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2009 Scarce Earth Old Vine Shiraz

Scarce Earth is a McLaren Vale initiative exploring and celebrating the geological, climatic and soil diversity of our region. All wines under the Scarce Earth banner come from a single block of land with a unique flavour profile and personality. A judging panel assesses each wine to ensure that the site is expressed in the glass and that the wine is free of overt winemaking influences.

The fruit for our 2009 Old Vine Scarce Earth Shiraz was sourced from a single premium McLaren Vale vineyard planted in 1910, where the gnarly old vines produce some amazing, concentrated flavours. We purchased the fruit from Pasquale Maglieri who spent the mid fifties working his way across Australia and on his way home to Italy visited his brother in law in McLaren Vale to say goodbye, but fell in love with the area and stayed. Over the next 10 years he planted vineyards, pruned vines and picked grapes to earn the money to purchase his first vineyard. After share farming the old Foggo Vineyard, just west of McLaren Flat, he saw potential in the quality of the fruit so, when it came up for sale, he leapt on the opportunity to buy it. This vineyard, full of gnarly old vines has been lovingly restored to prosperity by three generations of his family, who all still live and work on the land he fell for all those years

ago. The vineyard site has a northerly aspect with east west planted rows to help protect the fruit from hot summer sun and the soil is alluvial fan clay which allows the vines to establish a very deep root system.

The wine made with fruit from this vineyard has lovely aromas of plums, berry fruits and cherry as well as cinnamon, cardomon and musk. The palate is rich and full with flavours of plum and cherry and elegant savoury earthy tannins rounding out the mid palate. The wine is characterized by depth and intensity only achievable with old vine fruit. The subtle integrated oak and textural tannins will soften as the wine ages, although it is very approachable as a young wine.

Fermentation was completed in barrel to add complexity and integrate the wine. Maturation was for 20 months in 3 year seasoned new French Oak barrels, sourced from coopers in both Bordeaux and Burgundy. Final barrel selections for this wine were determined purely by quality.

Drinking best up to 2019 (and probably much longer) Scott recommends you decant the wine for up to 2 hours prior to consumption to allow the wine to open up and fully express itself.



CIRCLE MEMBERS DON'T FORGET!

If you have an order for Spring dispatch please don't forget our cut off date for any changes is Wednesday 28th September 2011. Also, if your credit card has changed or expired please contact us so you don't miss out.

New Releases



2010 SHIRAZ-GRENACHE-MOURVEDRE

Lovely perfumed aromas of blueberries, nutmeg, musk and red cherries with a hint of cigar box. Shiraz and Grenache in balanced proportions deliver perfumed lift and juicy red berry fruits with the Mourvedre contributing to the wine's richness, length and structure. The front and mid palate are filled with a luscious mix of plums, black cherries, rhubarb and dark chocolate, complemented by mixed brown spices and subtle oak, finishing with elegant and textural grape tannins.

The Shiraz batches were matured in 2, 3 and 4-year-old French and American oak selected for their spice, character and sweet tannin profiles. The Grenache and Mourvedre were matured in large new, 1 and 2-year-old French and American oak puncheons.

The composition of the wine is 48% Shiraz, 36% Grenache and 16% Mourvedre. Shiraz and Grenache are two of McLaren Vale's strengths and when blended with Mourvedre you have a fabulous wine that delivers outstanding quality at a very affordable price. While crafted for immediate appeal, this wine will benefit from a further 3 years cellaring in controlled conditions.



2009 JSM SHIRAZ-CABERNET SAUVIGNON-CABERNET FRANC

The nose reveals an enticing array of musk, red cherry, plums, vanilla bean and roasted nuts with an herbaceous lift. Integrated cinnamon and nutmeg aromas derived from barrels used in fermentation add to the wine's complexity.

A fruit driven mid palate is laden with red cherry, plums and mulberries, complemented by hints of vanilla and toasty oak. The wine has a long, textural finish due to the Cabernet's firm and youthful grape tannin framed with balanced and elegant oak tannin. A great drinking wine of complexity and substance.

The blend in this wine is approximately 77% Shiraz, 19% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Cabernet Franc. All varieties were matured in 1 to 4 year old French and American barrels for 18 months prior to blending.

This wine is released with a year's bottle age to be enjoyed in restaurants and at home with food. Subsequent cellaring for 2 to 5 years will give a softer more complex wine. This wine has already picked up a Gold Medal in the Japan Wine Challenge and a Silver Medal at the International Wine Challenge in the UK this year.



