

THORN · CLARKE

Barossa Wines · Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

30th November, 2007

A LONG WAY SINCE 2002

5 Years • 15 Trophies • 6 Brands • 4 Vineyards • 25 Markets

And still proudly family owned & Barossa estate grown!

Family owned, Barossa winery 'Thorn-Clarke' has continued on it's medal winning ways over the last few months of Australian wine shows, highlighted by the 2006 Shotfire Quartage taking out the 'CHR Hansen Pty Ltd Trophy' for 'Best Dry Red Table Wine – Other Varieties and Blends, Premium Classes' at the National Wine Show in Canberra recently. Added to this is another outstanding review from the USA, with the influential publication 'Wine Spectator' rating the 2006 Shotfire Shiraz as the 57th best wine in the world for 2007.

The Shotfire Quartage has now won trophies for each of the last three vintages starting with the 2004 vintage which won the top wine at the Adelaide Wine Show in 2005. The wine is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Cabernet franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot and is sourced from all four of the vineyards owned by the family.

The huge 'Wine Spectator' rating on the 2006 Shotfire Shiraz confirms once again the universal appeal of this blockbuster wine. Editor at Large, Harvey Steinman visited the winery in April and was obviously impressed.

Aside from this, Thorn-Clarke won more medals on the National Wine Show circuit this year than it had in its history. Starting in Brisbane in July and followed by Melbourne, Barossa, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart and Canberra Thorn-Clarke won;

1 Trophy : 7 Gold medals : 20 Silver Medals : 28 Bronze Medals

**The strike rate of medals per wine show was an impressive 75%.
(For a detailed list of these results please refer to the back page of**

this release and for accolades since 2002 see attached awards highlights summary).

Winemaker Derek Fitzgerald said “Thorn-Clarke has some of the finest vineyard in Australia to work with. I’ll take some of the credit, but combine this with a spread of vineyards across the Barossa Valley floor and the higher altitude, cooler Eden Valley and you have some fantastic blending options”.

“I can use the cool climate fruit to introduce some real elegance to our reds. And the whites come from the Mount Crawford site, which is commonly regarded as the coolest vineyard site in South Australia.

Managing Director and Son of David & Cheryl (nee Thorn) Clarke, Sam Clarke, believes another contributing factor is having the ability to supply almost the entire Thorn-Clarke requirements from their Estate Grown vineyards, still 100% owned by the family.

“It is no secret that having access to great fruit is the key to making great wine and when you own your own vineyards you have control from the vine to the glass.

“Recently we completed building our barrel shed and will be aiming to complete our winery over the next few years. The ultimate aim is to have total control over the vinifying process.”

“All up we are very positive about what the future holds for Thorn-Clarke. We see no reason why we cannot continue to make outstanding quality wines and keep winning awards and receiving accolades”



OUR PAST

Thorn-Clarke Wines was launched in 2002 as a result of the 37 year marriage between David and Cheryl Clarke (nee Thorn). The Thorn family have grown vines in the Barossa since the 1870's and still proudly own and manage some of the oldest vineyards in the region.

Geologist David Clarke and his family planted four diverse Barossa vineyards over the last 20 years, encompassing both the Barossa Valley and Eden Valley subregions. This has enabled them to blend wines grown from different terroirs, adding complexity and richness to the wines.

Owner David Clarke said "When we started out 20 years ago I knew from my geological research that the varied Barossa geology and soil types offered us an unrivalled degree of varietal complexity. Then, when we started making trial blends in the 1990s it became clear that the vineyards complemented each other brilliantly and provided us with a new level of flavour complexity. We have blended to take advantage of these sub regional and micro climatic characteristics."

"Since the release of the 2002 vintage wines, our trophy collection has now grown to fifteen with more gold than ancestor James Goddard's 'Lady Alice' mine".

Australian wine lovers became very familiar with the winery when the 2004 Shotfire Quartage was crowned best wine at the 2005 Adelaide Wine Show. The 2005 vintage then cemented this wines popularity, being awarded three trophies at the 2006 Sydney Wine Show and crowned best wine at the 2006 Hobart Wine Show. With the addition our most recent 2007 National Wine Show trophy, the last three vintages of Shotfire Quartage have been awarded 10 trophies, amongst many other commendations around the globe.

