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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

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AUTUMN 2020

My apologies for the lateness of this newsletter, I'm going to blame it on the pandemic! It honestly seems to me that the more we're not allowed to do and the more time we have locked in our homes, the less I seem to get done!

However, in a summer where the society activities have been limited to our website, Facebook Group and Twitter, there is very little happening.

We are currently having the website rebranded and upgraded. It will be easier to use and have better accessibility to the shop and Member's Area. There will eventually be pages for our amateur rose breeders to report on their new roses and give advice that will hopefully encourage many of our members to have a go at breeding their own roses.

The shop area is very important to the society. It provides a revenue stream, even when there is nothing happening in terms of shows and events. Uncle Tom's Rose Tonic remains a top selling item and thanks to the generous sponsorship of Tom Nellist (Uncle Tom), sales of this proven rose booster also helps to boost our funds. Also in the shop, sales our society branded clothing are still selling well as are the society publications All About Roses and our; 'Little Black Book', Judging and Showing Roses. Once the shop is operating properly in the new website we will add more items to our itinerary. All these items make nice Christmas stocking fillers for rose lovers.

All members will be notified once the new website is published; the new members area will be accessed via a password that will be personal and chosen individually. A new blog page will also be kept

carry all latest news and information.

As I'm sure you have all seen in the gardening press, the Spring shows are all being planned to enabled social distancing and safe attendance in mind. We would normally have our educational stand at both Harrogate and Malvern and our Spring Show, also at Malvern. Both shows next year will be run differently in as much as there will be no covered elements to the shows. Everything will have an open air aspect meaning that the marquees will not be there for us. So sadly our Spring Show will have to be a virtual one and we are busily trying to find the best way of staging it. This does of course give us additional opportunities to attract additional entries so we would love to encourage as many members as possible to grow a few potted roses in your unheated greenhouses.

Lock-down is now a word that we're all far too familiar with. In terms of us gardeners, what this has meant is that flower shows have been cancelled, events have been cancelled and for local societies all meetings and 'coming togethers' have not happened. However, we have now entered the virtual age.

We're are anticipating having our first virtual show in May for our Spring, greenhouse grown roses and in an effort to help satisfy the need for rose chats and rosy interaction we are planning some virtual meetings where experts in all things rosy will entertain and educate us, on our computers or tablets, in our own homes. I'm delighted to say that we are hoping that our first virtual offering will be by the **American Rose Society President Bob Martin Jr.** Bob is a renowned rosarian, author and rose breeder. Many of our members will know and grow his creations such as Butter Cream and Peter Cottontail. We're just working out the details with Bob and will announce the event once everything is finalised. This is an event for Rose Society UK members only and will be operated through Zoom or GoToMeetings. Full details will enable even the least computer literate of us to tune in without problem so please don't worry, if you are not confident in this medium, we will make it as smooth as possible.

For now, stay safe everyone and hopefully we'll see each other again in the real world.

Ray Martin

The Chairman Notes

As I write these notes on a dull grey day in late October I look back on the past season. Along with most Rosarians in late February this year I was looking forward to another good year of rose growing. I thought the reports of the virus developing in China and spreading around the world was all talk and the word Pandemic just another scare topic, how wrong I was! Within a couple of weeks, we were all in National Lockdown the result of which was that all events were cancelled. The social gatherings I enjoy at flower shows and meetings, particularly with our Rose Society UK information stand speaking with members came abruptly to an end. The roses in the greenhouse were making good growth with the ever-increasing daylight for the spring show at Malvern but ended up just for my enjoyment and giving blooms to neighbours.



The Roses in the garden had made a lot of growth at my usual pruning time of mid-February. This was the result of the exceptionally mild wet winter we had experienced in the West Midlands (geraniums unusually survived outdoors). The bushes after pruning seemed to sulk for a long time during an extended dry spell, I think they resented all the good shoots I removed earlier. After the spell with little rain the weather changed, and with the warm summer rain the roses began to flourish, and I had an abundance of flower in July. The rambling Roses in my garden were particularly spectacular as I recorded in the last rose times.

I applied my first application of fertilizer, in this case it was Chicken Manure pellets to help replace the nitrogen leached during the wet winter spell. After which I spread a good covering of homemade leaf mould compost to the rose beds and garden in March. As the shoots began to develop in April, I sprayed the bushes with Uncle Toms Rose Tonic at 100-1 as recommended. In May when the next application of Uncle Toms is normally given it was obvious that I would not be needing blooms for show or displays because of lockdown. It was then I decided to leave my roses to their own devices and not give any further spray protection to see which would remain Healthy.

Recent Floribunda introductions remained the healthiest with several showing no

disease at all, but my many of Hybrid Tea's became severely affected with Black Spot in late August.

Here I list the six varieties that I consider have been the healthiest and best performers in my garden during 2020. Covid 19 maybe one reason to remember 2020 but the climatic conditions which changed with the hot and dry sequences may be another reason.

Sirius, Tantau 2013, Pale pink free flowering floribunda. Bright green glossy foliage with good trusses. Has been consistently healthy in my garden during the past 4 years



Sirius

Midsummer Snow, Vissers 2001, Pure white in summer but like most white roses can spot pink when affected by rain. Lax growth with enormous trusses which are best staked if used for exhibiting

Sweet Honey, Kordes 2020, floribunda, creamy honey coloured flowers, glossy foliage and good trusses of HT type blooms has performed well in its first year in my garden



Sweet Honey

Newsflash, Kenny 2011, Floribunda with Orange flowers, tall shrubby growth bright green foliage has good sized flower clusters with some fragrance



Scent From Heaven

Scent From heaven, Warner 2017, A climber which I grow as Shrub Rose, it is a Salmon Orange colour with bright green foliage and as the name suggests has the most powerful fragrance

Champagne Moment, Kordes 2006, Floribunda, a tried and trusted variety, creamy white turning apricot blooms has bright green foliage and good trusses.

Of my Hybrid Tea Roses only, **Savoy Hotel** Harkness 1987, **Isn't She lovely** Dickson 2007, **Chandos Beauty**, Harkness 2005 and my own rose **Johnboy**, Warner 2015, kept good disease resistance late in the season?

I hope these notes of my little rose disease trial are of interest for it was in no way scientific. We must all await and see how the current situation progresses and hope that it improves with a new year in 2021 and that we will be able to meet physically and not see each other by Zoom meetings.

