

## President's Message



Welcome to The National Rose Society of Australia's annual magazine. We have over 3,000 members nationally, each interested in learning more about roses and making great rose friends.

If you wish to become a member, follow our links on our website to your relevant State Rose Society and join up – you will not be disappointed.

I consider it a privilege to be President of The National Rose Society of Australia, and look forward to representing the interests of our National Society and to meeting fellow Rosarians here, in Australia, or at World Federation of Rose Societies' (WFRS) events, internationally.

I wish to thank Glynis Hayne, Immediate Past President, for her tremendous efforts whilst in Office. I also congratulate Glynis and her compatriots in NSW for hosting the 41<sup>st</sup> NRSA Annual General Meeting weekend in Penrith, as part of many events associated with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Rose Society of New South Wales. It was a successful event and thanks to all who assisted with the various activities which formed the busy schedule for those involved.

A particular highlight was the presence of World Federation of Rose Societies' President, Mr Steve Jones and his lovely wife, Susie. Steve also kindly visited each State Society to talk to members about WFRS activities and upcoming events. His knowledge, charm and warmth endeared him to members wherever he went. Thanks Steve and Susie for visiting our country.

Another feature of the well coordinated weekend was the involvement of the Penrith City Council and other politicians. The generosity of the City Council was appreciated together with their genuine interest and support.

As usual, a number of awards were announced at the AGM. Australian Rose Awards were bestowed upon Ms Judith Oyston,

NSW and Mr Max Marriner, Vic. These were well deserved and thanks to Judith and Max for their great contribution to the rose in Australia.

Mr Richard Walsh received the NRSA Service Award which recognises those who have given at least ten years service to the NRSA. Richard has been a President, Australian Rose Annual editor, web-master and delegate to NRSA AGMs – an outstanding achievement. Thank you Richard.

The NRSA is in excellent shape and we are seeking ideas for new projects and initiatives. I welcome any suggestions. I also wish to thank Mary Frick, Hon. Secretary and Jim Cain, Hon. Treasurer for their most valuable contribution to ensure the NRSA operates effectively and efficiently.

I also congratulate Judith Oyston, Glynis Hayne and all other contributors to the NSW Centenary Book. It is a great record of 100 years of NSW Rose Society history and an interesting read.

The next NRSA AGM will be held in my home city of Adelaide, from 17th to 20th October 2014, and I encourage all members to attend. You are sure to have a wonderful time and make new friends. Adelaide is a beautiful city, full of lovely roses and the Rose Society of South Australia is renowned for its hospitality and staging special events. Please come and enjoy.

I also wish to thank all Australians who attended the WFRS Heritage Rose Conference in June, 2013 at Sangerhausen, Germany and the WFRS Regional Convention held in Palmerston North, New Zealand, in November 2013. WFRS events provide an excellent opportunity to gain knowledge on the rose's performance worldwide and to meet fellow rose lovers from around the world. I encourage you all to read the World Rose News, available together with information of upcoming events on the WFRS website.

Finally, I wish to thank all rosarians for making the NRSA one of the most respected societies globally. We are so lucky to live in a great country where growing roses is relatively easy, together with our ability to meet and share knowledge on the world's most popular flower, the rose.

*Kelvin Trimper ARA SMA*