



The Rose Society of South Australia Inc.

Bulletin

Volume 62, Number 4

Oct, Nov, Dec 2023

Veterans' Honour

Our mission: To provide excellence and innovation in the promotion of the rose

spring



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The Rose Society of South Australia Inc encourages, fosters, and extends the cultivation and appreciation of the rose. It also arranges, sponsors and conducts talks, demonstrations, exhibitions and shows, in line with its Constitution.

ABOUT

The Rose Society of South Australia's *Bulletin* is the official publication of the Society for members. It is produced quarterly in hard copy and digital formats.

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Members of The Rose Society of South Australia and invited guests provide content for this publication. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc or the Editor.

www.sarose.org.au

Members login: Peace

Wagner's code: 100%ROSES!

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COVER PHOTO Image of *Veterans' Honour* supplied by Knight's Roses

The Hybrid Tea *Veterans' Honour* (*City of Newcastle*) was bred by Dr Keith W. Zary in the United States in 1997. It typically grows to up to 150cm in height. Its large double flowers are borne mostly singly and it flushes throughout the season. *Veteran's Honour* features in Gwen Moxham's story on Roses and War, pages 23 to 26.



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A message from the President

Although it feels like *deja vu*, I am thrilled to be leading our membership for the second time. I strongly believe that our Society (along with most other membership-based volunteer organisations) is at a critical time in our history. An ageing membership and a reluctance of younger members to commit to leadership roles presents real challenges and make me question the future.



Gavin Woods ARA

The National Rose Society of Australia has formed a group consisting of National Executive, State Presidents and one other key person from each state to discuss the challenges presented to us around membership sustainability and succession planning. No earth-shattering solutions have been found thus far, but several great ideas have been shared. We hope that through collaboration and a touch of innovation, some solutions can be found. Time will tell.

I want to offer a huge thank you to our former Executive members who have steered our Society through some challenging years. Diane vom Berg provided stable and calm leadership during a time when most of us gave up coming to meetings. Diane led a team that reinvented our Society's activities in order to accommodate the changing needs of our membership. This is a process that will continue to evolve during the course of the current Council. Diane has made the extraordinary decision to support the current Council as Secretary, a role to my mind made even more daunting due to the fact that she holds the current Presidency for the World Federation of Rose Societies. Diane is one of many members, both past and present, who display exemplary commitment to our hobby. Thanks, Diane.

John Humphries retired from the role of Secretary at the recent Annual General Meeting (AGM). John has served Council with distinction as Councillor, Treasurer and latterly as Secretary. I enjoyed working with John over many years as we share a similar sense of humour and also a similar intolerance of fools! I know that John will continue to support Society activities as directed by wife Maureen (who thankfully remains on Council).

Graeme vom Berg has retired as Treasurer, a role undertaken to support Diane and to maintain household harmony! I think we have piqued Graeme's interest in roses; or maybe cured him of having anything to do with roses again! Thank you most sincerely Graeme. Your efforts have been appreciated.

Melanie Trimper has retired from Council and her role with publicity. Considering the enormous workload involved in performing Secretarial duties for the World Convention

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A message from the President continued

last year, Melanie missed no opportunity in promoting the Rose and our Society. We thank Melanie for her concentrated efforts.

Aileen Scott has also finally called it a day after over 25 years on Council including a three-year term as President. Aileen is an astute administrator and will be sorely missed. We wish Aileen and husband Allan much peace and happiness residing in Victor Harbor. I am sure that Aileen will remain involved in many Society activities.

We have some new members of Council, three of whom have served before and one who is brand new; I thank them for agreeing to serve the Society. The remainder of Councillors are returning from the previous Council and prior. I am excited that we have a good combination of experience and new ideas that will serve us well throughout the short and medium future. Councillors are a conduit between the members and our governance requirements. Please offer your suggestions and ideas to these people. I am always happy to talk to any members about issues of concern or ideas for improvement.

The AGM saw the elevation of five members to the society's highest award, that of Life-Membership. John Humphries, Angus Irwin, Chris Kelly, Pam Kelly and George Thomson were considered to have delivered outstanding and meritorious service to the Society. I offer my congratulations to these very worthy recipients.

As usual, the Society has a busy run-up to Christmas with our Spring Show scheduled at the fabulous Garden Grove Nursery. We were lucky enough to experience the extraordinary generosity of this iconic South Australian business in 2021 and I am pleased that we are returning. The success of previous "Community classes" will see the opportunity for members of the public to enter their best rose and compete for awards.

A publicity stand at the Royal Adelaide Show has offered us another opportunity to promote the many benefits of membership and to impart our love of the rose to the public. We appreciate the effort of our volunteers who managed this stand over the 10 days of the show.

The National AGM in Perth should once again see delegates and other interested rosarians meet to enjoy the National Rose Show. The Rose Society of WA has a full program planned.

Our Christmas function will again be held at the beautiful and historic Auchendarroch House and is sure to be a wonderful event. I look forward to hosting as many members as possible to a celebration that only our Society can achieve.

A couple of monthly meetings will round out the year, with Council reviewing our meeting format and venues. We are constantly trying to meet the needs of all members; increasingly there is a disparity between the needs of our more senior members and those of our younger recruits. Wish us luck in finding a solution!

Kim and I wish you all a wonderful Spring flush of roses, and a peaceful and joyful Christmas with family and friends. I hope we see many of you in the coming months.

Gavin

New Society Life Members and retiring Council members honoured at AGM

A year of “highs”, including the World Rose Convention of 2022, ended with “high fives” at the Rose Society of South Australia's Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 12th July 2023. Several new Life Memberships were announced and five stalwarts of the Rose Society's Council were thanked as they bowed out.

The contributions of new Life Members, John Humphries, Angus Irwin, Chris and Pam Kelly, and George Thomson ARA AL CA, feature on pages 9 to 13. They were outlined by President, Diane vom Berg. Each new Life Member, except George Thomson, was able to be present, and it was surprise for each. The attendance of South East Branch President, Marjorie Todd, added a special touch to the announcement about George.



Life Members: John Humphries (left), Angus Irwin, Pam Kelly and Chris Kelly. Diane vom Berg, now Immediate Past President, presented George Thomson with his Life Member badge and certificate at a meeting of the South East Branch *Image: Melanie Trimper*

Neutrog's Managing Director, Angus Irwin, had been spun a yarn inviting him to attend. He was among about 40 at the meeting. He spoke on Neutrog's partnership with

Continued next page

Welcome to New Members of the Rose Society of South Australia

Dianne Reimann of Evanston Gardens, and Tanya Bartmann-Bullock and Jane Bartmann of Tanunda. Fellow rosarians hope to see you at meetings and events soon.



Ordering and Delivery

Neutrog's online store is always open

Dates and times for collection at Metropolitan and Kanmantoo sites will be provided with the confirmation of your order.

A general collection date (eg late March) will be provided for regional collection points. You will be contacted by a collection coordinator to arrange collection once the delivery has been confirmed with Neutrog's carrier.

Questions regarding ordering should be referred to Neutrog or Paul (RSSA) on 0409 096 758.



Special guests included the Deputy Director of Living Collections at the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium, Dr Leonie Scriven, and speakers—Neutrog’s Managing Director, Angus Irwin and FELCO’s Business Unit Manager, Chris Minke



President, Diane vom Berg (centre), thanked retiring Council members, John Humphries, Graeme vom Berg (left), Mary Frick, Melanie Trimper and Aileen Scott (absent) for the substantial and varied contributions each has made to the Society.

the Society and newer products. These included *Sudden Impact for Lawns*, incorporating *Popul8*, and the trial of *Human Beans*.

Another highlight for the near 40 people attending was a presentation by FELCO Business Unit Manager, Chris Minke, who spoke about all things secateurs and new products, among them FELCO 981, which removes dirt and even resin from cutting blades.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement

These were provided at the meeting. They show the RSSA is in a positive financial situation. For a copy, contact new Treasurer, Paul Flavel.

