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We should always
remember Dean
Samuel Hole's
words

"He who would grow
beautiful Roses must
have them in his
heart".

The Rose Times

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

AUTUMN 2019

As the Romans used to say; *Tempus fugit*. And time certainly does fly!

By the meteorological calendar, the **first day of winter** is always 1st December and here we are on the 3rd December as I send out the Autumn edition of The Rose Times.

So with apologies for the lateness in delivery come my sincere hopes that this finds you well and well on your way to getting your roses ready for the harshness of winter.

Pauline and I were so lucky to be able to spend some time in the USA during October and November (which in part is why this edition is late) where we caught up with so many rose friends during our stay, many of whom are members of The Rose Society UK. We saw so many roses that we would love to have growing in our garden and can only hope that some will find their way to these shores soon? I know we have some members who go to great lengths to obtain the varieties that sweep the prizes in ARS shows but there are many more that are worthy of consideration too that never seem to grace us with their presence? Who could resist the charms of Ralph



Moore's miniature,
moss rose 'Fuzzy
Wuzzy' or some of
Dave Bang's new
stripey miniatures like
'Swirly Pop'?



Rose growers are
apparently just like normal people who yearn to have what they
don't!

Later in this edition you'll find news from the AGM; my thanks first of all to everyone who attended the event, which I know made the day

more special for one of our members? But thanks also to those who helped make the day happen. Our volunteers are the lifeblood of the society and yes I appreciate we are always asking for more. This doesn't mean that we don't appreciate those who already help. As the society grows, and it is growing all the time, the demands on the few increase and what is a voluntary job can become very difficult. Our Treasurer since we formed has been Tammy Mellor. Let me just say that she was almost 'press ganged' into office with no experience in being a treasurer whatsoever and did a top job for us. Our finances really couldn't have been in safer hands. However with work and family commitments, coupled with impending procedure to correct an arm injury, she has had to retire from her position. I hope we get chance in the new year to catch up with Tammy and thank her properly but on your behalf, may I just say 'Thankyou' so much for helping us get off the ground.

They say that when one door closes another one opens. At the AGM one of our newer members offered his services as Treasurer. Thankyou Daniel Myhill 'You're Hired'! However it has become clear that we need to get more help to make the running of the society more efficient. We have to make our systems work better and be more 'connected'. To that end we have decided to find an Office Administrator.

This new role will co-ordinate the roles of Membership Secretary, Treasurer and General Secretary. The Office Administrator will receive all membership correspondence and finances and will be able to update day-to-day issues from website. This will help us to serve our members more efficiently and with fewer 'hiccups'. The roles of the Treasurer and Membership Secretary will then be to ensure that everything is working through regular updates. From my position, as Secretary, I will also be able to have some help in the day-to-day jobs such as website updates and sales. The good news is that we have found someone who will be able to help us; his exact role and terms are yet to be finalised but we will update the membership immediately they are. We believe that this decision will bring to the society, the benefits of greater efficiency and increased membership.

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to this newsletter. Please, please keep sending your thoughts, opinions and ideas to share with your fellow members.

We intend to catch up and have the Winter Edition ready for January/February so please get your contributions in as soon as possible.

Christmas is in just a few weeks and if you're stuck for a Stocking Filler for a gardening friend, what about the gift of Membership to the society for just £10 or maybe a copy of All About Roses for £5?

Ed

The Chairman Notes

It was good to meet so many members at the Annual General meeting last month. These meetings can often be a 'turnoff', but our formula must be working for we had the same attendance as last year. Our president Colin Squire was in attendance and with an interesting talk from our guest speaker Stewart Pocock it was an enjoyable day.

Looking back over the past year I reflect on a successful year for our Society. The society membership has slowly increased, and local horticultural societies and Garden clubs continue to affiliate with us and award our Bronze Medal.

Our finances are sound thanks to the generosity of all our sponsors. A donation of £6000 from Fryers Roses part of the Blue Diamond Group was presented to us at Malvern Autumn show and this gives us confidence in making decisions looking forward. This sum however is not reflected on the current balance sheet which closed on 21st September. The 2018/ balance sheet can be found in the members area along with a record of the Annual meeting. Paper copies for postal members can be requested from the secretary.

Tammy Mellor as treasurer on closing the 2018/19 accounts said she now relinquished the position. Tammy has done a first-class job since for taking the position at our inaugural meeting and I must thank her for setting up the society online account and helping me with the setup. The appointment of a new treasurer was made at the AGM.

The meeting approved the appointment of an office administrator which will assist Ray as Secretary in managing the societies affairs more effectively.

At the AGM I was pleased to see the Dean Hole Medal re-instated in this the 200th anniversary year of his birth. The medal first awarded in 1909 by the National Rose Society, hadn't been struck for several years. We were able to locate the die, and have it struck in the original Silver Gilt. Angela Pawsey was chosen by the Honours Committee to receive the award in 2019 and is a very worthy recipient. She was present at the AGM to receive the medal; the full citation appears elsewhere. Here again it was sponsorship that allowed us to reintroduce the award.



A generous donation had been received from Ken Grapes and we have since had sponsorship for the immediate future.

The topic of society social events was raised at the AGM and I welcome any ideas or thoughts from members on what they would like us to do. Such events do require organising and usually occur during Summer when we are all committed. Any offers of help would be appreciated, and I will give the subject some thought myself, but we need to know if members will support us.

Our presence is now firmly established at major flower shows where we promote the society. Our advice and information stands are always busy and doing what I enjoy most just talking roses is rewarding. This year our efforts have resulted in six Gold Medal awards, two of which were RHS Gold medals at Malvern spring and Autumn shows.

May wish you all a Happy Christmas and successful New Year

John Anthony

Obituary - Roy Evans

Roy Evans, who died on 19th October was a Rose Judge with over thirty years experience. He joined the Rose Society UK when it formed in 2017. With his wife Shelia, they were both always supportive of the society, but failing eyesight recently restricted his rose activities

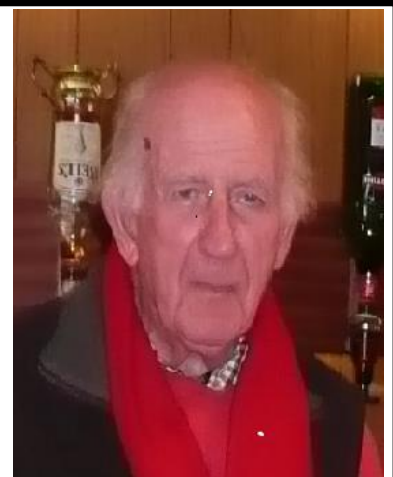
I met Roy at my first West Midlands Rose Society show in 1970 where we both staged in the 150's section. We

became good friends and within a few years were both on the committee of the society, he went on to become Treasurer and Chairman.

