

CHAMBERS

Chambers Rosewood Vineyard, Barkly Street, Rutherglen VIC 3685.

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Editor: Roberta Horne

"The grass has riz, spring has sprung" but it is still hard to believe that three quarters of the year has passed already.

If you are contemplating "getting away from it all" for a few days, this is one of the prettiest times to visit the North East.

Colour is bursting forth everywhere. The wattle trees are in bloom, hedges are tinged with new growth and there are cheerful clumps of daffodils and jonquils flowering along the roadsides.

Although most of our lambs came in autumn you can still see plenty of cute little jumbucks scampering around.

Revive your spirit by taking a few extra hours of 'for me' time. Take an early stroll or enjoy a sunset – the skies are truly a "shepherd's delight" with colours and cloud formations to cheer the most jaded soul.

You'll find it almost impossible to resist the many gastronomic pleasures of this region because the cool weather sharpens the senses, particularly the appetite.

Thinking I may find some connection between 'weather and wethers' for this article, I consulted my country born and bred work-mates.



The birth of this dear little fellow brings Bill's Alpaca flock up to 12. We are on the look out for a good name-any suggestions?

After much rolling of eyes and an impromptu lesson on ovine anatomy, I was still without a story line as a wether, it turns out, is a lamb that's had the unkindest cut of all.

The fact that there are so many things country folk 'just know' was highlighted by a recent query from a cellar door visitor who wanted to know why we are breeding "miniature camels."

We soon realised he had seen some of Bill's Alpaca's grazing in the paddocks around Rosewood!

What chance do we city slickers have of getting a handle on country life? Especially considering this bloke's father was a stock agent.

Alpaca's are part of the Camelid species so this description is close to accurate.

Renowned for their fine fleeces, these delightful creatures are much more sturdy than they look and they are very useful to farmers as flock protectors.

Their very social and protective nature sees them doing a sterling job protecting all their charges from foxes and other threats.

STOP PRESS

Robert Parker Junior, an American said to be the most influential wine critic in the world, has again given the Chambers Rare Muscat and Rare Tokay (Muscadelle) perfect scores - 100 out of 100 .

After bemoaning the fact that 100 was as high as his scoring system went for the Rare Muscat he likened the Rutherglen Muscat to "liquid Viagra" and reinforced the great value offered by these younger wines.

Bill reckons if we can convert aphrodisiac users to our muscat we could do a lot to save the White Rhinos from extinction!

*"I expect I shall have to die beyond my means."
Oscar Wilde, on accepting a glass of champagne on his deathbed.*

Heard on the ABC...

"I believe the death penalty should be saved exclusively for suicide bombers."



Austin Powers and his mates visit Rosewood

This story is supposedly true...

Scientists at Rolls Royce built a gun specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners, and military jets, all travelling at maximum velocity. The idea was to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

American engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high-speed trains. Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the American engineers.

When the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, blasted through the control console, snapped the engineer's back-rest in two and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin.

The horrified Americans advised Rolls Royce of the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield and begged the British scientists for suggestions.

The response from Rolls Royce...
"Defrost chicken."

**A question for the kids....
What is the name given to a young Alpaca?**

CONTEMPORARY ART

Rosewood is very fortunate to be hosting an ongoing display of interesting contemporary art works.

Our current exhibition consists of three diverse and unusual pieces including the work of a self-acclaimed 'Blak Queen,' a naïve piece and a very interpretive comment on the number of native animals killed on our roads and highways.

New Release

2002 Autumn White (Sauternes)

This luscious blend of fruit from Rosewood's aged Palomino and Muscadelle vines, will appeal to those looking for something a little sweeter. Enjoy its subtle nectarine/apricot tones and fragrant aromas with spicy dishes, desserts and fresh soft cheeses such as Brie or Camembert.

Wine Profile: Mondeuse

Pronounced mohn-DEUZ. Although commonly referred to as Mondeuse the correct name for this variety is Mondeuse Noir. It is also known as Grosse Syrah, Molette Noire, Savoyance and Terrano, while in Italy and California it is called Refosco.