John Anthony

John Anthony



Savoy Hotel



Chandos Beauty



CITY OF BELFAST INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS

TRIAL LV: 2019/20

AWARD WINNERS

The Golden Rose Award for the best overall variety		
Variety	Raised by	Points
Storyteller	Dickson, Northern Ireland	79.25

The best Hybrid Tea variety		
Variety	Raised by	Points
Feurio	Kordes, Germany	74.92

The best Floribunda variety		
Variety	Raised by	Points
Storyteller	Dickson, Northern Ireland	79.25

The most fragrant of the meritorious varieties		
Variety	Raised by	Points
Baby Blue	NIRP, France	153

The best Shrub Rose variety		
Variety	Raised by	Points
Charming	Kenny, Ireland	76.99

The best Climbing Rose variety		
	Raised by	Points
Gardeners' Gold	Harkness, England	75.66

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT		
Variety	Raised by	Points
Miss Kate	Dickson, Northern Ireland	78.74
Natania	Dickson, Northern Ireland	76.26
Jacqueline Redmill	Dickson, Northern Ireland	76.14
Home Sweet Redrow	Dickson, Northern Ireland	75.44
Poetry	Kordes, Germany	73.49
Sumer of Love	Kordes, Germany	73.79
Meizolnil	Meilland, France	72.78



**The Golden Rose of Belfast
And Best Floribunda Variety**

Storyteller

Bred by Colin Dickson

Northern Ireland

The Best Hybrid Tea Variety

Feurio

Bred by Kordes

Germany



The Best Shrub Variety

Charming

Bred by David Kenny

Republic of Ireland



Our Vice-Chairman Gareth Davies grows his roses in Talybont-on-Usk in Powys, Wales. His garden has been featured on TV and in the press. An accomplished grower of all flowers, it's no secret however that floribunda roses are amongst his favourites. Currently locked down with wife Eirona, this time he shares his memories of;



Gareth with his bowl of Tickled Pink

Floribundas old and new

One of the great memories I have of the early '70's is moving to my present home and inheriting a garden that had been laid out to grass by the previous owner. This provided me with the opportunity of designing and planting a modern rose garden which included HT's, floribundas, shrub roses and climbers. In those days the full bodied hybrid tea reigned supreme and many of you will have fond memories of exhibition varieties **Fred Gibson, Gavotte, Jan Guest, Red Lion, Red Devil** and **Royal Highness** to name but a few. I still grow Gavotte, Jan Guest and Red Devil but in recent years my HT's have fallen victim to the activities of the Western flower thrip and despite using controlled spraying I have been unable to eliminate the problem.

In those early days I also grew a large number of floribundas in beds of various shapes and sizes integrated into a formal rose garden. For brilliance and spectacle of long lasting colour there can be little better than a mass display of cluster flowered roses.

Varieties like **Allgold, Anna Wheatcroft, Arthur Bell, City of Belfast, City of Leeds, Evelyn Fison, Firecracker, Kerryman, Korbell, Molly McGredy, Oranges and Lemons, Redgold and Trumpeter** provided colour in varying degrees from June until November. My gardening interest and activities have become much more varied since those early days, rose numbers have decreased and nowadays the majority of roses which I grow are floribundas, climbers and miniatures. With regard to floribundas my advice to anyone starting up or expanding a collection would be to choose from the varieties which have already gained 'Rose of the Year (ROTY)' or 'Gold Standard' (GSTD) awards. Over recent years this has been my aim and I now grow many of these award winning roses.

My soil is a sandy loam which has been improved with applications of farmyard manure at planting times and in subsequent years as mulches. I mention this because soil conditions vary across different parts of the country and it is my experience that certain varieties perform better in certain soils than others. Although we will all have our favourites my top six floribunda varieties for the garden and exhibition are listed below: **Tickled Pink** (ROTY 2007 & GSTD), an upright, bushy rose producing beautifully formed,

rosette shaped, scented blooms in large clusters

Lucky (ROTY 2009), one of the healthiest roses, producing lots of strong upright growth. The flowers are lilac-pink, scented and produced in big clusters.

Absolutely Fabulous (ROTY 2010), has very attractive yellow flowers with a good fragrance produced in good sized clusters on strong stems bearing glossy leaves which may be a little prone to blackspot.

Super Trouper (novelty ROTY 2010) is an eye catching, vibrant orange rose sometimes producing single blooms on stems early in the summer but later 'basal' stems carry big clusters.

You're Beautiful (ROTY 2013 & GSTD) produces a medium size bush bearing attractively shaped scented blooms carried on strong upright stems. Flowers are a very clear pink produced in well formed clusters.

Golden Beauty (GSTD), my favourite rose and my top choice for its health and abundant upright growth. Early blooms are sometimes produced singly, but later 'basal' growth is strong bearing large clusters of scented blooms on an upright, shrubby plant. Finally, whilst we all have our individual favourites, regular 'dead heading' throughout the flowering season will ensure that many of the roses introduced in recent times will repeat flower rapidly.

Gareth Davies



Golden Beauty

By Kordes



Lucky

By Gareth Fryer



Derek Lawrence, Executive Director of the World Federation of Rose Societies and Rose Society UK Committee member celebrates the magnificent splendours of

KIFTSGATE

One of the most remarkable of cultivar's in the *genus rosa* family is the

formidable rambler 'Kiftsgate' (*R. filipes*). This mammoth beast will spread in all directions, scramble up walls, overwhelm but the very strongest of supports, smother large trees and shrubs; on average reaching 20-30 feet. In mid-summer it gives a spectacular floral explosion of small creamy-white flowers with bright yellow-stamens; which will fill the garden with a pervading fragrance. Even the most of fainted-hearted of rosarians couldn't fail to be stirred by the rampant nature of this giant. Behind any successful rose is a story, and the name of this cultivar underpins its origins.



Kiftsgate Court and gardens are located on Gloucestershire's Glyde Hill, on the lip of the Cotswold scarp, which permits breath-taking panoramic views of the Vale of Evesham. The actual rose bush, which is the original one, was planted in the gardens in 1938, and was believed to be a specimen of *Rosa moschata*, a rambling musk rose. However, it was later identified as a rampant form of the species *R. filipes* and named 'Kiftsgate' by the celebrated rosarian, Graham Stuart Thomas in 1951. The actual ancestry of the rambler is unknown, but experts have suggested that it may have originated from China. This world-famous eighty-year old specimen possesses an

immense girth; cascades over three massive trees, and reaches a height of over 90 feet. It is reputed to be the largest rose in Britain. To revel in its magnificent splendour, it's advised to visit the gardens in early July where its vast blanket of luminance white blooms will truly astound you.

It was during 1918 when the landholder Heather Muir, assisted by her friend and neighbour at Hidcote Manor, Lawrence Johnson set about creating what is considered by one of England's finest gardens. She insisted that the 4-acre landscape of Kiftsgate must be kept informal and created the desired effect by embracing a scheme incorporating billowing and rambling style of plantings.



