

## RECENT RAVE REVIEWS

### 2009 MOUNT HORROCKS CLARE VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

*"93 Points. A solid edition of this reliable Clare cabernet, showing enticing, ripe dark-cherry and mocha on the nose – really swanky and modern – and with some earth, dry leaves and spice below. The palate's flavoursome, ripe and long, fleshy summer-berry fruit runs at the edges, and tannins file down the middle in fine, even shape. An each-way bet for drinking young or cellaring; the latter will reveal considerably more complexity. Drink 2014"*

**Nick Stock, Good Wine Guide 2012**

*"...By the way, the Mount Horrocks Cabernet Sauvignon from Clare Valley – just 250 cases, alas – is refined, supple and delicate yet substantial. It's one of the finest Cabernets I've yet tasted from Australia and nothing at all like what most of us would imagine as a "typical" Aussie Cabernet."*

**Matt Kramer,**

**www.winespectator.com, April 2011**

*"95 Points. Full, bright red-purple; shows once again just how good Clare Valley cabernet sauvignon can be; perfectly balanced, medium-bodied, the flavour spectrum right in the heart of slowly ripened cabernet; harmonious length. Screwcap. To 2029"*

**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion Aug, 2011**

#### ORDER ON LINE

Mount Horrocks Wines are now available for order on-line, direct from our cellar door.  
Visit [www.mounthorrock.com](http://www.mounthorrock.com)

### 2009 MOUNT HORROCKS WATERVALE SHIRAZ

*"95 Points. Right out of the blocks, approachable and elegant, but with the stamina to keep running for the medium term. Gorgeous black fruits with fine, supple tannins."*

**Tyson Stelzer, WBM Magazine WINE 100, July 2011**

*"93 Points. There's a layer of creamy, spiced custard on the nose here, along with quite striking oak that makes for seductive complexity straight out of the blocks. There's also plenty of red fruits, ripe plums, dried bush leaves and musky floral perfume. The palate has a crisp, juicy attack, tannins are playful yet savoury and there's a consistent run of blackcurrant, cherry and plum flavour from start to finish. Best in a year or two."*

**Nick Stock, Good Wine Guide 2011**

*"95 points – Bright clear crimson-purple; the fragrant bouquet leads into a wonderfully expressive medium-bodied palate with red cherry, plum, spice and fine tannins all fresh and vibrant. Screwcap. To 2030"*

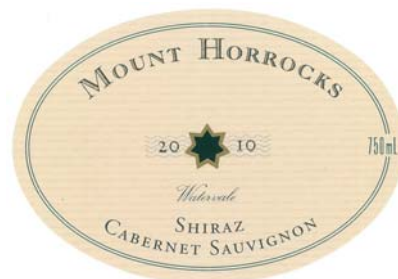
**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion, Aug 2011**

### LIMITED RELEASE MAIL ORDER EXCLUSIVE

Limited stocks remain of the second vintage of Mount Horrocks 2010 Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon, produced exclusively for Cellar Door customers. You loved the first release of this wine, so here it is again. A quintessentially Australian blend of Shiraz and Cabernet produced exclusively for Mount Horrocks mailing list and cellar door clients.

Here's your Ed's tasting note:

*"Deep dark purple, magenta rim. Fragrant vanilla-spice, plum and black cherry. A seamless, fresh, silky blend of plum and blackberry Shiraz with supple earth and blackcurrant of Cabernet. A dash of chocolate and firm, ripe tannins round out this appealing young red that drinks really well now with rare roast lamb yet will repay 5-10 years in the cellar."*



### ALL ABOARD! TIME TO VISIT THE RAILWAY STATION



Planning a trip to South Australia, or making your annual pilgrimage to Clare Valley? Be sure to visit Mount Horrocks, at the old Auburn Railway Station. Sample some award-winning wines and enjoy a delightful light lunch or cuppa from the Cafe – open every weekend and public holidays. And look out for Stephanie – she's often behind the counter.

