



The Australian Rose Award 1992 Eric Trimper

Eric Trimper's interest in roses and other flowers started at a very early age. He began showing roses at the Renmark Show in 1946. He joined the Rose Society of S.A. in 1952 and has been a very regular exhibitor ever since, specialising with great success in the showing of garden, cluster flowered, miniature roses and bunches.

He moved to Adelaide in 1971 to become Head Gardener at Ashford Community Hospital and developed the outstanding rose garden for which the Hospital became renowned. He has always made himself freely available to visitors and patients of the hospital to answer queries and give advice and encouragement about roses. Eric has relinquished the role of Head Gardener, but continues in a consultancy basis.

Eric advised the Royal Institute for the Blind on the construction of a scented rose garden for the enjoyment of the Blind, and was adviser to the National Trust on the planting of the Rose Garden at Beaumont House — a property listed for preservation.

He is a respected Rose show judge, and is one of those rare individuals who can judge all sections of a horticultural show. He has also been active in the establishment of the Judge's School for the Rose Society of S.A. Eric has conducted training in Rose Culture for the Adelaide Botanic Gardens and The Technical and Further Education Colleges.

Eric has been on the Council of the Rose Society of South Australia since 1974. He was elected Vice President in 1976 and 1990 and held the office of President from 1984 until 1987.

Eric's continued support of the Rose Society of South Australia has seen him elected as delegate to the National Rose Society of Australia's A.G.M. in 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1991.

Following an initiative by the Rose Society to increase the number of Rose Gardens within the City of Adelaide precinct, Eric was responsible for the planning and selection of plants in the increased Rymill Park garden and also several median strips on major thoroughfares to the City Centre. His commitment and enthusiasm to support Adelaide City Council's proposal of establishing Adelaide as the Rose Capital of Australia and the holding of a biennial Rose Festival saw him elected to a position of Society representative on the Steering Committee, established to achieve those two goals.

Both Eric and Myrtle were awarded honorary Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia in 1988 for their outstanding services to the Rose.