

off the duck's back



LAKE BREEZE
LANGHORNE CREEK



BERNOOTA

“A definitive Aussie icon” Tyson Stelzer



It is hard to believe it was 25 years ago that our 'Bernoota', shiraz cabernet, won its first ever gold medal.

This was the 1992 Bernoota, which became a Jimmy Watson runner up in 1993.

Being the first wine I had ever made in its first wine show, it was probably as much a surprise as it was a thrill.

At the time, I must admit to thinking I'd accidentally switched samples with our 1992 Cabernet, which I considered to be a superior wine!

A quarter of a century later, Bernoota has certainly grown into being a much-loved wine around the country, so much so that Bernoota-lovers trek around the world with it taking photos! (See our back page.)

I am happy to report, that on release of our 2016 Bernoota, the tradition continues with every vintage of Bernoota since 1992 having won at least one gold medal, with a medal tally in that time extending to 12 trophies and 49 gold medals.

But it's not all about medals, Bernoota is there to be enjoyed and we are proud to make it and thrilled you guys still love to drink it.

For those of you that haven't turned the bottle over and checked the back label, 'Bernoota' is the original name of Mum and Dad's house. It's an indigenous word meaning 'camp among the gum trees'.

Cheers,
Greg Follett
Winemaker

Here are a few quotes we've put together from the wine writing fraternity:

“BERNOOTA IS AN INSTITUTION AMONG AUSSIE WINE DRINKERS IN THE KNOW...

Tyson Stelzer

IF ONE WAS TO LOOK UP CONSISTENCY IN THE DICTIONARY, YOU WOULD FIND LAKE BREEZE SITTING THERE WITH A BIG SMILE... **The Advertiser Adelaide**

...BERNOOTA - IT IS ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS BLENDS IN THE COUNTRY...

Matthew Jukes

...WHAT A LEGEND THIS WINE HAS BECOME... **Tony Love**

WHAT DO YOU CALL A WINE THAT HAS LEGENDARY STATUS YEARS AGO BUT WHICH STILL INSISTS ON BUILDING ON ITS PAST GLORIES WITH EVERY YEAR THAT PASSES?... **Matthew Jukes**



new releases

This newsletter sees the release of our two most popular reds from the fantastic 2016 vintage, our Bernoota and Cabernet.

To accentuate the strength of the 2016 reds, at the recent Australian Small Winemakers Show we walked away with 4 gold and 2 silver medals from our 6 entries, all from the 2016 vintage. To quote Greg, "we were a bees dick away from being awarded the Champion Small Winery Trophy".

The **2016 Cabernet Sauvignon** has already chalked up three gold medals.

“ NO SHORTAGE OF DEEP CRIMSON COLOUR; BRIGHTLY FRUITED, TOO, WITH RED AND BLACKBERRIES, SUPPLE TANNINS A DUSTING OF COCOA AND CHOC-MINT, CASSIS AND PLENTY OF SPICE. ”

Jane Faulkner, James Halliday's 2019 Wine Companion

Greg reckons the **2016 Bernoota** is probably the best since the 2012 vintage. It's snagged a gold medal, the top in its class, at the Australian Small Winemakers Show.

A summer favourite, our **2018 Vermentino** is as fresh and crisp as ever. We love a riesling as much as every other avid wine drinker, but if you're looking for something different, this is a great alternative.



False Cape Wines

As mentioned in our last newsletter, all sales of False Cape Wines will be handled by Julie on Kangaroo Island.

Check out their new website.

www.falsecapewines.com.au

2016 Bullant Cabernet Merlot

“ IS THIS THE FINEST VALUE CAB/MERLOT OF THE YEAR? I THINK SO ... THE OLD VINES SHOW OFF THEIR UNDOUBTED CLASS, THE OAK IS FINE AND WELL-INTEGRATED AND THE FINISH IS LENGTHY AND PROUD, AKIN TO A WINE WITH TWICE THE PRICE TAG... ”

Matthew Jukes 100 Best Australian Wines 2018-19



JAMES HALLIDAY

5 Red Stars

Lake Breeze is all about consistency and this year's Halliday's ratings are no exception.

Again, we've been rated 5 red stars by James Halliday with the stand out results following.

