

off the duck's back



LAKE BREEZE  
LANGHORNE CREEK



## 30 YEARS OF LAKE BREEZE

As the saying goes, time flies when you're having fun, but it is difficult to fathom 30 years has past since the birth of Lake Breeze.

It was back in 1987 when Dad arranged to have a 'few barrels' of cabernet made at Penfolds from our best fruit.

This became our Lake Breeze 1987 Cabernet Sauvignon and went on to win our first gold medal in 1992 and in the 25 years since, we've quite amazingly been awarded 53 trophies and 177 gold medals!

It's been a whirlwind ride from the humble days of milking cows to where we are today, but it seems the older I get, the more nostalgic I become. In 1987 I was having a 'gap year' and worked my first vintage in the Barossa.

My football career peaked when I captained the Under 17 Langhorne Creek Hawks to a premiership (coached by Ken of course).

Ken had actually debuted in the Masters Football league after retiring from A Grade football after 500 or so games!

Whilst I was listening to seminal works of great Aussie acts such as the Hoodoo Gurus, Midnight Oil and James Reyne, believe it or not Kylie Minogue's 'Locomotion' was Australia's favourite song in 1987.

It was a big year in Aussie sport. Pat Cash won Wimbledon, the Australian cricket team won the World Cup in India and Carlton actually beat Hawthorn to win the AFL premiership. How things have changed.

Speaking of big changes, my brother Roger will tell you he was earning just \$3.50 an hour at Metala vineyards during the day and milking cows at home morning and night.

The first mobile phone call was made in Australia in 1987 and in an ironic twist, Roger now has a mobile phone permanently attached to his ear and the closest he has been to a cow lately is frothing the milk for his six cups of coffee each day!

It is one of the perks of writing the front page to be able to stick the boots in to my brother whilst recapping my former glories!

Cheers,  
Greg Follett  
*Winemaker/pallet stacker*

# new releases + news

## naughty or nice?

We're excited to launch two special fortifieds named after two incredible people. Ken and Marlene are the much loved grandparents to 14 grand children and it seemed fitting we honoured them in this way.

We've named our 25 year old rare fronti the **'Naughty Nanny'** after our matriarch, Marlene. She has a wicked sense of humour and can certainly hold her own with the lads around the lunch table!

It's been hand harvested from our old white frontignac vineyard which Marlene painstakingly nurtured into life back in the 1970's.

Aged in small barrels for an average of 25 years it has developed into a wonderfully rich and indulgent muscat, (one might even say a bit naughty!).

Not to be outdone, we've paid homage to Ken with **'The Gramps'**, a 16 year old rare tawny.

A grenache based blend, which has been aged in small barrels for an average of 16 years, where it has transformed into a magnificently opulent tawny, where the flavour lingers on the tongue for minutes.

## James Halliday 5 red stars

We've once again been rated 5 red stars by James Halliday with all of our 12 wines reviewed receiving 90 points or above.

### The stand outs are:

Arthur's Reserve 2014 - 96 pts  
Section 54 Shiraz 2015 - 95 pts  
Cabernet Sauvignon 2015 - 95 pts  
Old Vine Grenache 2015 - 95 pts  
False Cape The Captain  
Cabernet Sauvignon 2014 - 95 pts

### 2010 The Drake - 97 pts

"A 70/30% blend that has retained exceptional colour, and similar freshness on the bouquet and palate; surely it can't be 5 yo, but it is, the balance and integration of the full array of perfectly ripened black fruits effortlessly uncoils as the wine travels along the supple, medium-bodied palate. This is Langhorne Creek royalty: the Drake should be made the Duke."

**James Halliday 2016 Wine Companion**

### James Halliday - 94 pts

#### 2014 Winemaker's Selection Shiraz

"A wine that fills all the senses, with a complex bouquet of charcuterie and jet black fruits leading into a palate that opens with some fleeting red fruit notes before a savoury swell of black fruits takes command."

**James Halliday 2017 Wine Companion**

### 2015 Old Vine Grenache - 95 pts

"It's not because the fruit comes off a mere 1 acre vineyard planted in '32 (although that helps), nor the fact that there's no new oak interfering with the heady aromas and fruit flavours (just 10 months in 2 yo French barriques). It's captivating because it's so well crafted. Unadulterated, beautifully weighted, grainy, fine tannins, long and with pure sweet fruit." JF

**James Halliday's 2018 Wine Companion**

### Mike Bennie

#### Bernoota 2014 - 94 pts

"... it couldn't be more Aussie feeling if it was an Akubra-wearing dingo eating a kangaroo pie on a bush walk. ... Wonderful stuff. It's a wonderful wine, ludicrous at the price, should last a couple of decades in cellar too. Indeed, it feels primed for a long life, rippling with fine tannin, bright in perky acidity, fine and elegant in the palate. There's loads of black olive, salt bush, dark berries, ripe plums and suggestions of eucalyptus, but the key thing is just how well it drinks - a glorious, supple flow, medium weight and superbly structured. It sticks to the gums but sighs over the tongue. **Strewth, this is good.**"

### museum release

#### 2007 Cabernet

As part of our ongoing commitment to provide our mailing list customers with exceptional wines at even better prices, we have another museum release to tempt you!