The Octagonal Pool

Over the intervening years, gardens were greatly admired by many, and this included the eminent plants-woman, Vita Sackville-West. Mrs Muir's daughter, Diany Binny took over the estate in the 1950's adding pools and sculptures and decided that the gardens should be enjoyed by a wider audience. Hence forth, the gardens became accessible to the general public and gained enormous notoriety.



The Half Circular Pond

On the death of Mrs Binny in 2005, her daughter Ann Chambers and husband Johnny became the third generation custodians of the estate. I was fortunate enough to be granted a meeting with the couple. They spoke of how conscience they are of enormity of the responsibility to maintain the standard set by their predecessors. Strolling around this Heavenly paradise would suggest they have already reached their

desired pinnacle, and the estate is set to continue to flourish throughout the 21st Century. Ann Chambers comes across assiduous gardener and her acquired plantswoman skills become apparent as you explore the area. She has been mindful that parts of the garden needed rejuvenating and updating. Examples of this have been the recent creation of a stunning contemporary water garden which was once the ageing tennis court, and adding new companion plantings; giving bolder colour impact. The distinct herbaceous borders are furnished with



Modern Sculptures

the stalwarts of high summer and include: Achillea, Agapanthus, Buddleja, Campanula, Delphinium, Fuchsia, Hosta, Hydrangea and Paeonia. Whatever your taste – be it traditional or modern, there are copious amounts of horticultural gems to delight the senses; whichever season it may be. But for me, the roses will always remain centre stage.

As I entered the garden, I discovered the grounds have been terraced to allow safe access to explore the sloped landscape. This is particularly evident around the house, which encompasses gravel paved area that leads to Four Squares Garden. This is home to four rose beds containing such varieties as ‘Magenta’, ‘Lavender Lassie’ and ‘Mme Pierre Oger’. There is a hedge of the fine Hybrid Musk ‘Felicia’. Other gems include, ‘Maid of Honour’, ‘Frensham’, ‘Manning’s Blush’ and the China Rose, ‘Mutabilis’ that climbs and clings to the mellow Cotswold stonework of the property. I descended down a steep pathway, the led me to the Lower Garden where several roses of historical significance are dispersed. These cultivars included, ‘Blush Damask’, ‘Empress Josephine’, ‘Centenaire de Lourdes’, ‘Pompon de Paris’ and *R. moyessii* ‘Geranium’.



Kiftsgate Court

The area where the fine specimen of ‘Kiftsgate’ is located has a neighbouring long hedge of ‘Rosa Mundi’, which looks striking when in full bloom. Behind the hedge contains a living museum of classic roses such as: ‘Mme Hardy’, ‘Cardinal de Richelieu’ and ‘Honorine de Brabant’. Passing through the cool area and vivid green foliage of the fernery, I was greeted by some delighted, ‘Nevada’ roses.

One of the striking areas is the White Garden, that is neatly laid out with an octagonal pool and fountain. Primarily, this secluded area is to showcase spring flowers. However, there are fine examples of *R. brunonii* ‘La Mortola’ and the rambler, ‘Lady Godiva’ that scrambles up a wall.

I imagine that many tourists will visit the garden to see the colossal Kiftsgate Rose, which is regarded as the star attraction. But Kiftsgate offers much more than that. In essence, the estate is a quintessential English garden, where knowledge and ideas can be gleaned. The fine plantings await visitors who are fortunate enough to pass through the entrance's wicket gate to revel in this earthly paradise.

Until next time, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas. We can only hope that the new year will bring renewed vigour in the fight against the coronavirus. We must count our blessings that the rose will continue to brighten our lives, emitting divine fragrances and gracing our gardens in its infinite beauty.

For further details about Kiftsgate Court simply visit: www.kiftsgate.co.uk

Derek Lawrence

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

In the garden our roses may have finished flowering but many will be covered in hips

**Now, if you're not going to plant the seeds inside, how about trying
this recipe**

Rose Hip Jelly

1lb rose hips, 2lb cooking apples, 1 pint water, lemon juice, sugar

Simmer rose hips in a half pint of water. Cut apples without peeling or coring and simmer in remaining water. Strain both fruits through separate jelly bags. Mix the liquids and measure them.

Add the juice of 1 lemon and 1 pound of sugar to each point of liquid.

Stir over low heat until the sugar has dissolved.

Boil hard to setting point and pour into hot jars



David Kenny, Our Man in Tullow tells us about

The ARBA Influence

It all began in 1975 when ARBA (Amateur Rose Breeders Association) was founded by a group of enthusiastic amateur breeders. One of the main aims of the association was to breed greater health into all types of roses.

This was quickly followed by the WFRS Convention in Oxford when the late Ted Allen gave a talk on which Species roses might be good to work with in the pursuit of greater health in roses.

Among the Species mention were *Rosa davidii elongata* and *Rosa bella*. Several ARBA members set about the task and using the aforementioned species began the long journey towards health.

The first real success came when Len Scrivens used *Rosa davidii* to breed

'Baby Love' which was to be the foundation for a long line of better and healthier



Len Scriven's Baby Love

roses. Everyone, amateur and professional used 'Baby Love' and some excellent roses were soon arriving on the market.



Dave Kenny's Newsflash

From the beginning the ARBA members shared their best seedlings in the hope that one of them would be successful. Colin Horner and Chris Warner were soon making progress, Chris with his Persica line and Colin across several

projects.

One of Colin's early seedlings from 'Baby Love' was HORcoherent ('Baby Love' x 'Flower Carpet Pink'). This light yellow ground cover shrub has produced some



Chris Warner's For Your Eyes Only varieties down the line from 'Golden Future'.

Chris crossed 'Tigris' with 'Baby Love' and this seedling is in the background of several of his excellent Persica varieties. Ronnie Rawlins must get a huge credit for the success of the ARBA Persica lines. He used one of Chris' 'Tigris' x 'Baby Love' as a seed parent with a derivative of Rosa laxa Retzius and crossed this back to another of Len Scrivens' varieties SCRIVbell which is an excellent healthy parent. This variety is known in ARBA circles as "Belting Pink" and is in the parentage of 'Bright as a Button' and 'For Your Eyes Only' among others. Chris Warner has also used it in his line of climbing roses and continues to use it with success. He still has a number of seedlings from this line which he is still assessing.



Richard Walsh's Dusky Moon

Coming right up to date Richard Walsh in Australia has just won major awards at the national Rose Society of Australia rose trials with his 'Dusky Moon' which is bred from 'Pat Austin' x 'Blue for You' Peter James' excellent "blue" variety. Peter has also bred the lovely 'Eyes for You' one of the first Persicas to be a commercial

hit. Several new varieties have been bred from it and I'm sure there are more to come. Peter also bred the very novel 'Art Nouveau' which is remarkable in that the stripes are evenly spread over the petals. We'll also see more from this line.

