

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **KIES WINES WINS RECOGNITION ON THE INTERNATIONAL WINE STAGE**

**24th October, 2005**

The small Lyndoch “Barossa gateway” winery Kies Family Wines has won world recognition for its outstanding Shiraz and Merlot in recent months.

The winery was awarded a Silver Medal for its 2002 Monkey Nut Tree Merlot at the prestigious International Wine Challenge in London in May, the largest wine show in the world with more than 9,000 wines judged this year.

The results were published in the October edition of *Wine International* magazine.

The judging panel commended the wine for its “cola nut, toast, spices and cigar aromas on the nose...spicy and fruity palate, with mellow, balanced tannins and a long finish.”

It is not the first time the Monkey Nut Merlot has been recognised. Earlier this year the sommelier at the prestigious Tetsuya’s Restaurant in Sydney, Jerry Jones, commended the wine as a “great combination of varietal style mixed with Barossa generosity – a truly seductive combination.”

The Wine Challenge medal follows a glowing review of the Kies Family Wines 2002 Klauber Block Shiraz by renowned international wine writer and critic Oz Clarke.

His new 2006 Wine Guide ranked the Klauber Block Shiraz as Number 10 in his Top 20 wines – a huge accolade in the United Kingdom

“You usually have to pay twice as much to get such a blast of the Barossa experience,” Clarke wrote about the £10 Shiraz.

“This wine is a palate blaster , gorgeously unsubtle, but the wallop of flavour stops you in your tracks and brooks no criticism from any red blooded wine lover. It is as big and black as a chocolate soup, as dense as a stew of prunes and plums and blackberries and as lush as melted Harrogate toffee and cream caramels. Rich. Self-Confident. Elegant.”

Clarke says his Top 20 wines are “an inspiring bunch...humming with the kind of excitement that entices wine drinkers deep into the spider’s web. ...memorable flavours created by unforgettable people in beautiful places that etch themselves into your consciousness.”

## KIES GETS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

The 2002 Klauber Block Shiraz also received a Seal of Approval at the International Wine Challenge.

Michael and Tina Kies, who have been busy extending the landmark ironstone winery to include a new restaurant and café, a visitor's centre and function room, said they were thrilled at the world acknowledgement.

“While our mission is to be the best and friendliest cellar door in the Barossa, we also have to focus on our domestic and overseas markets,” Tina said.

“The UK is pretty tough at the moment with lots of competition so having a review by Oz Clarke and a win at the Challenge will really help sales in the lead up to Christmas.”

Michael and Tina took over the running of the winery when Michael's father and Lyndoch legend Ken died in 1996.

Since then they have worked with winemaker Jo Irvine to make the most of their high quality fruit, which comes from the family's fifth generation vineyards at Lyndoch Kies Estate.

The new Monkey Nut Café and Restaurant will open in December in time for Christmas parties and New Year celebrations.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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