



# TIDSWELL WINES

*'Taste a Tidswell – Seriously Drinkable Wines'*



**Welcome to Tidswell Wines**

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Welcome to the third edition of Talking Tidswell.



*Harvesting 'Fruits of our Labour'*

## ***“Toughing it out, but looking ahead”***

We left you last time with a mere mention of dreaded frost being a threat we were hoping not to encounter last vintage. Crossing fingers and toes and thinking only good thoughts wasn't enough, because we experienced the worst frosts in a century across the Limestone Coast region and our vineyard was one of the worst hit!

Between late August and early November 2006 we had nineteen frosts, four of which were to  $-3.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This burnt all the new shoots and flowers resulting in losses of 90% of the potential crop. As a result we only harvested 10% of our normal yield and some of this was done by walking the vineyard rows and hand picking bunches left by the harvester to salvage every possible grape. It was a big disappointment (especially as it meant we would not be making a 2007 Sauvignon Blanc), but certainly has made us appreciate the good years.

Fortunately, the 10% that was harvested shows top grape quality, so the 2007 vintage, whilst one that we'd rather forget, will hopefully result in some outstanding wines.

The vineyard has had three below average rainfall years with the last being the lowest rainfall on record. We see this set back as being just a part of agriculture, a learning experience that will assist us to identify ways of improving practices and continue to be environmentally sustainable.

We have reconciled the 2007 vintage (after some much needed wine therapy!) and look forward to 2008 with a gritty determination for success. The vines have bounced back strongly and a 'bud fruitfulness' test reveals buds of good vitality, which is testament to the underlying health of the vines. Neil Jones, our viticulturist is doing a great job keeping the vineyard healthy. We are now busy pruning and 'praying' that the winter rains keep falling.

### **Our Philosophy:**

... to produce estate-grown, varietal wines of a consistent high quality that enhance food enjoyment and express the unique cool climate characters of the vineyard.

**Ben and Andrea Tidswell** *Proprietors*

Volume 3  
Winter  
2007

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## Achievements

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#### 2007 San Francisco International Competition

- Gold Tidswell Wines 2003  
Heathfield Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon
- Silver Tidswell Wines 2004  
Jennifer Cabernet Sauvignon
- Bronze Tidswell Wines 2004  
Heathfield Ridge Shiraz

#### 2007 International Wine Challenge London

- Bronze Tidswell Wines 2003  
Heathfield Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon
- Commendation  
Tidswell Wines 2004  
Jennifer Cabernet Sauvignon

#### 2007 Decanter Wine Awards London

- Bronze Tidswell Wines 2004  
Heathfield Ridge Shiraz
- Bronze Tidswell Wines 2003  
Heathfield Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon

#### 2007 Melbourne Wine Show

- Bronze Tidswell Wines 2002  
Jennifer Cabernet Sauvignon
- Bronze Tidswell Wines 2004  
Heathfield Ridge Shiraz

### *We are proud of our achievements . . .*



It was wonderful to have our most recent release reds highly regarded at an international level in several world renowned wine shows, which is proof of their consistent quality. Particularly pleasing was the Gold medal at the 2007 San Francisco International Competition for our 2003 Heathfield Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon.



## What's new on the export front?

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We continue to strengthen our overseas markets with solid sales in Japan and Canada. This month Ben visits our Canadian agent, Neil Fortes of Wineworld Importers to present at a 'meet the winemaker' dinner and catch up with our loyal customers. He will also be meeting with a distributor in Boston to finalise details of a new relationship with USA.



## Domestic developments & events

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This year to date, we have shown our faces and our wine at local and interstate shows, always with positive feedback. We have been busy filling many on-line orders as a direct result of this. Congratulations and thankyou to all our loyal customers, old and new who have embraced this convenient, relatively painless way to make a purchase. This together with our customer club is an ideal way for us to build a more direct relationship with you.

- We were once again well represented at the Limestone Coast Festival in February, with Jenny McEachern, our South-East distributor embracing the spirit of an African theme.
- Lucindale Field Days in March were a lot of fun. We are well known for our exciting 'Special' which once again sold out over the two days.
- Over the Easter weekend we were guests at the Lucindale Camp Draft, to which Tidswell Wines have contributed sponsorship for the past three years. It was with great pleasure that Ben could personally present the prizes to the winners of the Open Event.
- The Sydney Good Food and Wine Show was held at the Sydney Exhibition Centre from 15-17 June this year with resounding success. Tidswell Wines was well represented and once again showed our wines with confidence, gaining many new supporters of our brands.
- The Pembroke Food and Wine Night on the 23rd June was a fun, relaxed evening of great food and even better wines, our own product being no exception. For us, it was also a terrific opportunity to catch up with some old friends!



## Update on wines currently available

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- 2002 Jennifer Cabernet Sauvignon \$29.50 (2004 Jennifer to be released at end of year)
- 2003 Heathfield Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon \$19.95
- 2004 Heathfield Ridge Shiraz \$19.95
- 2006 Heathfield Ridge Sauvignon Blanc \$17.50 (limited stock available)
- 2004 Caves Rd Shiraz \$13.50 (limited stock available)
- 2005 Caves Rd Chardonnay \$13.50

**The 2005 Caves Rd Shiraz will be released at the end of this month with some surprises in store, namely a smartened up label you're sure to like.**

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