

# World Rose News

The Newsletter of the  
**WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES**

December 2020 / Volume 31 / Number 4



'Neil Diamond'  
JP Mattia Cover

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Happy holidays! Our blessings are that we made it to the end of the year 2020, a year that never was. Hopefully all of our friends and family made it through to see the next year and what it may hold.

Our cover for this issue by John Mattia is of 'Neil Diamond', a very fragrant striped Hybrid Tea from Weeks.

In this end of the year issue we feature more "Secret Gardens" from all over the world, top award winners from the International Rose Trials, and an update on the World Rose Convention 2022.

Enjoy!

Steve Jones, Fiddletown, CA, United States



'Winter Sun' (HT, 2009)

*Note: All photos and articles, unless otherwise noted, are by the Editor*

### DISCLAIMER

The opinions printed in the *World Rose News* are not necessarily those of the World Federation of Rose Societies or the Editor.

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## Table of Contents

Cover Page ( <i>Composite Designed by John Mattia</i> ) .....	1
Editor's Message .....	2
Table of Contents .....	2
President's Message .....	3
Executive Director's Message .....	4
Rose News .....	5
WFRS Publications For Sale .....	6
Top Rose Trial Winners .....	7
Secret Garden: Bennett's Court, England .....	10
Secret Garden: Miss Kitty's Garden, US .....	13
Six Countries - Six Great Gardens .....	16
Rose News From Chile .....	20
2022 World Rose Convention Update .....	23
WFRS Office Bearers .....	25
WFRS Standing Committee Chairmen .....	26
WFRS Member Countries .....	26
WFRS Associate Members .....	27
WFRS Breeders' Club Members .....	28
WFRS Calendar of Events .....	29
Friends of the Federation .....	29
And Finally... ..	30

Do you receive our sister publication  
*by any other name?*

This publication is from the WFRS Conservation & Heritage Rose Committee and covers species, old garden, and historical roses and the efforts to collect and save them.

Copies can be downloaded from the WFRS website:

[www.worldrose.org](http://www.worldrose.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2018-2022

December 2020



Photo: Henrienne de Briey

Henrienne de Briey  
WFRS President

Dear rose lovers:

The Year 2020 was definitively a particularly complex and sad year in many ways. Bushfires in Australia, California and Brazil, a very dry spring in Europe, successive lockdowns everywhere in the world... We had to cancel in extremis our 15<sup>th</sup> International Heritage Rose Conference, which resulted in a big loss of money for the Belgian Royal National Rose Society, and to postpone our major events everywhere in the world.

Most of the European International Rose trials were cancelled. I was only able to participate in the Baden - Baden, Nyon and Le Roeulx rose trials. Bravo to the organizers of these three countries who managed to challenge the virus by applying the strict sanitary measures.

Thanks to Mireille Steil and her team from the Lëtzebuerger Rousefrenn, I visited the beautiful National Luxembourg Heritage Rosegarden with a collection of roses from 1856 up to now.

The major event in 2020 was certainly the Regional Convention in Kolkata, India, early this year just before the start of the health crisis so let's keep this WFRS event as the **joyful** point of our worldwide 2020 roses agenda meeting.

The Year 2020 was also the time to work on different subjects through the appropriate committees.

Two new chairmen have been elected to take over vacant positions in our organization. Daniel Boulens (France) and Gavin Woods (Australia) were elected as Chairmen of the Awards Committee and the International Judges Committee, respectively. I warmly welcome both of them in their roles.

In accordance with my directive to modify the governance of the WFRS and its operations, the Task Force Group did a lot of work in order to improve our processes and there is still a lot of work to do in 2021.

Covid - times have changed our lives in many aspects and some of us experienced new ways of attending meetings and even national rose shows via virtual methods. By using Facebook, Zoom, Instagram or You Tube, it was possible to follow some live classes and workshops on many subjects and that's very good to keep people together sharing their passion. This is great and it keeps us in touch but of course it will never replace the pleasure to meet in person in a rose garden at the end of one part of the world.

I hope that we are going towards a pathway to a fully safe crossing borders in the coming months with promising results from announced vaccines. On my side, I really wanted to attend the Knysna Rose Convention in 2020, organized by the Federation of Rose Society of South Africa, but it has been canceled until 2021.

As the major WFRS rose events have been rescheduled for the coming years our agendas are fortunately full again until 2025, with Australia 2022, Belgium 2023 and Japan 2025.

With a special thought for all those who have left us in 2020, I sincerely hope that despite the pandemic restrictions you will be able to share the Christmas holidays with your close families.

Finally, as it is already time to look forward to 2021 with hopefully a much brighter situation for all of us, I wish you all the very best for the new year.

Kindly yours with plenty of roses.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Derek Lawrence

Wherever you reside on this remarkable planet and whether you're enduring the shorter darker days of the Winter Solstice or enjoying your roses which bask in the sultry sunshine of high summer, one cannot fail to be mesmerised by the splendid charms of the Christmas tree. But where did this tradition begin?

Delving into historical documents reveals that our friends from Germany began this practice during the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. Devout Christians brought decorated trees into their homes and some built pyramids of wood and decorated them with evergreens. This custom became known as decorating the Paradise Tree. They decorated it with apples and this represented the knowledge from the Garden of Eden. It is a widely held belief that Martin Luther, the 16<sup>th</sup> Century Protestant Reformer, was the first person to add lights to the tree. He was inspired to do this whilst walking home one winter's evening and was amazed by the brilliance of the stars twinkling amidst the huge fir trees. To recapture the scene for his family, he erected a tree in the living room and wired its branches so they would stay in place.

In 1846, the popular British Royals, Queen Victoria and her husband Prince Albert were sketched by an artist for an item which was published in the *Illustrated London News*; standing with their children around a large fir tree in their drawing room at Windsor Castle. The tree had been felled from the estate. This scene fired the public's imagination; everybody wanted to embellish their homes with a similar imposing spectacle and thus the fashion of having a Christmas tree in one's home started to sweep across the country. By the 1860's the English became more innovative in the way they displayed their trees. Small toys and baubles were hung on the branches and large gifts were laid beneath. Around this time the popularity of the Christmas tree was spreading across Europe and, indeed, most of the world.

Like the rose, the Christmas tree is able to forge long-term bonds of international friendship. In London, every Christmas, a magnificent tree is erected in Trafalgar Square as a gift from the people of Oslo, Norway. It is a symbol of their eternal appreciation when Britain gave refuge to their King during the Second World War.

So why are we so smitten with the beauty and allure of the Christmas tree? The planet has many faiths and cultures, yet the magic lives on. Maybe the simple fact is that the human race cannot resist its exquisite charms, which bring reassuring light upon the world?

Wishing you all a Very Joyful and Peaceful Christmas.



