

Vineyard & Winery News



Vintage 2013 was a year of firsts for us- our first "big" grape harvest at Gooramadda, first "clean" vintage in a few years and our first vintage of jnr Conrad running around like a mad man!

The "big" grape harvest refers to our first large commercial harvest off Gooramadda- we had acres and acres of "juicy juicy grapes" as Grace politely reminded us that had to be picked... This forced Ross into engineer and mechanic mode to fix up an old grape harvester he'd acquired. Probably would have made more sense if he knew how to drive it though..! The first night of harvest came and under great guidance from one of our vintage regulars- "TD" (who has his own vineyard and harvester)- the night ended in fairy tale finish- grape bins overflowing with Durif loaded on the truck, the harvester in one piece, sanity restored to Ross but strangely there was no princesses or knights in shining armour to be seen..... Grape harvest went well in Gooramadda – many long nights harvesting and delivering

grapes to other local wineries; nightshift brings out the best in some people, the best hissyfits, sarcasm, one liners and mateship that helps you survive another night. If you have time, look at the website, there is a you tube clip of the harvester running- Meghan filmed it at first light (about 5.30am), it gives a little indication of grapes being mechanically picked

A "clean" vintage- great dry clean weather, so no moulds, rots, mildews to worry about- making wine with sound grapes is so much easier. Oxley was the same as above, some great fruit to pick, no dramas, no night shifts picking(!). Oxley seemed like an easy vintage- perhaps it was the added unknown of Gooramadda, Adam's help in the winery & a helpful bunch of grapepickers who didn't give us too much grief. Old-school hand grapepicking is great for wine quality, easy on vines and you meet some interesting characters- the two german backpacker boys were such a laugh- hard working and hard playing, however their female german friend caught the attention of a few other pickers and staff- strangely, productivity went down the tube when she was around...! Productivity was also an issue with the animal kind- we feed our grape skins to some local cows(they love it)- however the phone call from the local farmer saying his calves were as "full as", didn't mean they'd had too much to eat- considering there was a little swaying just proved that feeding Durif to anyone in either grape or liquid form in excess has exactly the same result!!!!

Post Harvest Wine Deals (C/S per Dozen Only)

C/S King River White \$80 **Freight cost included in these wine deals today**

C/S Oxley Rose (Sweet Moscato style) \$80 **A saving of \$20-\$30 per std cost**

C/S 2010 Riesling \$80

C/S King River Red (Cab/Merlot/Pinot Noir Blend) \$120

2008 Merlot x 6 (\$190) & 2011 Chenin Blanc x 6 (\$130) = as 6pack or \$310 as a 12pack

Available till 30.06.2013 so why not call the cellar door on (03) 5727 3395 to organize today

Dates for the 2013 Diary

- **WINERY WALKABOUT**
OUR FAVOURITE QUEENS B'DAY
LONG WEEKEND ON 8-9 JUNE
- **TASTE 2 REGIONS**
RYDGES LAKESIDE CANBERRA
7 JULY
- **FRENCH PARADOX**
EXPERIENCE JGWINES & THE
FRENCH CULTURE –DURING THE
WINTER MONTHS-CALL FOR
DATES & DETAILS
- **WANGARATTA JAZZ FESTIVAL**
MELB CUP WEEKEND –LISTEN TO
GREAT MUSIC & ENJOY SOME
WINE 2-5 NOV

Inside this issue:

FAMILY	2
WINE NEWS	2
EVENTS	2-3
WRAP UP AND FYI	3

JOHN GEHRIG WINES

“Mum squash them don't mash them!

Family

Vintage time for the kids it was the first for 18 month old Conrad running around in the winery- now we've survived Grace in the winery (she's 3.5 now)- however a boy running around twice as much trouble! Stones being put in pumps, trying to turn on taps on full tanks, pumps trying to be started when they shouldn't , distracting grape pickers and eating everyone's smoko that's left too close to the floor.....

Grace on the other hand thinks she knows the process now as Mum was on top of the open fermenters plunging the red grapes and Grace pointed out Mum squash the grapes don't mash them! Also she enjoyed being the Muscat grape minder during picking (see photo)



Crazy German who helped with 2013 Vintage—Great Muscat

Wine News

During harvest thankfully we had enough sense to keep some great grape parcels for our own use- look out for Durif and Cab – very nice looking wines early on. We also picked Muscat– Muscat from Rutherglen is always damn good! (!). At Oxley -Riesling, Chenin, Pinot Noir and Elizabeth block were the stand outs this year so watch the upcoming vintage releases from both vineyards



Sadly the RG 05 Riesling has been sold out, but the new release of the RG 09 is available now and is getting great response. Bronze @ 2012 Rutherglen Wine Show

Next Event—Winery Walkabout 2013



Why not get some friends/family together and come say hi to us this Queens birthday long weekend Sat 8th & Sun 9th June @ Rutherglen. Milawa Kitchen will be cooking egg & bacon rolls for breaky ;a great way to kick start your winery walkabout . For lunch come try gourmet sausages from Morrison street butchers of Wodonga. Snacks available in the afternoon. But most of all don't forget our great wines, come see what wine specials we have on!!!!!!!





5 Successive Generations-You Would Think We Know Something About Wine!

JOHN GEHRIG WINES

Winter Event @ Oxley– French Paradox



With such a success @ Taste of Rutherglen 2013 we have decided to run French cheese & wine matching sessions this Winter @ Oxley. So get some friends and family together enjoy sitting on a long table in the winery by the cosy old fire tasting—matching French cheese & wine current, new and barrel tastings from JGW. You even get a light lunch and a French lesson along the way—Call the cellar door today for dates and details

Wrap up -Taste of Rutherglen 2013



Well we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Taste of Rutherglen with the herb Basil -Milawa Kitchen cooked up a delicious pesto pasta using the estate grown basil. In the afternoon Florence presented a cheese & wine experience with a French feel! Thank you to all those that braved the heat & attended it made our first event more enjoyable.— Lucky wine winner Mr Andrews of Hampton



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Rutherglen

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