



Windrush News!



Windrush Wines Newsletter- Summer 2008-2009

Welcome to the second edition of the Windrush Wines and Vineyard Café newsletter!
This edition brings you an update on the season as we head towards vintage 2009- plus winners from our monthly prize draw- and more!

In the vineyard



The wet spring has left our rich gravel-loam soils full of water and the vines are thriving- so much so that we have just hedged our vine rows to open up the canopy and let the sunlight in. This helps reduce any mildew risk, and starts the grape ripening process.

It also sets up the vine rows for nets to keep our feathered friends out – we don't need bird peck as we rapidly head towards veraison- the ripening!

We hope the red-gum trees ('Marri'- *Corymbia calophylla*) will flower this summer after two years of virtually no flowers. The birds that love the Marri flower will often decide grapes will do for a feed if they can't find Marri- so lets hope our resident silvereyes, ringneck parrots and honey eaters get a good red-gum blossom season!

News from Guinea!!

The Windrush Pest Control Team have taken a bit of a battering from the neighbourhood foxes- numbers are down but spirits are up!

We have ordered some new pest controllers and hope they will arrive in about 6 to 8 weeks time.

To get them used to their new home we put them into a big chicken run for a few weeks until they learn the landscape- after which they join the rest of the gang and start work foraging for a living.

Hopefully the new fox control program in the Great Southern will see a reduction in their numbers and greater peace of mind for our organic pest squad!



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From the cellar...

Windrush Prize Draw Winners!

Our November prize draw saw Ross and Amanda Allison's prize entry card drawn from the barrel. Ross, from Amerillup, called in and collected two bottles of 2007 chardonnay- we hope you enjoyed them!

The December prize draw resulted in Dean and Susan Arps of Como becoming Windrush Winners! They selected 2 bottles of our gold medal-winning 2007 shiraz, which we were pleased to ship by post.

Remember- fill in your prize entry card each time you visit Windrush Wines & The Vineyard Café! All of our monthly prize draw winners go into the annual prize of a dozen bottles of Windrush wines or a \$200 café gift voucher.

February Wine Specials available for 'Friends of Windrush'

- 2006 Shiraz- \$16 a bottle! (RRP \$18)
- 2007 Chardonnay- \$21.90 a bottle- selling fast!
- 2007 Rosé- \$19.90- don't miss out- almost gone!
- 2007 Shiraz- \$22.90 per bottle- Gold medal!

Please mention 'February Special when ordering!



Planning the 2009 Vintage!!

As the 2009 vintage approaches with our fruit looking really good (fingers crossed, touch wood...) we are now planning our 2009 production.

We are working with Greg Jones, Senior Winemaker at the Vintage Wineworks.. Greg was a key player in producing our premium 2007 chardonnay, rosé and shiraz which are so popular and have won so many medals!

2009 will see a rosé from shiraz grapes and also a 2009 chardonnay to replace current stocks-(both almost sold out!).

We are also excited by the prospect of making a 'blanc de noir' from this year's cabernet sauvignon. In this style, we crush the red berries of cabernet but remove the skins immediately- making a white wine from red grapes! This is a real 'European' style which should be different and great!

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Christmas at the The Vineyard Café

We were thrilled to host a large number of great functions at The Vineyard Café in the lead-up to Christmas. Work end-of-year parties as well as Christmas get-togethers were a great experience for us- and for our guests. We had some really good feedback and look forward to hosting any function, whether at Christmas or through the year. Just contact Caroline to find out how we can help you put on a wonderful event!



Mount Barker Grapes & Gallops- a great day out!



Sunday the 18th January 2009 saw the running of the second annual Grapes & Gallops event at Mount Barker.

This partnership between the Mount Barker Wine Producers Association and the Mount Barker Turf Club resulted in a fantastic day of top-class horse racing combined with premium Mount Barker wines to taste and buy direct from Mount Barker's best producers.

The horse racing, including the \$90,000 Mungrup Stud Sprint feature event was also a great drawcard for the crowd and the tote was running hot!

The popularity of the day has really grown since the 2008 inaugural event and we think 2010 will be even bigger and better. Book it into your January 2010 calendar and stay in touch with Windrush or the Mount Barker Visitor Centre for updates.



As well as the racing, everyone enjoyed the opportunity to taste and buy great wines including Windrush! David and Sabine were pretty busy keeping the tasting glasses full- luckily there was a breather every time a race was run!

10 producers offered their great wines and the crowd made it worthwhile with great feedback and wine sales



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