In the October 2020 American Rose magazine there is an article on the new varieties coming to the market in 2021. Several of these new varieties, especially from Weeks Roses, have 'Baby Love' in their parentage.

The story is far from finished and I'm sure that for many years to come ARBA varieties will be influencing the breeding of new and healthy roses.

Sláinte

Dave Kenny

As reported in the previous Rose Times, 2020 will see the end of ARBA in its present form. With the co-operation of Bob Webster, Dave Kenny and the other stalwart members of ARBA, The Rose Society UK will continue to report on and to encourage amateur breeding. Our new website will include a page dedicated to our dedicated amateur rose breeders in the hope that some of our members will be encouraged to have a go themselves.

To produce some of the wonderful varieties that our 'amateurs' have over the past few years takes a lot of skill and dedication. But 'having a go' is the first step.

Anyone can sow a few seeds collected from Open Pollinated hips. This is the time of year to look at your roses and see the developing hips. These are the store houses for a brand new batch of seedlings. Any one seed could produce something wonderful or, conversely, something completely worthless. Either way, they'll be your seedlings and unique.

Many of our members already produce a few seedlings each year. David Bryant from Burnham-on-Sea in Devon has already had some success with his own crosses and this is how he does it



Burnham-on-Sea's budding amateur breeder

David Bryant encourages you all to

Have a go at rose breeding

November is when I begin extracting the new rose seeds. In the image below, on the left, is the ripe hep cut in half and showing the seeds inside. In the middle, in a jar are the seeds which are then taken out to be soaked in tap water for 24 hours. On the right of the image you can see collected seeds put in a damp mixture of; one part Garotta, a compost activator, to nine parts vermiculite. This is to use nitrogen to react with the tough seed coat. This goes into a polythene bag with the label and in the 'spare' fridge until January.

Some breeders sow their seeds straight in seed trays of good compost in a cold greenhouse with a little bit of bottom heat, without the fridge treatment .

If you have some ripe rose heps in the garden now, you can extract the seeds as above .

When they germinate you will have produced your own brand new rose variety.



Dave Bryant



#rosefestival21

Rose Festival 2021



If this crazy year has taught us nothing else then we must surely have learned to look forward to better times!

For that reason alone we are crossing our fingers and everything else that's crossable, and planning that our National Summer Roseshow will take place as part of the British Rose Trade's National Rose Festival week in June 2021.

Squires Garden Centre in Shepperton is our hoped for venue and the date will be Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th June.

We have been able to secure a very competitive rate at the nearby Shepperton Holiday Inn (1.5 miles) so that exhibitors and guests can enjoy a relaxed two day visit. The nightly room rate is £79 for bed and breakfast for Friday or Saturday (or both). Please book directly with the hotel quoting The Rose Society UK. Book early to avoid disappointment. Due to the uncertainty of everything these days, bookings can be cancelled right up to the week of the event.

Our shows committee are putting together the programme and the schedule for 2021. Concerns about the viability of Spring shows are very real and assuming that the Malvern Spring Show may well be an 'outdoor only' event with no marquees and therefore now Floral Marquee or Flower Show, we have a contingency plan to run the Spring Rose Show as a 'virtual' event. We therefore urge everyone to put a few pots of roses into their cold greenhouses and produce some Spring blooms for whatever show we can arrange. We have at this time, no information regarding the other Summer and Autumn shows.



Steve James suggests

“Let’s try something different”

Who hasn’t got a spare corner in the garden or a space on the allotment that has been overlooked for some reason? I know I had, (past tense). My wife knew that, so I had very little excuse when at Shepperton last year she dragged me over to see a vase of Floribunda Roses

and demanded “You have got to grow me one of those”. The rose in question was **Celebration Time**.

So, in October I tried a couple of nurseries and they were sold out but eventually I tracked it down at Eastcroft Roses. During this process I was surprised at the variation in colour of the photos but assumed it was just poor reproduction on the

internet. Now by this time I was hooked on the odd, but different colour to what we normally see and ordered six bare roots.

They arrived with each having three very strong growths, but they were cut very short. Unusual, but it should have given me a clue. Spring arrived and they produced a mass of new growths with most attractive reddish



A vase of Celebration Time showing the delicate russet shading

leaves. A characteristic that remains with some variation throughout the year. First mistake was not thinning the shoots out as they went rather spindly and were showing flower buds well before the middle of May, note to self for next year.

The buds arrived in quantity and each spray had all different sizes plus side buds and side shoots. For show work how do you sort that out? Well the answer was to remove the side shoots and the first flowers, three or four, on the main stem leaving about six buds of similar size to open later. A back-aching job as the plants had only reached 18 inches tall and were in full flower on the allotment by the first week in June. Then the compliments started. What a lovely colour, I've never seen



Celebration Time makes a fine garden plant

that colour before, can you spare me some flowers, can I take a photo and more besides. Plus of course the vases taken home for my wife.

Come July they started throwing basals and these proved to be strong and a touch taller than the main plants, so fewer back aches next year. I do expect to get it on the show bench and the

colour which varies from a Terracotta Red, to Bronze Orange to light Salmon with a flush of light Red, across the season, is sure to wow the judges. For local shows and to please the wife, Celebration Time is a winner. For the National and similar shows, the jury I out due to the very short stems. However, these were first year plants and one learns more each season, I do expect them to get taller with time and they are definitely greedy feeders.

I thoroughly enjoyed growing this rose and would recommend it to anyone as a front of the border must, with great leaf colour, stunningly different flower colour, and totally free of rust and spotting problems.

There must be many other roses out there that are overlooked in favour of the tried and trusted. Don't be boring as the wife said, try something new this year.

Steve James

Editor's note,

Celebration Time is also known as Cinco de Mayo



Jeff Wyckoff updates us on the American Rose Society's project . . . The Great Garden Restoration

Like rosarians, rose gardens can physically wane with age. Soil can become hard and impervious, plants can decline in vigor, diseases can...OK, let's not stretch the analogy too far. This situation is particularly true of public gardens that generally must rely on government funding of various types

for maintenance and acquisitions.