Penelope Schulz and Gwen Moxham's bench winners

Les Johnson continued his wins with **Golden Gardens** taking out 1st and 2nd in B Grade, one of which took out Best Rose. He also won the Open section with **Mary Rose**. Gwen and Ken Moxham won A Grade with a bud of **Belle of Berlin**. **Popcorn**, **Lorraine Lee**, and a gay arrangement by Charlotte Wells, featured in Blooms from my Garden.



Charlotte Wells heeded a call made by Rose Judge Gwen Moxham (June) for those coming to meetings to bring something colourful from the garden, just for the sheer joy of sharing a rose bloom and/or other blooms during winter months.

Your 2023—2024 Council Members were elected unopposed

President	Vice Presidents	Other Council Members	
Gavin Woods	Kelvin Trimper	John Bradshaw	Jen McCormick
Immediate Past President and Secretary	Penelope Schulz	Tate Hancox	Celia Painter
Diane vom Berg	Treasurer	Maureen Humphries	
	Paul Flavel	Joy Johnson	

Life Member



John Humphries

The depth, breadth and diversity of tasks undertaken by John Humphries over 25 years is considered to be "special, outstanding and exemplary"—criteria shared by each of the Rose Society of South Australia's (RSSA's) new Life Members, announced at the 2022–2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

John's service, described as "great" in his nomination, included undertaking the role of Auditor in 2009, 2010 and 2016.

He took on the position of Treasurer in 2011, holding it through to 2014, before taking up the baton for the position again in 2017 and working in the role to 2020. Throughout, the Rose Society saw a great increase in revenue, principally due to its agreement with Neutrog. The Society's twice-yearly shows were particularly demanding, involving responsibility for all money coming and going for entrance fees, raffles, gift shelf sales, lunches and afternoon teas, and delivering prize money to winning exhibitors.



John Humphries

In 2021, John accepted the position of Secretary, serving in the role until the recent AGM, a task requiring many hours of dedicated work, particularly for an organisation the size of the RSSA.

Overall, John served on Council and in the capacities above with six Presidents, a commitment described in his nomination as, "A remarkable generosity for any organisation".

However, his support has extended beyond the responsibilities of an office bearer. It has stretched to the branches and to logistics of other RSSA activities.

On one occasion he and wife, Maureen, packed their car and trailer with roses from Knights Roses and transported them to the Field Day on Eyre Peninsula. They stayed to assist Roses on Eyre over the weekend. Another example was his work in finding a more centralised location for the Society's storage unit, moving all contents and repacking them in the new unit. Subsequently, he has packed, and delivered equipment from the storage unit to Rose Shows, and transported them back to storage after these events.



Life Member

Angus Irwin ARA



Angus Irwin

The vision, drive, marketing expertise, creative talent and generosity of Angus Irwin ARA, Managing Director of Neutrog Australia, is seen as laying groundwork of a relationship between the Rose Society of South Australia (RSSA) and the South Australian based company, with the RSSA flourishing as a result.

It is a partnership that began in 1998 and continues with strength today, impacting positively on the financial state and membership of the Society, with Neutrog passing on fertiliser royalties to the RSSA from 2002.

In the early years of the partnership, Angus and his team were directly involved in promotional activities, including addressing the RSSA at Branch

meetings and workshops, and having a presence at shows as well as other RSSA activities.

Some of the fundamental features of the relationship cited in the nomination for Angus were:

- Financial royalties of \$740,000 passed onto the RSSA.
- The development of products that have revolutionised the way roses are grown.
- Discounted prices for RSSA members
- Product donations
- Excellent promotional activities
- RSSA members being given the chance to become shareholders following an equity crowd-funding campaign.
- Commitment, time and effort in speaking, liaising, developing and maintaining the relationship.

The nomination said: "It is difficult to imagine where the RSSA and its financial state and membership would be without Angus's continuing support."

Life Member



Chris Kelly

Chris Kelly joined the Rose Society of South Australia (RSSA) on 28th November 1997 and has given exemplary service throughout 25 years of dedicated membership.

In 2001, Chris, undertook the role of *Bulletin* Editor, jointly with his wife Pam, bringing dedication, precision and fresh approaches to the publication. For instance, he introduced a coloured cover to the publication in the final year of his editorship, seven years later. In the early years, a few volunteers from the Society met at the home of Chris and Pam to fold and place the *Bulletin* in an envelope in preparation for posting. A welcome cuppa and refreshments were always provided.



Chris Kelly

In 2004, Chris took over the demanding role of web administrator and continues the website activities today. The website gradually evolved into a useful resource for rose information and provided the Society with another avenue for promotion of the rose. In January 2010, the *Rose of the Month* was added to the website. The year 2014 saw a modern upgrade and an interactive website emerge. On a regular basis, Chris monitors and uploads information on the website. This includes; promoting Society branches and their activities, providing details of meetings and events, and adding help and advice on rose growing and general news. He also incorporated a contact form into the site to enable people to ask questions online. Chris then sources the appropriate person to respond.

In 2007, Chris served as a member of RSSA's Council.

In addition to these responsibilities, Chris has been the nominations Secretary for RSSA Shows, held twice yearly, for many years. From Wednesday evening until Friday prior to the show, Chris accepts nominations from exhibitors for their entries and prints all the documentation required for the show. On the Saturday morning of each show, at a very early hour, Chris sets up his computer and documentation, with the latter ready for exhibitors to collect. The results of Show judging are ultimately delivered to Chris for data entry and distribution. From this information, the cards with the names of prize winners are printed.

Chris worked closely with Doug Gregory, trialling the advanced computer program developed for show purposes. This is typical of activities behind the professional reputation of the RSSA.



Life Member

Pam Kelly



Pam Kelly

The flip side of the gold sovereign that produced the Rose Society of South Australia's (RSSA's) *Bulletin* for many years and who has undertaken other tasks to benefit members is Pam Kelly.

Pam joined the RSSA in 1997 and has given continued and dedicated service across 25 years of membership.

From 2001 until 2007, Pam undertook the role of *Bulletin* Editor, jointly with husband Chris. It was a demanding role, balancing many competing priorities and chasing contributions. Pam also welcomed volunteers to her home in the early years to fold and prepare the club publication

for postage. A welcoming cuppa and refreshments were always provided. To top it off, Pam would also put the mail into postcode order prior for delivery to the Post Office. This was an important cost saving measure for the Society.

As a member of Council for two years, Pam stepped into the role of Secretary of the RSSA in 2019, diligently completing this role for two years in 2021. The position of Secretary is an exacting, complex and time consuming one for a society such as the RSSA.

Pam also makes an outstanding contribution to the Society's two Shows each year. At an early hour on Show Days, Pam, with her computer, printer and all the necessary documents, is set up at the venue. She then expedites the process of printing the results provided by the judges, assisting husband Chris with processing, and printing the appropriate winning and place cards. This is an important and necessary element which adds a professional presentation to the Rose Shows.

Pam has given many years of quietly dedicated service and is highly regarded as a committed and respected member, with excellent knowledge of the Society, who can always be relied upon to fulfill responsibilities and more.



Life Member



George Thomson ARA, AL CA

It's difficult to do justice to the achievements and contributions of our new Life Members, like George Thomson, a Rose Society of South Australia (RSSA) member of 32 years. He has contributed to the operations and promotions of the Society, played a dynamic role in one of the Society's branches, promoted the rose near and far, bred 79 registered roses and donated sole rights of 24 roses to charities.



George is possibly best recognised outside of the Society for: donating a rose he bred to mark the Sister City relationship between The City of Adelaide and The City of Qingdao in China, in 2018; producing two roses for international cosmetic company *Jurlique*; and breeding *Fields of Fromelles*, **George Thomson ARA, AL CA** commemorating the Centenary of the Battle of Fromelles and all impacted by the bloody battle.

But there is so much more to tell with activities closer to home. George was the Society's Vice President from 1999 to 2002 and continued as a Council member to 2005. He was involved in setting up the hall of State Rose Shows from 1999 to 2005 and has performed many guest speaking engagements at branches since 1994.

