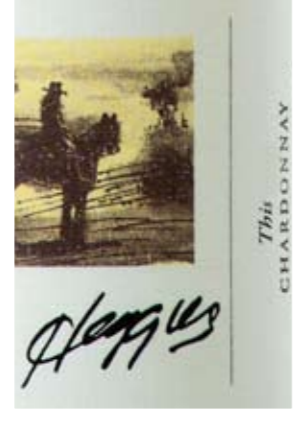


Homegrown triumph

At Heggies Vineyard success comes from making high expectations a reality. As a result, the shared passion and commitment of the viti/vini team drove a triple trophy haul at the Barossa Wine Show for Chardonnay, Riesling and Botrytis Riesling.



"To be recognised with trophies for three individual wine styles is testament to the commitment we have all made to identify Heggies Vineyard's capabilities," says winemaker Peter Gambetta.

October

Sparkling Genius

Nick Stock releases The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide for 09/10 and announces Jansz Tasmania Premium Cuvée 2004 as 'Best Vintage Sparkling Wine of the Year'. "The Jansz project is a steep trajectory to greatness, and this, their latest instalment in the vintage department, is the jewel in the crown of across-the-board quality."

Redbank makes Shiraz A List

Redbank is evidence Beechworth is on the A List for Shiraz in Australia. With the release of 'The Anvil' Beechworth Shiraz 2006 earlier in the year the praise begins to roll in, including being named third in the World's Greatest Shiraz Challenge IV (Winestate Magazine, Oct/Nov issue). "It's a big step for both The Anvil and the rising reputation for Beechworth Shiraz" writes leading Australian wine scribe, Jeni Port. It was also a successful year for 'The Anvil' on the Australian Wine Show circuit, winning two trophies and three gold.

Therapeutic Cloning

Heggies Vineyard releases their much-anticipated duo of Chardonnay's – the estate 2008 and the Reserve 2007. For leading wine scribe Huon Hooke "... they captivated me. Both were excellent." Viticulturist Amanda Mader adds "this is what happens when you have Burgundy clones on a special bit of land."



"Bloody Good"

Oxford Landing Estates Shiraz 2007 is a stand-out wine in Peter Forrestal's Quaff 2010 – The Best Australian Wines under \$15. "Made by the team at Hill Smith Family Vineyards, this is medium-bodied, has ripe, deep blackberry and plum flavours, is very soft and smooth in the mid-palate with a clean, fresh finish. You can't ask for more at the price."



November

The finest and bubbliest

James Halliday reviews his TOP 100 Australian wines for 2009 in The Weekend Australian, with three standout reviews from the Hill Smith Family Vineyards folio of aromatic and sparkling wines.

Pewsey Vale The Contours

Eden Valley Riesling 2004 - 96 points:

"The grapes come from the oldest vines on the vineyard ... palate brilliantly fresh."

Heggies Vineyard Eden Valley Riesling 2008 – 95 points:

"Heggies has been one of the most consistent producers of high-quality Riesling. An expressive bouquet... excellent acidity."

Jansz Tasmania Premium Cuvée NV - 94 points:

"from vineyard sites specifically designated to growing grapes for sparkling wine for this sparkling wine-only producer."

Never too old

The Hill Smith family recognise 160 years and six generations of family winemaking with an official birthday celebration on November 17. For fifth generation Robert Hill Smith, his vision is clear, and that is "to remain innovative, and to be internationally recognised as the finest independent winemaker in Australia."

December

What's not to love about Riesling?

Gourmet Traveller WINE magazine's leading scribes - and their lauded palates - swirled their way through 40+ Australian Riesling's in its annual tasting, with Pewsey Vale Eden Valley Riesling 2009 announced TOP STAR performer at 97 points. "Highly expressive" raved Sophie Otton. "Concentrated, pure and driven with great control" wrote Andrew Caillard MW. Pewsey Vale The Contours Eden Valley Riesling 2004 came in a close third at 95 points, and Heggies Vineyard Reserve Riesling 2004 placed in a cozy fourth spot with 94 points.

"The ever-popular Eden Valley's are raising the bar even higher as there is a bevy of fine drops emerging from other regions to compete for your affection. What's not to love?" Nick Bulleid MW.



