

# Nomination For The 2012 Australian Rose Award

## MR KELVIN TRIMPER



Mr Kelvin Trimper has been a member of the Rose Society of South Australia for 37 years. He was elected to Council in 2006, then as President in 2007. His leadership qualities were evident during the 3 years of his Presidency when in 2008 the Society, in conjunction with its Centenary celebrations, held a very successful World Federation of Rose Societies Regional Convention, which is acclaimed by International & Australian attendees as being the most successful convention held to date. Kelvin is currently serving his term as Immediate Past President.

In the 1990's Kelvin played a major role in establishing a relationship with Neutrog Fertilisers who, with a small group of Rose Society Members, were instrumental in the development of "Sudden Impact for Roses". This has subsequently resulted in a very generous sponsorship programme which now provides funding for all State Rose Societies and the National Rose Society of Australia Inc.

When in 2000 the Adelaide Botanic Gardens, together with the State Government, requested the RSSA be involved in the establishment of the International Rose Garden, Kelvin was duly elected as Chairman of the Adelaide International Rose Garden Advisory Committee. He took a leading role in the planning and development of this garden of over 7,000 roses. Prior to that, in 1996 and again in 2010, Kelvin (along with other Society members) assisted the Adelaide City Council with the refurbishment of the Rymill Park Rose Garden in the City's Parklands.

Kelvin has been a National Rose Trial Garden of Australia Inc. Board Member since its inception in 1995. He has held the position as Chairman of the Board for the past 12 years. During this period Kelvin has promoted the Trial Gardens and the Rose resulting in an increase in applications for roses being trialed under Australian conditions. He was instrumental in the introduction of the annual Public Judging of Roses event within the Trial Garden which has encouraged a huge number of people to visit not only the Trial Gardens but also the International Rose Garden. Kelvin was the recipient of The National Rose Trial Garden of Australia Service Award in 2005.

Discussions between Kelvin and the former Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Mr Michael Harbison, resulted in the annual Trial Gardens Awards Evening being hosted in the Adelaide Town Hall. Mr Harbison took great pride in meeting Rosarians from around Australia and presenting the awards to the winning recipients. When Dr Tommy Cairns, Dr Sam McGredy and Kelvin instigated the formation of the "Pacific Accords of Rose Friendships" a significant milestone was reached. This Trial Garden's Agreement between the National Rose Trial Gardens of Australia, Rose Hills - USA, Gifu - Japan and Hamilton Rose Gardens – New Zealand was signed in Gifu in 2005 with Kelvin being the Australian signatory. Each of these Trial Gardens recognizes the winners of the other Trial Gardens by assigning special awards.

Kelvin has been a guest speaker at World Federation of Rose Societies World Convention in Osaka, Japan in 2006 (it was here he was appointed as a member of the WFRS Classification & Registration committee) and Regional Conventions – 1999: Melbourne, Australia; 2004: Auckland, New Zealand and 2008: Adelaide, Australia. He has attended the WFRS 2009 World Convention in Vancouver, Canada as the Australian Delegate as well as the WFRS Regional Convention in China in 2010 and the 2012 Heritage Rose Conference in Sukura, Japan. In 2009 Kelvin was appointed the Australian WFRS Vice President, Australasia. With the group tours that Kelvin has coordinated to WFRS Conventions to Changzhou, China in 2010 & Sandton, South Africa in 2012, Australian Rosarians have had the opportunity of being a part of one of the largest contingents to attend these conventions.

His extensive knowledge of the Rose and his outgoing personality has frequently led Kelvin being invited as a guest speaker at RSSA Branches and Interstate Societies meetings and radio talk back gardening programmes. He is comfortable with a multitude of communication methods, including print, radio and television. In conjunction with Radio Station 5aa and the Rose Society of South Australia, Kelvin instigated and continually promotes the "Rose of the Month". Following on from this, he consulted and worked with SA Life magazine to produce the 2011 "Rose of the Month" calendar with a small part of sales going to the RSSA and Radio 5AA. Kelvin was one of three assessors of the Morwell Rose Garden. This garden was awarded the World Federation of Rose Societies Garden of Excellence Award in 2009.

Kelvin has written articles on rose culture, recommended roses and the History of the Hybrid Tea Rose for the RSSA "Bulletin", The Australian Rose Annual, World Rose News, Gardening Magazines, SA Life & SA Gardens. He is on the RSSA Rose Show Sub-Committee as Publicity Officer.

At his residence in Salisbury Heights, Kelvin's garden (planted with approximately 2,000 roses) is recognized as one of the best privately owned gardens in Australia and has been open to the public on numerous occasions. He also gives his time to demonstrate rose pruning techniques at the various Rose Society of South Australia rose pruning demonstrations each year.

As Chairman of the David Ruston Sculpture Appeal (and in a time of a financial downturn) Kelvin steered his committee to successfully raising in excess of \$100,000 for the sculpture which was unveiled in October 2010 by the World Federation of Rose Societies President, Mrs Sheenagh Harris. For Mrs Harris to be in Australia to unveil the sculpture, Kelvin instigated and coordinated the financial reimbursement for Mrs Harris' visit from all Australian State Rose Societies. In return Mrs Harris travelled around Australia to be a guest speaker at each of the State Rose Societies meetings, including the 2010 National Rose Society of Australia AGM weekend and the Heritage Roses in Australia Conference – both held in Brisbane.

Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia was awarded to Kelvin in 2012.

It is with great pleasure that the Rose Society of South Australia presents this nomination for Mr Kelvin Trimper for the 2012 Australian Rose Award who, we believe, would be a most deserving recipient of this prestigious and