95 pts 2016 Old Vine Grenache

“ A WINE THAT OFFERS COMPOSURE, DEPTH AND DELIGHT ALL AT ONCE. SOURCED FROM A 1 ACRE SITE WITH 84 YEAR OLD VINES, SOME WHOLE BUNCHES INCLUDED IN SMALL OPEN FERMENTERS, AGED 10 MONTHS IN OLD BARRELS. SUBTLE FLAVOURS OF RED FRUITS, POMEGRANATE TANG AND RED LICORICE, YET SAVOURY, EVERYTHING GLIDES ACROSS A LIGHTER-MID-WEIGHTED PALATE WITH LITHE TANNINS AND PLENTY OF FRESHNESS. ” **JF**

But you'll need to be patient until we release these.

95 pts 2016 Section 54 Shiraz

95 pts 2013 The Drake

Great Gift Ideas

Our boxed **2013 Bernoota magnums** and **2010 The Drake** are ideal gifts for Christmas.

Perfect for those special occasions over the festive season.





Handpicked Festival

As if we didn't think our Handpicked Festival couldn't get any bigger - this year it did!

Our quiet little backyard saw the hugest crowd ever. We had over 5000 music and wine lovers enjoy the most amazing event yet.

Its success is a huge credit to Kate, who has already commenced planning for next year!



Royal Adelaide Show

The Adelaide Show has always been an important part of life for us, going right back to the early 1900's with Arthur Follett taking his shorthorn cattle and draft horses down to the show grounds. We even have an Adelaide Show trophy dating back to 1914.

Over the years, Ken has shown his Illawarra cattle and been actively involved on the Royal Agricultural Society committee for over 30 years.

Greg has been a member of the Wine Show Committee for the last 8 years and has just this year been elevated in status to Chair.

He's not so keen to don the suit and tie, he is much more comfortable in shorts and work boots!



We were lucky to spend a morning with Duncan Welgemoed and Nikki Friedli, from Adelaide's coolest restaurant, Africola. Duncan effortlessly prepared the most amazing King Fish at cellar door.

This was part of the South Australian Tourism's 'Rewards Wonder' campaign. An epic five days of constant filming, producing 120 hours of footage from across the state.



VINEYARD REPORT

Well, after a couple of wetter than average years, not unexpectedly this year has been extremely dry.

In fact, with rainfall of less than 200 mm in Langhorne Creek for the year to date, it is one of the driest on record.

Not surprisingly, the Bremer River failed to flow this year and no floods were experienced. This year has been reminding me a lot of 2006 which was also extremely dry and the beginning of the last big drought in the state.

The acquisition of a frost fan has helped minimize our frost risk this year and it seems we have dodged a bullet in this regard. Unfortunately, a few of our northern neighbours in the Barossa haven't been as lucky.

Tim and Josh are putting a lot of work into our older vines, cutting out dead wood and re-trellising. This work will continue over the next few years and is so important, to keep these valuable assets producing at a high level for the next 50 years.

We are also planting some more shiraz this year and next onto some of our non-floodplain ground. The consistency of shiraz on these red soils is fantastic so we are excited to see some of this fruit in the years to come.

I am also thrilled to report that the wine industry in general is as buoyant as I've seen in 15 years. Grape prices are on the rise and the demand for Langhorne Creek fruit is well and truly outstripping supply.

Greg Follett.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Cellar Door Fest

Adelaide
Convention Centre
March 15-17, 2019

Cellar Treasures Luncheon

Lake Breeze Wines
August 2019

Cellar Treasures Weekend

Langhorne Creek
cellar doors
August 2019

Duck Club



Whether it be under the bed or underground, keep your cellar stocked with Lake Breeze with our Duck Club wine is delivered to your door each March and September.

Visit the website or give us a call at the cellar door to find out more about each of our three wine selections or check out the website.

Each option represents a 20% saving.

Above:

- 1 Cellar Treasures Weekend.
- 2 Winemaker dinner at Steer Dining Room, Melbourne.
- 3 Ashleigh pouring Bernoota in Leigh Street Pop Up.

Where's your Bernoota been?

This year's winners are Maria and Brendan following their trip with our Bernoota to Easter Island!

We'll be sending a case of Bernoota your way!

Send us your happy snaps of where you've enjoyed Bernoota to have the chance to win a dozen for your cellar.



The Follett family wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year!

May your Christmas celebrations include a bottle or two of Lake Breeze!

*Cheers,
Robyn Follett.*

Visit our website to keep up to date with our news and events.

www.lakebreeze.com.au
www.thecreekcottage.com.au
www.alicesbedandbreakfast.com.au

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@gregfollett

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