Its small, deep black-blue grapes ripen late in the season, and the vines are very hardy as they are resistant to fungal diseases and rain damage at harvest time.

The intensely coloured wines produced are usually of high quality with concentrated tart plum flavours, good tannins and offer good aging potential. It is these characteristics which make Mondeuse ideal for blending with other varieties.

Stephen Chambers made a Shiraz/ Mondeuse in 2001, his first vintage as Rosewood's winemaker. He blended this wine with shiraz to produce a wine we have labelled 2001 Anton Ruche.

This wine is dedicated to Anton Ruche, a German immigrant who is believed to have passed on his considerable winemaking skills to the first William Chambers in the late 1850's.

A flavoursome wine it was available at the selected tasting during Winery Walkabout and more recently when Laurie conducted a tasting at the Chadstone Shopping Centre.

As with our 1998 Shiraz and 1998 Cabernet Sauvignon this wine will not be on tasting at the cellar door. It is however, available to Newsletter recipients at \$15 per bottle so please mention Chambers Volume 19 if you plan to order.

○ SUPER TASTERS?

There must be some brave or curious souls out there! We're not sure if you are too modest or not adventurous enough to take the plunge and paint your tongue blue to find out how many tastebuds you have. We have received very few results from our Volume 18 article!

Come on... get that blue food dye out and paint the front part of your tongue. You'll find a circle above you can use as a template for the 7mm wide hole you will need to cut from a piece of paper. Don't forget it has to fit into your mouth.

Hold the template over the blue area of your tongue and count the number of little pink tastebuds. The higher the number the greater your ability to discern taste, and no amount of training can change this.

You never need to feel stressed or uneducated about tasting again. Knowing your physical capabilities will give you confidence.

If you find that you have less than 15 tastebuds you will always have difficulties. You are what's known as a 'non-taster' as you were born with too few tastebuds. No doubt you have talents in other areas.

Perhaps Yale university can extend their study to include chilli lovers - I've often wondered if they annihilate your tastebuds.

Most of us however, will have somewhere between 15 and 35 tastebuds and will be deemed average, while those with any score over 35 are given the heady title of Super Taster.

If you wish to register your score with us you can go into the running for a place in the

TOP TASTER TOURNAMENT we'll run if we get enough entries. Contact us before the end of November on 02 6032 8641 or at wchambers@netc.net.au

"Wine should be presented and sold in a way that encourages consumers to believe in their own tasting abilities - this is a sensitivity issue, not an ability issue" Tim Hanni.

STEPHEN TAKES UP THE BATON AND SHINES

In all the excitement about the Parker reviews it's important to note that it was Stephen Chambers (Bill's son and 6th generation Rosewood winemaker) who blended the wines!

A SHORT, HOT LOVE STORY

I shall seek and find you. I shall take you to bed and control you. I will make you ache, shake, and sweat until you moan and groan. I will make you beg for mercy.

I will exhaust you to the point that you will beg me to leave you. And you will be weak for days - All my love, The Flu

UP COMING EVENTS

• Rutherglen Wine Show

15-23 September 2003

• Tour de Muscat

4-5 October 2003

• Rutherglen Agriculture Show

18 October 2003

Traditional family day
Enquiries 02 6032 8044

• Open Garden Scheme

25-26 October 2003

The charming 'Rosewood' garden will again be open to the public 10am - 4.30 pm.

• Wangaratta Jazz Festival

31 Oct-3 November 2003

Enquiries 1800 803 944

• Young Bloods & Bloody Legends Weekend

8-9 November 2003

Join a range of celebrity guests such as chef Andrew Blake and TV host Ben Canaider as they guide you through three sensational food and wine sessions.

This is your chance to learn from Rutherglen's best winemakers and regional chefs.

Tickets include coach transfers between sessions, tastings, lunch and a Masterclass workbook for the inclusive price of \$150 per person. For all enquiries and bookings please ring 1800 622 871.

