



Mr. I. J. Le Fevre

President, The National Rose Society of Australia

President's Message

Having now been privileged to participate in a number of meetings of the National Rose Society of Australia, I have been increasingly impressed by the open, friendly and co-operative spirit in which the business of the Society is carried out.

The Society is now ten years old and despite the misgivings so clearly expressed by those associated with its formation, it has gone from strength to strength. Perhaps the recognition of the fragile nature of the bonds linking the State Societies was, of itself, sufficient to impose the caution and restraint of which Eric Welsh spoke in his "President's Message" last year. The Society has not progressed through caution alone, however, but rather through the dedication and continuing commitment of those who were responsible for its establishment. The contribution which they have made and continue to make is, to me, the outstanding feature of the Society's first ten years. In this regard it seems most fitting that our Foundation President, Dr. A. S. Thomas, was honoured by the award of the first Gold Medal of the World Federation of Rose Societies for exceptional service to the Rose.

The year 1983 will be another great year for the Rose, with our Society being represented at the Sixth Convention of the World Federation to be held at Baden Baden, Germany. In Australia we will be preparing to move the Annual General Meeting from spring to autumn. The meeting in Hobart in November 1983 will be the last spring meeting.

It is confidently expected that the ability of members to exhibit interstate will be enhanced by holding subsequent meetings, and associated Australian Championships, in the autumn. This is seen as a positive initiative in the further development of our knowledge and experience of the rose but, more importantly, as a means of generating still closer relationships between the members of the State Societies.

May 1983 bring you good health and still greater enjoyment in "knowing, growing and showing" roses.

IVAN LE FEVRE, President