

'Coast Roses R Us'

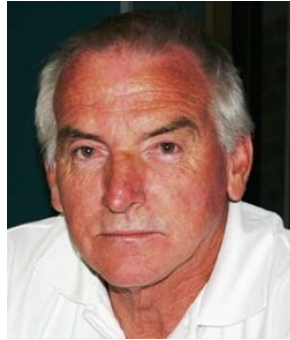


MAY 2009

GOLD COAST ROSE SOCIETY INC;
PO BOX 2431
BURLEIGH MDC QLD 4220
WEBSITE: www.goldcoastrosesociety.org.au
PATRONS: The Mayor, Mr Ron Clarke and Mayoress Mrs Helen Clarke

PRESIDENT'S REPORT;

It was nice to catch up with all the rose people and see the wonderful roses at the Autumn shows held at Toowoomba, QRS and Roselovers during May.



Congratulations to Ted Hayes and Grace Warren who were assessed by the QRS senior rose Judge Merv Sugars and are now rose judges. The Gold Coast Rose Society needs all the judges it can get and please put your name down for the bus trip to Ted and Jan's rose garden in June. It promises to be the best rose day you will have this year.

Terry Burke
PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE NOTES:

PRUNING DAY AT TED'S

SATURDAY 27th JUNE;

PICKUPS

Robina , opposite Australia Post - 8:30am
Nerang, beside WW Carpark - 8:45 am
Oxenford, beside Shops - 9:00am

Don't forget your hat, gloves and pruning secateurs for a little 'hands on' practice.

Regardless if you are coming on the Coach, or by car, YOU MUST put your name down and pay your \$2.00 toward lunch so we have correct numbers to cater for.

MID WINTER CHRISTMAS— EMERALD LAKES GOLF CLUB;

Don't forget our **MID WINTER CHRISTMAS** at Emerald Lakes Golf Club. This will be a Social event, a time to catch up and talk with each other. Cost for the two course lunch \$32.50 per head.

This event must be booked and paid for by 27th June. Friends and family most welcome.

DON'T FORGET

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE ON 1ST JULY. FEES HAVE ONCE AGAIN BEEN HELD AT \$20 PER PERSON /OR \$25 PER COUPLE. PLEASE POST TO PO BOX 2431, OR BRING YOUR RENEWAL FORM AND CHEQUE ALONG TO THE JUNE MEETING.



CONGRATULATIONS

To John Bennett, who travelled all the way from Murwillumbah to stage his Roses in the Queensland Rose Show. John took away '**Champion Novice**' plus quite a few other firsts and seconds at the QRS Show. Well done John.

We hope after the May General Meeting, all you other 'Novices' will take a little more interest in cutting your Roses and bringing them along to the Shows, even if it is only to the Monthly Meetings..

LIBRARY ARTICLE; **'The David Austin Rose Gardens'**

Located in Shropshire, England, David Austin has been breeding and hybridizing Roses for more than sixty years. The gardens at Al-brighton display not only his fragrant English Roses, but also the best old roses and modern shrub roses. With more than 800 Rose varieties growing here, from the purest white and palest yellow to the brightest copper and darkest burgundy, these gardens offer a gorgeous feast for the eyes and nose.

Enclosed by evergreen hedges, all but the species garden which contains the true wild roses and their near hybrids are if formal design.

Adjacent areas include the Victorian Garden with a three metre circular walls, showing how climbing roses perform facing north, south, east and west.

For further description and colour photo turn to page 260 of "1001 Gardens", one of our many books available for monthly loan.

Till next time

Cec Robinson
LIBRARIAN

THE APOTHECARY ROSE;

On her wedding day in 1930, my mother was given a rose by her father. During the next 60 years whenever she moved house, the rose went too, travelling in a bucket to a new garden. During the Depression, when Dad went rabbit shooting at Patearoa, the rose went too,

along with the piano, though "home" was a tent and gardening conditions were bleak.

When war broke out, the rose was bucketed back to Dunedin for the duration. It was the founding member of a large rose garden that formed the

backdrop to many wedding photographs. In her last home, Mum planted it in her line of sight from the sunroom. When she died, we left it there. It was too old and too precious for further gadding about.