From 1995 to 2005, he was one of the instigators of rose displays and rose competitions at six agricultural shows at Mannum, Mount Barker, Uraidla, Mount Pleasant, Murray Bridge and Meadows. At these shows, he helped lift the quality of rose judging by introducing informed rose judges and conducting presentation workshops to raise the level of competition.

He has also written various articles for the RSSA's *Bulletin*, presented or been a guest speaker at SA and Western Victoria garden clubs, taught pruning and budding to others, has been Chief Flower and Garden Judge at Naracoorte Show from 2020, and in 2000, when the Penola township celebrated its 150th anniversary, the South East Branch named a George-bred rose *The Spirit of Penola*, planted in Penola.

It's unsurprising that in 1999, the National Rose Society of Australia awarded him the Australian Rose Award and that George received the Alister Clark Award in

Continued next page

George Thomson continued.....

2007. In 2021, he received The President of The Garden Clubs of Australia Award for an outstanding contribution to gardening by an individual.

The South East Branch members considers George's contribution to its activities as "gold". His nomination said: "George gives his time generously and freely...He is a quiet achiever, always helping but not looking for any accolades...This has helped to make the South East Branch and the RSSA in general a much stronger, vibrant and marketable association."

Editor's footnote:

A discussion between George Thomson and David Austin is incorporated in an article titled *Climate Change and the Impact on Rose Breeding*, in the May 2023 edition of *By Any Other Name*, the digital Heritage Rose Journal of the World Federation of Rose Societies. See page 17 to see how to access this.

Pruning demonstrations continue to draw the public



Close to 80 established and budding rosarians braved chilly winter weather to attend pruning demonstrations across Carrick Hill, the Adelaide Botanic Garden and at Lyn Williams' Evanston Gardens home.

Some watched new demonstrator, Maureen Humphries, who gave her time at both Carrick Hill and the Adelaide Botanic Garden. Others clubbed around Kelvin Trimper, Deb Curtis, Les Johnson and Tate Hancox at the various sites, to learn the basic principles or get more insightful knowledge and ask questions.

Maureen Humphries joined the rank of pruning demonstrators

The demonstrations were in line with one of the Rose Society of South Australia's goals—to take the rose to the people—and were held in June and July.

Have you done your Bulletin survey yet? We need you!

If you have not submitted your thoughts on the Bulletin—what you like, don't like and what you would like to see—please do it now. The deadline has been extended to Saturday 30th September to ensure we capture as many responses as possible.

The survey is simple and designed to get your opinions, rather than data. It will help shape the content of your club publication in 2024 and beyond.

You can do the survey by: putting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6BG73PT> into your browser. Or, find the link in the Members section of the RSSA website.

Alternatively, email your thoughts to bulletinrssa@gmail.com.



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photo by Melanie Trimmer

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Heritage Rose Convention in Brussels a triumph

Text and image by Melanie Trimper

After years of planning, the 15th International Heritage Conference, held in Brussels from 5 to 9 June 2023, was worth the wait and a triumph for Past President of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS), Henriette de Brie, and President of the National Royal Belgium Rose Society, Frans Thomas, as well as their team.

Although the conference was originally scheduled for 2020, the organisers postponed it until 2023 due to the pandemic. As it turned out, 2023 was an auspicious year as the National Royal Belgium Rose Society celebrated its centenary and the summer weather in Brussels was perfect.

The world-class lecture program was a highlight with many knowledgeable and distinguished speakers dedicated to heritage roses and their conservation. Lecturers represented Japan, the United States, South Korea, Uruguay, the United Kingdom, Germany, Poland, New Zealand, India, France and Belgium.

Key sponsors, including FELCO, Piaget, Lens Roses, Meise Botanic Garden and Neuhaus Chocolates gave their support. We were really surprised to see exquisite chocolates served at morning tea along with the cake and biscuits.

I thought the venues and catering were superb. The lectures were held in a beautiful historic building named Cercle Gaulois in the heart of Brussels, only a short walking distance from our accommodation.

The private gardens were magnificent. One was Widoorie, an estate of 8ha of garden and park and 12ha of woodlands. Another was the majestic Hex Castle, featuring impressive rose gardens surrounded by an English landscape park. The owners regularly open the garden to the public. During our visit, delegates were delighted by both the vast manicured gardens and a superb afternoon tea. Hex

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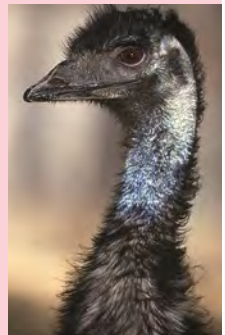
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WFRS President, Diane vom Berg, WFRS Past President, Henriette de Brie

received a WFRS Award of Garden Excellence in 2003.

We also visited Coloma Rose Garden, the biggest rose garden in Europe, established in 1995 on the outskirts of Brussels. It has more than 60,000 bushes and 3000 rose varieties. The rose garden is located inside the grounds of Coloma Castle, now owned by the Municipality of Saint-Pieters-Leeuw. The 15ha park has ancient trees, abundant lush vegetation and a fabulous series of rose themed gardens.

The conference concluded with an elegant Gala Dinner at Cercle Gaulois (a Belgium Club). One special moment was the passing of the flag by Henriette and the WFRS's new President, Diane vom Berg, to Svein Osen, representing Sweden, where the next WFRS Regional Convention and Heritage Rose Conference will be held from 2 to 6 July 2024. For details of the event and planned tours, visit: www.nordicroses2024.com



STOP PRESS

The latest edition of World Rose News, newsletter of the World Federation of Rose Societies, and BAON (By Any Other Name), are available online at worldrose.org

Use the password 123Members2022 in the Member's section to log-in.



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European tour charms, excites and enthralls

South East branch member Sue Zwar treats us with a summary and images of the Post Conference tour that followed the 15th International Heritage Rose Conference in Belgium.

What an amazing conference—the 15th International Heritage Rose Conference, held in June 2023. As I write, my husband, John, and I have just returned home from Europe after listening to world renowned speakers and viewing magnificent



gardens. Our appreciation must go to all those folk from Rosa Belgica (the Royal Belgian Rose Society), especially its former President and conference organiser, Henrienne de Briey, who ensured everything went smoothly. What a mammoth task organising a world conference is, and we applaud all those who put so much time into its preparation. We Australians were also very proud of our new World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS)

President, Diane Von Berg, who acquitted herself admirably.

Both the pre-conference tour and the conference were filled with visiting magnificent gardens, but I thought I would describe the post conference tour, another time of exciting garden visits as well as other delights.

We set sail in a very classy bus, with tables set up for those who wanted them and plenty of room as there were only 27 of us on the bus. We were led by Henrienne's niece, Emilie. John and I had front seats from where we had an excellent view of all the beautiful country we passed through, including the intricate road system with many tunnels. The longest of them was over 5kms and the shortest was about 400m.

The first garden we visited was in Erlonfouet and was privately owned. Because of its high altitude, 520m, the rhododendrons were at their best. The roses had yet to show their beauty although there were a large variety of spinosissimas in full flower, as well as rugosas. This was a wild garden with natural looking grassed pathways meandering through the shrubbery and opening into lawned areas. Beautiful trees, mostly planted in the 1950s, dominated the skyline and there was a magnificent *Cornus venus* drawing everyone's eye.

Next stop was the Grand Chateau d'Ansembourg, certainly very grand from its ornate entry gates to the many clipped hedges and formal terracing, elaborate staircases and stone walling. Espaliered plants, roses and fruit trees, along high stone walls, dominated as well as a formal rose garden beautifully laid out. The views from the top terrace were amazing, over the formal pool, clipped maze, 200m long green tunnel and what is presumed to be the oldest plane tree in Europe at 200 years.



Old trees and shrub "hedges" flanking beds of roses at Landhaus



Sue Zwar enjoying one of the many archways at Landhaus

It was then on to Chateau de Munsbach in Luxembourg where a magnificent copper beech dominated the front lawn and where we had a late lunch before Diane Von Berg gave the rose garden a World Federation of Roses Award of Garden Excellence. This rose garden is maintained by volunteers, a real credit to them.

