

Grampians Estate News

Issue 24

December 2015 Edition



Grampians Grape Escape
Halls Gap Oval
April 30, May 1st 2016

CELLAR DOOR

1477 Western Hwy
Great Western

Opening Times

10—5pm EVERY Day
(Except Xmas Day)

Grampians Pyrenees Business Awards

Agribusiness Award

Employee of the Year Award



2012 Streeton Reserve Shiraz released with fanfare—two Trophies

A Streeton to savour

The long-awaited release of the 2012 Streeton Reserve Shiraz has arrived.



Not only is it the first Streeton since the highly regarded 2009 vintage, it is the first Streeton since the bushfire to be sourced totally from the Mafeking Vineyard.

2012 produced some great wines, however the vintage was very small. Only 70 dozen of the Streeton was made.

The wine picked up its first trophy at the 2015 Royal Agricultural Show of Queensland (RASQ) for Best Shiraz.

In November, the 2012 Streeton won its second trophy for Best Open Class Shiraz at the 25th Le Concours Des Vins held at Ethiad Stadium in late November.

The competition is conducted by the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI) and is judged by a panel including several from France. Some 470 wines from over 100 wineries from Victoria entered the competition.



Grampians Estate wins Agribusiness Award

Sarah and Tom were on hand to accept the Agribusiness Award from Ararat Mayor Paul Hooper at the 2015 Grampians Pyrenees Business Awards held in Ararat in December.

The award is testament to skill, dedication and commitment of the many employees who assist in growing the grapes, making the wine and manning the cellar door.

Sydney International Wine Competition Gold for the Sparkling Shiraz



The 2013 Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz won a Blue-Gold medal and was chosen in the Top 100

wines at the Sydney International Wine Competition. This show sets itself apart by judging the wines with food.

With the festive season upon us don't forget sparkling shiraz as a great aperitif or as a brilliant match to the roast turkey on the Christmas table.

Footnote: James Halliday Wine Companion 2009 "They have an exceptional newsletter that helps build fierce loyalty and as the vineyard recovers, the Guthries and their customers will be the winners."

WINE NEWS

New Releases & latest reviews

2013 Garden Gully Vineyard Barrel Block Shiraz



Winestate Magazine
Nov/Dec 2015:

"Complex nose with some great oak and elegant fruit aromas which echoed on the beautiful ripe rich chocolaty palate. This is the complete package. " 5 stars and contender for Winestate's "Wine of the Year".

A single vineyard shiraz from the Barrel Block at Great Western. \$50.

Garden Gully

2013 Mal's Block 8 Shiraz



Winestate Magazine
Nov/Dec 2015

"Ripe rich cherry berry-like fruit layered with nut milk chocolate characters and good oak complexity. Good tannin structure." 4 stars.

A single vineyard Pyrenees shiraz full of flavour and style sold under the Garden Gully brand. \$35

2014 Grampians GST



Winestate Nov 2015: "A fresh estery fruit bouquet and a stylish palate that's complex, long and well-balanced. A great wine to serve at lunch." 4 stars.

This wine (Grenache Shiraz Tempranillo) has a lovely savoury palate and has been a big hit. As we say, it has "10% more flavour". \$28

Trophy: 2015 Western Vic Wine Challenge.

2011 Muirhead Sparkling Rose



60% Chardonnay, 35% Pinot and 5% Pinot Meunier. A wonderful summer sparkling, pink in colour, stone fruit flavours with some pleasant creaminess, good acidity and lots of bubbles.

Bronze Medal 2015 Ballarat Wine Show.

