

Hartzview Vineyard before Pickers Hut Restoration



Vineyard Platter, wines, ports, Liqueurs & Mead



Visitor being photographed in front of pickers hut





Huts before restoration



Inside Polleys hut before restoration



Rosa Large in front of her hut



Trip back in time to little Rosa's Hartzview



THE clock has been wound back to a bygone era at Hartzview Vineyard in the Huon Valley.

Tourists and locals alike can tread the path of those who lived there in the early 1900s.

The newly restored fruit pickers' huts at Hartzview were officially launched at the end of last month and are now open to the public.

They offer a unique glimpse into the Huon's heritage where visitors can stroll through the heritage-listed pickers hut village, which housed hundreds of families over the years.

The site's seven huts have been restored using an \$80,000 grant from the State Government.

The huts complement the vineyard's sprawling views across the Hartz Mountains and the site's winery, cellar door and cafe.

During the picking season the huts housed several families, up to eight people at a time, and became the place for cooking, sleeping, eating and entertaining.

In 1948 Rosa Large, then aged 12, was packed

Profile

up to go on a family fruit picking holiday at Hartzview Vineyard, a place where some of her most fond childhood memories now reside.

Mrs Large, the oldest of seven children, spent three weeks of her summer holidays picking raspberries and gooseberries with her mother and her dad joined them on the weekends.

She earned a wage which paid for her school books and played with a colourful array of children who were staying with their own families in the remaining picker's huts.

While others bathed in the communal bathroom, Mrs Large and family were given the privilege of once a week bathing in the outhouse, which was owned by her father's uncle, the first owner of the property, Les Polley.

At night she would and-tail with her siblings in the four bunk beds and her dad and brother would sleep in the trailer of the family's truck.

Des Polley ploughing with “Bonnie”



Les Polley and son Des with picking tins full of small fruit



Two pickers outside huts



Heritage listing for fruit pickers' huts

New love for the old ways

ANGUS HOHENBOKEN

A HISTORIC pickers' hut village once inhabited by Italian prisoners of war at Gardners Bay has been placed on the Tasmanian Heritage Register.

Built between the 1920s and 1940s the seven pickers' huts, packing shed, washhouse and meat shed are dotted around the hilltop property Hartzview south of Huonville.

Used by hard-working families employed to pick black currants, raspberries, gooseberries, strawberries and blackberries, the buildings represent a slice of Tasmania's agricultural history.

Hartzview co-owner Anthea Patterson said the huts brought charm and a strong sense of history to the property, which is now a vineyard.

"They represent a lifestyle which has since died out," Mrs Patterson said.

"Small-fruit picking was a way of life for these families working in the Huon and



PRESERVATION MISSION: Anthea Patterson and the pickers' huts at Hartzview Vineyard at Gardners Bay. She has a for grants to restore them and recapture the pickers' life. Pictures: SAM ROSEV

Cultural Heritage Significance

- ***“The picker’s huts and associated structures are of historic heritage significance because of their ability to demonstrate a rare and intact complex of structures relating to the small fruit industry during the mid twentieth century. The group of structures are important because they represent a distinctive way of life and custom that is no longer practiced in Tasmania.”***

Three generations of Polleys





Vintage car club visitors



Previous pickers in their teenage years reminiscing



Two Italian POW's



Vintage Car club visiting huts



Visitors enjoying pickers huts