2009 SHADOW'S RUN SHIRAZ-CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Raspberries, red cherry and plums with mixed spice, hints of leafiness, milk chocolate and smoky toast on the nose. On the palate this wine is a soft rich balanced blend of strawberry, red cherry and blood plum fruit flavours, complemented by a cherry and creamy vanilla mid palate. The finish lingers with a tantalizing mix of cinnamon and dark chocolate. This ripe, juicy and elegant blend of Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon finishes with crisp acid and firm tannins, leaving the palate clean, refreshed and looking for the next sip.

This wine has been crafted for enjoyment now and will also improve over the next 24 months under good cellaring conditions.

BATTLE OF THE CHAMPIONS 2011



Once again Fox Creek sponsored The Battle of the Champions hosted by the Adelaide Hills Kennel Club. The 2011 Supreme winner was BIS Ch Statuesque Pumper Nickel, a Griffon Bruxellois, pictured here with co owner/handler Michael O'Callaghan, Judges Mr A. Burt, Mrs E Joseph & Mr G Maudlen and co owner Wendy Baker.

Lyn Roberts

Director, Fox Creek Wines



Pictured is Joel Sprigg's niece Maya Schmitt, who is enjoying a flight in the barrel biplane in the Cellar Door gardens. Joel is one of our knowledgeable cellar door staff.

VIXEN IN SIX PACKS

Please be aware that our Vixen is now in six bottle packs for ease of lifting. The Vixen is heavier than most of our other wines so we thought it was about time to make this change. The Reserve wines will also only be in six packs in the near future as these are the other heavy bottles in our portfolio. So, if you have ordered a dozen Vixen this dispatch look out for two boxes.

Latest Press and Awards

We are pleased to have received a 5 Star rating from James Halliday in his 2012 Australian Wine Companion. The **2009 SCARCE EARTH OLD VINE SHIRAZ** and **2008 RESERVE SHIRAZ** (not yet released) both received an outstanding rating of 95 points which is only given to wines of the highest quality.

When talking about the Scarce Earth James said "...the palate has great intensity and length, its savoury notes bordering on outright elegance, not normally McLaren Vale's long suit. Drink to 2030."

And of the Reserve Shiraz "... the full-bodied palate is flush with generous and supple fruit: will be long-lived, and as it settles down, greater complexity will emerge. Drink to 2033."

The newly released **2009 JSM** and our **2009 & 2008 SHORT ROW** were all highly recommended with 93 points which he says are wines of great quality, style and character, worthy of a place in any cellar.

For those of you who have purchased the **2008 JSM** it has been receiving a lot of attention from Australian wine writers.

"...this is a much loved red blend that's going to attract those who love their wines rich and ripe a product of its vintage no doubt. Along with all its swelling of fruit, you get some pretty smart oak underneath and a lot of anise spice as well, with a finely textured palate to carry it to the table. Good Value. 4 Stars."

– Tony Love, Adelaide Advertiser, Courier Mail, Daily Telegraph, Herald Sun and Hobart Mercury, 17/8/2011

"Braille on the back label is helpful late at night and feels good whether you're blind or not. So McLaren Vale you can almost see Maslin's Beach. Lovely stuff, to be franc, full of things you expect in lush wine. 9/10."

– Max Crus, Daily Examiner and Morning Bulletin 9/7/2011

"Highly aromatic red blend with the leafy notes of the cab franc evident initially. The palate is medium to full-bodied with good concentration. Fine tannins and a little vanillin oak add to the exotic spicy wild fruit mix on the palate. Nice current drinking and over the next few years. 89/100"

– Ray Jordan, West Australian, 14/7/2011

"This unusual blend of Rhone and Bordeaux varieties from McLaren Vale has dark cherry, plum and red berry fruit on the nose and palate, with some spicy oak, vanilla and round tannins on the finish. It'd go with just about any red meat, from steak to lam cutlets. 91 points."

– Mike Frost, Courier Mail, 1/7/2011

"... Generous plumminess, dark cherries and a hint of dusty oak on the nose. Warm and generous in the mouth where softish tannins support successive layers of ripe berries. Finish is long and moreish. First Rate."

– Martin Field, www.thewineblog.net and E-Vine, July 2011

Before our **2009 SCARCE EARTH OLD VINE SHIRAZ** was even released it was receiving attention.