This was the case of the Gardens of the American Rose Society, established in 1970 in Shreveport, Louisiana on 110 acres as a gift from a local family. The climate in Shreveport tends to be hot and humid and the property was located in a grove of pine trees, neither of which are optimal conditions for rose growing. Although improvements were made over the years, the decline was gradual and inevitable, to the point that a number of American rose companies became reluctant to

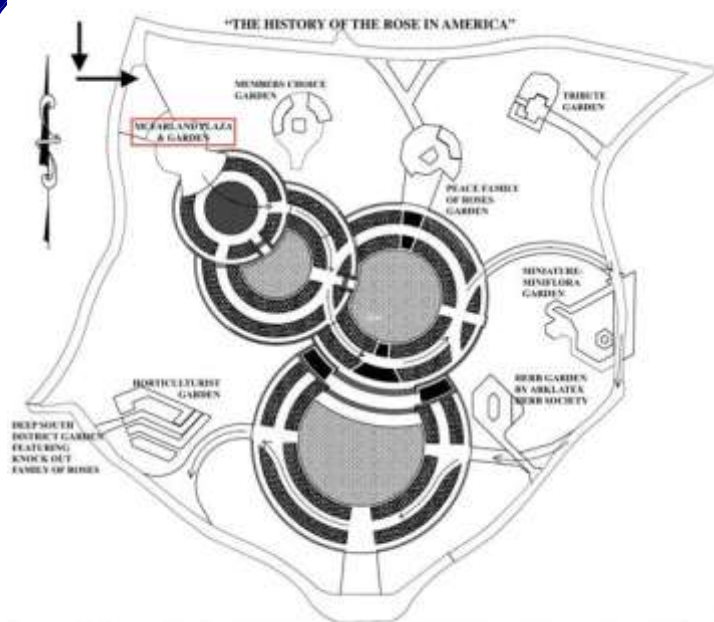
provide their new varieties for the garden.

In early 2017, a five-year Master Plan was approved by the American Rose Center Committee and the ARS Board of Directors which set the path for the Great Garden Restoration. The plan outlined these major immediate goals:

- 1) consolidation of the many gardens into a "core garden" ;
- 2) clearing of many trees;
- 3) deer fencing;



A drone shot of McFarland Plaza and garden with Klima Centre at the rear



- 4) new walkways;
- 5) soil testing and amending;
- 6) creating an exciting new design for the gardens.

When the original garden was established, local rose societies and districts were encouraged to plant their own individual gardens on the property, with the understanding that they would be responsible for tending to them on a regular basis. Since some of these “host” societies were hundreds of miles from Shreveport, this agreement was

often not fulfilled as time went on and these gardens languished.

The design for the garden, shown here with its interlocking circular beds, was provided by Richard Beales and Paul Zimmerman and was based on the gears of a vintage pocket watch. The element of time is further emphasized by the roses to be planted in the four circles. Circle 1 will consist of modern hybrid teas, with circle 2 featuring older hybrid teas, grandifloras, floribundas, climbers and polyanthas. Shrub roses of all types will grace Circle 3 while Circle 4 will be planted with heritage roses, especially teas, chinas and noisettes, which grow especially well in Louisiana. Thus, visitors will walk back through time as they proceed through the four circles. A miniature/mini-flora garden will be planted in the triangular bed on the right side of the garden boundary.



McFarland

The entrance to the core garden will be through the J. Horace McFarland Plaza, named for the man who was the longtime editor and publisher of both the *American Rose Annual* and *Modern Roses*, as well as President of the American Rose Society from 1930-32 and is now recognized as the “Father of the American Rose Society”. The plaza will be planted with the new rose ‘McFarland’, provided by Meilland Roses and its U.S. outlet Star Roses.

In addition to the roses in the core garden, smaller gardens of roses will be added in the surrounding area. These will include a heritage rose garden, a rambler garden, a ‘Peace’ family garden, and gardens of the roses of Griffith Buck, hybridizer of over



The Windscale sculpture

one hundred cold hardy varieties, and Will Radler, breeder of 'Knock Out', who also has c. one hundred other roses to his credit.

In order to promote year-round interest in the A.R.S. rose garden, as well as to secure its recognition as a Botanic Garden, a garden of Louisiana shrubs and trees, an Asian garden, a camellia garden, and a herb garden will also be established on the property. Finally, a new International Rose Test Garden will be sited next to the existing Windsounds sculpture.

A final garden within the Gardens that deserves mention is the Never Forget Garden. Inspired by the Society of the Honor Guard to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the establishment of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in

Arlington National Cemetery, it will be planted with the hybrid teas 'Veterans' Honor' and 'World War II Memorial Rose'.

With the 1st circle complete, fund raising continues apace for the 2nd circle, as well as for commemorative landscaping features such as benches, engraved bricks for a donor wall, and ceramic planters. To date close to 500 people and organizations of various stripes have made gifts to the Great Garden Restoration. Target dates for completion of the various components of the GGR vary, but it is hoped that the entire project will be completed by 2024, at which time it will truly be worthy of the designation as "America's Rose Garden".

Jeff Wyckoff

Thanks for the update Jeff. This looks like an exciting project and we'll look forward to seeing the progress to its completion



Mike Thompson from Llwynypia in the Rhondda Valley looks back at the things that got him started with roses

How Times Have Changed Part 2

I suppose it was inevitable that I would grow my own roses, as I can remember taking three *Silver Lining* HTs on our motorbike, out of water, for my father to the local Rhondda show. Returning in the afternoon to find that he had won third prize in a very well supported class in the open section. In those days it was normal to see twelve plus entries for a vase of three, even in a local show. I can remember wishing they were mine.

We were married in July 1969 and moved into our first house that winter in Tonypany. Coming home from work one day, my wife Kay said there is a surprise for you in the garden. My father had planted four roses, all HTs; *Josephine Bruce*, *Ena Harkness*, *Virgo*, and, the new kid on the block at that time *Grandpa Dickson*. This had filled my garden as I only had a five foot square raised bed, and the rest was paving stones. It was a start. My father had left a message for me "Look after them" and I did.

I was entering shows in my first year of growing roses. It gets you that quick. First up was, Treherbert Horticultural Show. First and second with two lovely *Ena Harkness* buttonholes with some maidenhair fern, I can still see them even today. First and second with HT single stems of *Josephine Bruce* and *Grandpa Dickson*. I had won twelve points, my father had one, and the local policeman had one. I went straight down to the stage to see which cup I had won and it looked a



Josephine Bruce



Ena Harkness



Virgo



Grandpa Dickson

Mike's first four varieties

beauty, the best cup there!

Excitement built until presentation; and then, the Championship Cup for roses went not to me but to the local policeman! As it turned out, you had to be a member of the society to win any cup. These were the rules, my father nor I were club members.

Our next show the following week was at a social club outside Pontypridd. Reading the schedule a bit more thoroughly this time, I only had one entry; three



Royal Highness

Josephine Bruce in a vase, a glass vase from the house. Asking what time to come back, the secretary said, prizes at 4pm, show closes at 5pm so it was off to Pontypridd market with the wife to buy some towels; Saturday was the big market day in Pontypridd. The towel man in the market was the best salesman in the world, you would buy anything off him. Arriving back at the show hall at 3.45pm, there was a man sweeping the floor and

he was the only person in the building besides us. "Where is the show?" we asked, "Finished" he said, "Got to get ready for the concert tonight." "I had some roses" I said. The man answered in a loud voice, "They are on the stage, and the good news is they won the cup, a lovely indigo bowl covered in a silver net and you keep it" he said. "Come back next year!"

