

# CHAMBERS

Chambers Rosewood Vineyard, Barkly Street, Rutherglen VIC 3685.

Telephone: 02 6032 8641. Facsimile: 02 6032 8101

email:wchambers@netc.net.au. Editor: Roberta Horne

Our first words upon meeting a friend, business associate, or family are usually directed to their health. Hello – how are you? Bonjour, comment allez vous, Buongiorno – come sta? It's the same in all languages and the reply is a casual – very well thanks – tres bien, merci, and so on.

Our health is a major concern to all and down through the ages in the medical world wine has always had a position of importance but always with the advice to be consumed in moderation.

Hippocrates and St Paul knew little of the scientific reasons why wine should be so good, but they, and many others, wrote of the benefits of a "little wine for thy stomach's sake." Louis Pasteur looked at wine in a slightly different light, calling it "the most healthful and hygienic of beverages."

In the 1920's Professor Hugh Maclean M.D. Sc (occupant of the Chair of Medicine at the University of London) wrote in an article to a Melbourne paper "Sometimes when a stomach is not doing its work well, the effect of alcohol tending to increase gastric secretions may be useful" and Dr Robert Hutchinson, Physician to the London Hospital said "The red wines, such as Burgundy and Port, are believed to be especially possessed of "tonic properties." A publication of the 150th Anniversary of the Wine Industry of Australia (1938) quoted Dr Thomas Fiaschi "Wine is for people in good health a means to keep in excellent health, and for sick people a means to regain health.'

We are told Chinese medicos used wine to treat heart disease 5,000 years ago, but only recently has scientific research found the association between vascular disease and wine consumption.

Dr Geoffrey Skurray at the Centre for Advanced Food Research, University of Western Sydney, has compiled the following interesting findings from around the world on the advantages of moderate wine consumption. Medical researchers suggested that in view of the cardio-protective properties of wine and the new evidence for preventing dementia, elderly people

should not give up drinking wine in moderation. Dr Ovisesan, Howard University hospital Washington, studied the eyes of over 3,000 adults aged 45 to 74 years. The incidence of age-related macular damage was 40% lower in those who regularly drank wine for more than 10 years. Suggested the antioxidants helped prevent the disease.

Despite the high fat diet of the French they have a low incidence of coronary heart disease, and research in California and the Netherlands has shown drinking wine, and to a lesser extent, beer, reduces the oxidation of low density lipoproteins that deposit cholesterol in the coronary arteries, but also dilate the blood vessels and prevent clots from blocking arteries by inhibiting platelet aggregation.

Medicos at St Vincent's hospital Sydney, carried out a 6 year study of 1,236 men and 1,569 women in Dubbo and found the deaths mainly from heart disease were reduced 25% by people drinking 1 to 7 drinks per week, 32% for 15 to 28 drinks per week, and 51% for 28+ drinks per week. A large number of these people drank beer as well as wine.

Dr Middleton in Maine, USA studied the effects of wine on the human body and found that the antioxidant present has an anti-allergic, anti-inflammatory, anti-viral and antioxidant activity.

They stimulate the activities of most cells, platelets, smooth muscle cells and certain flavonoids possess powerful anticancer activity. In 1998 Drs Tavani and Ferrarani in Italy reported six clinics indicated wine drinkers had a lower incidence of colon and rectal cancer. Resveratrol found in wine also shows some effect in slowing the growth of liver cancer.

In view of the new research that has found remarkable health promoting properties in wine, it is suggested more research must go into viticultural and winemaking practices to ensure these properties are not destroyed.

Continued on Page 2.

*"It's a naive domestic Burgundy without any breeding, but I think you'll be amused by its presumption." James Thurber 1894-1961*

Continued from Page 1.

Professor Skurray suggests the moderate consumption of 2 or 3 glasses of wine per day for the prevention of degenerative diseases may be better, and cheaper, than any known drug.

## We love hearing from you!

We welcome your participation in our Newsletter! Please send in any photographs or perhaps an amusing story on a related topic you would care to share for possible inclusion.