Our 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon was Winestate Magazine's Wine of the Year in 2010 and is a stunning example of our cabernet in 'middle age'. It is no shrinking violet, still offering lashings of fruit, but will also easily accommodate another decade in the dungeon.





## all that glitters is gold

It's not very often we decorate our wines with glitzy medals, we tend to keep them under our hat, so to speak. However, we've had young Jack busy on the labelling machine glamming up our 2014 Bernoota and Cabernet.

## where's your bernoota been?

Barbara, Glen and Katrina have taken our Bernoota way down south! All the way to Antarctica. It's not often you see Bernoota being enjoyed with ice.

There's a carton of Bernoota coming your way Glen as our winner!

Keep sending your snaps in to us!

**#wheresyourBernootabeen?**

The **2014 Cabernet Sauvignon** picked up it's sixth gold medal at the Perth Royal Wine Show recently and the **2014 Bernoota** (shiraz/cab) has a couple of handy golds at the Sydney Royal and Australian Small Winemakers' Shows. In fact, every vintage of Bernoota since 1992 has picked up at least one gold medal if not trophies!

It's so rewarding to continue to hear of peoples love for our Bernoota.



## the Chad

You've probably read enough about the Follett family, so let us now tell you about Chad our chief cellar hand.

The 'Chadman', as he is affectionally known, has been working with us for the better part of 10 years. Greg says he recruited him from school before he developed any bad habits and he could train him to do things the 'Greg way'.

When Chad first started it was hard to get two words out of him, but it seems a years worth of bacon at vintage time and Marlene's scones have loosened his tongue somewhat and now we can't shut him up!

## VINEYARD REPORT



Spring is certainly a busy time in the vineyard, especially when Tim and Josh are called on for music festival duties as well. We have had a text book winter, with two good floods giving the old vines a good soak. Spring has been quite dry and started off super cool which meant a slightly delayed budburst.

The vines have since made up for lost time with a warm spell recently and we appear to have a good flowering underway at the time of writing.

If you drive into cellar door you will probably notice a couple of new blocks of vines. These are cabernet sauvignon planted on the flood plain which in 30 years time, will hopefully be making it into our top labels.

Tim's latest acquisition is an under row slasher, which easily mows under the trellis by manoeuvring around posts and vine trunks. This enables us to reduce the use of sprays for weed control and therefore increasing mulch under the vine, improving soil health and structure. This can only be good for the environment and for the longevity of our vineyard for generations to come.

## sign up to more than you bargained for!

For a very limited time if you sign up to receive our **Duck Club Provenance dozen** you'll receive one of our iconic **2009 The Drake** bottles included in your dozen.

Our Duck Club wines already represent a 20% saving, so this is an outrageous bonus!

We deliver our Duck Club wines to your door each March and September, it's a great way to effortlessly stock the cellar. You're also entitled to 10% discount at cellar door and on your stay at our bed and breakfast, The Creek Cottage.

Visit the website or give us a call at the cellar door to find out more.

## handpicked festival

Over the past 30 years we've seen many changes, but none as massive as our Handpicked music festival. Almost 5000 people inundated our backyard on Saturday, November 11, which historically would be the largest gathering ever in Langhorne Creek.

Kate really has turned this into a must-see event on the Fleurieu Peninsula or in South Australia for that matter! The grounds were looking amazing and several of the acts commented it was the most picturesque place they had ever played.

Fortunately Ken and Thomas had moved the cows out in time to make sure the cow pats had dried up sufficiently!

[handpickedfestival.com.au](http://handpickedfestival.com.au)



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Cellar Door Fest**  
Adelaide Convention Centre  
Mar 2-4, 2018

**Tasting Australia**  
Adelaide  
April 13-22, 2018


**Cellar Treasures Weekend**  
Langhorne Creek cellar doors  
Aug 11+12, 2018


*Best wishes to you all for a very merry Christmas and safe and happy New Year.*


Cheers,  
Robyn Follett.

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

[www.lakebreeze.com.au](http://www.lakebreeze.com.au)  
[www.thecreekcottage.com.au](http://www.thecreekcottage.com.au)  
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