\$25

2014 Grampians Grenache



This Italian grape is growing in popularity and matches up with a wide variety of foods. Light red in colour, it has seductive cherry aromas on the nose and a pleasant savoury palate. The grapes were sourced from the Arrawatta Vineyard at Great Western. \$25

2013 Mafeking Shiraz



Wine Genius March 2015:

"Finely crafted and certainly well-balanced. This deeply layered Shiraz offers soaked plum, mocha / cedary oak and vibrant crackling blue fruit acidity. Backed by fine tannins, with nuances of black olive, white pepper and floral lift. This is another excellent wine from Grampians Estate." \$24

EVENTS

Western Victorian Wine Challenge

This unique annual event judges wines from the Western Victorian regions of Ballarat, Pyrenees, Grampians and Henty. This year, three esteemed judges led by former Seppelts Chief winemaker Ian McKenzie, judged their way through the region's finest wines.

Where this show differs markedly from others is that all silver and gold medal winners are then judged by two panels of consumers, who eventually award their trophies for the best of each category.

Grampians Estate had a night to remember with three trophies:

Judges Trophy for Best Sparkling:
2005 Garden Gully Sparkling Shiraz

Consumer's Trophy Best Other Red:
2014 Grampians GST.

Museum Trophy: 2003 Streeton Reserve Shiraz. (NFS)



Pollyanna admires two of the trophies which were all made by local glass blower James McMurtrie from Pomonal.

Seriously Shiraz at the Cellar door

The Grampians Winemakers held their 3rd November Cup long weekend promotion with each of the wineries putting on a special treat for visitors. Amongst the treats at the Grampians Estate Cellar door was having the 2005 Garden Gully Sparkling Shiraz on tasting. This trophy winning wine comes in magnums and is only available at the cellar door.

2015 Grampians Pyrenees Business Awards

Suellen—Employee of the Year Award



Suellen Blackie is the new winner of 'Employee of the Year' Award in the local Business Awards. Having just celebrated ten years working at the cellar door, Suellen has deservedly won this award for her wide range of skills combined with her genuinely friendly personality and professional approach. Congratulations Suellen.

The judging criteria looked at personal criteria—friendly, reliable, enthusiastic, honest, creative, etc, and willingness to multi-skill and undertake further training.

It was obvious another entry was warranted; Selwood the kelpie. The submission read:

Selwood was born in 2010, the illegitimate son of Scarlet and Ted. Raised in a good home and having enjoyed a happy childhood, Selwood has had to be content with the No 2 sheepdog ranking behind his more illustrious mother Scarlet.

Undeterred, Selwood trained hard. With time, energy, and boundless enthusiasm he developed such a range of skills that he is now placed amongst the contenders for the Thermopylae Canine Hall of Fame. Like his namesake, he can leap fences with a single bound, shake hands with both paws and duck his head to win a free pat. Put simply, he is a legend in his own lunchtime.

Fame finally reached Selwood in 2014 when he was chosen to feature on the front cover of a book called Wine Dogs 3. In it, he lists his favourite toy as the Sherrin, his favourite food as a Four'n Twenty pie, and his favourite pastime as watching 2011 Grand Final replays of Geelong belting Collingwood.

Selwood cherishes the day when he can assume the mantle of No 1 sheepdog. In the meantime he will be content with the honour of being named the 2015 Employee of the Year.



Maybe next time....

Congratulations to Pom Will Orpwood on his marriage Kiwi Jenna Morton in November. They were married beside a trout stream at Piano Flat near Gore in the south of the South Island. Will worked on Thermopylae in 2005 and returned after the 2006 bushfire to help re-fence.



Visitors came from Australia, England and Scotland, which reminded the author of the story about THE SCOTTISH COW.

The only cow in a small town in Ireland stopped giving milk. Then the town folk found they could buy a cow in Scotland quite cheaply. So, they brought the cow over from Scotland.

It was absolutely wonderful, it produced lots of milk every day and everyone was happy. They bought a bull to mate with the cow to get more cows, so they'd never have to worry about their milk supply again.

They put the bull in the pasture with the cow but whenever the bull tried to mount the cow, the cow would move away. No matter what approach the bull tried, the cow would move away from the bull, and he was never able to do the deed.

The people were very upset and decided to go to the Vet, who was very wise, tell him what was happening and ask his advice.