Many families and groups return year after year to attend different events throughout the year and it is great to have such friendly visitors!



This photo, sent in by one of our favourite customers, Brenda Wright, shows some of her group of mates who attended this year's Tastes of Rutherglen. She first came up to Rutherglen in 1997 with six friends – this year it was twenty two!

## Did you hear about...

A 3½ year old Golden Labrador called Tomi, (even though she's a girl) from Lawson Dry Hills Wines in Blenheim, New Zealand, who is able to detect when grapes are ready to pick? "The first time I realised she was eating them was when I realised there were whole rows for three or four bays without a bloody grape on them. She had been getting underneath the netting and eating them" said her master, Ross Lawson said. Tomi is very clever and very chubby!

Another Kiwi hound called Brix because he was built like a brick outhouse, spits out grapes which have not reached the required level of sweetness or, in wine making terms, the residual sugar. In Australia we mainly use Beaume to measure this sweetness whereas in New Zealand and a few other countries around the world Brix is the system used.

## Wine Profile: Shiraz

There is some question as to where this exotic sounding red grape variety originated. Some believe it derived its name from an area in Iran, while others believe it originated in the Rhone Valley, France, where the name Syrah is used.

Grown extensively in Australia, it has, in the past, been referred to as Hermitage, and is often blended with other red varieties. Back in the 1980's, growers were encouraged to pull this variety out to avoid over supply. Thankfully, Rosewood's vines are still thriving with many planted more than 40 years ago and some over 90 years old.

The fruit grows in elongated bunches with small to medium oval shaped berries which tend to go droopy when ripe, making hand picking the most efficient method of harvesting.

Warmer regions such as Rutherglen and McLaren Vale produce quite powerful Shiraz wines. The cooler ripening seasons of Coonawarra and most other Victorian wine regions however provide softer, more subtle wines due to the longer ripening times.

At Chambers, Shiraz is at times blended with other red varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Blue Imperial and Touriga to enhance the characteristics of each variety. Some of the ports such as Mt Carmel, Vintage and Ruby also include Shiraz.

Langton's Classification of Australian Wines ranks Shiraz and Shiraz blends in 26 of the top 60 places on its register. With world-renowned wines such as Penfold's Grange and Henschke's Hill of Grace sharing its mantle, it is no wonder that Shiraz is Australia's leading variety.

## Club Membership

We have had a few queries about club membership. Unlike many wine clubs we are, in typical Chambers style, very laidback. Once your contact details are registered with us, you are a Club Member and you can take advantage of all special offers.

As with tasting at cellar door we do not charge for the Newsletter. If however, after four editions, you have not purchased, either through our mail order service or when you call in, we may remove your name from the database. As you will understand, there is considerable expense and time involved in getting a publication out so please ensure that you advise us that you are a club member when purchasing.

## OLD FAVOURITE RETURNS

Yes folks - that perennial favourite Walnut Muscat is back on the shelves!

Look for the smart new packaging, a clear bottle with a maroon capsule and label which shows off its charming colour beautifully.

## EMAIL

Email is our preferred method of delivery for the Newsletter as it is quicker and of course less expensive. If you are happy to receive it this way please send an email to us at [wchambers@netc.net.au](mailto:wchambers@netc.net.au) and we will register your details directly from your email message. Please include your street and delivery address if different.

## People Profile

Although we are still in denial, Joan Smith our longest serving employee looks as if she may have finally retired. She does pop in from time to time but we have had to reassign her responsibilities with her understudy Lyn Fleming taking over. Lyn may have welcomed you at the cellar door or you may have seen her bottling and labelling the wine. You may even have seen her expertly manoeuvring the Forklift in and out amongst the pallets.

The lovely Jenny Buckingham is doing a great job greeting our many visitors and Julie Hatton is now assisting with bottling and sales. Grant Sawyer has joined us to assist Stephen with cellar operations as Duncan Walsh has taken off to the wilds of Gunnedah. Speaking of which, I've got to report that after Duncan's send off party Wendy Chambers has offered to help a certain lass with her 'microphone technique' after a memorable Karaoke performance.

