

Nomination by the Rose Society of Victoria Incorporated  
VERONICA O'BRIEN  
AUSTRALIAN ROSE AWARD 2012



Mrs. Veronica O'Brien has been a member of the Rose Society of Victoria Inc. for approximately 15 years. She has served on the RSV Inc. Committee of Management for the past 8 years, including 2 years as Vice-President and 3 years as Subscription Treasurer. She has also served as a delegate to the National Rose Society of Australia. On committee, she has always been a most effective member, contributing with her great knowledge and experience in difficult matters.

Travelling overseas on a number of occasions, she has visited large rose gardens in Spain, Japan and USA among others. Her experience in the management and maintenance of large volunteer rose gardens is invaluable.

Veronica joined the Victoria State Rose Garden in 1994 and is currently the President and a Life Member. She has been a driving force for the VSRG to gain world recognition, freely giving of her time and expertise. Since 1994 she has held a number of positions including Publicity Officer, Membership Secretary and Vice-President and President and since 2006 has been on the rose selection committee. Veronica instigated and helped organise and host a 25th birthday garden party for the VSRG in November 2011.

She is currently working hard with many of the volunteers to help raise funds for a prominent rose arch to be placed at the entrance to the garden. Since 2006 Veronica has been a member of the Tourism Committee at the Wyndham City Council.

Veronica has been instrumental in the promotion of the rose due to her outstanding ability to network and to generously share knowledge and information with other rosarians both in Australia and at overseas conferences. She is always one to embrace new technologies, such as power point presentations at meetings and encourages members to give it a try.

In addition to her committee work and networking, Veronica conducts pruning demonstrations for the RSV Inc. each year at a number of venues as well as at the VSRG. She is also a very sought after speaker giving talks at a number of local garden clubs and in the Geelong region. Her talks are very well researched and high quality. She has written many articles for the Australian Rose Annual and the Victorian Rose News accompanied by her excellent photographs.

Veronica has organised and participated in promoting roses at the ABC Gardening Expo at Caulfield on a number of occasions and also at the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria stand at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. She was also one of the key organizers of the recent large rose display at the Kilmore Rose, Wine & Racing Festival.

Veronica exhibits at rose shows and has won many awards for her floral arrangements. She also ensures that the VSRG are well represented at the RSV Inc. shows with stunning presentations of roses from their garden.

The Rose Society of Victoria is extremely proud to nominate Mrs Veronica O'Brien for the 2012 Australian Rose Award.