

World Rose News

The Newsletter of the
WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES

June 2023 / Volume 34 / Number 2



'Sentimental'
JPMattia Cover

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

In this edition, we are featuring the recently concluded 15th WFRS Heritage Rose Conference in Brussels, Belgium. The conference was held from 5 - 8 June 2023.

Now we gear up for the next Convention to be held in Kalmar, Sweden with pre and post tours to see gardens in Sweden, Norway and Finland. The pre and post tours have been extended so there is plenty to see.

Our cover by John Mattia is 'Scentimental' (WEKplapep), a very fragrant Floribunda by Tom Carruth (Weeks Roses). It was introduced in 1992. It is also known as "Street Parade" in other countries.

My photograph for this issue is 'Belinda's Dream' a 1992 Shrub by Bayse that was one of the first "EarthKind" roses, requiring no spraying and little water once established.

As a personal side note, our sympathy goes out to WFRS President Emeritus Helga Bichet who lost her husband of many years, Andre, just prior to the Heritage Conference.

Steve Jones, Fiddletown, CA, United States



'Belinda's Dream' (1992, S)

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

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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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2022-2025

June 2023



Photo: Diane vom Berg

Diane vom Berg

I was delighted to travel to China in late April, to attend two events, the first being an International Symposium on Rose Development, garden visits and a gala concert in Nanyang.

Travelling on to Shanghai, I attended the presentation ceremony of the World Federation of Rose Societies Award of Garden Excellence to the Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden awarded in 2022, a garden recognised for the science-based rose collection, beautiful design, good maintenance and its wonderful role in public education. Distinguished guests included Madame Jiang Zehu, President of the Chinese Association of Flowers and Mr Wang Weiren, Vice-Secretary of Shanghai Municipality. Also in attendance, Zhang Zuoshuang, President Chinese Rose Society, Helga Brichet, President Emeritus WFRS, Shiwei Zhao, Vice-President WFRS Far East Asia, Ji Qin, President of Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden and Hu Yonghong, Director of Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden .



Chenshan Botanical Garden: From left: Zhang Zuoshuang, Diane vom Berg, Ji Qin, Helga Brichet, Hu Yonghong, and Shiwei Zhao

Many participants from around the world travelled to Brussels, Belgium to be welcomed by the Belgian Royal National Rose Society, our hosts for the 15th International Heritage Rose Conference Rosa Belgica 2023 and their dedicated team of committee members.

Participants enjoyed a magnificent program including a pre and post tour, morning lectures focussed on the old rose family and their conservation, social functions and garden visits. It was a truly outstanding and successful convention and on behalf of the WFRS I thank the organisers for the many hours of their time to ensuring a wonderful experience for all the attendees.

A six-day post tour followed, travelling through Luxembourg, France, Germany & Switzerland, visiting many beautiful public and private gardens, postcard scenery, local places of interest including a day in Switzerland highlighting Chocolate, Cheese & Clocks. During the visit to the Rose Garden Chateau de Munsbach, Luxembourg, on the first day of the tour, we were welcomed and enjoyed a

leisurely lunch prepared and served by the volunteers, and an invitation for the unveiling of the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence Plaque received in 2022 with a glass of bubbly at the conclusion. Further insight into our global sponsors FELCO was provided by a day tour of their headquarters. It began with a presentation by Nabil Francis and other staff members. This was followed by lunch and then an extensive of the operational factory showing the manufacturing process of a selection of their products. Many took the chance for shopping at the FELCO shop before departing for a late afternoon wine tasting followed by an enjoyable dinner overlooking Lake Neuchatel where we were joined by our sponsors FELCO. Our travel concluded in Geneva, but not before a tour

to PIAGET, the creators of exquisite pieces of jewellery and luxury watches. The visit included the design and manufacturing processes, the gallery containing a selection of previous collections and a message from Yves Piaget . We were treated to a delightful lunch before departing for Geneva, making a memorable day. Yves Piaget is the Patron of the World Federation of Rose Societies. There are still funds available from the Piaget grant (details in previous editions of WRN).

The invitation to participate as a member of the International Jury at the Trials in Nyon, Baden-Baden and Saverne was appreciated and I thoroughly enjoyed the days attending each of the trials and judging with my groups.

Looking ahead, I encourage you to consider attending an upcoming convention, Sweden in July 2024 and Japan, May 2025. Follow the links on the World Federation Website to view the latest updates to both programs, including pre and post tours.



Upper left: WFRS Award of Excellence plaque, Roseraie Château de Munsbach, Belgium Post Tour: Upper middle: Ettenbuhl, Germany, Upper right: FELCO Manufacturing, Switzerland, Nabil Francis, co-owner

Lower left: International Time Clock Museum, Switzerland, Lower right: Parc de la Grange, Geneva, Switzerland



(All photos courtesy of the author.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Derek Lawrence

June 2023

In my view, the finest quality that any rose can possess is the ability to emit a heavenly fragrance. Since time immemorial the rose's exquisite aroma has been adored by butterflies, bees and mankind. It's almost instinctive that when we're confronted by a rose bloom, we spontaneously swoop down to smell its perfume even before other merits, such as its form, are considered.

Fragrance can be difficult to describe. It is largely due to individual appreciation, which can differ considerably. This can affect how a cultivar is graded when it's assessed for perfume. It has been well-documented that visually impaired people have an enhanced sense of smell. For this reason, they are sometimes asked to judge roses for fragrance. Blindness can nurture this skill to such an extent that some can recognise individual varieties. Climatic conditions, such as temperature change and general humidity can cause variations in the fragrance of the flowers. Some varieties diffuse their perfume at different stages of the bloom's life either at the early stage of development, or when fully open.

For any rose breeder, selecting putative parents that will produce a progeny with specific scented characteristics can turn out to be a rather protracted and somewhat frustrating process. Scent by definition is probably the most elusive achievement and, whenever it's accomplished, is considered an extra bonus. However, the diligent hybridist will pursue this laborious task to create something new that has scent. In reality, it is now virtually impossible that a new cultivar will be granted an award without any of the blooms giving off a reasonable amount of fragrance. The old adage that says: "roses lack the perfume that they had in Granny's day!", is simply a preconception.

During the balmy days of summer, my garden at Bennett's Court, is enriched by the divine fragrance emitted from the fine English rose, 'Gertrude Jekyll', which wafts into the air giving endless joy and contentment to my day.



Above: 'Gertrude Jekyll' in the authors garden (Photo courtesy of author)

ROSE NEWS

New Feature

I have been asked to publish the dates of any WFRS Member Countries' National Conventions in a calendar. The purpose is if any member of the WFRS would want to attend any of these conventions, they can plan their trip. This is not for garden tours, district conventions, etc. Please send any information, dates and location to the Editor.

WFRS Award of Garden Excellence - Sacramento, CA, USA

Due to an inquiry about the condition of this WFRS Award of Garden Excellence winner (2015), an evaluation was made by a former WFRS Past President. The results read in part, "the garden is a former shell of itself, the structures removed, large and tall roses removed, few name tags left, and it is no longer maintained by the volunteers. It is no longer worthy of the award."

Based on this information, the Executive Committee voted to remove the name of the garden from our website. The City of Sacramento was informed of the action. Although we can't ask for the physical plaque back, it was decided just not to mention the garden in any WFRS publication or website.

Welcome New Friends for Life!

At the Brussels Conference, we had five new Friends for Life sign up. They are Dipa Prakash, India; Prerna Prakash, India; Crenagh Elliott, Canada; Sanda Simic, Canada; and Patrick Habermehl, Germany



Marie-Louise Velge

By Sheenagh Harris, South Africa

Marie Louise Velge, widow of the late Baron Jean Charles Velge died peacefully at her home Zonnebloem in St. Denys, Belgium on 8th March, 2023 at nearly 90. She leaves six sons, many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Marie Louise became involved in the rose world in 1991 when she joined the Royal National Rose Society of Belgium and attended her first World Rose Convention. From the beginning, she was active in the WFRS and in 1994 at the WRC in Christchurch, New Zealand, she was nominated VP for Southern Europe, a position

she held until the WRC in Houston, USA in 2000.

Often accompanied by her husband, Jean-Charles Velge, Marie Louise participated at different world or regional conventions. They attended the conventions in Ireland (1991), Uruguay (1998), Argentina (2001) the UK (2003), Japan (2006), Australia (2008), Canada (2009), South Africa (2012) and France (2015). In 1997 Marie-Louise coordinated the Benelux Convention. Among other things she will be remembered for the wonderful activities that allowed delegates to celebrate the rose and discover the cultural joys of the three Benelux countries. In 1999 Marie-Louise went to Greece to visit the Shinos Rose garden and to Poland to visit the Poland National Rose Society. In 2003 she went to Germany to celebrate the centenary of the Sangerhausen Rose Garden.

As a member of the Honours Committee from 2000 to 2015, Marie-Louise very generously sponsored the die for the WFRS Commemorative Medallions. In addition, she participated in numerous International Rose Trials, where she would often act as President of the Jury. In 2000, Marie-Louise received the WFRS Rose Pin in Houston, Texas for Service to the WFRS and in 2009, the WFRS Gold Medal in Vancouver, for service to the Rose and to the WFRS. This makes Marie-Louise Velge and Ethel Freeman the only two people in the WFRS to have received both the WFRS Gold Pin and WFRS Gold Medal.

In 1995 a beautiful pale pink rose was named 'Marie Louise Velge' in her honour and it received the Gold Medal in Geneva and other honours in Roseraie du Val-de-Marne (Roseraie de L'Hay) and Baden Baden.

In 2016, when Marie Louise retired from Rosa Belgica, Henriette de Briey referred to her as a pillar of the Royal National Rose Society for twenty-five years – 'Thus, it is with great regret that we announce her decision to step down as Vice President, a position that she held for 25 years in Rosa Belgica.' (Photos courtesy Sheenagh Harris.)



Left Page: Marie-Louise Velge and the rose named for her. Above: Judging Kortrijk, Belgium in 2013. From left: then WFRS Executive Director Malcolm Watson, Marie-Louise Velge and the recently passed Prince Wauthier de Ligne (photo courtesy Editor)

15TH WFRS HERITAGE ROSE CONFERENCE – BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

After many years in the making, largely due to delays caused by Covid, the 15th WFRS International Heritage Conference was finally held in Brussels, Belgium mainly due to the perseverance of the convenors and hosts Rosa Belgica and SRN le Amis de la Rose. The Conference was held from 5-9 June 2023.

