

# Queensland Rose Bulletin

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## Sorry it's late!

The Christmas Break has been hectic and I have returned to a new job at work so this is a little delayed. Remember to keep sending me stories or problems you want solved

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### Disclaimer:

This Bulletin may suggest some controls for pests and diseases. This does not mean endorsement of a particular company's product. The suggestions are intended as a guide only and the choice or controls is yours. The information is gained from sources we deem reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy, and interested persons should rely on their own enquiries.

## Coming Events

February 11th (Wed)  
7pm, **Qld Rose Society** Monthly meeting at the Church Hall, 459 Annerley Rd, An-

February 22nd, Sunday  
2-4pm, **Qld Rose Society** Open Garden. John and Joan Dale's garden at "Rosedale," 12 Mayflower St, Warner

## Rose Sports – Genetic Mutations

By Paul Hains, Mt Gravatt East, Qld

I have recently come across a couple of "sports" of roses in our garden. The most notable is a hot pink "City of Newcastle" shown on this page. The red one from the same bush is on page two. I am in the process of trying to propagate this to see if it is going to be as strong as the parent plant.



"What is a sport?" I hear you asking. It is a naturally occurring genetic mutation that occurs on a branch of a rose bush.

These rose mutations may occur as a result of many possible causes. These include radiation (there is substantial natural radiation in the environment that could do it), chemical mutagens (far less likely in a plant, but possible), or just a random "mistake" made by the plant in the process of replicating the DNA.

The challenge with sports is that this mutation often

leads to a weaker stem or flower, hence when I occasionally get a weak white Moonstone that looks weak and under-developed I ignore it.

I had an email last week from someone who had found a green sport of St Patrick (pictured below). They were interested in growing this on for sale, so I passed them on to one of the larger nurseries who might be able to assist him.



To take that next step to production roses need to be tested for vigour and disease resistance, often in a number of climatic situations.

I saw an interesting rose flower recently at the DDRS show which was a half Madame Teresa, half Bridget's Joy rose. This is called a "Sectorial Chimera." A chimera is a plant with two different genetic codes. In this case the line of demarcation in the flower was very precise. It looked like he had dyed one half of the flower. Unfortunately, I don't have a picture of it. Bridget's joy is

a sport of Madame Teresa.



Bridget's Joy



Mme Teresa

If you do get something that does not look normal on your bush, you could have the next new big thing. Call someone from one of the Rose Societies and tell them what you found. See if they can help you to propagate it so that others can enjoy this new flower too.

The first thing to check is that the plant has not reverted back to its original bush. Our Burgundy Icebergs (Sport of White Iceberg) used to regularly send out a branch with White flowers. They are simply Iceberg.

*GOOD LUCK!*



## Rose of The Month – City of Newcastle

By Toni Hains, Mt Gravatt East, Qld

The rose “City of Newcastle” was bred in the United States in 1997 by Keith Zary of Jackson and Perkins. It is also known as “Lady in Red” or “Veterans’ Honour” which is the name by which it is sold in the USA. It was bred from Showstopper and an unnamed seedling but has such roses as “Samantha”, “Bridal Pink” and “Royalty” in its bloodline. It is a dark red hybrid tea with a moderate scent of raspberries.

We grow “City of Newcastle” because in the subtropics it is

an outstanding rose. Not only does it exhibit disease resistance, it is a big healthy vigorous bush that produces a large number of long stemmed flowers. These flowers have a very long vase life and I am sure the flowers increase in size once cut and bought inside.

Initially the bush may need a foliar feed with a little Potash to encourage it to hold its flower heads up but once the bush establishes there is no looking back. Our bushes are about two meters tall so if you

do purchase one of these, give it plenty of room.

We loved the three “City of Newcastle” we initially planted so much that over the last two years we have removed other roses in order to plant three more. I am actually thinking of trying to squeeze a few more in this June.

If you want a wow bunch of roses to give a friend, get yourself one of these (or six).

*“Send Paul your questions and he will try to solve them, or if he can’t he will post them here to get help”*

## Do you know the Rose Vivienne Maire?

Email [qrssec@bigpond.com](mailto:qrssec@bigpond.com) with your answers

I'm trying to find a rose called "Vivienne Maire" released by Ian Huxley and described as follows: "1990 Damask. Double pink blooms with a strong fragrance on a large shrub. A seedling of Quatre Saisons dis-

covered on an old railway line and named after the finder. More continuous than its parent."

Do you know if it would grow in Queensland conditions

(sunshine coast) and where I could find one?

Kind regards

Shauna



## Please Help Me Identify This Rose

Catherine O'Connor, [cathyoconnor@hotmail.com](mailto:cathyoconnor@hotmail.com)

I am wondering if you could give me some information on the rose that is known as the Bigriggen rose? We are doing a history of the Flanagans who owned Bigriggen where the rose was grown. It is in SE Qld. I am also contacting the Heritage Rose people too.

In a text that I read recently, it was postulated that it could be a hybrid of the La Reine variety. I am not au fait with rose history to any great degree, but am I right in assuming that if it is a hybrid it would not have come from Ireland as the Flangans arrived here in

1862 before hybrids were developed?

