

# Grampians Estate News

Issue 20

Dec 2013 Edition



Grampians Estate is a major sponsor of the Stawell Gift

## 2010 Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz awarded a Blue-Gold at the Sydney International Wine Competition



The Sydney International Wine Competition set itself apart from other wine shows in that it judges its wines with food. The competition began in 1981 and the 2,000 entries are judged by a panel of leading Australian wine people and six overseas experts. Blue-Gold is top shelf.

The 2010 Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz was recently reviewed by winegenius.com: Overt, jam-packed with fruit sweetness and quite delicious. This deeply purple coloured Sparkling Shiraz is full of dark cherry, cola characters and ribena confection. Whilst relying on its fruit driven core, complexity is also shown; with offerings of gentle earthy tones, slatey tannins and focused acidity. Drink 2013—2019. Score 94.

Sparkling Shiraz is a truly Australian style. It was invented here and it is more popular in Australia than anywhere else in the world. Its very appropriate therefore that we celebrate the style each year on **National Sparkling Red Day** on 18th June. The special day was conceived in Melbourne in 1991 with the aim to revive and sustain 'Sparkling Burgundy' – Australian Sparkling Red as Australia's unique wine. This year one function honouring the occasion was held in Merimbula where one of the movement's greatest supporters, Ian Loftus was the guest speaker. One of the wines present was the 2009 Grampians Estate Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz which contained fruit from the birthplace of the style, Great Western.

With Xmas approaching, its time to stock up on your sparkling shiraz.



## TROPHY 2012 Mafeking Gold Chardonnay

The 2012 Mafeking Gold Chardonnay won the Consumer's Trophy for Best Chardonnay at the 2013 Western Victorian Wine Challenge. The show judges wines from the Henty, Grampians, Pyrenees and Ballarat Wine Regions. All wines are judged by professional wine show judges, then the gold and silver award winners are judged by a panel of 'knowledgeable consumers.'



When it came to the judging, the esteemed judges awarded their trophy to Seppelts 2011 Drumborg Chardonnay, recently awarded as Australia's Best Chardonnay in James Halliday's Chardonnay Challenge of 540 of the country's top chardonnays. Fair enough. However, the consumers panel disagreed with the judges and awarded the Grampians Estate 2012 Mafeking Gold Chardonnay the Consumer's Trophy.

This chardonnay is 100% from the Mafeking vineyard, was hand-picked, then barrel-fermented.

At \$22/bottle, this vintage is selling out fast, especially as drinkers make the switch from that NZ 'stuff' back to glorious new-style elegant Aussie chardonnays.

### GRAMPIANS ESTATE

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### CELLAR DOOR

Western Hwy  
Great Western

### Opening Times

10—5pm EVERY Day  
(Except Xmas Day)

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## WINE NEWS

### New Releases & latest reviews



#### 2011 Mafeking Shiraz

This Mafeking Shiraz is a medium-bodied, ready to drink now wine. The cool vintage produced a fragrant spicy wine in a very cool-climate style.

Wine Showcase Magazine gave it 89 pts (Silver medal).  
Cellar Door: \$22

#### 2009 Streeton Reserve Shiraz

Winegenius recently reviewed the 2009 Streeton:



An intensely perfumed, spiced and complex Shiraz. Deep and brooding purple in colour, ripe plums, cassis and black olive build powerful fruit character. This fruit mix is added to black pepper, cedary oak and silky tannins. A wonderful example of how Central Victorian Shiraz can be both powerful and elegant. Drink 2013—2020. 95 points.

James Halliday went one better in his 2014 Wine Companion:

Bright purple-crimson; an intensely flavoured and very long palate, with berry fruits, mainly black, spice and pepper has been achieved with effortless ease; 18 months maturation in French and American oak has simply provided the means to achieve this. Will be very long lived. Drink to 2032. 96 points.

#### 2006 St Ethel's Shiraz

Still available. 100% St Ethel's vineyard at Great Western. In 2012 it won the Trophy for Best Museum Wine at the Victorian Wine Show. In 2013 it was just one of two Gold medals awarded in the Museum Class.



#### 2011 Garden Gully Vineyard St Ethel's Shiraz

A single vineyard shiraz from the 130 year old Garden Gully vineyard at Great Western. Review by Winegenius.com: Youthfully purple and opaque. This shiraz has both old world charm and new world grunt. The bouquet offers fragrant spice, cigar box and earthy tones, whereas its voluminous mouth-feel leads to ripe cheery, dark plum and vanilla. Drink 2013—2018. Score 92. RRP \$35.

#### 2013 Garden Gully Vineyard Riesling

Released December 2013 just in time for summer. A balanced wine showing good lemon and lime flavours. An ideal match to all those prawns, crayfish, scallops and fish which will be on the menu over the summer season.