Christmas Tree at our home

## ROSE NEWS

From Derek Lawrence, our Executive Officer:

Dear Members of the Executive, Past Presidents & Chairmen,

I am delighted to announce that the Executive Committee and Member Countries have overwhelmingly approved the appointment of the following Chairmen:

Mr. Gavin Woods (Australia) - Chairman of WFRS International Judges Committee. Email: [gbwoods@adam.com.au](mailto:gbwoods@adam.com.au).

Mr. Daniel Boulens (France) - Chairman of WFRS Awards Committee. Email: [danielboulens@gmail.com](mailto:danielboulens@gmail.com).

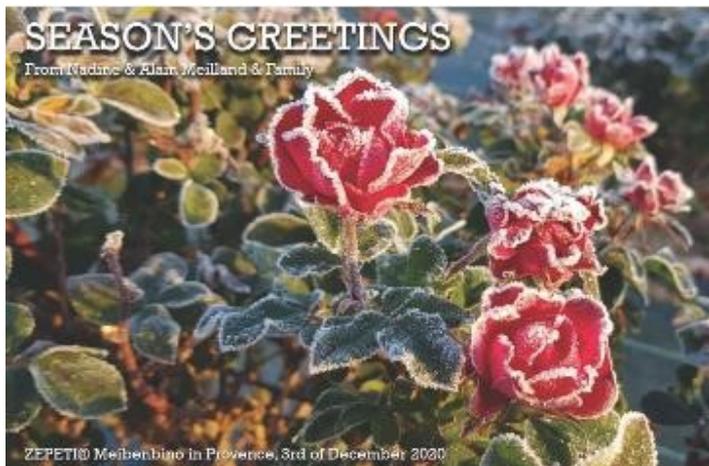
On behalf of the President, Standing Officers Committees, and Member Countries, I wish them both every success in their new positions.



Daniel Boulens (l), Gavin Woods (r)

## HOLIDAY WISHES FROM OUR MEMBERS

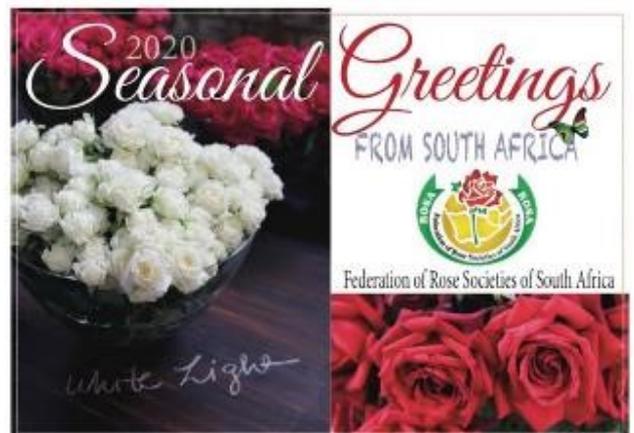
Editor: With little news to report thanks to the pandemic, I thought we'd share some of the holiday greetings from our WFRS friends and members.



A tutti gli amanti delle Rose, il nostro augurio di un Natale felice con la speranza di un 2021 finalmente sereno.

To all rose lovers, our wishes for a merry Christmas with the hope for a New Year 2021 serene at last

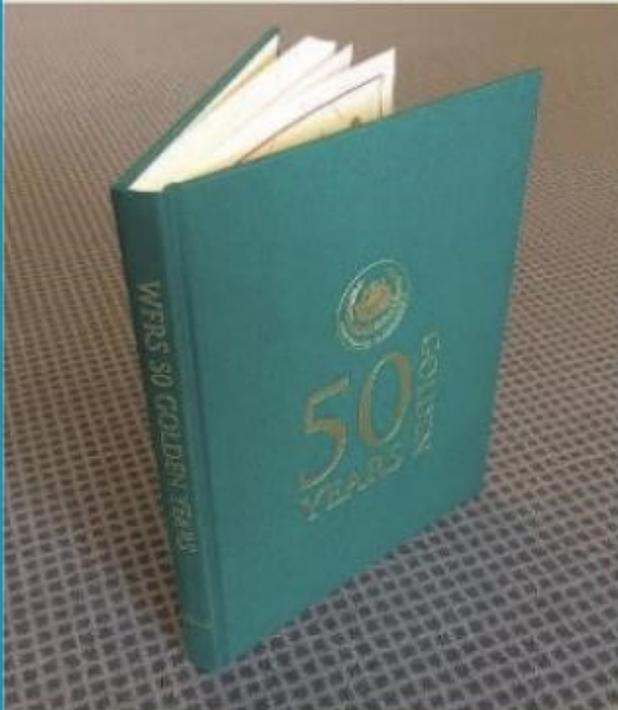
Associazione Italiana della Rosa



## WFRS Publications for Sale

### WFRS 50 GOLDEN YEARS

Editor: Jolene Adams



Sumptuous hardback volume fully illustrated in color commemorates the Golden Jubilee of the WFRS celebrated in Copenhagen July 2018.

The 180 pages describes the Federation's fascinating history from its founding in London on 4th July 1968 to the present. The book explores the triumphs and achievements of an organization whose charitable aim is to promote the sheer beauty and allurements of the rose around the world. The book chronicles past Conventions, International Trials, Gardens of Excellence, and much more. A must for any rose enthusiast.

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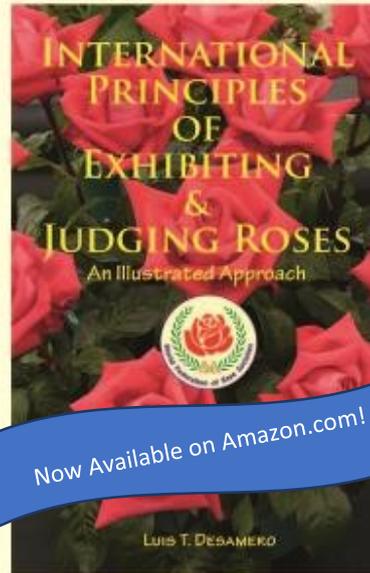
We are unable to process payments by credit or bankers' cards.