Now I really had the bug and wanted an allotment. I managed to get half of one in Tonypandy, but it wasn't enough. I was in my mid-twenties and not long out of the Armed Forces, playing rugby for a good team mostly twice every week plus a full time job and a young baby in the house, I wanted more! How times have changed.

But with my half of an allotment, that year I bought twelve roses from Fred

Haynes Roses of Kettering, all HTs. Four *Grandpa Dickson*, four *Pink Favourite*, and four *Royal Highness*. I also bought three more HTs from Stannions Roses, also from Kettering (It's all down to the renowned Kettering loam they tell me). I couldn't have been luckier. I had a racehorse either side of the allotment. One side also had



Fragrant Cloud

chickens, and the other had pigs. Both men would bring the manure straight onto the plot. How could I go wrong? The next year I would have all the allotment.

That next year 1972 we were lucky enough to go to the last summer National Rose Show at Alexandra Palace. I would call it an experience of a lifetime. I will always remember the best bloom in show, "Fragrant Cloud", the RAF thirty + piece brass band playing in the foyer. Harry Wheatcroft stripped to the waist staging his stand and putting out his new rose *Oxfam* a lovely purple HT that you don't see often these days, and a big display of his new *Harry Wheatcroft* rose. A lovely chap, always ready to chat with you, always ready to sell you something too! I ended up coming away from his stand with a bag of his wonder fertilizer "Akta Bakta" he told me it would help me grow sideburns like him. A day to remember forever!



Harry Wheatcroft—not stripped to the waist but sporting a fine pair of sideburns

Mike Thompson

TO BE CONTINUED...



2020 has been a very strange year for all of us. Being in lockdown was something we had not experienced before. The roses have fared amazingly well from being mostly alone.



We managed to get the mulch on just before lockdown and me going on furlough. The growth that was put on during the first few weeks was impressive and very vigorous. Then we had a very long dry spell, but with the drip irrigation in place this was easy to combat.

We then moved into June and the flowers were beginning to show, some of them were outstanding. The aphid also arrived but not in such numbers that it became an issue. I believe in not spraying insecticides and leave it to the beneficial insects like ladybirds and hoverflies to do the job for me.

Due to lockdown and furlough the roses received no additional help regarding foliar feeds, which in turn has help to identify the good varieties. The amount of disease has been evenly spread throughout the trial ground. Varieties that showed signs of rust were cut back to the ground, awaiting removal. Some varieties have shown little or no disease, which is the main reason for the trial.

The first round of the judging was then arranged sticking to Covid secure rules. Judges were asked to keep 2m apart and all forms sent via email.



The judge's feedback from the first visit was very positive. Understanding the difficulties of trying to keep the trials up to standard and maintained with little or no staff.

On the second visit of the judges, some of the roses had produced a number of hips due to the lack of deadheading. But there was still enough flower to be able to complete the judging for this year. We had a total of 15 judges which under these unprecedented times is amazing and I wish to thank them all.

I then returned from furlough on the 28th sept from March 23rd. Since being back I have been able to weed the trials and cut back the roses to stop root rock over the winter.



The invites for next years trials have gone out and I am expecting the new roses to arrive anytime after Nov 1st until end of Feb.

Over the next week we will be adding compost and manure to the new beds and



Picture by Kerry Austen

rotavating in. When the new roses arrive, they will be given a unique number and planted into the 60m rows we have ready. All the roses will be given the correct space for their type and then left until spring when they will be fed and mulched.

We are looking forward to 2021 and hoping that the Covid situation improves, but most importantly is that everyone stays safe.

Take care, stay safe

Kerry Austen

All images of trials roses in this article were taken by Chris Warner except where stated

Don Charlton



We were all really sad to hear of the passing of one of the rose world's true legends. Don Charlton was known to the rose world not only as a champion rose grower and exhibitor but also as a patient teacher, mentor and sharer of knowledge. It's well known that exhibitors like to keep their secrets and tricks very 'close to their chest'; but Don was different. He was always willing to pass on his experience and knowledge to others.

Here, lifelong friend and fellow exhibitor Eric Stainthorpe shares some of his personal memories of Don.

I had the privilege of knowing Don Charlton for over 60 years.

I first met him when we were showing at local village shows. We were both showing roses and other flowers. I was given a collection of roses from Willicks (Blaby Roses), which encouraged me to join the Teesside Rose Society, this was the year after it was founded. I encouraged Don to join too as he was growing quality roses a standard better than any existing member. The next step was to get him to the next level and I encouraged him to enter the National Rose Society show at Roundhay Park Leeds. He did so with immediate success. Fred Owen was National Champion at that time and Tom Foster also made his National debut at Roundhay. The highlight of that show to me was the immaculate staging by Phillip Wesson of the West Midlands Rose Society. As I was then the show secretary of our society, I invited Philip to come and give our society a lecture on staging. This he did and this

was start of unprecedented success of not only Don but for Tom Foster as well. They are both in the record books for the number of championships that they won. They also won Best Bloom at the national shows on many occasions but if one had to remember Don for a single rose variety, it would be Royal Highness. He grew and staged it to perfection. We should also remember Don's late wife Jenny; she was part of a very successful team, always by his side helping to select blooms and writing labels. Don Charlton is also remembered as a rose; Bobbie Thompson bred a hybrid tea and named it in his honour.

Don worked for ICI Agricultural Division Research Department until he retired. One of the products he was involved with was a slow release nitrogen fertilizer named GOLD N. He saw the possibility of its use in his rose feeding programme and combined it with another fertilizer named ENMAG.

As members know, as well as an accomplished exhibitor, Don was highly respected judge. Because of his knowledge, he was commissioned write a book entitled Growing and Showing Roses which has become the 'go-to' reference for experienced and new exhibitors. He also lectured widely donating fees to Jenny's charity. Don grew not only roses but every plant to a very high standard. His hanging baskets were masterpieces.

Don's fame as an exhibitor was noted internationally when Canadian rose breeder, George Mander invited Don to grow and show his new miniature variety, Glowing Amber in the UK. George followed up with a visit to Dons home.

For the statisticians, when Don won his National Championships he was growing over 1000 plants to exhibition standard.

Eric Stainthorpe

As much as Don was an inspiration to so many of us, he also proved that even legends can be fallible. The following is a story that Don told us personally and this report on the 1978 Lakeland Rose Show appeared in the RNRS Rose Annual in 1979.