#### Sheeppark Flat Port

Don't forget this favourite over the Christmas months. Remember: 'Drink while viewing sunsets, it makes for brighter colours.'

Cellar door: \$15

#### Purchasing GE Wines

All Grampians Estate wines are available on the website [www.grampiansestate.com](http://www.grampiansestate.com).

If you Google 'Grampians Estate' make sure you click on the Grampians Estate website not other companies.

Grampians Estate wines bob up on many important occasions all over the country—happy 40th Kelvin Donnan!



#### Cellar Door

We have a new staff member to welcome: Goldie Rowe. Goldie taught at the Ararat Community College for many years and is the wife of Don who is one of the Grampians Estate winemaking team.

The cellar door team are regularly tweeking the produce line-up and the espresso coffee signs on the highway continue to help increase visitor numbers.

**Boosey Creek olive oil** is the latest edition. Ian and Ian MacDonald's olive oils collected a gold and a silver medal at the 14th Wangaratta Show this year.

We look forward to the return of our No 1 weekend man, Doug Dalgliesh, who has been getting a new hip. Jane, Suellen, Paul and Sarah had "big" shoes to fill.

#### A Farmer's view on technology

LOGON: Adding wood to make the barbie hotter.

MONITOR: Keeping an eye on the barbie  
DOWNLOAD: Getting the firewood off the Ute.

HARD DRIVE: Making the trip back home without any cold tinnies.

KEYBOARD: Where you hang the Ute key  
WINDOW: What you shut when the weather's cold.

SCREEN: What you shut in the mozzie season.

BYTE: What mozzies do.

MEGABYTE: What Townsville mozzies do.

MODEM: What you did to the lawns.

SEARCH ENGINE: What you do when the Ute won't go.

CURSOR: What you say when the Ute won't go.

YAHOO: What you say when the Ute does go.

UPGRADE: A steep hill.

SERVER: The person at the pub who brings out the counter lunch.

MAIL SERVER: The bloke at the pub who brings out the counter lunch.

USER: The neighbour who keeps borrowing things.

NETWORK: What you do when you need to repair the fishing net.

INTERNET: Where you want the fish to go.

NETSCAPE: What the fish do when they discover a hole in the net.

ONLINE: Where you hang the washing.  
OFFLINE: Where the washing ends up when the pegs aren't strong enough.

# Events



The **2013 Grampians Grape Escape** broke all records for attendance and weather. The first weekend in May produced two glorious sunny days which attracted capacity crowds who enjoyed cooking demonstrations from Poh Ling Yeow, the grape-stomping competition, fabulous music and over 100 food and wine exhibitors.



The highlight of the Festival was the '150 years of winemaking in the Grampians' dinner with Viv Thompson from Bests as the guest speaker. In reviewing the last 150 years, he noted that in 1960, when he started as a winemaker there were only 16 wineries in Victoria. Today there are 850 of which over 600 have cellar doors. Those cellar doors provide a fantastic tourism attraction for regional Victoria.

The Grampians Winemakers hosted several events during 2013 to celebrate the region's history. In August the **Melbourne Cricket Club Wine & Food Society** hosted a dinner in the MCC Member's Dining Room for 180 to hear Ian MacKenzie, former Senior Winemaker of Seppelts, address the guests.

In October, Ian Mackenzie and Viv Thompson accompanied some wine writers for a **Media Tasting** at Seppelts. Some of the old wines on show included the 77 Bests Riesling and 78 Seppelts Riesling, 67 Bests Shiraz and 71 Seppelts Shiraz, a 67 Bests Pinot Meunier and finally the 61 Seppelts Show Sparkling Shiraz. As a participant in the tasting, Tom saw first hand just how brilliantly these wines had aged through the years, giving testament once again to what quality wines are grown in this region. The region's winemakers then joined the Media tasting crew for a special lunch in the Drives.



During Melbourne Cup Weekend in November all the Grampians Cellar Doors participated in a **Seriously Shiraz** promotion. Grampians Estate offered a Lucky Door Prize: the winner was Paul Heffernan of Croydon Nth. Another feature was the viewing of *Red Obsession*, a seriously good wine film produced by the legendary Warwick Ross. The long weekend promotion was a great success and will occur every Melbourne Cup weekend.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Flavour Exchange at Fed Square

New format—wine, beer, cider, food.

4.30—8.30pm

Wed 4th Dec & Thurs 5th Dec 2013

And next winter, new days on

Thur 19th, Fri 20th & Sat 21st June 2014

### Streeton Celebration

#### Picnic Tea at Yarram Park

Sat 14th December, 5pm.

Grampians Estate wines

Guest Speaker

See website for details

## OTHER NEWS

John Rex celebrated his 60th on several occasions, this one at Yarneck on the edge of the Grampians. Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz was the chosen as the appropriate celebratory drink.



