



## The Australian Rose Award 1992 Len Johnstone

Mr. L.E. (Len) Johnstone joined the Queensland Rose Society in 1956 and rapidly became a rose enthusiast. In 1971 he was elected to Committee and was made Equipment Officer in 1974, serving in this position for 2 years. Len became Secretary in 1977 holding this position for around 4 years, this period taking in our Golden Jubilee Celebrations when he helped organize our many functions including the Golden Jubilee Show and Dinner, State Reception and the Farewell Barbecue attended by many Overseas and Interstate Visitors. Len remained on Committee until 1989 during which time he held the position of Deputy President for 2 years. The positions presently held by him are — member of Schedule Sub-committee, Life Membership Sub-committee and Chairman of the Judges Sub-committee.

Len's services are sought after and eagerly given as a Guest Speaker at Garden Clubs in Brisbane and Country Areas. He also journeyed into Northern New South Wales on several occasions, going as far south as Grafton to judge and give talks promoting the Rose.

Len was instrumental in starting a Rose Garden at Marist College Ashgrove, where some 300 Roses (approx.) are grown. For many years he organised Pruning Demonstrations in the grounds for members and the public. He has started a Rose Garden at Ashgrove Bowls Club where about 70 roses are the admiration of members and visitors. He has also helped other Bowls Clubs in his District to start Rose Gardens.

Len has been exhibiting roses for 36 years, mainly in the Exhibition Class, having won Champion Rose of the Show on many occasions, but in more recent years has taken a keen interest in Floribunda and Miniatures. He also exhibited with success in Melbourne and Adelaide. He has represented the Queensland Rose Society on many occasions being one of their Delegates at the Australian General Meeting in Southern States.

On a visit to the United Kingdom in 1985 Len was invited to a Judge's Seminar conducted by the Royal National Rose Society at St. Albans where he was asked to be one of the Speakers.

Len wrote the Cultural Notes for the Queensland Rose for several years and has also written articles for the Australian Rose Annual. He is always keen to impart his knowledge to others and ready to help fellow Rosarians with their problems.

In recognition of his services to the Queensland Rose Society he was made an Honorary Life Member in 1983.