The Conference started with a pre tour to the gardens of Bruges, Kortrijk, and Ghent. The events of the pre and post tours are included in this edition.

Susie and I arrived the day before the opening ceremony to get acquainted with the city. The host hotel was the Motel One in the downtown area. The opening ceremony location was tricky to find, we got lost several times, but we finally made it. It was held at the Vaudeville Theater in the Galerie; once a flower market. We were welcomed by convenor Henrienne de Briey, Immediate Past President of the WFRS.



Left: Convenor Henrienne de Briey welcomes attendees, (photo courtesy Melanie Trimper), Right: Opening ceremony



Each day we started off with lectures in the morning, followed by lunch then garden tours in the afternoon. The lectures were held in the Cercle Gaulois in the Parc de Bruxelles, a short walk from the host hotel. The first day featured welcomes from current WFRS President Diane vom Berg and the President of SRN le Amis de la Rose, Franz Thomas. Ivan Hoste of Belgium started off the lectures with a look at renowned local botanist François Crépin, followed by Ann Boudolf and Rudy Velle from Belgium on Hybrid Musks,



Left: Cercle Gaulois, Right: Lecture Hall

Charles Quest-Ritson from England on rose conservation, and ending with Viru and Girija Vivararaghavan of India on the finding of *Rosa gigantea* and followed its use in breeding since then.

The afternoon tours took us to Widooie and Hex Castle. Widooie is a private garden belonging to Chevalier Norbert de Schaetzen van Brienen that covers 8 of the 20 total hectares of the property. There are over 350 different varieties of roses from species to old garden roses to modern roses. The castle has beginnings dating back to 827 AD. Hex Castle dates back to 1770 and is a WFRS Award of Garden Excellence winner from 1998. It is a working garden



Above: Widooie Castle and gardens

compared to most of the formal rose gardens of Europe. There are about 1400 roses and 500 varieties here, largely old garden roses and ramblers. It is said that the China roses on the property are among the earliest known specimens in Europe. Owner Ghislain Count d'Ursel lead the tour of the gardens.

The evening featured the WFRS Friends Dinner at a nearby restaurant in the popular Grand Salon area, the Au Vieux St Martin. Around 35 people attended. We signed up five new WFRS Friends for Life members: Dipa Prakash, India; Prerna Prakash, India; Crenagh Elliott, Canada; Sanda Simic, Canada; and Patrick Habermehl, Germany.

The next day's lectures featured Hella Brummer and Eilike Vemmer of Germany on 'Historical Roses in Sangerhausen', WFRS Treasurer Sushil Prahash of India on 'Roses in Bhutan', Pascal Heitzer on the origins of Bourbon Roses, and special presentations by Global Partner and Platinum Sponsor FELCO and on the upcoming 20th World Rose Convention in Fukuyama City, Japan in 2025.



Above left: Ghislain Count d'Ursel greeting the tour group, Right: One of many gardens in Hex Castle

The World Convention in Japan will be 18-24 May, 2025 and consist of three different pre tours and three post tours covering different parts of the country. The pre tours will be 12-17 May and post tours 25-30 May. The pre tours include visits throughout the

Seto Inland Sea areas including Kumamoto, Kyushu, and Osaka, while the post tours concentrate in the center of the country and cover Mt Fuji, Kyoto, Gifu, and North Kanto.

Afternoon tours included Meise Botanical Garden and Vrijbroek. Meise houses Crépin's famous rose collection. Unfortunately, we



Left: Meise Species Garden, Right: Vrijbroek Rose Garden

were not allowed in the collection area. Back in the day they used mercury to preserve the samples so special precautions need to be taken to gain entry. However, they do have an impressive collection of about 120 species roses in their rose garden. Vrijbroek was Awarded the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence in 2003. Here we had a fabulous dinner along with music. The rose garden has about 10000 roses of about 800 varieties covering 1.5 ha.

Enis Diaz de Licardo of Uruguay started off the next day's lectures looking at Montevideo's historic rose gardens, followed by Zhengzi Jian of China with the beauty of old China roses, Svein Osen, aided by Christina Högardh-Ihr, of Sweden on the 2024 WFRS Regional Convention and Heritage Roses Conference in Kalmar, Sweden, Gregg Lowery of the US on conservation of old roses, and a panel discussion on rose conservation.



Left: Le Roeulx Rose Garden, Right: Baptism of 'Prince Wauthier de Ligne' rose by family (photo by Melanie Trimper)

Svein and Christina's presentations made you want to go and see the gardens of not just Sweden, but Norway and Finland. Susie and I definitely plan to sign up for both the pre and post tours. Currently the pre tour runs from June 25 to July 1 and includes gardens in Sweden and Finland. The Convention is July 2 to 6, and the post tour July 7 - 14 which includes gardens in Norway. Registration opens August 25, 2023. See Nordicroses2024.com for more information and to sign up for email notices.

The afternoon tour took us to the rose garden at Le Roeulx and the baptism of the 'Prince Wauthier de Ligne' rose to honour the Prince who recently passed (see page 6 for photo). Wauthier was a regular among the rose trials and avid photographer. The rose was created by ILVO, Melle. Le Roeulx is a WFRS International Test Garden and the trials are held in September each year. The

gardens contain about 3300 roses of 800 varieties. Many of the beds feature past winners.

Friday was the last day of the Conference. Lectures included Vincent Derkenne of France on the Andre Dupont Rose Herbarium, Katsuhiko Maebara of Japan on 30 years of roses in the Sakura Rose Garden, Lukasz Rojewski of Poland on 'Rose Social Legacy',

Wook Kyun Kim of South Korea on heritage roses in Korea, and lastly Murray Radka of New Zealand on rescuing roses in New Zealand.

The afternoon took us to the fabulous rose garden in Coloma. We



Left: Coloma Castle, Right: United States breeders garden

could have spent all day there. The gardens have grown in size since my last visit a decade ago and feature special areas of roses from different countries' breeders. There are about 60000 roses here of about 3000 varieties. There are several rose beds that feature Belgian hybridizers such as Delforge and Louis Lens. The roses that grew among the fruit and nut trees have long since vanished, although a few remain.

That evening was the closing dinner. The convenors were presented with the WFRS Bronze Commemorative Medal for all of their hard work. A special toast was made by current and Past WFRS Presidents and the Executive Officer on the legacy of Lily de Gerlache de Gomery, who if not for her, we would not be here today. The WFRS flag was ceremonially passed on to Sweden for the next convention.



All in all, it was a very successful conference and thanks to everyone and the committees who helped make this a huge success.

Top left: Gala Dinner, Top right: Past WFRS Presidents Steve Jones & Kelvin Trimper, current President Diane vom Berg with Derek Lawrence, Executive Director, toast to Lily de Gerlache, Bottom left: Svein Oson (left) receives the WFRS flag for the Sweden Convention, Bottom right: Franz Thomas with WFRS Bronze Commentative Medal (All photos courtesy Melanie Trimper)

MORE PHOTOS FROM THE CONFERENCE



Left: WFRS Vice Presidents, Diana Antonition (Canada/Bermuda), Robert Ardini (North America) and Mireille Steil (Central Europe). Right: Christelle & Nabil Francis, owners of FELCO (photo courtesy Melanie Trimper)



Left: Friendly faces from Japan (photo courtesy Melanie Trimper), Right: On tour trying to herd cats!



Attendees enjoying the Gala Dinner

CONFERENCE PRE TOUR

By Jolene Adams and Martine LaBelle – United States

In October of 2022, the announcement of the Heritage Rose Conference brought joy. I have attended events over the years in the area I live in east of San Francisco. This is an event where the majority of the people are wearing floral printed tops and no one thinks this is odd.

Although we started with a pre-pre tour by walking around Brussels near our hotel we found a lovely park. Within a ten to fifteen walk from the hotel we encountered Jardin Bontanique Kruidtuin. The stairs led us down into a very formal garden. Unknown roses flanked the stone walls creating a peaceful environment. The garden reminded me of what good garden design is. This is a garden that is accessible to those that are in wheelchairs and strollers. The balance of planting material was cultivars that ultimately make a garden very formal as it was here. Other places that we visited were far less formal. In addition we visited the local art museum that had an exhibition focusing on Belgian art works, medieval triptychs, and paintings of notable people.



Above Left: Jardin Bontanique Kruidtuin, Right: Bruges Private Garden
Below Left: *Rosa gigantea* at Len's Nursery, Right: Jolene Adams enjoying a large format of "sparkling"

The following day we started the Pre Tour. This first led us to Oudenburg where we visited the Len's Nursery. Famous for hybridizing polyanthas and some classic roses. This was also a retail facility. The height of this visit really was the stone greenhouse. You could see the hybridizing program there and there was two *Rosa gigantea* on either side of the greenhouse. Both were equivalent to a two story building. Many of the blooms and hips had tags hanging from them to identify the pollen parent.



Further into the tour we managed to visit personal and public gardens. Again, there was counter balance from the park we saw the day before, with wide grass paths with soft mounding plants to also include roses. For a home gardener it was very inspiring. This will allow me to bring back ideas to cultivate in my own garden.

Lunch in a village north of Bruges produced large bottles champagne and some of the worse coffee. We carried on to Oostkerke Castle. It has seen many changes over the years but the exquisite castle ambulating gardens were ideal for strolling. This castle was a good example of creating "garden rooms". Some were very small and others were large. It was reminiscent of how to a



house works. Private space tends to be small and intimate whereas public space such as sitting rooms are much larger and grand.

In Bruges we visited a family home that has been in the family for 17 generations. There was a private chapel and the home had very steep stairs going from one floor to another. However, it was the large, open spaces that at one time had many fruit trees that seemed unusual. To see this open space that was in the middle of a city surprised me.

As the evening progressed, we visited the Neo-Medieval Loppem Castle, arriving as the sky was dusky with sleep. We entered the castle from a tree-lined road that opened to the castle. The collection of Catholic artwork filled the castle. Dinner in the cellar

allowed us to create conversations with other conference attendees. Who knew I would be sitting at the table with a group of Canadians! Late in the evening we finally arrived in Ghent. We followed our tour Guide Louise along the cobble stone street listening to the wheels of suitcase going “rattle rattle” as we arrived at our hotel. Sleep came quickly.



The following day we visiting an unusual home and garden called House Beaucarne. What made it unique was that the house was set on the side walk with double doors that allowed you to enter a courtyard. Plantings included roses, iris and columbine, creating



almost a woodland environment. The property was deep and the back of the property contained a greenhouse that grew table grapes. We also saw a field that had not been mowed. It was explained to us that all over Belgium people are encouraged to not mow their lawns for the month of June so the bees could forage there. We repeatedly saw this in other gardens and parks.

