



summer newsletter 2010

Oldenburg Vineyards Summer Newsletter, December 2010

With amazing haste another year is rolling to a close. At Oldenburg the summer is beginning to make its presence felt. The temperature is comfortably in the mid twenties, the sky an amazing azure blue and our friend, and sometimes foe, the Cape Doctor (the south east wind) has begun to blow. Thankfully this year the annual big November winds have passed uneventfully.

Twenty-ten has been a busy year for all of us at Oldenburg and in closing the year it makes sense to review some of the highlights.

The year was a particularly big one for Simon with the arrival of his first child, a daughter, born in January. Welcome to Hannah.

In March we officially released our first wines, the three 2008 reds. We are gradually getting the wines listed in the better Cape Town and Johannesburg restaurants. We were very encouraged to have the reds listed with Berry Bros. in London. In Scotland Vino Wines have listed us and in the last month one of the world's top sommeliers (voted by the World Cup of Sommeliers) has ordered our wines for the Belgium market. We also took our first orders in Germany and Switzerland.



We have now bottled the 2009 vintage of Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah and Cabernet Franc, which will be released late 2011. Our first whites, the 2010 Chenin Blanc and Chardonnay, were bottled recently and we are delighted to have these enjoyable whites joining the portfolio. In barrel we have our previously mentioned reds plus a Merlot and a Malbec. The Merlot is particularly pleasing as the vineyard was extremely slow in yielding fruit, but early barrel tastings are giving Simon and Philip something to be excited about.

We broke ground on our new cellar door in May. The building has progressed well and remains on track for completion in February next year. We are looking forward to having a proper home for our wines, business and visitors.

The coming year will see a much broader push in terms of getting our wines listed in more European countries. Asia will also become a focus point for us. It remains a relatively small market for South African wines but nonetheless an important and fast growing one.

I would like to thank all our supporters, customers and staff for all their respective efforts this year. It has been a pivotal year as we move from a very beautiful place with great vineyards to a multi faceted business with products, customers and suppliers.

We all wish you a very enjoyable Festive Season and a prosperous New Year.

Adrian Vanderspuy