



Mr. D. Matthew  
President, National Rose Society of Australia

## President's Message

This year 1992 heralds the end of the second decade of the National Rose Society of Australia. The past 19 years have seen our national society slowly develop into an organisation of which we can all be justly proud. Through collective perseverance and dedication, and above all else, love of the rose, we can lay claim to many great achievements over this period. The importance of this organisation should never be under-estimated or taken for granted, as it provides Australian rosarians with an opportunity to speak with a single voice.

This year, it is my desire as national president to promote greater unity and focus within our organisation. I accept that in any organisation differences of opinion will arise from time to time, but this should never detract from the general purpose and goals of the organisation. If we achieve nothing else this year, let's make sure that we resolve our minor differences, redefine our goals, and push forward together into our third decade as one unified and committed group. By pulling together as a unified force, I feel sure we can achieve far more success and enjoyment promoting the cause of the rose.

Naturally I am looking forward to the Annual General Meeting of the National Rose Society of Australia to be held in Brisbane this year. Arrangements are already well under way to ensure that everyone attending will have an excellent time. I am sure the Queensland Rose Society will endeavour to match the marvellous hospitality extended by other states over recent years and make your visit as enjoyable as possible. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage as many rosarians as possible to attend this meeting in order to strengthen our bonds of friendship and co-operation for forthcoming years.

A further challenge that confronts us this year is the current lack of clear classifications for roses. Hybridists' creations have cut across more conventional lines over recent years. The days when we had just hybrid tea or floribunda roses are long gone, and much thought will be required to resolve the classification issue.

In conclusion, I wish you all the very best of success with your rose growing ventures this year, whether they be large or small, and look forward to meeting as many fellow rose lovers as possible throughout the course of the year.

— Doug Matthew, President