

# Bruce Thiele Red Wine Club



## Christmas at Lambert Estate with our partners

Lambert Estate is nestled in the hills just outside of Angaston, a beautiful venue in a gorgeous setting the perfect place for our Christmas event this year. The elevated cellar door and function rooms certainly have the wow factor as you enter, giving fabulous views over the vineyards. However, our eyes were distracted from the vineyard view and focused on the very extravagant display of Christmas decorations. The owner Jim Lambert loves Christmas and admits that he cannot stop buying decorations, many of them are life size!



Seventy-eight people attended and members, partners and guests were greeted with a glass of The Prologue 2021 sparkling Pinot Noir. There was plenty of time to mingle, chat with old friends and make new ones including Jim who gave his time to chat as we enjoyed the welcome wine.

At 6.50 pm we were seated for canapés. Our MC Graeme welcomed members and guests. A special welcome was given to Bob and Jenni and Rex and Dyan. Due to ill health both Bob and Rex have been unable to attend meetings for quite some time and it was indeed a pleasure to see them both again.

Graeme then introduced Roger the Head Chef to explain the dishes that made up the Peruvian Banquet.

**Coming up**—January Ian's 'Its not a Shiraz' mystery wines (Red Room) .

## Guest Invitation

You are invited to join a group of like minded people at a Bruce Thiele Red Wine Club dinner meeting to taste, talk about, learn and enjoy wine. Inquiries Peter Frick [btredwineclub@gmail.com](mailto:btredwineclub@gmail.com)

## Christmas at Lamberts (Cont.)

Roger explained the different chilies Amarillo, Aji Charapita and Aji Panca and the herbs used coriander and Tagetes Minuta, also known as Peruvian black mind or southern marigold used in the preparation of the meal.

While we enjoyed our canapés, MC Graeme introduced our host for the evening, Gavin the Hospitality Manager, to take us through the wine tasting.

The wine makers are Kirk and Vanesa Lambert, who met while studying wine making at the University of Adelaide. Kirk and Vanesa fuse their American and Peruvian backgrounds with their expertise in wine making.

The winery is located three floors underground, keeping it at a constant temperature. There are over 1000 solar panels on the roof producing the energy needed to run the winery and restaurant.

Gavin explained that the top of the 20ha vineyard is in the Eden Valley and the bottom is in the Barossa. The welcome wine The Prologue 2021 was made with grapes from the top block i.e.

Eden Valley grapes. Made in the 'traditional method'.

The first wine tasted was a brand-new edition the 2023 Chardonnay, which although not being released until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024 we had the privilege of tasting.

The second wine tasted was a new release the 2021 Little Rebel Mourvèdre, grown on a small block with its roots in water from underground streams. With only 925 bottles produced.

The third wine tasted the 2021 Palindrome Tannat, limited release. Gavin described it as the rarest of the rare, grown on a one acre block it is the first vintage they have made with this varietal. With only 1660 bottles produced.

As a special offer Gavin offered the opportunity for members to buy a dozen bottles of Black Sheep for \$140.

The Cabernet, Tannat, Black Sheep and Mourvèdre Wines were then put on the table and the meal was served.

The meal was delicious, the service was well organised and flawless. The room was buzzing! While we were finishing our meal, our raffle man Tony asked Gavin to draw the first ticket.

Jan Kowald a guest of Gerry Raggio won a bottle of 2020 P.S. I love you Petite Sirah.





## Christmas at Lamberts (Cont.)



Peter Frick won a bottle of 2021 Palindrome Tannat

Ian Cooper won a bottle of 2018 The Commitment Shiraz

For those who bought either six or twelve bottle there was an extra draw which was won by Jenni and Bob!



Graeme then brought the evening to a close, with thanks to Roger and his crew who left the kitchen to receive a well-earned round of applause.

Everyone we spoke to during the evening thoroughly enjoyed the event.

A big thank you to Bob Heinicke who organised this very successful Christmas event





More Photos (by Ian Cooper)





More Photos





## More Photos



## The Wines

### Welcome: 2021 Prologue Pinot/Chardonnay Bubbles

Every story has a beginning, but it's what happens before the story begins that defines the characters. Sit back, relax and enjoy our story.

**Tasting Notes:** The Prologue is a distinctively fresh sparkling wine. On the nose strawberry and fresh melon are distinct with hints of freshly baked bread. An elegant fine bead entices the palate with notes of pink grapefruit and a touch of minerality and honeydew. Crisp acid and a creamy texture leave a refreshing, clean, strawberry finish.

**Winemaker Notes:** Pinot Noir from Eden Valley, cold fermented slowly to maintain the fruity fresh characters. Lees aging and partial MLF provides a creaminess to fill out and balance the fresh fruit and crisp acidity. Secondary fermentation has produced the elegant bead and a long living effervescence.

