



Australian Rose Award, 1991 Mrs. Connie Ryan

For the past 21 years, Connie has been Secretary of the Rose Society of Western Australia Inc. and in that time the Society has flourished and prospered, to a large extent through her diligence and administrative capabilities.

In addition to her secretarial duties, Connie, who is also a Rose Society Judge, prepares and produces the Society's Quarterly Rose Journal; acts as show secretary and publicity officer and organises the distribution of The Australian Rose Annual.

Tending to approx. 200 rose bushes of her own, she has been a consistent exhibitor in the Society's shows and has won the most prestigious prizes on numerous occasions. Her dedication to showing has lifted the standard immeasurably and has inspired and encouraged many members of the Society to enter various shows.

Her work for the Society does not stop as Secretary and Judge. At all times she has made herself available to assist those with little knowledge of roses and has visited numerous nursing homes and organisations to impart her knowledge and even to prune and plant roses for those not capable of doing so.

She has made her home available for the conduct of two of the Society's Rose Judging Schools, the meeting of the NRSA in 1990 and for several years the Society's Christmas BBQ parties have been held in her garden.

Connie received the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award for 1987 and was made a Life Member of the Society in May 1991, in recognition of her services.

Connie has also given considerable assistance to the Nedlands City Council in the upkeep and improvement of the Peace Memorial Rose Gardens in Nedlands, the largest public rose garden in Western Australia.

To further her knowledge and to meet other rosarians, she has attended interstate and overseas Rose Conventions. Experience derived from these visits have been of great value to the Society.

In all, Connie's charming personality, assistance to all who need it and her dedication to promoting the Society and 'the rose' makes her a worthy recipient of the Australian Rose Award.