



Rosa 'Happy Days'

Creating the nation's favourite flower



Rosa 'Cardinal Hume'

No garden is complete without roses, but did you know it takes several years to create a new one? Philippa Pearson heads to Harkness Roses in Hitchin and finds out how to breed roses

HARKNESS Roses and Hitchin have been synonymous since the late 1950s when the company moved down to Hertfordshire from Yorkshire. One of a dying breed of traditional companies, the Harkness family have been breeding roses since

1879, Gertrude Jekyll was a prominent customer, and today the work continues with brothers Philip and Robert, the fifth generation.

Harkness are renowned throughout the world for breeding reliable roses with outstanding flowering performance in ►