The Rose Garden of Kortrijk is also an international test garden. The collection of old garden roses was fantastic. To view roses that I had not seen before in person was a treat. Likewise, seeing roses that I am familiar with but in a different growing environment was educational. This Burgundian Rose was a prime example of the beautiful collection at Kortrijk. We continued to walk through the garden viewing more contemporary roses. Many roses that were soon to be released but that were still being reviewed were surrounded by privet. This is something not typically seen in public gardens in Northern California. I also bring up the expanse of green lawns in many of the gardens visited. With 20 years of off and on drought in Northern California our lawns are passe. The use of different ground covers have become more common place.



Top: Oostkerke Castle & Gardens, Above: House Beaucarne & Gardens

We returned to Ghent and visited St. Blaas. What made this unique is the center portion of the altarpiece of the Mystic Lamb shared many typical plant materials and flowers of the medieval period. Besides being a stunning piece of artwork it was the accuracy of the plant material that fascinated me.

The final place we visited before we returned to Brussels for the start of the Conference was to Ooidonk Castle. We found roses around the perimeter of the inter-circle of the castle. These were modern un-named roses. Beyond the roses and the castle it was a woodland and lawn that was lusciously green.

For a short period of time we saw some absolutely beautiful scenery, stunning gardens. and gracious hosts.

(All photos courtesy of Authors.)



Welcome to the
WFRS Regional Convention &
Heritage Roses Conference Sweden
2-6 July, 2024

The Swedish Rose Society is very proud to host a rose experience in the shimmer of the famous Nordic light. In the month of July, the roses are at their most beautiful peak in the Nordic countries and the line between day and night is barely visible.

Pre Tour

June 25 – July 1

Welcome to Finland



The land of 1000 lakes and many unique rose gardens.

Program

Tuesday, June 25

Arrival in Stockholm and boarding ferry to Finland on a night cruise through the archipelago.

Wednesday, June 26

Visit Ruissalo botanical garden in Turku and an archeological exhibition of old Turku.

Thursday, June 27

Sight-seeing in old central Helsinki and visit in private garden Meilahti Rosarium.

Friday, June 28

Visit Hataanpää arboretum and sight-seeing in Tampere. Steam-boat cruise on the lakes.

Saturday, June 29

Transfer to Vaasa. Visit Kvarken World Heritage site. Dinner at Bemy's in the archipelago.

Sunday, June 30

Visit Stundars homestead museum and a private rose-garden. Boarding ferry to Stockholm.

Monday, July 1

Arrival in Stockholm and your hotel at Djurgården. City tour and afternoon mingle at Waldemarsudde, the lovely rose garden and art museum of Prince Eugen.



General information

The same bus will be used for the whole trip in Finland.

Weather is usually quite agreeable in the Nordic countries with temperatures around 20 degrees centigrade during the day. Rain showers are possible.



Main Tour

July 2 – July 6

Welcome to Sweden



Friendly and innovative, yet historical, with a beautiful countryside.



We will welcome you to the historic city of Kalmar during the five-day event and make excursions to Skåne and the National Gene Bank, hosting the trials of found roses according to Sweden's Agricultural University in Alnarp.

Also visits at Sofiero in Helsingborg, Soliden Palace and Rosenlund in Jönköping. Take part in lectures with focus on sustainability and how our old roses can tell stories for future generations of rose lovers. In our fascinating Pre tour to Finland with so many lovely and interesting roses and Post tour to Norway you will find amazing rose collections between the lakes, fjords and the mountains.



Program

Tuesday, July 2

Welcome to the medieval city of Kalmar with a Meet & Greet at Kalmar congress center.

Wednesday, July 3

Morning lectures in Kalmar Congress Center. Keynote speaker Lars-Åke Gustavsson presents the POM project.

Visit to Öland. The Swedish Royal family celebrates their summervacation here and we will visit their beautiful castle

garden. Afternoon Tea and opportunity to experience bright summerevening.

Thursday, July 4

Excursion to Skåne and Agricultural University Alnarp for a visit to the Nordic Gene Bank for Cultural Heritage Roses. Also visit to Fredriksdal Rosarium in Helsingborg. *Alternative program with lectures, guided city Spark walks for those who remain in Kalmar.*

Friday, July 5

Visit to Sofiero Castle Garden before departure for Rosenlund Rosarium in Jönköping. Evening at Leisure in Kalmar.

Alternative program for those who stay in Kalmar, excursion to Jönköping.

Saturday, July 6

Closing day with lectures, rose festival at the town square and music event at Kalmar Castle including Galadinner.

Registration opens on August 25, 2023 – More info at Nordicroses2024.com

Post Tour

July 7 – July 14

Program

Sunday, July 7

Departure from Kalmar to Gothenburg for visit at "Trädgårdsföreningen" and guided tours in the Rosarium. Evening at leisure.

Monday, July 8

Departure for Oslo. Lunch and visit to the famous Vigeland Sculpture Park. Check-in at amazing Wood Hotel by Frich's in Brumunddal, the tallest wooden building in the world.

Tuesday, July 9

Departure for Ringebu in Gudbrandsdalen where we will visit an old garden with a great collection of old roses as well as Ringebu's famous stave church from the 13th century. Continuing into Norway's fantastic mountain world.

Wednesday, July 10

Departure to Molde, known as Norway's City of Roses since the beginning of the 20th century. Guided tour of the city, check in at Alexandra Hotel.

Thursday, July 11

Departure along the unique fjord landscape to Aalesund, named Norway's most beautiful city with its fine Jugend architecture. Tour of the city and dinner at the famous fish restaurant XL Diner. At midnight we will sail with Hurtigruten to Bergen.

Friday, July 12

Arrival in Bergen, Norway's second largest city and a heritage city. Afternoon at Leisure to enjoy the city with its cozy streets and squares, surrounded by seven mountain peaks.

Saturday, July 13

Excursion with Hardanger fjord cruise to Baroniet Rosendal, a baroque castle that lies between mountains and fjords and has become famous for its rose garden and landscape park. Gondola ride to the skyscraper Ulriken for dinner with a view.

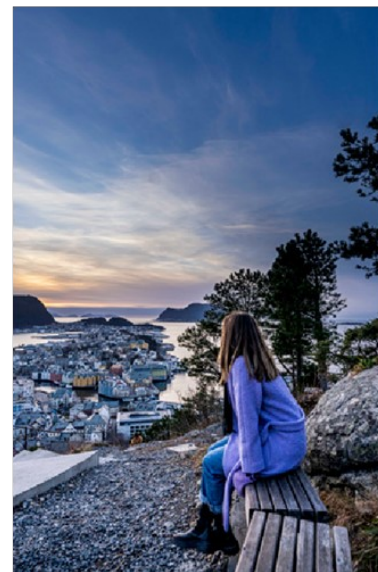
Sunday, July 14

Visit the Arboretum in Milde with Norway's largest collection of roses. With its unique location it is described as one of the world's most beautiful rose gardens. Closing lunch.

Welcome to Norway



A spectacular tour in the land of the fjords with love for nature & roses.



Registration opens on August 25, 2023

More info at Nordicroses2024.com



Photos by:

Alexander Hall, Destination Öland, Destination Kalmar, Micheal Luther, Johnny Bratseth (Visitnorthwest.no), Andrea Giubelli (Visitnorway.com), Fredrik Ahlsen - Maverix (Visitnorway.com)

GROWING ROSES IN SWEDEN

By Christina Högardh-Ihr, Sweden

Editors note: This is a reprint of the article from the American Rose magazine, American Rose Society, May/June 2023 issue. Since it also involves the WFRS Regional Convention in 2024, I thought the article would give our members a little taste of Sweden.



We welcome Christina from The Green Guide to tell us about growing roses in Sweden as part of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) Regional Convention and Heritage Rose Conference July 2-6, 2024 in Kalmar, Sweden. There will be plenty of lectures and garden tours of not only Sweden but neighboring countries. It is the perfect time of the year to visit all of the Scandinavian Countries and enjoy their gardens.

The sun is shining from a blue sky and the air is fresh and crisp in the city of Jönköping. Small white wisps of clouds obscure the sun from time to time and a slightly chilly wind comes from Lake Vättern, one of Sweden's largest and deepest lakes. In the shelter of tall wooden palisades and large deciduous trees hides a warm and lovely rose garden. The fragrance of thousands of bunches of multiflora roses in many different colours wafts up towards the tall stands and everywhere they are buzzing with bees and other insects. We are in the recently awarded WFRS Garden of Excellence Rosenlund Garden in Småland in southern Sweden.

In a historic setting around an 18th-century manor house, there has long been a large garden with a small collection of roses. Over the years, the collection of these has expanded to 600 different varieties. Between 1997 and 1999, this garden, which is owned and managed by the Jönköping Municipality, underwent a complete makeover under the direction of landscape architect Björn Kalin. Older and new shrub roses, climbers, hybrid teas, polyantha and wild roses, were all gathered in different sections of the park with name tags of each variety and group affiliation. You also find a clone archive with 36 varieties of roses belonging to the province of Småland. In this landscape there is a great variety in terms of growing conditions, just as it is in Sweden in general with a fertile and warm southern half and a cold and barren northern inland part.



Left: Rosenlund garden in Jönköping, Right: 'Prince de Bulgarie' favorite rose of Crown Princess Margaret

A modest start

We really love roses in Sweden though the circumstances for growing them changes a lot due to the geographical aspects. Sweden's rose history begins somewhat modestly from the 17th century onwards with occasional Gallicas, Albas and wild roses in monastery gardens and in some castle gardens. *Rosa gallica 'Officinalis'* was used by monks as a medicinal plant just as it was in southern Europe. When we get to the middle of the 19th century, things started to look different. Old-fashioned roses of many

different kinds were grown in country gardens, around churches and vicarages and by the aristocracy. In some castle gardens long-distance rose guests were grown, such as China roses, Remontant and Bourbon roses.

Rose fashion from an artist's home

A person who had a great impact when it came to both garden fashion and interior design ideals at this time was Karin Larsson, wife of the famous artist Carl-Larsson. In the couple's garden in Dalarna in northern Sweden, Karin grew Alba roses around 1890, but she also challenged the cold climate by trying the latest hybrid teas from France. She and Carl had lived in France for some years, and they were influenced by French gardening and of course by French cuisine. In her kitchen garden Karin grew spinach, tomatoes, asparagus and artichokes. In her flowerbeds she tried 'Mme Caroline Testout' and also the latest scented paeony, 'Sara Bernhardt' amongst lots of Swedish wildflowers.



