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Rosa (Hybrid Musk Roses bred by Pemberton & Bentall 1912–1939)

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This Historical Collection reflects the work of an interesting amateur rose breeder Rev Joseph Hardwick Pemberton who lived from 1852 – 1926. Pemberton loved the old roses of his grandmother's time, which he grew up with, but he bemoaned the fact that they did not flower for a longer period.



So Pemberton set about trying to create a group of roses which had the charm and scent of these old roses, but which flowered for a longer period. His work was carried on after his death by his sister Florence and then by his gardener John Bentall.

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The Collection is in the gardens of Dutton Hall a 16th century house in a picturesque setting overlooking the Ribble Valley in Lancashire. There are many other shrub roses growing in the garden including some of the varieties Pemberton loved in his childhood like the alba rose 'Great Maiden's Blush' (pictured on the right).

And the gallica rose 'Tuscany', both of which have a heavy scent, a characteristic which Pemberton wanted to reproduce.



The hybrid musk roses were recognised as a separate group during Pemberton's lifetime. They are characterised by having large trusses of flower borne on strong stems, they are predominantly in pastel shades, but there are some in stronger shades of pink and red. They are excellent shrub roses which do indeed flower plentifully and for a long time.





The best time to visit the garden to see most rose flower is from mid June to mid July. The autumn is another good time when the Pemberton roses show off their long flowering quality and there are other trees and shrubs in the garden exhibiting hips, haws and autumn colour.

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Thank you for your support.

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