• Producers Picnic

8 November 2003

This fun filled day has something for the whole family - Live entertainment, clowns and other fun for the kids plus a range of stalls with regional food, wine and more.

• Twilight Picnic in the Vines

22 November 2003

Enjoy Don Burrows on the banks of the Murray.
Enquiries to 1800 021 621

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

If you were expecting your Newsletter to be delivered electronically but it arrived via Australia Post there may have been a problem with your ISP (Internet Service Provider).

Emails returned with message errors such as 'undeliverable' or 'Recipient Over Quota' etc are converted back to normal delivery if we have a street address recorded. This is however, quite a time consuming task so please ensure you don't miss out by clearing your emails regularly. Please also remember we do not accept Hot Mail addresses, as our files are too large.

LETTUCE LAUGH

When astronauts found they were unable to use their normal pens in space because of the lack of gravity, a lengthy and expensive research program was instigated. Several years and many thousands of dollars later a pen capable of writing not only at zero gravity but also in extreme temperatures and underwater was developed. The Russians continue to use their pencils.

People Profile: Roberta Horne

This is the face behind the pen, or in this case, the computer.

Roberta has been putting our very popular newsletter together for five years now after noticing how interested cellar door visitors were in learning more about wine.

She is in the throws of producing a book this year as part of her part-time writing course although it probably won't be published until next year.

The book is a collection of stories from famous and interesting people celebrating the enjoyment of wine and food. The chapter titled 'Cleanskins' has us all quite intrigued.

In another lifetime Roberta was restaurant consultant for Wynn Winegrowers before moving into a marketing role with AAP Reuters, Adelaide.

Even though she does not understand AFL football well she is loyal to the Adelaide team.

She is still the only female in the Lions Club of Rutherglen and holds the office of chairman, PR and media on the Lions V6-201 District Cabinet.



Her involvement in many community activities sees her with a wide circle of friends and has assisted her settling into country life happily.

SUBSCRIBERS OFFERS

Expires 30/11/03
Unless sold out beforehand

o RIGHT AS RAIN

- 3 x '98 Chardonnay
- 3 x '02 Rosewood Riesling (Semi Sweet)
- 3 x '00 Shiraz
- 3 x '00 Cabernet Sauvignon

\$115 plus freight

o RAVE REDS

- 4 x '01 Shiraz
- 4 x '01 Cabernet Sauvignon
- 4 x '01 Shiraz & Blue Imperial

\$115 plus freight

o HOW SWEET IT IS!

- 3 x '03 Light Muscat
- 3 x '02 Autumn White
- 3 x '01 Late Harvest
- 3 x '01 Walnut Muscat

\$130 plus freight

o IF I WERE A RICH MAN

- 3 x '01 Gouais
- 3 x '01 Anton Ruche
- 1 x Rutherglen Muscat
- 1 x Rutherglen Tokay
- 1 x '00 Old Cellar Vintage (Port)
- 1 x Mt Carmel (Liqueur Port)
- 1 x Oloroso Sherry
- 1 x Dry Flor Sherry

\$110 plus freight

o NOT HALF NICE!

- 6 bottles x 375ml x Rutherglen Red
- 6 bottles x 375ml x '00 Botrytis Tokay

\$115 plus freight

o RHINOS REVENGE

- 4 X Flagons x Muscat (Liqueur Muscat)

\$108 plus freight

o PARKER PACK

- 5 x Muscat (750ml)
- 5 x Tokay (750ml)
- 2 x Grand Muscat (375ml)

\$195 plus freight

PLEASE REMEMBER...

Wine travels much better in cooler weather so it is a good idea to organise your orders for the festive season early. Our Christmas edition due on November 30.