From left: 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' against the blue sky at Rosenlund in Jönköping, *Rosa alba* 'Minette' which is still growing in the garden of Karin and Carl Larsson, Crown Princess Margareta in one of her rose borders at Sofiero in Helsingborg.

The roses of the English Princess

Another person who was a kind of a trendsetter for flower and rose fashion in Sweden at this time was Crown Princess Margareta, wife of the future Swedish king, Crown Prince Gustav. Margareta was the granddaughter of Queen Victoria of England and grew up in the royal castle of Bagshot in London. Margareta showed an interest in gardening already as a little girl. She had a great love for roses, preferably the latest varieties of tea hybrids, climbing wichuranas and polyantha roses which she used when she created her English garden around 1905 at the summer castle Sofiero in Helsingborg. The roses were allowed to embrace seating, cling to pergolas and trellises. She took advantage of their changing growth habits to behave both disciplined and well-trimmed, or to climb wildly.

In her own garden book, Margareta writes: "Among the roses we like best are 'Prince de Bulgarie', with varying light yellow and cut roses, 'Rayon d'Or' a charming, pure yellow rose, the very richly blooming 'Mme Laurette Messimy', 'Killarney' a simpler, very graceful flower and 'Souvenir du Président Carnot' an almost white rose". Even today, you can enjoy Crown Princess Margareta's roses, both old and new ones, at Sofiero, in south of Sweden, which is now a very popular public park.

A famous Swedish nursery

During the 20th century the interest in growing roses increased in Sweden. In country gardens, in city villa gardens and allotments, many utility plants were grown, but people also wanted to decorate with flowers and roses were the queen of the border. Cedergren Nursery in Helsingborg provided a great collection of old-fashioned roses but also novelties were described

very charmingly and inspiringly in their famous catalog. In 1955, for example, there were more than 30 different polyantha roses in the catalogue. They were described as unsurpassed because they bloom in succession from June until the onset of frost. Cedergren Nursery had both a shop and mail ordered roses all over the country until 2018.

A great love for roses

Many kinds of roses are grown in Sweden today. Old-fashioned bush roses, wild roses or roses from Canada and Finland that are adapted to Nordic conditions are popular in the north. In the south of Sweden, there is a larger scale of choices. People grow fragrant old-fashioned roses, English Austin roses, which are very popular, and roses from Germany and Denmark. There is a special liking for re-flowering roses. When having a conversation with garden designer Karolina Brising we talk about what joy roses means to her. She has been growing roses for twenty years and she combine them with annuals and perennials in borders and trellises. She grows both modern shrub roses as well as old-fashioned roses and she loves Austin roses like 'Olivia Rose' and 'Bathsheba'.

It is very important with healthy roses, Karolina says. I really grow them for the flowers and colours and I use them in bouquets but also in designing. A healthy rose is beautiful when not flowering and you can work with their foliage and shape in creating a border or a small garden room. Karolina is preparing her roses for the Swedish winter by stripping them of their leaves and by gently cutting them back. She doesn't cover them up for the winter.



Left: 'Cl. American Beauty', Right: 'Alchymist'

Roses of the past become roses for the future

For the last twenty years there has been an ongoing project in Sweden called POM, (The Programme for diversity of Cultivated Plants.) In many old gardens and farms in Sweden, you can still find many of the old-fashioned roses that were grown in the 19th and 20th centuries, whose names and origins have fallen into oblivion. These roses have been grown by generations of families, and often given local or family names. The POM project collected and inventoried roses with the help of about a hundred employees such as botanists and rose experts. Roses were collected and maybe most importantly, stories were told.

The roses were tested and after a few years 331 roses especially worthy of cultivation were selected to be preserved at the National Gene Bank according to Sweden's Agricultural University in Alnarp. They are also grown for further sale in Swedish commercial gardens. The qualities of these roses with their tough and resistant characters makes them very useful plants for private and public gardens and for biodiversity.

'Pipar-Hans' is one of the POM-roses. It was grown on a farm in Leksand in Dalarna around 1835 and was named after the farm's owner, a soldier. During very poor and difficult years around 1860, the soldier's son's family moved south to work and eventually built his own farm where the rose from Dalarna was planted. The rose readily reproduces by root shoots. It has been completely cut down by a snow-clearing backhoe but has grown back into a 4 x 5 m stand of bush roses. During periods it has not received much care. Today it grows in many places from north to south in Sweden. 'Pipar-Hans' has been classified as a bourbon rose with elements of a damask rose.



Left: Carl Larsson, who became famous for his paintings from his own artist's home, almost never painted a picture without a flower. This portrait of a rose has later been identified as the hybrid tea 'Mme. Caroline Testout'. **Right:** 'Pipar Hans'

Welcome to Sweden

The Swedish Rose Society is very proud to host the WFRS Regional Convention and Heritage Roses Conference in July 2024. During the five-day event there will be visits at Rosenlund in Jönköping, Sofiero in Helsingborg and to the National Gene Bank according to Sweden's Agricultural University in Alnarp. There will also be visits at the Royal Castle Solliden where the Swedish Royal family have their summer residence. Hopefully we will have the Swedish Crown Princess Victoria to attend a rose christening in the garden of Solliden. For more information on the event and tours please visit www.svenskarosensallskapet.se

Author Christina Högardh-Ihr, can be reached at www.thegreenguide.se

(All Photos courtesy of the Author.)

WFRS VICE-PRESIDENT REPORTS

By INÉS DIAZ DE LICANDRO, WFRS VICE PRESIDENT FOR SOUTH AMERICA - November 2022-May 2023

On November 3, 2022 I took over my role as VP of the WFRS for South America, representing Argentina, Chile and Uruguay after a 10-year term held by Mrs. Rosario Algorta de Carrau.

During summertime, from December to March, the rose associations in South America stop organized member activities and the Boards plan the activities for the following year. In this summer season, the region has suffered the worst drought in more than 50 years, so all rosarians had to focus on their gardening to help their roses in their struggle against the heat and lack of rain. Rose bushes lost much of their foliage and blooms have been scarce, smaller and not well developed.

Even if this report refers to an 8-month period, we were able to carry out many activities and planning.



Left: The author (I) with Rosario A. de Carrau (r), in Adelaide, Right: Rosaleda del Parque Araucano, Santiago, Chile



UPDATE OF ASSOCIATION OFFICE BEARERS

The three countries send updated information of their Office Bearers for the WFRS webpage.

FELCO

As FELCO is a sponsor of the WFRS, in early November I contacted the FELCO commercial representatives for South America and sent to each of the three countries the name of their FELCO representatives. This was to encourage the promotion of the brand by rose associations, including using FELCO tools and replacement parts, uploading of FELCO's logo and video in webpages or publications, and organizing events exhibiting these tools. The June 2023 member meeting of the Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa (AUR) held a practical rose pruning demonstration, using FELCO pruning shears.

ROSE GARDEN PROMOTION

The creation and preservation of rose gardens must be highly promoted so I planned the following activities concerning major collections:

In Chile: Rosaleda del Parque Araucano, Las Condes, Santiago de Chile

The Asociación Chilena de la Rosa (ACR) is working hard to apply for an WFRS Award of Garden Excellence for the rose garden. I sent the Standing Committees, the Composition and Procedures document so that ACR can focus in the practical consideration of the eligibility aspects.

I am planning to visit the Parque Araucano Rose Garden together with a representative from AAR next spring to evaluate and fill out the necessary forms. Coming from other countries will assure our independent point of view in the assessment.

Argentina: Rosedal El Carmen, Brandsen

Since 2019 a new private rose garden is being built in Brandsen, Province of Buenos Aires, located at an old estate “Estancia” called El Carmen. Inspired by the French Roseaie du Val-de-Marne at l’Haÿ-les-Roses, it was designed to lead the visitor in an organized and educational journey through the history of the rose: from species roses to old garden roses and modern roses, including selections of all groups of roses. The rose bushes have been imported from the Loubert nursery in France; new varieties are being introduced this year to make a total of approximately 3.000 varieties. In addition to 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 another continent and hemisphere. It is still in evolution and development so it is not yet open to the public but was privately “inaugurated” in October 2022 with members of the AAR as well as Jérôme Chêné and the Loubert nursery team.

I am in contact with the owners of this rose garden and shall visit it regularly to give all support and encouragement that might be needed.



Left: Overhead view of Rosedal El Carmen, Right: Rose bushes ready to be sent from France to Argentina (Photos Carmen website & Jérôme Chêné)

Uruguay: Montevideo Rose Garden

I have been an honorary and volunteer advisor to the Montevideo Municipality from 2016 to 2021 concerning this public Rose Garden, the first “roseraie” in South America, inaugurated in November 1912. Identification of rose varieties has been possible in many cases but the needed restauration of missing rose bushes has not yet been done because of delay in government decisions, lack of the needed resources as well as inactivity due to the COVID pandemic. In June 2023 I gave a lecture at the Brussels Heritage Rose Convention about the problems of this rose garden as well as its importance as a historic monument which was designed by relevant XIXth Century landscape architects and which included nearly 1.000 rose varieties in 1917-1919. The AUR and myself, as the Heritage & Conservation Committee delegate for Uruguay, shall insist on this issue in the coming months, after having noticed that some works have begun but without taking into consideration esthetical aspects.



Above: Montevideo Rose Garden: roundabout seen through the pergola

CONVENTIONS

ROSA BELGICA

The Regional Rose Convention in Brussels 2023 has been promoted via mails to the three countries.

OTHER UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

After ROSA BELGICA, I shall promote in South America the 2024 Regional Convention and Heritage Rose Conference in Kalmar, Sweden, and the 2025 World Rose Convention in Japan so our countries will be well represented with delegates.

PROJECT FOR REGIONAL ROSE CONVENTION

From November 2022 to April 2023 I have been working together with some members of the Asociación Argentina de Rosicultura (AAR) Board in order to formally submit to the AAR President a project for a WFRS Regional Convention in Argentina. For this purpose, I travelled to Buenos Aires in November 2022 and in March 2023 for meetings with the AAR President and Board members, and we held many virtual meetings including advice of travel and government event organisers.

The project consists of a Convention in Buenos Aires as well as Pre and Post tours in Northern and Southern Argentinian regions, including a set of topics for lectures focused in regional matters and a list of possible financial sponsors to be contacted. It has been duly financially evaluated considering its sensibility to relevant variables so as to assure its feasibility.

