

News from Rob Geddes MW

Tasting and travelling, drinking and dining, collecting and cellaring

What caught the eye of our resident Master of Wine this month? We showcase some of the stories in Rob Geddes' latest newsletter.

The release of the 2010 spring bouquets

Spring is certainly the time to enjoy the newly released 2010 rieslings from the Clare Valley – and what a pretty bunch they are too. This vintage started with a damp winter, which was pursued by a hot but dry summer with warmer than average nights, meaning that for some, harvest began up to three weeks earlier than usual. From all reports it has been an impressive vintage over all and an unusual riesling vintage – very different to 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005 and 2002. The warmer nights have helped put more 'flesh on the bones,' culminating in richer floral styles that are more forward and up front. In the past weeks, the team and I have been lucky to taste just some of these beauties and I am looking forward to tasting more as they are released. Among the wines that we have seen so far was the very pretty and floral Pikes Traditionale Riesling 2010, which has impressed me enormously by being such approachable and delightful drinking at such an early age while still having the usual hallmarks of the Clare with its lemon citrus signature. The new 2010s from Mt Horrocks and Grosset are also displaying plenty of spicy floral notes in their elegant lemon lime personalities, particularly those from Watervale but even Grosset's Polish Hill had some pure and more refined floral notes wafting across the nose. What more could you ask for in your glass this spring?



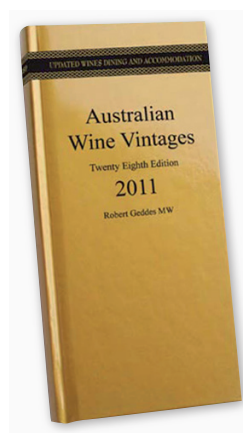
The latest release rieslings from the Clare Valley are pretty and floral - perfect for spring.



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Going for Gold

The 28th Edition of the *Australian Wine Vintages* has just been released. The Gold Book is a must have for any wine drinker or collector as it focuses on those producers who consistently make quality wines or consistently represent excellent value at all value points rather than covering the entire industry. *Australian Wine Vintages 2011* is available at your local bookseller or on the Gold Book website.



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