Ben Thomas from the Weekly Review, 27/7/2011, wrote about our **2009 SCARCE EARTH OLD VINE SHIRAZ** "The bouquet has a layered complexity of cherry, plum and violets with ferrous and spice (cardamom and cinnamon) notes. Deep flavours of blackberry, plum, spice and charcuterie are rich and concentrated, and the wine is remarkably light, not jammy. It's well-structured, with satin-like texture, fine-grained tannins and bright acid all working together in seamless harmony. Food match: English cheddar. Seamless. 4.5 Stars."

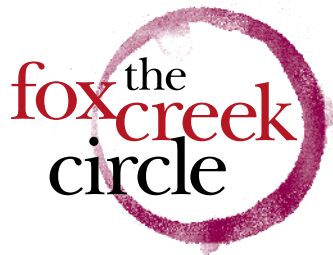
CUNNING FOX



Samra Teague, who recently exhibited her photographs of India at our Cellar Door, sent us these photos of a beautiful fox that comes and dines with her and her family when they have dinner at a local beach. It has become such a regular occurrence that Samra now makes the fox her own bowl of food.

We also learned of another fox that frequents the home of a friend at Port Noarlunga, Zannie Flanagan. For several months Zannie thought she was going mad as pair after pair of her shoes were disappearing. Eventually she checked with her neighbours and they too had lost several shoes but had recently sighted a fox running across the garden carrying one. It would seem that this fox has quite the shoe fetish and somewhere has an Imelda Marcos collection of footwear yet to be found. This phenomenon is not uncommon and on further research it seems the fox loves to take whatever it can get its mouth around and have been known to steal everything from purses and cell phones to cameras and golf balls.





Spring 2011 Mixed Dozen

The Fox Creek Circle Mixed Dozens for Spring 2011 are listed below. **If you require any changes to your mix or would like to add to your order please contact us by Wednesday 28th September as dispatch will start on Friday 30th September.** Those who have ordered single variety dozens for Spring will receive them at the same time. If your credit card has changed or expired please contact us so you don't miss out.

WHITE DOZEN

- 2010 Shadow's run Sauvignon Blanc
- 2010 Shadow's run Unwooded Chardonnay
- 2010 Chardonnay
- 2010 Verdelho
- 2010 Sauvignon Blanc
- NV Brut Reserve

Mail Order Price **\$188.00**
Fox Creek Circle Price **\$163.00** delivered



RED DOZEN

- 2009 Shadow's run Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2010 Red Baron Shiraz
- 2010 Shiraz-Grenache-Mourvedre
- 2009 JSM Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon-Cabernet Franc
- Vixen Sparkling Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon-Cabernet Franc
- 2009 Short Row Shiraz
- 2008 Reserve Merlot
- 2008 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Mail Order Price **\$288.00**
Fox Creek Circle Price **\$247.00** delivered



MIXED DOZEN

- 2010 Shadow's run Sauvignon Blanc
- 2010 Shadow's run Unwooded Chardonnay
- 2010 Chardonnay
- 2010 Verdelho
- 2009 Shadow's run Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2010 Red Baron Shiraz
- 2010 Shiraz-Grenache- Mourvedre
- 2009 JSM Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon-Cabernet Franc
- Vixen Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon-Cabernet Franc
- 2009 Short Row Shiraz
- 2008 Reserve Merlot

Mail Order Price **\$244.00**
Fox Creek Circle Price **\$204.50** delivered



CEO Sleepout

A quick note to thank all of you who sponsored me in this year's CEO Sleepout at the Zoo raising money for the St. Vincent de Paul Society's homeless services. I managed to raise in excess of \$1,800 but \$4 million was raised nationally.

The night was a great experience for me. We heard from a couple of ex-homeless people about their experiences on the streets and it was also enlightening to chat with the many people who volunteer their time to help St Vinnie's. I was shocked to hear that the majority of homeless in Australia are young children and not much older than my own children, James (11) and Kai (8). This motivated me to want to help more.

I wanted to get as real an experience of sleeping on the streets as possible so I slept outside in the open (not in the rotunda as many opted to do). The night was not too cold, around 5 degrees, but we did get quite a bit of rain throughout the night. See right for a picture of my shelter for the night which consisted of a few sheets of cardboard. I did have a sleeping bag which isn't shown in the picture but that was it. The cardboard did a good job of keeping me dry (mostly)

for the night but I must admit I didn't get much sleep. I found a spot off the main pathway which was dark, offered some windbreak and was on a slight incline so the rain wouldn't pool around me. The ground was very hard concrete but because of the rain I thought this would be better than being on grass which would let the moisture rise up through the cardboard into my sleeping bag. During the night there were some people moving around (security I assume) which was quite scary as I didn't know who they were and whether they would cause me any harm. Because of the hard ground I had to change position every half hour or so. Finally at around 4am the lions decided that they would start calling out to each other which was quite surreal (something I suppose most homeless wouldn't have to contend with). I rose at 5.30am packed up my home and met up with the other CEO's for a warm cup of coffee and some banana bread. My experience of being homeless was at an end and one I won't forget in a hurry.