Stephen's new dog is apparently a Smithfield Terrier and was finally christened 'Jen' as Jenny brokered the adoption. She is still working out her place in the pecking order and checks visitors to see if they are her original owners. We will not be hearing the patter of little paws.

On a sad note, Spot, boss of our four-legged friends was, unfortunately, knocked over and killed this week.

## Up Coming Events

- Winery Walkabout June 8-10, 2002

Started in 1974, this festival attracts many visitors who return each year to enjoy the fun packed weekend celebrations. All 18 wineries throughout our region offer great wine and food with a litany of new releases, special dinners and live entertainment to tempt the happy revellers.

- Check out the **Racy Rutherglen Reds** in our **Special Tasting** room then **take the \$5 tasting fee off your purchases.**

- The Lions Club of Kiewa Tangam, which is short for Tangambalanga and hard to say at the best of times, are offering **a range of tasty barbequed treats throughout the day.**

- As usual, we will have **great live music** with the same group as last year, **The Bull Plain Riders** so if you want to dance or perhaps sing along with us this is the place to be.

- **On Sunday, June 9** we welcome you to join us for a **Real Aussie Breakfast.** Set yourself up for the day with eggs, bacon and/or sausages in a country roll plus a mug of tea or coffee. **Fruit and Muesli** is available for those who prefer a lighter start to their day. **Lazy Harry will serenade you with his bush ballads and verses.** Available from 9am onwards at just \$7 per choice it is great value!

- The Anglican Church Ladies will tempt you with their **scrumptious sponges, scones and hot drinks.**

- Serious caffeine addicts can take advantage of **freshly brewed coffee, cappuccinos, tea and frothy chocolate.**

- Tempting Tastings – Dressings, Dipping spices, sauces etc from **Tavenders Gourmet Foods**

- **Get your commemorative glass engraved**

- Display and sale of **hand made crafts** by the Spinners and Weavers.

- Ellis Bus Lines offer **Fun Winery Tours** if you would rather not have the responsibility of driving. Call them on 02 6020 8614 for full particulars.

**We hope to see you!**

**"If the Heart of a Man is  
deprest with cares  
The mist is dispelled when  
sherry appears,  
Like the notes of a Fiddler,  
it sweetly, sweetly rouses the  
spirits  
and drives away fears."**

**Cyrus Redding.**

## 2002 Vintage Report

As with the rest of South Eastern Australia, summer in Rutherglen was cooler than average. However, unlike some other grape growing regions, the temperatures attained during the summer months were adequate for flowering, veraison (bud burst) and grape ripening.

Vintage kicked off on 11th February with the grapes for the Light Muscat being picked, (though I must admit some of the pickers were keen to start before this date). Unlike 2001 where there was some breathing space between the finish of the white harvest and the commencement of the reds etc., this year every variety wanted to come in at once. So, it was flat strap from the start of picking to the finish on Anzac day. Total yield for 2002 was 170 tonnes.

Even though it was hectic in both the cellar and vineyard, the resultant wines were still given their usual care and attention. The grapes were hand picked by our team of trusty locals. Crushed and de-stemmed, (in our newly altered crushing area and yes, the mono pump did manage to pump the Muscat and Tokay as well as the odd stick) then either straight into the press (whites and Tokay) or into fermenting tanks (the rest). Part way through vintage my cellar hand, Duncan Welsh, decided that Rugby League was more exciting than working in the cellar and Grant Sawyer took over and has fitted in very well. Bill did come in and give a hand as well as the odd piece of advice like "lets do 3 loads tomorrow." I, myself just ran around in ever decreasing circles hoping that everything would work out.

The resultant wines are comparing favourably to those of last year but only time will tell.

