

HANDPICKED

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KILIKANOON

Official Newsletter SUMMER 2007

Kilikanoon produces its first Vouvray

KILIKANOON VOUVRAY IS AN AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVE FOR THOSE SEEKING THE TRADITIONAL FRENCH BUBBLY EXPERIENCE

Kilikanoon – through winemaker Kevin Mitchell – is partnering Maison Greffe, only Vouvray gold medallist in the 2007 Challenge International du Vin in the production of a single vintage, single varietal (Pineau de la Loire/Chenin Blanc) Méthode Traditionelle sparkling wine.

80 year-old vines give special character to this wine, made in the same way as those of the more famous Champagne. Vouvray is one of France's oldest wine-producing regions with a history dating back to Roman times.



Kilikanoon winemaker, Kevin Mitchell picking grapes in France with son Jack.

Kilikanoon has been asked for some time to produce a sparkling wine of the same high quality as its more famous reds and Riesling. Unfortunately, the terroir of the Clare and Barossa Valleys is not suitable for such an endeavour, and Kilikanoon has no vineyards in Tasmania, so we decided to think laterally! Vouvray, with its proud and long tradition of traditionally-made sparkling wines was an obvious choice.

We have been fortunate to find in Maison Greffe, a partner willing to work with us to make our dream a reality, and provide us with the necessary tools to make what we hope will be a fine bubbly. As with our new venture in Hermitage, we think of the Vouray terroir, with its ancient troglodyte houses built into the limestone cliffs, as equivalent to a Stradivari violin. It has its own unique qualities, derived from its age and situation, but every time a different violinist 'plays' it, it will 'sound' a little differently.

Apart from the fruit quality and selection, the most important determinant in wines like Vouvray or Champagne is in fact the art of blending.

Kevin Mitchell is given access to the complete range of Greffe base wines, from 15-20 different vineyards, to make his individual New World Vouvray, and can also influence other aspects of the winemaking and grape selection as required.

The first cuvée, Kilikanoon 2005 vintage Vouvray is now available. Elegant, fresh, with aromas of pears and apples, Kilikanoon Vouvray is an affordable alternative for those seeking the traditional French bubbly experience.



VOUVRAY NOW AVAILABLE! Next time you are visiting the Clare Valley, drop in to the Kilikanoon cellar door at Penwortham and try our latest release.

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2007 'MORT'S RESERVE' WATERVALE RIESLING

A hand crafted wine made in very limited quantities, the Mort's Reserve is a unique blend of the best Riesling parcels from the Mort's Block and Khileyre vineyards.

Brilliant in clarity, almost translucent in colour with subtle green tints, the wine is all power and elegance at the same time.

Intense citrus and lime flavours predominate the aroma and palate, and complemented by the cleansing natural acidity, provides a long rewarding flavour experience.

Cellaring potential of at least twenty five years.



2007 'MORT'S BLOCK' WATERVALE RIESLING

One of the cornerstones of Kilikanoon's portfolio, the Mort's Block Riesling showcases the unique flavours and characters so unique to the Watervale sub-region of the Clare Valley.

Mick Knappstein Trophy Winner

'BEST CURRENT VINTAGE RIESLING'
Clare Valley Wine Show

This single vineyard wine, produced from low yielding fruit from forty year old Riesling vines from the Mort's Block Vineyard, is pale straw in colour with brilliant clarity and youthful greens tints.

Intensely varietal, exhibiting ripe citrus, limes and floral notes on the aroma leading on to a long and full flavoured palate balanced beautifully by crisp natural acidity.

Will easily improve with careful cellaring for twenty years plus.



2007 'SECOND FIDDLE' GRENACHE ROSÉ

A crisp and refreshing Rosé styled wine made from 100 percent old Grenache vines grown in the Watervale sub region of the Clare Valley.

Very limited skin contact has enabled just enough colour and flavour from the skins to come through resulting in an intensely perfumed wine redolent of dark cherries, blueberries and ripe plum fruits.

The wine retains some of its natural grape sugars after fermentation that are harmoniously balanced and complemented by its cleansing acidity.

Perfect with a range of fine foods or enjoyed simply on its own.



2007 'BARREL FERMENTED' SEMILLON

The 2007 Kilikanoon Barrel Fermented Semillon was sourced entirely from low yielding vines from the Watervale sub-region of the Clare Valley.

