



Mr. G. F. Melville
President, The National Rose Society of Australia

President's Message

Promotion of the Rose is the common text in the constitution of Rose societies world wide.

The National Rose Society of Australia, consisting of its member State societies, has a duty in this respect, a responsibility which has been accepted and operated on over the eleven years of its existence. Undoubtedly the reason for the formation of the National body was for this very purpose of bringing together the State societies in an effective promotional drive on a co-operative basis.

Tribute should be paid to the State societies who for 50 years and more have achieved success in promotional activities designed to improve the cultural methods of the Rose in Australia. This work has brought many people great satisfaction and joy in their experience and love of one of nature's great blessings — the Rose.

The foundation for future promotion has been set. We must now look to means and ways of building on this foundation. My message to you for this year of 1984 is to seek your support, and ask you as individual members to express YOUR ideas for promotion of the Rose to your State Society, who in turn can discuss them and at their discretion put them forward as suggestions to be considered at National level. This would be most helpful in further strengthening the bonds between State societies and also as members of the National Society.

And may I also remind you that the basis for progress depends on membership. I would make a plea to all members to spread the gospel by introducing friends and acquaintances as new members for your society. By so doing you not only help in our progress for promotion of the rose, but also do a good turn to those who as yet have not experienced the joy of the rose.

We face a demanding period in the immediate years to come. Two important projects are well under way. The development of the Werribee Rose Garden, and preparations for the World Federation of Rose Societies Conference which will be held in Sydney during their bicentennial year of 1988, have already involved members in a considerable amount of thought and preparatory work. Both of these projects will require assistance on an Australia-wide basis. The N.S.W. Rose Society will host the Conference on behalf of the National Society. Support to the hosts is essential from all members from all States. I ask you to assist the host society and give consideration now to the means and ways in which you can help this project of a lifetime.

I wish you all good health, and may you continue to be blessed by your association with the Rose.

GEORGE F. MELVILLE, President