



The warm dry weather experienced during Spring and Summer continued into late Autumn, but despite the very dry year, the deep-rooted vines remained in excellent condition throughout the growing season. We were delighted with vintage 2013 which began a little earlier than usual in mid March and continued throughout April. Yields were around average right across the board, although our young vines block seemed to do particularly well and gave more generously than previous vintages.

Given the warm year, acidity across all varieties was unusually high and concentration of flavour equally excellent. The Cabernet Sauvignon was the highlight of the year however, hitting all the right notes in terms of flavours and numbers. It looks fabulous in barrel and we hope to care for it well.....a treat in store.

Our pruners enjoyed the icy cold but sunny weather in mid winter and happily since then good rains have helped to replenish the ground's coffers.

WINEMAKERS: BELINDA AND JOHN THOMSON

2012 ROSE – New Release

Vibrant, ripe red currants are the upfront aromatics of this delicious, perfumed wine, with delicate spice, black currants and chalky minerals following on the savoury palate. Firm structure and rounded acidity, coupled with a soft, textural palate and excellent persistence make this wine terrific drinking by itself or as a food accompaniment. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon and “made from the ground up”, the fruit is soaked for several hours on skins before being gently pressed and the resultant juice fermented to dryness. Screwcap.

2012 YOUNG VINES RIESLING – New Release

Fine and intensely mineral, this youthful wine exudes pink grapefruit and citrus flowers on the nose. The soft, textural palate is well-rounded, even and balanced, with white nectarine and loquat fruit characters spiked with hints of quince and lime peel, seamlessly interwoven with a fine chalkiness and innate, linear acidity. River Riesling, this complex wine from our 12 year old vines has a long way to go yet and will reward some breathing space before drinking. Screwcap.

2011 NOBLE DRY – New Release (100% Riesling)

Another first for Crawford River, we are very excited by this wine. During vintage 2011, a wet season saw botrytis starting to develop in part of our Riesling vineyard and we were inspired by the concept of creating a dry wine from fruit partially affected by botrytis. Picked with about 70% early-stage botrytis, the wine provides a delightful

juxtaposition of floral and savoury characters; more, perhaps, than we could have dreamed of creating. Once again, we have waited patiently for its blossoming and feel that we have been well rewarded.

Delicate orange blossom and elderflower couple with lifted slate/mineral notes and fresh lime marmalade on the nose and follow through to the palate, together with guava, grapefruit (both flesh and pith) and botrytic hints of dried apricots. Yet amongst all these fruit forward elements, the wine has an undeniably savoury seam showing mace, ginger and allspice, all woven together with an underlying, earthy spine. Balanced and well-structured, this bone dry wine will reward further cellaring. Screwcap.

2011 SEMILLON SAUVIGNON BLANC – New Release

Fresh lime juice and stoney minerals meld with honeydew melon and grassiness to form an intense and lifted bouquet in this lively, Semillon dominant blend. These characters are magnified on the soft and textured palate whilst mingling seamlessly with delicious passionfruit notes as they come into play - the whole underpinned by a fine, chalky backbone. After the cool 2011 vintage, this wine needed time to evolve and the wait has provided dividends indeed. A bright, bone dry finish is clean and refreshing. Well structured and youthful, it will reward further cellaring. Screwcap.

2008 CABERNET MERLOT – *New Release*

A warmer than usual Autumn in 2008 produced delicious berries with concentrated flavours and resulted in a wine with generous overtones of ripe blackberries, mulberries and red fruit on the nose. A fleshy, soft wine with hints of allspice and bay leaf, the palate begins with plenty of fruit coupled with notes of dark, rich chocolate. Fine, powdery tannins throughout aid firm structure and complexity, whilst refined wood integration fills the supple palate. Terrific persistence and fine natural acidity make this delicious drinking which rewards some time in the glass. 50% Cabernet Sauvignon / 50% blend of Cabernet Franc and Merlot. Screwcap.

2005 RESERVE RIESLING - *Museum Release*

Our Reserve Riesling, first produced in 1999, is crafted from hand selected fruit from a small section of the vineyard planted in 1975. It is not made every year and most of the production is cellared immediately after bottling, for release as an aged wine.

Steely minerality and intense aromas of sweet limes pervade the lifted nose, with white stone fruit, nuances and spice. The integrated, seamless palate displays a layered complexity we dream of achieving in this “Reserve” creation with luscious baked quince and white peach dancing in tune with stoney nuances and fine, linear acidity. The finish

lingers, with exceptional persistence. We are delighted with the evolution of this coveted, aged release. Vibrant and fresh, this wine – one of our very best - has years ahead of it. Screwcap.

2012 RIESLING

2012 was an excellent season at Crawford River, with great depth of flavour in the fruit and terrific acidity across our varieties. The 2012 Riesling is no exception and, although still only a pup, is beginning to really shine.

Perfumed with white stone fruit, citrus blossom, honeysuckle and spice, the nose entices you to a concentrated, elegantly textural palate. Seamlessly integrated fruit characters - with hints of delicious apples, lime peel and white stone fruit – together with chalky acidity help to create an amalgam of layered complexity, finesse and excellent persistence reminiscent of our very best vintages. The finish is long, lingering and bone dry. Excellent cellaring potential. Screwcap.

2006 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Succulent redcurrants, baking spices, bay and tobacco leaf herald the entrance to this graceful, refined Cabernet. A delicious union of ripe fruit characters, savoury nuances and fine minerals, together with well-integrated French oak (24 months) create a vibrant, multi-layered and long palate. The silky, finely textured palate is well balanced by soft acidity and dry, fine tannins, making this stylish, complex wine a pleasure to drink. It will reward further cellaring. 90%

Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc & Merlot. Cork.

2011 SEMILLON

Excited by the excellent quality of the Semillon fruit in 2011, the decision was made to produce a wine comprising 100% Semillon – only our fourth in 37 years. In addition to the wine spending extended time on lees, a small amount has been barrel fermented in old French oak barriques, lending subtle textural finesse to this elegant and balanced wine. A fragrant bouquet of honeysuckle, lime and minerals leads to a deliciously fresh, soft and evenly poised palate underpinned by firm chalky minerality. The lingering, bone-dry finish is bright and crisp. Excellent cellaring potential. Screwcap.

2008 NEKTAR – *Riesling*

Manifesting a pronounced influence from the *botrytis cinerea*, this youthful and delicious dessert wine bears all the hallmarks of the Crawford River style. The tightly structured palate together with the poised balance of sugar, acid and alcohol for which we strive, results in a luscious dessert wine that is elegant and persistent, but not at all cloying. Aromas of spice and fresh apricots greet the nose, with hints of zesty lime peel leading to a well-rounded palate which is soft and textured. Fruit layers of cumquat marmalade and baked quince on the palate are balanced by innate chalky characters and fine, linear acidity. The finish is clean and fresh. It will age superbly. Residual Sugar: 90gms. Screwcap.