#### CONTACTS:

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or  
dereklawrence@talktalk.net

### INTERNATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF EXHIBITING & JUDGING ROSES

Editor: Luis T. Desamero



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3053 Laurel Canyon Boulevard  
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## 2020 ROSE TRIAL WINNERS

By Marga Vermer, Chairman of the WFRS International Rose Trials

*Editor: Here are the top award winners for the latest rose trials.*



Left: Le Roeulx, Belgium, Overall Winner - KO 08/2842-11 by Kordes  
Right: Adelaide, Australia, Gold Medal Winner - 'Olivia Rose Austin' by David Austin Roses



Left: 'Flora Colonia' by Kordes, winner of the Warsaw, Poland, Amber Rose (right)



**Prize Barcelona, Spain - KO 09/2539 01 by Kordes**



**Orleans, France, Golden Rose - 'Borneo Odore' by Interplant**



**Madrid, Spain, Gold Medal - 'Horta' by Viva International**



Left: Lyon, France, overall winner - 'Matin d'Eté' by Weeks, Right: Gifu, Japan, Gold Medal - 'Luciole' by Takunori Kimura



Palmerston North, New Zealand, Gold Star of the South Pacific - 'Bright Eyes' by John Ford

## SECRET GARDENS

*Editor: For a fun treat, our Executive Director has graciously agreed to send an article on his own Secret Garden.*

Bennett's Court located in England, is my home and the Head Office of the World Federation of Rose Societies. You would be forgiven for imagining that I reside in a huge rambling Gloucestershire country estate, with extensive acres of gardens which are furnished with many thousands of rose bushes. Although that would be heavenly, in reality, it wouldn't be manageable, due to time constraints nor do I have the required wealth. My humble abode is a charming four-bedroomed detached house, that is surrounded by creative herbaceous plantings, fine manicured lawn and, of course, a varied choice of roses.

When we moved into the property 15 years ago, the site comprised of a dishevelled lawn, heavy subsoil and overgrown shrub borders. Within a few months, my partner Mark and I cleared the entire area and were left with a blank canvas. The purchase of a book about garden design proved a worthwhile investment. As we studied the content, the overall structure of what we wanted to achieve began to be formulated in our minds. A seating area, located in the sunniest part was a must but we were conscious that the scheme would eventually accommodate a number of rose bushes. In essence, for my part anyway, I wanted to create an imaginative mix of cultivars to reflect how diverse the genus *Rosa* family is but giving the design a balanced view by incorporating companion plantings, hoping to accomplish an enhanced effect.

The site is approximately 12 x 13 metres in size. The aim was to create a garden which would give the illusion that it appeared to be far more deep, and less wide than it actually was. After much deliberation, we decided the only solution was to segregate the existing lawn by incorporating a pathway laid at a 45-degree angle. Each end would have a circular stoned area, one containing an ornate jardinière with surrounding low box hedging, and the other side to accommodate the main seating area, partly surrounded by a Cotswold stone raised bed. An elegant stone bird bath placed in the lawn would act as a pivotal point to complete and enhance the diagonal view.



**Left: General view of the garden, Right: The garden with 'Friendship Forever' in foreground**

Visitors to Bennett's Court are greeted by a picket fence and an attractive English cottage style garden as they enter the front of the property. Once again, diagonal pathways lead the curious visitor to explore the roses and supporting perennial plantings. The central pivot of the design is accomplished by the installation of a large black metal obelisk, which in the height of summer, is adorned by soft pink fragrant rose blooms of 'Coral Dawn'. But for the tour, I shall focus on the rear plot, which is the principal garden.

In March we are graced with an abundance of the bright yellow dwarf daffodil, 'Tete-a-Tete', whilst pale yellow wild primroses brighten up the shaded areas. Later on, dramatic purple Alliums' heads emerge in the increasing sunlight punctuating the mass display of differently coloured vibrant tulips, which herald the arrival of springtime. But it's the roses who, without fail, take centre stage from early summer to the cold, dark frost-filled days of autumn.

Any sound design, must include height. This was achieved by building a wooden archway structure, which is clothed by the rambler, 'Wedding Day', that gives delicate white blooms with fragrance. Our potting shed has almost vanished in sight by a magnificent specimen of 'Mlle Cécile Brunner', her dainty pink Hybrid Tea type blooms add an impressive dimension to the garden whilst she's in full bloom. Whilst these share the limelight during early summer, older cultivars offer a touch of elegance. 'Rose de Rescht' emits a delightful perfume from her tiny pompom type blooms. 'Rosa Mundi' gives a striking display of pink and white stripes and 'R. complicata' offers pollen and nectar foraging bees with delicate pink single blooms with yellow stamens. By autumn, the bush is covered in a bevy of attractive hips. I am particularly fond of moss roses. The garden is home to 'James Mitchell' whose

scented blooms and mossy-type growth enrich the early days of summer with their divine scent.

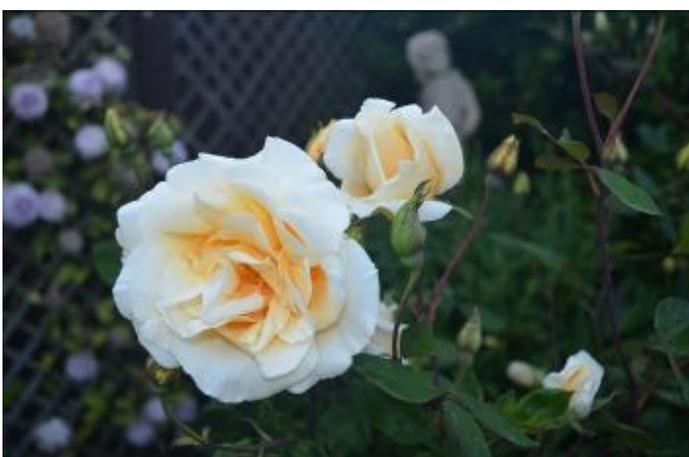
We find that visiting other gardens fills us with inspiration where we can replicate ideas. Whilst visiting Mottisfont gardens in Hampshire, England, we discovered that the entrance to the National Collection of Old Roses has incorporated an effective, regimented line of wooden posts, where various climbers scramble up on them. On return home, we erected a wooden post in the middle of the lawn and planted 'Blush Noisette'. It makes a splendid feature, and by mid-summer, is covered in vibrant green foliage and tiny clusters of soft pink blooms. On visiting the gardens of Buckingham Palace, I was impressed by Her Majesty's rose collection which included the rich dark heavily perfumed rose, 'Deep Secret'. I simply had to add this charmer to the collection!

If you like the elegance of older types, but wish them to repeat their blooms throughout summer, David Austin's adorable English roses could be the answer. At Bennett's Court, they are well represented by the very fragrant pink stalwart, 'Gertrude Jekyll' the deliciously dark, 'Munstead Wood', the bushy 'Wisley 2008' and the reliable 'Rosemoor'.



Left: Roses 'Rosemoor' on left, 'Rosa Mundi' on right, Right: 'Aloha' with 'Rebecca' clematis

The fenced boundaries of the garden are covered by functional trellises. These are clothed by the use of pyracanthas, interspersed with various eye-catching forms of clematis. Our collection of varieties includes some of the rising dignitaries of the clematis world; many bred by the eminent British hybridist, Raymond Evison. 'Rebecca', 'Guernsey Cream', 'Rosemoor' 'Josephine', 'Vyuyan Pennell' and the ancient cultivar 'Diamantia Viticelle Mary Rose'. These majestic climbers make excellent companions to climbing roses. Their presence enhances the infinite beauty of the stunning collection of the climbing roses: 'Aloha', 'Della Balfour', 'Arthur Bell' and the splendidly coral pink 'Compassion'.



