

The President's Message

We are now well into 1998 and the 26th meeting of the National Rose Society of Australia is not far away. As I look back on a journey of roses spanning 38 years, I cannot help being impressed by the conditions under which we grow the Queen of flowers throughout our great country. The rose is tolerant of extreme heat, lack of water, different soils and still produces fine flowers. Of course, when they have ideal conditions they reward us with many blooms of superior quality.

As we advance in time we find that the rose has also progressed and there are now many new types of rose such as, ground cover, patio roses, David Austin types, and miniatures with large flowers. Lets just stop for a minute and divert our thoughts to the show benches around Australia. Are we giving thought to the classes for new roses so they can easily fit in our programs. Will they cause confusion for exhibitors and will the public care about these things. These points are relevant and I believe some time spent now getting the classes right will make showing roses easier in the future.

Our society is looking forward to hosting the AGM of the National Rose Society of Australia, and we hope many rosarians will be able to make the journey to Brisbane. There have been quite a few changes to our city, and with Southbank now developed we are sure your stay will give you much pleasure. I look forward to renewing friendships on this great rose occasion.

Col. Bleck, President

Irish Blessing

*May the roads rise to meet you,
may the wind be always at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face,
the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again may God
hold you in the hollow of His hand.*



Mr Col. Bleck
President, National Rose Society of Australia