

T.A. Stewart Memorial Award 2021 (SMA)

Peter Elliott SMA - New Zealand

The New Zealand Rose Society (Inc) has much pleasure in nominating Mr Peter Elliott from Palmerston North for the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award. Peter has given outstanding service over many years to the rose at a local, national and international level and is still very active today.

Peter first joined the Waikato Rose Society in the early 1970's although his interest in gardening and roses stems from a long family interest in these areas. In 1986, Peter and his family moved to Palmerston North where he joined the Manawatu Rose Society. He was elected to the committee in 1988 and became President in the following year serving a four year term. Peter has served three terms as President



and is currently serving as Secretary/Treasurer, both positions he has held before. Peter was made a Life Member of the Manawatu Rose Society in 2008. In 2013, Peter was awarded the Frank Penn Memorial Award by the NZRS for service to a district rose society.

Peter is a consulting rosarian who shares his knowledge of rose culture by writing articles and cultural notes for the Manawatu newsletter and New Zealand Rose Society publications. He also gives talks to rose societies and other gardening groups and makes himself available for radio and newspaper interviews. Peter, along with his wife Elizabeth often open up their garden and home for garden visits and meetings.

Peter is an enthusiastic exhibitor, regularly exhibiting at shows around the wider Manawatu area and is also a supporter of Rose Ranfurly Days in the Lower North Island. He is also a National Judge and he is always willing to judge at local and national shows.

In 1995, Peter was elected to National Council of the NZRS and one of his first responsibilities was chairing the Trial Grounds Committee following on from Mrs Nola Simpson. Peter chaired the committee for 14 years until 2009 and still serves on this committee today. He has also served as Chief Judge and Chief Steward for National Rose Shows, both important positions for the New Zealand Rose Society. He has also helped run several judging schools throughout New Zealand.

In 2004, Peter was elected President of the New Zealand Rose Society and he served four years in this position. Highlights during his time of President included the World

Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) Regional Convention hosted in Auckland in 2004 and the National Spring Rose Show and Convention held in Palmerston North in 2007. Peter served as Treasurer for the host society for this event which was one of the most successful National shows to be held in recent years. In 2014, Peter was presented with Life Membership of the New Zealand Rose Society.

Peter was appointed to the position of President Emeritus of the New Zealand Rose Society in 2018, a position which recognises his standing in the New Zealand rose scene.

Between 2006 and 2015, Peter served as one of the Vice Presidents for Australasia for the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS). Peter has attended WFRS Conventions in Japan, Canada, Australia, China, South Africa and France. When it was decided that a bid would be submitted to host a World Regional Convention in Palmerston North, Peter formed a steering committee to put together a bid. This was accepted by the WFRS and planning soon began for the event which was held in November 2013. Peter convened the small, hard working committee while taking on key roles including sponsorship and liaising with the appointed tour operators. The WFRS presented Peter with a Silver Medallion to recognise his role as convenor of this very successful event. In 2015, Peter was presented with the WFRS Silver Medal for his service to the WFRS at the World Rose Convention in Lyon, France.

In all of his activities with the rose, Peter is ably supported by his wife Elizabeth, who has often accompanied him with his involvement with the rose.

The New Zealand Rose Society considers Peter Elliott to be a highly respected and valued New Zealand Rosarian who would be a worthy recipient of the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award.