The next day we headed off to Landhaus in Ettenbuhl, Germany, for one of the loveliest gardens I have ever seen. It was started in the 1970s after the owners went to England and fell in love with English gardens, determining to grow one themselves. It began with 3ha. Then in 1998, the well-known English garden designer and rosarian, John Scarman, put his stamp on the garden which now covers 6ha incorporating beautiful garden rooms, covered walkways and arches, overhanging trees, open lawned areas and the list goes on—just divine. Bird song was a bonus. John has continued to work in the garden



Herb garden and roses at the old monastery, located in Kartause

which has four full-time gardeners, all trained by him, as well as apprentices. This garden is open to the public. There are also two B&Bs on the premises as well as a restaurant and shop. I couldn't resist buying John Scarman's book, *Gardening with Old Roses*. We were fortunate in having John as a guide through the garden as he pointed out his pruning and design techniques.

Kartause, Ittingen, Switzerland, an old monastery complex, was our next stop. This consisted of an array of very old buildings with roses trained against the buildings as well as in garden beds nearby. It was surrounded by very steep vineyards as well as other agricultural land, continuing the traditional monastic value of self sufficiency in a contemporary way.

Our last stop for the day was back in Germany, Mainau Island, where the castle's Italianate rose garden was laid out in 1871, being extended and developed ever since. Surrounding this, the huge parklands, with magnificent old trees, gave way to masses of shrub and rambling



A rose garden on Mainau Island



Topiary on Mainau Island

roses beautifying the area, beyond which Lake Constance was an ever present backdrop.

We re-entered Switzerland the next day for a tour of the FELCO factory where many of us bought snips and other FELCO products. We were also supplied with a tasty lunch. Then it was off to a winery, Auvernier Castle, where we sat under a huge old cherry tree with a magnificent view over vineyards and a lake in the background, all the while sampling an array of locally made produce!



A small section of rose garden at Estavayer-le-lac

The next day we visited the City of the Rose, Estavayer-le-Lac, justifiably called such as the old medieval town has roses everywhere, trained over buildings and potted in window boxes. There are few actual gardens as all the streets from building to building are paved with cobblestones. Down by the lake is a magnificent rose garden, in full flower for us and beautifully manicured. Along a pergola, 31 climbing and rambling roses are trained and greet garden

viewers. It was a lovely walk, overlooked by Chenaux Castle.

We were very privileged with our next garden which had not been opened to the public before and were very grateful to Henriette for organising this exclusive visit. The owner, Englishman William Guinness, only spends about three months of each year in Switzerland, and he gives all the credit for the beauty of the garden to his hard working gardener who was busy in the garden while we were there. A large open lawned area at the rear of the house was framed by a wide expanse of shrubbery, perennials, peonies and roses with a backdrop of magnificent trees. Narrow winding paved pathways meandering through the shrubbery made viewing

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the plants easier. Beyond was a vegetable garden and a meadow garden interspersed with annuals to encourage insects. Dominating the landscape were many rare trees, still being added to. In front

Sue Zwar

Sue Zwar lives in the Coonawarra. She and husband John have more than 1000 roses in their garden and they both maintain rose gardens around the Coonawarra Hall and Penola War Memorial Park. Sue and John's latest project, partially funded by Heritage Roses in Australia, is a heritage rose garden in an area owned by Penola's National Trust. Sue and John have planted in two areas; the first of old and significant hybrid teas and the second of Chinas. This garden is Sue's pride and joy!



The private garden of Englishman, William Guinness, in Switzerland

of the house, terraced garden beds were planted predominantly with roses and companion plants, with rosy archways giving height. A gateway in the boundary hedge looked out to a golf course beyond.

Our next garden also had a rose nursery and the extensive display of all types and varieties of roses were well labelled. It was fascinating to walk under the extensive and substantial trellising reading the names of all the roses, growing to great heights. Alain and Gisele Tschanz, the very enthusiastic and knowledgeable owners, told us about their philosophy of only selling roses with resistance to disease. They also had a unique way of watering their nursery plants by flooding the ground and later retrieving the water.

Our final full day of visits wasn't to gardens but to unrelated subjects – a chocolate factory, a cheese monastery where we had a delicious lunch, and finally a clock museum.

Our last day was in Geneva where we spent the morning marvelling over the beauty and opulence of Piaget's creations. Yves Piaget has been WFRS Patron since 2015 and has had a life-long passion for "the rose", donating funds to aid rose gardens. We were served a magnificent lunch, a fitting finale to our post conference tour.

As a final finale, we visited the Parc de la Grange in Geneva, which houses an historic rose garden, built just after WWII by demobilized soldiers. It was renovated in 2020 and is set out formally and interspersed with a vast variety of other plants so that it always has a large visual impact. An impressive stone monument overlooks the rose garden and provides a view to appreciate the garden's formality. Our group then dispersed to the many parts of the globe from which we all came after agreeing that the organisers, especially Henriette, did a fantastic job showcasing their beautiful part of the world.


4/4



THE ROSE SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Christmas Lunch

SUNDAY, 3RD DECEMBER
AT 12.30 PM
BOOKINGS BY 19TH NOVEMBER
AT
AUCHENDARROCH HOUSE
MT BARKER



Booking and Payment Form

Please complete this form and send it to RSSA Treasurer, P Flavel, PO Box 51 Unley SA 5061, with your payment of \$70 per person.

Number of Guests attending

Name 1) _____

Name 2) _____

Special Dietary Requirements _____

Amount Enclosed/Sent \$ _____

Payment by Cheque payable to The Rose Society of SA Inc

Please charge my Mastercard Visa

Full Name on Card _____

_____/_____/_____/_____

Expiry Date ____/____ Signature _____ OR

**Send your payment electronically to The Rose Society of South Australia
BankSA BSB 105 086 Account 330083440**

Add your name to the description so it is clear you who have booked.

Note that the form, or all the details it "asks for", should be sent to the Treasurer, regardless of how you pay. They can be emailed to rssatreasurer@gmail.com.

Roses & War

With Gwen Moxham

At 11 am on the 11th of November, the nation will unite in silence in remembrance of those who have fallen in theatres of war. In contrast to the misery of war, roses planted at memorial sites will be at their glorious best. Gwen looks at how this link between war and the Queen of Flowers came to be.



We Will Remember Them

Image: Knight's Roses

To link together “Roses and War” seems an unlikely combination. Roses with their seductive flowers do not seem to be made to be involved in conflict, but remember, they also have thorns.

In fact roses HAVE gone into battle!

The first of just two examples is the well-known saga of the *Wars of the Roses*. Competing claimants for the throne of England fought one another for more than 30 years, from 1455 to 1487, until all the male contenders had been killed, many violently. The two sides each fought under a rose; red for the Lancastrian side and white for the Yorkists. The final victor, Henry Tudor, had a very slim claim to the throne and was not really either a Lancastrian or a Yorkist. It is no wonder that the dynasty he founded was felt to be insecure with Henry Tudor's son, Henry VIII, desperate to have a legitimate male heir. In fact, the two roses united with the marriage of Henry VII and Elizabeth of York, merging together the white and red to produce the invented *Tudor Rose*, a sign of unity and peace. It is still in use today on the English Coat of Arms. A recent use for the Tudor Rose was part of the flower design on the Invitation to the Coronation of King Charles III!

