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Award-winning rose supports CFS

DON'T just stop to smell the roses, plant a special variety in support of CFS volunteers.

Knight's Roses in Evanston sells a collection of stunning commemorative roses, with part proceeds from these sales going to the nominated charity or organisation, such as the South Australian Country Women's Association, Variety – the Children's Charity, and the Leukaemia Foundation.

Joining the list of groups with a 'special causes rose' is the CFS Foundation.

Daniel Knight, of Knight's Roses, said the initiative was the company's way of "helping out annually and on a continued basis".

FireStar is the official rose of the CFS Foundation and has fascinating flowers with unusually frilly petals.

It offers a kaleidoscope of colours, starting from scarlet buds opening to mandarin orange blooms, softening to raspberry pink with age.

The highly disease-resistant rose bush grows to about one metre tall, is lightly fragrant and flowers from spring to winter, with clusters of three to five blooms and up to 40 petals per stem.

Impressively, it was named Best Rose in the Australian National Rose Trial Gardens of Australia.

CFS Foundation CEO Gloria Berni said the name of the rose referenced the FireStar symbol, the official insignia of the CFS.

"The star is based on the Maltese Cross, with each point and blade being symbolic of the activities and qualities of a firefighter," she explained.

Ms Berni said the CFS Foundation used funds raised from the sale

of FireStar roses to help provide "immediate financial assistance to CFS volunteers and their families who have suffered through death, injury, loss or damage of property while in the line of service".

"The CFS Foundation also supports brigades and volunteers with small equipment, infrastructure, training and a variety of other benefits through our sponsors".

She cited as examples coffee machines for brigades, tickets to events and the foundation's Comfort Koala – a soft toy in road crash rescue vehicles to support children during emergency incidents.

The FireStar rose is available for pre-order from Knight's Roses.



FireStar roses pictured at the Happy Valley Memorial Garden for a fallen CFS volunteer, Louise.
PHOTO: Facebook