Roy was an Architect by profession and a keen amateur artist. His artistic tendencies always showed when he staged blooms on the show bench. He was a keen and successful exhibitor during the eighties and nineties and exhibited at National Shows.

I have many happy memories of our rose activities together and will miss his calm reflective manner as we organised the former WMRS shows and visits. His son Adrian, who is also member, will bring Shelia to our activities whenever possible.

Vera and I attended his simple funeral on 1st November at Stourbridge.



Our Vice-Chairman Gareth Davies is an accomplished gardener and a top exhibitor. He has won countless awards for the roses he produces in his garden in Talybont, Brecon



ROSES AND “RE-PLANT DISEASE”

I have grown roses in my present garden for almost fifty years but very few of those originally planted now remain as I have re-designed the garden to represent different themes in addition to roses. The soil in those parts of the garden where roses are still growing has not been changed but has received plentiful supplies of farmyard manure over the years when roses have been re-planted. This naturally leads me to reflect on a condition which many of us with limited planting space will inevitably encounter which is “soil sickness” or “rose re-plant disease”. Maybe the soil becomes depleted of nutrients or perhaps soil micro-organisms such as harmful bacteria and fungi accumulate producing toxins which are detrimental to the extensive development of roots on the newly planted roses. Whatever the reason, we need to be aware of this when we are re-planting roses in ground where they have been previously grown.

Some years ago I took part in a controlled test on a product called “Rootgrow” which was being commercially introduced to tackle the rose re-plant problem. Rootgrow is a granular preparation of millions of spores of useful soil fungi in combination with growth substances which is applied to the root systems of woody plants. I planted ten bushes of the floribunda RED SPLENDOUR in the same area of soil, five were treated with Rootgrow, five without. I recorded their growth and development in the following year, noting stem and leaf growth, basal shoot production, sizes of clusters and quality of flowers. At the end of that growing season my results showed that there was some overall improvement in the Rootgrow treated roses but the results were not conclusive. I have continued to use Rootgrow when planting new roses in old rose grown soil but only after I have grown crops of other plants such as dahlias and vegetables for a few years.

As a botanist I fully understand the importance of naturally occurring mycorrhiza in the growth of our native woodland trees and shrubs where the fungal threads form a close association with the roots, wrapping around them, increasing the total water absorbing

surface for the uptake of water and nutrients from the soil. It is very important when we use Rootgrow, or any other mycorrhizal product, to make sure that it is sprinkled over the bare roots when the bush is placed in the planting hole. In this respect it is desirable to soak the roots well beforehand so that the granules cling to them. I find it is even better to use water and cream the granules into a paste in a bucket into which the roots can be dipped as this ensures better contact.

I am presently involved in a project in my back garden where last month I planted the floribundas FRED LOADS, LUCKY, RED SPLENDOUR, SALLY HOLMES and SUPER TROUPER in beds where for



the last three years I have grown dahlias and gladioli. All the roses were treated with Rootgrow (see photos) so I shall monitor their progress over the next twelve months and keep you posted.

Gareth Davies

STOP PRESS

We hear from Wales that their Annual Summer Rose Show will be returning to the valleys!

This year's show will be held at The Rhondda Heritage Park on 11th July 2020

More details later



Derek Lawrence, Executive Director of the World Federation of Rose Societies and Rose Society UK Committee member reports on his visit to

THE CITY OF GLASGOW INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS

The City of Glasgow nestles historically in a part of Lanarkshire, which is situated on the River Clyde in the country's west central lowlands. This quintessential Scottish city has a fascinating industrial past, renowned for the production of chemicals, textiles, engineering, most notably, in shipbuilding. Many famous vessels were built on the banks of the Clyde, and the impressive list includes 'The Cutty Sark' (1869), RMS 'Queen Mary (1934) and 'Queen Elizabeth II' (1967). Glasgow has expanded from its original small medieval rural settlement, to become the largest seaport in Scotland; the tenth largest tonnage in Britain. The University of Glasgow was established in the fifteenth century and is the fourth oldest university in the English-speaking world. The city hosted the 2014 Commonwealth Games and the first European Championships in 2018. It is also recognised for its sporting prowess in football, rugby, athletics and swimming. Without doubt, "Glaswegians" can be proud of their contribution to the Industrial Revolution, which has earned the City for the reputation as an international player. This status is most relevant in the world of roses; the City of Glasgow held the WFRS 13th World Rose Convention in 2003, and hosts the annual International Rose Trials held during the month of August.

As a benefit of its westerly position and close proximity to the Atlantic Ocean, Glasgow enjoys a milder climate compared to other parts of Scotland. However, it has been named as the rainiest city in the United Kingdom, having



an average of 170 days of rain a year. Official data collated from the Met Office since 1959, record that Glasgow as only experienced a few warm summers. Generally, winters are cool and overcast, but recent records suggest that more-harsh winters, where temperatures fall below freezing point, are increasing. These conditions are obviously challenging to rose cultivars, and an ideal location to conduct trials at the nearby Tollcross Park.

Located some three miles east of the city centre, the park is set in 91 acres, which includes an extensive nature trail and children's farm. The rose garden is unique; 16 beds are artistically laid out like the petals representing a full rose bloom, covering 400 sq. metres and containing approximately 250 varieties. This layout can only be truly appreciated by passengers on low flying aircraft, or images taken by drones. The rose garden was awarded the prestigious 'World Federation of Rose Societies Award of Garden Excellence' in 2009.



The rose trials cover an area of approximately 1 hectare, on a south facing slope overlooking Tollcross Road. The initial plantings were undertaken during the autumn of 1986, and since then, around 25 – 30 new cultivars are annually planted. The first official international judging event commenced in 1990. New rose varieties are submitted by various rose breeders and rose growers from various parts of the world. After an 18-month period to allow for plants to establish themselves, the roses are assessed over two growing seasons by a permanent panel of 12 appointed judges. The final assessment is carried out by a panel of international rose experts, whom have been invited from a cross section of rose related organisations. The following Awards are given to successful cultivars: 'Golden Prize of the City of Glasgow', 'Gold Medal', 'Silver Medal', 'Tollcross Fragrance Prize', 'The People's Rose' and 'Certificates of Merit'. Members of the public are invited to participate in a special 'The People's Choice' award granted to the breeder which has received the most points, after public voting has taken place. An Award for the best established rose, which has been recognised meritoriously over a ten- year period, is posthumously presented, which is generously sponsored by the Incorporation of Glasgow Gardeners.

