

December 2025 / Volume 36 / Number 4

# *World Rose News*





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**Magazine design:** Ella Jost from [www.opdepunkt.lu](http://www.opdepunkt.lu)

# Special offer for members !

To mark our 80th anniversary and the collaboration with the WFRS, FELCO is pleased to offer World Federation of Rose Societies members an exclusive 15% discount on a curated selection of tools on our official e-shops. This offer is valid on orders from € 80 / CHF 80 / \$ 80, for a limited time only. Simply enter the code **WFRS2025** at checkout and celebrate precision, performance, and passion - FELCO style.

Discover more at [www.felco.com](http://www.felco.com)

## Editor's Message



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### Marga Verwer

An end and a new beginning.

At the end of 2025 we are heading towards the festive season, which many of us regard as Christmas time, with joyful celebrations that continue until the 31st December, where most countries welcome in the New Year.

This is a very busy period, but I hope you find time to at least have a look into the programme for the WFRS Heritage Conference which will take place at the end of

April 2026 in Nanyang and Shanghai China. The early bird offer will end on the 31st of December, so best to register as soon as possible. The Felco special offer will also end this year. Please have a look at the last pages of this World Rose News, or even better, at their website to view the enormous variety of garden tools. You might find just that useful tool you need, or it can be interesting as a gift, especially in this time of the year.

Besides these two sections in this December edition, you find all of the missing Vice President's reports of this year, very interesting, and a large variation. Also, the dates of the 2026 International Rose Trials. Do please note the dates into your diaries. With immense sadness, we pay tribute to the late Lois Tabb from New Zealand, who was a truly remarkable rosarian, and great friend to

the Federation.

Besides the overview of Members, Breeders, and Officers at the end, the reports of our President and Executive Director are as always added at the beginning of this World Rose News, and I advise you to take your time to read them with attention.

The December 2025 is my second World Rose News as an editor, and it is my last at the same time. I will treasure this great opportunity that I had, and the fulfilment it gave me to see the end result, largely thanks to the excellent work of the designer Ella Jost, but I have been given another task within the WFRS. I wish my successor Shireen Deoraj from South Africa a lot of success and happiness as an Editor of World Rose News.

Enjoy the hours reading in this last World Rose News of 2025 & I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a happy 2026.

# President's Message



Sushil Prakash

It has been a hectic period with lots of travel and changes.

On 23rd September 2025, I was invited by Dr. Masahiko Mori in Hannover; He is a benefactor of WFRS and he presented me with a rose stem carved out precisely by his CNC machines. This gesture was highly appreciated.,

On 4th October, 2025, I travelled to Isle of Mainau, Lake Constance to unveil the WFRS plaque of Garden of Excellence. I spent some invaluable time with Count Björn Bernadotte and other rose friends, including Mr. Markurs Zeiler, Garden Direc-

tor and his efficient team and walked down memory lane as my connection with this place goes back to 1998, when I fell in love with the beauty of this flower island.

We held Zoom meetings on 8th October, 2025 for the World Regional Rose Convention in San Diego, USA. To get an update about the programme and a Zoom meeting with Dr. Shiwei on 28th October, 2025 for the conference in Nanyang and Shanghai in China in April, 2026. Both meetings were conducted by Ms. Henriette de Briey, chairperson of the Convention & Liaison committee. I had a



Zoom meeting with Ms. Ines de Licandro, VP South America with representatives from Argentina and Uruguay.

In October, I travelled to South Africa to attend the National Convention of Rose Societies of South Africa from 16th to 18th October, 2025. During my South Africa visit of 10 days, I landed at Cape Town and with my host, Ms. Vivienne Black, VP of South Africa and Ms. Joy Webbs visited beautiful Rose Gardens, like Ruslenburg Manor, Stellenbosch & Boschendol. Then onwards to Johannesburg, I was met by Ms. Elizabeth Thornton Dibb and was joined by one of the most active and knowledgeable Rose friend Ms. Rosario Algorta from Uruguay. We enjoyed our time at Ludwig's Roses in Pretoria, meeting the owner, Mr. Ludwig Taschner and his son Mr. Halman Ludwig. What a story he has, starting from East Germany to West Germany,



to England and then to South Africa as a young man. These are the people who were the pioneer and with their passion and devotion now he has 12 branches in South Africa.

I was then driven to Midlands where the convention was planned under the able leadership of Ms. Gail Birss, I was impressed and happy to be a part of this well planned convention and was a keynote

speaker at the Gala Dinner.

We had visits to some wonderful Rose Gardens like Heritage Rose Garden in Garlington Estate, gardens in Brahman Hills and Gail Watson's fantastic garden. We also saw Claire & Williams Rose Garden, an amazing experience.

It is very important to mention that I planted the rose "Sheenagh Harris", bred by Late Mr. M.S. Viraraghavan of India. I was also presented with a book by Gwen Fagan, "Roses at Cape of Good Hope", signed by this 100+ year old lady herself.

Meantime, I worked in parallel with all stake holders for the World Convention in Bhopal in 2028. I was pleasantly surprised to have Mr. Philippe Delforge, whose grandfather is the creator of Anne Frank rose, and his family visiting us during his trip in India in the mid of November, 2025.

On 15th November'2025, we held the zoom meeting with





executive committee members where the Convention committee chair presented her report, financial status as of now was discussed, VPs were requested to try to bring in more member and funds.

Next, came the time to sort out the challenges ongoing in WFRS. We had to find a right person to replace a man who is indispensable to WFRS because of his yeoman's contribution to the Federation, Mr. Derek Lawrence. Nobody was coming forward to take up this challenge. Then we could get an application with CV from Ms. Marga Verwer, who is associated with the WFRS for a long time, to serve as our next Executive Director.

Our treasurer, Ms. Martine LaBelle also put in her resignation due to health issues. I was acting as a Treasurer in her absence. I needed an able, qualified and reliable accountant to replace her. We got the right candidate in Ms. Claudia Hacker from Germany, who is well known in WFRS. We wel-

*With our new Executive Director*





*Our new Treasurer*

come them into this core committee.

Now began the search for an Editor to take the responsibility from Ms. Marga Verwer as Editor of Rose News. She is responsible for the publications of ROSA in South Africa. I met Ms. Shireen and her husband Mr. Rabinda Deoraj in Midlands, a very efficient, polite and soft-spoken lady. Now with Marga, Claudia and Shireen, the team is complete.

From 3rd to 5th of Jan'2026, the Indian Rose Federation is hosting its Annual Convention in Kolkata, which I will be presiding as "Special Guest". This

is followed by the Annual Show in Bhopal, which is one of the most visited shows of India.

Last but not the least, I am excited about the WFRS Heritage convention in Nanyang and Shanghai, which will be an unforgettable event. I will be there with lots of you as well.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

See you in Nanyang!

*Our new Rose News Editor*



# Executive Director's Message



Derek Lawrence

The World Federation of Rose Societies celebrates the majestic beauty and fragrance of the rose around the entire globe. But it's more than that, it encompasses and profiles great characters of the rose world, who act as ambassadors for the Queen of all Flowers.

On reflection, there are two ladies who I regret never meeting. Her Majesty, the late Queen Elizabeth II, who adored roses and our founding President, the late Baroness Lily de Gerlache de Gomery. Both were equally remarkable women who had elegance, dignity and grace.

If it hadn't been through the dedication and fortitude of dear Baroness Lily who had

the foresight and vision to create the Federation way back in 1968, none of my rose-filled adventure would've have ever occurred.

As the curtain falls on my ten year term as Executive Director, I recall many happy memories and occurrences shared with other passionate rosarians. I remember how nervous I felt following in the footsteps of my predecessor, Malcolm Watson, who I've always had immense respect. I began my journey in a vain tempt to emulate his success. I recall composing a preamble to accompany the latest edition of World Rose News to impress Members. I duly sent it off – but then it occurred to me that I'd forgotten to attach the journal to my message!

Travelling around the world undertaking duties can prove rewarding, but challenging. I recall arriving in Beijing in a whirl of heightened activity – boarding a train, and not too sure if it would take me to the correct destination? During my visit, I had the privilege to be amongst the nobilities of China to be present at the opening ceremony of the World's International Rose Museum and see the artefacts that I had donated were on exhibition.

A few years later, the Federation returned to the country, where we had the honour to



Past Executive Directors Derek Lawrence, Jill Bennell and Malcolm Watson, photo of 2018

officially open the world's largest rose garden in Nanyang, which is home to a staggering 1.4 million bushes.

The pace of life in China is frantic. I found myself catapulted into celebrity status, where enthusiastic film crews, were eager to interview me wherever I ventured. I was ushered into a TV studio without any warning, to appear on a live chat show. Somehow the adrenaline kicked in!

I recall the Federation's 50th Anniversary year in Denmark and the launch of our special 'Friendship Forever' rose, which was launched in great style by our band of Past Presidents at a ceremony during World Convention.

That charming rose now graces Mark and I's garden. I do so admire our Danish and European friends who enthusiastically seem to baptise roses with endless bottles of champagne around every corner!



*Rose Museum Beijing*

Then there was Adelaide. I couldn't wait to step foot onto Australian soil and experience the glory of the rose gardens and spectacular show roses, which this exceptional country has.

Also enjoying the sheer historical, elegant intrigue and progressive vision created by the citizens of Japan. Both these outstanding countries exceed-

ed my expectations beyond my wildest of dreams!

During my term of Office I've met some very interesting people. The late Kelvin Trimper, his dear lady wife Melanie and I had the absolute good fortune to partake in afternoon tea with legendary and late Mr. David Austin, at his home in Shropshire, England. He greeted us warmly and spoke of his endless endeavours to create the perfect English rose. I guess it was the pinnacle of my term of Office.

Having said that, it's the wonderful team of Officers who steadfastly work behind the scenes to create the inspiration and vision, that makes our wonderful organisation such an endearing institution to belong.

So thank you for making my term of Office such a incredible one. It has been an absolute privilege to have served each and every one of you. I treasure my WFRS Silver Medal which was graciously



*The world's largest rose garden in Nanyang China, 2019*

bestowed to me at the Closing Ceremony of the 20th World Rose Convention, which was held in Fukuyama, Japan in May of this year.

I wish my successor, Marga Verwer much joy and contentment in the role. If Marga's adventures are as bountiful as mine, the lady's in for quite a rosy treat!



*launch Rosa 'Friendship Forever'*



*The Rose garden at the Adelaide Botanic Garden, Australia, 2022*



*Being Awarded with a WFRS Silver Medal, Fukuyama 2025*

# *17th International Heritage Rose Conference*

*April 24-28, 2026*

## *Nanyang & Shanghai, China*

### *China Roses: Past, Present & Future*

Welcome to The 17th International Heritage Rose Conference, Nanyang & Shanghai, China

#### *Dear Rosarians,*

Nanyang is the city of rose in Central China while Shanghai is the oriental pearl in Eastern China. The 17th International Heritage Rose Conference will be held jointly in Nanyang and Shanghai from April 24th to 28th, 2026. The convention will begin in Nanyang and end in Shanghai. The pre-convention tour will be “A Journey of Panda and Roses” starting from April 19th until 24th in Chengdu, Sichuan. The post-convention tour will be a 4-day visit around Shanghai. 12 speakers from around the world will talk about species roses and heritage roses. We look forward to seeing you in China in 2026.

**Professor Zuoshuang, Zhang**  
President of Chinese Rose Society



# Programme at a Glance

## Day 1 — Fri, Apr 24

### Registration | Garden & Nursery Tour | Meet & Greet (Nanyang)

Delegates arrive. If you can send your flight details to the organizer in advance, you will be picked up at the airport or at the train station.

You can fly to Beijing, Guangzhou or Shanghai and then transit to Nanyang. There are direct flights between Guangzhou/Shanghai and Nanyang. Since there isn't a flight between Beijing and Nanyang, you have to take a high-speed train to go to Nanyang. We can help you to book the train tickets and help you to take the train. Please send us the details of your trip in advance.

**13:00 – 18:00** Registration desk open at Rose Hotel Nanyang

**14:00 – 17:30** Garden tour and rose nursery tour

**18:00 – 21:00** MEET & GREET, at Holiday Inn Hotel

## Day 2 — Sat, Apr 25

### Opening ceremony at Grand Expo Rose Park, Lectures

**08:30** Buses leave Rose Hotel

**09:00** Welcome speech by the Mayor of Nanyang  
Address by the WFRS President,

Welcome address by the President of Chinese Rose Society, Zhang Zuoshuang

Address by Secretary General of China Flower Association

Performance by the local actors

**09:45** Garden visit in the Rose Expo Park

**10:30** Buses leave for the rose Germplasm Park

**11:00** Buses leave for another rose garden

**11:50** Buses leave for hotel

Lunch at hotel

Afternoon: 4 lectures

Presentation: 2028 World Rose Convention

**19:00–20:30** WFRS Executive Committee meeting

**20:40–22:00** Heritage and Conservation Committee meeting

*Grand Expo Rose Park*





Convention Centre



Shanghai Chenshan Botanic Garden

## **Day 3 — Sun, April 26**

Lectures, garden tour, gala dinner

### **Morning Lectures:**

4 lectures in the morning  
(speakers from Europe, USA, Europe and South Africa)

Presentation of 2027 regional convention

### **Afternoon:**

Garden tour

### **Evening:**

Gala Dinner

WFRS flag handover to next convention organizer.

## **Day 5 — Tue, April 28**

Whole day in Shanghai Chenshan Botanic Garden

**09:00-12:00** 4 lectures in the morning

**12:00 – 12:30** Closing speech

Lunch at the botanic garden

Garden tour in the botanic garden

***The Conference will be over and the Post-Convention Tour will commence.***

## **Day 4 — Mon, April 27**

Garden tour, fly to Shanghai

**08:00** Breakfast & Check-out at the Hotel  
Garden tour in the morning

**11:30** Lunch

**12:30** Buses go to the airport and go to Shanghai (Flight time: 14:00-16:20)  
Check into the hotel and have a free evening.  
The hotel is in Songjiang District, about 1 hour's drive from the downtown area. The subway is very convenient in Shanghai.