The AAR Board of Directors considered this presentation on April 10 and decided not to apply for it considering political country issues and to postpone the proposal for 2027. The project will be presented again when the new Board of Directors will take over, with a considerable chance of success.

TRIBUTE

On November 26 2022, I organized at my home in Punta del Este, a tribute to my WFRS Vice President predecessor, Mrs. Rosario Algorta de Carrau, who has held the position for 10 years. Members of the Board and from Uruguayan branches were present and members from ACR and AAR were contacted by a conference call to greet Rosario simultaneously. We had a very nice time and we toasted for rose friendship.



Tribute to Rosario (third from left) and author (third from right sitting)

HERITAGE ROSES

The 'Rosa de la Plaza de Dolores' is a unidentified pink Hybrid Tea which was declared as the Heritage Rose of the city of Dolores in 2019. The Municipality, the Filial Oeste of the AUR, a local nursery, the Uruguayan Heritage & Conservation Committee Delegate and inhabitants of the city have worked very hard since then in its reproduction. In May, 10 rosebushes of this variety was planted in the main square, its main original location. Many happy people joined in the celebration.



Above: Dolores authorities, members of AUR Oeste Branch and locals planting 'Rosa de la Plaza de Dolores'

PERSONAL LECTURES AND ARTICLES

Revista AAR. "My role as VP of WFRS for South America".

American Rose Society *Rose Magazine*. 2023 - "Roses in Uruguay"-Coordinator Steve Jones.

Bulletin N° 29, *Roses Anciennes en France*, automne 2022. 'Rosa de la Plaza de Dolores'. Translated into Spanish for AUR.

November 23 2022. I gave a lecture about "Women and Roses". COMAI.

Upcoming personal lectures

August 2023-"Some WFRS Awards of Garden Excellence" - Amigos de las Rosas de Mercedes, Uruguay.

September 2023-"Wichurana and Multiflora Ramblers" - Buenos Aires, Argentina.

September 2023-"Colour in Roses" - Punta del Este, Uruguay.

ACTIVITIES IN ARGENTINA

At the end of 2022, the AAR has prepared a wide offering of activities for 2023; both the main association as well as its branches which includes monthly lectures and monthly visits to gardens and rose gardens.

Some discussions have taken place concerning the Buenos Aires Trial of New Roses, which has been stopped for many years also

due to lack of support by the city government. If political authorities change after the 2023 elections, this subject will be evaluated again.

The first lecture about Organic rose culture and resistant roses took place on April 26; the first tour took place in May, visiting in Exaltación de la Cruz, a nursery which has specialised in salvias, a companion plant for roses.



AAR has also organized the second year of a course about Roses with several modules, for those rosarians in Argentina or abroad wishing to become rose Judges. Weekly classes have already begun in April and will finish at the end of September. Exams will take place in November.

During the October Fair organized by the Buenos Aires Botanical Garden, the AAR will have the usual stand giving information about roses. Many rose bushes will be for sale there.

ACTIVITIES ACR

In October 2023, a new annual Rose Fair will be organized by the ACR in the Rosaleda del Parque Araucano. To ensure the standards of quality required by the rose garden, ACR members actively work during the whole year in the maintenance of the garden.

On Wednesdays, ACR members meet to work in the maintenance of the Parque Araucano Rose Garden. They wear lovely rose aprons.

Conferences, meetings and visits to associate rose gardens take place during the year. The ACR promotes the eco-friendly rose gardens as well as the distribution of cuttings while pruning.



Above: Rosaleda del Parque Araucano, From left: Ladies in their rose aprons, pruning in the park, preparing cuttings for propagation



Left: Angélica Valdés in her ecofriendly garden, Middle: ACR members enjoying lunch at an event, Right: Author with AUR current & incoming President, in Colonia, Uruguay



Left: Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa Filial Oeste celebrates the end of 2022 activities, Right: Updated AUR Website

ACTIVITIES AUR

In November 2022, the AUR organized its last tour to Colonia, where some private gardens and a rose nursery were visited. During lunchtime I presented ROSA BELGICA encouraging members to attend the heritage event.

The AUR Board met in February to plan 2023 activities; including celebrating its 40th anniversary.

AUR has launched a new and more intuitive webpage in 2023, which has still some details under construction.

Last February, the Board held a meeting to plan 2023 activities: many hybrid lectures both face-to-face and by zoom as well as some tours to visit rose gardens. Activities have been organized by the AUR and also by its five branches, independently and all of them have already begun.

The first activity took place on April 18 visiting San Pedro Rose Garden, a beautiful farmhouse with 300 rose varieties, where we enjoyed a picnic. Later we visited the MACA (Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Atchugarry), designed by Uruguayan architect Carlos Ott and inaugurated in 2022 where Uruguayan and South American artworks were exhibited in the museum, chapels and in the huge 90-acre landscaped sculpture park.

A lecture about 2022 Adelaide Rose Convention was presented to members in the Filial Este branch and in Montevideo.



Left: AUR members at San Pedro Rose Garden, Manantiales, Uruguay, Right: Members of the AUR Board



Above: Visit to the MACA y Landscape Sculpture Park , Below: Graciela Pereira giving a lecture about Australia 2022 World Rose Convention



CONCLUSION. South America is working hard organizing different types of events and always trying to encourage young people to join associations. In next years report I shall be able to present the whole year 2023 thoroughly.

(All photos courtesy of the Author.)

WFRS VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS - AUSTRALASIA

By Doug Grant, New Zealand

After a couple of disruptive years, the rose scene has somewhat settled down again for rosarians as life returns to normal. Rose events, shows, trials, Ranfurly days, meetings and conventions are all back on the calendar again to the delight of all our rosarians.

The New Zealand Rose Society Council was able to meet in August of 2022. The Council continues to make progress on initiatives that are beneficial to district rose societies and their members. Membership benefits continue with Bioforce for biological pest control options, Metrogreen for gardening tools and with Grosafe for plant protection products.

Two publications are currently produced for rose society members under the editorship of Hayden Foulds. The *2022 New Zealand Rose Annual* was published in September and themes in this edition included miniature-type roses and rose breeding. The *2023 New Zealand Rose Review* was published in February and remains an invaluable guide to newer roses on the market in New Zealand.



New Zealand publications: Left: 2022 Annual, Middle 2023 Rose Review, and Right: 2023 Calendar

The New Zealand Rose Society again produced its own calendar with photos submitted by members through a competition. The calendar has now become a major fundraiser for local rose societies and it is a useful tool for promoting the rose society and membership benefits. The Facebook group 'Roses Aotearoa' continues to grow with people seeking out advice from experienced rosarians. The 'New Zealand Rose Finder', an online searchable spreadsheet of all the rose varieties grown in New Zealand was introduced in early 2023.

Unfortunately, in September 2022, Mr Ben Pratt of Tasman Bay Roses in Motueka passed away. Ben had played an important role for many years in the Pratt family rose nursery Tasman Bay Roses. His passing will be a great loss to the rose growing industry in New Zealand.

Seven New Zealand rosarians travelled to Adelaide for the WFRS World Rose Convention back in October. A great time was had by all attending the convention and meeting rosarians from Australia and around the world. Mr Hayden Foulds and I presented a lecture on 'New Zealand Roses, Rose Gardens and Rose Breeders'.

At the final dinner of the convention, Mrs Fran Rawling of Dunedin was announced as one of the recipients of the World Rose Award. Mrs Rawling has given many years of service to Heritage Roses in New Zealand and is a driving force behind the restoration and the maintenance of the collection of Heritage roses growing in the Dunedin Northern Cemetery. She was not in Adelaide to receive her award so as the WFRS Vice President, I presented this to her in late November at the opening of the new Information Centre in the Sexton's Cottage of the Northern Cemetery. It was a pleasure for both myself and the Heritage Roses New Zealand President Mrs Claire Haig to be given the guided tour by Mrs Rawling of the cemetery and roses in full bloom. I was most impressed to see the tremendous work that has been done by the hard-working team from Heritage Roses Otago. This cemetery is well worth visiting.



Left: WFRS Vice President Mr Doug Grant presenting the World Rose Award to Mrs Fran Rawling (*photo courtesy Liz Greenwood*),
 Right: Dunedin Northern Cemetery

November and December each year is rose show and trial season in New Zealand. After many cancellations due to Covid-19 being in the country, it was a relief that most rose events were back and held again in 2022.

The National Rose Show was able to be held in Auckland and this was hosted by the Auckland Rose Society. There were some beautiful exhibits from around New Zealand. The Champion of Champions for Large-type Roses went to a Fully Open bloom of 'Loving Memory' entered by Paul McKeaney from the Waikato Rose Society. The Champion of Champions for Miniature-type roses was for a small stem of 'Kaikoura' exhibited by Janet Pike, also of the Waikato Rose Society. Janice Walker of the Northland Rose Society won the award for best exhibit in the special section classes.



Left: Allison Clark with the New Zealand Rose Award,
 Right: Her rose 'Allison Scott' (*photos courtesy Hayden Foulds*)



At the National Dinner, the New Zealand Rose Award was presented to Allison Scott for service to the rose in New Zealand. Mrs Scott was very honoured to receive this award. She is still a very active rosarian who has been a long-serving member of the Hutt Valley Rose Society.

Also in November, the latest award winners for the New Zealand Rose Society International Rose Trials were announced in Palmerston North. The Gold Star of the South Pacific was awarded to the rose 'Allison Scott' (Mattcard). This was a sport of 'My Mum' bred by Bob Matthews of New Zealand and named for Rosarian Mrs Allison Scott. The Silver Star of the City of Palmerston North was awarded to 'Autumn Glow' (Forglow) bred by John Ford of New Zealand. Certificates of Merit were presented to Rosen

Tantau of Germany for 'Lampion' (Tan06004) and to Rob Somerfield of New Zealand for 'Smitten' (Sombabypin) and 'Spellbound' (Sombing).

At the New Zealand Rose of the Year award's day held in Hamilton in mid-November, the overall winner was 'Strawberry Blonde' (Sonnanmar) bred by Rob Somerfield of New Zealand. Rob was also awarded the Best Hybrid Tea for 'Tabasco' (Sombousel) and the Best Floribunda, Children's Choice Award and New Zealand bred rose award for 'Inkspots' (Sompurspot). The Best Climbing Rose was awarded to Doug Grant of New Zealand for 'Cream Passion' (Grajan) and the Most Fragrant Rose was awarded to 'The Chelsea Rose' (Athycomp) bred by Mike Athy, also from New Zealand. The only overseas bred rose to receive an award was 'Princess Anne' (Auskitchen) from David Austin for the Best Shrub Rose.

