



# CONFERENCE

*Celebrating 50 Years*



Wild Rover

## Belfast

Belfast has two airports, Belfast International and Belfast City. Belfast has many attractions such as the Botanic Gardens; Ulster Museum and Titanic Quarter. Less than 2 hours from Belfast you can visit the world famous Giant's Causeway; Mountains of Mourne or visit gardens such as Mount Stewart and Rowallane.



For information on visitor attractions in Belfast and beyond visit:

[www.visit-belfast.com](http://www.visit-belfast.com)

## City of Belfast International Rose Trials

The trial grounds are set in beautiful parkland where rose breeders exhibit their varieties which have to be in commerce for one year.

They are judged by a local panel for two seasons. An international panel adjudicates every July. Some 30,000 roses have been exhibited over 50 years of the trials.

Belfast hosted the World Rose Convention in 1991 and the Rose Gardens were awarded the Plaque of Merit in 2000. Belfast Rose Week is centred in the Park each July.



BELFAST CITY HALL, NORTHERN IRELAND  
WEDNESDAY 23RD JULY 2014

[www.rosemerald.co.uk](http://www.rosemerald.co.uk)



## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 23RD JULY 2014, BELFAST CITY HALL

**10.00am Registration and Coffee**

**11.00am Welcome and Introduction**

Craig Wallace, the President of the Rose Society of Northern Ireland

Conference Chair: **Rein Lae Solberg**

**11.15am Dr Charles Nelson**

Roses in Ireland

**12.15pm Reg Maxwell**

Going for Gold in Rose Breeding, a snapshot of the history of the Dickson's and McGredy nurseries

**1.00pm Lunch**

**2.00pm Thomas Proll**

Genes not Chemicals in the breeding of roses for disease resistance

**2.45pm Bernhard Mehring**

The search for the Golden Rose in Trials Describing rose trials in Europe generally and, in more detail in the UK, their aims and methodology.

**3.00pm Rose Question Time**

Panel: Thomas Proll, Bill Le Grice, Anne Bird and Colin Dickson

## The ROSE SOCIETY of NORTHERN IRELAND

### *Celebrating 50 Years*

The Rose Society of Northern Ireland and the International Rose Trials at Sir Thomas & Lady Dixon Park celebrate the 50th Anniversary of their inauguration in 2014.

The move to create a Rose Society and the development of Trial Gardens came together in August 1963 at a meeting of Craig Wallace and Sam McGredy in Portadown. With the support of Pat Dickson, and Reginald Wesley, the Director of Belfast Parks, the Belfast Corporation agreed in October 1963 to establish a Rose Garden and Trials to be known as The City of Belfast International Rose Trials. The trials were established at Sir Thomas & Lady Dixon Park in 1964.

The Rose Society was formed in March 1964 with one of its main functions to provide the panel of judges.



Photo by Norman Beck

## BOOKING FORM

**Conference Fee: £25**

Members of The Rose Society of NI and The Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland Fee: **£20**

FEE INCLUDES MORNING COFFEE/TEA AND LUNCH

Name(s): .....

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Address: .....

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Post Code: .....

Tel: .....

Email: .....

Special dietary needs: .....

I enclose £

Cheques made payable to:

**The Rose Society of Northern Ireland**

**Send to:** Honorary Treasurer  
David Robinson  
240 Middle Road  
Islandmagee  
Co Antrim BT40 3TG

No refunds will be given for cancellation within one week of the conference.

£10.00 will be deducted from all other cancellations

For further information go to:  
**[www.rosemerald.co.uk](http://www.rosemerald.co.uk)**