"Poised and elegant"

The Age Epicure's "Wine of the Week" takes a look at Smith & Hooper Wrattonbully Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot 2008. Ralph Kyte-Powell writes "... cabernet blend has a charming nose ... poised and elegant in the mouth, it has an even, silky texture and the fresh, intense flavour is long lasting and aromatic". They go on to report "Robert Hill Smith has a policy of over-delivering in value terms, putting his wines among Australia's most reliable."

GREAT WINES A GRAND YEAR

Hill Smith Family Vineyards 2009



January

What were you drinking on Australia Day?

Jansz Tasmania Premium Vintage Cuvée 2004 is named 'Australia Day Wine of the Year' by the National Australia Day Council and Sydney International Wine Competition.



This is the fourth time in six years Jansz Tasmania has received this accolade - an unprecedented achievement by any Australian sparkling wine. But it didn't stop there for the 2004 Cuvée, which went on to beat the French at their own game, taking home the prized 'Best Sparkling Wine of the Competition'

Wine Spectator names

OXFORD
ESTABLISHED SINCE 1958
LANDING

"BEST VALUE"

Wine Spectator's Harvey Steiman describes Oxford Landing Estates Sauvignon Blanc 2008 as "fresh and lively ... a juicy mouthful." And that's just one of the many rave reviews Oxford Landing Estates will receive throughout 2009 by this leading US wine magazine which boasts a readership of 2.5 million.

February

A fitting start to the '09 Show Season

Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 is awarded 'The Dan Murphy's Perennial Trophy' for Best Varietal Wine, Cabernet Sauvignon at the 2009 Sydney Royal Wine Show, and later in the year will go on to claim Trophy and Top Gold for Best Cabernet Sauvignon (2007 and older vintages) at the 2009 National Wine Show, Canberra.

March

A cut above the rest

Nautilus Estate Pinot Noir 2007 is featured by leading Australian wine writer Huon Hooke as the 'Best Imported Wine' in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living - "This serious New Zealand pinot is deep and layered ... its structure is a cut above the rest."

Encountering Pewsey Vale

Decanter Magazine (UK) runs an dalliance leading wine critic Robert Joseph had with Pewsey Vale Riesling. "I remember a number of thought-provoking moments. There was the encounter with a brilliantly youthful 25-years, screwcap-sealed Eden Valley Riesling which proved that white wine, at least, could age perfectly well without a cork."

Max Allen too encounters Pewsey Vale when he pours himself a glass of Pewsey Vale Pinot Gris and shares his delight in The Weekend Australian Magazine; "If all Australian pinot gris were as good as this, the variety wouldn't get such a bum tap from wine snobs."

April

Reshuffling the Riesling ranks

Hill Smith Family Vineyards is recognised as a leader in revitalising interest in Riesling. "In recent years (Pewsey Vale) has reigned as one of the perennial value kings ... and has consolidated its position as one of the finest Riesling producers" writes John Jens in the Western Suburbs Weekly.

Peter Forrestal later goes on to write about Heggies Vineyard Riesling in Gourmet Traveller WINE magazine "I tasted this amongst two brackets of 30 of Australia's best... it was only when reviewing the tasting I fully understood what a stellar white this is."

Ever Reliable

"The dependable Oxford Landing Estate Chardonnay is just about the best budget-priced Chardonnay on the market - FIVE STARS" writes Paddy Kendler in the Herald Sun.

May

Reds on a Roll

The BIG RED Wine Book by Campbell Mattinson and Gary Walsh rolls out first-rate red wine reviews, high scores and exceptional quality ratings for Smith & Hooper Wrattenbully Cabernet Merlot; , Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon; "classy, a little beauty", and Nautilus Estate Pinot Noir which was selected in the TOP10 Pinot Noir wines of the year.

Success for Serious Sauvignon

Nautilus Sauvignon Blanc 2008 scooped a sought-after gold medal at London's prestigious International Wine Challenge - the largest wine competition in the world. The judges commented the wine as being "voluptuous, with nice balance, crisp and crunchy, nice length. A classy wine."

June

Top of the Rots

As a vineyard dedicated to consistency, "one-off" wines are not a priority at Heggies Vineyard. The 2007 Eden Valley vintage, however, turned the tables with a combination of factors producing a 'perfect' parcel of botrytis Riesling, resulting in the June '09 release of Heggies Vineyard Reserve '242' Eden Valley Botrytis Riesling. This extraordinary wine will go on to be much praised by Australia's leading wine critics, including being named "Best Sweet White" by Nick Stock in The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide - "this shows just how precious our greatest vineyards are - Heggies Vineyard is true grand cru material ... a sensual joyride to sweet wine nirvana!"