**18:30** Friends Dinner (near the hotel)

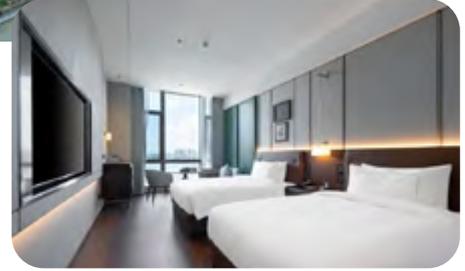


## Hotel & Convention Centre

Rose Hotel Nanyang



Huhua Garand Hotel, Shanghai



Prices of the Hotels: US dollars per night

Hotel	Double room (1 king-size beds)	Twin room (two beds)	Room size:	Address
Rose Hotel Nanyang	70 US dollars	75 US dollars	40-40 m <sup>2</sup>	No. 1666, Fanli Road, Hanzhijiedao, Wancheng District, Nanyang
Huhua Grand Hotel (Shanghai)	75 US dollars	78 US dollars	32-35 m <sup>2</sup>	No. 1 Waipojing Road, Sijinzhen, Songjiang District, Shanghai



### Pre-Convention Tour:

A Journey of Wild Roses and Panda in Western China (Sichuan Province)

Departure Location: Chengdu, Sichuan Province. Nearest airport: Chengdu Tianfu Airport or Shuangliu Airport. Please send us your flight details and we will pick you up at the airport. Please check into the designated accommodation hotel by dinner time, as we will have dinner prepared for you.

Costs: 1000 US dollars per person based on double occupancy  
1280 US dollars per person based on single occupancy

*Detailed information can be found at the website, including pictures.*

**Day 1, April 18th**

arrive in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, Check into the hotel.

**Day 2: April 19th**

City tour in Chengdu, visit ancient streets, visit botanic garden

**Day 3: April 20th**

Visit Emei Mountain and wild roses. *Rosa omeiensis* was named after the Emei Mountain.

**Day 4, April 21st**

visit World Heritage site Dujiangyan and the rose park

**Day 5, April 22nd**

Visit Panda Conservation Centre and the rose garden

**Day 6, April 23rd**

Visit World Heritage Site Sanxingdui of 3,000 year-old civilization.

**Day 7, April 24th**

depart for Nanyang by high-speed train and arrive at about 15:00.

***Post-Convention Tour:***

A Journey to Roses in Classical Gardens

The trip will start from Shanghai and end in Shanghai.

**Day 1: April 29th**

Visit Suzhou's classical Chinese Gardens

**Day 2, April 30th**

visit gardens in lakes in Wuxi

**Day 3, May 1st**

visit Changshu and Lang's Rose nursery, and the rose garden at Taicang.

**Day 4, May 2nd**

visit Shanghai's landmarks and downtown area

Costs: 600 US dollars per person based on double occupancy  
800 US dollars per person based on single occupancy

*Detailed information can be found at the website, including pictures.*

## **Lectures:**

12 speakers from 8 countries will talk about the species roses and heritage roses. For 6 of them you will find details of their lecture below. For the remaining six, a resume will follow in the March 2026 edition.

### 1. Dr. Professor Luo, Le - *Beijing Forestry University*

“New discoveries of Genus Rosa in China”

### 2. Pat Toolan - *Australia*

Why Australians love heritage roses?

### 3. Dr. David Comyn - *South Africa (details below)*

“The South African Heritage Rose Trust’s contribution to the conservation of Old Roses“

### 4. Mike Shoup - *USA (details below)*

“Preserving the legacy: safeguarding heirloom roses from an Texas Rose rustler.”

### 5. Dr. Yu, Chao - *Beijing Forestry University, China (details below)*

Phenotypic and genomic signatures across wild Rosa species open new horizons for modern rose breeding

### 6. Dr. Yuki Mikanagi - *Japan*

Wild Roses from Japan

### 7. William McNamara - *USA*

The Profound Influence of Wild Chinese Roses on the Development of Modern Roses

### 8. Professor Jian - *Hongying (details below)*

Phylogeography and conservation genetics of *R. chinensis* var. *spontanea* and *R. lucidissima* complex

### 9. Hella Brumme - *Germany*

Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen - The World’s Largest Rose Collection

### 10. Clement Cherreyron - *France (details below)*

“Roses from a different rose, the contribution of rose species in breeding, from yesterday to tomorrow”.

### 11. Dr. Zhao Shiwei - *China*

The History of Roses in China based on Ancient Paintings

### 12. Martin Stott - *UK (details below)*

“Heading West - The Journey of Chinese Roses to Europe and Their Impact”



## **David Comyn**

### **“The South African Heritage Rose Trust’s contribution to the conservation of Old Roses”.**

Qualified as a doctor in Cape Town in 1971. Obtained specialist qualifications in South Africa and Australia. Practiced Anaesthesia but my main contribution is in Critical Care Medicine. Founder member and Past President of the South African Society of Critical Care Medicine. Served as a Council member of the South African Society of Anaesthesiologists.

Founder member of the South African Heritage Rose Trust. Current Chairman.



## **Martin Stott**

### **Heading West – the journey of China’s roses to Europe and their impact**

In the late 18th century roses began arriving from China that would change the rose world forever. These roses brought astonishing new colours, scents and repeat flowering. Martin Stott will tell the story of how some of these roses were ‘discovered’, exported to Europe and the impact they had there. Expect geopolitical drama, adventure, theft, disaster and delight.

Martin Stott is the author of the Storyteller Garden history blog and YouTube channel. He is co-editor of *By Any Other Name*, the heritage rose journal of the World Federation of Rose Societies. A former BBC journalist who made programmes for Radio 4 and the World Service in 21 countries, Martin has also written for *Gardens Illustrated* and *Hortus* magazine.



## **Dr. Hongying Jian**

### **Phylogeography and conservation genetics of *R. chinensis* var. *spontanea* and *R. lucidissima* complex**

Honying Jian, PhD, professor of Flower Research Institute, Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences. She has conducted multiple field investigations on wild rose resources in Yunnan and other various parts of China, collecting and preserving over 500 accessions of more than 100 wild rose species from both domestic and abroad, and completing taxonomic identification. She has comprehensively carried out karyological studies on the collected rose germplasm and discovered the highest natural ploidy, decaploidy, of wild *Rosa* species in *R. praelucens*. She has conducted systematic and phylogenetic studies on the genus, and especially focused on the study of phylogeography, conservation genetics.



## *Clement Cherreyron*

*“Roses from a different rose, the contribution of rose species in breeding, from yesterday to tomorrow”.*

Born in 1989, I started as a mountain shepherd where studying and collecting wild plants as a hobby eventually led me to working in rare tree nurseries, where I also learnt rose budding.

Assiduous arboretum visitor, it is coming upon an old *Rosa hugonis* bush that my passion for roses started and it has since then extended from species to heritage roses.

Self-taught rosarian, I to this day consider roses with a dendrologist eye more so than a horticultural one and have gathered a collection of rose species and other rosaceae.

At age 25, I started my nursery « Les Racines du Vent », specialized in organically grown heritage and species roses, as well as modern ones, where I try to balance conservation and propagation of sometimes rare heritage roses with the general need for undemanding and prolific roses.

Board member of the Roses Anciennes en France association and current president of the Cle de la Rose association and rose garden of Cluny, I give lectures and conduct rose garden visits.

Both my professional and voluntary activities have aimed at spreading and bettering the knowledge and appreciation for rose diversity.



## *Mike Shoup*

*“Preserving the legacy: safeguarding heirloom roses from a Texas Rose rustler.”*

G. Michael Shoup, a distinguished horticulturist recognized for his expertise in preserving heirloom roses and promoting sustainable gardening. With a master’s degree in horticulture from Texas A&M University, Shoup dedicated over four decades to the conservation and promotion of antique roses through his business, Antique Rose Emporium. He authored three books including “Empress of the Garden,” “Landscaping with Antique Roses,” and “Roses in the Southern Landscape.” Shoup is a sought-after featured speaker and serves as the President of the Heritage Rose Foundation, advocating for the preservation and appreciation of heritage roses. His passion for preserving the beauty and history of these timeless flowers has established him as a leading authority in horticulture.



## Dr. Chao Yu

### More than beauty: A comprehensive use of roses

**Abstract:** Roses are renowned for their ornamental value, dominating the global flower market. Beyond aesthetics, their rich nutritional and bioactive compounds hold significant potential for cosmetics, food and medicinal applications. China, as a primary center of *Rosa* diversity, harbors over 95 locally distributed species, providing abundant resources for scientific exploration. Based on years of investigation and collection of wild *Rosa* resources, this study explored the functional potential of both rose flowers and fruits. Through population genetic, transcriptomic, and metabolomic analyses, we identified unique floral scent

compounds in Chinese *Rosa* germplasm. Meanwhile, key pigment compounds were characterized in rose petals, providing valuable insights for breeding nutritionally enriched varieties. Additionally, rose hips, often overlooked, were found to be rich in secondary metabolites, including high levels of vitamin C and various bioactive compounds, making them promising candidates for food, cosmetic, and pharmaceutical applications. These findings emphasize the functional and health-promoting properties of *Rosa* species, highlighting their vast potential for diverse industries and providing a scientific foundation for further economic and health-related explorations.

Prof. Chao Yu, head of the Rose Breeding Research Group at the State Key Laboratory of Efficient Production of Forest Resources, head of team Fishpond, Beijing Forestry University. Mainly focuses on *Rosa* germplasm and breeding, propagation and cultivation techniques, molecular mechanisms of key traits, and functional analysis and utilization of plant secondary metabolites. Published more than 50 high-impact papers, including in *Nature Plants*, *Nature Communications*, and *Trends in Food Science and Technology*, obtained nine national invention patents, and developed 11 new rose cultivars.





# *VP Report Australasia (Australia)*

Gavin Woods

A yearly reflection on national and international rose events, exhibitions, awards, and the vibrant community that keeps the passion for roses alive. This report highlights a season of remarkable blooms, dedicated volunteers, memorable journeys, and the enduring spirit of rosarians across Australia and beyond.

What a difference a year makes in the rose growing world! A very cool spring here in the southern states has seen only 1 day over 30 degrees and plenty of late rains, meaning that I have not watered my roses for several weeks. The blooms produced by our plants have been wonderful BUT the downside is the presence of fungal disease, with powdery mildew in abundance in my no-spray garden, somewhat a rarity as I normally do not see signs of mildew until late-autumn. I eagerly await the heat that summer will bring to eradicate these fungal issues.

***The blooms have been wonderful, but powdery mildew has appeared in abundance in my no-spray garden — a rarity this early in the season.***

I will begin with the Annual General Meeting of the National Rose Society of Australia (NRSA) for 2024, hosted by the Rose Society of Victoria. A very successful National Rose Show was held in conjunction with the early November meeting, saw several exhibitors from New South Wales in attendance. Awards were well spread and it was my honour to be part of the panel to decide Best in Show, with local exhibitor Ian Banks- Smith winning with a vase of Leonardo da Vinci. National President Sandra Turner ran a wonderful weekend which was enjoyed by all in attendance.

The Victorian show is always the last on the calendar as the later spring sees their roses peak several weeks after those in other states, except of course Tasmania where the peak flush for spring is often mid to late November.

Once again in April, I set off to judge roses and dahlias at the Sydney Royal Show. An annual pilgrimage for me, usually to judge poultry, this year I decided to return to the final rose session as an exhibitor. To explain; Sydney Royal runs for 12 days and exhibitors stage roses on 3 occasions during that time with the



*Sydney Royal Grand Champion 2025- Gavin Woods & judge Graham Wright with rosa 'Veteran's Honour'.*

final session considered the “Championship Day”. I packed about 100 roses into eskies and drove the 1500kms non-stop to Sydney arriving at 3.00am. A good friend and fellow exhibitor met me and assisted in staging about 80 blooms. I was very successful, winning 2 of the 3 major classes and winning Grand Champion with a Bunch of Veteran’s Honour. Sydney Royal is the biggest event staged in Australia annually with thousands of people admiring the flowers.

State society’s then held their Autumn Rose Shows, in the South Australian case it was once again held at Adelaide Botanic Gardens in conjunction with the “People’s Choice Award” of the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia (NRTGA), a trial run under WFRS guidelines.

People’s Choice is a public Judging event held each year within the NRTGA. Members of the general public are invited to cast their votes for their most favoured roses and to view those roses most likely to be released in the coming seasons. A total of 1019 people entered the competition to select the top five roses in the trial garden, with the winner receiving \$1000 worth of prizes. The most popular rose, the “People’s Choice” was a yellow and orange striped Floribunda bred by Kordes Roses; Lollipop (KORpoplol) which is set for release here in 2027.

A new initiative this year was a photography competition for the best photo of any of the roses on trial. About 90 photos were entered, with the winner receiving \$250 from Neutrog Fertilisers.

In May, about 30 Australians attended the wonderful 20th World Convention of the WFRS in Fukuyama, Japan. Kim and I joined both a pre-tour and a post-tour and caught up with many of our friends from the rose world. The Japanese organisers left no stone unturned in providing delegates with a first class experience. A highlight for the Australians was to see our outgoing WFRS President Diane vom Berg receive the Gold Medal for her 13 years of Executive service and for Jim Cane to receive a medal for his untiring contribution to the NRSA.

A highlight of the Convention for me was to join other international judges in forming part of the panel to make awards at the Japan Rose Show. Some wonderful exhibits were on display and we again reinforced the notion that a good rose is a good rose, no matter where it is grown.

***A good rose is a good rose, no matter where it is grown.***

To return home to a cold Australia with the prospect of starting our winter pruning was a hard pill to swallow after such a wonderful convention; nevertheless we survived!

It is around this time that many of our rose societies hold their Annual Meetings. Most of our groups have continued with an Executive largely unchanged, with the exception of Queensland. The very popular Sue Stallwood has handed over the reins of the presidency to Dean Ashton. This came as a surprise to us all, however Sue felt it was time for her to retire and luckily for Queensland, Dean stepped into the breach. We wish Dean all the best in his new role.

The first major event of the 2025 spring season was the NRSA Annual meeting and show, this time hosted by the Queensland Rose Society. A wonderful weekend was presented in what was a fitting farewell from Sue Stallwood who has been a marvellous president of our northern state. The rose show was the largest held in Queensland for many years, which augurs well for the future. I was part of the panel to decide “Best in Show”, this time a lovely cut of Paris 2000 exhibited by the new Chief Judge for the NRSA Grace Warren was triumphant.

The Australian Rose Award is the highest award offered to Rosarians Australia wide with recipients this year being Jim Cunningham from New South Wales and Sandra Turner, president of the Victorian Rose Society. The TA Stewart memorial Medal is awarded to a person from Australia or New Zealand who has offered



*Rose Society of South Australia's Spring Show with rosa 'Gold Bunny' & the Women's Weekly Trophy*

outstanding service to the rose; this year going to Graham Wright of New South Wales. All recipients would be well known internationally for their travels to World Rose Conventions. They were popular choices for these highest of awards.

