



### Wirra Wirra gets into spring with two cracking whites from the Adelaide Hills

August 2009

With spring upon us, the days are getting longer and the sun is making a welcome return. Right on cue, Wirra Wirra has provided the perfect accompaniment with the release of our crisp Adelaide Hills whites, the **2009 'Hiding Champion' Adelaide Hills Sauvignon Blanc** and the **2009 'Lost Watch' Adelaide Hills Riesling**.

#### **2009 Wirra Wirra 'Lost Watch' Handpicked Adelaide Hills Riesling**

In 1947, Greg Trott, founder of Wirra Wirra, lost the only watch he ever owned – a gift from his father. From that day forth, Trott never bothered with a time-piece, avoiding the responsibility for such a valuable item. He claimed to tell the time by the sun – a noble, if impractical sentiment. So Trott was notoriously late – hours, even days – for dinners, meetings, flights and gatherings. Usually his charm garnered forgiveness from those kept in wait.

Riesling has a long tradition at Wirra Wirra, which is 40 years young this year. After building the winery with his cousin Roger in 1969, Trott's first two releases were the 1972 Church Block and the 1973 Hand Picked Riesling. Today known as The Lost Watch Riesling, it may no longer be of McLaren Vale origin, but it certainly remains hand-picked – in this case from cool and elevated Adelaide Hills vineyards in Mt Torrens and Lenswood.

2009 marked the first vintage for winemaker and riesling gun, Paul Smith who joined Senior Winemaker Samantha Connew and the rest of the Wirra Wirra tribe in the middle of last year. Having made his mark with this varietal in the Clare Valley, Smith said of the Lost Watch Adelaide Hills Riesling, "This vintage has been very exciting for me as a winemaker because the cooler climate of the region gives the riesling an extra finesse and delicacy that wouldn't have been possible in the Clare Valley because of its warmer climate. We're able to achieve wonderful; y floral and perfumed notes combined with a refreshing fruit purity and acidity. Importantly the wine captures the outstanding vineyards from where the fruit is grown and displays impeccable refinement and style."

Brilliant straw with a green tinge, the 'Lost Watch' Riesling has a bouquet of fresh floral and perfumed aromas that leap from the glass with kaffir lime leaf and lemons.

Pure lemons and limes flow through the persistent palate with a lovely mineral acidity cleansing the pristine finish. A wine of impeccable freshness, intensity and style, Paul suggests a glass to accompany freshly shucked oysters dressed with a squeeze of lime.

#### **2009 Wirra Wirra 'Hiding Champion' Adelaide Hills Sauvignon Blanc**

Greg Trott was a 'wanderer'. A simple run to the local shops might evolve into an interstate luncheon, phone seemingly absent from the journey. He would return a day or so later, bemused by the fuss. Although one 'unplanned' visit to the UK was a stretch, even by his standards. Over time we accepted that Trotty was in training to become the Olympic 'hiding champion' and it became part of the life at Wirra Wirra.

The 2009 sauvignon blanc vintage was hand harvested in early March and for the first time fruit was sourced from more than one Adelaide Hills vineyard, delivering an extra dimension to the wine. Senior Winemaker Sam Connew also experimented with placing five per cent of the wine in barrel, an interesting diversion adding another layer of complexity to the final blend.

An expat Kiwi who sees some irony in leaving the perceived "home" of Sauvignon Blanc, only to make the varietal at Wirra Wirra, Connew is a firm believer in the regional contrast that the Adelaide Hills has to offer. "Adelaide Hills tends to deliver sauvignon blancs that are more concentrated and more intense on the palate, making them ideal food wines. The natural acidity of this vintage is the most striking element and points to the cool summer nights that have given the wine a punchy, yeasty acidity and a really lively character."

Best consumed whilst young and vibrant, the 'Hiding Champion' Sauvignon Blanc has notes of lifted green passionfruit and wild gooseberry fruits on the nose with a subtle grassy note.



Succulent, fresh passionfruit and tropical fruits tantalise the mouth with a refreshing acidity and structure, the 'Hiding Champion' is a seamless wine perfect for fresh grilled crayfish drizzled with lemon and thyme.

**Wirra Wirra 2009 'Lost Watch' Riesling RRP - \$18.00**

**Wirra Wirra 2009 'Hiding Champion' Sauvignon Blanc RRP – \$22.50**

For further information, bottle shots etc please contact:

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**Find out more about these new releases and life at Wirra Wirra at our website: [www.wirrawirra.com](http://www.wirrawirra.com)**