Left: 'Lady Hillingdon', Right: 'Eyes For You'

Persica Hybrids have become increasingly popular, due to their singular blooms possessing exquisite colour combinations. The pollen receptacle particularly attracts a reasonable amount of small tortoiseshell butterflies, which is rather reassuring to witness, considering that their habitations are generally in decline. We have discovered that 'Eyes For You' and 'Jacqueline Du Pre' are exceptional cultivars.

Terracotta pots are a lovely acquisition to any garden, offering seasonal colour from highly fragrant hyacinths to paper-whites (narcissus) to geraniums, and petunias to vibrant impatiens. For a permanent display, we've discovered that such roses as 'Comte de Chambord', 'Macmillan Nurse', 'Cider Cup' and the World Federation of Rose Societies golden 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary rose, 'Friendship

Forever' thrive extremely well in pots. I enjoy their portability, where they can be simply relocated to an area which requires some instant colour.

Miniature or patio roses have been added to our repertoire of star performers. 'Angela Rippon', 'Pretty Polly', 'Lavender Symphony', 'Peachy', 'Raspberry Royale', 'Rosy Future' and 'Queen Mother'. In these borders, some traditional English herbaceous plants have been added to enhance the overall effect. Fine samples are numerous varieties of gem-like Geums, Hardy Geraniums, Auriculas, Hostas, Stachys, Astrantia, Ornamental Poppies and dignified, tall Lupines.



Right: 'Gertrude Jekyll', Left: 'MacMillian Nurse'

To complete our small-scale tour of Bennett's Court, we stroll down the diagonal pathway that leads to the circular stoned seating area. It is partially encompassed by the raised bed, which plays host to one of my highly cherished roses, 'Lady Hillingdon'. During springtime, she emerges with handsome purplish growth as daytime hours gradually increase. By high summer, her blowsy yoke-yellow blooms emit an exquisite perfume. This charming lady gives us undiluted pleasure, as we sit admiring the garden on a warm summer's evening, enjoying a well-deserved gin and tonic! Although moderate in size, it's a garden that truly encapsulates my deep passion for the rose. One thing that has transpired since lockdown has been in operation, is how therapeutic it is to grow roses. The endless joy and pleasure that they give, is testimony to that belief. Who needs a sun-kissed beach in Mauritius, when you already have created your own earthly paradise?



Left: 'Coral Dawn', Right: 'Munstead Wood'

## SECRET GARDEN

Miss Kitty's Rose Garden

By Kitty Belendez, Santa Clarita, California, US

I had not planned to host a garden tour at my home this year because I didn't think I would be up to it. I am still adjusting to a new routine of how to care for hundreds of roses by myself. Last year in our June newsletter I featured a Virtual Tour of my garden.

So, this year our Santa Clarita Valley Rose Society had planned to be able to visit the actual gardens of several San Fernando Valley Rose Society members on May 9th that I was very much looking forward to. Thanks to my friend who had arranged for us to see these gardens (one of which was her personal garden in the Valley).

But at the beginning of the year, my friend decided to move to San Diego, and right after that the COVID virus hit. So, all in-person events had to be cancelled.

Then on April 25 my garden came into massive bloom as the weather was nice but was quickly beginning to get very hot. As I always do every year at peak bloom season, in the morning I went out to my garden and shot a bunch of photos to share with friends and family. My roses looked surprisingly good considering that I had only sprayed and fertilized them once since January. For the second year in a row, I paid my "mow, blow & go" gardener to prune all of my roses and he and his brother did a fine job on three consecutive Sunday mornings during the month of January, for a total of 30 man-hours.

On April 25th I decided to post those photos of my garden on the Santa Clarita Valley Rose Society Facebook page, and then shared them on my own personal Facebook page. I was flabbergasted that within 3 days the number of people all over the world that viewed my garden on the Santa Clarita Valley Rose Society Facebook page hit a whopping 22,600. Link: <https://www.facebook.com/Santa-Clarita-Valley-Rose-Society-127658903531/?ref=ts>

I then decided to share those photos of my garden with our members in our June Rose Ecstasy newsletter, because many of our members are not on Facebook and would never see these photos otherwise.



Above: Kitty's front yard and curb side roses, mostly Floribundas

It's good that I shot those photos on April 25 because by May 5 the weather had quickly turned very hot (over 100F degrees) and windy, so now my garden is pretty much finished blooming for the spring season except a few of the late blooming roses such as polyanthas and climbers.

Meanwhile, my neighbors up and down the street have been enjoying my rose garden display. I always want to talk to the neighbors, and they want to stop and talk too. But because of COVID I kindly ask them to step back and they all understand and are cooperative. One young teenager (who I don't even know) came up to my front door and asked if she could pick a rose for her Mom who has been working very hard. I'm guessing that her Mom might be a health care worker, but regardless I told the girl to pick whatever rose she wanted.

I brought vases of roses to two of my neighbors who have been very kind to me during these trying times. Both offered to bring me groceries, although I declined because I have been having my groceries delivered to my front door by the Instacart service, and I have also experimented with the Walmart grocery curbside pickup service. I put a large vase of fresh cut roses on my neighbor's

front porch, then knocked on their door and went home. I would have loved talking to them in person, but of course we cannot do that now until COVID is eradicated.



**Left: Front yard with Floribundas from left to right, 'Fabulous!' 'Playboy' 'Puanani' and 'Twilight Zone'**  
**Right: Front yard Hybrid Teas from left to right 'Black Magic' and 'Hot Princess'**

By April 25th our May issue of *Rose Ecstasy* had already been completed, so I decided to save the photos of my garden for our June issue.

Over the past year, I have given away many of my potted roses to friends, neighbors, and relatives. The roses planted in the ground will stay as I love them all (otherwise they would not be growing here). But potted roses are more labor-intensive because they need to be watered more often. Plus, the rose petals falling from the potted roses that I had placed around the pool decking were constantly blowing into my swimming pool and making a mess. So, I have to remove the rose petals, and neighbors' palm tree debris, out of the pool using the pool net. Keeping the pool clean was Bob's job in the past (we never had a pool man since 1992 when we had this pool built), so now I have had to learn how to weekly test and add chemicals, add water, clean out the filter, put the Shark robot vacuum cleaner into the pool, and clean out the robot filters after the robot was finished.



