.jp)