

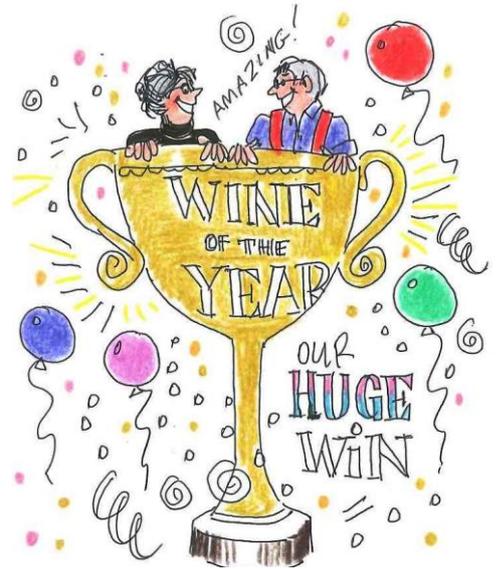
Dear

What an incredible 3 months we have had since the last Newsletter. Life seems to be getting more and more exciting as we get older. Winter is supposed to be grim, cold, wet and generally devoid of wine lovers braving the deep south of WA. Most of that was true, but in addition we have:

- Bottled some superb wines from 2017 (Reds) and 2018 (whites and pink)
- Produced and bottled our first ever red blend. (The Morrissey)
- **RECEIVED THE COVETED "WINE OF THE YEAR" AWARD FROM JAMES HALLIDAY.**

The first white wine ever to receive the award and the first white wine ever to receive 99 points from James Halliday.

- Bottled the first wine from our new Riesling block...a beauty.
- The result of all this exciting stuff is that we have been absolutely flat out with bottling, despatching orders, packing wine boxes, and talking to happy customers while trying desperately to finish pruning in what has been a cold, wet weather winter. Thankfully pruning is done and gone.



THE MORRISSEY.

We have never produced a blend and Duke's philosophy has always been that in any blend, one of the wines is not as good as the other. BUT after walking through the vineyard for 16 years listening to the comments made by winemakers, viticulturists, vineyard managers and other "experts" Duke has changed his mind about blends.



The comments were:

"This part of the Cabernet has a beautiful berry character."

"This patch on top of the hill is riper than the rest."

"This end of the rows in the shiraz has a special flavour."

"These vines taste better than the others"

"Taste that and tell me what you think? Etc...Etc

So in 2017 Duke took some fluoro flagging tape with him and when the "EXPERTS" made the comments, he marked all the vines. And the next day they were individually picked and made as separate small batches of Shiraz and Cabernet. The wine was put in 50% new oak and kept separate before blending by taste to the final selection. The wine is named for an old friend of Dukes, Peter Morrissey, who volunteered to work in the vineyard when he had some spare time. He would arrive from Perth and spend a week doing whatever was needed in the Vineyard. He always believed in the direction the Vineyard was going and never doubted that it would produce top class wines. This beautiful "Australian" blend will show both varieties in a warm, rich, fruit driven classic and hopefully is some reward for a great Aussie bloke.

"THE MORRISSEY" IS NOW BOTTLED AND WILL BE OUR MOST EXPENSIVE WINE AT \$500 PER SIX PACK...EARLY INDICATIONS ARE THAT IT WILL BE WORTH EVERY CENT OF THAT.

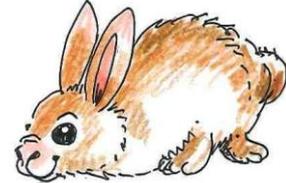
NEW BLOCK RIESLING

When the vineyard was planted in 1999 a 1 hectare section of the vineyard was left because the soil was miserable sandy soil that would not grow anything. Since then the adjoining Riesling has produced the best fruit in the vineyard, so in 2014 we decided to plant that block to Riesling. Because of the soil we have taken a long time to establish the vines and the first small crop was picked this year. The fruit was treated in the same way as our Magpie Hill Riesling and has been made as a separate wine. Eventually we will produce about 500 dozen from the block and early indications are that the fruit will be fantastic. It is a little more fruit driven than the Magpie Hill Riesling, but with beautiful acid balance it will be a great addition to our wines.



