



Mr. E. Welsh, S.M.A., A.R.A.

## T.A Stewart Memorial Award

Mr. Eric Welsh joined the Rose Society of N.S.W. in 1956 and gave notice of things to come by winning prizes at his first Rose Show that same year.

He has been a successful exhibitor for 33 years having exhibited at the Sydney Royal Show, all N.S.W. Rose Society shows, as well as winning seven Australian Rose Championships.

His garden boasts over 900 rose bushes which he and Ira throw open for pruning demonstrations each year to garden clubs and the public. In 1987 an Open Day raised \$3,200.00 to assist the fund raising for the 8th World Rose Convention.

Eric was a foundation member of and N.S.W. delegate to the inaugural meeting of the National Rose Society of Australia and has attended every A.G.M. since except one, due to illness.

As a member of the N.S.W. judging panel he has judged interstate and overseas and was invited to judge at the International Trial Grounds at Baden Baden, West Germany, in 1983.

As a delegate he represented Australia at the 6th and 7th W.F.R.S. conventions resulting in his election as Vice President W.F.R.S. 1986-1988 of the South Pacific, New Zealand, Australia region.

While serving two terms as President of the N.R.S. of Australia, Eric travelled all over N.S.W. lecturing to garden clubs and horticultural societies, and in 1986 lectured on hybridising to the 7th W.F.R.S. Convention at Toronto.

In this area Eric has been hybridising for 15 years and has the following seedlings to his credit, all of which have been marketed commercially:

'Wee Beth'

'Tracey Wickham' — sold in New Zealand and the U.S.A.

'Megan Louise' — N.S.W. Rose of the Year 1984. Proceeds of approximately \$10,000 donated to N.R.S.A.

'Ida Elizabeth' — donated to the Cancer Research Foundation. Sales proceeds to be used in cancer research.

For his unswerving loyalty to the Rose, Eric was made a life member of the Rose Society of N.S.W. in 1982 and was awarded the A.R.A. in 1985.

The Rose Society of New South Wales is gratified that Mr. Welsh is the recipient of this, the highest honour that can be conferred upon a rosarian in Australasia.