The judging and subsequent 'Awards Ceremony' for the 2019 trials were well presented by a number of Officers of the WFRS and Rose Society UK. I felt very

privileged to be invited to judge the trials, accompanied by WFRS President, Henrienne de Briey (Belgium), Chair of WFRS Rose International Trials, Marga Verwer (Netherlands), WFRS Vice President of Northern Europe and President of the Danish Rose Society, Inger Schierning (Denmark), WFRS Vice President North America and Chair of Awards Committee, Lois Fowkes (USA) and Chair of Publications Committee, Jolene Adams (USA). My friends and colleagues from our society demonstrated their legendary judging skills – Ray Martin, Pauline Martin; aptly assisted by Paul Rochford from Rochford's International Rose Trials in Hertfordshire and John Baxter from the Amateur Rose Breeders Association. The weather proved to be most accommodating, with bright sunshine and a cool breeze. On reflection, despite the recent inclement Glaswegian weather, with a mix of blustery winds and heavy showers, the roses were in particular great shape.

In many ways, it wasn't an easy task to grade the roses presented. Despite this, there were a few showstoppers that had exceptional health and vigour, which commanded my attention. These varieties must have equally impressed my fellow judges, because the cultivars were eventually bestowed various Awards.

I was impressed with 'W Yeats', bred by Colin Dickson, which won a Gold Medal. Its vibrant redness simply glowed in the afternoon sunshine.



Another outstanding red variety was titled, 'AM-OLL -FL' and raised by Alain Meilland, who was recipient of the prestigious 'Golden Prize of The City Of Glasgow'.

A charming white variety named, 'Claus Dalby' won the 'People's Choice Award' which was bred by Poulsen Roses.



A confection of yellow subtle tones and delicious aroma came from the cultivar,

'Debbie Phillips' which was bestowed the Tollcross Fragrance Prize from the breeding house of Harkness Roses.



The highly sought after 'Best Established Rose at The City of Glasgow Trials' was presented to 'Absolutely Fabulous', which became Britain's 'Rose of The Year 2010' and bred by Tom Carruth.

During the afternoon a lavish Award Ceremony and lunch was arranged for the judges, officials and rose growers held at the City of Chambers. This grand building is a symbol of Glasgow's historic wealth that has for than a century, served the city as headquarters for a succession of councils, and local governments. The generous Scottish hospitality and camaraderie experienced, simply underpinned what a heart-warming magical place the world of roses is, and a privilege to belong.



You are more than welcome to join us at at the next World Federation of Rose Societies Regional Convention will be held in Kolkata, India between 9th – 12th January 2020. Like Glasgow, the event promises to be a very friendly and most informative occasion.

For further details, please visit: www.wfrs2020kolkata.com

Until next time, cut back any shoots that have dieback and dispose of any fallen leaves to prevent any black spot or rust spores from overwintering in the soil below.

May I take the opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a truly rosy 2020.

Derek Lawrence

Rose Society UK member number - 007 – With a License To Grow Roses

Pauline's Patter

**A round up of our 2019 Shows
by our Chair of Shows**



Me and Ray's 'Brother From an American Mother'
- ARS President Bob Martin

I've been away in warmer climes since the autumn show and am still adjusting to the cooler temperatures. We seem to have had a very wet few months here in East Anglia and it appears to be continuing. As I write though, it is below freezing and the annual weeds that have grown amongst the roses on our allotments while we were away are dying off.

The roses are still flowering and some, such as Lucky, are unlikely to lose their leaves. Hundreds of hips on Lucky too. This is a good rose to gather seed from if you want to have a try at growing open pollinated roses.

Anyway, onto the Autumn show -

The Rose Society's national show at Harrogate was held at the Great Yorkshire Showground. Entries were lower than 2018 but it was still a good show with presentations to winners taking place at midday on the Friday. Neil Duncan won the open section and won the newly introduced Dahlia and Rose bowl. This was well contested, and we were grateful to our sponsors Halls of Heddon and C K Jones. Jim Anderson brought some stunning blooms to win the award for growers of under 150.

R V Rogers sponsored classes across the rest of the show and David Austin roses sponsored the Dean Hole Classes. The Society advice and information stand won a Premier Gold Award which results in a monetary award that greatly helps the Society's funds.

Our main sponsors for the show are Uncle Tom's Rose Tonic and The Nutrient Company. We are very grateful for their ongoing support.

Our Advice and Information stands for the 2019 season have all been given Gold Awards which is very pleasing and a credit to all the members who helped.



All packed up after the Autumn Show at Harrogate

L-R Pauline; Steve Durham; John Anthony; Vera Anthony; Dorothy Silver; Iain Silver; Jane Durham; Ray Martin



The Society's Premier Gold winning Educational and Scientific Stand at Harrogate Autumn Show 2019

And finally, a message to any potential exhibitors and/or judges.

In 2020 we will be running a judge's school and seminar in conjunction with written and practical exams to increase the number of qualified judges which we must do to safeguard the future of our shows.

We can not run shows without exhibitors or judges so if anyone feels that they would like to take part or become a judge please get in touch with me.



Receiving the fruit of their labours from Chairman John Anthony, Mark Brunton and Jim Anderson



Neil Duncan's winning Dahlia and Rose Bowl Challenge Class



Dean Hole Cup Winner and National Champion 2019
Neil Duncan



Paula Duncan 'volunteers' to affix the prize labels on the cards

We love our volunteers!

Pauline Martin

Ian Kennedy reports on

ROSE OF THE YEAR 2020

SWEET HONEY® (Kormecaso)

A floribunda rose with a strong, bushy, upright growth habit with glossy dark-green foliage, showing outstanding disease resistance. Elegant medium-sized HT-shaped blooms appear in clusters of 12-15 flowers in creamy-apricot tones reminiscent of honey, which inspired its name. Although the variety doesn't smell like honey, it does have a moderate fruity fragrance.

