

off the duck's back



LAKE BREEZE
LANGHORNE CREEK



Photo: Mike Smith Pictures

CABERNET IS KING

The first Friday in May has become entrenched as the biggest day on the winemaking calendar in Langhorne Creek. It really is the first time for most people in our wine industry, post vintage to catch up and to let their hair down.

So, I dusted off my jacket and scrubbed the purple wine stains from my hands, which was fortunate, as the 2019 Langhorne Creek Wine Show turned out to be a big day for Lake Breeze.

It was with a mixture of pride and guilt that I ventured to the stage on five occasions to collect awards. This included the Champion Wine of Show for our 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon.

There are some fabulous wines coming out of 'The Creek' at the moment, reflected in the high number of awards Langhorne Creek wines are winning around the country over the last few years. So it was quite humbling to be recognised again in such a manner.

Cabernet Sauvignon is certainly not the most trendy wine at the moment but there should be no disputing it is the 'king of

grape varieties'. Cabernet in my opinion, done well is one of life's greatest gifts.

We are fortunate enough to be custodians of a special piece of dirt and enjoy a climate where Cabernet thrives.

Soon after marrying, Mum and Dad actually planted a lot of Cabernet Sauvignon, replacing most of the original plantings of the sherry varieties, Palomino and Doradillo. However, our best block of Cabernet was actually grafted onto Doradillo in the early 1980's. These Doradillo's were planted around 70 years ago and provide a fantastic root base for the Cabernet. There was no science to this decision but we are more than happy that they thought it was a good idea.

Recognition of Langhorne Creek wines, especially Cabernet Sauvignon, is definitely on an upwards trajectory. Having spent time in the Brisbane and Sydney markets recently, it is quite gratifying to see sommeliers and wine store manager's knowledge of Langhorne Creek growing year after year.

2016 Cabernet Sauvignon
Champion Wine of Show Trophy

2016 Cabernet Sauvignon
Best Cabernet Sauvignon Trophy

2016 Bernoota (Shiraz/Cabernet)
Best Red Blend Trophy

2012 Cabernet Sauvignon
Best Museum Trophy

2018 Reserve Chardonnay
Best White/Sparkling/Rosé award



new releases



Our **2016 Section 54 Shiraz** and **2016 Winemaker's Selection Shiraz** are a couple of cracking wines from the exceptional 2016 vintage and have won 5 gold medals between them. Enjoy the Section 54 now and tuck the Winemaker's Selection away for a few years (or 15).

With extremely low crops from 2015, Greg made the decision not to produce the reserves. Whilst we've released the 2016 Winemaker's Selection Shiraz, we're holding back the 2016 Arthur's Reserve for release later this year.

The **2019 Rosato** is the first of this year's vintage to hit cellar door and is looking as attractive as ever and tasting pretty good too!

After patiently sitting in the cellar, **The Drake 2012** is finally released. This time a blend of 70% cabernet and 30% shiraz. 2012 is certainly one of the best vintages of the decade, right up there with 2004 and as Greg says, the best couple of barrels from the 2012 vintage can't be half bad.

Our **2013 Cabernet magnums** have also been sitting quietly waiting to see the light of day, perfect for celebrations or dinner parties.

it's like riding bareback with a bushranger!

“ SURELY A CONTENDER FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S BEST BARGAIN. WINEMAKER GREG FOLLETT WOULD BE JUSTIFIED TO CHARGE MORE FOR THIS CRACKER OF A DROP. LUCKY FOR US HE CHOOSES NOT TO. THE BLEND OF 60 PER CENT SHIRAZ AND 40 PER CENT CABERNET SAUVIGNON WAS SELECTED FROM OLD VINES ON THE FOLLETT FAMILY'S VINEYARD. IT'S LIKE RIDING BAREBACK WITH A BUSHRANGER: AROMAS OF CAMPFIRE SMOKE, WORN LEATHER AND TOWERING GUMS, WITH A MASCULINE MOUTHFUL OF HAIGH'S DARK PREMIUM FRUIT AND NUT CHOCOLATES, SPICE, A SHOTGUN ROUND OF TANNINS AND JUST ENOUGH SWEETNESS TO MAKE YOU SWOON (EVEN BUSHRANGERS HAVE A SOFT SIDE.) BLOODY DELICIOUS – NOW OR IN A DECADE'S TIME. ”