The summer of 2022 – 23 was one of the wettest on record for many parts of New Zealand. The Northern and Eastern parts of the North Island received huge downpours of rain. Cyclone Gabrielle that followed a few days later caused further destruction. Fortunately, many Rosarians in these areas did escape relatively unscathed from the destruction. Hopefully the country will have better weather conditions for the rest of 2023.

Rose Ranfurly Days occur during the Autumn period each year in New Zealand. These days were initiated by Sam McGredy as a fun and friendly way of getting rosarians together to compete as District Rose Societies against each other. For 2023 the South Island Rose Ranfurly was held in Ashburton. The winning society for the Ranfurly Shield was South Canterbury. The Upper North Island Ranfurly was held in Te Awamutu and this year the Waikato Rose Society again won the shield. The Lower North Island Ranfurly scheduled to be held in the Hutt Valley was unfortunately cancelled due to rough weather conditions over that time.

The 2023 New Zealand Rose Society AGM was held in Hamilton in May with a good attendance of rosarians from throughout New Zealand. Mr Hayden Foulds (Manawatu) continues as President with Mrs Bev Fletcher (Waikato) and Mr Adrian Bullen as Vice President. Mrs Janet Pike (Waikato) remains as Immediate Past President. Elected to the National Council again were Ms Di Duncan (Auckland), Mr Hamish Cheetham (Gisborne -East Coast), Mrs Daphne Rissman (South Canterbury) and Doug Grant (Franklin).

The recipient of the Frank Penn Memorial Award for service to a district rose society, for 2023 was Mr John Ford from the Manawatu Rose Society. John has been a member of the Manawatu Rose Society for over forty years. He is a well-known rose breeder and has served on the NZRS National Council and is presently Chairman of the NZ International Trial Grounds Committee.

(All photos by Author unless otherwise noted.)



Left: New Zealand Rose of the Year, 'Strawberry Blonde', Right: Best Floral Exhibit by Janet Walker at National Spring Rose Show *(photo courtesy Janet Walker)*

WFRS VICE PRESIDENT REPORT - AFRICA

By Vivienne Black, South Africa

The Heritage Rose Society of Southern Africa will be hosting the ROSA National Rose Convention 'ROSES AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE' to be held in Simondium near Stellenbosch in the Western Cape, from 9th to 11th November. Celebrating the 100th year of our patron Dr Gwen Fagan. In her 100th year, we will honour her contribution of her meticulous research of heritages roses in South Africa and worldwide. More Information: heritageroses.sa@gmail.co.za

International Guest speaker Charles Quest-Ritson, President of the Heritage Rose Society, will speak on rose conservation, problems and solutions with a South African emphasis. We also have a wonderful speaker by the name of Pietman Diener, who is the chief horticulturist at the famous 'RUSTENBERG' garden owned by the Barlow family in Stellenbosch which we will be visiting, as well as Peter Knox-Shaw from 'FRESHWOODS', in Grabouw. This latter garden has the largest collection of heritage roses in South Africa and has received the 'Garden of Excellence Award' from the World Federation of Rose Societies, the first private garden in the world to receive this prestigious award. This fabulous garden is on the agenda for us to visit.

We will visit 'Babelonstoren' which is one of the oldest Cape Dutch farms, set at the foot of the Simonsberg Mountains in the Franschhoek Valley. Liezel van der Walt, the head gardener and landscape architect at Babelonstoren will give us a guided tour of this magnificent masterpiece.



Left: Poster for the National Convention, Right: FELCO team South Africa

FELCO in South Africa celebrates its 76th Anniversary. Felco Flisch started a business with a German named Mr H Albrecht, who resided in South Africa, and in 1946 the FELCO 1 was exported to South Africa, and remains a number one brand in South Africa today.

Midlands Rose Society

All our societies in South Africa were encouraged to attract new young members to their societies. Midlands Rose Society, with the help of Kate Wallace, one of the younger members, arranged a special function called 'Roses for Beginners/Roses and Rose'. The event was advertised on social media and had a wonderful response which resulted in having to close the bookings long before the cut-off date. Most people that attended were not members of a society and they were all given a booklet with reasons for belonging to a rose society, a calendar on caring for roses and a Ludwig's Rose Catalogue. The afternoon ended with a glass of rosé.

The Autumn Rose Show saw many new entries and they resulted in thirty-eight new members joining Midlands Rose Society, taking the MRS membership to over two hundred.

Knysna Rose Society held a successful Autumn rose show which was held in March at the Knysna Mall, with the Queen of the show – 'Deloitte and Touche'. KRS also took up the challenge to encourage new members and boosted their membership to seventy six members.

The Western Cape Rose Society visited the 320-year-old VERGELEGEN Wine Estate gardens situated on the slopes of the Hottentots Holland mountain range overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.



Knysna Rose Show, Left: Queen 'Deloitte and Touche', Right: Rose Show & members Knysna Rose Society (photos courtesy Tertia van Weez.)

Ludwig's Roses named a rose in honour of 'Pretty Yende' – born in the small town of Piet Retief, this South African soprano has risen to the top of the opera world. She was recently invited to perform at the coronation of the King Charles III.

Gwen Fagan author of the book *Roses at the Cape of Good Hope* visited Vivienne Black's home and rose garden in Paarl, in the Western Cape, and shared stories about her book. The book is about old roses and the Cape by an author deeply involved with the places and the people associated with them. The period it covers dates from the moment when Commander Jan van Riebeeck picked the first Dutch rose on 1st November 1657 until the formation of the Union in 1910, by which time the new Hybrid Teas were beginning to oust old roses from the Cape gardens.



Left: from left, Carolyn Kewley, Gwen Fagan and Vivienne Black, Middle and Right: Pretty Yende and her rose

The 15th WFRS Historic Rose Conference in Belgium was attended by four South Africans, William and Claire Meyer, Amanda Renwick and Vivienne Black. We salute you Henrienne de Briey and Frans Thomas and the Belgium Rose Society team for a conference to remember.

(All photos courtesy through the Author.)

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PRESENTS A SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETINGS THAT REPRESENTED THE 19TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION IN 2022

By Derek Lawrence, Executive Director

Due to the ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of Standing Committee meetings were held by virtual means, over the months, prior to the World Convention taking place in Adelaide, Australia in October 2022.

Classification and Registration Meeting held on 3rd June:

Diane Sommers, President of the American Rose Society, confirmed that enhancements to the *Modern Roses* database had been prepared, and should be up and running by the first day of August. She paid tribute to her predecessor, the late Bob Martin who had been diligently working on the project, until his sad passing in 2021. Currently, 25 enhancements are being addressed; which include a simplified system for registering roses, improved parent presentation and easy access to upload images of new cultivars. She was pleased to report that the ARS had found sufficient funding to the amount of \$30,000 USD to ensure the system would be upgraded and make it much more straightforward and manageable to maintain. The changes would make it an improved and an enhanced experience for anyone wishing to use the site. She advised the Committee that the WFRS recommendations will be passed on to the new ongoing Registration Committee for review. She reported that during 2020, new changes were made to classification, particularly the shrub class. It was been separated into the following: Ground Cover Roses, Landscape Shrubs and English Style Roses. Mrs Sommers confirmed the appointment of Dr Allen Owings, who has extensive knowledge in horticulture to be Chairman of the ARS Classification Committee. The Classification and Registration Committees will be separated. The Registration process will be conducted by the staff of the American Rose Society. The appointed software vendor will be Molten Java Development, whom the ARS will employ. The Society plans to undertake a quarterly review of the process that they will be managing. Following recent discussions with Mr Walsh, she hoped to see improved communication between the breeders, the WFRS and the American Rose Society, in order for this to be a successful venture. She suggested that a Member of the WFRS should join the ARS Committee. Chairman, Mr Walsh responded by saying that Mrs Sommers report was most encouraging. Mr Trimper congratulated the ARS on its superb efforts.

Promotions Meeting held on 3rd July:

The Chairman congratulated the President for arranging such a superb, beneficial sponsorship agreement between FELCO SA and the WFRS. He stressed the importance that FELCO products must be actively promoted by Member Countries, through their websites and publications. It will be the responsibility of the Member Country concerned to liaise with the FELCO representative in their country. Possible discounts may be negotiated. It was reported that there are 77 registered 'Friends' and 26 'Life Friends' of the WFRS. Mr Trimper expressed his appreciation to 'Friends' for their continued loyal support, and hoped that many will renew their subscriptions for the period 2022 – 2025. Henriette de Briey advised the Committee that she had a planned meeting with the Piaget Foundation on 14 July. She was of the opinion that, in the future, the Promotions Committee should play an active role in the responsibilities of making decisions on how the funds from the Foundation are used in the promotion and advancement of the rose.

Publications Meeting, held on 4th August:

The Executive Director reported that the responses received from Members with website update requests were encouraging, and the system was working well. Mrs Schierning suggested that articles published by Member Countries should be posted on the site. Mr Lawrence explained the website acted as a gateway for browsers to invite them to explore Member Countries various websites, where information could be sourced. Ms. Adams reminded Members that information such as "WFRS Award of Garden Excellence" must be kept up to date in order to serve Members and members of the public effectively. Ms. Adams wished to acknowledge the immense hard work and dedication demonstrated by the Editor of 'World Rose News', Steve Jones and the Joint Editors of 'BAON', Charles Quest-Ritson and Martin Stott. They were doing a fantastic job, but support from Members would be advantageous for their continued success. Mr Stott said he would welcome ideas from Members for potential articles. He stressed that he and his colleague, Mr Quest-Ritson are accomplished journalists, and are happy to compose articles on request. Their creativity and expertise could answer a number of possible questions and enquires in the field of heritage roses. Ms Adams thought that national societies sharing articles would be a step in the right direction. Mrs Sommers suggested that Mr Stott and Mr Quest-Ritson join the American Rose Society. The Chairman advised the Committee that the ARS had an established group named, 'The Editors Exchange' which is comprised of over 100 Editors. The group actively exchange articles, and Ms. Adams thought it might be a good idea for the Editors of 'BAON' to join the group. Mrs Sommers thought this to be an excellent solution. Ms. Adams underlined the fact that the Publications budget is established by the WFRS Council. She suggested that Mrs Troll-Keller produce a budget to be presented at the next Council meeting. Ms. Adams was not aware of this budget at the time she was appointed to Chair the Committee. She advised that the ongoing costing of the website should not form part of the report because the WFRS no longer has the website in the Publications Committee budget. The WFRS Treasurer, Mrs Diane vom Berg confirmed that the current budget was set at £100 per annum. The President personally expressed appreciation for Jolene Adams for the remarkable work

that she had undertaken as Chair for the Publications Committee, over a number of years.