The second example is the *Battle of Minden*. This was fought on August 1st 1759 between an alliance of British and Prussian regiments of about 41,000 soldiers against a larger enemy force of 51,000 of French, Saxons and Austrians. Minden is a fortified town in the north-west of Germany. It must have been a nice sunny day because as the British walked towards Minden, they plucked wild roses from the hedges and wore them in their tricorne hats. Against the odds, the British forces won this battle and the roses in the hats were, apparently, a contributing factor in this success! So much so, that each year, this battle is remembered as *Minden Day* and members of those British regiments which took part in the Battle wear roses in their caps. The Yorkshire Rifles wear white roses, the King's Own Scottish Borderers wear red and the Anglian Regiment wear yellow and red. The Anglians

Roses & War 2/4

have a song from the time which goes in part:

*“My love across the ocean wears a
scarlet coat so fair,*

*With a musket on his shoulder and
roses in his hair.”*

The background to this seemingly obscure event is that it was part of the terrible conflict known as the *Seven Years War* where most of Europe, as well as America, became involved. This was the first global conflict, largely a war over territory and it had lasting consequences for America and Canada. The best-known battle was the taking of Quebec by the British under General Wolfe where soldiers landed from boats on the St Lawrence River; steep cliffs were climbed and the French were taken by surprise. Starting with Minden, the year 1759: produced for England complete command of the sea; a planned invasion of Britain by the French was averted; and Britain had conquests in India, the Caribbean and Senegal, as well as America and Canada. The message is, “If you want success in War, wear a rose!”

After any war, simmering tensions remain and many historians think there is a direct link from the *Seven Years War* to the two World Wars of the Twentieth Century. The rose has taken a different role in those two conflicts—no longer part of the battles but as the pre-eminent symbol of remembrance.

The poppy is regarded as the symbol of the First World War but in the War Grave cemeteries it is the rose which is most often planted. The most popular of these is a red Floribunda called (of course) **Remembrance** (Harkness, 1992). Red roses are chosen because they are a good contrast with the white gravestones and crosses.



A section of the War Graves and memorial at Fromelles. Image: Commonwealth War Graves Commission



A soldier from the Anglian Regiment with the yellow and red rose worn as a tribute to Minden Day.

In far away South Australia, the rose breeder, George Thomson, while being

(Right) The
George Thomson
bred

Fields of Fromelles





Gallipoli Centenary Rose

it's the right colour and everything,' so that's what I did. It's growing in France in the big garden beds around Fromelles."

The rose, **Fields of Fromelles**, is red, cluster flowered, lightly fragrant and fully double. It was introduced by Ross Roses in 2009. A friend of mine went to the 99th Anniversary of the Battle in July 2015 and testified that, indeed, the roses are there and thriving.

They had been deliberately established in time for the Centenary of the *Battle of Fromelles* which occurred on July 19th and 20th 1916, with mainly Australian troops involved. It was supposed to be a diversion with the main Battle to be the *Battle of the Somme* but somehow the secret was not kept and the Germans were ready and well prepared. Over 5000 Australians died, a huge loss with one of the greatest numbers of Australian deaths occurring in 24 hours. Most were buried at *VC Corner*, Fromelles, but in 2002 further bodies were found in an area called *Pheasant Wood*. A team from Oxford Archaeology was given the task of exhuming and identifying the bodies which were reburied with full military honours in a new cemetery in *Pheasant Wood*. This was completed in 2010 and a Museum, telling the story, was completed there in 2014.

As the anniversaries of many battles are commemorated, it is a rose that is chosen to mark the event. Among them available in Australia are: **Gallipoli Centenary Rose**, a dark red Floribunda bred by Tim Hermann Kordes in 2000; **Veterans Honour (City of Newcastle)**, also dark red but a Hybrid Tea, bred in 1997 by Keith Zary in the US, which honours those who have served Australia; and **No Surrender**, bred by W Kordes & Sons in 2006, and released here in 2020 in time to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the *Siege*

Roses & War 3/4

interviewed by *The Rural and Regional News* in Naracoorte, explained how it came about that an Australian bred rose, which he bred, came to be planted in Fromelles, France, a site of a major battle during World War 1.

He said: "Anyway, I had this red rose at the time and it wasn't named and I said, 'Well, this would be a great rose for Fromelles—



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of Tobruk in April 2021. The latter is a Floribunda, with purple-red petals that have a gold reverse.

No Surrender is such a fitting name because the siege started in April 1942 and the Australians were not relieved until December of that year. German propaganda described the men as “living like rats.” The Australians took this as a badge of honour and struck an unofficial badge with a rat across it with the words, “No Surrender!” Subsequently, the moniker, *The Rats of Tobruk*, was “born”. The rose, winner of a Bronze Medal in



No Surrender
Image: Les Johnson



Peace
Image: Penelope Schulz

the Australian National Rose Trials in 2020, is particularly robust, healthy and hardy, just like those men!

Roses are also fund raisers! Sales from the RSL rose (burgundy and soft amber) are used to support the work and services of the RSL and those of **We Will Remember Them**, a yellow with Orange edges Hybrid Tea bred by Guillot in France and released in Australia in 2016, go towards the maintenance of War Cemeteries in France. Another, closer to home, is **Valour**, a Hybrid Tea, produced in 2000 to raise funds for medical

research into medical conditions common to veterans

After War, comes the hope of peace and it can be argued that the best-known rose of all is **Peace**. It came from a promising seedling bred by Francis Meilland who called the rose **Madame Antoine Meilland**. When France was invaded in World War II and Francis’s nursery was under threat of destruction, three budwood parcels were hastily sent to America in a diplomatic bag. Released in America in 1945, with a name change, the yellow-lemon-pink blended Hybrid Tea **Peace** was born with the accolade of the “greatest new rose of our time.”

Roses have taken an active part in battles, they are emblematic flowers for a variety of causes and represent both War and Peace. Like me, you may be surprised to find that “Roses and War” are indeed intimately linked!

Rose of the Month

July—Bengali, Floribunda (Korbehati)

Bengali has proven to be a top performing rose around the world, winning multiple international gold and silver medals in trials, and is also known for having the highest disease resistance in its “apricot” colour range.



Bengali was bred by Kordes in Germany in 2000 and it was first introduced in 2011.

This rose features an abundance of fully double (17–25 petals), rich apricot blooms with a moderate fragrance. This rose blooms in clusters of up to 10 blooms, right through Spring, Summer and Autumn.

This variety is another example of Kordes’s strict breeding program and “no spray” policy. This is aimed at creating and releasing vigorous healthy roses requiring less maintenance.

Bengali is excellent in our climate and has a vigorous upright growth habit of approximately 1.5m in height x 1.2m in width. It has large, healthy, glossy foliage.

Deadhead finished blooms to encourage the next flush of roses.

Bengali is available from Treloar Roses in Victoria.

Awards:

Gold Medal	Baden-Baden Rose Trial	Germany	2009
Gold Medal	Kortrijk Rose Trial	Belgium	2009
Gold Medal	Royal National Rose Society	England	2010
ADR Award	German Rose Trials	Germany	2010
Silver Medal	Bagatelle Rose Trials	France	2009
People’s Choice Awards	Bagatelle Rose Trials	France	2009
People’s Choice Awards	Glasgow Rose Trials	Scotland	2015
Grande Rose du Siecle	Lyon Rose Trials	France	2010

Text: Kelvin Trimper AM

Photo: Courtesy of Treloar Roses

Rose of the Month

August—*Moonlight*, large flowered Climber

(KORklemol)

If you ever wanted flowering walls to enchant and embellish your garden, then try growing this attractive, large flowered, Climbing rose.

Moonlight was bred by Kordes in Germany in 1994 and was first introduced in 2004.

This rose has a great reputation for beautiful semi-double blooms ranging in colour from yellow through to copper and pink tones. Adding to its seductive, colourful display, these flowers have a light, fruity and spicy fragrance. They hold up reasonably well in a vase.



Moonlight is a vigorous and healthy climbing rose producing a large quantity of blooms, borne singularly or in small clusters of up to four blooms on reasonably sturdy stems. Regular removal of spent blooms will ensure repeat flowering

throughout the growing season.

When grown and trained against a trellis, the plant can achieve heights of around 3m and a width of 5m. They can also make a pillar specimen, providing the pillar is sturdy, tall and generous in "girth".

This is a very "garden friendly" rose, with resistance to many diseases common to roses, like Blackspot and Powdery Mildew.



Kordes' climbing varieties can go through a testing period of 10 to 12 years before being introduced into the market, with Treloar Roses, in Victoria, trialling each one further under Australian conditions. Only the strongest, most vigorous and floriferous cultivars, are released onto the market. *Moonlight* has performed well throughout the world and thrives in our South Australian climate.