"Over delivers"

The Age Epicure Uncorked Top wine for Under \$18 is Oxford Landing Sauvignon Blanc. "The (Oxford Landing) enterprise is an industry leader. Even this simple, young sauvignon blanc over delivers at the price", writes Ralph Kyte-Powell

July

Vino-Lok, a fitting tiara

Huon Hooke crowns Pewsey Vale Prima Riesling 2008 "WINE OF THE WEEK" and 93/100 in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living. "Utterly delicious and a worthy follow-up to the '07 Prima."

Cool climate conquers in QLD

The precious, cool climate wine growing region of Eden Valley is recognized when Top Gold is bestowed upon Heggies Vineyard Eden Valley Riesling at the Royal Queensland Wine Show.

This top gold medal for the 2009 vintage notched up a three year blitz by Heggies Vineyard, with the previous vintage awarded Trophy for Best Dry White Wine in 2008, and Gold for the 2007 vintage. To recognise Riesling again amongst wines of such calibre is an honest indication that Eden Valley is a premium Riesling producing region.

Hail Halliday

"The Hill Smith family has passion and foresight to make wines that best represent a single vineyard site."

These are just some of the words scribed by James Halliday in the 2010 Australian Wine Companion when reviewing the folio of wine brands within Hill Smith Family Vineyards. In summary:

Pewsey Vale ★★★★★

"famous vineyard...first wine under stelvin screwcap"

Jansz Tasmania ★★★★★

"High Quality"

Smith & Hooper ★★★★★

"estate-based ... mouth-watering"

Hill Smith Estate ★★★★★

"A sauvignon blanc specialist"

Heggies Vineyard ★★★★★

"special plantings ... beautiful wine"

Oxford Landing Estate ★★★★★

"success is due to over-delivery"



August

Knowledge, service and friendship takes top gong

A commitment to "knowledge, service and friendship" is recognised and celebrated when Samuel Smith & Son is named 2009 Liquor Supplier of the Year at the Australian Liquor Industry Awards. This is an outstanding result that recognises the hard work and tremendous effort in being responsive to the customers' needs by all members of staff - from front line salespeople to customer service through to warehouse teams.



Winemaker "Night of Nights"

Finalists for 'Winemaker of the Year 2009' with Gourmet Traveller WINE are released with Jansz Tasmania winemaker Natalie Fryar announced a finalist.

This is Natalie's first nomination for the prestigious Award, and just the second time a specialist sparkling winemaker has been named in the final eight (joining Ed Carr) since the establishment of the Awards in 1998.

"...her philosophy is firmly focused in the vineyard, and since joining, Natalie has taken Jansz to new heights - driving the vineyard's philosophy of Méthode Tasmanoise and elevating Jansz Tasmania to become one of the leading Australian sparkling specialists." Peter Forrestal, Gourmet Traveller WINE



September

"Viva San Fermin"

A brand new addition to the Samuel Smith & Son portfolio in late 2009 is a fresh, lively and fun wine - Running with Bulls Tempranillo. The wine demonstrates confidence, is innovative, exciting, stylish and contemporary, and remains a focus for the Hill Smith family. "An outstanding Australian Tempranillo-hallelujah! A fabulous drink." Jane Faulkner, The Age Epicure.

Three Birds with One Stone

Pewsey Vale, Jansz Tasmania and Heggies Vineyard are trailblazers of cool climatic, aromatic white and sparkling winemaking. Behind each of these single-vineyard estates is a woman recognised as a leader in her field. These "three birds" - winemakers Louisa Rose and Natalie Fryar, and viticulturist Amanda Mader, visited Sydney to launch the new vintages from each estate, joined by Australia's leading wine critics and Sommeliers.

"The wines, as expected, were all superb ... these women know their stuff and they love talking about wine" writes Huon Hooke in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living. "It's cool to be cool ... Pewsey and Heggies Rieslings have never looked better... Fryar has a magical touch with bubbles" writes Peter Forrestal in the Sunday Times Magazine.

