

Bruce Thiele Red Wine Club

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER
EDITOR IAN COOPER

COMING UP

- **Apr: Reilly's of Greenock**
- **May: Ballycroft (Home)**
- **June AGM Cellar Challenge (Home)**
- **July: Birthday Tscharke (Away)**
- **August: Brothers at War (Home)**
- **September: Tenafeate Creek (Home)**
- **October: Atze's CornerTBC (Away)**
- **November: Pirathon (Home)**
- **December Christmas Greenock TBC (Away).**

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 btredwine-club@gmail.com.

Coonawarra & Limestone Coast Wines revealed

Our welcome wine was some of the club Shiraz accompanied by 'old style' cheese, metwurst and biscuits provided by Peter Frick. Our numbers were down a bit as many (including some of our key players) were away. This meant Ian Cooper took over as our MC for the evening. He welcomed everyone and introduced Simon Granfield to present some wines of south eastern South Australia.

Simon told us we would be tasting the wines in pairs and each pair would be of the same variety (but not necessarily the same variety as another pair). Ian & Simon poured the wines and we smelled sipped, discussed and recorded our conclusions on the sheets provided.

Once all the wines were tasted it was time for the big reveal! The first pair were actually Malbec. This region does not produce much Malbec so many of us were fooled. The actual wines were: Number 1 2018 Katnook Estate Malbec which was from Coonawarra and number 2, 2022 Reschke R-Series Malbec from Lucindale.

The second pair of wines were Shiraz; 2021 Stonehaven Limited Vineyard Release Padthaway Shiraz (3) and (4) 2022 Bowen Estate Shiraz from Coonawarra.

Our final pair were Cabernet Sauvignons. Number 5 was a 2019 Majella Cabernet Sauvignon from the Coonawarra and our sixth wine was a 2021 Stonehaven Limited Vineyard Release Padthaway Cabernet Sauvignon.

There was no definite agreement over what was the 'wine of the night', however the final wine seemed to get the most votes. Our roast pork arrived while Simon was finishing his presentation and it was followed by an ice-cream sundae.

Door prize winners were George Akkerman, Laurie Rundle and Dagmar Keady who were offered a choice of one of Simon's Limestone Coast wines or one from our cellar. Ian rounded off the night thanking Simon for his presentation and reminding everyone that we would be back in the Red Room for a presentation by Reillys (from Clare) next month.



1. 2018 Katnook Estate Malbec

Enjoy the luxurious taste of Malbec. With a complex array of ripe fruit & oak, this wine delivers a richly layered palate of cherry, blueberry & plum.

Region Coonawarra
 Winemaker Natalie Cleghorn
 Food Match Gourmet sausages, slow-cooked onions and kumera mash
 Best Drinking Now to 2026
 Alcohol Percent 14.00% Cellar Door Price \$40

Reviewer's words:

"A well made Malbec that ticks all the varietal boxes from one of Coonawarra's most reliable producers. A delicious example of the regional style, from an ideal vintage. Dark red purple. A riot of black cherry, iodine, liquorice, anise, earth and black chocolate. A lip-smacking powerhouse with massive black fruit flavours, delivering lashings of liquorice and cola concentration over deep, velvety tannins".

Wine Selectors



2 2022 Reschke R-Series Malbec



This rich Malbec displays aromas of dark jammy fruits with flavours of blackberry and red plum. Hints of vanilla spice and chocolate support this full-bodied wine that is ready for immediate enjoyment.

Varietal: Malbec
 Region: Limestone Coast
 Alcohol: 14.5%, Cellar Door Price \$20

Reviewer's words:

"Richly fruited and beautifully lifted on the nose showing Black Doris plum, violet, warm spice and toasted almond characters. The palate displays excellent concentration and plump mouthfeel, beautifully supported by fleshy texture and chalky tannins. At its best: now to 2032."

Sam Kim, WineOrbit

Peppercorn and plum flavours put on a pretty good turn, for the most part, with leather-like characters adding some spread. There's a slight walnut-like bitterness to the aftertaste, but the fruit here is solid. 88 Points. Campbell Mattinson, Published 29 July 2023

3 2021 Stonehaven Limited Vineyard Release Padthaway Shiraz

This Shiraz is a velvety-rich and smooth wine. Lingering scents of dark cherry and olive, paired with bright red berries and pepper spice on the palate complete this wine for a lasting impression.

Region Padthaway, South Australia
 Analysis Alcohol 14.5% Cellar Door Price \$30

Reviewer's words:

"Ferment completed in barrel, with 18 months' maturation, then individual barrel selection. Very good expression of both place and variety. Ditto texture and structure. Fresh cherry, berry fruit and fine-spun tannins. Ticks all the boxes." 94 Points - James Halliday, The Australian



Limestone Coast Wines Continued

4. 2022 Bowen Estate Shiraz

An extremely pleasing, lifted medium weight Shiraz. On the palate this wine exhibits classic plum and ripe raspberry fruit notes that are typically Shiraz. Lovely fresh oak tannins are intrinsically woven with the fruit to seamlessly add length and breadth. A hallmark of our wine is balance and this wine shows this even in its current youth - giving great cellaring potential. A delight to drink now or put away in the cellar.

Region Coonawarra
 Winemaker Bruce Gregory and Michael Marcus
 Best Drinking 5 to 7 years
 Food Casseroles, tagines, white meat and soft cheeses.
 Alcohol Percent 14.50%
 Cellar Door Price \$28

Reviewer's words:

Deep ruby colour. Mulberry, dry earth and anise aromatics. Full body with ripe black fruits at the core. Hints of vanilla oil and sawdust adding character and the tannins sit in the background to gently guide it. A good length to a supple, warm finish. 89pts
 Stuart Knox



5. 2019 Majella Cabernet Sauvignon



The wine is dark magenta in colour, with a deep ruby red hue. Mint, eucalypt, dark fruit with savoury, toasty aromas are paired with a fresh, structured palate of mint and cassis supported by classic mulberry and plum characters. Fine tannins and good length.

Region Coonawarra
 Winemaker Bruce Gregory and Michael Marcus
 Best Drinking 12 to 15 years
 Alcohol Percent 14.50%
 Cellar Door Price \$35

Reviewer's words:

"The toasty vanillin oak makes a statement on the nose, however the fruit that rises from the depths has power, intensity and concentration. These things suggest that in time all will come together. The acidity is interesting, very bright for a wine so ripe. Smart, age-worthy cabernet. 92pts"
 Erin Larkin, The Wine Companion

6. Stonehaven Limited Vineyard Release Padthaway Cabernet Sauvignon 2021

This Cabernet Sauvignon is full bodied with generous dark fruit. With an elegant nose of cassis, this wine has blackberry and dark chocolate on the fore, followed by pepper spice and integrated vanillin oak for a complex and lengthy finish.

Region Padthaway, South Australia
 Analysis Alcohol 14.5%
 Cellar Door Price \$30

Reviewer's words

Can't fault the value here. 35-year-old vines, the grapes went through small



Limestone Coast Wines Continued

batch fermentation with a 16 day maceration and then 18 months in French oak hogsheads. Dark maroon hue. There are notes of black fruits, aniseed, chocolate, tobacco leaf, spices and cedar. A flick of vanilla too from the oak, well integrated. This is impressively structured with good balance and excellent length. Showing fine tannins, the wine is youthful, promising and already exhibiting a touch of complexity. Lots of blackberries on the palate with hints of soy. Drink for six to ten years.

WinePilot, Ken Gargett

Photos by Ian Cooper



Photos