This charming rose is perfect for mixed borders as well as in pots on a terrace. It can also be planted to form a low hedge. The cut flowers will make a charming bouquet.

In addition to the Rose of the Year title, Sweet Honey has received the prestigious German ADR certificate and medals in International Rose Trials at Baden-Baden, Belfast, Courtrai, Lyon and Paris.

The rose is bred by the respected Kordes Rosen of Germany and was launched on behalf of the British rose trade by Roses UK at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival 2019.



These images from Roses UK and the blooms seen at Hampton Court flower show suggest that this variety is going to be popular in the garden and on the show bench.

There's still time to get some in the ground for next summer.





Coordinator Kerry Austen gives us another update

We are very pleased to announce that we have been registered as a WFRS site for trials in England. These trials will be using the WFRS guidelines and rules. The first trials are under way and will have their final judging in 2021

“We are very pleased that England is back again in the world of modern roses plants competitions and evaluations under the WFRS auspice respecting the rules and guidelines.

As President of the WFRS, I take this occasion to warmly thank Mr. Paul Rochford, Managing Director of Joseph Rochford Gardens Ltd for making this trial possible, and I congratulate Mr. Ray Martin, secretary of the Rose Society UK, Derek Lawrence, Executive Director of the WFRS and Kerry Austen, coordinator of the trials at Rochfords for their joint effort.

Marga Verwer and myself we wish plenty of success for the coming years to this English rose competition to the delight of the breeders and the international Jury.”

Henrienne de Briey

WFRS President

Rochfords would also like to thank Ray Martin, secretary of the Rose Society UK and Derek Lawrence, Executive Director of the WFRS for their help and support throughout.

Kerry Austen will be working with the current International Trials’ chairman, Martha Verwer and winners will be announced on the WFRS website. If you require any information regarding the above trials, please contact Kerry

We are also pleased to announce that we are now a trial station for the BARB/Roses UK annual Rose of the Year competition.

The ROTY trials were introduced in 1982 with the aim of producing, through a process of testing, the best rose(s) in any given year. Rose breeders are invited, through BARB/Roses UK, to enter what they consider to be the cream of their up and coming, not in commerce, varieties into the Rose of the Year competition; generally, up to 20 varieties are submitted annually to each new trial.

ROTY trials are conducted at various locations around the country meaning the participating rose varieties are rigorously tested in different soil and climate conditions.

Each ROTY trial lasts for a two-year period and will be regularly judged by rose experts; from each trial a leading variety will emerge as Rose of The Year. Selection of a ROTY happens some 6 years in advance of it being introduced into commerce; this is to allow time for sufficient stock levels to be produced to meet anticipated customer demand.

Rochfords would like to thank BARB (British Association of Rose Breeders) and their General Manager, Mr Ian Kennedy, for their confidence and support.



Kerry Austen

For further information please contact;

Ian Kennedy for variety entry

info@barbuk.org.uk

Kerry Austen for technical enquiries

kerry@rochfords.net

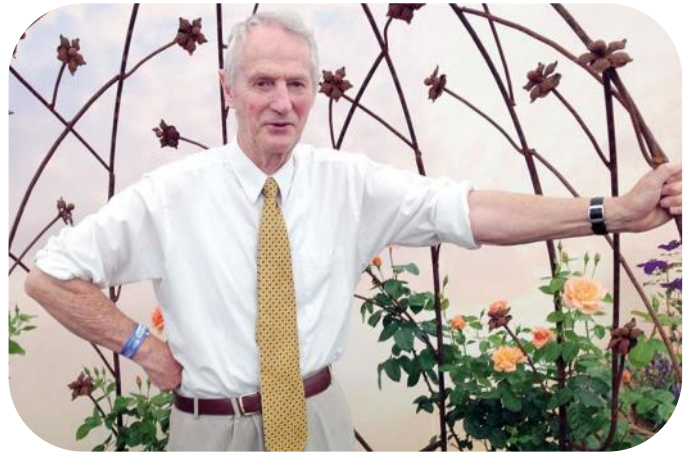


International Rose Trials 2020

For entry criteria and any other information contact:

Kerry@rochfords.net

Ever wondered where our retail roses are grown or how our UK growers are coping in these troubled times?



Our man Chris Warner asked Ian Kennedy and Robert Wharton for the inside story, here's what they said

Good evening Chris

As discussed herewith some observations on the rose trade from a BARB perspective.

1. The trade appears to have enjoyed a buoyant 2019 with retailers reporting good business in rose sales; the bare root season is now well underway with wholesalers again reporting positively regarding sales.
2. Rose of the Year 2020; in keeping with recent tradition Roses UK introduced the Kordes bred variety 'Sweet Honey' (KORmecaso) at the Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival back in July. The variety was very well received by both public and media and the overall television coverage for 'the rose' was good.
3. Rose seedling trials; Joseph Rochford Ltd has successfully re-established seedling trials at their nursery site in Hertford. These have been welcomed and supported by rose breeders. Many good comments have been made about the quality of the trial and the open day in June was well attended including representatives from the media. Participation is free of charge and invitations have already been sent out for the next trial.
4. The BARB Rose of the Year trials continue, with invitations distributed this year for ROTY 2025. The 2023 trial has just concluded this autumn. Rose of the Year 2021 will be 'christened' at Hampton Court next summer. The variety is a very

fragrant floribunda bred by Delbard. BARB is pleased that Rochfords has accepted an invitation to participate as a ROTY trial station.

5. The BARB Gold Standard Rose trial has been resumed following an enforced two year hiatus. Thanks due again to Rochfords for agreeing to manage the trial on our behalf. Planting of the 2020-2021 trial is well underway. The support and enthusiasm of Rochfords (with a special mention to Kerry Austen) in filling the void left following the demise of the RNRS, is of great benefit and support to the rose trade and hugely appreciated.

6. Production of all roses in the UK is estimated to be in the region of 5-6 million and holding reasonably steady despite the loss of some notable growers in recent years.

Best wishes
Ian Kennedy
RosesUK



Good morning Chris,

'At Whartons Roses, we are finding trade good with several forward orders from our trade customers. We do not consider that this an overall increase in demand, but a result of fewer production nurseries trading due to financial failures and other owners now in retirement.

We are concerned that there are still garden roses of doubtful quality and dubious varieties from eastern European sources being imported for cheap sales. These plants can cause disappointment for the gardener and could introduce pest and disease problems.