Moonlight is available from Treloar Roses.

Text and Photos: Melanie Trimper

Rose of the Month

September—*Soul Mate*, Floribunda (WEKvossutono)

Soul Mate is one of the best yellow Floribunda roses available. It features lovely fragrant, gold-coloured blooms and super glossy healthy leaves on a perfectly rounded bush.



This award-winning rose was bred by Tom Caruth, for Weeks Roses, in the US where it was introduced as ***Julia Child*** in 2006. It was introduced as ***Soul Mate*** in Australia in 2009 and in the UK and NZ as ***Absolutely Fabulous*** in 2012.

Soul Mate produces a large number of fully double, butter-yellow blooms, reminiscent of an old-fashioned style rose, with a strong, spicy anise fragrance. Blooms are either solitary or in small clusters on a neat bush, approximately 90cm tall and 60cm wide, with a prolific, continuous flowering habit throughout the season. Hardy and very healthy, the glossy dense foliage has very good disease resistance and is heat tolerant.

It is suitable for garden beds, borders or as a container plant and it is good for cut flowers. Remove spent blooms to encourage the next flush of flowers.

Make a bright addition to your garden and honour your soul mate with this rose.



Soul mate is available from Wagner's Rose Nursery, rose sales online, Treloar Roses and Swane's Nurseries.

Awards:

All-American Rose Selection/Best of the Best	American Rose Society	2010
Rose of the Year	Royal Hort Society UK	2010
GOLD South Pacific Rose Trial	NZ	2011
Best Established Rose Glasgow	UK	2019

Text and Photos: Melanie Trimper

*Great selection of Roses
grown in South Australia
now available online*

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Essentials for rose growing success

Rose growing culture notes for Spring in South Australia

With Kelvin Trimper AM

Spring heralds the start of the growth and flowering period for roses. Waking from their winter slumber, rapid growth occurs in September and the first flush of flowers can be expected in mid-to-late October in warmer areas, including Adelaide, and in early to mid-November in cooler areas of the State.

The average daily temperatures rise from 16.8°C in September to 19.9°C in October and further increase to 23.1°C in November. Average monthly rainfall decreases from 57mm in September to 37mm in October and to 33 mm in November.

Increases in temperature and the reduction in rainfall may result in the need to apply supplementary irrigation later in the Spring. If damp conditions occur when roses are in their rapid growth period, they can be susceptible to fungal outbreaks which can severely impact their growth and performance. This is a critical period for rose care and attention.

1. Watering

Generally, watering will not be required until October, unless they are newly planted and potted roses. These may require regular watering, commencing September. They should not be allowed to “dry out”.



Check irrigation systems now if you did not check every part in September.

Irrigation systems should be checked in early September to ensure they are working effectively. Leaks and other problems should be fixed prior to hot weather to avoid costly delays when the first dry spell arrives.

Young, newly planted roses will benefit from alternate, fortnightly applications of *Liquid Seamungus* and *GoGo Juice* as part of their watering regime.

2. Mulch

If mulch was not applied immediately after pruning, it is essential that it be laid down early in Spring. Neutrog's *Whoflungdung* is an excellent mulch and it is recommended by the Rose Society of South Australia (RSSA). It's a certified organic mulch that is biologically activated, nutrient rich and weed free. It comes in 20kg compressed bales and can be easily spread. Spread a layer about 5cm in depth and water-in to reduce odour and settle it down. Mulch performs four key tasks. It:

- significantly reduces evaporation, saving up to 40% to 50% of the irrigation

Essentials for Rose growing success 2/3

otherwise required

- cools the surface and maintains moisture levels around surface roots (in the top 10cm of the soil)
- breaks down to feed the root zone of roses and enriches the good microbial activity in the soil
- reduces weed problems which often germinate with the onset of warmer weather.



Whoflungdung, the Neutrog mulch recommended by the RSSA.



Spent blooms should be "deadheaded" to encourage further flowering.

A five-leaflet leaf to encourage a new flowering shoot. A non-performing rose bush is a sign that it is lacking fertiliser or may be diseased.

4. Fertilising

It's time to feed your roses! It is recommended that Neutrog's *Sudden Impact for Roses* be applied when the young shoots are around 2cms in length. Application prior to a rain forecast is helpful, as this will take the fertiliser with it to the root zone as it soaks in. Otherwise, water the pellets in after applying. *Sudden Impact for Roses* in its pelletised form will break down over the next two to three months. They slowly but continuously, feed the plants.

3. Flowering

Spring is often regarded as the best flowering period for roses. Providing the rose bush is healthy and actively growing, strong stems will yield many beautiful blooms, either singly or in clusters, depending on the type of rose.

To encourage repeat flowering, removal of old blooms is recommended. If blooms are one per stem, the old bloom and a portion of stem, down to second five-leaflet leaf, should be removed to ensure the regrowth produces another flower. If there is a cluster of blooms, remove the old middle bloom to enable the surrounding buds to open. Once these have finished, the cluster and stem should be removed down to the second five leaflet leaf.

Occasionally, some "blind" Spring shoots stop growing and don't produce flowers.

These should be trimmed down to a



Essentials for Rose growing success 3/3

It is important to note that the higher Potassium and other trace elements in *Sudden Impact for Roses* are designed to strengthen the cell wall structure of rose leaves to increase resistance to fungal diseases. They also improve the quantity and quality of flowering. If plants are not performing well, supplementary applications of *Seamungus* and *GoGo Juice* should boost them back into strong growth.

5. Pests and Diseases

The emergence of new growth in Spring heralds the return of pests and diseases which can frustrate those wanting clean, healthy bushes. Fortunately, there are now many natural remedies for pests. They include the presence of predatory wasps to control aphids and bacterial laden sprays such as *Success* or *Dipel* to control both bad insects and grubs. Occasionally, initial outbreaks of aphids can be severe. These should be washed off or sprayed with a natural product, such as Nature's Way *Natrasoap Pest Spray* until their peak infestations are reduced and the predatory wasp can get them under control. Pest Oils can also be used to control insects and will also assist as a fungal treatment.

Fungal issues often infect roses in early Spring and, if left untreated, can severely impede the performance of a rose plant. Prevention is better than a cure and applications of preventative fungal sprays fortnightly in early Spring will certainly stop major outbreaks of Mildew and Black Spot. Natural oil sprays, such as *Eco Oil*, and milk spray (1-part full cream milk to 10 parts water) are great "gentle on the environment" preventative sprays. *Mancozeb* or *Triforine* sprays offer chemical treatments which have proven to be very effective. If a major outbreak occurs, regular fungal spray treatments will be necessary to get these diseases under control.

5. Newly Planted Roses

It is important to regularly inspect the performance of newly planted roses. The roots of young plants are still being established. They are prone to drying out and may need supplementary watering to help them develop in their first year. If initial growth is not strong and vigorous, regular applications of *Liquid Seamungus* and *GoGo Juice* will assist the plant to establish a regular growth pattern.

7. Other Tips for Spring

There are regular shows which feature roses in the Spring. These provide a great opportunity to view roses on display, some of them recently released varieties. It's also an opportunity to have unknown roses identified and also ask experts rose growing questions. Rose enthusiasts will receive abundant information and enjoyment from joining the RSSA and sharing experiences with other rose lovers.

For more information on roses, visit sarose.org.au

RSSA sizzled with advice at Knight's Open Day



"Sausage Kings", the Society's Kerry Brandt-Wilson and Ian Knight fed the hungry at Knight's Open Day.

The advice of Society members was hotly sought after at Knight's Roses two Open Days during winter.

At the invitation of Knight's, the Society mounted an information table. Volunteers were kept busy answering questions from members of the public and advising those buying roses on Best Practice rose planting.

This is the first time Knight's has had Open Days, giving volunteers a chance to see its vast selection of cultivars.

Volunteers in the International Rose Garden

by Deb Curtis—Rose Society Supervisor of Volunteers at the garden

We had a good turn-out of vollies for pruning over four days in July. The weather was reasonable so this helped. The vollies are now on a well-earned rest until later in September.