One hundred percent barrel fermentation and five months maturation in new French oak barrels has complimented and enhanced the fresh varietal Semillon vineyard characters.

Pale to light straw in colour and brilliant in appearance.

Intense lemon and cut grass flavours combine with spicy oak to give this Semillon a creamy complexity.

A full flavoured wine with a crisp persistent finish.

Will further improve for a number of years with careful cellaring.

2006 Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling

BEST RIESLING WORLDWIDE

International Wine & Spirits Competition, London, 2007





2006 'KILLERMAN'S RUN' SHIRAZ

Rich and powerful in both fruit flavour and palate persistence the 'Killerman's Run' Shiraz offers outstanding value to those seeking a wine that will accompany a range of meats and fine foods.

Low yielding grapes from premium vineyards were selected from a range of South Australian vineyards then vinified by traditional winemaking methods and matured in small French and American oak casks before careful blending and bottling unfiltered. Ripe, bold and lifted Shiraz flavours predominate the nose, with rich plum fruits and mocha. This wine was made to showcase the unique flavours of Shiraz, the palate tends to be fruit driven but balanced and lengthened by the older oak flavours. A sweet mid palate, soft tannins and warmth of character have created a wine with both power and finesse. Crimson in colour.

Cellaring potential of at least 6 - 8 years.



2006 'KILLERMAN'S RUN' SHIRAZ GRENACHE

A classic and complex blend of Shiraz (60%) and Grenache (40%) has created a truly balanced wine that fits perfectly the philosophy of our second 'Killerman's Run' label that is to source the best fruit possible from a range of premium areas of South Australia.

Made traditionally in small batches and matured in older French and American oak casks before final blending and bottling unfiltered.

Rich and rewarding, the Shiraz and Grenache compliment one another perfectly giving a long structured finish, sweet mid palate and seamless oak fruit integration. Juicy ripe plum and prune flavours predominate.

Lifted aromas of ripe plums, prunes and berry fruits meld together.

Intense brick red in colour with crimson tints. Cellaring potential of at least 6 - 8 years.



2006 'KILLERMAN'S RUN' CABERNET

A classic Cabernet Sauvignon style, rich in fruit flavour and character and one that perfectly fits the Kilikanoon 'Killerman's Run' philosophy of creating great value wines from premium areas of South Australia.

Hand selected fruit parcels, maturation in new and older small French oak casks and attention to final blending has ensured a wine of great poise and balance.

Sweet berry fruits and hints of leafy tobacco combine to create a smooth, seamless palate, further enhanced by the supportive oak characters and fine tannins on the finish.

Inky red with purple hues.

Sweet berry fruits and spicy French oak characters feature on the nose.

Cellaring potential of at least 6 - 8 years.

2007 VINTAGE SUMMARY

Mother nature did its best to make vintage 2007 a challenging one...

Drought and frost followed by three inches of rain in mid January caused a dramatic reduction in yields across all varieties. In addition, the vintage was one of the earliest on record with most varieties being harvested two to three weeks earlier than normal.

The rain in January caused some berry splitting in Riesling and a resultant loss of crop by approximately 20% in Kilikanoon's case. However, the Riesling vines displayed great resilience to these difficult conditions and the wines produced show strong varietal character and flavour yet are finely structured.

Red varieties across the board were severely hit by a reduction in yield with most crops down by at least 50%. However, berry size in reds was nice and small which resulted in wines produced which were deeply coloured and well concentrated along with good tannin structure. Grenache once again showed its great versatility in producing a fresh and fruity Rose as well as the more full bodied dry reds.

Tim McNeil
Winemaker

Kilikanoon Wines has recently been collecting awards all over the world, from the prestigious 2007 International Wine & Spirit Competition (IWSC) held in the UK to the Clare Wine Show in our own backyard.

Of the seven Kilikanoon wines entered in the IWSC, six have been awarded important medals.

Chief winemaker Kevin Mitchell, said "We are very proud of our Clare Valley Rieslings, and this trophy in particular gives me great satisfaction. The 2006 is an excellent example of a wine in the first stages of evolution which will last many years. These awards also demonstrate the versatility of our terroir, with Oracle and Mort's Block both coming principally from my father Mort's old vine vineyards."

