



The Australian Rose Award 2000

The National Rose Society of Australia has granted Mr Ian Aitken the Australian Rose Award in recognition of his work for **The Rose**.

Mr Aitken joined the Rose Society of Victoria in 1957 and was elected to the Council in 1980, where he has given continuous and valuable service. He was appointed Show Manager in 1985 and has arranged 2 shows per year - 32 in all. He has organized shows in the Melbourne Town Hall, 3 difficult shows under canvas, 10 in commercial nurseries, 3 at Werribee Park Mansion, 2 in a suburban girl's school, the Centenary Show in the Royal Exhibition Building, and one in a community centre.

Each of these locations has brought their own geographical and logistical demands and required much negotiation with site management. Ian has been very successful in forging strong Society associations and links to the commercial rose-growing and general nursery industry. In addition, Ian has also been responsible for establishing a close liaison with floral art societies and the Heritage Rose Society.

Ian was very actively involved in the Centenary celebrations of The Rose Society of Victoria and acted as session chairman on two occasions, in addition to managing the competitive show in a difficult location, over 3 days.

Ian was elected a Vice-President of the Society in 1990 and an Honorary Life member in 1993. He has acted as Chairman of the Society on numerous occasions, and has given talks to many societies and groups. He was elected President of the Society in 2000.

The Rose Society of Victoria is gratified that Mr Ian Aitken has been granted the Australian Rose Award for 2000 for his outstanding service to the cause of the rose.