



The Australian Rose Award, 1989

Dick Balfour has been a member of the Royal National Rose Society for very many years. He was Treasurer in 1969 and 1970, Deputy President in 1971 and 1972 and President of the Royal National Rose Society in 1973 and 1974. He has been an ex-officio member of the Council ever since. He was awarded the Dean Hole Medal in 1974 for outstanding service to the Royal National Rose Society and the Rose.

He has been a delegate to all World Rose Conventions from the first one held in New Zealand in 1971 and was Convention Chairman in Oxford in 1976.

He was President of the World Federation of Rose Societies 1983-85 and has served on many of their committees. During his time as President of the World Federation he undertook many official and private overseas journeys in order to promote the popularity of the Rose, visiting Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Czechoslovakia and the United States of America and lecturing on many occasions. He encouraged Portugal to form a Rose Society and Spain to revive theirs. He has been a regular member of the International Jury involved in European Rose Trials and has judged at Rome, Monza, Madrid, Paris, Orleans, The Hague, Belfast and Dublin and has been President of the Jury at the first three. He was Chairman of the New Seedling Judging Committee which conducts the trials at St. Albans.

He supervised the design and laying out of the British Garden at the Montreal Floralties in 1980. This is now a permanent feature in Montreal, and does much for the continuing promotion of the popularity of the Rose in Canada.

He was involved with the planning of the Rose Garden and its surrounds at the International Garden Festival at Liverpool in 1984. This was viewed by vast numbers of the public and was a spectacular "shop window" for the promotion of British roses.

He assisted in the staging of the British Garden, designed by Peter Harkness at the 3rd International Salon de la Rose in Paris in 1984. This display was awarded a Silver medal from Le Societe Nationale d'Horticulture de France. This was, again, a European show case for the promotion of British Roses.

He is an expert rose photographer with an extensive slide library. He has made this freely available for promotion of the Rose. He supplied many slides for inclusion in Peter Beale's book "Classic Roses" and also for the regular issues of "The Rose" and some commercial publications.