

**The Journal of Heritage Roses  
in Australia Inc.**



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Front cover: ‘Gomesal’, Hybrid Perpetual or Damask Perpetual, a common cemetery rose in SA. Mauve-pink, sometimes has a button eye, well-scented and repeats well. Produces red hips. It is low-growing and suckers on its own roots.  
Photo by Pat Toolan.

Photos not attributed, other than historic ones, are by the Editor.

*Readers are reminded that views expressed in the Journal are not necessarily those of the editors, who reserve the right to condense an article or if necessary hold it over for later publication.  
Some photos in the Journal have been posted on [www.belpmeford.com](http://www.belpmeford.com).*

## OLD ADELAIDE HOUSES

Old SA houses differ from those of the eastern states, in that wooden houses, terraces and Federation style are rare.

Early survivors are wattle-and-daub or local stone +/- plaster; later, builders used yellow sandstone or brown/grey "blues tone". (Mt Gambier used limestone, which is not photogenic.) Roofs were corrugated iron.



▲ 1836-50, simple gable roof with lean-to,  
▼ 1860-1915, symmetrical, 4 rooms.



▲ 1880-1915, double-fronted. Blues tone.

In affluent times, verandahs were floored with slate or tessellated tiles; wrought iron lace decorated fences and verandahs; leadlight was used in windows and to frame front doors, and finials proliferated.



Sandstone. Return verandah, from c. 1900,  
6 finials. Brush fence added after c. 1940.  
▲ Variant of "Queen Anne" style, 1900-20.



Until around 1970, 2-storied houses were considered ostentatious. With reason.

The typical SA hotel has 2 or 3 storeys with stepped verandahs ("wedding-cake style").

▼ Art Nouveau, 1900-20; wooden decoration.





## 'GOLDEN DAWN'

by Margaret Furness, *Blossoms & Beyond*  
based on research by Patricia Routley.



Sometimes amateur breeders hit the jackpot (consider *Etna Harkness*, '*Sally Holmes*', '*Rhapsody in Blue*'). '*Golden Dawn*' (HT, '*Elegante*' x '*Ethel Somerset*') released in 1929 by Patrick Grant of Macksville, NSW, had a substantial impact. It was among the top 12 roses recommended for exhibition in Australia, New Zealand, the UK and the USA, the only Australian-bred rose to achieve this. It was awarded a First Class Trial Ground Certificate of Merit. It was considered the finest non-Permetiana yellow for both bedding and exhibition – until '*Peace*' came along and nearly sent it into oblivion.

The buds are tinged pink or red. The flowers are sunflower-yellow fading pale, often with pink on the guard petals, and are large and double. They last well as cut flowers, with a Tea fragrance. The bush is compact, to about 1m x 1m, and is well-branched.

There were of course growers who complained that it wasn't golden, and that it produced too many blooms with split centres. (My quarrel with it is that its flushes don't coincide with the Adelaide rose shows!

I enjoy putting oldies in "modern" classes.)

'Golden Dawn' had a tendency to sport there are three climbing forms, in different countries. At least eight colour sports are listed, all resembling its pollen parent. It's possible that some may have been exported and re-named, rather than being new mutations. '*Queensland Beauty*' was released by Alderton and Williams in 1934.



Either Grant or Hazlewood's nursery must have had entrepreneurial flair! '*Golden Dawn*' may have been (trying to find the reference!) the first rose to be marketed via a colour photo (above, provided by Rob Peace), sent to nurserymen. But that wasn't enough to fend off the avalanche of new roses after WWII. It took a letter from Deane Ross in



L, 'Golden Dawn'; R, 'Queensland Beauty'  
 v 'Ethel Somerset'



an early HRIA Journal to re-discover it, in a garden in Pt Lincoln. Later it turned up as a found rose 'Kate's Yellow' and was identified when it was planted close to 'Cl Golden Dawn', one of many roses presented by Mrs Sheila Gravett in WA.

'Golden Dawn' is now listed by only one nursery in Australia, like another of Gant's roses, 'Midnight Sun' (1921, HT). His

polyantha 'Salmon Spray' (1923), which also received a NRS award, grows in several major overseas collections but has been lost in Australia. 'Queensland Beauty' was presented by Dick Alderton's family and passed from Steve Beck to Rob Peace, but is no longer in commerce. 'Cl Golden Dawn' is being propagated for us but it appears unhappy in coastal NSW, and it may be a while before it reaches Ren mark.

Let's not lose them again. ♦



'Queensland Beauty', photo by Rob Peace, who wrote of it: 'I picked this as a bud a few days ago ... The petals are so thick and lovely. The form is so perfect! When it's compared to the other roses around in the '20s, it's no wonder people sat up and took notice of 'Golden Dawn'.

Ren ♦ Ren

v Roses everywhere: N Tas, December 1970, with a Brownie camera. Vale Kodak.