Nathan Waks, Managing Director Kilikanoon Wines Pty Ltd and Seppeltsfield Wines Pty Ltd, said "After winning

the Best Shiraz in the world for the 2001 Oracle at the 2004 IWSC, this range of medals proves once again that Kilikanoon is a consistent producer of wines of the highest quality over a range of styles and prices. The IWSC is quite meticulous in ensuring that its blind tastings are indeed blind, serving all wines without reference to bottles which can sometimes provide a clue. We are also proud to be short-listed for Australian Producer of the year, the results of which will be known in November."

Kilikanoon has also scored an impressive four trophies at the 2007 Clare Wine Show (CWS) for two different vintages of its Mort's Block Riesling. Kevin Mitchell said "This is a terrific result... in one of the highest quality, competitive Riesling line-ups in Australia at any one time. It also highlights the wonderful versatility and aging ability of our Stelvin-capped Watervale Rieslings."

OTHER TROPHIES

2005 Kilikanoon Oracle Shiraz
Gold and Best in Class (IWSC)

2004 Kilikanoon Oracle Shiraz
Gold and Best in Class (IWSC)

2004 Kilikanoon Covenant Shiraz
Gold (IWSC)

2005 Killerman's Run Shiraz
Silver (IWSC)

2005 Killerman's Run Shiraz Grenache
Silver and Best in Class
- no golds awarded (IWSC)

2007 Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling
Mick Knappstein Trophy -
Best Current Vintage Riesling (CWS)

2002 Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling
Best Riesling of Show (CWS),
Jim Barry Trophy - Best Wine of Show (CWS)
and Best Exhibition Section Dry Riesling,
2004 Vintage and Older (CWS)



Barrel cellar.

Seppeltsfield purchase presents new possibilities

THIS BAROSSA VALLEY LANDMARK IS A PRICELESS NATIONAL TREASURE

Kilikanoon Wines – the principal of the newly formed Seppeltsfield Estate Trust and Foster’s Group Limited (Foster’s) have agreed to the sale – effective 23rd November 2007– of the historically significant Seppeltsfield winery and vineyards located in South Australia’s Barossa Valley.

The sale includes a unique, unbroken and highly prized collection of vintages going back to 1878 – considered by wine critics and collectors worldwide – as living history.

The Seppeltsfield property was purchased by Joseph Seppelt in 1851 and is today dedicated to the production of premium fortified wines. Its blue stone cellars hold around 9 million litres of fortified wines including stocks of the now famous 100 year old Para Liqueur Vintage Tawny. The 185 hectare property includes the National Trust listed historic homestead and 100 hectares of surrounding vineyards.

The sale agreement comprises the 19th Century landmark Seppeltsfield site, vineyards and visitor facilities, Solero and Para fortified wine brands, all wine stocks and the rights to the Seppeltsfield name.

The multi-award winning Seppeltsfield fortified wines are greatly admired by Australian, International wine show judges and fine wine consumers. It has taken decades of investment and skill to develop the famous slow maturing fractional blending systems known as the Seppeltsfield Soleras. Foster’s believes the future of these priceless assets is well assured

through the careful selection of buyer and detailed sale agreement process.

Nathan Waks CEO of Kilikanoon said “We are proud and excited to become the next custodians of this priceless national treasure and will work very hard to further enhance Seppeltsfield’s reputation as Australia’s greatest fortified wine producer. In consultation with the local community, we plan over time to spark new life back into the Seppeltsfield Village through sympathetic wine-related re- development and other ideas.”

Bruce Baudinet, Chairman of Kilikanoon and the Seppeltsfield Estate Trust, said “Foster’s has worked diligently and patiently to find a suitable purchaser, who can both respect the century of traditions and take Seppeltsfield to the next level. We believe that we have the energy, capital and commitment to make Seppeltsfield one of the most exciting fortified wine producers in the world and a great South Australian tourist destination. We sincerely look forward to the challenges ahead and a close ongoing working relationship with Foster’s Wine Estates.”

The Seppeltsfield Estate Trust will buy the assets. The owners of the Trust include Kilikanoon Wines, Janet Holmes à Court, Greg Paramor and Kilikanoon’s major shareholders Nathan Waks and Bruce Baudinet.

To become a member of the Seppeltsfield Club, to receive updates and special offers, please contact us on 08 8843 4377 or email admin@kilikanoon.com.au



Seppeltsfield Port Store 1878.



The Seppeltsfield Road palm avenue is a landmark of the Barossa.



Part of the historic Seppeltsfield Village.