Australia, like all other regions is experiencing a dramatic drop in Rose Society membership. Interest in the rose is NOT diminishing, rather it is the organised meeting format that people are withdrawing from. The NRSA moved to follow the WFRS lead to appoint a "Youth Advisory Committee" which might better inform us of the needs of our younger generations moving forward.

Most of us returned from Brisbane to face our own state rose shows, the Rose Society of South Australia (of which I am President) held their show in a shopping mall in the ever popular Barossa Valley. The largest regional mall in South Australia, this venue was ideal as we presented a very good showing of roses to hundreds of busy shoppers who stopped and took time to "smell the roses". My society for some years has applied a policy of "taking

roses to the people", moving away from the traditional venues of halls, rather using garden centres and now shopping malls to stage our shows. Exhibitors were very pleased with the venue with most choosing to stay in the Barossa Valley and enjoy some of the delights that region has to offer.

We were saddened that stalwart exhibitors Peter and Brenda Burton made this show their "swansong", having made the difficult decision to sell their home and move to the next phase of their lives. They will be particularly missed as Champion exhibitors.

A feature of our local show is the awarding of the "Woman's Weekly Trophy". This huge silver bowl was first used in competitions between state societies in the 1960's. How South Australia retained the bowl is a mystery as Queensland won the competition more than other states? The bowl remained in storage for decades and was only removed from time to time to allow the late, great David Ruston OAM to fill it with his glorious roses for important demonstrations. We decided to have the trophy re-silvered and was first awarded to the Grand Champion exhibit at the Rose Show that was held in conjunction with the 2022 World Rose Convention in Adelaide. A wonderful trophy indeed!

The Awards Dinner of the NRTGA was attended by the illuminati of the rose world in Adelaide during the following week. Unfortunately a respiratory infection prevented my attendance but I am assured that new Chair of the NRTGA Board Kim Syrus ran a wonderful event. Winners of the trial have been previously announced and will not be repeated here. I would, however like to congratulate the winners and to acknowledge the huge team of volunteers that keep this trial viable.

The day prior to the NRTGA awards, Kim Syrus hosted a forum for the rose industry, something we believe had not occurred for 50 years in our country. Kim is a national media identity, with a presence both on television and within the print media world. Kim is Director of Corporate Roses who hold the Australian agency for Meiland Roses. The forum focused on his recent scholarship tour of the United States and Europe, looking at own root roses. Kim believes that sourcing workers with the skills required to

bud roses will become increasingly difficult, which opens a market for own-root roses. The seminar also looked at the scourge that is Chilli thrips which are devastating rose gardens in Western Australia. Other challenges within the rose production space were discussed which made for a very informative day.

The following weekend a few members staged a promotional display at the wonderful Adelaide mansion of Carrick Hill. Those who attended the Adelaide Convention in 2022 will recall the National Rose Trial awards evening held at this venue, in appalling weather conditions that drove everyone inside for the event. Luckily we experienced milder weather and the display was enjoyed by many visitors to the house.

Then it was on to our rose show held in conjunction with Uraidla Agricultural Show. We staged the largest rose show held at this venue, with exhibitors bring out over 250 single cuts and 12 vases of roses for what was a spectacle! The fragrance in the old Heritage listed hall was wonderful. We were awarded the “Best Section in Show” for our efforts.

Weekend number 5 saw me travel many roses to the Victorian State Spring Rose Show, hosted by the Rose Society of Victoria. President Sandra Turner, Show Manager Jacinta Burke and their workers created a wonderful show in a new, very user friendly venue. A shocking day of weather (13 degrees maximum and pouring rain) did not deter the hundreds of visitors who came to view the roses. It was a 12 hour drive for me, I benched about 80 roses and was suitably rewarded for my efforts, annexing many awards. Diane vom Berg joined us in judging what was a wonderful show.

One of the great delights for me whenever I go to a Melbourne Rose event is to be able to catch up with a true legend of the rose world in Rosalie Parsons. Rosalie has been the benchmark of the exhibition world in Victoria for several decades and I very much enjoy spending time with her. Rosalie also exhibits cats (Birmans) and always has stories of the mischief they get up to. Rosalie, like myself as the proud owner of a 15 year old Siamese “lady” is frequently reminded that cats and





*Display of roses at Parndana Agricultural Show, Kangaroo Island*

roses do not mix, their tendency to eat roses as one is preparing them for a show does not go down well!

My final journey for the spring season was to take a car load of roses to Kangaroo Island for a display at the Parndana Agricultural Show, whose theme for this year was “Stop and Smell the Roses”. Penelope Schulz and I travelled the 45 minute ferry crossing and

***The participation in the show of people of all ages was a joy to see. It is my hope that our own State Rose Society can foster closer ties with these quite isolated rose lovers.***

staged a beautiful and fragrant display of roses that was very much appreciated by the “Islanders”. Bushfires devastated Kangaroo Island in 2020 but with great support from South Australia’s horticultural “Queen” Sophie Thomson and generous donations from nurserymen like Brian Wagner of Wagner Roses, gardens have been regenerated and roses feature in prominence in most of these. The participation in the show of people of all ages was a joy to see. It is my hope that our own State Rose Society can foster closer ties with these quite isolated rose lovers.

So after 6 weekends in a row away from home I am simply now looking forward to catching-up in my own rose garden. My own exciting news is that I am about to retire from work in mid-December. I am very much looking forward to having more time both within my own garden and to spend on rose administration and projects.



# *VP Report Australasia (New Zealand)*

Hayden Foulds

A review of a vibrant year in the New Zealand rose world, highlighting major rose shows, trial results, national and international awards, and the ongoing contributions of dedicated rosarians. From Rose of the Year selections in Hamilton to national conventions, heritage gatherings, Ranfurly competitions, and international representation at the World Rose Convention in Japan, this annual overview reflects a season of achievements, community spirit, and passion for the rose across New Zealand.

With winter turning into spring, New Zealand rosarians eagerly anticipate the new season of roses blooming. November and early December is when the rose show and trial season happens in New Zealand. I attended the following events:

The New Zealand Rose of the Year competition was held in Hamilton in early November. The overall winner was 'Ink Spots' bred by Rob Somerfield of New Zealand. This rose also won the Best New Zealand bred rose. Rob also won the Children's Choice Award with 'Tabasco'. The Best Floribunda was awarded to FLORANZA® Bright & Breezy bred by Colin Dickson from Northern Ireland. Brad Jalbert from Canada won Best Hybrid Tea with AMORE® Black Lace and the Most Fragrant Rose with 'AMORE® Perfumed Kiss'. The Best Climbing Rose was awarded to 'Newsflash' bred by David Kenny of Ireland. See also trial results at WFRS website, including photos.

The National Rose Show and Convention was hosted in mid-November by the Franklin Rose Society in Pukekohe. The Champion of Champions for Large Roses went to a small stem of 'Reflections' exhibited by Sheree Gare

of the Waikato Rose Society. The Champion of Champion for Miniature type roses went to a fully open of 'Irresistible' exhibited by Janet Pike of the Waikato Rose Society. Janice Walker from the Northland Rose Society won the award for the best exhibit in the special section class with 'Star Crossed Lovers'.

Early December saw the presentation of awards from the New Zealand Rose Society International Rose Trials in Palmerston North. The Gold Star of the South Pacific for the highest scoring rose in trial was presented to 'Phoenix' bred by Kordes Rosen of Germany. Kordes also

Certificate of Merit for 'received a Marondo'. Rosen Tantau also of Germany received a Certificate of Merit for 'Sirius' (RT 05-415). The final Certificate of Merit was awarded to 'Luminous M'Lady' bred by Spek Rozen of the Netherlands. See trial results at WFRS website.

At the trial awards presentation, Bob Matthews was presented with the New Zealand Rose Award for services to the rose. Bob has had a lifelong passion for roses and since 1978, along with his wife Cath have run Matthews



*National Rose Show 2024 Pukekohe*



*Bob Matthews – photo credit Samantha Matthews*

Nurseries Ltd near Whanganui. He has become well known as a rose breeder.

On the Heritage Rose scene, the highlight of the year was the successful hosting of the National Conference in Cromwell, Central Otago. 130 rosarians from as far away as Australia, the UK and the USA enjoyed a week of garden visits, lectures and social events. A pre tour took in Dunedin including the renown Northern Cemetery while the post tour headed to Invercargill.

At the conference, five service awards were presented to Salila Bryant, Lesley Marshall, Tina Peters, Maureen Viggo and Noeline Hillier. Daphne Whitford-Smith was presented with a Life Membership Award for many years of involvement with heritage roses.

At the end of 2024, Mrs Rachael Chalmers retired as NZRS Secretary. Mr David Barrow was appointed to the position and brings a range of administrative and IT skills to the position.

With the festive season out of the way, the first events on the calendar for 2025 are the Rose Ranfurly Days. These were instigated by Sam McGredy where rose societies compete against each other in a fun, friendly format. They are something unique to New Zealand in the world of roses.

There are three Ranfurly Days held in New Zealand, two in the North Island while the South Island is a whole weekend and is a must attend event for many South Island Rosarians. The Upper North Island Ranfurly was hosted by the Auckland Rose Society and won by the Waikato Rose Society.

The Lower North Island Ranfurly was hosted by the Feilding Rose Society and won by the Hutt Valley Rose Society. The South Island Ranfurly was hosted by the Canterbury Rose Society and won by them as well.

At the South Island Ranfurly, two awards were presented.

Life membership of the New Zealand Rose Society was presented to Rachael Chalmers. Rachael served as Editor of the New Zealand Rose Annual for seven years and three years as NZRS Secretary. The Frank Penn Memorial Award for service to a local rose society was presented to Lyn Anisy from the Westland Rose Society. Currently serving as their Secretary, Lyn is a stalwart of this group and is a strong supporter of many of their activities.

At the start of April, the New Zealand Rose Society AGM was held in Palmerston North. After four years as President, I stood down and Adrian Bullen from Pukekohe was elected as the new President. Adrian already has been responsible for many initiatives to promote the rose society and boost membership.

After 35 years on the NZRS Council including two stints as President, Doug Grant stood down. An amazing record of service to the New Zealand Rose Society, there is very little that Doug has not done in this time. Thank you Doug for all you have done.

Four New Zealanders travelled to Japan in May for the World Rose Convention. They had a fantastic time in Fukuyama meeting other rosarians from around the world and seeing



*Hayden Foulds receiving the World Rose Award from WFRS President Diane vom Berg, photo credit Melanie Trimper*

some magnificent rose gardens. I presented a lecture on disease tolerance in roses while Doug Grant was part of the breeder's panel.

breeders panel

Doug also finished his time as Vice President (Australasia) in Fukuyama and a big thanks go to him for representing New Zealand on the WFRS Executive over the past 10 years.

It was a huge shock at the Banquet dinner to be presented with the World Rose Award and many thanks go to those rosarians who have sent congratulations.

It has been a wonderful interest of mine for many years and one of the highlights has been attending conventions around the world and meeting rosarians from other countries.

It was then back home and into pruning time again.



*Doug Grant at breeders panel Fukuyama*



*Entries Auckland, photo credit Sheree Gare*



# *VP Report*

## *Europe East*

Angela Bokor

A regional overview of significant activities in 2024–2025, highlighting international conferences, visits to notable rose gardens, and key developments across Central and Eastern Europe. This report reflects engagements in Slovenia, Austria, Japan, and Hungary, including participation in the World Rose Convention, the promotion of therapeutic landscape design, and the recognition of outstanding rose gardens. It also documents ongoing efforts to preserve regional rose heritage, support rosaria in need, and strengthen collaboration through the newly launched Regional Newsletter.

In March, 2025 I attended the international conference Parks of Comfort and Well-being organised by the Municipality of Piran, Slovenian Rose Society and Arboretum Volčji Potok, in Portorož, Slovenia. Around 50 landscape architects, horticulturists and professionals listened to invited experts from Italy, France, the Czech Republic and Slovenia. In the Arboretum Volčji Potok there is a great interest in offering various activities for healing the body and soul in the green environment. The Olomouc Rosarium was presented as a place for activities for all needs and ages. Matthias Meiland presented how roses can be the suitable plants for urban landscaping. You can read more about the event in the regional newsletter: <http://bit.ly/4hx4Q48>.

In May I visited the Volksgarten in Vienna, a large park in the centre of the city.

Initially an imperial garden, it was opened to the public in 1823 and in the 1860s was expanded to its current size of around 30 000 m<sup>2</sup>. In the park there are planted around 1000 standard roses, 130 climbers and 50 shrub roses of about 350 varieties. Many of these roses are the original plants, planted

more than 50 years ago and thanks to a good maintenance they are still in good condition. Organic fertilization, watering in summer by automatically controlled system seems to help the plants to thrive. Varieties like ‘Schneewittchen’, ‘Gruss an Teplitz’, ‘Elmshorn’ form large shrubs to a height and width of more than 3 metres. There is also a huge shrub of *Rosa hugonis*, which, I have been told, looks spectacular in April.

People can make donations for the park and in return a personal dedication is attached to a rose, this being a great way to involve the people. You can read more about the park in the latest issue of BAON.

In May I travelled to Japan to attend the World Rose Convention in Fukuyama. From my region two people from Romania, three from Poland, two from Slovenia attended the convention.

At the convention, two of the rose gardens from our region, The Olomouc Rosarium in Czech Republic and Aflopark in Poland received the WFRS Garden of Excellence Award.



*International conference in Portorož, Slovenia*



*in Volksgarten with the head gardener and Erich Unmuth*



*standard roses in Volksgarten*



*old shrub roses in Volksgarten, Vienna (photo by Erich Unmuth)*



*with children at the WRC in Japan*

In December 2024 the Mark Rosarium in Acsad, Hungary received a grant from the WFRS for employing a part time worker. The rosarium preserves the rose varieties bred by Mark Gergely, the most important Hungarian breeder and also other breeders from the region. With more than 1000 varieties in a garden of 14000 square metres, the help was a real life saver for the rosarium.

At the end of September I had the opportunity to visit the Rosenkultivarium, a garden near Baden bei Wien where Erich Unmuth has a fantastic collection of roses. He has an impressive knowledge about roses and it was a real pleasure to talk with him.

