



**CHARDONNAY  
PINOT NOIR  
SYRAH  
LAGREIN**

# Spring Newsletter 2010

*Cobaw Ridge, Chardonnay,  
Syrah and Lagrein.*

*'These are, simply, brilliant  
wines of terrior.'*

*The Future Makers  
Australian Wines  
for the 21st century.*

*Max Allen*



## Budburst 2010

**Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th November  
Macedon Ranges Wine and Food Festival**

Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah and Lagrein. Featuring our first organic wines, 100% estate grown and made to show full flavours richly reflecting this special vineyard site.

Organic Cheese platters **Saturday** and the team from the much acclaimed PIZZA VERDE doing what they do best in our wood-fired oven on **Sunday!** Be entertained by The Sullivan's... way cool dudes. Sunday.

Look forward to seeing you!



## Spring 2010

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. What a difference to this time last year...or the last 8 years for that matter. In other words wet, water everywhere! All our catchment dams are full to the brim and overflowing, water running in places and seeping from the side of hills.

Whole flotillas of ducks on every dam, a symphony of crickets and frogs croaking loudly in harmony with the universe as dusk falls. These are moments to treasure as we head into another cycle.



Almost looks like a regular wet spring, with a matching late start, possibly a late finish. This is just another variation of a season to challenge us, which the past 25 years of experience will hold us in good stead.

## 2010 Vintage

After the shock of 2009 the vines seemed to have been in recovery mode for vintage 2010, giving us a small crop of intense, rich but exceptionally well balanced fruit flavours.

Chardonnay is just starting malo in oak and all the reds are still thinking about it. Natural ferments have taken place with all the wines, all looking fantastic in oak right now.

## Wine

Since this time last year we have established a small 'Beach Head' of exporting into Singapore. From little things... exciting prospects, and a launching point to the rest of Asia. Also we have a small shipment off to Canada to supply one of the most exclusive private clubs in North America, with other export destinations on the horizon, UK and Japan.

## Press

We have some amazing reviews of late, Sarah Ahmed (UK) the Wine Detective requested samples of our Lagrein and Syrah. Great words, for a full report on the mini vertical of Lagrein and x 2 Syrah go to [www.thewinedetective.co.uk](http://www.thewinedetective.co.uk)

Sarah was also chosen for the Landmark Tutorials by Wine Australia, held in the Yarra Valley in September this year, visiting Cobaw Ridge on her way through to Heathcote, nice to meet face to face.



Our major re planting of the top block continues. This will be planted to five additional clones of Pinot Noir, trained close to the ground in one of the coolest sites on the estate at an elevation of 635 mt. This will also be planted at a density of close to 6500 vine/ht. (The average Australian density is around 1650 vine /ht.) Should be interesting to see the results!

Much of the decisions have been driven by Joshua. By the time these new plantings bear fruit, Joshua will have made some solid European experience to pass on to us! Again, watch this space.

Joshua continues to excel at University on his path to becoming a great winemaker!

Congratulations to Ella who has excelled in her final Year at Braemar College. She's looking forward to getting her drivers license and to a Gap year, traveling overseas, then onto University.

*Nelly and Alan Cooper*

Also great words from Australia's Premier Alternative wine scribe; Max Allen. In his new book, *The Future Makers* he stated, 'These are quite simply brilliant wines of terrior.'

Well worth a read, it paints a very different picture and future for the Power House Regions of Oz commodity wines.



## Vineyard News

Spring 2009 saw us introducing biodynamic practices, which has encouraged great results and sees the vines slowly re invigorated. We have also added compost to the vineyard blocks that most needed it, enhancing the soil structure. All biodynamic preparations enhancing the micro organism population. For now the biggest difference is the field capacity to store water!