OUR PRESENT

The Thorn-Clarke branded range; William Randell (\$50/bottle), Shotfire (\$23/bottle), Sandpiper and Terra Barossa (\$15/bottle); along with our Milton Park and Two Jokers lines (\$10/bottle) are now being produced in volumes exceeding 140 000 dozen and being exported to over 25 countries around the globe. These locations include Europe, the Americas, Australia and Asia.

The four vineyard sites; Eden Valley - Mt Crawford and Milton Park, Barossa – Kabinenge and St Kitts; have now come of age and are showing exceptionally high quality fruit. Surplus to our requirements we are also producing Viognier, Mammolo and Aglianigo, which we intend using in future developments.

Building of the 2000 barrel capacity, temperature regulated shed was completed in mid 2007 bringing Thorn-Clarke greater control over the cellaring of the wines.

OUR FUTURE

With a short 2007 and projected 2008 vintage the wine industry is entering into unfavourable territory. Thorn-Clarke sees this downtime as an opportunity to develop infrastructure and increase the viability of mid term growth.

Work has just got underway in building a 1000 tonne winery which is intended to be fully operational for the 2008 vintage. This will add to Thorn-Clarke's overall control through handling all elements of the winemaking process from growing to processing to ageing the wines.

Thorn-Clarke sees this as a time not only to develop physical infrastructure but also to assess

future viability of emerging markets and forge relationships with those able to assist in the successes of the brands.

Thorn-Clarke abides by one strong message.

“Our philosophy is to over-deliver in terms of the quality we offer at each price level. Wine lovers remember wines which are stunning value and we work hard to ensure that whether people buy the Sandpiper range at \$15 or the Shotfire range at \$23 they are drinking wines that are excellent value for money.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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OUR LATEST RESULTS

2007 Canberra Wine Show

Gold & Trophy – 2006 Shotfire Quartage
Silver - 2006 Shotfire Shiraz
Silver – 2006 Sandpiper Shiraz
Silver – 2006 Sandpiper Cabernet Sauvignon
Bronze – 2005 William Randell Shiraz

2007 Hobart Wine Show

Gold – 2006 Sandpiper Shiraz
Bronze – 2005 Sandpiper The Blend
Bronze – 2006 Shotfire Chardonnay
Bronze – 2007 Sandpiper Chardonnay
Bronze – 2006 Shotfire Shiraz
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Merlot
Bronze – 2005 William Randell Shiraz
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Cabernet Sauvignon

2007 Perth Wine Show

Gold – 2007 Sorriso Rose
Gold – 2006 Sandpiper Riesling
Gold – 2006 Sandpiper Cabernet Sauvignon
Silver – 2006 Shotfire Shiraz
Silver – 2006 Sandpiper Shiraz
Bronze – 2005 Shotfire Quartage
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Chardonnay
Bronze – NV Sparkling Pinot Noir Chardonnay

2007 Adelaide Wine Show

Silver – 2007 Sandpiper Riesling
Silver – 2006 Sandpiper Chardonnay
Silver – 2006 Sandpiper Shiraz
Silver – 2006 Shotfire Shiraz
Silver – 2006 Shotfire Quartage
Silver – 2005 William Randell Shiraz
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Merlot
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Cabernet Sauvignon

2007 Barossa Wine Show

Gold – 2006 Shotfire Shiraz
Gold – 2005 Shotfire Quartage
Silver – 2006 Sandpiper Shiraz
Silver – NV Sparkling Pinot Noir Chardonnay
Bronze – 2004 William Randell Shiraz
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Cabernet Sauvignon
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Merlot

2007 Melbourne Wine Show

Silver – 2006 Shotfire Shiraz
Silver - 2006 Shotfire Quartage
Silver - 2005 Shotfire Quartage
Silver - 2005 Sandpiper Shiraz
Bronze - 2004 William Randall Shiraz
Bronze - 2005 Shotfire Shiraz
Bronze - 2005 Sandpiper "The Blend"
Bronze - 2006 Sandpiper Merlot
Bronze - 2007 Sorriso Rose

2007 Brisbane Wine Show

Silver – 2005 Shotfire Shiraz
Silver – 2006 Shotfire Quartage
Silver – 2006 Sandpiper Shiraz
Bronze – 2004 William Randell Shiraz
Bronze – 2005 Shotfire Quartage
Bronze – 2006 Shotfire Shiraz
Bronze – 2006 Sandpiper Pinot Gris
Bronze – 2005 Sandpiper Cabernet Sauvignon
Bronze – 2005 Sandpiper Shiraz
Bronze – 2005 Sandpiper The Blend