I also visited the Rosarium in Doblhoffpark in Baden bei Wien which received the WFRS Garden of Excellence Award in 2019. I have to say that the garden doesn't look as good as it was in 2019. I got in contact with the head gardener and if they don't work toward resolving the issues, probably the garden cannot be listed on the WFRS website.

Since I took over the position of Vice-President I started editing a Regional Newsletter which you can find here: <https://bit.ly/4oPYzmJ>



*Mark Rosarium Acsad, Hungary*



*Rosa multiflora var. adenochoeta in Rosenkultivarium*



# *VP Report* *Europe North*

Maria Hjort

A brief overview of rose activities across the Nordic countries in 2024–2025, featuring the Icelandic Nordic Rose Convention, national projects to document and preserve regional rose heritage, and ongoing efforts to promote resilient rose cultivation in challenging climates.

Since I took over the position of Vice-President I started editing a Regional Newsletter which you can find here: <https://bit.ly/4oPYzmJ>  
Report from the Nordic countries 2025

Photos from Iceland: Anders Lindgren  
Photos from Finland: Maria Hjort

Every second year members from the Nordic rose societies gather for a convention somewhere in our part of the world. This year the meeting was hosted by the Icelandic Rose Society and visitors from Scandinavia, Finland, UK and Canada were welcomed in Reykjavik in August under the heading Roses, Climate and Society.

I did not attend the convention myself so this report is based on the travel diary of Anders Lindgren, chairman of the Swedish Rose Society. The committee, led by Hulda Gudmundsdottir and Asta Torleifsdottir did a marvellous job making every guest feel a warm Icelandic welcome and well fed by interesting lectures and amazing dinners and coffee breaks.

The conditions for growing roses in Iceland differ a lot from what the rest of us are used to. The temperature during summer seldom reaches more than 12 degrees C

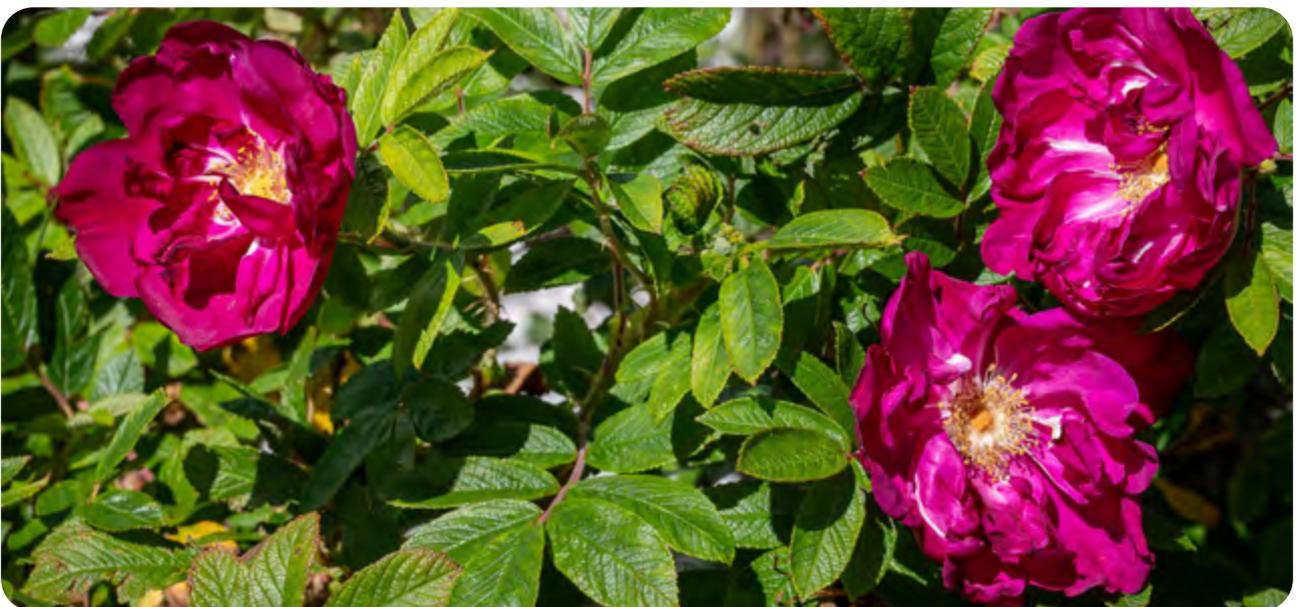
(54 F) but on the other hand, the winters are mild. Because Iceland is so close to the Arctic circle the days are long and bright. AND diseases are rare. Rains are frequent, about 800 millimetres per year and the winds blow often enough.



There you have the conditions for a group of rose lovers from which we can learn a lot about selecting the proper rose for different circumstances.

Owing to enthusiasm, a great knowledge and careful selection the Icelanders can enjoy a long season of flowering roses. Rugosas and spinosissimas are among the best loved varieties but in greenhouses you can find a lot of delicate beauties, too.

Speaking of greenhouses – thanks to the abundance of geothermal energy you can easily heat a greenhouse at a very modest expense. Cut roses is big business and the country is self-sufficient in these flowers (as of a lot of tropical fruits).



*The Icelandic rugosa 'Gudbjörk'*



*Rosa moyesii 'Eos'*

One lecture at the convention held by Wilhjalmur Ludvigsson dealt with the topic of resilience in roses, particularly in harsh conditions. He considered the scale by which we in Scandinavia estimate growing zones not to be comprehensive enough and suggested an enlarged scale with five levels, considering aspects like wind, dampness, cold etc.

Other themes in Reykjavik were the close connection between gardening and health. Kristin Maute, garden enthusiast and psychologist, emphasized the fact that local rose committees add to public health.

A lot of gardens were – of course – visited, both in the vicinity of Reykjavik and for those who participated in the post tour that went to the north of the country. This trip offered an excellent possibility to enjoy a spectacular landscape as well as lovely gardens and meet some Icelandic roses, not so well known outside the country. The great name in rose breeding in Iceland is Johann Pálson and the people who generously opened their gardens had nearly all some of his roses.

Rose Society hands over the chairmanship to Michael Luther, head of The Rose Society of

Finland. Next Nordic convention in 2027 will be hosted by Finland.

Michael Luther, chairman of The Rose Society of Finland told me that they during 2025 launched a project called Finnish roses with the aim of describing roses in the country classified in three groups.

- Roses that grow wild in the country
- Found roses without any known history
- Roses bred in Finland

The roses are to be presented in a publication (in three languages Finnish, Swedish and hopefully English).

Up to now no such overview exists and the society is anxious to describe these roses before they may be lost to the public. Nurseries close down, scientific notes get lost, botanical gardens lose fundings etc. The content is so far uncertain but at least 150 to 200 roses are bred in Finland the last 20 to 30 years and the number of "found roses" in the country is about the same.

On the Norwegian front Björg Narum, head of The Norwegian Rose Society, informed us that

*The Pálsson hybrid rugosa 'Hrefna Kristin'*





*Asta Torleifsdottir of the Icelandic Rose Society hands over the chairmanship to Michael Luther, head of The Rose Society of Finland. Next Nordic convention in 2027 will be hosted by Finland.*



*'Toukonütty' a Finnish found rose*



*The Finnish bred 'Loiste'*



*Björg Narum*



*'Namdalsrose', a spinosissima*  
 Photo: Sigrun Hjalmarisdóttir Kveerno

they continue their work and engagement in the recently opened National collection of old Norwegian roses, During the year a lot of local rose clubs

and interested rose lovers has visited the park, admired the roses and learnt a lot about the history of roses in Norway.

The collection is a collaboration since 2007 between the society and Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU) and the aim was to collect old garden roses with a known history dating back to before 1950. It was the Norwegian Rose Society that initiated the project. More than 800 roses were registered, and at NMBU's nursery a large field in It was established with about 330 old garden roses collected from Eastern Norway. There has been a strong focus on identifying and evaluating the roses' characteristics. NMBU, together with the University of Agder and the University of Bergen carried out this task. There has also been some cooperation with Sweden and their POM-program. Root shoots from 60 of the most valuable historical roses were planted in a newly developed field, the "Clone Archive". The selected roses were for example roses

unique to Norway (and which are of cultural, research, or commercial interest) or unidentified roses. The selected roses must be winter hardy in the Ås-region and sturdy. They are all living cultural monuments, often with fragrant and abundant blooms. Many have survived as heirloom roses. They have been an important feature in traditional gardens and are part of our garden cultural history.

The rose garden opened to the public in 2023 and has become a cherished destination for rose enthusiasts from all over Norway. Root shoots from the collection are distributed (for free) to public and private parks in The Östlandet region (an area the holds half the population of Norway). All local rose clubs in the country can use the park and there is no entrance fee. The Rose Park has a friends' association responsible for weeding, pruning, and distributing root shoots from the roses.

*The gallica 'Marianne Billington'*  
 Photo: Bjørg Narum





# *VP Report Far East*

Kim Wook-Kyun

An overview of rose culture, collaboration, and key developments across Japan, China, and South Korea. This report highlights regional initiatives, major events, and growing international exchange within the Far East Asia Region—from rose trials and heritage conferences to emerging rose cities and peace-building garden projects.

## The Rose and the Far East Asia Region

The rose—a plant that has profoundly influenced humanity throughout history—embodies countless meanings and mysteries across Eastern and Western cultures. Today, it stands as a universal cultural icon woven into nearly every aspect of our lives.

As Vice President for the Far East Asia Region, I aim to create opportunities to share and observe the development of the global rose culture and industry from a Northeast Asian perspective, thereby fostering closer collaboration and exchange within the region.

As the **WFRS has as members in the Far East Asia Region** the **Japan Rose Society** (founding member from 1968 at the London Conference) & the **China Rose Society** (joined in 2006 Houston Convention) & the **South Korea Rose Society** (joined in 2018 at the Copenhagen Convention).

The historical influence of Chinese roses on the breeding and evolution of modern varieties is well recognised. Japan’s rose culture is also deeply rooted, reflected in its hosting of multiple

WFRS conventions and international rose trials. While Korea’s rose culture is younger, evidence of historical cultivation appears in ancient literature, and interest is rapidly growing. Strengthening cultural exchange and collaborative research among Japan, China, and Korea remains a key regional focus for the region.

Future regional reports will highlight major events, developments, and shared themes. In line with President Sushil Prakash’s vision, two key areas will guide our work: **“Projects of International Significance”** and the **“Young Rosarian Initiative.”** The theme of peace will anchor regional collaboration, while the Young Rosarian Initiative aims to inspire the next generation of rose leaders, as exemplified by the recent Friends of the Federation Scholarship recipient who attended the 2025 World Rose Convention.

### Recent Activities of the Japan Rose Society

The **Japan Rose Society (JRS)** held two major autumn events: the Japan Rose Concours (JRC)—also known as the Tokyo



## The Symbolism of Roses in History

Roses were metaphorically expressed in the spring, the prime time of life, for women in particular.

Source: Gansong Museum



Trial for new rose varieties—and the Fall Rose Show, both hosted at Jindai Botanical Garden, the long-time home of the JRC.

### 1. Autumn Judging for the Japan Rose Concours (JRC)

The JRC, the oldest and one of only three internationally recognised rose trials approved by the WFRS, features four categories:

- Category I : Hybrid Tea and Grandiflora
- Category II : Floribunda
- Category III : Miniature, Polyantha, and Patio Roses
- Category IV : Shrub and Climbing Roses



Entries in Categories I–III are judged twice—in spring and autumn—during their second year, while Category IV entries are evaluated four times over the second and third years. In 2025, a total of **38 entries** were assessed.

### 2. The Fall Rose Show 2025

Held from October 24–26, 2025, the event featured a broad range of classes, including single Hybrid Tea, paired stems, Floribunda class, table and miniature arrangements, newcomer classes, and fragrance competitions. Co-hosted by Jindai Botanical Garden as part of its Rose Festa, the show displayed an impressive diversity of roses and artistic arrangements, demonstrating Japan's deep appreciation for rose artistry and excellence.

## Recent Activities of the China Rose Society

### 1. Preparations for the 17th Heritage Rose Conference 2026 (Nanyang & Shanghai)

Following the Fukuyama World Rose Convention, the China Rose Society (CRS) has advanced preparations for the 17th Heritage Rose Conference, to be held in Nanyang and Shanghai in 2026. CRS President Mr. Zhang Zuoshuang and Dr. Shiwei Zhao visited both host cities to finalise arrangements and have



*Madam Entian Memorial Rose Garden*



*Fall Rose Show\_Japan*

kept WFRS officials updated on progress. The official website is now open at [www.rose2026.com](http://www.rose2026.com).

The pre-conference tour will feature visits to wild rose habitats and panda sanctuaries in Sichuan Province, while the post-conference tour will explore notable rose gardens around Shanghai, and the event will conclude at the Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden, recipient of the 2022 WFRS Award of Garden Excellence.

## **2. Reopening of the Madam Entian Jiang Memorial Rose Garden**

The Madam Entian Jiang Memorial Rose Garden in Taicang City, Jiangsu Province, has reopened following renovation. Founded by Madam Entian Jiang in 1975, the garden honours her pioneering role in rose cultivation, research, and international exchange. In 2012, the Chinese government established the memorial garden to recognise her lifelong contribution. Madam Jiang was also a recipient of the Great Rosarians of the World Award in the United States. The museum has been renewed with new exhibits and freshly planted

roses. An opening ceremony on November 18 will mark the relaunch, with the CRS donating

*Nanyang rose\_China*



new varieties to the collection.

## Recent Activities of the South Korea Rose Society

### 1. Award Plaque Unveiling for “Tteurak of the Rose,” Jeonju Arboretum

On October 29, an Award of Garden Excellence plaque was unveiled for “Tteurak of the Rose” at Jeonju Arboretum—Korea’s second such award, following Everland Rose Garden (2022). “Tteurak,” meaning a small courtyard in a traditional Korean home, represents warmth and harmony. The garden merges traditional Korean design with the beauty of roses, symbolising both cultural heritage and modern creativity.

### 2. Korea’s Emerging Rose Garden Renaissance

Korea’s first modern rose garden opened in 1976, but the true flourishing of rose gardens has occurred over the past two decades, supported by local governments. In October 2025, Pohang City became the first municipality to enact an “Ordinance on the Creation and Promotion of a Rose City,” officially branding itself as “The Rose City.”

Pohang also took part in the Fukuyama World Rose Convention.