Andy Hart from the Adelaide Botanic Gardens recently provided our stats for the financial year. We worked 33 sessions with an average of 14 attendees per session and 36.6 hours worked. Our total hours this year, while not the record, was 1206 hours. That is fantastic given the wet, slow start to Spring 2022.

We are always looking for an extra pair of hands to help, even if it's for only an hour every couple of weeks. Every bit helps keep the roses look their best.

New volunteers will be most welcome. All you need is a bit of enthusiasm for roses, clean, sharp secateurs, gloves, suitable clothing, a hat, water bottle and enclosed shoes. Please contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Deborah Curtis

Supervisor of the Volunteers in IRG, on behalf of the RSSA
curtisnd@internode.on.net
0408 474 977

Right: Dr Leonie Scriven from Adelaide Botanic Gardens with Deb Curtis at RSSA's AGM showing a certificate recognising the nomination of the IRG Volunteers for the SA Volunteer of the Year Awards earlier this year. Leonie, the Deputy Director of Living Collections at the gardens and State Herbarium, submitted the nomination.



Jill's "brush with fame" paints a picture to last for perpetuity

*Story and images
by Kelly Hillstone
with Celia Painter*

With summer around the corner, South East Branch member Jill Eckermann can be found picking bunches of roses or enjoying the scent of roses filling her Penola art studio as her paint brush sweeps across the paper.

The contrast of control and unpredictable nature of the watercolour pigments as they wick through the water never fail to enthral her, just as they did when she first picked up paint brush as a young lass.

Jill was the artist who created the picture of ***Pink Flower Carpet***, the framed watercolour picture that featured in the opening celebrations of the 19th World Federation of Rose Societies Convention held at the Adelaide Convention Centre in October 2022. The painting was presented, on stage, to Reinhard Noack, the son of Werner Noak, of Germany, who bred the rose. Sadly, Werner died not long before the Convention. The occasion was the induction of ***Pink Flower Carpet*** into the Rose Hall of Fame.

Jill remains “honoured and humbled” to have been invited to create the piece. Unfortunately, she missed the pleasure of seeing the presentation—an important piece of rose history—as she was setting up her exhibition, located within the International Rose and Garden Expo, in an area adjacent to the Convention. Such is often the life of an artist. However, her watercolour works at the Expo, featuring roses mainly, did a steady trade.

Jill is a well known artist who has held exhibitions in Renmark, Adelaide and the South East, displaying watercolour paintings of portraits, landscapes, buildings and seascapes. Her preference now is to paint still life compositions of the beautiful roses found in her garden. With over 200 varieties of roses in every colour, her artistic style of layering watercolours brings the softness and delicacy of the petals to life, evoking joy and beauty.

Painting ***Pink Flower Carpet*** called on Jill’s depth of experience as an established artist and art teacher. There were only two roses in bloom in her garden to paint from when the request for the picture was made in the preceding in June. Getting



Jill Eckermann in her art home-based art studio. Her painting was inspired by *Heaven on Earth*.

Jill's "brush" continued



The focal segment of Jill's "rendition" of *Pink Flower Carpet*.

Then World Federation of Rose Societies President, Henrienne de Briey, presents Jill Eckermann's painting of *Pink Flower Carpet* to Reinhard Noack.

the composition of the small rose and the petal colour to match, were the main challenges of the commissioned piece. She had at hand husband Geoff, ready to critique and help her finesse the details, as he always is, should she have needed it.

Jill and Geoff's beautiful garden—the source of inspiration for most of Jill's works today—as well her home-based art studio, will be open to the public on the 11th and 12th of November as part of the 2023 Open Garden Scheme. Their home is located at 77 Weirs Lane, Penola. Check the Open Gardens SA website for more information.

Rambling Rosarians Heading South East Trip Tuesday 6th to 9th February 2024

A 4-day, 3-night stay in the South East to visit Wagner's Roses (see how budding is done) and other lovely gardens and local sights

Register an interest for further details of this trip
Wendy Trimper, Co-ordinator mwtrimper@internode.on.net
or text your details to 0419 803 708

Vale Brian Slack OAM

By Graham Douglass

Brian and his wife Heather joined the Rose Society of South Australia in 2011. Sadly, Brian passed away on 26th July 2023.

I first met Brian and Heather at one of the first Rose Society of South Australia meetings they attended. It was at that meeting they advised me that they had both recently recovered from major medical problems and were looking to volunteer in the National Rose Trial Garden (NRTG). Who would have known that from that meeting I would have met two of the most conscientious volunteers who have assisted within the NRTG.



Among many of Brian's attributes were his communication skills. Brian always had a ready smile and we all enjoyed hearing his interesting stories from his varied and accomplished life.

Brian was involved in all aspects of the trial garden. As his health deteriorated over the last couple of years, his dedication did not stop him from attending the NRTG's maintenance days and he became very efficient at raking, sweeping and watering.

In addition to Brian's contribution to the Trial Garden, he also volunteered to assist at the Society's Spring and Autumn Rose Shows. He was always there on set-up days and enjoyed helping the Trading Table ladies. All weekend, you would see Brian either helping on the entry table or the raffle table. He had a way of encouraging visitors to buy more raffle tickets than they intended.

Brian was one of those sociable people we come across in life that we wish we had known many years earlier. He will be sadly missed by many.

Vale Sue Haddrick

Details provided by Patti Bennett

The Rose Society of South Australia is also saddened by the passing of a former Councillor and active member, Sue Haddrick, who joined in 1998.

Sue served on the Society's Council for several years from 2008. She organised the monthly speaker's program—finding speakers, introducing them and giving a vote of thanks. She was an enthusiastic and valued supporter of the Society's many and varied activities.

Sue belonged to several garden/plant clubs and she was well recognised for her knowledge of plants.

Also notably, Sue was a member of Woodville Academy of Floral Design, contributing to stage displays at the biannual Rose Shows when they were held in Burnside Town Hall.

Chaffey Rose Club

Text by Dale Kerrin Images by Chaffey Rose Club Members



Marilyn Schier and Trevor Andary at Chaffey's Soup Lunch gathering

and companionship. We held a trading table/plant swap and enjoyed a wander around the garden.

Our "usual" pruning activity at the Renmark Hospital Residential Care Facility was cancelled again this year as the hospital's COVID protocols remain in place.

We have continued to enjoy some Winter rains, several frosts and lots of cold weather in the Riverland, making it a little harder to get out in the garden to prune and do some maintenance. Pruning is nearly finished, but one of my Irises (a pretty yellow.) has been way out of tune and has been flowering for the last few months—very strange, and it's still flowering.

In June, we held our Soup Lunch Day at Lorna and Brad Taylor's home in Paringa. The weather was perfect and 23 members and friends joined in a special day of great food, friendship, fun



Maryann Andrews, Lorna Taylor and Elaine Schier



Warming soup and even warmer friendships at the Taylor's place

Other events for Chaffey Rose Club

Our trip to Murtho gardens and the Woolshed on 22nd September had to be put on hold, so we called a Committee meeting, to reorganise an outing on the same date.

We have the Riverland Rose And Garden Festival in October running from Friday 20th to the 29th and the Chaffey Rose Club Christmas Breakup will be held on Friday 1st December.

South East Branch

Text by Elizabeth Newell Images by South East Branch Members

The South East Branch met on a lovely sunny August day which reminded us that Spring is not far away. It was a welcome change for those who have had enough of our wintry weather.

Our meeting was held at the home of Judith and Wayne Lemmon at Tarpeena. The garden is only four years old but was showing its good design with hedges of clipped westringia, splashes of colour from the winter flowers, and the roses which will be lovely in a few months. A standout in the back garden was the brown begonia in full bloom, scenting the garden.



South East Branch President Marjorie Todd, new RSSA Life Member George Thomson ARA, CL LA and RSSA Immediate Past President, Diane vom Berg

Rose Society of South Australia Immediate Past President, Diane vom Berg, presented George Thomson with his Life Membership Badge, a fitting reward after his long association with the Society.

