



Wine week shows off new talent

Hedberg Hill Orange Region Sauvignon Blanc 2009



MANY of the events held during Orange Wine Week give those interested in local wines a great opportunity to taste the various styles and varieties that are being made here. It seems that every year there are a couple of new producers planting vines and making wine. This is great for the region, ensuring that the wine culture will continue to thrive and attract more diverse wines and people.

The latest Sauvignon Blanc from viniculturist Peter Hedberg is the 2009 vintage. It is a more subtle take on some savies, with lime, lemon and mineral aromas melding with some floral rose petal notes. The flavours show gooseberry and tropical fruit with a dry finish. The mouth-filling structure leans more to a food friendly wine rather than an aperitif style.

Price: \$15 - cellar: drink now

Sparkling of Orange

EARLIER this week was the official release of the newest sparkling wine to be made from Orange grapes. Sparkling of Orange is a joint venture between local winemakers Lucy Maddox and Christophe Derrez from Madrez winemaking and La Colline founders Aline and Philippe Prudhomme. The Prudhommes have great faith that the future of Orange will involve some of Australia's best sparkling wines and will include their Pinot Noir, Meunier and Chardonnay grapes (the traditional varieties used in the great champagnes of France).



The new wine is a straight Chardonnay from 2009 and is crisp and racy with loads of fresh cut green apple, lemon and grapefruit flavours. This is a perfect aperitif style wine to enjoy in the coming warm months.

Price: \$20 - cellar: enjoy now

Teusner The Riebke Northern Barossa Shiraz 2008

SOME of the best wines emerging from the Barossa Valley have come into existence due to the fact that the growers, many of them with 100-year-old vines, were being paid very little for their fruit. Small winemakers have taken advantage of this by developing close relationship with the growers, and paying them appropriately. The wines that have resulted are mostly very, very good.

The 2008 Teusner 'The Riebke', named after the Riebke brothers is an inky black wine. It is very seductive with dark plum, blackberry and olive flavours integrated with subtle spiciness. The older oak and tannins sit well within this mouth-coating, teeth blackening wine. Great balance from start to finish.

Price: \$19 - cellar: 2009 - 2015