### Peace Rose Garden Initiative

Having endured two world wars, the rose has come to symbolise peace, hope, and the enduring aspiration for human prosperity. The Peace Rose Garden Initiative, promoted by the South Korea Rose Society (SKRS) for nearly a decade, exemplifies how roses can serve as living symbols of reconciliation and unity in the post-war era.

The project creates rose gardens—free of



Everland Rose Garden



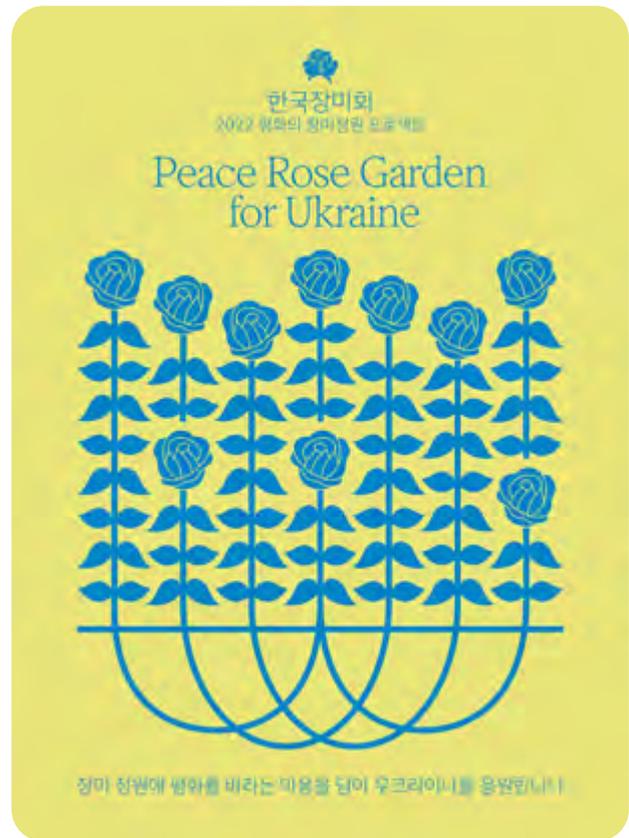
charge—for organisations and facilities in need, offering comfort to those scarred by war and solace and beauty to people in their daily lives. Each garden is typically established around 21 September, the United Nations International Day of Peace. Beneficiaries have included shelters for foreign workers, residences for former “comfort women”, care centres for the frail elderly, and youth welfare facilities.

Notable projects include the 2022 Rose Garden for Ukrainian Peace in Seoul and, following the Fukuyama World Rose Convention this year, the 2025 Rose Garden of Peace & Friendship, inaugurated near Seoul and jointly sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Seoul South (Korea) and Fukuyama North (Japan). Looking ahead, Korea and Japan are exploring the creation of a 2026 International Peace Rose Garden in Seoul, with the prospect of future collaboration involving China.

### **Reflections from the WFRS 20th World Rose Convention**

By Bak, Seounghwa, WFRS Friends’  
Scholarship Award Recipient

My first visit to Japan coincided with the WFRS 20th World Rose Convention in Fukuyama.



Full of curiosity and excitement, I arrived in a city dedicated to roses, eager to see how this flower unites people across cultures.

#### **Warm Welcome in a City of Roses:**

The Welcome Reception at Fukuyama Castle Park—with roses, music, and smiles—set a memorable tone. The Opening Ceremony, graced by Her Imperial Highness and traditional performances, revealed how deeply roses are woven into Japanese culture and community.

#### **Learning from Gardens and Breeders:**

At Midorimachi Park and the Rose Expo, I admired the precision of plant management. Observing breeder Takunori Kimura engaging with visitors highlighted Japan’s public appreciation for breeders—something Korea could emulate. Presentations, especially Dr. Yuki Mikanagi’s on wild rose morphology, resonated with my research on *Rosa multiflora* and broadened my understanding of global breeding efforts.

#### **Encounters that Inspire Understanding:**

Field visits deepened my learning beyond lectures. At Sera Kogen, I compared cultivars

side by side. Voting for “Rose of the Year” at the trial garden refined my evaluation skills, while a school rose garden showed the educational power of community horticulture. In Hiroshima, the Peace Memorial Park and Botanical Garden offered reflection and inspiration through their remarkable wild and Old Rose collections.

**Breeding Insights and Human Connections:**

Professor David H. Byrne’s timeline of rose breeding reaffirmed the importance of disease resistance and care-friendly cultivars—principles I apply in my own work. Visits to Tomonoura and Shinshoji Temple added cultural depth and moments of calm.

A highlight was the Friends Dinner, where conversations with rose lovers worldwide turned strangers into friends.

**Reflections and Gratitude:**

Fukuyama truly breathes roses—woven through its streets, schools, and daily life. The experience offered new benchmarks for evaluating cultivars and renewed my passion for breeding. My heartfelt thanks go to the WFRS, and especially to Executive Director Derek Lawrence, for his kind guidance. I return home inspired, ready to continue learning and sharing among the roses.



Star breeder\* Japanese breeder Takunori Kimura

Star Breeder” – Japanese breeder Takunori Kimura at work

Rose Garden of Peace & Friendship



평화와 우정의 장미 정원

平和と友情のバラ庭園

이 정원은 인도주의적 봉사, 직업 윤리 준수, 국제 친선과 평화 증진을 목표로 하는 로타리 정신에 따라, 대한민국 남서울로타리클럽과 일본 후쿠야마북로타리클럽이 함께 조성하였습니다.

この庭園は、人道的奉仕、職業倫理の實踐、そして国際的な親善と平和の促進を目指すロータリーの理念に基づき、韓国・南ソウルロータリークラブと日本・福山北ロータリークラブによって共同で造成されました。

남서울로타리클럽은 지난 15년 동안 아동 복지시설 '이삭의 집'을 후원해 왔으며, 후쿠야마북로타리클럽과는 자매결연을 맺은 지 45주년을 맞이하고 있습니다.

南ソウルロータリークラブは、15年以上にわたり児童福祉施設「イサクの家」を支援しており、福山北ロータリークラブとは、姉妹クラブ提携45周年を迎える長い友情を築いてまいりました。

후쿠야마시는 제2차 세계 대전의 폐허 속에서 재건되어 세계적인 '장미의 도시'로 거듭났으며, 2025년에는 세계장미대회(2025 Fukuyama World Rose Convention)를 개최하였습니다. 전쟁의 상처를 딛고 피어난 장미는 평화와 희망, 인류의 번영을 상징하게 되었습니다. 이번 대회를 계기로 양 클럽은 장미를 통해 우정과 평화의 가치를 나누었습니다.

福山市は第二次世界大戦の廃墟から再建され、現在では世界的な「バラの街」として知られています。そして2025年には、世界バラ会議(2025 福山ワールドローズコンベンション)を開催いたしました。戦争の傷跡を越えて咲いたバラは、平和・希望・人類の繁栄の象徴となりました。この大会を契機に、両クラブはバラを通じて友情と平和の価値を分かち合いました。

이 정원이 두 클럽의 45년 우정을 기념하고, 청소년들에게 사회봉사와 국제 우호, 평화의 의미를 되새기는 계기가 되기를 바랍니다.

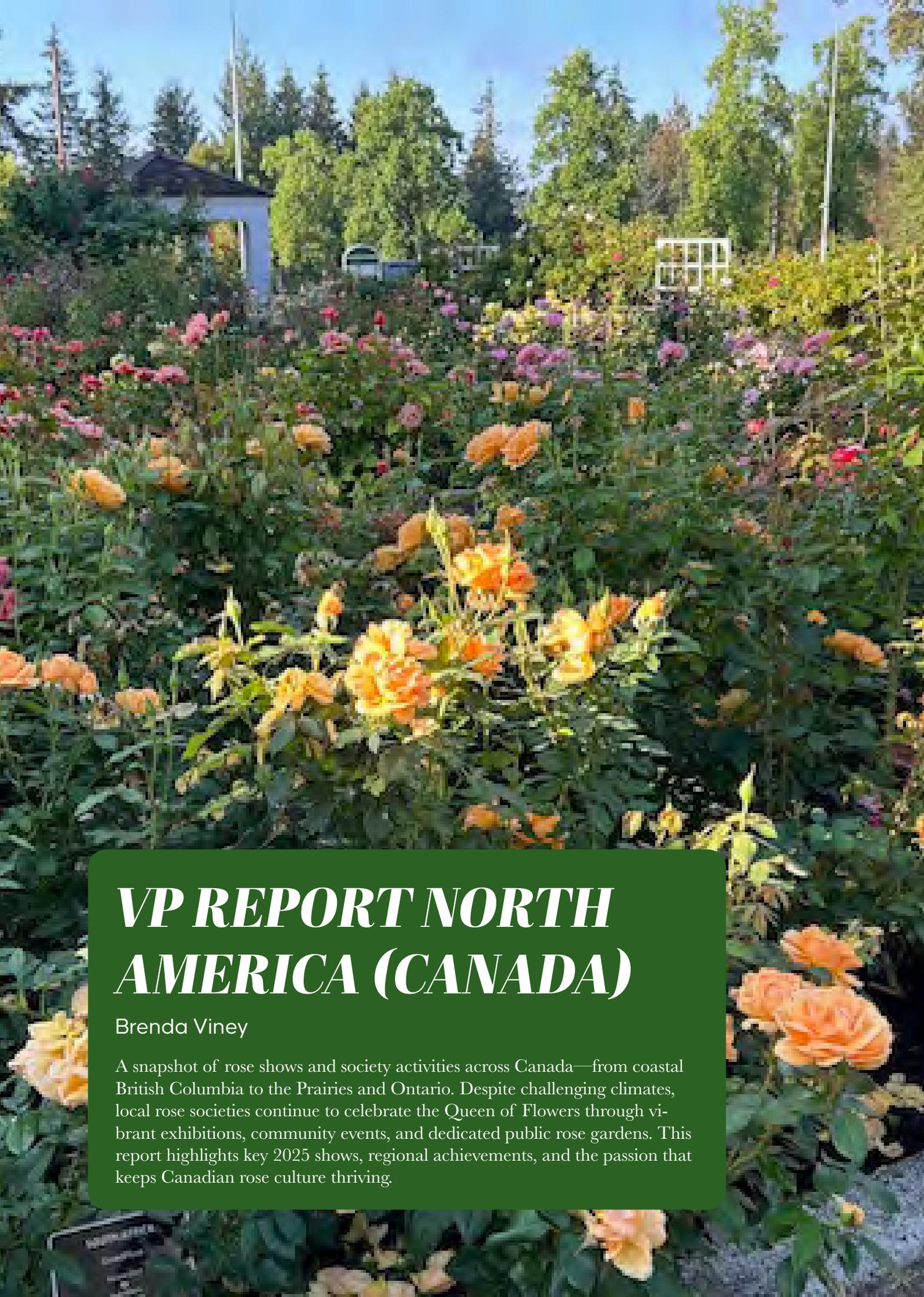
この庭園が、両クラブの45年にわたる友情の証として生まれ、青少年が奉仕・国際親善・平和の意義を考えるきっかけとなることを願っています。

2025. 11. 16.

南서울로타리클럽 · 福山北로타리클럽

후원·後援





# ***VP REPORT NORTH AMERICA (CANADA)***

Brenda Viney

A snapshot of rose shows and society activities across Canada—from coastal British Columbia to the Prairies and Ontario. Despite challenging climates, local rose societies continue to celebrate the Queen of Flowers through vibrant exhibitions, community events, and dedicated public rose gardens. This report highlights key 2025 shows, regional achievements, and the passion that keeps Canadian rose culture thriving.

Although we're a vast country, the number of rose events taking place throughout the year is very limited. Our climate tends to be a tad on the cold side - those areas outside of the south-west corner of temperate British Columbia are to be applauded for their unwavering love of roses! This summer we have reports on six rose shows, submitted by the clubs, as noted, and somewhat edited by B. Viney.

**Vancouver Rose Society – Vancouver, BC:**

We'll start on the warm coast of Canada where we are in plant hardiness zones 7 – 9, on a scale of 1-9. I have been a chair or co-chair of our show for almost 30 years; shows are held every two years, this year being June 15th. Our show is free to the public and the crowds started lining up early, before judging has finished; rose lovers filled the hall for the entire afternoon.

We have 108 classes to enter for all varieties of roses including 7 for photography and 19 for specialty classes; a total of 533 entries were exhibited in the show.

The Best Rose is Show for us is taken from the 1 Stem Hybrid Tea classes and, this year, was 'Mondiale'. Old Garden Roses are a big part of our club - the Dowager Queen (pre 1867) was 'Tuscany Superb' and the Victoria Award (post 1867) was 'Honorine de Brabant'. We also offer a Best Brad Jalbert-hybridized Rose class; the winner being his WPJ McCarthy rose, and a Best Canadian-bred Rose class that 'Emily Carr' won.

We have rose sales at our show with a local

seller who also gives a rose clinic during the afternoon. As well, our members contribute hundreds of roses, flowers and greenery that are created into beautiful Rose Bouquets we sell to an enthusiastic crowd. As well, all cut blooms entered in the show are sold to the public for \$1 a stem; the tables were bare as we packed up the show! A great day for all and especially for the public who never cease to be wowed by the 'Queen of Flowers'. (Submitted by Brenda Viney)

**Fraser Pacific Rose Society – Coquitlam (Metro Vancouver), BC:**

The FPRS held its annual Rose Show and Festival on June 21 & 22, 2025, at the Dogwood Pavilion in Coquitlam, BC. The admission was free to the public, due to partial funding by the City's Coquitlam Spirit Grant. It is coupled with photography, art and lapidary shows going on at the same time at the pavilion.

Best 3 Stems, Best Floribunda Bowl, Best Box – won by Sunhee Chang, with show chair, Hilda Dutt

The show theme this year was "Romance of the Rose" and was interpreted into the eight floral art classes in the show; as well, we have classes for exhibiting all varieties of roses. You can also float them, put them in picture frames, teacups, slippers, baskets, show boxes and exhibitor's choice, in vases with other flowers with roses predominating or just submit pictures of them. We have junior, novice and open classes. We



*Hybrid Tea entries Vancouver*



Best in Show HT 'Mondiale' Vancouver



Novelty Class Vancouver



Best 3 Stems, Best Floribunda Bowl, Best Box – won by Sunhee Chang, with show chair, Hilda Dutt



Table display small



Teacup displays small



*Novelty Class*



*Novelty Class*

also held floral art demonstrations on each of the show days.

