

T.A. Stewart Memorial Award, 2003

Mr Robert Melville of Western Australia has been awarded this high honour for 2003.

Bob, as he is better known, has worked tirelessly for the Society, in many capacities, for over thirty years. He was first elected to the State Council in 1979, voted in as Vice President in 1980 and then as President in 1996. He was the National Rose Society President for the period 2000 to 2001 and is an acclaimed international judge having judged overseas on a number of occasions and is doing so in Barcelona as this is being written. He has attended many World Rose Conferences and participated in judging at the Glasgow International Trial Grounds both in 2000 and 2001. He was appointed to the Australian National Judging Panel in 1981 and has represented Western Australia on a number of occasions as a delegate to National Conferences. He was awarded the Australian Rose Award in 1997.

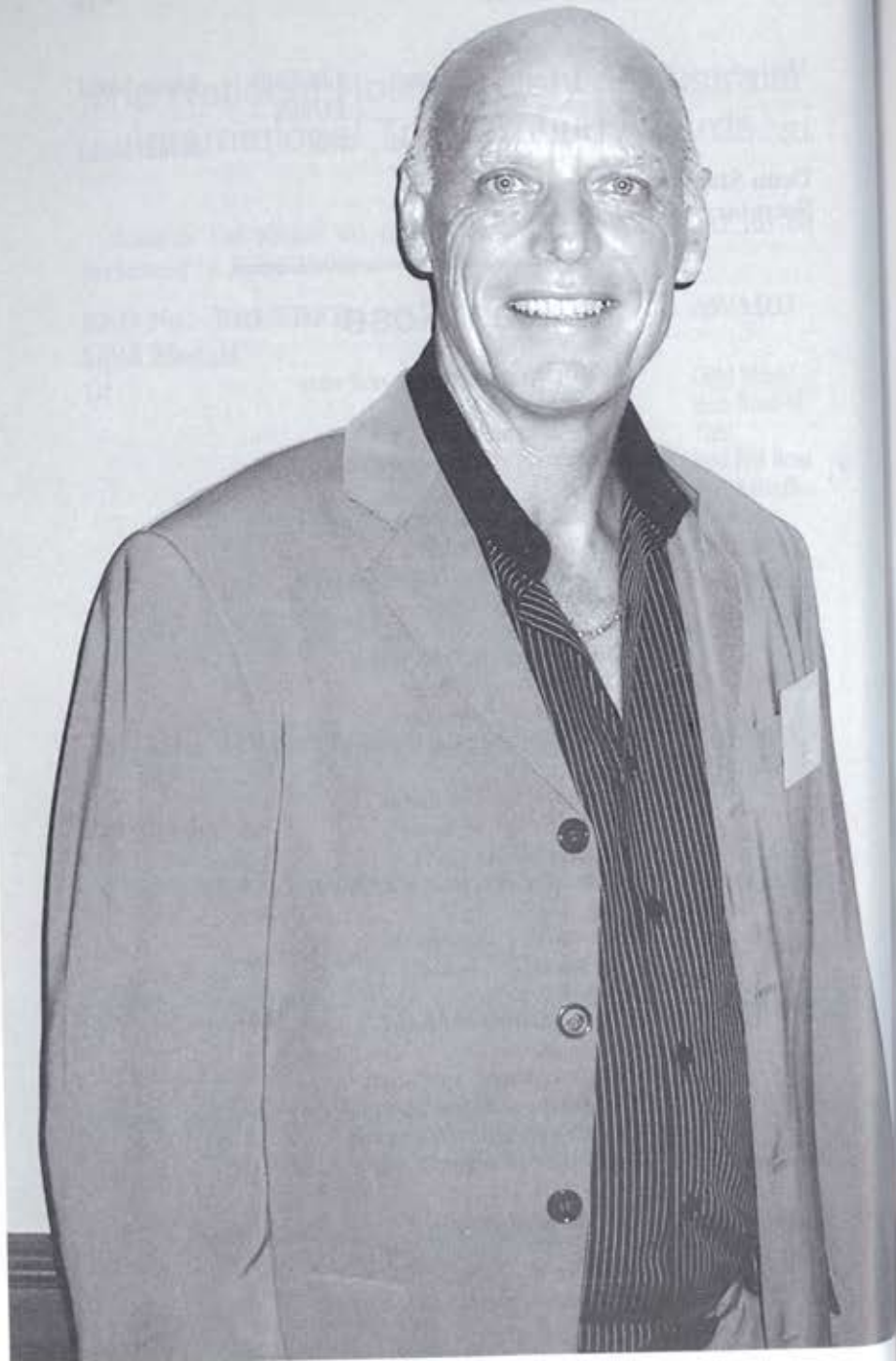
He was instrumental in initiating the South West Group of our Society.

He also has a keen interest in the area of disabilities. He was the first person in Australia to employ a disabled person and as a result was nominated for the award "Employer of the Year".

As Managing Director of Melville Nurseries Proprietary Limited, Bob heads one of the largest rose growing nurseries in Australia. The gardens display over twelve hundred varieties of roses and are open to the public free of charge. The gardens include one of the largest collections of Alister Clark roses and Tea roses to be found, and have become quite a tourist attraction in Western Australia.

Bob regularly supports special interest groups, Shires and City Councils by donating roses for community plantings and for fund raising purposes.

Mr Bob Melville is a much respected rosarian and nurseryman in Australia and the Rose Society of Western Australia Incorporated is gratified that this high honour has been bestowed on him.



Mr. R.H. (Bob) Melville
S.M.A., A.R.A.