As great roses go, this one was probably not outstanding, though it produced long stemmed, deep magenta flowers with a great scent. It certainly rated for vigour, but also do others. Yet, like roses for thousands of years, it became an enduring favourite.

In *The Quest for the Rose* published in 1993 by the BBC, Roger Phillips and Martyn Rix trace the rose back at least 35 million years, basing their evidence on rose fossils from North America, Asia and Europe - the southern hemisphere has no indigenous true roses. From such fossils, Phillips and Rix suggest that, even in pre-classical times, roses had medicinal, cosmetic, religious and cultural significance.

Egyptian tombs have yielded wreaths made from rosebuds thought to be *Rosa Sancta* (*richardii*) or St John's rose, a scented, soft pink single with a very robust habit. It's believed that the same rose features in frescoes in Minoan ruins.



The Greeks believed that roses sprang forth when Aphrodite's tears mingled with the blood of the slain Adonis. The Romans replaced Aphrodite with Venus and introduced Cupid, who offered a rose in an effort to buy her silence. In token of this, wealthy Romans had roses painted on the ceilings of their homes to remind guests that what passed below was secret, or 'sub rosa'.

The Romans "imported" roses, thought to be principally damasks and gallicas, from Egypt and grew them in hothouses to have them available for out-of-season festivals.

Because of their pagan associations, Christians were slow to give roses religious significance, but monks grew them in monastery gardens for use in herbal remedies and distilled them to make scented oils as the Persians had done with damask roses centuries earlier.

The first records of the apothecary rose, *R gallica officinalis*, date from the 13th century when, in the form of jellies, poultices, powders, oils and tinctures, it gained a reputation as a cure for a wide range of diseases.

It's only in comparatively recent times that roses have spread from the realms of the rich and religious, the poor rarely having the space or time for ornamental gardening.

In Britain, royal status came with the War of the Roses, red for Lancaster, white for York. The victor, Lacastrian Henry Tudor, later married Elizabeth of York and combined the two roses in the stylised Tudor Rose. Even before the Tudors began decorating their palaces, clothes and jewellery with this symbol, the ancient Persians had been weaving them

into carpets as well as rubbing the scent on their bodies.

In the 16th century, Dutch merchants, at least some of whom made their fortunes in the tulip trade, opted for roses in abundance in the lavish flower paintings that declared their wealth.

Until about the 19th century, the west knew only magenta, white or pink roses. The arrival of the first roses from China, where roses had been cherished and symbolised for at least as long as in the West, revolutionised the rose world with the introduction of new forms and, above all, new red and yellow shades and repeat flowerers. In France, Napoleon's empress, Josephine, set out, despite her country being submerged in war to amass a collection of all the world's roses in her garden at Malmaison and commissioned Joseph Redoute, the world's best known rose painter, to record no fewer than 170 of them.

The arrival of roses from the east began a great period of hybridising which, while it has inspired passion and immense competition, never seems to have inspired the envy, greed and intrigue of tulip mania. Names such as Kordes, Harkness, Dickson, Meiland, Poulsen, McGredy and Tantau brought the world great roses in abundance and comparative harmony and the love of roses continues unabated. Who knows why?

Perhaps it's simply because, as the saying goes "A Rose is a rose is a rose"



'A BUCKET OF ROSES'

Well the ABC Gardening Australia Expo for Brisbane has come and gone again. This year it was held back at the Exhibition Buildings after several years at The Convention Centre.

Pictured above is Marion and I just having finished stuffing sample bags with "Sudden Impact for Roses" and "Seamungus". It was very kind of Neutrog to supply us with these samples that proved extremely popular throughout the weekend. Unfortunately a couple of the sample packs were not completely sealed in the sacks they arrived in. We did not discover this until we grabbed them to stuff them into a sample bag at which time the contents of the packet went everywhere. Needless to say after three days of smelling this I still have the "perfume" of "Sudden Impact" firmly embedded in my nostrils!!

Our stand was very popular with members from The Gold Coast, Darling Downs and Queensland Rose Societies giving up their precious time to answer questions on rose growing.