At Whartons, we trial and select the best performing varieties from rose breeders world wide and aim to bring continual improvements to our offer.

We are concerned that we may have difficulty finding sufficient production staff in the future due to Brexit and are keen to find and train newcomers to our industry so that UK produced plants are always available in the future.

Kind Regards,
Robert
Managing Director



Happy Smiling People - At this year's AGM

One of the best things about getting together at the AGM is having the opportunity to celebrate and award the dedicated exhibitors who support our shows throughout the year



Silver Medal for Best Exhibit at the Malvern Show went to John Anthony

Best Exhibit and Silver Medal for the Summer Show at Shepperton went to Pauline and Ray Martin



Neil Duncan picked up Silver Medals for Best Exhibits at Chorley Summer Show and Harrogate Autumn Show



On the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Dean Samuel Hole, Neil Duncan won the Dean Hole Challenge for most points across four shows in 2019 and was presented with the Dean Hole Cup as National Champion

Thirty three members attended the AGM where the Society 's annual business was concluded by 12.45pm.

After a light buffet lunch Kerry Austen updated us about the opening and the developments at the Rochford International Rose Trials.

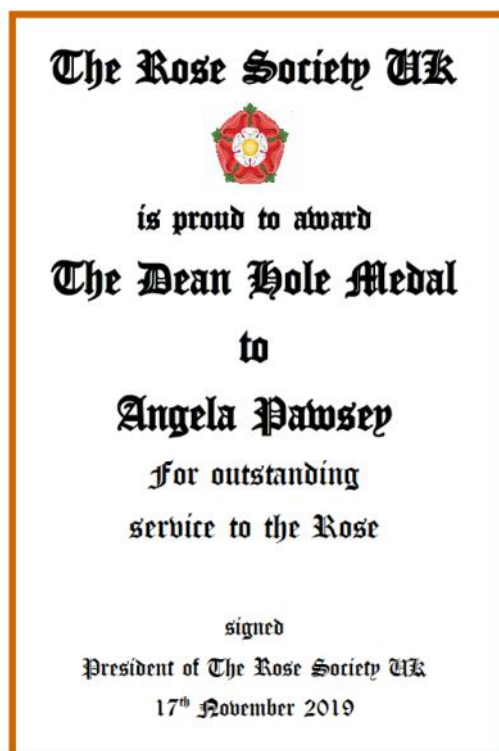
Stewart Pocock followed with a presentation showing us the growing year at his Hampshire and Cornwall nurseries. He then showed us a video (viewable at POCOCKS ROSES) showing the process of producing a rose for retail sale. Visit their website at; <https://www.garden-roses.co.uk/> (click on link)

Once President Colin Squire had handed out the Silver Medals, the time came to reveal the recipient of the reintroduced Dean Hole Medal. Honours Committee Chairman Derek Lawrence

produced a citation recognising the huge influence that the winner had made to the UK rose scene, which was read out in Derek's absence by Tracey Miller.



The 2019 recipient of the Dean Hole Medal is;
Angela Pawsey DHM



Citation of Angela Pawsey DHM

By Chairman of Honours Committee: Mr Derek Lawrence

Committee Members: Mr David Kenny and Mr Chris Warner

The Rose Society UK is delighted to announce that Angela Pawsey of Cants Roses, Colchester to be bestowed with the Dean Hole Medal Award.

This lady has given outstanding contribution to the rose world with the publication of *'Find That Rose'* since its inception in 1982. Angela has conducted her Editorship with sheer dedication and professionalism. The book features 34 fellow nurserymen, which underpins her selfless determination to ensure that the publication has been produced to purely assist gardeners as guidance to which nurseries grow certain varieties of roses. In the past 37 years, the publication has become a classic indispensable locator for rose lovers not just in the United Kingdom, but on a global platform. The current edition features 3,750 varieties and continues to expand in content on a yearly basis. Although it remains as a hard copy, its contents are freely available by form of a website.

For many years, Angela has been actively involved in managing the highly successful family-run rose nursery, 'R. Cants & Son' with her brothers, Martin and Roger. The business was established in 1765, which originally grew all sorts of plants, including Azaleas, Fuchsias and Rhododendrons. However, in 1853, the Company decided to concentrate on roses, due to their rising popularity. Since then, 'Cants of Colchester' have become a major player in the rose world and have bred some remarkable varieties that include, 'Alpine Sunset'. 'English Miss' and 'Gold Star.' In 1994, the cultivar, 'Just Joey' reached the highest international accolade that any variety can receive by becoming the 'World's Favourite Rose' from the World Federation of Rose Societies.

Angela is a highly respected rosarian who has been unstinting in her sterling work and has carried it out in her quiet and unassuming manner. She has a proven track record for manning rose information stands at numerous national flower shows over countless years. Angela is always eager to freely give advise and to share her infinite wisdom to the general public, whom are met by her friendly enthusiasm.

Angela's enduring service and dedication to the rose has been exceptional. The lady is an unsung hero, who truly deserves such honourable recognition in the rose world.

Derek Lawrence

Chairman Honours Committee



Jeff Wyckoff reports on Rose Trials in the USA

Rose Testing in America – Part 1

Every year hundreds of new roses are introduced around the world, nearly all of which, according to the catalogs and websites, have excellent disease resistance, outstanding fragrance, vigorous growth, *ad fin*. However, most experienced rose growers take these claims with a pinch, if not a pillar, of salt, relying on other sources for accurate information. These could include viewing a new variety in a private or public garden or taking advice from a trusted rose friend.

Another source of information on new rose varieties is trials, in which plants are observed over a period of time and evaluated by knowledgeable rosarians. These fall into two categories:

single site and multiple site trials.

Many countries around the world have single site trials, the results of which are available on the WFRS web site. The only multiple site trial outside the United States of which I am aware is the ADR Trials, held at eleven different locations in Germany.

Beginning in 1938, one of the largest and most successful multi site rose testing programs was initiated in the United States, the All America Rose Selections. In its heyday it consisted of 21 test gardens across the country and had well over a dozen member firms. Unfortunately, its business model became obsolete, and in 2013 it closed its doors with the last AARS winner, 'Francis Meilland'.



Francis Meilland

At present the U.S. contains two single site trials, the Biltmore Trials in Asheville, North Carolina and the Rose Hills Trials in Southern California. While the average annual temperature of the former is 13.6 C and that of the latter 17.4 C, this modest difference does not represent the climatic extremes to be found in the continental, U.S. where the hottest and coldest recorded temperatures are 56.6 C and -56.5 C respectively.