**Stephen Chambers**

## What's in a word?

Some time ago I saw an article in the Washington Post I thought might appeal to Chambers subscribers. Readers were asked to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter and then come up with a new definition. Here are examples of some of the more memorable offerings.

**Glibido:** All talk and no action.

**Inoculatte:** To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

**Sarchasm:** The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

**Forepjoy:** Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of enticing a member of the opposite sex.

**Giraffiti:** Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

**Hipatitis:** Terminal coolness.

**Ignoranus:** A person who's both stupid and a pain in the you know what.

**Osteopornosis:** A degenerate disease.

Go on have a go! Let us have your best efforts, there is a prize for the best suggestion.

## SPECIAL CLUB MEMBERS ONLY OFFERS

*Expires 30/08/02  
unless sold out beforehand*

### • Wet, White & Wonderful

4 x '97 Riesling  
4 x '97 Chardonnay  
2 x '97 Autumn White  
2 x '00 Botrytis Tokay  
**\$130 plus freight**

### • Reddy Freddy

4 x '97 Cabernet Sauvignon  
4 x '97 Blue Imperial  
4 x '99 Shiraz  
**\$130 plus freight**

### • Make Mine Mixed

4 x N/V Rutherglen White  
4 x N/V Rosewood Red  
2 x Muscat  
2 x Tokay  
**\$90 plus freight**

# CHAMBERS ROSEWOOD WINES

ACN 050 288 385

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 8, RUTHERGLEN 3685

ABN 89 378 543 120

Ph: 02 6032 8641 Fax: 02 6032 8101 Email: wchambers@netc.net.au

## •New Wine/Vintage /Price Cellar Door Price List - Winter 2002

	Bottle	Dozen	Qty	Total
	\$	\$		\$
<b>WHITE TABLE WINES</b>				
2000 Gouais .....	10.00	120.00	_____	_____
1997 Chardonnay .....	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
1997 Riesling .....	9.00	108.00	_____	_____
2000 Chandlers Riesling .....	7.00	70.00	_____	_____
NV Rutherglen White (Cleanskin) .....	6.00	60.00	_____	_____
2001 Rosewood Riesling (Semi Sweet .....	8.00	96.00	_____	_____
2001 Light Muscat (Limited Stock) .....	11.00	132.00	_____	_____
2000 Muscadelle .....	8.00	96.00	_____	_____
1999 Lakeside White Late Harvest .....	10.00	120.00	_____	_____
1997 Autumn White .....	9.00	108.00	_____	_____
1996 Botrytis Tokay (375ml) .....	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
•2000 Botrytis Tokay (375ml) .....	13.00	156.00	_____	_____
•2000 Botrytis Tokay .....	22.00	264.00	_____	_____
<b>RED TABLE WINES</b>				
	<b>Bottle</b>	<b>Dozen</b>		
2001 Vidals Rosé .....	7.00	84.00	_____	_____
2000 Rosewood Red (Cleanskin) .....	6.00	60.00	_____	_____
1997 Cabernet Sauvignon (French Oak) .....	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
1999 Cabernet Sauvignon .....	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
1997 Blue Imperial .....	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
1999 Shiraz & Blue Imperial .....	8.50	102.00	_____	_____
1997 Shiraz .....	10.00	100.00	_____	_____
1999 Shiraz .....	11.00	132.00	_____	_____
NV Rutherglen Red .....	8.50	102.00	_____	_____
<b>FORTIFIED TABLE WINES</b>				
	<b>Bottle</b>	<b>Flagon</b>		
Rutherglen Dry Flor .....	8.00	16.00	_____	_____
Oloroso .....	12.50		_____	_____
Cream Sherry .....	12.50	25.00	_____	_____
OI-Vol Muscadelle (375ml) .....	20.00		_____	_____
Vol (Madeira) .....	8.00	16.00	_____	_____
Rutherglen Tokay .....	12.50	25.00	_____	_____
Rutherglen Muscat .....	12.50	25.00	_____	_____
2001 Walnut Muscat .....	15.00		_____	_____
Rutherglen Tawny (Port) .....	8.00	16.00	_____	_____
Ruby (Port) .....	9.50	19.00	_____	_____
1998 Vintage Ruby (Port) .....	9.50		_____	_____
Rutherglen Mt Carmel (Liqueur Port) .....	12.50	25.00	_____	_____
1993 LBV (Late bottled Vintage Port) .....	15.00		_____	_____
•1993 Old Cellar Vintage Port .....	15.00		_____	_____
1994 Walnut Red (Port) .....	15.00		_____	_____
Rutherglen Old Tawny (Port) .....	15.00		_____	_____
•Old Vine Muscadelle (375ml) .....	30.00		_____	_____
<b>LIMITED RELEASES — subject to availability</b>				
	<b>Bottle</b>	<b>Dozen</b>		
1991 Neilsens Dry White .....	15.00		_____	_____
Amontillado (375ml) .....	11.00		_____	_____
Rutherglen Grand (Special) (375ml) .....	35.00		_____	_____
1998 Cabernet Sauvignon .....	15.00	180.00	_____	_____
1998 Shiraz .....	15.00	180.00	_____	_____