International Judges Meeting held on 28th August:

Andy Plasz explained that due to the ramifications caused by the COVID- 19 pandemic, many gardeners have chosen to grow less labour-intensive types such as ground cover roses, rather than traditional Hybrid Tea or Floribunda cultivars. This led to the American Rose Society to consider how exhibitors could actively use these ground cover forms to exhibit at future shows. One of the tasks of the ARS was to examine the process of how Judges disqualify exhibits at their shows. Mr Plasz revealed that in the ARS Judging Manual the word 'disqualify' is used on 60 separate occasions. This seemed to give a negative impact. To address this issue, the Society is currently rewriting the rules in a clearer, friendlier and less rigid way; to encourage more participation, especially with new exhibitors. Mr Woods advised that in Australia, the terms, 'Not According to Schedule' and 'Serious Defects' are used when exhibitors have made some errors, which he felt was far more palatable and acceptable. Judges should be left to use their discretion when accessing exhibits and be mindful of not being too critical during the process. Pauline Martin pointed out that in the United Kingdom, the Society's schedules state that no more than 5 or 12 stems can be exhibited in any vase or bowl arrangement. Providing the exhibit does not exceed the given amount of stems, no disqualification would be considered. She also stressed that trainee judges were taught to be flexible and understanding when conducting their judging duties. Andy Plasz advised the Committee that at a recent ARS show, the judges moved some of the exhibits which had been placed in the incorrect class and placed them in the correct location to create a sense of positivity amongst exhibitors. He felt that this act of goodwill was the way forward.



Left: Adelaide Rose Garden, Right: Judging the Test garden, from left: Gavin Woods, ARS President Diane Sommers, Executive Director Derek Lawrence, and Collin Hollis

Conservation and Heritage Meeting, held on 1st September:

The Chairman advised the Committee members that their reports are not compulsory, but undertaken on a purely voluntary basis. She felt that these reports are extremely helpful. Mrs Quest-Ritson wished to prompt the Members present to give feedback on points which were made in the reports received. Particular concerns were raised about the impact of climate change, and how this would affect the choice of roses grown. There is increasing awareness of the importance of using species roses in the process of breeding new cultivars. They are also important for biodiversity. Their conservation is needed both in their natural habitat and, when under threat, in botanic gardens. There are also concerns about cultivated roses: in particular, people are interested in conserving their own rose heritages. Points were also raised about the naming of roses. Many are in commerce under several different names. Mrs Rawlings stated that rose cultivars first arrived in her homeland of New Zealand in 1814. It is a straightforward process then to determine when individual cultivars arrived in her country. However, problems arise when a particular cultivar had not been registered on their original register. Mr Osen explained that the aim of Sweden's national programme for cultivated plant diversity - known as POM - was to secure the long-term survival and sustainable use of cultivated plant resources. To be recognized by POM for further studies and conservation, a rose must have a documented history dating back before 1950. Mr Thim recalled that he once visited the Sangerhausen Rose Garden in Germany, where he was aware that some of the cultivars have different names in other countries. He felt that the only solution would be to undertake an assessment with descriptions of certain varieties. For example, the 'Peace' rose was originally named 'Madame A. Meilland' before it became famous. Mrs Brichet added that various languages using a different name can cause immense confusion. She felt that good health performance often gives rise to the popularity of any variety. Ms. Thorleifsdottir informed the Committee that in her homeland of Iceland they grow some outstanding, healthy species and cultivars with wonderful foliage such as *R. nitida* and *R. 'Mètis'*.

Dr Yuki Mikanagi explained that the species *Rosa nipponensis* (Crep) is endemic in Japan, and grows only in high mountains. In her view, it is one of the best and most beautiful of Japan's wild roses: but it is difficult to cultivate in gardens because it cannot

tolerate hot and humid conditions. Mrs Quest-Ritson praised the valuable work of Viru Viraraghavan in using *Rosa gigantea* in his breeding programme in India. Mrs Monasterly-Gilbert suggested that collections should be duplicated and placed in different climate zones. She pointed out that although most of the world had recently experienced hot temperatures, places in Asia were suffering from intense floods. She mentioned that Dr Pascal Heitzler has for a number of years, conducted extensive work on genetic sequencing with *R. arvensis*, and how the compatibility of the pollen would be of use to the researcher.

Combined Breeders' Club and International Trials Meeting, held on 27th September:

Chairman, Mr Pasquier expressed his immense gratitude for Dr Gérald Meylan for his generous assistance. He was pleased to report that the Club has increased in volume, with 29 Members from 15 different countries. He announced that amateur rose breeder, Cătălin Gheorghe Iuroaea of Iuroaea Rose Research, Romania had just joined the Breeders Club. Mr Pasquier was delighted to confirm that Members are encouraged to pay their subscriptions in advance for a three-year period. He felt that it was an excellent solution, and would save subsequent banking charges. The President stressed that payment by cash was no longer a viable option, due to the security risks involved. Mrs de Briey queried how many Members were in subscription arrears. The Chairman responded by stipulating that the Treasurer had sent him a copy of the financial spreadsheet in June, but was not aware of the current situation. In his view, this was the responsibility of the Treasurer. Mr Lawrence responded by explaining that the only contact that himself and the Treasurer have with the Breeders, is by sending them Invoices. Due to the nature of how the Breeders Club is operated, he felt that the Chairman must take a more proactive role when meeting Members, and to encourage them to pay their dues. On reflection, Mr Pasquier agreed with this notion, and plans to address with the matter at the next proposed meeting of the club. As part of her report, the Chairman of International Trials gave an inspirational Power Point presentation of various rose trials which are conducted around the world. She was pleased to confirm that most countries use the WFRS Judging Criteria. During the presentation, Marga Verwer revealed that in Monaco, only roses grown in containers are assessed. The students at the University of Bologna, Italy maintain the trials in their city. Baden-Baden is renowned for its stunning rose arches, which clothe them with immense effect. In the Hague, two trials are conducted. One for new cultivars and the other assesses roses which are already commercially available. The recent development of the trials at Letty Green, Hertfordshire England are unusual because the organisers intend to keep the plants in their respective beds for several years to form a permanent collection. Due to travel restrictions, the Chairman was not able to attend any of the international trials held in Japan, USA and Australia. She is looking forward to attending the trials being conducted in Adelaide, Australia in October. The President felt that trials conducted in Lyon were excellent, but raised concerns that the WFRS judging criteria were not recognised. The Chairman responded by saying she will approach the President of the French Rose Society to see if this matter could be addressed. Marga Verwer advised the Committee that the following countries propose to conduct future trials: Budapest in Hungary, Shreveport in the USA, South Korea and Sweden. Mrs Sommers, President of the American Rose Society, was pleased to report that the new trials were developing well.



Left: Friends dinner, Right: Adelaide Rose Show

Convention Liaison Meeting, held on 29th October, in Adelaide:

Henrienne de Briey confirmed that plans for the Heritage Conference in Brussels in June 2023, were progressing well. A number of international guest speakers are planned from such countries as India, Germany, USA, Japan, China and Europe. The pre tours will consist of visits to Bruges, Kortrijk and Ghent. Post tours will include enjoying beautiful rose gardens in Luxembourg and Germany. The Chairman enquired whether delegates who decide to travel by car would encounter any problems parking their vehicle in the city centre. Mrs Briey felt confident that full car parking facilities will be available. Although, she stressed that Brussels has excellent public transport infrastructure, and easy walking distance to most places of interest. Asta Thorleifsdottir was that of the view the sustainability should be the Federation's top priority and that delegates should set an example by using public transport. She also suggested that the WFRS develop a strategy to address green issues, such as the dispensing of plastics at future events.

The Committee were advised by the organising team that 20th World Convention will be held in Fukuyama City in May 2025. Pre tours will be arranged. Lecturers and events will be held at the Hiroshima Prefectural Cultural Centre. A rose show will be held featuring activities such as a concert with one of the greatest orchestras in Japan and a showcase of traditional Japanese and other East Asian performing arts. The lobby and foyer of the venue for the convention will host PR booths for partner industries and sponsors. Most importantly Fukuyama City has become known as the City of Roses. It is home to over one million cultivated bushes and the ideal location to host such a prestigious event of this kind. The organisers presented the Committee with an impressive promotional film which gave an insight to the wonders of the City and its many beautiful rose gardens. The presentation video is now posted on the WFRS website for Members to view.

Awards Meeting, held on 29th October in Adelaide:

Mr Boulens advised the Committee that during the nomination process certain issues of how various gardens were evaluated came to his and the Executive Director's attention. He pointed out that the procedures are clearly set in the 'Standing Committees, Composition and Procedures' booklet. Generally, it has been regarded that the procedures are clear and easy to implement. However, the reality suggests otherwise. In a number of cases, the evaluation forms undertaken by the two referees suggests mutual support and a promotional concerted effort to advertise the garden, rather than a genuine evaluation document. The correct procedure in marking the various categories was clearly not observed. In the evaluation grid the maximum points are 80 (70 if there is no rose trial). The Chairman had discovered that on some forms, scores of 70, 80 and even 110 points were recorded. He stressed that in the future, if any nominations are received which have not followed the WFRS established rules and protocols, it will be disqualified; with a joint consultation decision made by the President, Executive Director and the Awards Chairman. Members of the Committee were given short video presentations on each of the nominated gardens, and then requested to assess their thoughts. During the process, Asta Thorliedsdottir expressed her concerns that although the evaluation form clearly states that any nominated garden must have educational value, but it was not evident in most of the videos.

WFRS Award of Gardens of Excellence Winners 2022:

The International Rose Garden at Adelaide Botanic Garden, Australia

The Rose Garden at Shanghai Cheshan Botanic Garden, China

The East German Rose Garden, Forst, Germany

Zweibrücken Rose Garden, Germany

Everland Rose Garden, South Korea

Rosaraie Château de Munsbach, Luxembourg

The Rose Garden in the Arboretum of Volcji, Potok, Slovenia

Rosenlunds Rosarium, Jönköping, Sweden

WFRS Literary Award Winners 2022:

The History of the Rose in Denmark Author/Editor Torben Thim

Historical Roses in the Europa Rosarium Sangerhausen by Hella Brumme and Eilike Vemmer.

The Handbook of Wild Roses by Yuki Mikanagi

Luxembourg Land of Roses by Heidi Howcroft and Marianne Majerus.