A unique aspect of the FPRS is that the club takes care of Centennial and Canadian Hybridized rose gardens behind the Dogwood Pavilion that are home to 532 roses of 113 varieties. This garden was established in 1991 and 90% of the roses are original to the garden. Club members work in the garden every Saturday and hold workshops for the public in the yearly cycle of care of the roses. (Submitted by Theresa Krause, President of FPRS)

**The Oldman Rose Society of Southern Alberta – Pincher Creek, AB:** Now we take a swing eastward into the next province of Alberta where the weather cools down dramatically. Fortunately, Pincher Creek is just far enough south that they are on the warmer side of zone 4b (-31.7 to -28.9C) where they grow tender and hardy roses under challenging



*Novelty Class*

conditions.

For a town of just 4000 people plus a few more from neighbouring areas, they have been a club since 2007. An ambitious project from 2009 saw them create a city rose garden filled with Canadian Explorer and Parkland (Morden)



*Queen of Show*



*Mini Queen*

roses which opened in 2014, and, from the beginning, they persevered with deer issues. In 2023 they determined to correct the situation and spent two years fundraising, applying for grants and finding sponsors to help erect a massive wrought iron fence around their beloved garden. (Created from info submitted by Donna Cisar)

2025 was the year of completion and on Sept. 9th they held a festive event as the rose garden to acknowledge all those who had contributed to their success! On Oct. 3rd they thanked the local community by hosting “Fireflies, Fences and Flowers Sunset Event” in the garden that was lit up with solar lights and mini lights representing fireflies, as an end of summer gathering. The celebration: No More Deer! A bold undertaking for such a small group of rose lovers!

### **Calgary Rose Society – Calgary, Alberta:**

Further up into central Alberta lives the Calgary RS. They are on the colder side of zone 4 (-29 to -35C) and can dip into zone 3. This club of 110 members has all the grit and determination needed to love, grow and show their roses!

Their 52nd annual Rose Show took place on July 19 and was a great success. The week preceding the show saw three major storms hit the city; two of which produced damaging hail in some areas that shredded roses. Nevertheless, with over 100 classes to enter including the very popular People’s Choice award for Fragrance, it was a successful show. Over 200 visitors attended, thanks to social media, garden centre advertising plus speaking events.

This year, a first time exhibitor won both Queen

(best in show) and King (second best) of Show; these awards include best single bloom in HT, Floribunda, Grandiflora, Novice and Seniors classes. As well, another first time exhibitor won both the Mini Queen (single bloom) and Mini King (spray) awards; she was ecstatic!

Interestingly, their Rose Bowl class includes any variety or colour, without foliage or buds! Apparently, it was a very full class due to the inclement weather and leaf hopper damage. Perhaps something of interest to other clubs as a fun way to get more people involved with less-than-perfect blooms!

This show also included five arrangement classes, with a “Salute to Canada” theme that included red & white flowers, along with other foliage and accessories. Additionally, they added four classes of Canadian Bred roses: Explorer, Parkland, Canadian Artist or 49th Parallel series plus any other Canadian roses not listed. A special display honouring legendary Canadian rose breeders and innovators was set up. (Submitted by Jenny Hart)

**Huron Rose Society – Simcoe County, Barrie, Ontario:** Finally, we head to Eastern Canada to milder regions around the Great Lakes in zone 5b (-26 to -23 C).

We had so many beautiful entries in this year’s Annual Rose Show – what talent! Growing roses is a true passion for many of our members and showcasing them is such a joy. It was especially exciting to see several new members take part in the show this year. We’re already looking forward to next year’s event with great enthusiasm. There’s nothing quite as satisfying as growing and showing roses!



The theme of our rose show this year was “Past, Present and Future” as we celebrate our 45th anniversary in 2025. The titles of the Design Classes were – “Yesterday”; “Happy 45th Anniversary” and “Thinking of the Future”.

This was a one day show with entries received until 4 pm, then the judging began and was completed by 6:30 pm. Admission was free to the public. There were 28 classes of Cut Specimens; in Design (Floral Arts) Classes there were 3 classes for Novice designers, 3 classes for Experienced designers. The number of entries totalled 128 entries. A separate Canadian Rose Society Rose Show of 3 rose classes was a new feature in this year’s schedule. (Submitted by Edna Caldwell)

**Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society – Southern Ontario:** Our last report for the year comprises members from all over Southern Ontario who call the Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) their home base. Growing zones for the vastly spread members can range from zones 4 to 7 (-34.4 to -12.2C.) This year’s 68th show on June 14 & 15 was held in the Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium, a two-story airy space perfect for shows with its natural lighting. It is also the access to the now WFRS Award of Garden Excellence Rose Garden for RBG. The show is free with paid admission to the RBG. Visitors can plan to spend the day within the 2000 acres of the Gardens which includes nature trails and manicured gardens, all part of the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Region.

This year we had an unusually cold, wet May so the gardening season was delayed into late May/early June. The peak of roses and their

first flush normally bloom around mid-June and into early July. With the late season a few OGRs made it to the show table this year. This year, with an early show date and a late spring, we had 22 exhibitors, 166 entries in horticulture and 24 entries, each a different floral artist, in the 6 design classes. Some members dabble in hybridizing, and we have a class for that as well. As well, we had a section for Canadian Rose Society Trophy Classes. While Hybrid Teas are still grown, the slow shift over the years has been to Floribunda, Shrub, Hardy and English Style Roses with Miniature classes becoming more popular.

During the show we have over 700 visitors visit each day and take part in some of our activities. This year there was a horticultural talk each day about the care and culture of roses. On Saturday a ‘Make and Take’ small floral design workshop was held; for a donation a guest can create a small design with guidance from floral designers in our group. Miniature potted roses, the ‘Make and Take’ and sale of cut show blooms, are part of our fundraisers for the year as well as ready-made vases filled with rose arrangements for those who don’t have time to sit and make their own design.



*Best in Show: ‘Lady Diana’ - photo by Elizabeth Schleicher, co-chair of show Hamilton*



*Huronia : Best Design, novice - Yesterday*



# *VP Report*

## *South Africa*

Vivienne Black

An overview of the visit of WFRS President Sushil Prakash to South Africa, highlighting his tours of renowned rose gardens in the Western Cape, Pretoria and the Midlands, as well as the key moments of the National Convention. The report concludes with insights from the opening of the Rose Art Gallery in Franschhoek.

The visit of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) President, Sushil Prakash to South Africa, began on 10th October, just ahead of the National Convention in the Midlands. Vivienne Black VP for Africa and Joy Webb the Chairlady of the Western Cape Rose Society hosted the president on his visit to the Western Cape.

Sushil stayed at La Cotte Estate in Franschhoek, where he was able to experience the beauty of the Cape's wine country.

We visited the beautiful home of Rosanne Barlow, the historic wine estate, Rustenburg Manor in Stellenbosch, which was founded in 1682, which is nestled in the Simonsberg Mountain Valley. The estate boasts stunning Cape Dutch architecture, expansive gardens and museum. We were taking on a grand tour of the exquisite rose gardens by Head Gardener Pieter Denier. The highlight was not only the beautiful, exquisite fragrant garden tour but a delightful tea made more special by Rosanne herself in her beautiful Cape Dutch home.

During our walk through the garden Sushil picked a fragrant rose from one of the bushes in the garden. During our tea in Rosanne's beautiful

dining room we were privileged to be shown by Rosanne one of the original books of Redouté rose paintings. Rosanne opened this enormous book and it opened up on the page showing the rose that Sushil had holding in his hand. The mystery of the rose and how it presented itself to all of us and welcomes us all.

We visited the famous Babelonstoren farm in Stellenbosch region, renowned for its 3.5-hectare formal fruit and vegetable garden. The garden's design is inspired by the historic company gardens in Cape Town and includes 41 rose towers with fragrant heritage varieties.

We then went on to visit the Constantia Uitzicht garden which is located in the middle of the Constantia Valley, a garden of modern roses designed around twelve fountains and featuring the Constantia Mountain range in the background. Next stop was the picturesque Chart Farm situated in the heart of the Southern Suburbs. It prides itself to be the only place in the Cape where you can select and pick your own roses. Purchased in 1934, the farm has been in the family ever since. This historic farm currently has 12 hectares of land where you will find modern and English style rose garden,



*Vivienne, Rosanne Barlow, Sushil and Pieter Denier*





*Sushil, Vivienne and Joy Webb at Babelonstoren Garden*

grapevines and lemon trees, with panoramic views stretching all the way to False Bay.

The following day we had planned a trip up Table Mountain to view Cape Town from the top but the visitors' queues were far too long so we decided on a scenic trip along Chapmans Peak and on to see the penguins at Boulders Beach. In Simonstown we stopped to have a delicious lunch at the Harbor House restaurant situated on the rocks of Simonstown's harbor. We traveled on down to the beach called Boulders beach where we saw hundreds of South African penguins lazing on the beach.

We visited 'Old Nectar' the enchanted home of the late Una van der Spuy affectionately known as the "Rose Lady". She is a celebrated author of several books on roses, sharing her extensive knowledge and expertise with fellow rose enthusiasts. Una's home, Old Nectar has become a pilgrimage site for those seeking inspiration and guidance in planting and planning a garden. She once told me how we always need to incorporate gold, silver and bronze when designing a garden which I will always remember.

After a wonderful four days in the Western Cape Sushil flew to Johannesburg where he was met by Elizabeth Thornton Dibb a member of the Midlands Rose Society

who took him to visit Ludwig Taschner at Ludwigs Roses in Pretoria.

Vivienne, Rosario Algorta and Elizabeth Thornton Dibb. Thomas Proll & Ludwig Taschner, on the main Ludwigs Roses Farm in Pretoria Ludwigs Roses has a rich history that spans over five decades. It all began in 1962 when Ludwig Taschner, a German born nurseryman arrived in Pretoria. Over the years Ludwigs Roses

has grown into the largest rose farm in Southern Africa. Ludwigs Roses pioneered the propagation of roses in containers, making it possible for gardeners to select roses based on their flowers, fragrance, and growth habits throughout the year. Ludwig the founder is widely recognized as a leading expert in rose breeding and propagation. Halmar Taschner, Ludwig's son now runs the business which has 12 branches around the country.

Sushil spent the evening in Johannesburg with Elizabeth and Grant, on their beautiful Bella Rosa Rose farm in Beaulieu, Midrand and left early the next morning to drive from Johannesburg to the Midlands to attend the National Convention in the Natal Midlands, KZN.

The convention was hosted by the Midlands Rose Society. Gail Birss the Chairlady of Midland Rose Society and President of ROSA welcomed us to this very special event.

*Thomas Proll & Ludwig Taschner, on the main Ludwigs Roses Farm in Pretoria*





*Vivienne, Rosario Algorta and Elizabeth Thornton Dibb*

The convention was held at the Hebron Haven Hotel with the theme ‘More magic in the Midlands’, and was attended by members from the various rose societies across South Africa, including the Western Cape Rose Society, Heritage Rose Society, Knysna and Garden Route Society.

A major highlight was the presence of President of the World Rose Society, Sushil Prakash who traveled from India to be the guest of honor and present a talk titled “Roses in Bhutan”. We also were delighted to welcome well known rosarian Rosario Algorta from Uruguay.

The speaker program included Sally Earl speaking on ‘Inspiration from travels with a rose lover’ and Sandra Trethewey speaking on ‘Growing with Grace’.

The three-day convention included the annual general meetings of ROSA and the Heritage Rose Society, a speakers morning and visits to beautiful local gardens in the Midlands such as the beautiful Heritage Rose Garden in Garlington Estate, and gardens at Brahman Hills in Nottingham Road and Gill Wilsons fabulous garden known as a rose lover’s paradise. Gill is the former Chairperson and remains an Honorary life member of the Midlands Rose Society, which is noted as the largest rose society in South Africa.

*the attendees*



The Heritage Rose Garden which we visited was established to collect and preserve historic Old Garden Roses. It features a significant collection of these ancient rose varieties, numbering over 145 different types collected around the country, with some dating back as early as 1590.

The garden of Claire and William is a masterpiece of rose magic from the moment you arrive at their property called Sunset Farm. The garden boasts a wide variety of roses, making it a paradise for rose lovers. This magnificent garden was designed from scratch by Claire and is loving cared for by herself and team of dedicated gardeners. Her husband William is also an avid tree and vegetable grower and lover of bee keeping. The garden is a well-known garden in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands and is often featured during the Midlands Open Garden. A magnificent garden featuring both old garden roses and masses of modern roses covering acres and acres of farmland.

During the convention Sushil Prakash the world president planted the ‘Sheenagh Harris’ rose which was bred by Mrs. Girija Viraraghavan and her husband M.S. Viraraghavan from India.

Sheenagh Harris held the position of President of the World Federation of Rose Societies from 2009 to 2012. She also previously served as

President of the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa (ROSA).

The convention ended with a fabulous gala dinner as we thanked and said goodbye to Sushil the President of the World Rose Federation.

In November I was an invited guest of Pamela and Ludwig Taschner for the opening of the Rose Art Gallery at La Motte Estate in Franschhoek Valley. The artwork was the work of Heike Jeske (Taschner) their daughter.

A talk on ‘the history of the rose’ was conducted by Ludwig Taschner and Thomas Proll a renowned German Rose Breeder and Head of Breeding Department at the legendary rose nursery Kordes Roses. His life work is a testament to dedication and a groundbreaking focus on creating roses that are not just beautiful but exceptionally healthy and robust.