They lived at Tamborine (SE QLD closer to the coast) for 9 years before going to Bigriggen. Could the rose have been bred at Waterford or Tamborine? I am just wondering if that narrows down what type of rose it actually is. I have attached some photos of the rose. I do hope that you don't mind my asking. I just want to make sure that we don't write anything that is inaccurate if we can help it.

Colour: Medium pale pink

Bloom Form: Petals are rounded almost cup-shaped – orbicular

Bloom Season: Mainly Spring and some in Autumn

Bloom Size: Approx 8cm across

Fragrance: Strongly perfumed  
Growth: Upright, long ranging canes, easily suckering, multi-stemmed.

Thanks in advance your time and knowledge.

Cheers, Catherine O'Connor (Great granddaughter of original Flanagans)

[cathyoconnor@hotmail.com](mailto:cathyoconnor@hotmail.com)

## February Event – “Rosedale” Visit

12 Mayflower St, Warner ... 2-4pm, 22 February 2009

John Dale has been the top Champion exhibitor of the Queensland Rose Society for many years. It is almost worth the trip to John and Joan's house to see the walls of Champion ribbons in that fill the garage.

John has around four hundred rose bushes in his garden, predominantly hybrid teas. You will also see the bush of Dr Huey he uses for creating understock to create new copies of his bushes by budding.

Then there are the rows of potted understock, and budded plants as well as his nurs-

ery area of plants he is getting ready to move into the real garden. The photo on the right is John showing off a Kardinal in his nursery area. There is no charge for attending this event and Joan makes a great cup of tea.

Get there at 2pm and have a quick wander before John takes us on a guided tour of the garden. Make sure you don't miss the tour!

You will see some beautiful flowers, get great advice and see why John is always at the winner's table.

Friends welcome.



## Plastic Vases Wanted for Rose Shows

Can anyone help? – email [qrssec@bigpond.com](mailto:qrssec@bigpond.com)

The QRS is looking to replace it's current range of glass vases used for displaying roses at Rose Shows. They would like to obtain suitable plastic vases. These range in size from tiny bottles for minatures, to mint sauce bottles and up to 1 litre carafes for large arrangements.

If anyone knows where we can obtain suitable plastic vases please contact Paul Hains,

QRS Secretary on [qrssec@bigpond.com](mailto:qrssec@bigpond.com).

The critical thing with these vases is that they must be able to take a hybrid tea or a multi-head floribunda stem in the vase without falling over. Traditionally the glass bottles are heavy which stops them tipping. Any thoughts or suggestions are very welcome.



*“QRS would like help in obtaining some plastic bottles for Rose Exhibitions”*

## Focus on Rose Types – Polyantha

From Wikipedia <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rose>

Literally "many-flowered" roses, from the Greek "poly" (many) and "anthos" (flower). Originally derived from crosses between two East Asian species (*Rosa chinensis* and *R. multiflora*), polyanthas first appeared in France in the late 1800s alongside the hybrid teas. They featured short plants — some compact, others spreading in habit —

with tiny blooms (1" in diameter on average) carried in large sprays, in the typical rose colors of white, pink and red. Their main claim to fame was their prolific bloom: From spring to fall, a healthy polyantha shrub might be literally covered in flowers, creating a strong color impact in the landscape. Polyantha roses are still regarded as low-

maintenance, disease-resistant garden roses today, and remain popular for that reason. Examples: 'Cecile Brunner', 'The Fairy', 'Red Fairy'.

*The polyantha on the right is Mme Taft. I rescued this from under a tree at my grandmother's house in SA by taking a cutting. There was only one viable stem left on the original — Paul*



# Dear Rose Doctor... Reader Questions

Email [qrssec@bigpond.com](mailto:qrssec@bigpond.com) with your answers/solutions



How it starts



Spreads to cover entire stem

I was wondering if you would be so kind as to identify a problem (and hopefully a solution!!) for me please.

One of my roses seems to have developed "blackspot of the stem". Large black spots appear on new shoots. As time progresses, the spots grow larger until they join up and the whole stem appears black. The leaves do not appear to be affected at all.

It appears to be Cane Canker caused by Botrytis. I identified it from this site: <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/content/PW/GARD/COMROSPROB.PDF>

I would be grateful for any advice or ideas you may be able to offer regarding this problem.

*“more bang for your buck with Queensland Rose Society activities in 2009”*

## 2009 is the Year of Activities at QRS

The Queensland Rose Quarterly out shortly

2009 heralds a start to more bang for your buck with Queensland Rose Society activities. When you receive your copy of “The Queensland Rose” (the QRS Quarterly Newsletter) in the mail next month you will see a myriad of activities for QRS members for the rest of the year.

QRS aims to ensure that mem-

bers receive maximum value for their membership. Over the coming months QRS members will have the opportunity to go to the Dale’s garden (see page 3), we are aiming for a combined pruning day with The Gold Coast Rose Society, Darling Downs Rose Society and Roselovers’ Association (to be finalised), a Christmas in July Dinner, and

a day at Donelle’s.

If you are receiving this bulletin and are not a member, reply to this email and ask about joining and we will waive the \$5 joining fee. It’s the best \$25 you will spend this year, as joining now will have you signed up until 30th June 2010!! That’s 5 months for free.