Biltmore Trials, North Carolina



Rosehills Pageant of Roses

Although they don't receive much world publicity or even mention, the U.S. also has four multi-site trials, the oldest of which is the American Rose Society's Award of Excellence (AOE) Trials. These were established in 1973 to recognize new miniature and, since 1999, miniflora varieties of superior quality and marked distinction.

AOE administers seven test gardens, located in Louisiana, South Carolina, Texas, Oregon, Arizona, Ohio and Minnesota. Each garden has a supervisor and five evaluators who score the entries four times per year. There are 11 elements that are scored from 0 to 10, and comments are encouraged.

The following are the judging categories that are used for both the spray and no-spray divisions;

1 Novelty; 2 Bud Form; 3 Flower Form; 4 Color Opening; 5 Color Finishing; 6 Substance; 7 Habit; 8 Quantity of Flowers; 9 Vigor/Repeat; 10 Foliage; 11 Disease/Insect Resistance

Part 2 next time

Jeff Wyckoff



'Eye' Love Roses!

In his first article for the society Newsletter, our new Treasurer, Daniel J Myhill, tells about his favourite type of rose The Hulthemias

My fiancé Hannah and I became members of the society in early 2019. I am therefore very grateful that at the recent AGM I became your new Treasurer. I look forward to serving the society and doing my best to promote the rose! I have written this article to introduce myself, share my passion for roses and highlight the “up and coming” trend of Persica roses.

As you would expect, I am mad for roses (as are we all!) with a focus on Hulthemia/Persica type roses. Whilst I am hands on with the roses, Hannah prefers to enjoy them with a cup of tea in hand from our swing seat in the garden. The society has been very welcoming to us and I enjoyed attending the summer show at Squires, including shadowing the judges. I hope to continue the process of becoming a judge and hope to meet more members at future shows.

My love for the rose stemmed from my childhood. I grew up in a mid-terraced house with a very small courtyard-type garden in Whitstable, Kent, which is not conducive to instilling a deep love of gardening. However, I shared the 3-bed house with my two brothers, so the garden was my own space, a sanctuary away from the others. My mother had a pink rose that she had planted in the 1980's when they moved in which was woody and generally flowering at height of 6ft – far from being an exemplary example! However, my mother's passion for the rose began to rub off on me, and we removed the rose when I was about 15 and replaced it with Rose 'Comte de Chambord' that we purchased from the Chelsea Flower



Photo 1 – Rose 'Alissar, Princess of Phoenicia'



Photo 2 – Rose ‘Euphrates’

Show in the mid-2000s. This was my first visit to a flower show and left me in awe.

When I was 17 to 18 years old, I took a Saturday job gardening for an older lady in the town who had a quarter of an acre of mature gardens, including many roses. She let me loose on her garden, a step-up from the courtyard at home, which also commanded beautiful views over Whitstable Bay. She was very generous with

her time and taught me how to deadhead and prune roses properly, further increasing my interest in the rose.

I then moved to Norwich in 2011 to study earth science at university. Hannah and I rented a flat with a large garden and since this time I have hoarded approximately 50 different roses, all within large pots. I use pots due to the uncertainty of renting and as such this gives me plenty to keep on top of – a winter regime of pruning, replacing the top few inches of compost and root pruning them every couple of years, alongside a very strict summer watering regime! Nonetheless, this has not dented my fervent passion – but why Persica roses?

I first came across them when I visited the Chelsea Flower Show in 2015 and purchased 6 roses from Harkness Roses during the sell off. A long walk ensued to the car parked over the river in Battersea Park, along with a few scratches! The standout rose was ‘Alissar, Princess of Phoenicia’ (Photo 1) with its unique red eye, the defining feature of Persica roses. I quickly found that there were not many varieties and that these were the “new kid on the block” in the rose world (or so I thought). With my youthful “I must have everything shiny and new” attitude, I felt compelled to buy, buy, buy! Over



**Photo 3 –
Rose ‘For your eyes only’**



Photo 4 – Rose 'The Bees Knees' in bud



Photo 5 – same bush in flower

the course of the following years I have purchased 13 different Persica roses, most, if not all of the publicly available ones within the UK (the number is ever increasing with 3 more new ones available this bareroot season).

However, after I began to research Persica roses I learnt that they weren't completely new. The species *Rosa persica* is a native of Iran and Afghanistan, growing in the desert. Originally, it was not considered a rose at all and was placed in a separate genus *Hulthemia*, hence why they are known at Hulthemia roses. However, I find this difficult to say and is probably not an "easy sell" to the general public, so Persica roses has become the common reference following the reclassification as *Rosa persica*. In the late 1960s/early 1970s, Jack Harkness and Alec Cocker undertook a joint venture hybridising *Rosa persica*. With limited success, Jack Harkness produced at least three roses commercially – 'Euphrates', 'Tigris' and 'Nigel Hawthorne'. However, the Persica rose never caught the fashion and went back to relative obscurity until the 2000s.

As part of my 'collect-a-holic' madness, I wanted to source the three "original" hybrids. 'Euphrates' has been easy to find with Peter Beale Roses selling it. I have had great success growing it in a pot (Photo 2). The rose is smothered with papery roses the size of a 10p. It has a twiggy and spindly habit which requires a haircut every winter to keep it compact and floriferous. However, I am yet to find 'Tigris' or 'Nigel Hawthorne', so if any members are able to shed any further light on their whereabouts, I would be grateful. It would be great to



Photo 6 – ‘The Bees Knees’ when first staged with some tighter buds



Photo 7 – ‘The Bees Knees’ on judging day, having opened up

keep these “original” hybrids going as a living history to the development of these roses.

Since the early 2000s, there had been a renewed effort to hybridise Persica roses, with many new varieties coming to market in the last few years. Harkness Roses still champion them, alongside other breeders leading the way including Chris Warner here in the UK, Jim Sproul in the US with his ‘Eyeconic’ series and Interplant on mainland Europe with their ‘Babylon Eyes’ series.

Chris Warner’s introduction ‘For Your Eyes Only’ (Photo 3) has probably been the most significant Persica introduction when it was introduced in 2014. It was named Rose of the Year 2015, bringing it to the forefront and kick-starting the fashion for these roses. Part of the appeal for these roses is that they are bee-friendly as most have a single flower form, making them attractive to insects and pollinators, with the health of our bee population becoming an ever-increasing concern.