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 - Spring 2003

WHITE TABLE WINES	Bottle \$	Dozen \$	Qty	Total \$
2001 Gouais	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
1998 Chardonnay	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
•1998 Riesling	7.00	70.00	_____	_____
NV Rutherglen White (Cleanskin)	6.00	60.00	_____	_____
2001 Rosewood Riesling (Semi Sweet)	9.00	108.00	_____	_____
2003 Light Muscat.....	13.00	156.00	_____	_____
2001 Late Harvest Riesling	9.00	108.00	_____	_____
•2002 Autumn White	10.00	120.00	_____	_____
1996 Botrytis Tokay (375ml).....	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
•2000 Botrytis Tokay (375ml).....	15.00	180.00	_____	_____

RED TABLE WINES	Bottle	Dozen	Qty	Total
2001 Vidals Rosé.....	7.00	70.00	_____	_____
•NV Rosewood Red (Cleanskin).....	6.00	60.00	_____	_____
2000 Cabernet Sauvignon (American oak)	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
1998 Blue Imperial.....	12.00	144.00	_____	_____
2001 Shiraz & Blue Imperial.....	10.00	120.00	_____	_____
2000 Shiraz	10.00	120.00	_____	_____
NV Rutherglen Red	8.50	102.00	_____	_____
•NV Rutherglen Red (375ml).....	6.00	60.00	_____	_____

FORTIFIED TABLE WINES	Bottle	Flagon	Qty	Total
Dry Flor.....	9.00	18.00	_____	_____
Oloroso	13.00		_____	_____
Cream Sherry	13.00	27.00	_____	_____
Tokay.....	13.00	27.00	_____	_____
2001 Walnut Muscat.....	15.00		_____	_____
Muscat	13.00	27.00	_____	_____
Tawny (Port)	8.00	16.00	_____	_____
•Ruby (Port)	9.50	19.00	_____	_____
1998 Vintage Ruby (Port)	10.00		_____	_____
Mt Carmel (Liqueur Port)	13.00	27.00	_____	_____
1993 LBV (Late bottled Vintage Port)	15.00		_____	_____
•Old Tawny (Port)	17.50		_____	_____

LIMITED RELEASES — subject to availability	Bottle	Dozen	Qty	Total
Ol' Vol Muscadelle (375ml).....	20.00		_____	_____
Old Vine Muscadelle (375ml).....	20.00		_____	_____
Grand (Special) Muscat (375ml)	40.00		_____	_____

SUB TOTAL THIS PAGE \$ _____

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

• New Wine/Vintage /Price Cellar Door Price List - Spring 2003

SUB TOTAL C/F \$ _____

CLUB MEMBERS ONLY SPECIALS	Dozen \$	Qty	Total \$
Right As Rain	115.00	_____	_____
Rave Reds	115.00	_____	_____
How Sweet It Is!	130.00	_____	_____
If I Were A Rich Man	110.00	_____	_____
Not Half Nice!	115.00	_____	_____
Rhinos Revenge	108.00	_____	_____
Parker Pack	195.00	_____	_____

BULK WINE PRICES - OVER 20 LITRES	Per Ltr	26 Ltr		
Dry Red	5.00	130.00	_____	_____
Dry White.....	3.50	91.00	_____	_____
Tokay.....	12.00	312.00	_____	_____
Muscat	12.00	312.00	_____	_____
Tawny (Port)	6.50	169.00	_____	_____
Ruby (Port)	8.50	221.00	_____	_____
Mt. Carmel (Liqueur Port).....	12.00	312.00	_____	_____
•Dry Flor (Sherry)	7.00	182.00	_____	_____

N.B. \$10 security deposit on containers

SUB TOTAL \$ _____
PLUS FREIGHT \$ _____
TOTAL DUE \$ _____

FREIGHT COSTS

	1Ctn \$	2Ctn \$	3Ctn \$	4Ctn \$
Adelaide	12.70	20.70	28.60	36.50
Brisbane	16.50	28.30	40.20	52.10
Canberra	11.70	17.70	23.80	29.80
Melbourne	13.20	17.60	22.00	27.50
Vic-Rural	POA			
Sydney	10.40	17.00	22.50	29.10
NSW-Rural	POA			
Perth	32.00	50.30	68.60	86.90
Gold Coast	19.00	33.00	47.00	60.90
Tasmania	24.10	40.30	56.50	72.80

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: _____