

Rusty Plough

Single Vineyard

2016 Grenache

McLaren Vale

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There was a time when traditional weed control in vineyards involved ploughing the soil relentlessly to dust. In the late '70s, Richard decided that this didn't make any sense and stopped. Today the rows have a wonderful grassy swath and the extra organic matter and cooling effect on the vineyard helps our Grenache thrive. If you listen carefully, the ploughs can be heard peacefully resting away on a quiet day, perhaps in reverence to this fantastic wine. Aromas and flavours of blackcurrant jubes, berry frit, cherries, earth and spice abound on the nose and palate. Older oak hogsheads were used for gentle maturation so as to allow the natural fruit flavour and aromas to develop. Enjoy now or cellar for 7-10 years to release its full potential.

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Vintage 2016 will be remembered for a warm and dry spring, which promoted shoot growth and flowering, followed up by heavy rain immediately before harvest which helped boost vineyard yields. At harvest vines produced some of the bigger crops we have seen since 2004, but they generally weren't overcropped as vine growth was balanced. The warm spring and early summer days and nights ensured that vines grew well and then set well. The 2015/16 growing season had some similarities with the lean 2006/07 and 2007/08 seasons. In all three, growing season rainfall was less than 50% of the long term average. Overall, rainfall for winter was lower than average, due to a dry June 2015, and this was followed by long dry periods where no effective rain fell until the first week of February. Disease pressure was generally low due to the long dry periods, following on from dry 2013 and 2014 springs as well. Irrigation application was vital to crop health and the

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| REGION | McLAREN VALE |
| VINEYARD | ARTHURS |
| VINE AGE | 70+ YEARS |
| SOIL PROFILE | RED LOAM / CLAY |
| ALCOHOL | 16% |
| pH | 3.29 |
| TA | 6.71 |