Other rose breeders have also started to introduce new varieties, with my favourite one (at the moment) called ‘The Bees Knees’ bred by Maurice Guest, and exclusively sold by Style Roses. I believe it is the only true floribunda-type Persica rose, holding sprays of flowers (Photos 4 & 5). The rose is similar to one

called 'Eye of the Tiger' but the key difference is the plant habit and flower form (number of petals). The 'Eye of the Tiger' is a shrub with single flowers, whilst 'The Bees Knees' has semi-double flowers held in sprays.

For rose exhibitors amongst us, I also believe 'The Bees Knees' might be one to try and use on the bench. I exhibited it at the Royal Norfolk Show a few years ago and was very pleased with the outcome! (Photos 6 & 7). The key is getting sprays with fresh flowers – they tend to fade to white with a pinkish centre.

I look forward to continuing to collect Persica roses, a habit which will be hard to break, and perhaps one day dabbling in hybridising my own. At the moment, Hannah and I are in the process of buying our first home here in Norfolk, which is set to have a large garden! So I look forward to getting some roses in the ground and growing more varieties for the show bench – so watch this space!

In the meantime, we hope to meet more members at events and look forward to being active members within the society!



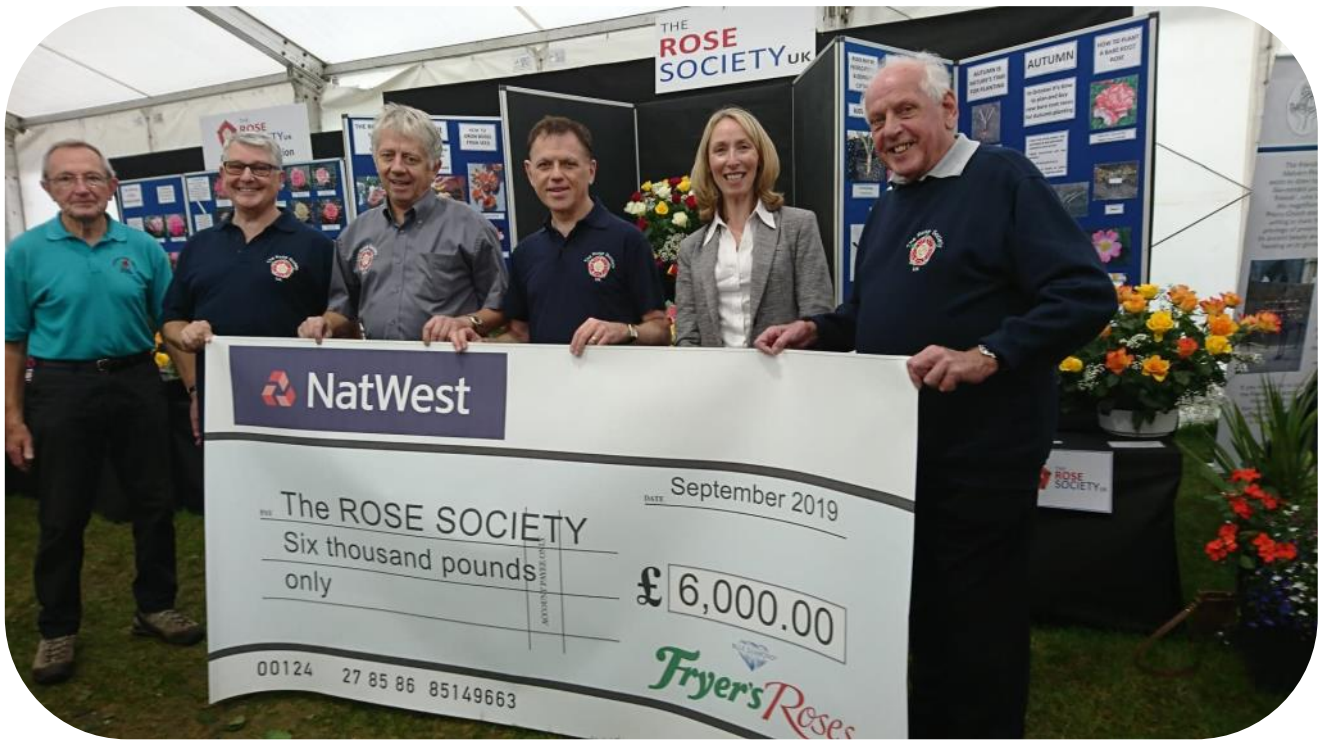
Daniel and Hannah

Daniel and Hannah have a very busy year ahead of them. Apart from taking up the Treasurer role (which we were delighted about) they are moving to a new house in January, with plenty of space for many more roses! The icing on the cake will come in June when this lovely couple 'tie the knot'. On behalf of us all, we wish you a wonderful wedding and a life full of roses

Ed

Thank you

and a very big thankyou at that!



At the Autumn show in Malvern, we were very happy to receive , literally, a HUGE cheque from Fryers Roses. The very kind donation was offered in 2018 when we were given 50p for every Fryers-bred rose sold in the Blue Diamond garden centre chain. The exhibitors amongst us will know that Gareth Fryers are wonderful varieties that appear often on the show benches so it's no surprise that they are popular with the Blue Diamond customers.

Our sincere thanks to Jill Kerr from Fryers for co-ordinating the presentation of this gesture. We have many plans to use this windfall to improve the society ; we'll keep you posted.

Receiving the cheque on behalf of the society were;

Gareth Davies; Eric Miller; Ray Martin; Derek Lawrence; Jill Kerr (Fryers) and John Anthony.

Dates for the 2020

Confirmed Rose Society UK National Rose Shows are (so far);

National Spring Rose Show 2020

to be held at the Malvern Spring Show 7th to 10th May 2020

National Southern Summer Rose Show 2020

to be held at Squire's Rose Festival Shepperton 27th to 28th June 2020

National Autumn Rose Show 2020

to be held at the Harrogate Autumn Show 13th to 15th September 2020
at a NEW VENUE for 2020 - Newby Hall

Dates for Spring and Summer 2020

Provincial Flower Shows are;

Rose Society of Wales Summer Rose Show

Rhondda Heritage Park 11th July 2020



Ryedale Rose Festival

at R V Rogers Rose Centre,
Pickering 4th to 5th July 2020



Note to all Affiliated Societies. Don't forget to order your Bronze Medals in good time and, if you'd like your show advertised in the next newsletter, on our website and Social Media platforms, please send details to;

info@therosesociety.org.uk

Pictures and results from your shows are always welcome too.