**Left: Kitty's back yard with rose trees and roses in pots on left next to pool**  
**Right: Roses from left to right 'Paul Neyron' 'The Dark Lady', and 'Archiduchesse Elisabeth d'Autriche'**

Although I am feeding and spraying my roses less often than I did in the past, I don't scrimp on water. My roses get plenty of water whenever needed. I still need to do some hand watering for the few remaining potted roses.

I have switched over to slow-release type of fertilizers, both organic like Gardner & Bloome, and chemical like Osmocote 15-9-12 with micronutrients. I stopped doing the 80-gallon liquid sump pump fertilizing method because I don't have the physicality to do it by myself. I also apply Bayer 2-in-1 slow release granular fertilizer containing imidacloprid twice a year because I don't spray as

often as I did in the past. I also hated getting up at 6 am to spray my roses before the wind kicked up, and to avoid neighbors walking by. I apply Bayer 2-in-1 in May and August, which is needed to control chilli thrips in particular, as well as other insects such as aphids. Besides, too much spraying can kill beneficial insects.

I continue to apply dry alfalfa pellets and epsom salts (magnesium sulphate) at the base of each rose bush a couple times a year, and then water it in. I don't have the physicality to apply mulch by myself, so my gardener applied some bags of Kelloggs Gromulch for me. The rose rings are beginning to fall apart and will need to get fixed.

At one time I had 375 rose bushes, and now I am down to a more manageable 225, most of which are planted in the ground and are watered by automatic sprinklers. But I still have about 40 potted roses that need to be hand watered daily when the weather is hot. The only roses in pots are smaller roses like polyanthas, miniatures, and minifloras. Although there are a handful of other small roses in pots such as 'Walferdange' (shrub), 'Treasure Trail' (OGR), and 'Playfair' (floribunda). I currently have 55 hybrid teas (all in the ground), 23 shrub roses (mostly David Austins), 3 grandifloras, 48 floribundas, 4 climbers, 15 polyanthas, 18 old garden roses (antiques), 23 minifloras, and 35 miniature roses. I have a dozen tree roses that are floribundas, grandifloras, and shrubs. About 90% of my rose bushes are grafted on Fortuniana rootstock, most of which were produced by my husband Bob. I have a few newer roses here and there, but mostly my roses average about 15 years old because when I find a rose that I really like, it's a keeper that will stay here for many years. If I don't like a rose, it usually gets given away within a couple of years.

Bob and I used to do all of the January rose pruning by ourselves. But now, rose pruning is done by my gardener and his assistant, under my supervision. All deadheading of spent blooms throughout the year is done by me. If deadheading is not done, then the roses set hips instead of producing new blooms.

*NOTE: Kitty lives in Zone 9 of Southern California in northern Los Angeles County where summers can hit 118F degrees, and winters get as low as 30F. The native soil in Kitty's garden is extremely sandy alkaline. All photos courtesy of the author.*

*Originally published in June 2020 issue of Rose Ecstasy, Newsletter of Santa Clarita Valley Rose Society*

*Website: [www.santaclaritarose.org](http://www.santaclaritarose.org)*



**Left: Kitty's front side yard with roses from left to right on left 'St. Patrick', 'Hot Princess', 'Gemini', and 'Veterans' Honor'**

**Right: roses from left to right, 'Brass Band', 'Hannah Gordon' and 'Burgundy Iceberg'**

## SIX COUNTRIES - SIX GREAT GARDENS

By Melanie Trimper, Australia

During the past thirty years I have had the pleasure of visiting many amazing rose gardens in Australia and overseas. Together Kelvin and I have seen all types of gardens, including the enchanting Ninfa and the ancient, classical and spiritual gardens built by Cardinals in Italy with their temples, follies, fountains and statues through to small private gardens where sweetly scented roses, shrubs, trees and vegetables grow. On these occasions, it was an honour to meet the hospitable owners who shared what has been their life's work.

Since 2006, many of our trips have involved a destination where a Regional or World Rose Convention was scheduled. Like many other Australians, we believe it is a long and expensive trip to the northern hemisphere and, consequently, we feel justified in making the itinerary packed "chock-full" of wonderful places to see.

Our travels have included vast capitals like Paris and London but on the other hand it was fun getting lost in the countryside. Fortunately for us the charm of both the gardens and our personal tour guides made it a wonderful experience from start to finish.

If asked to name six outstanding rose gardens we have visited, I would nominate the following:

### **DAVID AUSTIN ROSES, WOLVERHAMPTON, ENGLAND**

A pocket of 50 hectares at Albrighton, near Telford, between Manchester and Birmingham is not an easy destination to reach from Adelaide, and perhaps that is why I waited 27 years to make the journey.

Albrighton is the home of the late David C. H. Austin OBE, founder of the family business David Austin Roses, and the birthplace of hundreds of David Austin English Shrub Roses. Today many are among the world's most popular roses.

The extensive property includes glasshouses, rose fields, gift shop, plant centre, restaurant and one of the best display gardens in the world. Featuring over 700 varieties of roses on two acres (0.8ha), the internationally renowned garden is divided into distinct sections, each with its own theme, adorned with sculptures by the late Mrs Pat Austin.

The largest is The Long Garden where the beds of shrub roses were full of promise covered in buds and the pergolas supported fragrant old garden roses which overhung the walkway. Brick walls provide a background for the formal Victorian Walled Garden where the focal point was an angelic stone carving surrounded by roses. The Renaissance Garden is the loveliest of all, and is devoted to English Roses. They have been fed and nurtured and thrive, this romantic masterpiece celebrates the colours, fragrance and versatility of these gorgeous roses which bloom from late spring to early winter. The Lion Garden features roses with perennials for added interest and standard roses for height. The Patio Garden demonstrates English Roses growing in large pots.

It is one of only four gardens in Great Britain to have received the Award of Garden Excellence from the WFRS. The best time to visit is usually June going into July, with another good flush in September. Don't wait, just go.



David Austin Garden: Left: Renaissance Garden, Right: The Long Garden

### **PRINCESS GRACE ROSE GARDEN, MONACO**

Our visit to the Roseraie Princess Grace de Monaco, Fontvieille, in the Principality of Monaco, was at the invitation of our friend Dr G erald Meylan and coincided with the Rose Trial Judging.

The Princess Grace Rose Garden has had a chequered career but a fairy tale ending. The garden established in 1984 and opened by H.S.H. Princess Grace eventually fell into disrepair but with every change of fortune there is opportunity. In 2012, with instrumental and invaluable support from the House of Piaget, plans were unveiled to renovate and increase the garden size by 43%. The work took 18 months to complete and on 14 June 2014 the new garden was officially reopened by H.S.H. Prince Albert II and other

family members to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its creation.