**SUB TOTAL THIS PAGE \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

# CHAMBERS ROSEWOOD WINES

ACN 050 288 385

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 8, RUTHERGLEN 3685

ABN 89 378 543 120

Ph: 02 6032 8641 Fax: 02 6032 8101 Email: wchambers@netc.net.au

## •New Wine/Vintage /Price Cellar Door Price List - Winter 2002

**SUB TOTAL B/F \$** \_\_\_\_\_

	Bottle \$	Dozen \$	Qty	Total \$
--	--------------	-------------	-----	-------------

**CLUB MEMBERS ONLY SPECIALS**

1998 Mixed Dozen-Cabernet Sauvignon/Shiraz .....	15.00	180.00	_____	_____
White, Wet & Wonderful .....		130.00	_____	_____
Reddy Freddy.....		130.00	_____	_____
And Make Mine Mixed .....		90.00	_____	_____

**BULK WINE PRICES - OVER 20 LITRES**

	Per Ltr	26 Ltr		
Dry Red .....	5.50	143.00	_____	_____
Dry White.....	3.50	91.00	_____	_____
Tokay .....	11.00	286.00	_____	_____
Muscat .....	11.00	286.00	_____	_____
Tawny (Port) .....	6.50	169.00	_____	_____
Ruby (Port) .....	8.50	221.00	_____	_____
Mt. Carmel (Liqueur Port).....	11.00	286.00	_____	_____
Dry Flor (Sherry) .....	6.50	169.00	_____	_____

**SUB TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PLUS FREIGHT \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL DUE \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**FREIGHT COSTS**

	1Ctn \$	2Ctn \$	3Ctn \$	4Ctn \$	6Plus Each
<b>Adelaide</b>	11.85	19.80	26.60	33.40	42.35
<b>Brisbane</b>	15.70	26.60	36.80	48.10	59.45
<b>Canberra</b>	10.70	16.40	22.05	27.70	32.25
<b>Melbourne</b>	11.00	16.50	22.00	27.50	31.90
<b>Vic-Country</b>	11.85	19.80	26.60	33.40	42.35
<b>Sydney</b>	10.70	17.50	23.20	30.00	35.65
<b>NSW-Rural</b>	13.00	20.90	27.70	34.50	42.45
<b>Perth</b>	28.85	45.85	62.85	79.85	95.70
<b>Gold Coast</b>	17.50	28.85	40.20	50.40	61.70

Freight rates approximately only - Specific prices on application

**Minimum Mail Order:** 12 bottles - can be mixed wines.

**Flags:** Must be either 4 or 6 to a carton. Payment must be forwarded with the order. Prices may vary without notice. Title for the goods sold by us passes only on receipt of payment in full.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Email \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Delivery Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque/Money Order     Bankcard     Mastercard     Visa Card    Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card No.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_