CELLAR DOOR RIESLING

Sales of dry Riesling have continued to grow too rapidly and sales of OFF DRY have remained static, so this year we directed the juice from that wine and our hard pressed juice to a dry, fruity Riesling...Cellar Door Riesling. It is cheaper to make and we think will be ideal for spicy foods and Tapas style dining. It is only available from the winery and is \$200 a dozen. \$20 a bottle at the cellar.



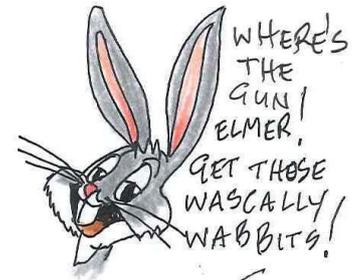
2018 SINGLE VINEYARD ROSÉ

We thought our 2017 Rosé was good, but the 2018 is the first one we have prepared a special block of Cab. Sav. for. Lovely nose, some nice palate texture and a long, clean, dry finish. Be careful how much you drinkit is a beautiful summer wine. 93% Cab Sav. with 7% Shiraz.

2017 REDS.

We have decided to release the 2017 Single vineyard Cabernet immediately. It is beautiful now and will continue to improve for many years....Besides that, we have run out of the previous vintage and Duke has no Cab Sav to drink. It is soft, full of earthy berry flavours and has a long, silky smooth finish with enough acid to suggest that it will last for a long time in the cellar.

All the 2017 reds are terrific and it will go down as one of the better vintages in the Porongurups. The Magpie Hill reds will be released in Feb/March as will the Invitation Cab Sav. This is made by the most enthusiastic winemaker in the region Luke Eckersley. Luke loves Cabernet and has been keen to get his hands on some of our fruit for a long time. He has made a beautifully elegant wine full of berry and French oak in balance with some nice acidity that will settle down quickly ...a lovely wine thank you Luke.



THE PRIZE

To say that we've been busy...well enough to make us dizzy
We've been running round like headless chooks
We've been in quite a tizzy selling wine that's white and fizzy
And reds designed for gourmet cooks

We've won a few awards and with drinkers win accords
But the latest one was something unforeseen
It seems to strike the chords with committees and with boards
And lots of other drinkers in between

It's the Wine Companion book where discerning drinkers look
To find the wine that they will think is stellar
An outback shearer's cook and the local lawyers look
Just to simply quaff or fill their cellar

Whether silver bronze or gold or a wine that's young or old.
The answer lies within the wine books cover
A shiraz to buy and hold or a cab. that's big and bold
The companion fits with every good wine lover.

But the latest accolade put all others in the shade
A score that set new records for a wine
The best Riesling Duke's has made was released for retail trade
And won a Wine Companion score of ninety nine.

There were calls of admiration and a touch of celebration
When Halliday named it his annual book's best wine
But then came anticipation and at Duke's some consternation
The stocks of wine were starting to decline

The orders came so fast that all sales records were surpassed
And soon the Riesling stock was done and dusted
The cellar stocks went last for the wine lovers who called past
And exhausted staff could get their lives adjusted

Now that was Riesling seventeen and a year's gone in between
And another Riesling vintage is produced
All those Riesling lovers green and Duke's wife the Riesling Queen
With just one taste will be seduced.

The story will unfold for the drinkers young and old
As vintage follows vintage every year.
Eighteen leaves the others in the shade it's the best wine ever made
Until nineteen vintage becomes the best good cheer.



Duke



We know we are late, but we do have some lovely new wines for you and have reserved a bit of the lovely 2018 Magpie Hill Riesling for our Newsletter customers (only the early ones to order). We have also decided to repeat last year's

XMAS OFFER OF 3 EACH OF THE SPARKLING'S FOR \$150.

This may help you add a bit more joy to the Festive Season, or even go off with a bang??

You may be wondering about those rabbits in this newsletter. We have been coping with a rabbit plague, but a virus seems to have finally arrived to hopefully diminish their numbers quickly.

Enjoy some nice wines with the onset of spring.
Regards,

Duke
Hude
Justin
Juedde

STOP PRESS

WEST AUSTRALIAN WINE SHOW

GOLD MEDAL: MAGPIE HILL SHIRAZ

GOLD MEDAL: SINGLE VINEYARD RIESLING.