The iconic new garden is a blend of traditional and modern, designed to be as environmentally friendly as possible. While many of the garden's historical and structural elements from 1984 have been preserved, including the monogrammed wrought-iron gates, the bronze statue of the Princess and original 10m long pergola, new additions such as a natural stone water feature, special lighting and 8,000 roses have been incorporated into the 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> layout. The garden is divided into eight different themes and displays all ten varieties of roses dedicated to the Grimaldi Family. This charming garden offers panoramic views across Monaco and a welcoming and relaxing atmosphere for all to enjoy.



**Roseaie Princess Grace de Monaco**

#### **INTERNATIONAL ROSE GARDEN OF COLOMA, SINT-PIETERS-LEEUV, BELGIUM**

Established in 1995, Coloma is one of Europe's largest rose gardens, a hidden gem on the outskirts of Brussels with more than 30,000 bushes and 3,000 varieties of roses.

The rose garden is located inside the grounds of Coloma Castle, originally a fortress in the 15th century, it was transformed into a stately residence and was eventually purchased and restored by the Municipality of Sint-Pieters-Leeuw. The 15-hectare park has leafy ancient trees and abundant luscious vegetation but the public wanted more colour. The answer was roses. Over the past 20 years a fabulous series of rose themed gardens were developed, created by Marcel Vossen and implemented by Garden Designer, Paul David. The lush garden has a sense of romance and unrolls itself all the way to the edge of the forest. The garden has generous space for picnics or functions.

Divided into several themed areas, the garden design includes the red and white garden which represents the City's flag; the Flemish rose garden shows off roses bred by Flemish horticulturalists, there is an Old Rose Garden, a Japanese garden, a formal garden of 400 standard roses and another pays tribute to the roses collected from 26 countries, and finally a rose orchard displaying 125 varieties of climbing roses. This is a fabulous rose collection with some rare varieties. The heritage rose garden featured around 700 Old World Roses showing the evolution of the rose through the ages with varieties starting from the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The property is well maintained and open to visitors from May to September and entrance is free. Photos of garden below.



## ROSERAIE de BAGATELLE, PARIS, FRANCE

Bagatelle Park, situated near the suburb of Boulogne-Billancourt in Paris was created in 1775, then acquired and redeveloped by the City of Paris in 1905. The Bagatelle Botanical Gardens features all kinds of exotic plants, towering trees, bridges and waterfalls creating a romantic place with old world charm for walking and relaxing.

The renowned rose garden shows off its formal elegance in the classic French style and features 10,000 rose plants and over 1,200 varieties. The garden has modern roses from all over the world and an excellent collection of heritage and species roses. One of the most striking features is the formal design using pillars, arches and rose arbours made with timber posts to display all kinds of climbing roses set against the ornate orangery building in the background. The abundant colour, peaceful surroundings and enticing fragrance enrich the experience of this classic Roseraie, “a garden dedicated to roses”.

Bagatelle is also famous for its international rose trials first held in 1907. This event has grown into one of the most prestigious rose trials in the world and in 2007 celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. If you like roses and are in Paris, the rose garden is at its best in June.



Roseraie de Bagatelle

## BADEN-BADEN, GERMANY

Rolling hills and deep green forests surround the historic spa town of Baden-Baden, located in southwestern Germany just 10 km from France.

With its fascinating history dating back to Roman times, Baden-Baden offers a feast for the senses – roses, food, wine, architecture, temple-like thermal baths and park-lined streets.

I was excited to visit the ‘Rose Novelty Garden Beutig’, the location of the International Rose Trials, which I had heard about for years. Established in 1981 by the former garden director Bernd Weigel, the rose garden is situated in a picturesque location with views of the Black Forest. The well laid out design features many arches and columns wrapped with climbing roses and larger than life Greek statues making it a pleasure to stroll through this elegant garden. Visually stunning, the garden displays over 5,000 rose plants and 1,000 different cultivars.

The first International Rose Trial in Baden-Baden was held in 1952 in the Gönneranlage, an existing baroque style garden, prior to the creation of the Beutig. After more than 60 years the tradition continues as rose experts, rosarians and rose growers, from all over the world, arrive in Baden - Baden in June to judge approximately 120 new roses entered by the top rose breeders vying for the coveted ‘Golden Rose’ Award.



Baden-Baden Beutig Rose Garden



## THE BUTCHART ROSE GARDEN, CANADA

When reflecting back on a visit to British Columbia, in 2009, the highlight of our visit was seeing the celebrated Butchart Gardens, set on 55 acres of land near Victoria. The property dates back to 1904 when the Butchart family purchased the property for a limestone quarry to enable the production of Portland cement. Jennie Butchart commenced creating a garden surrounding their house. When the limestone quarry was closed in 1909, Jennie set about turning it into the Sunken Garden, which was completed in 1921.

For four generations, the Butchart family has owned and operated the gardens which is currently run by great-granddaughter Robin Clarke. Today the garden welcomes over one million visitors each year.

Jennie Butchart started creating the rose garden in what was originally the vegetable garden in 1929. Today it features over 2,500 roses, comprising approximately 280 varieties. Bountiful climbing roses adorn 30 rose arches making a lovely feature, these are older plants and some may have been planted by Jennie herself. In addition, there is a collection of Canadian bred roses, including the very rare 'Jennie Butchart' rose. Companion plants surround the rose garden creating a visual boundary of Delphiniums and other perennials while swirls of annuals line the paths to attract beneficial insects and enhance the overall display. The garden is open to the public every day of the year. The Butchart Rose Garden received an Award of Garden Excellence from the World Federation of Rose Societies in 2018.



Left: Butchart Rose Garden, Right: Butchart Sunken Garden

We are very fortunate to have many beautiful gardens around the world. The rose is as popular as ever and there are hundreds of internationally recognised rose gardens to visit. Since 1968, over 60 outstanding gardens have received the Award of Garden Excellence from the World Federation of Rose Societies. Visit the website:

<http://www.worldrose.org/award-of-garden-excellence.html>

Should you be travelling overseas and time it right, search for some of the world's best rose gardens as the experience could be simply unforgettable.

*Photos: Melanie Trimper*

## ROSE NEWS FROM CHILE

By the Asociación Chilena de la Rosa (Chilean Rose Association)

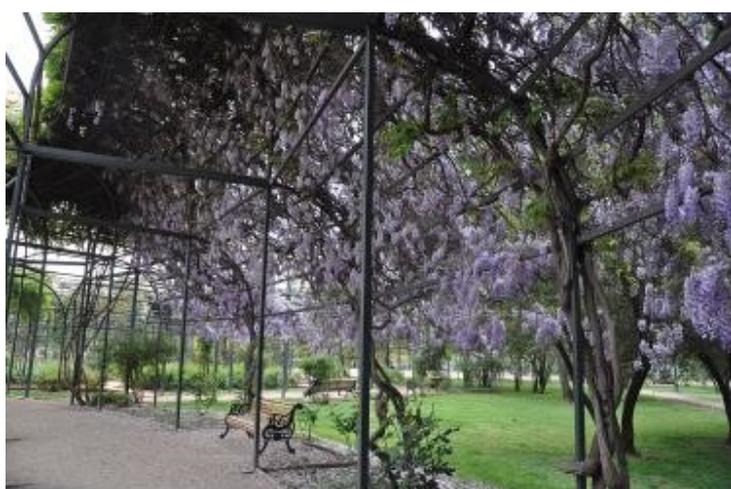
We are delighted to have been invited by the *World Rose News* to share our twenty-two-year history as the Chilean members of the World Federation of Rose Societies.