Gail Birss

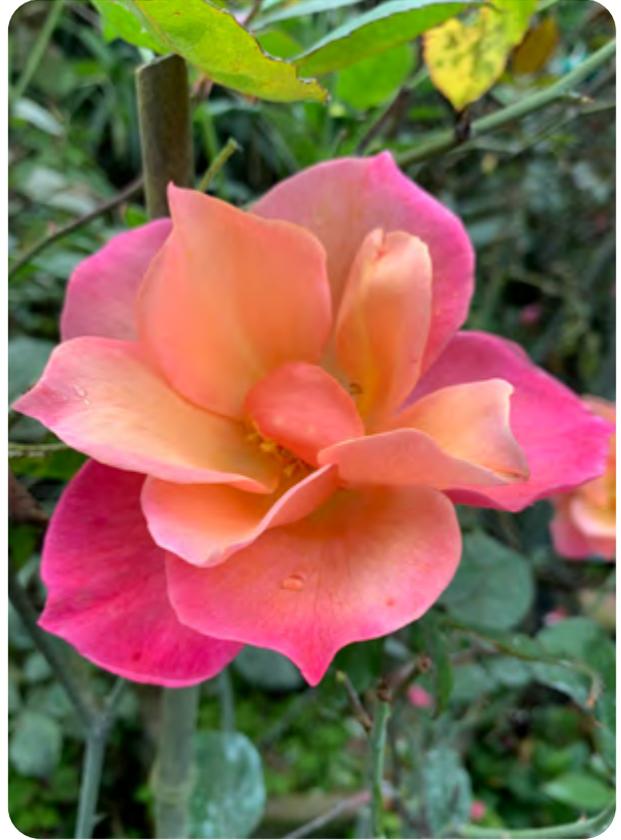


Vivienne, Rosario, Sally Earl, Sushil and Sandra Trethewey

*Rosa Mrs. Honey Dyson*



*Rosa Sheenagh Harris*



*Ludwig Taschner & Vivienne Black & Thomas Proll – All dressed up for the occasion.*



# *VP Report*

## *South America*

Inés Díaz de Licandro

A brief overview of key rose activities in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay during 2024–2025, including new national leadership, the creation of a new AUR branch, major garden initiatives, international participation and regional exhibitions. This report highlights the ongoing work to promote the rose and strengthen South America's presence within the WFRS.

During 2024, South American rosarians have conducted many rose activities, in each of the three countries: Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. As Vice President for South America for the WFRS I am pleased to report the highlights of the year as well my own activities, which had for objective the of the regional promotion of the rose as well as to spread South American rose information, knowledge and news, locally and abroad.

The main activities of this period have been the following:

### **New Office bearers in the three countries.**

The new Presidents are:

Argentina:

María Angela Genovesi de Nougués from September 2024

Chile:

María José Gana from March 2025

Uruguay:

Florencia Pereyra de Fischer, from September 2024



*Inauguration of the AUR Colonia Valdense Branch. With Ana María Constantin (President) and Jovita Courdin (Board member)*



*Members of the Uruguayan delegation in Bergen*

### **New AUR branch**

In October, the Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa has welcome its sixth Branch, Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa Filial Colonia Valdense, in the southwestern region. Having encouraged these rosarians for this challenge, I am now very proud to be one of the godmothers of the association.

The new branch has already organized many events as a rose exhibition, some rose trips to Argentina and Colonia, Uruguay, participation in a street parade in Colonia Valdense.

Inauguration of the AUR Colonia Valdense Branch. With Ana María Constantin (President) and Jovita Courdin (Board member)

### **WFRS Sweden Convention**

I attended Sweden 2024 in July 2024 together with a 7-people Uruguayan delegation.

Members of the Uruguayan delegation in Bergen.

### **Rose garden promotion**

The creation of new rose gardens as well as preservation of the historic ones must be highly promoted. Activities concerning major rose collections have been the following:

- In Chile. Rosaleda del Parque Araucano, Santiago de Chile.

The Asociación Chilena de la Rosa (ACR) together with the Municipalidad de Las Condes and the Corporación Cultural Las Condes have been working very hard to

excel in the maintenance and appearance of

the Rosaleda del Parque Araucano, in Santiago de Chile. After my visit in November 2023 I visited again the site in November 2024. Chilean rosarians are working hard to make the iron structures be repainted in 2025.

Rosedal Parque Araucano, Santiago de Chile: Inés with Eliana Flores (Former President ACR)

- In Argentina. Rosedal El Carmen, Brandsen. Estancia El Carmen (XIXth C), Brandsen, Argentina.

Since 2019, a new private rose garden has been built in Brandsen, province of Buenos Aires. This rose garden is located in the heart of an old XIXth Century estate “estancia” called El Carmen. Inspired in the French Roseraie du Val-de-Marne at l’Hay-les-Roses, its design leads the visitors in an organized and dramatic promenade through the history of the rose: species roses, old garden roses and modern roses of all classes and types are displayed in rose beds which seen from the air represent a rose. Rose bushes have been imported in three successive occasions from Loubert nursery (France) making a total of more than 3.000 different varieties.

Being the biggest and most important repository rose garden in South America, it is relevant for preservation purposes as a “replica” of the Loubert collection in the Southern hemisphere.

Even if this rose garden is still in evolution, many visits have been organized in the last months.

The most relevant has been a full-day visit in September, when Mr. Jérôme Chené (Pépinières Loubert) was invited to give a lecture in El Carmen as well as a pruning class focusing OGR and species roses, using Felco sheers. 60 people were present both from Argentina and from Uruguay.

Jérôme and Isabelle Chené. El Carmen Rose Garden

(September 2024)

- In Argentina. Palermo Rose Garden. I visited the Rosedal de Palermo in October 2024. It has very good maintenance and some rose events are held in this place, attracting many visitors. At the pruning season, once again cuttings have been offered to hundreds of rose lovers. In June 2024, an immersive light and sound exhibition has been done in the Rosedal, attracting lots of visitors.

Palermo Rose Garden, Buenos Aires

- In Uruguay. Montevideo Historic Rose Garden.

I have been an honorary and volunteer advisor to the Montevideo Municipality since 2016 concerning this public Rose Garden, the first “roseraie” in South America which has been inaugurated in November 1912. This historic garden was designed by relevant XIXth C landscape architects and it was home for 1.000 rose varieties in 1917-1919. My focus on identification of remnant rose varieties has been successful in many cases. The restauration and maintenance of this historic rose garden has already begun: a fence has been introduced to protect the core of the rose garden, avoiding the presence of intruders, damages, and theft of plants. At the same time, visit hours have been established, and there are guardians. On the other hand, the central roundabout is being restored and painted, the historic water fountains have been repaired and reinserted, the Graffiti wooden structures have been restored and reinserted in the pergolas. Lighting has been installed in the

*Rosedal Parque Araucano, Santiago de Chile: Inés with Eliana Flores (Former President ACR)*





*Estancia El Carmen (XIXth C), Brandsen, Argentina*

rose garden. Watering is now supplied to the rose garden, a great achievement. The important sculpture 'Feux Follets' has been relocated in the center of the roundabout fountain.

Gardeners have been able to make some progress improving bed substrates, taking better care of plants and reintroducing of some varieties that were kept within their nursery to the core rose garden.

As the municipal authorities are aware and convinced of the need for preservation, so Pépinières Loubert were contacted for the reintroduction of rose varieties possibly in 2026.

Activities held in the Historic rose garden are very successful and attract many people. In August, cuttings of roses have been distributed to lots of interested people.

### **Regional and local activities**

During summer months the three South American countries organized their forthcoming 2025 activities. Many activities were organized in 2024 and in the first months of 2025: lectures, meetings, trips in the region, rose courses (Argentina) and rose breeding (Chile).

Board of AUR after 2025 planning activities.

In Uruguay, we enjoyed many lectures as Marion Staehle's about rose cultivation and substrates and Graciela Pereira's, helping people wishing to travel to Japan 2025.

### **Rose exhibitions and other events in South America**

Uruguay. In October and November, AUR organized its

annual spring rose exhibition together with its Eastern Branch, in Jean Clevers Hotel, Punta del Este. It has been a very successful event which attracted many visitors. The Western branch, Tarariras branch and the Colonia Valdense branch also held their rose exhibitions.

Montevideo and Punta del este rose exhibition

Argentina. Later, I visited the AAR spring rose exhibition that took place in Naval Center, at Olivos Port, in Buenos Aires, together with a painting exhibition. On that occasion my recently issued book 'Heritage Roses in Uruguay. A Legacy of Generations' was presented to the public.

Buenos Aires rose and art exhibition

Chile. At last, in November, I visited Santiago de Chile for the Rose Festival that took place in the Rosaleda del Parque Araucano, for the 25th anniversary of the Chilean Rose Society.

*Thomas Proll & Ludwig Taschner, on the main Ludwigs Roses Farm in Pretoria*





Palermo Rose Garden, Buenos Aires

On that occasion I took part of the lectures, speaking about the World Federation of Rose Societies. It was a very lively event where many citizens participated in the various activities.

### Other activities

The three countries executed their 2024 programs which comprised many lectures and teaching courses about roses, visits to gardens and collections.

In particular, I must stress my personal visit, together with the President of the ACR to Natural Rose, owned by

Gonzalo and Lua Pérez. This company is located in the Parcela N° 2, Chacón, Valdivia del Paine, in the South of the metropolitan Santiago de Chile. It is an innovative and unique project which consists on the culture of Rosa damascene so that to produce essential oil, rose water, creams which are and other products with roses as raw material. This business was set some years ago after the owners have visited Bulgary and other countries to select the best rose variety to be used. The location of the fields, in a plain near the Andes mountains offer the same geographical and climate

advantages as the Bulgarian famous production sites.

### Book 'Heritage Roses in Uruguay. A Legacy of Generations'

The English version of my book 'Rosas patrimoniales de Uruguay' was finally launched in November: 'Heritage Roses in Uruguay. A Legacy of Generations' This enables rosarians worldwide to access to the Uruguayan rose history.

### Other social matters

Celebration. In August, the Tarariras Branch of AUR celebrated its 32th anniversary.

Celebration. In November, the AUR celebrated its 25th anniversary with special events in the Rose Festival held in the Parque Araucano Rose Garden.

Board of AUR after 2025 planning activities.





*Montevideo and Punta del este rose exhibition*



*Buenos Aires rose and art exhibition*



*Native Rose fields; Rosa damascena*



# In tribute

## Vale Lois Tabb

*The New Zealand Rose Society wishes to pay tribute to Lois Tabb who was an outstanding and dedicated rosarian at local, national and international levels in the world of roses.*

*Lois joined the Canterbury Rose Society in 1962 and became very quickly involved in the world of roses, learning much from her mentors Dr Dave McIlroy and Molly Kirby. Lois had been employed for a period at Moffatts, a well-known grown of cut flower roses in Christchurch so Lois learnt the finer details of pruning and picking roses. She served the Canterbury Rose Society for many years on the committee, as Secretary from 1974 – 1976, Vice President 1984 and was appointed a life member in 1990.*

*A successful exhibitor at local and national levels with her favorite rose being 'Pascali', Lois become interested in judging and she progressed her way up to National status. Lois judged at many National shows and also served as Chief Judge. She gave pruning demonstrations, was a fluent speaker, a great mentor and teacher of all things roses. Lois was elected to the New Zealand Rose Society council in 1983 and progressed through to serving as President from 1989 to 1992, the first woman to be elected to the position. During her time as President, Lois travelled around many district rose societies, meeting members and giving talks. She also took an active interest in the Palmerston North trial grounds.*

*On the international stage, she will be widely remembered for Roseworld 1994 in Christchurch. At the end of 1991 New Zealand was approached to host the 1994 convention. Lois was appointed as convener and set about planning for this event, setting up the Roseworld office in her home where she was ably supported by husband Dick and her family. In the lead up to the event, Lois travelled to the UK and the United States to promote the event. Roseworld 1994 was a great success, the largest in terms of registrants (1100) and also the most financially successful world rose convention held, no doubt largely due to Lois's leadership and enthusiasm for the event. Lois was also quick to praise the team around her for their hard work in hosting this event.*

*Lois served as Vice President of the WFRS (Australasia)*



*from 1991 to 2000, the first New Zealander to do so. She also served as Chair of the WFRS Convention Liaison committee from 2000 -2009. In 2000, Lois received the Gold Pin for service to the World Federation of Rose Societies. Attendance at World Rose Conventions from Sydney 1988 through to Houston 2000 and Osaka 2006, along with several regional conventions meant Lois had many friends in the world of roses. Even in Fukuyama, I was asked by several rosarians how Lois was doing.*

*In recognition of her serviced to the rose, Lois was presented with life membership of the New Zealand Rose Society in 1998. She was also awarded the New Zealand Rose*

*Award in 1995 and the TA Stewart Memorial Award for services to the rose in Australia or New Zealand in 1998, and the City of Christchurch Civic Award in 1997.*

*In 2012, Lois was appointed as Patron of the New Zealand Rose Society succeeding her good friend, the late Nola Simpson. She remained actively interested in the activities of rose societies at a local, national and international level, and was always happy to offer advice. For the last 10 years, Lois had resided at the Chatswood Retirement Home in Christchurch where she kept her finger on the pulse and served on the residents committee. She purchased some roses to grow in the grounds, much to the annoyance of the gardener who Lois advised on the care and pruning of them.*

*Farewell Lois on your next rose journey.*

# INVITATION

## ***World Rose Convention 2028, Bhopal, India***

It is our pleasure and privilege to invite you all to the 21st World Rose Convention to be held in Bhopal from 7th to 13th January, 2028. The event will be organized by M.P.Rose Society under the aegis of Indian Rose Federation.

We are planning a wonderful convention for all of you in our beautiful city of Bhopal. The city known for its lakes and gardens has two UNESCO World Heritage sites in its periphery. The city itself is a combination of new and old-world charm and is

enshrined in the antiquities of time with legends of the queens and its rulers. It keeps pace with modernity while nestling in the lap of natural hills, verdant gardens and beautiful lakes, a unique city in the heart of the Indian sub -continent.

The convention will showcase the city and its sites but will not go away from the main objective of having renowned speakers bringing the flavor of Roses from different parts of the world. We already have a detailed programme prepared and the 7 days promise to be exciting. So,

make up your minds to explore the mysteries, tales, cultures, traditions, heritage, food, flora and fauna of India through the Pre-Tours and Post Tour. We are sure that all the delegates will enjoy the Convention and the experiences will be etched in their memories for many many years to come.

### **Dipa Prakash**

President -  
Organising Committee  
World Rose Convention 2028,  
Bhopal, India



WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES



# 21<sup>ST</sup> WORLD ROSE CONVENTION

January 7-13, 2028

Bhopal, INDIA



Hosted by  
**MADHYA PRADESH ROSE  
SOCIETY BHOPAL, INDIA**



Under the aegis of  
**THE INDIAN ROSE  
FEDERATION**



# WFRS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## **24-28 April 2026**

WFRS 17th Heritage Rose Conference,  
Nanyang & Shanghai, China

## **April/May 2027**

WFRS Regional Convention, San Diego, CA, USA

## **7-14 January 2028**

WFRS 21st World Rose Convention, Bhopal, India



*Alaska,  
Kordes Rosen 2005*

## FRIENDS OF THE FEDERATION

Since its introduction in 2010, over 100 individuals from around the globe have donated funds towards the work of the World Federation of Rose Societies. These donors have received invitations to exclusive “Friends Only” functions at WFRS events.

