

# NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2011

This is a beautiful time of year in the Granite Belt. The leaves on the trees and the vines put on a spectacular display of red, orange and golden yellow colours. The mornings are lovely and crisp, opening up to perfect sunny days. Harvest is over, so Michelle and I are now busy preparing for the influx of cottage guests during the Brass Monkey Season. Michelle is planting new winter bulbs around the cottage while I have been kept busy cutting firewood for the wood fire. Our guests love relaxing in front of the fire with a warming glass of red, so we need to be sure that the wood pile is well stocked.

### In the Vineyard

Harvest is now finished for another year, and what an amazing year it was! It was a challenging season, but we are just thrilled with the harvest. The lovely cool weather at the end of summer meant that our harvest dates were more than four weeks later than usual. Hence the long slow ripening period produced fruit with some really exceptional flavours this year.

## In the Winery

Andy has given the whites a long slow cool ferment, which has produced some excellent aromatics. He is particularly impressed with our



Autumn Colours in our Shiraz Block

unwooded Chardonnay which is exhibiting some lovely fresh melon flavours on the palate – so look out for our 2011 Chardonnay when it is released next year. The reds have completed primary fermentation and are also looking great. The colour in both the Shiraz and the Cabernet Sauvignon is fantastic – a deep purple that is almost inky in its intensity. We are looking forward to seeing how these wines develop between now and when we bottle them next year.

#### **New Outlets**

As you know, we are a small vineyard (just 3 hectares) and we do not have a cellar door. So we have been busy organising some new outlets for our wines recently. There are now three new outlets in the Granite Belt where you can buy our wines by the bottle to take home. These are:

- The Bramble Patch near Glen Aplin, which is famous for its jams, preserves and "to die for" berry-flavoured icecreams;
- The Country Club Hotel Bottle Shop in Stanthorpe, which has the best range of local wines in Stanthorpe; and
- *Vincenzo's* on the highway at Thulimba, which is a local institution with its great range of cheeses, smallgoods, local wines and many other goodies.

Our wines are also available at many other great local spots, including:

- Shiraz Bar and Restaurant (Ballandean);
- Vineyard Cottages Restaurant (Ballandean);
- Ballandean Tavern;
- Girraween Environmental Lodge (Wyberba);
- O'Mara's Hotel (Stanthorpe);
- The Rocks Restaurant (Stanthorpe);
- Stanthorpe RSL Club;
- Happy Valley Resort (near Stanthorpe); and
- Bella Rosa's (Thulimba).



Tim shows off a bunch of Black Muscat

## Come see us at the Brookfield Show (20, 21 and 22 May, 2011)

Do you live in Brisbane? Do you enjoy a country-style agricultural show but do not want to drive for hours? Then the Brookfield Show is a must (<a href="www.brookfieldshow.com">www.brookfieldshow.com</a>). We have been there many times and it has a great family atmosphere. Twisted Gum Wines will be there (next to the Brookfield Hall), so please drop by and say hello and try some of our wines while the kids are busy watching the ring events or getting dizzy in side-show alley!

#### Wine Club

Wine Club Membership has continued to grow, with people keen to take advantage of the discounts (10% on the first case, 20% on the second and 30% on the third case purchased each year). Join now and stock up on some warming reds for winter. For details on the wine club please visit the web page at <a href="http://www.twistedgum.com.au/page9.html">http://www.twistedgum.com.au/page9.html</a> or send us an email on <a href="mailto:info@twistedgum.com.au">info@twistedgum.com.au</a>.

#### Cheers!

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