

December 2021

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Honey Biscuits, heritage and wine in time



It's December, and I'm putting on my apron, opening the recipe book, and putting on some carols. My granddaughter and I are weighing out honey, flour, sugar, eggs. The Christmas cutters are dug out from the drawer (including the Christmas crocodile 😊). We're mixing, rolling, cutting and baking. It's honey biscuit time!

Honey biscuits are a German Christmas tradition that has been shared and enjoyed for generations. Their delicious sweetness, studded with flavours of cinnamon, ginger, all-spice and cloves, carries not only the love of the maker but also the story of where they came from. German migrants brought the recipe out with them back in the 1800's, and generations of their descendants all over Australia have enjoyed them ever since.

Food and drink are such powerful ways of connecting us to our heritage. The aroma and taste of familiar foods evoke powerful

memories and truly are food for the soul as well as the body. Family recipes are our story on a plate. Even though we can look up recipes online, my favourite ones are those written out by hand, with names like "Aunty Jenny's lemon cake", and a smear of butter making some of the words almost illegible!



Honey Biscuit Recipe from the Rechner Recipe Book.

HONEY BISCUIT RECIPE

Recipe by Yvonne (Yvonne) Kummerow (nee Stolz)
Supplied by Kath Kummerow

INGREDIENTS

2 lbs honey	1 tsp ground allspice	4 tps bicarbonate soda
1 lb sugar	1 tsp cinnamon	Put enough flour in to
4 well beaten eggs	1/2 tsp ground cloves	make a stiff dough

METHOD

1. Pre-heat oven to 175°C (325°F). Roll out the dough (1/2 inch thick) on a floured surface. Cut into desired biscuit shapes. Bake on a moderate oven, 10-12 min. Remove.

Mum would decorate these biscuits in 2 ways

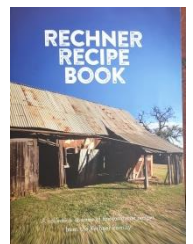
1. Before baking, put a light coating on the biscuits and brush with beaten egg.
2. After baking, allow the biscuits to cool, so you can write away and dip into COCO and COCO.

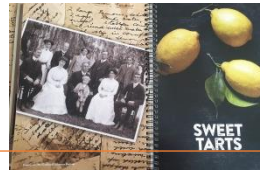
Our Mum always made these around Christmas time. One of our lovely memories of her Mum used the following recipe from The Rechner Cookery Book (Mrs J. Rechner, Bethany).



What are your favourite family recipes? Do you have one for honey biscuits?

If you would like to gift someone you love (maybe even yourself) with a taste of family heritage, there are still some copies of the **Rechner recipe book**. It is beautifully presented, and along with recipes from generations of Rechner family members, it also has many wonderful photos of the family and the cottage. It is \$50 (plus \$10 postage), is a gorgeous way to pass on some of your heritage, and all profits go towards the conservation of the cottage.





Our Rechner Cottage wine is another great heritage gift.

The growing, making and enjoyment of wine is another gift our German forefathers have given us. Listening to the stories of times gone by, so many of their social interactions were accompanied by a glass of wine. You can help connect someone to their heritage with the gift of a Rechner Cottage wine, or serve them at your Christmas table. To make it easier for you to do this, we are also offering mixed and half-dozen options.

This would make a unique gift, and the wines are delicious. We have attached an order form and tasting notes for you. Order by 8th December to make sure you get them in time for Christmas☺



It's Christmas

Give the gift of heritage

Rechner Cottage Wines

Now also available in mixed dozens or half-



ORDER BY 8TH DECEMBER TO ENSURE CHRISTMAS DELIVERY.

What matters is the story...

"If you don't recount your family history, it will be lost. Honor your own stories and tell them too. The tales may not seem very important, but they are what binds families and makes each of us who we are."

-Madeleine L'Engle

Robyn has been busy collecting and recording stories and memories of Light Pass and the Cottage. It's so interesting to hear them and we look forward to sharing them with you! The stories bring life to the past, and, just as people's telling of the stories matters, the buildings also tell a story. Their location, style, method of construction, the materials used - even their state of upkeep (or disrepair) - all of these things make fascinating living 'reading'.

If you have memories or stories of Light Pass, please get in touch - we'd love to hear them. And don't forget how

important your own stories are - the ones from your past, and the ones you are living and writing now.



People's Choice Community Lottery.

Once again we are taking part in the People's Choice Community Lottery. 100% of the money goes towards the conservation of the cottage, so it's a wonderful way to support us. You might even win one of the great prizes on offer, including cars and a Harvey Norman entertainment package. You can buy as many or as few tickets as you wish, at just \$2 a ticket.

<https://communitylottery.peopleschoice.com.au/products/rechner-cottage-conservation-association>



Thank you, and Merry Christmas

And finally, thank you for your interest in Rechner Cottage over the year, and your support for its conservation. Now that the groundwork has been done, it will be very exciting to see the actual conservation work unfold. And we look forward to the other projects that are developing alongside— the podcasts, the collecting of stories, and events such as pugging workshops and wine-tastings. We also value the connections we are making with all those who are interested in the cottage, the family connection, and the Light Pass heritage.

We hope you and your families have a very happy and blessed Christmas, filled with joy and peace – and why not a honey biscuit or two?

Warm Christmas greetings from us all,

Robyn, Catherine, Andy and Jo

The Rechner Cottage Conservation Association Committee