Become a Friend of the World Federation of Rose Societies and join a group of generous financial donors supporting the work of the Federation.

### **Benefits include:**

- Exclusive invitations to “Friends Only” activities;
- Individual electronic copy of World Rose News;
- Friends Dinners at each convention will give you the opportunity to participate with other Friends to exchange rose growing knowledge, information on rose gardens, accommodation and other points of interest relative to their region;
- Donations, with the exception of Friends for Life, cover the period until the conclusion of the 2028 World Rose Convention in India.

Friends donor forms can be downloaded from the WFRS website [www.worldrose.org](http://www.worldrose.org)

# *WFRS International Rose Trials*

<b>Trial</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>2026</b>
Monaco	Principauté de Monaco	<i>April 30</i>
Shreveport	USA	<i>May 03</i>
Barcelona	Spain	<i>May 08</i>
Rome	Italy	<i>May 16</i>
Madrid	Spain	<i>May 22</i>
Bologna	Italy	<i>May 30</i>
Gifu	Japan	<i>May/October</i>
Tokyo	Japan	<i>May/October</i>
Nagaoka	Japan	<i>May/October</i>
Lyon	France	<i>June 05</i>
Hradec Králové	Czech Republic	<i>June 13</i>
Baden-Baden	Germany	<i>June 16</i>
Saverne	France	<i>June 17</i>
Paris Bagatelle	France	<i>June 18</i>
Kortrijk	Belgium	<i>June 19</i>
The Hague	Netherlands	<i>July 02</i>
Belfast	Northern Ireland	<i>July 03</i>
Warsaw	Poland	<i>August 22</i>
Le Roeulx	Belgium	<i>September 04</i>
Hertfordshire	Great Britain	<i>September 08</i>
Orléans	France	<i>September 11</i>

# WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES

<b>Patron</b>	Yves Piaget
<b>President Emeritus</b>	Helga Brichet

## MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2025—2028)

### OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Sushil Prakash	<i>India</i>
<b>Executive Director</b>	Derek Lawrence	<i>United Kingdom</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>		
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Diane vom Berg	<i>Australia</i>

### REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

<b>AFRICA</b>	Vivienne Black	<i>South Africa</i>
<b>AUSTRALASIA</b>	Gavin Woods	<i>Australia</i>
<b>AUSTRALASIA</b>	Hayden Foulds	<i>New Zealand</i>
<b>CENTRAL, SOUTH &amp; SOUTH EAST ASIA</b>	Dr. Narendra Kumar Dadlani	<i>India</i>
<b>EUROPE</b>	Mireille Steil	<i>Luxembourg</i>
<b>EUROPE</b>	Angela Bokor	<i>Romania</i>
<b>EUROPE</b>	Maria Hjort	<i>Sweden</i>
<b>FAR EAST</b>	Wook-Kyun Kim	<i>South Korea</i>
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>	Brenda Viney	<i>Canada</i>
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>	Diane Sommers	<i>USA</i>
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>	Inés Díaz de Licandro	<i>Uruguay</i>

## ***STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN (2025-2028)***

<b>Council</b>	Sushil Prakash	<i>India</i>
<b>Honours</b>	Sushil Prakash	<i>India</i>
<b>Executive Committee</b>	Sushil Prakash	<i>India</i>
<b>Convention Liaison</b>	Henrienne de Briey	<i>Belgium</i>
<b>Promotions</b>	Diane vom Berg	<i>Australia</i>
<b>International Rose Trials</b>	Jean-Pierre Lelièvre	<i>France</i>
<b>Publications</b>	Angelika Throll-Keller	<i>Germany</i>
<b>Breeders Club</b>	Markus Brunsing	<i>Germany</i>
<b>Awards</b>	Daniel Boulens	<i>France</i>
<b>International Judges</b>	Pauline Martin	<i>United Kingdom</i>
<b>Conservation &amp; Heritage Roses</b>	Inés Diaz de Licandro	<i>Uruguay</i>
<b>Editor &amp; Webmaster</b>	Marga Verwer	<i>Netherlands</i>





## **MEMBER COUNTRIES**

The World Federation of Rose Societies - WFRS (founded 1968) is comprised at this moment of 39 national rose societies from all around the world, in following order of country. The list below also annotates their year of joining the WFRS.

<b>Argentina</b>	1977	<i>Asociación Argentina de Rosicultura</i>
<b>Australia</b>	1968	<i>National Rose Society of Australia Inc</i>
<b>Austria</b>	2001	<i>Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Österreichischen Gartenbau-Gesellschaft</i>
<b>Belgium</b>	1968	<i>Société Royale Nationale Les Amis de la Rose' - Koninklijke Nationale Maatschappij 'De Vrienden van de Roos'</i>
<b>Bermuda</b>	1981	<i>Bermuda Rose Society</i>
<b>Canada</b>	1968	<i>Canadian Rose Society</i>
<b>Chile</b>	2000	<i>Asociación Chilena de la Rosa</i>
<b>China</b>	1997	<i>Chinese Rose Society</i>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	1994	<i>Czech Rosa Club</i>
<b>Finland</b>	1997	<i>Suomen Ruususeura r.y. - Finska Rosensällskapet r.f.</i>
<b>France</b>	1979	<i>Société Française des Roses</i>
<b>Germany</b>	1968	<i>Deutschen Rosengesellschaft e.V.</i>

<b>Great Britain</b>	2018	<i>Rose Society UK</i>
<b>Greece</b>	1997	<i>The Hellenic Rose Society</i>
<b>Hungary</b>	2008	<i>Hungarian Rose Friends Society</i>
<b>Iceland</b>	2007	<i>Icelandic Rose Society</i>
<b>India</b>	1968, 1982	<i>Indian Rose Federation</i>
<b>Israel</b>	1975	<i>The Jerusalem Foundation - The Wohl Rose Park of Jerusalem</i>
<b>Italy</b>	1968	<i>Associazione Italiana della Rosa</i>
<b>Japan</b>	1968	<i>The Japan Rose Society</i>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	1981	<i>Luxembourg Rose Society - Lëtzebuerger Rousefrënn   Association Grand-Ducale des Amis de la Rose</i>
<b>Monaco</b>	2012	<i>Société des Roses de Monaco</i>
<b>Netherlands</b>	1976	<i>Nederlandse Rozenvereniging</i>
<b>New Zealand</b>	1968	<i>New Zealand Rose Society</i>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	1982	<i>The Rose Society of Northern Ireland</i>
<b>Norway</b>	1988	<i>The Norwegian Rose Society</i>
<b>Pakistan</b>	1992	<i>Pakistan National Rose Society</i>
<b>Poland</b>	1981, 2017	<i>Polskie Towarzystwo Rozane - Polish Rose Society</i>
<b>Romania</b>	1992	<i>Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania</i>
<b>Russia</b>	2007	<i>Russian Association of Rosarians</i>
<b>Slovakia</b>	2023	<i>Rose Society Maria Henrieta Chotek</i>
<b>Slovenia</b>	2000	<i>Društvo Ljubiteljev Vrtnic Slovenije - Slovenian Rose Society</i>
<b>South Africa</b>	1968	<i>Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa</i>
<b>South Korea</b>	2018	<i>South Korea Rose Society</i>
<b>Spain</b>	1992	<i>Asociación Española de la Rosa</i>
<b>Sweden</b>	1994	<i>Svenska Rosensällskapet - The Swedish Rose Society</i>
<b>Switzerland</b>	1976	<i>Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde</i>
<b>United States</b>	1968	<i>American Rose Society</i>
<b>Uruguay</b>	1985	<i>Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa</i>

## **WFRS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

In following order of country.

<b>Heritage Roses in Australia, Inc.</b>	Australia
<b>Sociedad Argentina de Horticultural</b>	Argentina
<b>Vrijbroek Park Rose Garden</b>	Belgium
<b>The Butchart Gardens</b>	Canada
<b>Geografisk Have</b>	Denmark
<b>Les Amis de la Roseraie du Val de Marne à L'Haÿ-les-Roses</b>	France
<b>Roses Anciennes en France</b>	France
<b>Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France</b>	France
<b>Piccolo Roseto Giovanni Chilanti</b>	Italy
<b>Associazione 'La Compagnia delle Rose'</b>	Italy
<b>Fondazione Roseto Botanico "Carla Fineschi" di Caviglia</b>	Italy
<b>Gifu World Rose Garden</b>	Japan
<b>The Rose Culture Institute</b>	Japan
<b>Liga Gaart An Heem ASBL</b>	Luxembourg
<b>Patrimoine Roses pour le Luxembourg ASBL</b>	Luxembourg
<b>Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc.</b>	New Zealand
<b>Polskie Stowarzyszenie Hodowców Róż</b>	Poland
<b>Amics de les Roses de Sant Feliu de Llobregat</b>	Spain
<b>Rosenlunds Rosarium</b>	Sweden
<b>Société Romande des Amis des Roses et de l'Horticulture</b>	Switzerland
<b>Historic Roses Group of Great Britain</b>	United Kingdom
<b>Huntington Library, Art Museum &amp; Botanical Gardens</b>	United States of America
<b>Columbus Park of Roses</b>	United States of America

For more information regarding the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee Chairmen, the Member Countries, the WFRS Associate Members and the WFRS Breeders' Club Members please go to the WFRS website.

## BREEDERS CLUB

<b>David Austin Roses</b>	United Kingdom	<i>Emma Weaver</i>	<a href="http://www.davidaustinroses.com">www.davidaustinroses.com</a>
<b>Rose Barni s.s.</b>	Italy	<i>Beatrice Barni</i>	<a href="http://www.rosebarni.it">www.rosebarni.it</a>
<b>Roseraies Dorieux</b>	France	<i>Georges Dorieux</i>	<a href="http://www.dorieux.fr">www.dorieux.fr</a>
<b>Alain Tschanz SA</b>	Switzerland	<i>Gisèle &amp; Alain Tschanz</i>	<a href="http://www.rosiers.ch">www.rosiers.ch</a>
<b>Roseraies Paul Croix</b>	France	<i>Dominique Croix et Jacques Ranchon</i>	<a href="http://pepinieres-paul-croix.fr">pepinieres-paul-croix.fr</a>
<b>Jean-Pierre Guillot</b>	Tunisie	<i>Jean Pierre Guillot</i>	<a href="http://www.roses-guillot.com">www.roses-guillot.com</a>
<b>Roze Sobieszek</b>	Poland	<i>Mateusz Sobieszek</i>	<a href="http://www.roza-sobieszek.pl">www.roza-sobieszek.pl</a>
<b>Keisei Rose Nurseries Inc</b>	Japan	<i>Yasuyuki Hisada</i>	<a href="http://www.keiseirose.co.jp">www.keiseirose.co.jp</a>
<b>Lens Roses</b>	Belgium		<a href="http://www.lens-roses.com">www.lens-roses.com</a>
<b>Meilland International S.A.</b>	France	<i>Matthias Meilland</i>	<a href="http://www.meilland.com">www.meilland.com</a>
<b>NIRP International SA</b>	France	<i>Deborah Ghione</i>	<a href="http://www.nirpinternational.com">www.nirpinternational.com</a>
<b>Roseraies Orard</b>	France	<i>Pierre Orard</i>	<a href="http://www.roses-orard.com">www.roses-orard.com</a>
<b>Roseraie Reuter</b>	France	<i>Franck Reuter Or Regis Reuter</i>	<a href="http://www.reuter.fr">www.reuter.fr</a>
<b>Roses Forever ApS</b>	Denmark	<i>Rosa Eskelund</i>	<a href="http://www.roses-forever.com">www.roses-forever.com</a>
<b>Rose Innovations</b>	United States of America	<i>William J. Radler</i>	
<b>Viva International BVBA</b>	Belgium	<i>Martin Vissers</i>	
<b>Viveros Francisco Ferrer</b>	Spain	<i>Matilde Ferrer</i>	<a href="http://www.rosalesferrer.com">www.rosalesferrer.com</a>
<b>David Zlesak</b>	United States of America	<i>David Zlesak</i>	
<b>Bolar Roses</b>	United States of America	<i>Dr. Suni Bolar</i>	
<b>My Roses Rojewski</b>	Poland	<i>Lukasz Rojewski</i>	
<b>W.KORDES' SÖHNE Rosenschulen GmbH &amp; Co KG</b>	Germany		<a href="http://www.Rosen.de">www.Rosen.de</a>
<b>Roses André Eve</b>	France	<i>Rateau Jérôme</i>	<a href="http://www.roses-andre-eve.com">www.roses-andre-eve.com</a>
<b>The Huntington</b> E.L. and Ruth B. Shannon Curator of the Rose Garden	San Marino	<i>Tom Carruth</i>	<a href="http://www.huntington.org/">www.huntington.org/</a>



## *Celebrating 80 Years of Cutting Excellence with FELCO*

Innovative tools designed for rose enthusiasts and professionals alike

2025 marks a major milestone for FELCO: 80 years of Swiss-made excellence in pruning innovation. Founded in 1945 by visionary engineer Félix Flisch, FELCO has revolutionized the way we care for plants, from

vineyards to rose gardens, with tools that combine precision, durability, and sustainability.

To celebrate this anniversary, FELCO proudly unveils a special edition of its most iconic tool – the FELCO 2 – 80th Anniversary Edition. This legendary pruning shear, known globally

for its ergonomic design and clean, precise cut, is now available in a unique version featuring a commemorative engraving, gold-cobalt F-GOLD blade coating, and a numbered series—honouring both heritage and excellence.

**For rose growers and gardening enthusiasts, FELCO offers a wide array of tools tailored to the delicate art of rose care:**



### **FELCO Ergonomic Pruning Shears:**

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### **FELCO 602 Pull-stroke Saw:**

Ideal for thicker canes and deadwood, the FELCO 602 combines power with finesse. Its sharp teeth and non-slip handle make it perfect for maintaining healthy rose structures.



### **FELCO 705 Gloves:**

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Discover more at [www.felco.com](http://www.felco.com)

## ***Exclusive Offer for WFRS Members***

To mark our 80th anniversary and the collaboration with the WFRS, FELCO is pleased to offer World Federation of Rose Societies members an exclusive 15% discount on a curated selection of tools on our official e-shops.

This offer is valid on orders from €80 / CHF 80 / \$80, for a limited time only.

Simply enter the code **WFRS2025** at checkout and celebrate precision, performance, and passion—FELCO style.