So please send them to;

info@therosesociety.org.uk

Last newsletter we show showcased



Now, having trialed the product for himself, our very own “boyo from the Valleys”, Mike Thompson, shares his thoughts on this product.

Up until this year, I had never heard of Greenacres direct Sulphur Rose and Sulphur soil but getting a sample to try I thought lets give it a go. I have always known that sulphur is a friend of the rose living in an area of high sulphur, South Wales. With all those Coal Mines now gone it's not a coincidence that blackspot and mildew has returned with a vengeance. I have never quite known how to use it, always being afraid I might burn the roses. So after the Malvern Spring show I turfed a batch of roses out of the Polytunnel into the open air. Being a bit cautious I tried the spray first on a few bushes just to see if it would burn. It didn't burn so I quickly used the rest of the bottle of spray on the rest of the roses. I then turned to the box of sulphur rose, using a 5 gall sprayer and continued to spray throughout the summer, and I have to say that batch of roses have remained clean up to writing this article at the end of August. It has given me the confidence to spray the rose stems this Winter and next Spring before pruning. I do believe that Blackspot and Downy Mildew over winter in the stem leaf joints and spraying winter time will kill their spores off. The other big attraction for me is that Sulphur Rose is Bumblebee friendly and is not a pesticide and will certainly help us when new laws are brought in. Sulphur Soil I will put on the garden when the potatoes are out. It's a Yes from me.

Michael Thompson

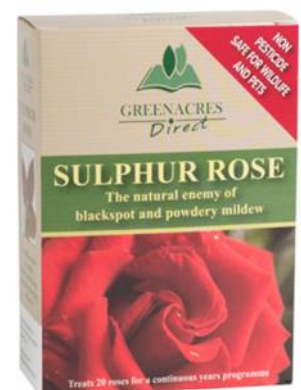
Rose Society of Wales

Please contact :-

Nick Baldwin Greenacres Direct

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01858 410725





Introducing Steve Beck



Steve Beck, one of our members in Australia, was awarded the Australian Rose Medal in October.

According to the website of The Rose Society of Victoria;

“AN AUSSIE ROSE AWARD TO THE ILLUSTRIOUS STEVE BECK!

Steve Beck, already an honoured Lifetime Member of the RSV, has been nominated for, and subsequently awarded, an Australian Rose Award.

Steve brings to all dealings with the rose world and no doubt the world at large, a high energy, a warmth and a passion for knowledge – and it is a very deep and broad knowledge indeed that he shares freely- that enhances the happiness and enthusiasm of everyone around him.

We congratulate him on gaining this symbol of the appreciation he so deserves. It's great to know you, Steve. Thanks for all you do!”

The website goes on to list some of Steve's many contributions to the rose in Australia;

Steve grew up in Dorset, England and developed a passion and love of roses from an early age both from his mother and grandmother to whom he was very close.

Since arriving in Australia, he has become a leading authority on roses, especially species and heritage roses.

Steve joined The Rose Society of Victoria Inc in 1994. He became a member of Council in 1997, Vice-President in 2002 and served a term as President from 2003-2005. He was awarded Life Membership in 2005.

In 2005 he moved to the Southern Highlands, NSW, to expand his business, Roses and Friends, with Sue Kingsford. This business has introduced many new and rare varieties of roses from overseas breeders including Chris Warner and Horner Roses. These roses have had great success and have received many awards at the National Rose Trial Gardens.

Steve is a very active member of Heritage Roses in Australia Inc and became Co-Ordinator of the Illawarra/Southern Highlands Group in 2008 and currently holds this position. He was the HRIA Inc President from 2015-2016. He was also the Co-Convenor of the very successful 13th Biennial Conference of Heritage Roses held in Mittagong in 2016.

Steve is also a sought after speaker and has given talks to many garden clubs and other organisations to promote the rose. He has published many well-written articles, both nationally and internationally, a testament to his background in English literature. He has mentored many people and is always happy to share his great knowledge and to give advice to others.

Steve has been attending the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show for many years representing and promoting roses to a wide audience. Steve is very involved in the protection and conservation of the David Ruston Heritage Rose Collection from Renmark. He is currently managing the database for this collection which lists the names, details and locations of these roses which is a very important resource for now and for the future.

Steve was one of the contributing authors of "500 Popular Roses for Australian Gardens" published in 2001. In addition, Steve has given demonstrations on pruning roses at Burnley College, University of Melbourne

So, as you will have read above, Steve hails from Dorset, Bournemouth to be precise and has made quite an impression in Australia.

Our congratulations to him on receiving this prestigious award.

We look forward to meeting up with Steve when we go to the WFRS Convention in 2021.

The Rose Society of Victoria website can be viewed by clicking;

<http://rosesocietyvic.org.au/news->

World Federation

News



There is still time to consider attending the next WRFS event.

The Heritage Rose Conference in Brussels, Belgium takes place on 8th to the 12th June. There will be a full conference with a Pre and Post Conference programme

For more information, please contact;
rosasbelgica2020@gmail.com

It seems a long way off but the 2021 World Rose Convention takes place in Just about 100 weeks!

Many of our members have already expressed their interest in the event. The Rose Society UK have several Australian members and they have assured us that we will be made VERY welcome!



19th World Rose Convention - Australia 2021 Thursday
21st October to Thursday 28th
[2021 World Rose Convention](#) (click for link)



2021
**World
Rose
Convention**
Adelaide
Australia



That's all for now; look out for updates and additional material as we head into winter - remember the 'dormant' season for roses is not necessarily the dormant season for bugs bacteria. Next season's great roses start NOW!

Getting in touch

Visit our website:
www.therosesociety.org.uk

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info@therosesociety.org.uk

Membership enquiries:

members@therosesociety.org.uk

Treasurer enquiries:

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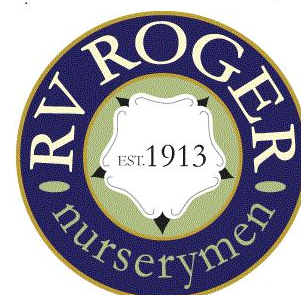
office@therosesociety.org.uk

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**CHORLEY
FLOWER
SHOW**





A very
Merry
rosy
Christmas
to all our
members