Rose Atlas – World of Roses by Dr Tommy Cairns and Luis T. Desamero.

Rosa: The Story of The Rose by Peter E. Kukielski and Charles Phillips.

WFRS Rose Hall of Fame and Old Rose Hall of Fame Winners 2022:

Rose Hall of Fame winner: 'Pink Flower Carpet' (1989)

Old Rose Hall of Fame winner: 'Comte de Chambord' (1860)

Executive Meetings held on 28th October & 3rd November in Adelaide:

Chairman of the Taskforce, Mr Malcolm Watson recalled that 20 meetings of the Committee were conducted over the four-year period. He wished to convey his sincere appreciation to Committee members for their diligent work. He highlighted that the 'Articles of Association' had been reviewed and updated to meet future needs. Financial arrangements in the UK had been investigated, and how the WFRS brand could be extended incorporating a sponsorship agreement. At the EC meeting held in Nanyang, China during 2019 recommendations were presented by the Task Force. In July of that year the 'Terms of Reference' were approved. This focused on the future objectives of the Federation; the governance and marketing. A code of conduct was

recommended. In early 2021, the Executive Director confirmed that the Standing Orders document had been approved by the Executive Committee. In October, the Duty Statements were submitted. In response to the feedback received from Members, parts of the job descriptions were duly amended. In February 2022, the marketing and business report was sent to the Executive Director. Mr Watson wished to express the importance of job descriptions which will be an immense assistance to new recruits, who could fully understand their roles and responsibilities. He felt that the review should be an ongoing EC process for the benefit of the future. He concluded his report by saying how much he had enjoyed this role, and wished the WFRS continued success. Matters were raised about the current banking system that the Federation currently operates. Many Members wish to pay their dues by payment cards or Paypal. Mrs vom Berg responded by saying that she understands Members frustrations. However, the Task Force have looked into this matter, and potential banks were reluctant to conduct digital transactions on the Federation's behalf because it would be less than 90 transactions per annum. The Executive Director explained that Federation's bank account is held by a Charity Trust organisation. He approached them about the WFRS opening a subsidiary account with another bank, but the Charities Aid Foundation were not supportive of this option. Mr Lawrence is acutely aware of the difficulties encountered by Members wishing to pay their subscriptions. This is an ongoing matter, and any worthwhile or workable banking options might be considered in the future. One of the new primary responsibilities for Vice Presidents is to contact and liaise with FELCO SA. In essence, to actively promote FELCO products in their various regions; to assist the Company in their commercial enterprises by tapping into the requirements of amateur rose growers and like-minded gardeners. Another VP responsibility is to present an annual report of their progress and activities to the Executive Committee, and also a further report to be published in 'World Rose News'. Editor, Steve Jones will circulate a letter to outline deadline dates when a report must be presented. Mr Prakash enquired whether the organisation could expand its sponsorship aims to other companies, pointing out that many firms have corporate social responsibilities. It would not possibly be on the same lines as direct Company commercial sponsorship, but more in terms of regular donations. Mrs de Briey responded that this matter could be investigated.



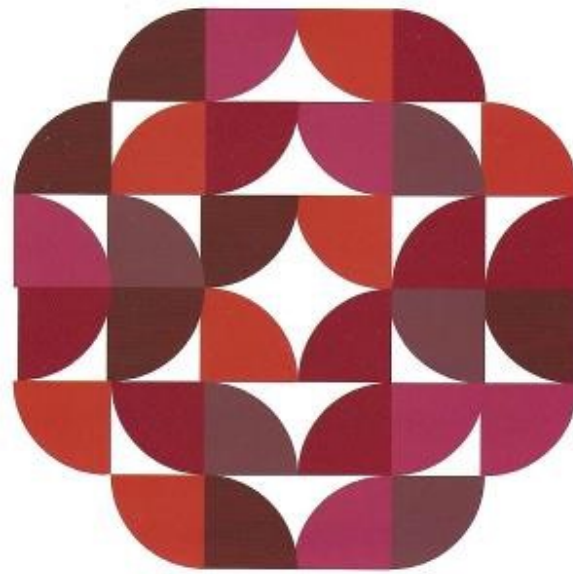
Left: Derek Lawrence with Henrienne de Briey & Diane Vom Berg, new WFRS President, Right: 'Australian Beauty', Convention Rose



Council Meeting, held on 2nd November, in Adelaide:

Mrs de Briey highlighted that the FELCO Agreement is a two-year (50,000 Euro) contract, which is paid by two instalments of 12,500€ per annum. She underlined the fact that it is the responsibility of each Member to give the Company the best visibility by promoting FELCO products in publications, websites and such social media as Facebook. The Company will provide Platinum Sponsorship at all forthcoming WFRS events until 2023. She stressed the importance of supporting FELCO with its commercial aims. The objective is to renew the sponsorship agreement in 2024. This will only be possible if FELCO and the WFRS work together on "a win-win basis" Discount to Members could be offered on a country-to-country basis. Mr Lawrence proposed that any Member, whether it be a Member Country, Associate or Breeder who had not paid their Membership subscription for a period of three years, should automatically cease to be a Member of the organisation. This was Carried. At the Convention Committee meeting held on 29 October 2022, the Committee's Chairman explained that only one compliant bid for the 21st World Rose Convention in 2028 had been received, which was from the Chinese Rose Society. However, at the WFRS Council meeting it was decided that, due to unforeseen circumstances, the bid would not be considered at this juncture; unless certain conditions were duly met. It was agreed by the Council Members that the nomination be suspended, and to allow new bids from other Member Countries to be considered with a closing date of 31st October 2023. Asta Thoreifsdottir suggested that the WFRS establish an environmental sustainability policy and that a small Committee be set up to investigate the possibility and to set up a draft policy. The Executive Director responded by proposing that Member Countries send in ideas in the first instance, and the feedback received, could then be correlated. Members thought this to be an excellent solution. On behalf of the entire Membership of the World Federation of Rose Societies, Mr Trimper wished to express his immense gratitude to Henrienne de Briey for the outstanding and exceptional service that she has admirably demonstrated in her role as President over the last four years. There was enthusiastic applause from the Members present. Henrienne de Briey responded by saying how much she had enjoyed the role, and it had been a privilege to serve the Federation as President.

(All photos courtesy of the Author.)



WFRS 20th
WORLD ROSE
CONVENTION
2025
in FUKUYAMA

Roses for the Future

A New Future Begins in Fukuyama

Create, Excite, and Shine Together!

18 (Sun) - **24** (Sat) **May 2025**

2023 INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS

By Marga Verwer, Chairman, WFRS International Rose Trials

	TRIAL	Country	Year 2023
1	<i>Monaco</i>	Princ. of Monaco	Not this year
	<i>Shreveport</i>	USA	6-5-2023
2	<i>Barcelona</i>	Spain	12-5-2023
3	<i>Madrid</i>	Spain	19-5-2023
4	<i>Rome</i>	Italy	20-5-2023
5	<i>Bologna</i>	Italy	27-5-2023
6	<i>Tokyo</i>	Japan	May/October
7	<i>Lyon</i>	France	2-6-2023
8	<i>Paris</i>	France	15-6-2023
9	<i>Hradec Kralove</i>	Czech Republic	17-6-2023
10	<i>Nyon</i>	Switzerland	17-6-2023
11	<i>Baden-Baden</i>	Germany	20-6-2023
12	<i>Saverne</i>	France	21-6-2023
13	<i>Kortrijk</i>	Belgium	23-6-2023
14	<i>Nagaoka City</i>	Japan	May/October
15	<i>Den Haag</i>	Netherlands	1-7-2023
16	<i>Belfast</i>	Northern Ireland	14-7-2023
17	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	Great Britain	11-8-2023
18	<i>Glasgow</i>	Great Britain	Not this year
19	<i>Warsaw</i>	Poland	26-8-2023
20	<i>Le Roeulx</i>	Belgium	1-9-2023
21	<i>Orleans</i>	France	8-9-2023
22	<i>Rose Hills</i>	USA	Not this year
23	<i>Adelaide</i>	Australia	30-10-2023
24	<i>Gifu</i>	Japan	May/October
25	<i>Hamilton</i>	New Zealand	12-11-2023
26	<i>Palmerston North</i>	New Zealand	19-11-2023

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Mr Yves Piaget



President Emeritus
Mrs Helga Brichet

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MEMBER COUNTRIES

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 (2023) - Rose Society Maria Henrieta Chotek
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](#)

WFRS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Associació Amics de les Roses de Sant Feliu de Llobregat i de Catalunya, Spain

Association de la Rosa de Coyhaique, Chile

Associazione 'La Compagnia Delle Rose', Italy

Fondazione Roseto Botanico "Carla Fineschi" di Cavriglia, Italy

Geografisk Have, Denmark

Hana no Miyako Gifu Flower Festival Commemorative Park, Japan

Heritage Roses Australia, Inc.

Heritage Roses New Zealand, Inc.

Historic Roses Group of Great Britain

Les Amis de la Roseraie du Val de Marne à L'Haÿ-les-Roses, France

Patrimoine Pour Le Roses, Luxembourg

Piccolo Roseto Giovanni Chilanti, Italy

Polish Association of Rose Breeders

Rosenlunds Rosarium, Sweden

Roses Anciennes en France

Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France

The Botanic Garden, Meise, Belgium

The Rose Culture Institute, Japan

Vrijbroek Park, Belgium

Note: for website information on the above Associate Members, please go to the [WFRS website](#).

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WFRS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2 - 6 July 2024 WFRS Regional Convention & 16th Heritage Rose Conference - Kalmar, Sweden, Email: srs@svenskarosensallskapet.se, website: nordicroses2024.com
- 18 - 24 May 2025 WFRS 20th World Rose Convention - Fukuyama City, Japan, Email: info@wrc2025fukuyama.jp, website: en.wrc2025fukuyama.jp

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 2025 World Rose Convention in Japan.***

Friends donor forms can be downloaded from the WFRS website - www.worldrose.org

Congrats to the new WFRS Friends for Life Members who signed up in Belgium at the Conference!

Dipa Prakash – India
Perna Prakash – India
Crenagh Elliott – Canada
Sanda Simic – Canada
Patrick Habermehl – Germany



Left: Friends Dinner at Au Vieux St Martin Restaurant, Brussels, Belgium

AND FINALLY...



Through heavy rain and flooding, it didn't stop the canceled rose trial gardens in Faenza, Italy, from looking their best!

Please Patronize Our Platinum Sponsor!