St Vinnie's do a fantastic job trying to find accommodation for the homeless, providing food via Fred's Van service, furniture via their shops

PAUL ROGERS

CEO

and a massive amount of work with children with their youth programs. Why not check out their web site to get a better understanding of what they do and see if you can help. <http://www.vinnies.org.au/home-sa>

Once again thank you for your support and hope to see some of you joining me next year for this worthy cause.



Backwater Blues and Roots Festival at Fox Creek Cellar Door

Saturday 29th October 1 to 5pm

Join us and two of Australia's finest guitarists for this family friendly gig. There will be a BBQ, coffee and of course, some terrific wines available for purchase. Please bring your own chair or picnic rug to sit on. There is no admission charge.

Brendan Gallagher is a music all rounder: singer, multi-instrumentalist, songwriter, performer, producer, composer and author. Some say he was born with a guitar in his hands. In a career spanning over thirty years, he has played on recordings for artists like

David Bowie, Jimmy Little and Kylie Minogue. Brendan is best known as singer/guitarist with Karma County. Over the past fifteen years, the band has released five albums and toured the world. In September 2006, Brendan released his debut solo album *On Eve St*, which was voted one of the top 25 albums of 2006 for the Australian Music Prize.

Chris Finnen is a legend of the Australian music scene and just happens to be a local who knows Fox Creek well. He's a genre-bending multi-instrumentalist who takes his influences from the blues and world music traditions and melds them into a style that is distinctively

his. Chris has collaborated with the likes of Jeff Lang and Chain and performed and shared the stage with such blues legends as Buddy Guy, Bo Diddley, John Hammond, John Myall, Roy Buchanan and Bob Brozman.



Chris Finnen



Brendan Gallagher

Exhibitions at Cellar Door

DIANNE FACCIN: FLOWERS FISH AND FUN

September & October 2011

Dianne Faccin was born in England and spent her early childhood in Kent, The Garden of England. Educated in Adelaide, she went on to become a dental nurse, but always pursued an interest in painting.

In 1985 Dianne took up the part time study of oil painting and later watercolor and pastel. Her present distinctive style has evolved as her strong feel for colour became clear coupled with a life long love of flowers.

"I always look forward to spring-time and especially so this year as I can celebrate with this bright exhibition at Fox Creek Winery.

As always my poppies are a popular feature and this time I have ventured into oils as well as my watercolours. To add a final twist there are fun-filled Japanese dolls.

A blast of colour and floral-spangled views will greet the viewer."




fox creek
wines

SEE YOU AT THE CELLAR DOOR SOON!

**Cellar Door is open for tastings between
10am and 5pm seven days a week.
Malpas Road, McLaren Vale.**

FLEURIEU ART PRIZE 2011 – THE WORLD'S RICHEST LANDSCAPE ART PRIZE

Landscape Art & the Environment Artist Field Research Project Exhibition

Fox Creek Cellar Door
1 November – 4 December 2011

The Fleurieu Art Prize began in 1998 and offers a total prize pool of \$90,000. The Art Prize celebrates the enduring importance and the contemporary significance of landscape painting in the Australian art world. It is appropriate that the most significant prize for landscape art in Australia is centered in McLaren Vale on the Fleurieu Peninsula, a region famous for its striking vistas and extraordinary geological formations. The area has long been the home and a source of inspiration for some of Australia's most important landscape artists.

The exhibition being held at our Cellar Door aims to provide intellectual substance to the Fleurieu Art Prize by promoting creative thinking and action about the nature of contemporary landscape art and how it can inform the current debate about the environment.

For the selected artists in the research group the event has combined field briefings and research in the Fleurieu region with periods of individual studio development and will subsequently culminate with an exhibition of the works and documentation of the process.

Participating South Australian artist Margaret Worth describes her involvement as "a privilege and a luxury". She is aiming to give back something "remarkable in response to the place and the people" and hopes to "include my passion along with theirs". While other aspects of the Fleurieu Art Prize are based on a visual reaction to landscape, Worth believes that the project is about the land and delving into "what's underneath and invisible".

For more information about all the exhibitions on the Fleurieu Peninsula during November see www.artprize.com.au