

The President's Message 2013



This is my second term as President of the National Rose Society of Australia and I am indeed privileged to have the opportunity of serving the membership for a second term.

My sincere thanks go to Angus Irwin and Neurtrog for their generous and continued support of the various societies. The support has enabled societies to operate at levels previously out of reach.

On behalf of the National Rose Society of Australia I take this opportunity to thank immediate past president, Ian Spriggs, for a job well done in 2012 and thank the Rose Society of Victoria for hosting the 40th NRSA AGM.

The tours organised to the Victoria State Rose Garden at Werribee and the Mornington Botanical Rose Garden as part of the National Conference were sensational. The volunteers of those gardens are truly outstanding rosarians and thoroughly deserve any accolades bestowed on them.

Congratulations to Kelvin Trimper, Veronica O'Brien and Angus Irwin on receiving the Australian Rose Award and Laurie Newman the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award. Your contributions to the rose over a long period of time are immeasurable.

Again I would like to encourage Rosarians to take the opportunity and attend a National AGM weekend in another state if you are able, as it is a terrific way to mix with other rosarians, learn new things, enjoy the various functions and most of all make new friends and rekindle old friendships.

In October last year, fifty Rosarians from Australia travelled to South Africa for the World Federation of Rose Societies Conference and had once in a lifetime experiences. The next World Federation of Rose Societies Conference will take place during 2015 in Lyon, France.

Congratulations to Sheenagh Harris, the retiring World Federation of Rose Societies President, on a terrific three years as President. Congratulations also to incoming President, Steve Jones, on your election and I know NSW looks forward to you

and your wife Suzie attending the State's centenary celebrations as our special guests in the coming October.

The past year has been very busy and by the time you read this publication the Rose Society of NSW Inc. will have begun celebrations for its Centenary. The Rose Society of NSW Inc. had its humble beginning on the 15th January 1913 in Sydney and a display was held at the Mitchell State Library organised by RS of NSW Inc. historian, Judith Oyston, to mark the occasion.

Her Excellency, The Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, who is the Rose Society of NSW Inc. Patron, will have hosted a reception for the Rose Society of NSW Inc. on 14 February and we thank her most sincerely for this very generous gesture and honour.

I hope that I can encourage you to consider coming to Penrith, NSW to enjoy the 41st National AGM and participate in the 100th Birthday celebrations of the Rose Society of NSW Inc. A special rose called **100 Not Out** bred by Richard Walsh of NSW was selected as the signature rose for the celebrations and it will be on sale. There is a separate article on the centenary weekend's events further in the annual.

Once again I have to make mention of my husband Doug who is not only my greatest supporter and support, but also for continuing his successful promotion of Australian Bred Roses.

To the families of Rosarians we have lost over the past year, our deepest sympathies and may you have happy memories to keep you through difficult times. Our best wishes for better health go to those who have been experiencing sickness.

My thanks to all states that not only support and send delegates to the annual national conferences but host them as well. It is not an easy job to co-ordinate and keep everyone happy.

I must make special mention of Dean Stringer, the National Chairman of Judges, who has worked tirelessly with his team of representatives from the various states to upgrade the Judges and Exhibitors' handbooks. I am sincerely thankful to all involved.

May all those in and outside the rose world always have time to smell the roses.

Glynis Hayne (Photo Doug Hayne)