



**Dean Stringer
(Service Award)**

National Rose Society of Australia Inc Service Award 2008 Dean Stringer

Dean Stringer joined the Rose Society of South Australia Inc. (RSSA) in 1982. Since this time his contribution to the National Rose Society of Australia Inc. (NRSA) has been outstanding.

He was elected to the Society's Council in 1984, and from 1990 – 1999 he represented the state as a delegate to the NRSA's AGMs, travelling to all States. He was elected Vice President in 1992 and National President in 1993.

Following a suggestion from NRSA President Mr. Garth Guyett, regarding the establishment of an Australian Rose Trial Garden, each State was asked to present a proposal, meeting certain criteria, at the following year's AGM. Dean undertook the task on behalf of our Society, including negotiating with the

Adelaide Botanic Gardens. At the 1995 AGM, RSSA received approval for its implementation. The resolution is a fair measure of Dean's considerable organising and negotiating abilities

The constitution of the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia Inc. specifies that the Council shall consist of a Secretary/Co-ordinator appointed by the NRSA. The NRSA had no hesitation in appointing Dean to this position which he has held since its inception in 1995. In this position Dean has:

- Submitted a yearly written report of the Trial Gardens activities to the NRSA at their AGMs;
- Assisted in creating the Judging Criteria for the trials (which incidentally were used as one of the exemplars in an endeavour to create a universal standard for trial grounds at the WFRS World Convention in Osaka, 2006);
- Been involved in selecting and tutoring the trial judges over the years;
- Managed the appointment of maintenance teams and assigned tasks (planting, pruning, removal of spent blooms, fertilizing) many of which he has been directly involved in;
- Liaised and communicated with Rose Introducers (RIAUS) and the Australian Rose Breeders (ARBA);
- Managed all entry details, compilation and distribution of results, requiring many hundreds of hours in approximately 20 forms for each of eight judging periods per annum, for an average of 45 to 50 rose plants per trial period;
- Involved in establishing and managing two of the three 2-day public judging events;
- Organised in liaison with Adelaide City Council the awards evening and display of winning roses and preparation of Awards Certificates.

Without Dean's personal commitment, the Trial Garden may not have existed or have evolved into the respected position it now holds at a National and International level.

Dean's secretarial skills were also used during the inception and ongoing success of The Pacific Accords of Rose Friendship between the trial grounds of Australia, Japan, New Zealand and the United States of America signed in May 2005.

Dean was one of South Australia's representatives on the National Panel that revised the National Judging Rules. He is a highly respected judge and has travelled to all States to judge the National Championships.

The most coveted award of the NRSA is the Australian Rose Award (ARA), and to ensure its integrity the NRSA appointed an awards committee to consider nominations and where applicable recommend to delegates at AGMs the giving of this award. Dean's attributes are such that the NRSA voted Dean onto the awards committee in 1992 as an alternative member, then a full member in 1995, which he serves on to this day.

He continues to work enthusiastically toward the promotion of the National Trial Gardens of Australia Inc and the rose.

We believe Mr. Dean Stringer is a fitting recipient of the National Service Award, a fitting tribute to a dedicated Rosarian.