Katie Spain, The Advertiser

old releases

Our **Cellar Treasures Weekend** is coming up on **August 10+11** and is the perfect opportunity to taste and purchase some of our museum wines. Greg will be on hand at cellar door to chat about the intricacies of each wine and will also host our **Cellar Treasures Luncheon** on Friday, **August 2**. This is an intimate afternoon of good food and special museum wines. Call us to book your seat.

2016 Bernoota

“ ...THIS IS A WICKEDLY DELICIOUS WINE... ”
Matthew Jukes

“ ...THERE'S SOMETHING COMFORTING ABOUT THIS WINE, LIKE A GOOD FRIEND; IT'S RELIABLE WITH PLENTY TO OFFER... ”

**Jane Faulkner,
James Halliday's
2019 WineCompanion**

celebrations

Our Lake Breeze team celebrating our Champion Trophy win at the Wine Show Luncheon.

Left: Marlene, Ashleigh, Dionne and Kate
Right: Chad, Jedd and Josh



cover boy

Earlier this year Greg graced the cover of the illustrious Wine Business Magazine. Wine scribe, Katie Spain interviewed Greg for a lengthy article. His face featured on too many pages and gave the boys plenty of fodder for ribbing over vintage!



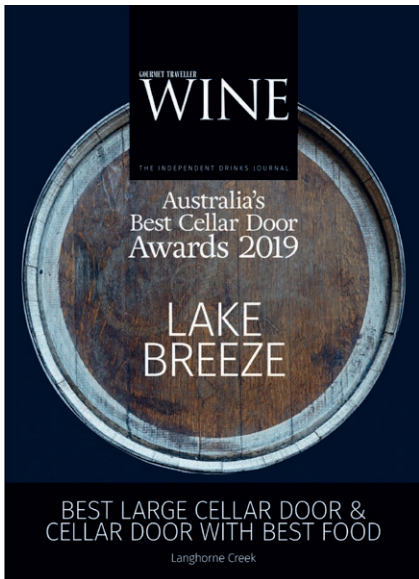
lunch at Lake Breeze

Drag yourself out of hibernation! Brad is cooking up a storm in the kitchen this winter, so join us for a long lunch looking out over our winter vineyard.



picnic at Lake Breeze

Sunny, warm days are still a little way off, however we are now offering picnics at Lake Breeze. Pick up your basket, picnic blanket and select your wine from cellar door and settle yourself under the gum trees for a relaxing afternoon. Bookings essential, so give Ashleigh a call.



number one on the fleurieu

Huon Hooke rated our 2016 Cabernet number 1 in The Real Review Fleurieu 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Tasting recently.

Thirty-seven wines were tasted with the other three wines in the top four worth \$75-\$250! We don't need mention what great value our cabernet is, do we?



duck club

As you all know, our Lake Breeze wines are already amazing value, but by joining our Duck Club you'll have a case delivered to your door, discounted by 20%, each March and September.

You'll also receive 10% discount on any other wine purchases during the year. Call us or visit the website to find out more.

Chinese connections

Roger has been jet-setting around the world this year with a recent sales trip taking him to Singapore, Hong Kong and China.

Asia is certainly a growing market for us and Roger has been doing a great job considering the cultural differences. Although he was already an expert in Chinese drinking etiquette, including 'ganbei' (sculling)!

With the huge growth in Aussie wine exports heading to China, it was very fitting that China's first MW, Fongyee Walker was invited to judge at our Langhorne Creek Wine Show.

Fongyee is China's most qualified wine educator and will now sing the praises of Langhorne Creek to her Chinese students.

Fongyee was joined by Chair of Judges, Charlie Seppelt and winemaker, Kerry Thompson.



VINTAGE REPORT

Following one of the driest years we have ever experienced, crops were always going to be on the lower side. In fact, the overall harvest was approximately 30% down on average.