We believe it is a nice way to keep us together during this global pandemic crisis that has halted all of our traditional activities.

It is important to remember that we belong to the renewing world of Nature, where after great catastrophes, as this first semester has been, everything will sprout and flourish again. New ideas to live more wisely, united and avoiding suffering will emerge, such as fruit and flowers in the Spring.

Today, we, from the end of the world, have to rebuild ourselves and each one must contribute strength to revive what has already been achieved.

After so many years of activities as volunteers of the Chilean Rose Association in the Corporación Cultural de Las Condes, we developed an education cycle to spread the history and care of roses: the most faithful, enduring and delicate of all flowers. For two centuries, thanks to hybridizers, new varieties are born every year, more perfect and better adapted to face climatic changes.



Rosaleda del Parque Araucano: Left: glycines on trellis, Right: roses trained on trellises

We can proudly say that, thanks to the Municipality of Las Condes that entrusted us, we were able to dedicate ourselves exclusively to supporting the 6000 square metre “Rosaleda del Parque Araucano”. This rose garden has a spectacular forty-year-old design created by the great landscaper Marta Viveros, who integrated the garden into the large park and with the Andes Mountains as a magnificent background.

Sadly, the rose garden was not properly taken care of by the gardeners and had badly deteriorated since its creation. In the year 2000 we were invited to direct its recovery in collaboration with the professionals of the Parks and Gardens Office of the Municipality of Las Condes.

It was quite a challenge that resulted in a marvelous recovery thanks to the harmony that nature gives to its followers. Just this year in February it was enclosed with a delicate green iron fence to attract attention and the desire to visit.

With our landscapers, creators and members, respecting the spectacular design, we have transformed it into the meeting place for neighbours, tourists and fans. We can now enjoy more than 2500 modern, old and fragrant plants. They rest in an atmosphere full of peace under the enormous arcades of the steel pergolas with ‘*Rosa banksiae*’ roses, surrounded by the enchanting clusters of glycines and creepers of great varieties of roses of wonderful shapes and colours.

At the beginning of Spring, the perfume attracts the people from the neighbourhood where the Business and Cultural Centers of the area are located.

Our members have taught the Municipal staff to plant and care for the species, they have planted many rose bushes themselves, selecting the different classes, redesigning the beds, etc. They trim the roses to keep their shapes and prune the aged roses weekly.

For nine years we have held our famous “Festivals of the Rose” that start the Spring season at the Rose Garden. The Las Condes Cultural Corporation set up a large tent and tables that were creatively displayed and decorated with arrangements of roses and friendly flowers, according to a yearly theme. Enthusiastic participants are florists, embassies, decorators, garden and flower

arrangement clubs, and porcelain and ceramic manufacturers and importers. Local nurserymen with their roses, rose importers and rose reproducers exhibit in large vases on the inside edge of the tent, set up creating a delightful effect of colour and beauty.

The Festival is divided into two levels. In the first one, we hold our Contest of Cut Roses, where our members participate. Fully open roses float in glass goblets, creating a visual fantasy that enchants everyone! On the second level, the national Chilean Garden Club presents a variety of specimens that come from the north and south of our country. In here, you could buy selected gardening books and wonderful aerial photo albums by Guy Wenborne, as if taken by a condor flying over the Chilean landscape.



**Rosaleda del Parque Araucano**

On the outside tour of the large Rose Garden, the best rose bushes are awarded with large cockades for the groups of Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, Patios, and Miniatures roses during the tour of the wide pergolas with vines. A true symphony of beauty.



**Rosaleda del Parque Araucano volunteers**

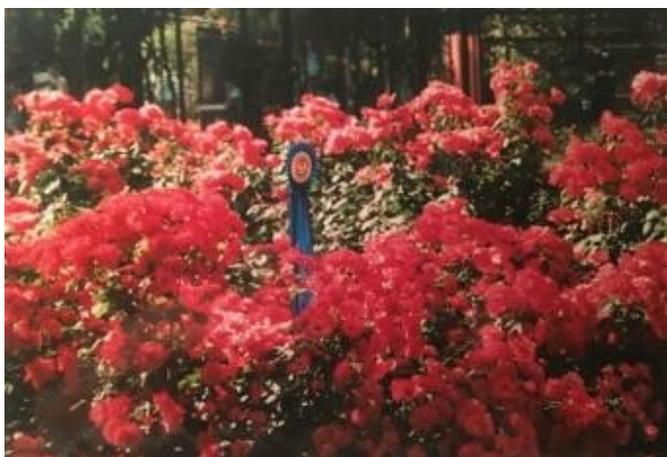
In the avenues of roundabouts, guests are invited to participate in the theme of the year: "Operas" one year, "Fashion" the next one, and so on during the last nine years, in which our "Festivals of the Rose" became famous.

In the large central space of the Park, next to the warm refreshment and rest center, local nurserymen set up displays with a spectacular sale of trees, shrubs, vines, hundreds of flowering plants, as if to recall a part of our national song: "...and those fields of embroidered flowers are the happy copy of Eden".

With warm greetings we thank the invitation to the new friends of the *World Rose News* and we look forward to seeing them in the future when this dramatic period of global distress is over.



Festivals of the Rose displays

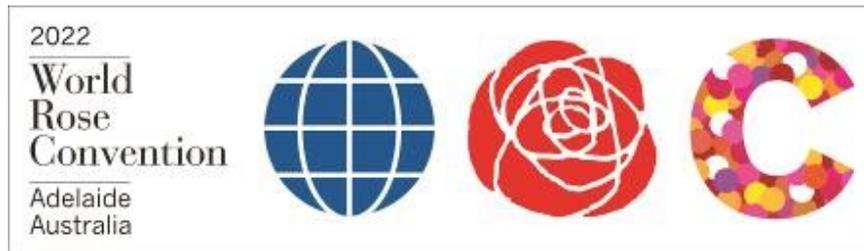


Rose judging trials



Chilean Rose Association

## 2022 WFRS WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA



As we say goodbye and good riddance to 2020, we look forward to a much brighter, happier and productive year in 2021.