Acid: 5.4 g/l, pH: 3.08, Residual Sugar: 5.96 g/l, Alcohol %: 10.5, Cellar Door Price: \$42.00 (Special on the night (\$33.60))



### 1: 2023 A Thousand Words Chardonnay

Not yet released—no tasting notes available.

Cellar Door Price: \$45.00 (Special on the night (\$36.00))

### 2: 2020 Little Rebel Mourvèdre

**Tasting Notes:** The 2020 Little Rebel Mourvèdre shows bright ruby colour. A perfume of dried herbs and rose petals opens up to aromas of blackberries, hints of eucalypt and cloves. Nothing overpowers as it seamlessly transitions on the palate to layers of juicy fruits; wild cherries, plums, and rhubarb are only the beginning. Search a little deeper for savoury hints of gingerbread and violets and let the balanced acid and soft round tannins lead you to a generous finish. Luscious. Elegant. Refined.

**Winemaker Notes:** With its face in the sun and its feet in the water, this finicky variety can produce outstanding wines of depth and character when done right. Its generous, thick skinned berries require patience to reach optimal ripeness and balance. A touch of new French oak lifts the fruit and provides a strong backbone for this wine to develop.

Alcohol % 14.5, Cellar Door Price: \$36.00 (Special on the night (\$28.80))



### 3: 2021 Palindrome Tannat

**Tasting Notes:** With youthful purple hues, the 2021 Palindrome Tannat has a beautiful bouquet of ripe red berries and sweet violet perfumes. The bold and rich palate is awash with rich red fruits, with hints of sweet spice and ample powdery tannins to carry you to a long dark cherry finish.

**Winemaker Notes:** Our Tannat block is located on a steep slope of shallow red rocky soil with intense late afternoon sun. Late winter rains, warm days and cool nights allowed us to harvest this small parcel of Tannat at optimal ripeness. It is surmised that the word tannin originated from this variety due to its high acidity and intense tannic structure. Aged for 15 months in French hogsheads to reinforce and soften the structure, this wine is still young in the bottle and will continue to develop for 5-10 years.

Alcohol % 14.5, Cellar Door Price: \$36.00 (Special on the night (\$28.80))

## The Wines (Cont.)

### Table wines

#### 2016 Thoroughbred Cabernet Sauvignon

**Tasting Notes:** Beautifully structured and powerful, the 2016 Thoroughbred shows intense aromas of black currant with hints of fresh tobacco, tomato leaf and dark chocolate. Elegant and generous berries jump out on the palate showing rich black forest cake complimented with flavours of pepper spice and vanilla bean, persisting through with structurally polished, velvety tannins beckoning for another sip.

**Winemaker Notes:** Small in size, the Cabernet Sauvignon berry can produce wine of great complexity. Prolonged fermentation on skins and patient maturation for 24 months in French and American oak casks has produced this wine with solid fruit flavours, vanillin oak characters and a bold finish.

Alcohol %: 15, Cellar Door Price: \$52.00 (Special on the night (\$41.60))



#### 2019 Black Sheep Red Blend

When you cross swords with a Black Sheep you never know what you're in for. You'll find this red wine surprisingly lively, despite its dark nature.

**Tasting Notes:** The 2019 Black Sheep shows vivid purple color with bright hues. The nose is vibrant with roast beetroot and cherries combining with vanilla, cardamom and nutmeg spices to create a complex bouquet. This unique red blend tantalizes again on the palate with plush plums and bright cherries paired with clove, forest fruits and violet to balance the nutty, vanillin characters from the oak. The silky smooth tannins bring the sweet fruits and baking spice flavors through to a long lasting and memorable finish.



**Winemaker Notes:** One of the most fun and challenging wines to make, we open the entire tool box to create this special blend. The 2019 Black Sheep is one like no other, a blend of 42% Petite Sirah, 22% Tempranillo, 18% Shiraz, 15% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 1% Zinfandel. Aged for 18 months in a combination of new and old Hungarian, French and American oak, give this wine a seamless character and endless complexity.

Acid: 7.0 g/l, pH: 3.46, Residual Sugar: 0.5 g/l, Alcohol %: 14. Cellar Door Price: \$28.00 (Special on the night (\$140/Dozen))

### Dessert: Chocolatier

**Tasting Notes:** The Chocolatier is lively and bright with amber hues, leading to aromas of dark chocolate, cherry and toffee with hints of vanillin and walnuts. On the palate butterscotch notes come alive with dried fruits and nuttiness. Its a luscious, rich, generous tawny with a lingering chocolate finish.

**Winemaker Notes:** The secret lies in the harmony between tawny port and dark chocolate with both flavours well balanced and contributing their best attributes to this fortified wine. Made from a blend of red and white grape varieties and fortified wine of different ages, the youngest being 5 years old and oldest being around 30 years old.

Alcohol %: 17, Cellar Door Price: \$34.00 (Special on the night (\$27.20))

