

T.A. Stewart Memorial Award, 2000

Mr Malcolm Watson of South Australia has been awarded this high honour for 2000.

Malcolm joined The Rose Society of South Australia in April 1977 and has been actively involved as an Exhibitor and Administrator since that time.

Malcolm was elected to the position of Secretary of The Society in 1987 and continued in that position for a period of nine years. He was then elected President of the Society in 1996 until 1999. During his term as Secretary and President, Membership growth was very significant; from under 250 in 1987, to over 800 in June 2000. Much of this increase can be attributed to Malcolm's public relations skills.

In recognition of Malcolm's untiring efforts as Secretary, he was awarded Honorary Life Membership of The Rose Society of South Australia in July 1996.

Malcolm was Secretary of the inaugural and very successful Australian Rose Festival in 1992 and continued as a member of that Committee until 1999; the last two years as Treasurer.

He was a delegate for the South Australian Rose Society to the National AGM in 1997, 1998 and at Roseweek 1999. His attendance at the World Federation of Roses Convention in Sydney (1988), New Zealand (1994), Benelux (1997) and Texas (2000) where he was one of the Australian delegates. He has forged friendships with both interstate and overseas Rosarians initiating the visit to South Australia of well known international Rosarian Sean McCann of Ireland.

Malcolm is currently the National President. At the AGM on the 22nd October, 2000, Malcolm was elected Hon. Secretary of the National Rose Society of Australia, a position he will take up when his term as President expires on the 31st December, 2000. The Rose Society of South Australia is gratified that Mr Malcolm Watson is the recipient of the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award for 2000, for his outstanding service to the cause of the rose.