Adelaide has earned its reputation as one of the most liveable and safest cities in the world. Tourism Australia stated Australia's "world-class" handling of COVID-19 will encourage a new wave of tourists when international borders reopen.

In 2020, we survived bushfires and lockdowns and our Convention Committee is now ready to formalise partnerships, sponsors, program details and tours for our much-anticipated 19<sup>th</sup> WFRS World Rose Convention, to be held 27 Oct. to 3 Nov. 2022.



Flinders Chase National Park, Kangaroo Island, S.A. has re-opened - (Photo: [southaustralia.com](http://southaustralia.com))

Looking forward to the New Year, I'm sure everyone is delighted by the miraculous speed with which COVID vaccines are being implemented around the world. The Australian Federal Health Minister said, "Vaccine results have opened up a pathway to a "fully safe Australia", with the first doses set to be distributed to healthcare workers and the elderly by March, 2021. The Federal Government has committed to [buying 33.8 million doses of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine](#), with 3.8 million of them imported from overseas."



Right: Kangaroo Island coastal regrowth this year (Photo: Raelene Trimper)

That brings us to the travel industry. On 24 November, the Qantas CEO said, “Qantas is hoping to increase international flights by 50% of its pre-COVID levels by mid-2021 and 60% of its regular domestic schedule by Christmas and they are confident they could start to see the domestic schedule back to 100% by early 2021. Mr. Joyce also said recent news of a vaccine was positive and the company was optimistic international borders could reopen by mid to late 2021.



Springtime in Veale Gardens, Adelaide (Photo: Melanie Trimper)

We can report the bush recovery is on its way after welcome winter rainfall. It doesn’t take long for the bush to bounce back. Many native plant species are adapted to survive, regenerate and thrive after fire. For example, almost half of Kangaroo Island was burnt in catastrophic wildfires as well as large areas of the Adelaide Hills. The trees are sprouting new shoots – the regeneration has begun; the birds have come back and the fences rebuilt with the help of volunteers. Amidst the black is a vibrant green making its way back, showing that mother nature is truly a powerful force.

Australian Rosarians look forward to welcoming our international travellers. A tourism survey of 20,000 people across 13 countries showed previous barriers to visiting Australia (isolation and sparse population) are now its strengths. Tourism Australia said, “our safety, security, world-class nature and wildlife all provide us with a competitive advantage”. Our wonderful natural environment will be a key consideration for many travellers.

So, we remain very positive about the World Rose Convention, to be held in Adelaide, South Australia. Our plans will be going ahead providing we have a vaccine available by October, 2021, and our government re-opens our international borders to foreign travellers and not require them to quarantine (this will probably require evidence they have been vaccinated prior to coming to Australia).

We believe we can finalise a registration cost for the WRC by the end of 2021. We recognise this is later than we would like, but the COVID-19 situation is making it difficult to finalise all of the costs involved.

We will update you again on progress by the end of April, 2021.

On behalf of our committee may I wish you Season’s Greetings.

Kind Regards,  
Kelvin Trimper AM  
Chairman, 2022 World Rose Convention Committee

## 19<sup>th</sup> WFRS WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - Adelaide, South Australia

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The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) is comprised of 40 national rose societies from all around the world. The list below also annotates their year of joining the WFRS.

Argentina (1977) - Rose Society of Argentina  
Australia (1968) - National Rose Society of Australia  
Austria (2001) - Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Gartenbau-Gesellschaft  
Belgium (1968) - Société Royale Nationale 'Les Amis de la Rose'  
Bermuda (1981) - Bermuda Rose Society  
Canada (1968) - Canadian Rose Society  
Chile (2000) - Asociación Chilena de la Rosa  
China (1997) - Chinese Rose Society  
Czechia (1994) - Czechia Rosa Club  
Denmark (1994) - The Danish Rose Society  
Finland (1997) - Finnish Rose Society  
France (1979) - Société Française des Roses  
Germany (1968) - Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde  
Great Britain (2018) - The Rose Society UK  
Greece (1997) - The Hellenic Rose Society  
Hungary (2008) - Hungarian Rose Friends Society  
Iceland (2007) - Icelandic Rose Society  
India (1968, 1982) - Indian Rose Federation  
Israel (1975) - The Jerusalem Foundation  
Italy (1968) - Italian Rose Society  
Japan (1968) - Japan Rose Society  
Luxembourg (1983) - Luxembourg Rose Society  
Monaco (2012) - Société des Roses de Monaco  
Netherlands (1976) - Nederlandse Rozenvereniging  
New Zealand (1968) - New Zealand Rose Society  
Northern Ireland (1982) - Rose Society of Northern Ireland  
Norway (1988) - Norwegian Rose Society  
Pakistan (1992) - Pakistan National Rose Society  
Poland (1981, 2017) - Polish Rose Society  
Romania (1992) - Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania  
Russia (2007) - Russian Association of Rosarians  
Slovakia (1997) - Slovak National Rose Society  
Slovenia (2000) - Slovenian Rose Society  
South Africa (1968) - Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa  
South Korea (2018) - South Korea Rose Society  
Spain (1992) - Asociación Española de la Rosa  
Sweden (1994) - The Swedish Rose Society  
Switzerland (1976) - Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde SA  
United States (1968) - American Rose Society  
Uruguay (1985) - Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa

*Note: for website information on the above Member Countries, go to the WFRS website.*

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Historic Roses Group of Great Britain  
Laizhou Chinese Rose Garden, China  
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Polish Association of Rose Breeders  
Rosas Antiguas en Argentina  
Roses Anciennes en France  
Royal Society for Agriculture and Botany, Belgium  
Shanghai Botanical Garden, China  
Shenzhen Remin Park and Shenzhen Rose Centre, China  
Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France  
Taicang Rose Society, China  
The Botanic Garden, Meise, Belgium  
The Rose Culture Institute, Japan  
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*Note: for website information on the above Associate Members, please go to the WFRS website.*

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## WFRS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

27 October-3 November 2022	WFRS 19 <sup>th</sup> World Rose Convention – Adelaide, Australia - <a href="http://wrc21.aomevents.com.au">wrc21.aomevents.com.au</a>
June 2023	WFRS 15 <sup>th</sup> Heritage Rose Conference - Brussels, Belgium
May 2025	WFRS 20 <sup>th</sup> World Rose Convention - Fukuyama City, Japan

## FRIENDS OF THE FEDERATION

Since its introduction in 2010 over 100 individuals from around the globe have donated funds toward 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;  
Opportunity to correspond with 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 2021 World Rose Convention in Australia.***

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

AND FINALLY...



As we head into winter and our roses go dormant, this rose reflects on how we feel about the Year 2020 and to all the friends we lost

**Happy Holidays and Our Best Wishes for a Joyous 2021!**