

off the duck's back



LAKE BREEZE
LANGHORNE CREEK



UNVEILING THE 'BARREL ROOM'

It's with both a sense of pride and relief that our magnificent 'Barrel Room' function space has been completed.

The combination of stonework, corrugated iron and barrels blends in beautifully with our existing cellar door and we couldn't be happier with the outcome.

In fact, there are 90 barrels that Chad and I emptied a few months ago which have been used to frame the whole building.

It's been great to work with local builder, Geoff Fairweather and our cousin Trish to realise our vision and make the design a reality. Roger, or 'The Mayor', as he was called by the tradies, pulled it all together with an emphasis on supporting local business.

In particular, Nic, our local stonemason has done an amazing job with the limestone sourced from just up the road.

We've been lucky to have a great group of tradies who got along brilliantly (most of the time) despite the work site resembling 'The Block' some days. With 'The Mayor' plying them with coffee and the odd bit of tucker from Brad in the kitchen, I reckon it's one of the better builds they've worked on.

This year has certainly presented its challenges and with the wedding season in full swing, brides to be had even more to worry about than usual. COVID-19 has meant restrictions on dancing, 'vertical consumption' and border closures, which has added to the usual consternation on frocks, flowers and photos. As we know, the groom pretty much just fronts up and says 'I do' once and the job's done (or was that just me?).

Our stunning new 'Barrel Room' combined with the spectacular view across the vineyard, makes it the perfect space for a celebration.

We've been thrilled with the reaction to the new space and our wedding and functions coordinator, Ashleigh, has been fielding lots of enquiries. The Barrel Room is very versatile, so if your looking for somewhere to hold your special occasion or even a conference, just give her a call.

Cheers,
Greg Follett
Winery Covid Marshal

Cover photo (and most others)
John Kruger Photography.

adelaide wine show

COVID put an end to a lot of the national wine shows this year.

The committee at the Royal Adelaide Wine Show (which Greg chairs) persevered and to their credit successfully held the judging and tastings under COVID-safe conditions. It proved to be the biggest show for some time, with more than 2800 wines entered.

Our **2018 Section 54 Shiraz** and **2018 Bull Ant Cabernet Merlot** both picked up gold medals.

Our Cabernet has now been a finalist in the coveted 'Outstanding Wines of Provenance' class four times over the last 10 years. As they say; "always a bridesmaid but never the bride".

This year it was our 2004, 2012 and 2018 Cabernets being recognised as one of the five finalists. As the name suggests, our cabernet has great provenance, of which we are duly proud of. Greg says he plans on winning this if it's the last thing he does!

punching above their weight

Our Bull Ant range continues to prove it is exceptional value time and again. The latest award being the top gold medal of its class for the **2018 Cabernet Merlot**.

A cracking wine for the price, as are the Shiraz and Chardonnay for that matter.

halliday review

94 pts Section 54 Shiraz 2018

SELECT PARCELS WERE FERMENTED IN SMALL OPEN-TOP FERMENTERS BEFORE AGEING IN HIGH QUALITY FRENCH OAK FOR 15 MONTHS. THIS IS DELICIOUS. PULPY. FLORAL. AN EASY FLOW OF RICH DARK-BERRY FRUIT REFERENCES SPLAYED ACROSS DETAILED TANNINS AND AMPLE SPICE. THE OAK IS THERE. BUT IT SERVES A PURPOSE: TO CORRAL THE WINE'S INHERENT GENEROSITY.

NED GOODWIN
MW



new releases

Our **2020 Old Vine Grenache** has just been released and is a beautifully fragrant, mid weight wine with some nice crunchy acidity. The popularity of this wine from our 1932 plantings, is off the charts lately.

Sadly, our cracking **2020 Vermentino** has nearly sold out, hence the limits on the order form. Unfortunately, two consecutive vintages of low crops have left us short.

The **2019 Reserve Chardonnay** is a stunner, one that Greg says he prefers over our award winning 2018 vintage. It has a wonderful balance of fruit and oak, texture and grapefruit like acidity that makes it a joy to drink.

The provenance of our Cabernet Sauvignon speaks for itself and the 2018 vintage is no exception.

Huon Hooke rated our **2018 Cabernet Sauvignon** as the number one Cabernet Sauvignon on the Fleurieu Peninsula in his *The Real Review* tasting. It was then selected to be part of his virtual tasting.