In the first week of the AFL Finals, Port Adelaide sprung a surprise by beating Collingwood...



**Congratulations** to Jana Sadek and Steve Unkles who tied the knot in the Kings Domain Gardens on 23rd Nov 2013. Right on cue the rain stopped and the sun shone, none more brightly than on the newly married couple. For John and Deb, two down, two to go.



Don and Goldie Rowe recently ventured to Hawaii for the wedding of their daughter Sarah to Nick from Canada. Don took a liking to the local climate.



Michael Heinz and David Ross-Edwards went along to an OGG's function where Tom Hawkins was the guest speaker. Good footballers? As the saying goes: 'Two out of three aint bad.'



And look who Matilda Harley found wearing a Geelong scarf at the 2013 Grand Final? Will he need it in 2016?





The best way to enjoy Grampians Estate's premium wines is to join the Wine Club or the Streeton Club.

### WINE CLUB

**Free membership.** Stay in touch with all the news at Grampians Estate and receive regular e-newsletters or hard-copy if requested.

### STREETON CLUB

The Streeton Club provides discounted premium Grampians Estate wines to its most loyal customers. Commit to 2 or 4 dozen wines per year and Grampians Estate will throw in a free bottle of 2008 Streeton Reserve Shiraz (RRP \$65). We offer flexibility, great value and a personalised service.

**Features include:**

- Opt for the 'seasonal dozen' (\$250) or a selection of your choice
- Deliveries are 1st September (Spring dozen), 1st December (Summer dozen), 1st March (Autumn dozen), 1st June (Winter dozen)
- Free bottle of 2008 Streeton Reserve Shiraz on signing
- Free Freight (except WA and NT)
- Free cup of espresso coffee when visiting the cellar door
- Regular e-newsletters or hard-copy newsletters
- Your designated discount (15% or 20%) on further website orders
- Invitations to special events
- Priority access to limited edition wines
- Minimum membership is one year

### STREETON CLUB details

- Members will be contacted 2 weeks prior to each delivery to confirm wine selections and delivery details
- Members can change their selection at any time
- Payment will be automatically processed after the wine has been consigned for delivery
- Membership will automatically continue unless notification of cancellation is received

### Sign up to the STREETON CLUB!

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Contact name .....

Postal address .....

..... Postcode.....

Telephone .....

Email .....

Please select your preferred membership option (tick box):

**2 dozen per year**  
(15% discount)

**4 dozen per year**  
(20% discount)

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

VISA  MASTERCARD

Name on card .....

Credit card no.

Expiry date   /   CCV no.

Cardholder's signature .....

### STREETON CLUB selection options for the 2013/2014 Summer Delivery:

*Please select from the following wine selection options (ie. either 4 or 2 boxes checked):*

**SEASONAL DOZEN**

*(Cellar door price \$315. Member cost is \$250, a 20% discount)*

- ✓ 2 x 2010 Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz
- ✓ 2 x 2011 St Ethels Shiraz
- ✓ 2 x 2011 Mafeking Shiraz
- ✓ 2 x 2011 Muirhead Sparkling Rose
- ✓ 2 x 2013 Garden Gully Vineyard Riesling
- ✓ 2 x 2012 Mafeking Gold Chardonnay

**ALL RED DOZEN**

*(Cellar door price \$318, 15% discount = \$270.30, 20% discount = \$254.40)*

- ✓ 3 x 2008 Garden Gully Vineyard St Ethels Shiraz
- ✓ 3 x 2011 The National Game Shiraz
- ✓ 3 x 2010 Stawell Gift Shiraz
- ✓ 2 x 2010 Pollyanna's Pinot
- ✓ 1 x 2010 Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz

**ALL WHITE DOZEN**

*(Cellar door price \$261, 15% discount = \$221.85, 20% discount = \$208.80)*

- ✓ 3 x 2012 Mafeking Gold Chardonnay
- ✓ 3 x 2013 Garden Gully Vineyard Riesling
- ✓ 3 x 2012 Garden Gully Vineyard Riesling (sweeter style)
- ✓ 3 x 2009 Kellys Welcome Cuvee

**STREETON PACK**

*(Cellar door price \$780, 15% discount = \$663, 20% discount = \$624)*

- ✓ 1 x 2001 Streeton Reserve Shiraz (Halliday 94 pts, first ever Streeton, 2 gold)
- ✓ 2 x 2005 Streeton Reserve Shiraz (2 trophies, 3 gold)
- ✓ 3 x 2007 Streeton Reserve Shiraz (Halliday 94 pts)
- ✓ 3 x 2008 Streeton Reserve Shiraz (Halliday 94 pts)
- ✓ 3 x 2009 Streeton Reserve Shiraz (Halliday 96 pts)

**MEMBER'S PERSONAL SELECTION**

- ✓ Member selects a dozen and receives 15% or 20% discount depending on their plan.