Saturday morning dawns and show day is with us. It's a glorious summer morning with Lakeland at its Wordsworth best. An early chat with Millar Gault that doyen of show judges confirmed that the roses displayed in the marquees were of outstanding quality. Sensation though in the amateurs marquee! In the "Royal Air Force Diamond Jubilee Class" which was a rose for every year of the RAF 1918 to 1978 and which required three bowls of 20 HT roses (60 blooms in total). A superb exhibit by Don Charlton from Billingham was sadly, but rightly, marked "Not according to schedule" because one of his bowls contained only 19 instead of 20

roses. This was a bowl of Royal Highness of excellent quality that one could only endorse the judges remarks made on the card; "What a pity!"



Photo reproduced from The Rose Annual 1979

Only two entries in this exceptionally difficult class; Don's 59 blooms of Royal Highness on the right and the winning 60 by Gordon Kirkham from Manchester on the left.

The tragedy was that Don had more 'spare' blooms in his car!

Thanks for the memories Don and thanks for the roses.

RIP

In this most traumatic of years some of our members will undoubtedly have been touched by COVID 19.

We've heard of several members who have tested positive and who are now, thankfully, well on the way to recovery. Our best wishes to all those affected and our hopes for a full recovery.

We send our best wishes also to Barbara Warner who is also currently unwell. Her husband is of course our very own Chris Warner, who I'm sure will pass on our love and best wishes.



Dr John Howden returns in this edition to tell us about **VIRUSES OF ROSES**

THE HIDDEN DISEASES

I can always remember early visits to the Doctor; if the diagnosis was unclear, s/he would automatically write down "Virus Infection" on your records or Sick Certificate. Such was the mystique of viruses. Nowadays, this has been superseded by "Mini-Virus Infection" as our knowledge has advanced but not our understanding. It just goes to show how little we

understand about the environment within which we all live. In this article, I have tried to show a new way of looking at our world and how we all live, surrounded constantly by germs and diseases and, more importantly for rose growers, so too, do our roses.

Nil-desperandum! This approach helps us all to come to terms with the unknown world of Viruses and how to live with them.

In the 1960's into the 70's, a special team was being set up at the University of Bath to investigate new techniques in Plant Pathology using the Rose as the host model. The concept was to look into the whole biosphere of a rose in relation to its diseases. The team involved many skills, bacteriology, microbiology, plant pathology, horticulture, soil science and biochemistry, under the leadership of Professor Leonard Broadbent, the famous virologist. With a background in pathology, Dr Julian Howden, known as "John", was appointed to investigate rust disease on roses to sort out confusion which existed, identify the life cycle with a view to finding the optimum time and methods of controlling this disease. In fact, he identified four rust diseases on roses in the United Kingdom, each with quite different hosts and life cycles. He was able to scientifically record



Rhubarb "Victoria" growing in the garden and

all
the



Rosa gallica 'Officinalis' - Red Rose Of Lancaster

describe all their spore stages as well as evaluating the best methods for their control. With the excellent facilities at Bath, he was also able to look at Blackspot and Powdery Mildew diseases on roses and to evaluate their overwintering mechanisms.

A passionate rose-grower for over 50 years, he now lives in Devon and experiments with new ways of growing roses.

The first time I heard about viruses was in the early 60's; King's College held a series of Guest Lectures which were open to all the London Colleges. Although I am not a medical doctor, I often used to go to learn about such things as Arthritis and one particular lecture I remember was about viruses and how they accumulated to cause "Aging". The Guest Lecturer eloquently outlined his theory that we have been surrounded by viruses all the time since we were born and that we accumulate them throughout life. This accumulation, he attributed, could be a cause of Aging.

I had first-hand experience of a virus when my lovely wife developed "Mitral Stenosis" where her Mitral heart valve failed to close properly. After five Open-Heart operations it turned out that she had caught Rheumatic Fever as a child and the virus damaged her heart valve.

Therefore, it hurts me to talk about viruses whether it is that of the Common Cold, Rheumatoid Arthritis or Rheumatic Fever. In humans, it seems that many of these diseases we experience in later life, the Guest Lecturer stated, originate from viral infections we catch as a child. They are part of the environment where we live and are all around us.

Plants too, apparently accumulate viruses. Years ago, I helped a dear friend, Peter Thoday (who was the famous horticulturalist from the Victorian Garden Programme on television) to restore four cottages into a family house. Peter was Head of the Horticultural Department at the University of Bath and a very

innovative thinker. He could always see beyond the present situation into a world that you and I have never even thought of! **

He told me once about the virus-free Rhubarb developed (I think) at Rothamstead Research Station. The variety was “Victoria” which normally grows in our gardens about 15” high. Scientists had developed a virus-free meristem culture technique to grow virus-free specimens of our favourite vegetables. When this variety of Rhubarb was grown, it grew to over 12 feet high – presumably free of any stunting viruses that the original had accumulated over the years. It made me wonder, what effect were viruses having on roses? Have these been stunted over the centuries? What were the species roses really like that our ancestors saw originally? I love species roses and, if I won the Lottery, I would have a go at virus-free meristem culture of these species just to see if there were any differences. Certainly, many species roses today are lethargic and are debilitated by onslaughts of diseases.



Floribunda Arthur Bell

these perfectly shaped, sweetly scented healthy, season after season. Now I notice that the Arthur Bell on sale is readily succumbing to Blackspot disease in many areas around the Country. What change has taken place? Is this due to viral infection which has altered its resistance to disease?

There is, however, another possibility. Are nurserymen who propagate roses not selecting the best stems for budding? Is this why the quality of rose varieties drops over the years? Or is it simply that successive vegetative propagation ultimately takes its toll on the best characters of a variety?

Peter and I concluded that the life of a new rose variety was about 30 to 40 years, after that it begins to lose its vigour and youthful growing habit.

Certainly, I remember seeing the new Floribunda HT type, a variety called “Arthur Bell” when it was first introduced at the 1965 Chelsea Flower Show. I immediately ordered three plants and was mesmerised by yellow blooms. It was completely

It seems there is a case that viruses do accumulate in roses over time, changing their vigour, growing habits and possibly changing their resistance to diseases. If some viruses can do this in Humans, why not in plants?

You might say there is no comparison, humans have developed an immune system so the Common Cold does get better after a period of time. However, some human viruses, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Herpes, the hereditary Bracha virus of breast cancer (and possibly many others), seem to trigger disease throughout life, despite the immune defensive system.

“Coughs and sneezes spread diseases“ in humans, but could viruses be transmitted in roses by the pests that feed on them? This seems to be the most likely explanation. This was certainly substantiated by Professor Broadbent’s work on virus-free “seed” potatoes showing that Aphids were the vectors. In roses, several types of viruses have been recorded, usually being identified on the



Distorted, leathery leaves infected with Strawberry Latent Ringspot virus on leaves of HT Peace. Compare with the healthy leaf on the right.