The gates of the show opened at 10am and by 11am it was impossible to walk past the stand we had so many people stopping to ask advice. Hopefully all societies will benefit with a few new members. Thanks to all those who helped or provided roses for the display.

It is fast coming into the Autumn Show season. Unfortunately we have had so much rain and then really very warm weather for this time of year. Our roses are all in bloom way too early and we have given away 10 huge buckets of roses this week. Such is the life of an exhibitor – there is always Spring!!

Hope to see you at the shows having a go with a few blooms.

Until next time.

Toni Hains

'ROSES ON THE HILL'

Wayne and I were lucky to get the chance to spend a week over the Easter break in Tasmania. One of the highlight of the trip for me was a visit to 'Woolmers Estate' situated about 7km from Longford along the banks of the Macquarie River. The estate was settled in 1817 by Thomas Archer and was continuously occupied by the Archer family until 1994. The property passed through six generations before Thomas VI bequested the Estate and its contents to the Archer Historical Foundation.

The Estate is one of Australia's finest examples of a pioneer farm of the early 1800's. The guided tour was extremely interesting and took in the collections, artefacts, antiques, machinery, outbuildings, main house, gardens and property itself, but the main drawcard for me was of course the fact that it also houses the 'National Rose Garden'.

With over 4,000 roses from all of the recognised rose families, this magnificent garden takes you on a unique journey through the history of the rose. A lily pond and elegant water rill enhance the beautiful parterre gardens. A magnificent 70m modern steel structure Arbour running south to north is covered with the highly perfumed 'Westerland' rose, with a small pathway leading you towards the stunning views back to the village of Longford.

To the north and south are garden areas divided into smaller sections. These are planted in such a way that you can enjoy a lovely 'rose' experience. Starting opposite



the entry, you stroll up to the southern section which is mostly planted with historic early European roses (16th to 19th centuries) such as Gallica, Centifolia, Damask, Alba and Bourbon. Unlike the modern hybrids these roses flower only once in early summer. Also planted in these beds are David Austin roses to provide some re-flowering. The following sections are planted China, Hybrid Perpetual and Tea roses from the mid 19th century, Modern Shrub roses, Species, Wichuraiana (hadn't heard of that one before) and Rugosa, the Hybrid Musks and finally the modern roses such as Hybrid Tea and Floribunda.



Of course, being ‘wine buffs’ we took a day tour around some of Tasmania finest Vineyards. I was horrified to find on our third stop a ‘Botrytis’ wine!!! I thought to myself, my god I spend all year fighting this disease and now I’m drinking it!!

The wine was certainly not my taste, being a very sweet dessert wine, but it was interesting finding out how it was produced.

These dessert wines are produced from fruit that has been infected by the fungal disease Botrytis. Sounds horrible, but the results of this infection produce a wine that is quite popular.

Botrytis wines are expensive to produce which meant that, historically, only the wealthy Nobles of Europe could afford them and the infection was named ‘Noble Rot’. Often these types of wines are called “Stickies” or “Dessert Wines” and the names start to tell you what to expect, thick, sweet wines (not for me though - yuck!!)

Botrytis can occur naturally and is also spread artificially to a vineyard that wishes to produce a Botrytis wine. As the infection spreads the berries start to loose water and they shrivel. This leaves the berries concentrate in the grape sugars, acids and flavours.

The best thing that came from my experience with this very sweet wine was the following recipe;

Enjoy . . .

Angela Sully

STICKY GRANNY SMITHS:

Ingredients:

Granny Smith Apple (one per person) and leave skin on.

Mars Bars (more or less than one per person depending on how sweet your tooth is)

Botrytis Semillon

Aluminium foil

What to do;

Core the apples, more or less to suit your sweet tooth.

Cut the Mars Bars into small pieces and push these into the cored apple. Place apple on enough foil so as to completely cover but only form a cup at this stage.

Splash the Dessert wine over the apple.

Seal up the foil around the apple and completely cover. Place on tray and bake in pre-heated oven at 180oC

Bake for approximately 20 minutes or until the apple is soft enough for a skewer to slide into. Serve on a plate with cream or ice cream and enjoy the flavours and compliments from you guests.