After the meeting, members enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea supplied by Judith and Wayne, with donations going to the Royal Flying Doctors.

In July the SE Branch held a pruning demonstration at *Naracoorte Homestead* with fellow RSSA members and accredited pruner, Tate Hancox. He was accompanied by another member and International Rose Garden Volunteer Coordinator, Deb Curtis. This was very well attended. Tate did a fantastic job, explaining everything extremely well and in a simple-to-understand way. His “easy listening way” was also most enjoyable.



Tate Hancox, flanked by Deb Curtis on his right and Marjorie Tood on his left, at Naracoorte Homestead

The next meeting of the South East branch will be on Sunday, the 26th November at *Matapara*, the home of Marjorie and Rodger Todd. Members are requested to be there at 11.30am SA time, and to bring lunch to share, chairs and mugs.

Roses on Eyre

Details coordinated by Karen Miels Images by Tony Strawbridge

Twenty-seven Roses on Eyre (ROE) members, some making a round trip of 450km, attended the club's winter meeting in Kimba.

Club Secretary, Karen Miels, gave a PowerPoint presentation on her recent trip to Europe and Singapore; an adventure that incorporated a journey from Amsterdam to Budapest by canal boat, a bus trip to Prague, flying to London for the Chelsea Flower Show and catching up with her son, before heading off to Singapore to see the National Orchid Garden and the Gardens by the Bay.



Gwen Smith's first place posy featuring *The Children's Rose*

Karen's presentation focused on gardens, tulips in Amsterdam, a visit to the botanical garden, very large gardens on estates belonging to castles, the Chelsea Flower Show and the Singapore gardens. There were many highlights and tales. Among them was the loss of Karen's phone (with 4000 photos on it) at Prague Airport, On arrival in London, Karen contacted "lost and found" at the airport and discovered it was there. Her phone and images were back in her hand in just two days!



Runner-up in the Posy section, by Shirley Inglis

The competition featured a special Posy section—one rose and any flowers/foilage—which was won by Gwen Smith who used *The Children's Rose* as the highlight. Runner-up was Shirley Inglis. Raelene Harradine took out first for a Single Bloom and Shirley Inglis won first for a Floribunda.



Chris Bamman, Rex Crosby and Jeanette Bubner judged the special Posy section

The meeting's lunch was at the Kimba Gateway Hotel and this was followed by a visit to a garden.

Most of the roses were finished for the season, but the large variety of daisies produced lovely winter colour.

The next meeting will be on Sunday, October 15th at the home of Ken and Lynne Walmsley, on the corner of Sawyer and Dorward streets, North Shields, at 10am for a 10.30am start. Neutrog's Customer Relationship Manager, Paul Diplugia, will be guest speaker. Garden visits will follow.

Roses in the Heartland

Text by Mary Frick Images by Paul Flavel

Following the heavy workload of conducting the Barossa Rose & Flower Show, the committee had a well-earned break over the last couple of months.

Roses in the Heartland's (RITH's) pruning demonstration, held early in July at the Gawler home of Lyn Williams, was a huge success with more than 30 people attending. Most came "armed" with secateurs, loppers and saws in preparation for hands-on experience instruction from accredited pruners, Les Johnson and Tate Hancox.

The Cancer Council held a trading table selling home made goods.

End of an era

At the end of the pruning demonstration, RITH held its 11th Annual General Meeting (AGM), with a small number of members attending.



Penelope Schulz and Cathy Giersch watch Tate Hancox at the pruning demo

Over the past 11 years, RITH has promoted not only the Branch but also The Rose Society of South Australia and The Rose. We have attended agricultural shows and open days at Mt Pleasant, Angaston, Tanunda, Clare, Jamestown and Burra. We have also given pruning demonstrations at Clare, Auburn, Gawler and several areas in the Barossa & RITH areas. Rose Shows have been held at Kadina and at several locations within the Barossa area. Meetings, lunches, garden visits and musical events have been held at numerous venues throughout the branch area.

As with most societies and groups, it is difficult to know how to encourage members to join the committee, share ideas and spread the workload. We have a large membership in the RITH area, but very few "helpers". As President, I deeply appreciate the dedication and commitment of my fellow and current committee members including Penelope Schulz (Vice President), Sharyn Perrin (Secretary), Malcolm Watson (Treasurer), Ross Kemp (Immediate Past President), as well as Ian



Mary Frick addresses the final AGM and meeting of RITH

Frick, Rosie Sherwood, Ruth Watson, Cathy Giersch, John Giersch, Paul Flavel and Lyn Williams. However, other active members were required to secure the future of RITH. A letter outlining the situation was forwarded to RITH members with, sadly, only a couple of acknowledgements.

The lack of nominations to fill the vacant positions was well discussed at the RITH AGM with the eventual decision being that Roses in the Heartland, Branch of The Rose Society of

Roses in the Heartland continued

South Australia Inc., sadly, would no longer exist.

Before closing the RITH account, it was suggested, with a unanimous decision, that due to the huge promotion of the RSSA and the Australian Lions Hearing Dogs at the 2023 Barossa Rose & Flower Show, a donation of \$1000 would be directed to the organisation.

This is my last RITH report. I wish you all happy rose growing. Don't forget to stop and take in the fragrance the blooms have to offer.

A touch of colour before the Queen of Flowers blooms



Brenda and Peter Burton have been busy as ever, providing time and judging skills to yet another country event, the Gawler Show, in August. Brenda reports that all flowers were well presented. This Champion Daffodil was won by Eileen Williams.

Bulletin Contribution Details

Deadlines for the January, February and March 2024 edition

Reserve space by 8th November 2023 Provide material by 23rd November 2023

Forward articles and images to: **BulletinRSSA@gmail.com**

Photographs must be supplied in their original jpeg size, 1MB to 10MB per image. If sending more than one, attach them to separate emails or use Google Drive, We Transfer, Dropbox, or similar. Ring Bulletin Editor, Celia Painter, 0407 547 337 if you have any queries.

URAILDA & SUMMERTOWN SHOW

Calling Exhibitors

Exhibitors are encouraged to enter roses at the Uraidla Show on Sunday 5th November 2023.

This is a great opportunity to compete with blooms that were not quite ready for the RSSA's Spring Show.

Information, enquiries and entries to convenor,

Gavin Woods at gbwoods@adam.com.au

The Uraidla Show will be open to the public from 9am to 9.30pm.

There will be plenty to do and eat and the Uraidla Hotel is just a short walk.

Calendar of Events

October

Wednesday 11th 6.30pm	Rose Society of South Australia Members Meeting, Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Garden
Sunday 15th 10am	Roses on Eyre meeting, home of Ken and Lyn Walmsley, North Shields.
Saturday 28th 11am to 5pm Sunday 29th 9am to 5pm	Spring Rose Show at Garden Grove Supplies, 1150 Golden Grove Road, Golden Grove SA 5125. Volunteers needed

November

Sunday 5th 9am to 9.30 pm	Uraidla Show
Sunday 26th 11.30am	South East Branch meeting at Matapara, home of Marjorie and Rodger Todd

December

Friday 1st	Chaffey Christmas break-up
Sunday 3rd 12.30pm	Rose Society of South Australia Christmas lunch

February 2024

	Member's Meeting TBA
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From the Editor

The generosity of contributors to the *Bulletin* throughout 2023 is appreciated. You have informed, educated and entertained us all. Our Society is richer for it.

The wingman to this publication, Paul Flavel, has gone "above and beyond", taking photographs, conjuring striking "ads", writing often witty pieces about Members' Meetings and taking on various production responsibilities. Former Editor, Mary Frick, has been supportive too, responding to the odd "call for help" at a moment's notice and with good cheer. Proofreaders, Bev Scott and Wendy Trimper, have also been invaluable, even though each has often seen the proposed publication only in part.

As 2024 unfolds, I encourage you to think how you may contribute to the evolution of the *Bulletin* and help our Rose Society remain among the world's best.

I wish you a pleasant Christmas and good health and happiness in 2024—*Celia*

Artist

Jill Eckermann



*Photo: Kelly Hillstone
See pages 35—36*