Flower bud of HT Peace infected with Strawberry Latent Ringspot virus. Compare with the healthy flower on the right.

symptoms seen on the leaves. However, different symptoms can often be attributed to one type of virus; Rose Mosaic virus is a good case in point (see the enclosed photographs below). I am sure there will be a whole range of viruses infecting roses, many of these will have accumulated over the years but are hidden from an expression of recognisable symptoms. I think there are two, major viruses which can easily be seen

on roses today.

- Strawberry Latent Ringspot Virus which is common in the Rosaceae Plant Family. In roses, it causes a stunted plant with leathery, distorted leaves

- Flowers on infected plants are regressive and stunted with thickened petals which sometimes look as if they are infected with Thrips. These plants lose their vitality and vigour and are best replaced
- Rose Mosaic Virus produces a whole range of patterns on rose leaves but does not appear to stunt the infected plant so much. However, I would remove any infected plants as soon as possible.



Rose leaves infected with Mosaic virus show a range of markings. Note that "Vein Banding" here is restricted to the veins. Nitrogen deficiency yellowing is usually found in areas between the veins.

These vivid virus patterns on leaves are quite distinctive but should not be confused with "Chimeras". A Chimera is a genetic malfunction which some rose breeders may have seen when hybridising new varieties, although they are generally quite uncommon.

What are Viruses? They are assorted shapes of simple life, either DNA or RNA, surrounded within a coat of protein with a protective, outer, spikey membrane called the "Envelope". On infecting their hosts, the genetic material enters the cells and "tags-on" to the host's

DNA in the chromosomes and cellular mitochondria, altering the genetic makeup of the host.



A genetic malfunction called a Chimera

Well, having depressed all rose lovers completely, let's end on a cheerful note; on the roses that we love



** Peter Thoday's books:-

Thoday Peter 2007: "Two Blades of Grass – The Story of the Cultivation of plants";
Thin Read Line Books CH43 1TB. ISBN 978-0-9557033-0-0

Thoday Peter 2013: "Cultivar – The Story of Man-Made Plants".; Thoday
Associates SN 13 8HA. ISBN 978-0-9557033-1-7

John Howden

Pauline's Patter

Here we are in November and the nights are drawing in, dark at 4pm. Still roses blooming but my thoughts are turning to next year. After a year with no national or provincial rose shows we are all getting withdrawal symptoms. Many of our exhibitors have been posting beautiful pictures on our Facebook page reminding us of members beautiful gardens and shows. Thanks go to Ray and Daniel for providing admin support on the page; alongside the website and the magazine it really helps people get their 'daily dose' of roses.

Anyway, lets look forward and get growing roses for next year. I have heard that The Malvern Three Counties show will go ahead in May but it is unclear at present whether there will be inside space for our National Rose Show. Our shows committee have decided to run a virtual show if there is no opportunity to host the real thing. I will pass on more information nearer the time. The committee have also decided to re-introduce the novice classes and to add classes for 'English', 'Classic', Austin type' roses to our shows in an effort to reflect the type of roses many of our members grow. The schedules will be redesigned and published on the website for all our aspiring exhibitors. If we are to hold a virtual show I will of course let you know the classes and how to enter.

I am hoping that if nothing else our flagship summer show at Squires Garden Centre Shepperton will go ahead but in these uncertain times we must wait and see.

I thought you may like a little more detail on how to get roses in bloom for the Spring show – whether it be virtual or not you will need your roses to be in bloom around the end of April beginning of May.

You will need a greenhouse and a few potted roses – it does not need to be heated. Firstly, pot up a few selected roses. Miniatures and Mini-floras do particularly well grown in a greenhouse but many exhibitors have success with HT's and Floribunda's.

Most roses you purchase in the UK will be budded or grafted onto rootstocks but many roses will grow very well from cuttings in the greenhouse.

Make sure they are in large enough pots to sustain them in good quality compost with some John Innes No 3.

Place your potted roses into the greenhouse during late November, early December and wait.

Keep them watered when necessary and as soon as they show signs of life with leaves you can feed with a propriety feed. Uncle Toms rose tonic is also useful to keep them healthy.

Now is also a good time to make your very own rose. Collect some hips from any of your roses and plant the seeds in some regular compost mixed with a little sand and perlite. Press into the surface of the tray or pot and cover in vermiculate. Water well and if you can place somewhere where the base can be kept warm. A propagator or soil warming bed is ideal but I have had success on a windowsill.

Stay safe everyone and hopefully we'll see you next year

Pauline Martin

There's still time to get a few bushes planted in pots and placed in your cold greenhouse. You'll be amazed to have quality blooms to cut by early May. Having some early blooms can really brighten your day.

Take a few pictures of them and you'll be able to enjoy them and also enter them in our Virtual Spring Show as it looks like the RHS Malvern Spring Show will be an outdoor event next year with no flower marquees.

The following pictures show a selection of the classes that we would normally have at the Spring show.

The beauty of Spring roses



A single bloom in a vase, of the miniflora variety "Showstopper"

Three single blooms in a vase, of the miniature varieties Hot Tamale and Amber Sunset



One of the easiest and most effective classes is the floating bloom, in this case it's Fired Up



The picture frame class is always very popular. This is the HT Lowrie looking very nice against the black picture frame



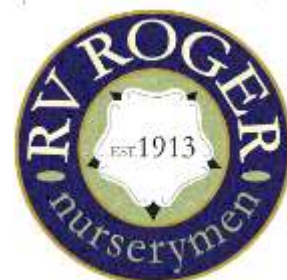
Our Sponsors

Lockdown and the COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all.

Many businesses are in severe difficulties and are struggling to maintain anything like a normal service, this is particularly the case in the horticultural industry.

Many of our sponsors are offering an on-line service to purchase potted roses and other rose-related items. Some are offering local deliveries too.

Please remember that our sponsors support The Rose Society UK and we should do likewise at this difficult time to support them



Bare root rose season is well under way.

We understand that sales have been going very well and an early order is advisable to avoid disappointment.

Our rose trade nursery sponsors all offer Rose Society UK members a 10% discount on all BARE ROOT rose purchases. Additionally we report that Cants of Colchester, Black Birches and Pockocks are all offering the same 10% discount to our members.

Getting in touch

Visit our website:

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Treasurer enquiries:

treasurer@therosesociety.org.uk

Office Enquiries:

office@therosesociety.org.uk

Let's Talk



Lockdown and isolation will be with us for some time yet.

We are now operating a FACEBOOK GROUP which we cordially invite all our members to join.

The Group enables everyone to share rose images, opinions and information. Rose lovers from all parts of the globe are sharing and engaging. Isolation doesn't mean that you cannot stay in touch and see what others are doing.

It's easy to join in, just click on this link and join in;

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/rosesocietyuk/about/>

A sign of the times?



Merry Christmas
and
A Happy New Year