Temperatures were actually not overly hot for most of summer but one 46 degree day in January wreaked a bit of havoc in a few isolated pockets of the vineyard.

The vintage crew experienced a mad rush in early March, when a bit of warm weather had the early reds filling up all of our fermenters. However, after the initial rush, vintage put on the brakes which gave us plenty of time to pick at optimal ripeness. There was even time for more than one innings of 'bung cricket'.

Whilst tonnage was down, the quality of the wine is looking really exciting. The Malbec and Shiraz at this point are giving our Cabernet a run for its money, as best varieties of the vintage thus far.

My nephew Tyler (Tex), took a break after finishing a science degree to help me out over vintage. It seems I have had a never-ending supply of nephews over the last few years for vintage. Maybe it's time a couple of my nieces pulled on some boots and got to drag a few hoses around for Uncle Greg!

The nice thing was that we still finished prior to Easter which gave Dad, my brother Roger and myself a fantastic opportunity to fly over Lake Eyre which was filling and then over the Diamantina, Georgina and Cooper Creeks in flood. Wow, what a once in a lifetime opportunity!

Greg Follett.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Cellar Door Fest – Winter Edit
Adelaide Convention Centre
July 19+20, 2019

Cellar Treasures Luncheon
Lake Breeze Wines
Fri, Aug 2, 2019

Cellar Treasures Weekend
Langhorne Creek
cellar doors
Aug 10+11, 2019

Melbourne Winemaker Dinner
Steer Dining Room
South Yarra
Tues, Aug 27, 2019

Tunes on The Terrace
Lake Breeze Wines
Sun, Sept 28, 2019

Langhorne Creek on Leigh Street
Leigh Street Adelaide
Fri, Oct 25, 2019

Handpicked Festival
Lake Breeze
Sat, Nov 9, 2019

Langhorne Creek Cup
Strathalbyn Racecourse
Sun, Nov 17, 2019

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

Our recent Sydney Wine Dinner at The Gantry Restaurant, Pier One was a great night with amazing food and an impressive line-up of our wines.

We're heading over to Melbourne on Tues, August 27 to Steer Restaurant, so let us know if you'd like to join us. It's always a good opportunity to fire some curly questions at Greg!

Cheers,
Robyn.

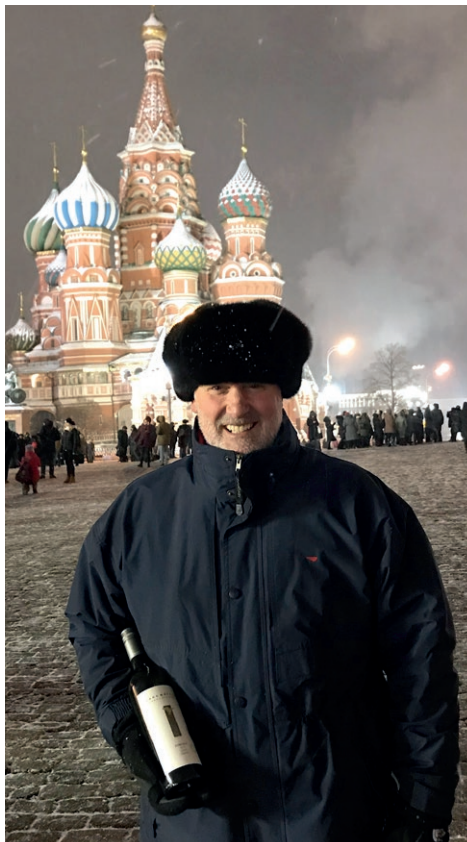
Where's your Bernoota been?

We will let Cameron explain this one:

"This photo, on Red Square in front of St Basil's, was just prior to embarking on the trans-Siberian train journey from Vladivostok through to Moscow in a Siberian winter. I am pleased to inform you that your Bernoota drinks very nicely at -33°C."

Send us your happy snaps!

Above:
1 Hand picked old vine grenache.
2 Tilly and Tyler (Tex).
3 Cheeky Jedd.
4 Sydney Wine Dinner @ The Gantry Restaurant.



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