Wine scribe, **Nick Butler** described it as: "A deeply purple glass-stainer. Pure and pristine showing violets, blueberries and mulberries - lovely and fresh, largely uncluttered. Sinewed and structured with long, ripe tannins. Tobacco leaf and cedar in the mix. This is very young and full of life. A beautiful cabernet." **95 pts.**





duck club

Take the hassle out of ordering our Lake Breeze wine with our Duck Club dozen delivered to your door each March and September.

Our Duck Club selections represent a 20% saving, with 10% discount on any other wine purchases and on your stay at The Creek Cottage bed and breakfast.

Call us or visit the [website](#) to find out more.

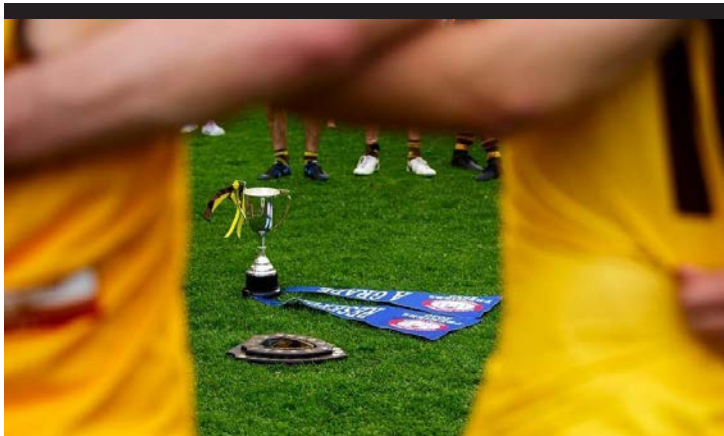
where's your bernoota been?

We congratulate Tony and Tanya on winning this year's competition with this great shot taken at Amber Fort, Jaipur, Rajasthan. There is a dozen Bernoota coming your way!

COVID has certainly put an end to international travel and has clearly impacted our 'Where's Your Bernoota Been?' competition.

However, as I always say at cellar door, it's not always about the far-flung location, it is where you enjoy drinking your Bernoota.

So, get creative with your travels around Australia or your own back yard!



A-grade 3-peat

We were really grateful that the local footy season got off the ground this year, albeit a reduced program. Both our A and B Grade Langhorne Creek teams had terrific seasons, culminating in two premierships! (On our home ground to boot.)

That makes it three in a row for our A Grade and the B Grade's first in over 20 years.

As you know we are very invested in our local football club considering we are the major sponsor and that most of our employees, sons and nephews play for the mighty Hawks.

Photo Langhorne Creek Football Club.

VINEYARD REPORT

The weather continues to throw a few curve balls our way, with 'La Niña' back to keep us on our toes.

It was a very wet May and June which had us thinking a flood was imminent, but then mother nature turned off her taps with a dry July and August, so we were drip irrigating madly prior to budburst.

Of course, then it started to rain again with a wet spring having been experienced thus far, giving the thirsty soils a greatly appreciated deep soak.

The warm and wet start has meant the vines are growing quickly with lush green shoots and good bunch numbers at present. Our fingers are firmly crossed that flowering is better than last year and the crop load is back to normal levels next vintage.

It is with a tinge of sadness that vineyard worker, Josh has left us after 6 years. However, he is happy back working on his family vineyard as well as focusing on expanding his bee-keeping business.

We have been fortunate to have a terrific replacement in Chris Mugford who has been running his own small vineyard for many years and brings with him a wealth of experience and a great work ethic.





destination langhorne creek

Now that the borders are opening up, it's time to plan your trip to Langhorne Creek. A couple of nights in The Creek Cottage or Alice's bed and breakfast is perfect for exploring our wine region.

Since the COVID restrictions lifted on the June long weekend, we have been overwhelmed by the number of South Australian visitors dropping into cellar door for tastings and lunch.

Our bed and breakfasts have been busy with guests usually spending time overseas or interstate. This in fact has been our busiest winter ever.

We'd love to see you over the coming months, so call in for lunch and to see our beautiful new 'Barrel Room'.

Best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!

Warmest regards,
Robyn.

langhorne creek photography competition

You'd have to agree, Langhorne Creek is a beautiful part of South Australia and our regional photo competition gives visitors the opportunity to showcase their photos and share their experiences. Needless to say, there are some great wine prizes and \$1000 for the overall winner.





Above: 1 Our new Barrel Room in wedding mode (A Forever Moment Photography). **2** The cottage garden and entrance to cellar door. **3** The Terrace.




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

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@gregfollett

LAKE BREEZE

STEP ROAD LANGHORNE CREEK SA 5255
P 08 8537 3017 | F 08 8537 3267
E WINES@LAKEBREEZE.COM.AU
W WWW.LAKEBREEZE.COM.AU



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