"Whenever the bull tries to mount our cow, she moves away. If he approaches from the back, she moves forward. When he approaches her from the front, she backs off. If he attempts it from the one side, she walks away to the other side."

The Vet rubbed his chin thoughtfully and pondered this before asking, "Did you by chance, buy this cow in Scotland?"

The people were dumbfounded, since no one had ever mentioned that they had brought the cow over from Scotland.

"You are truly a wise Vet," they said. "How did you know we got the cow from Scotland?"

The Vet replied with a distant look in his eye: My wife is from Scotland.

In the Vineyard

The 2015/2016 season is well underway, The lack of rainfall during 2015, and the early onset of hot weather during the latter months of 2015 have created all sorts of headaches for farmers right across the country including grape growers.

Vines love the heat but like their owners, they also like a drink. Hopefully prudent use of water will see them through to harvest. Yields look good and the vines look well.

The machines pictured look a bit like spaceships but they are the new frost fans for the Garden Gully Vineyard at Great Western The 2014 crop was decimated by frost, these machines will hopefully minimise frost damage in future.



Talk about over qualified!

The woman applying for a job in a lemon orchard in Gayndah Qld, seemed to be far too qualified for the job. Given her arts and education degrees from Sydney University and her job as a social worker and school teacher. The foreman frowned and said, I have to ask you this:

"Have you had any actual experience in picking lemons?"
 "Well, as a matter of fact, I have!"
 "I've been divorced three times, owned two Fords, supported the Wallabies, and I voted for Julia Gillard."

People's Choice Award

Grampians Estate got pipped at the post in the People's Choice Award at the GP Business Awards. A big thank you to every-one who voted.



James Halliday ★★★★★ Winery

SPECIAL OFFER

Join our new Streeton Club
and receive a **FREE bottle of
2008 Streeton Reserve**

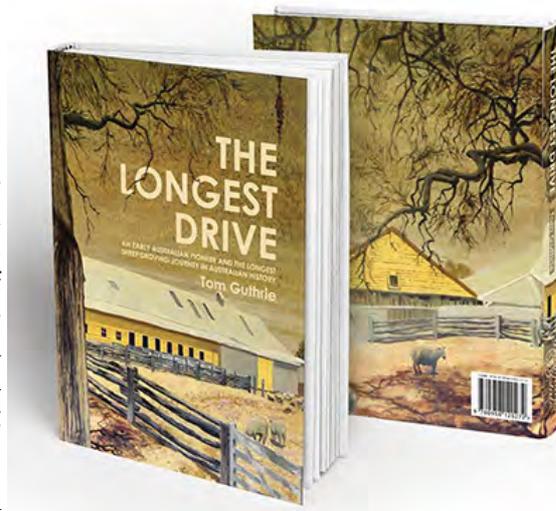
The best way to enjoy Grampians Estate's premium wines is to join the Streeton Club.

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).

The Longest Drive by Tom Guthrie

This is the story of the author's great-grandfather and his wife Mary and other brave and adventurous pioneers who opened up much of outback Australia for agriculture and settlement, thus forging a sheep industry which became the backbone of the Australian economy for much of the country's history. The book encompasses the Guthrie family's adventure which began in Tasmania and Victoria then pushed into the harsh environment of the Northern Territory, in the process recording the longest sheep drive in Australian history.

Featured on Jon Faine's Conversation Hour with Tom Keneally in December 2014.



Order Form

Please supply ___ copies of *The Longest Drive*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Ph: _____

Credit Card: _____ Expiry: ____/____

Message: _____

Price: \$75 per book. Postage and Handling \$15 for one book, \$20 for 2 or more books.

TOTAL this purchase: \$ _____

Fax to 0353546257. Scan to tom@grampiansestate.com.au. Send to 366 Mafeking Rd, Willura.3379. Or online at www.grampiansestate.com.au. Also Grampians Estate Cellar Door, 1477 Western Hwy, Gt Western. Ph:5356 2400.