## MOUNT HORROCKS WINES

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# MOUNT HORROCKS



*Autumn-Winter 2012 Newsletter*

## WINE SPECTATOR: MATT KRAMER'S WINES OF THE YEAR



Wine Spectator is arguably North America's most influential wine guide and Matt Kramer, a contributor since 1985, one of its leading critics. Each year Kramer selects his Wines of the Year – three made the grade this time around (in the January 2012 edition): **Mount Horrocks Watervale Riesling 2010**, Norman Hardie Prince Edward County Chardonnay 2008 (Canada) and Zoltan Demeter Tokaji Veres Dry Furmint 2009 (Hungary).

*"Whenever I'm asked about why wine grips me so, my answer is always the same: It's a message in a bottle and you can't wait to read the next instalment or, better yet, seek out the sender."*

*"Sometimes you taste a wine that is so extraordinary, so compellingly different that you are driven to seek out its source. That's what all of my Wines of the Year have in common: I found that I literally had to go and see (and talk of and taste) their origins, from Canada to Hungary to Australia"*

*"...Owner/winemaker Stephanie Toole's Mount Horrocks winery is the flag-bearer of Watervale Riesling."*

Selecting the Mount Horrocks Watervale Riesling 2010 vintage as one of his three Wines of the Year, for its "lime-tinged lushness", Kramer also notes that he loved the "elegant and refined 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon" – the 2010 vintage of which is released with this newsletter, along with the last remaining stocks of 2011 Watervale Riesling. Why not grab yourself a mixed dozen and see what all the fuss is about?





## STEPHANIE RACKS UP 20<sup>TH</sup> VINTAGE

Stephanie Toole is completing the 2012 harvest as we go to press - her twentieth vintage as proprietor and winemaker at Mount Horrocks.

*"Highly talented and utterly dedicated"*

We asked James Halliday to comment on this: *"Stephanie Toole has had a remarkable career at the helm of Mount Horrocks. I am sure she does not wish to be recognised or praised because she is a woman, rather that she is a highly talented and utterly dedicated owner/winemaker of Mount Horrocks. The extent of that commitment can be gauged from the fact that Mount Horrocks has been a 5-star winery in my annual Wine Companion since the 2008 edition, and I would have every expectation that this rating will continue well into the future."*

Over the past two decades we've seen the continued improvement and recognition of the Rieslings, fine-tuning of Semillon and the addition of her stunning Shiraz.

Let's take a look at Stephanie's achievements in those twenty years:

- All of her wines now come from estate-grown fruit.
- One of the first to do so, all wines are bottled under screw cap closures.
- The Decanter Magazine 2004 World Wine Awards saw a Gold Medal and Trophy for Best Australian Sweet White over £10 awarded to Mount Horrocks Cordon Cut Riesling.
- Cordon Cut was also listed in Wine Spectator's Benchmark Australian Wines and was the sole Australian wine served at HRH Queen Elizabeth's 80th birthday.
- More recently, Matthew Jukes placed Mount Horrocks in his 100 Best Australian Wines Hall of Fame (see right).

In 1998 Stephanie converted the derelict Auburn Railway Station into a delightful Cellar Door and Cafe. She continues to make her wines at the Grosset Winery, where she and Jeffrey work side-by-side on their outstanding wine ranges. Together, they were named by Decanter magazine as one of the world's Famous 5 Power Wine Couples.

Twenty years at the helm of one winery is quite unusual in Australia - and few of these veteran winemakers would be as highly regarded as Stephanie.



## MOUNT HORROCKS MAKES JUKES' HALL OF FAME

Having made it into Matthew Jukes' annual 100 Best Australian Wines lists seven out of a possible eight times, Mount Horrocks has now been inducted into his Hall of Fame.

Just twenty-three estates have gained Hall of Fame status, where Mount Horrocks rubs shoulders with the likes of Cullen, Grosset, Leeuwin, Moss Wood and Penfolds.

*"a well-earned place in the very highest echelons of the world of wine"*

*"They reflect what is truly exciting, engaging, passionate and essential about Aussie wine and they have all gained a well-earned place in the very highest echelons of the world of wine,"* says Jukes.

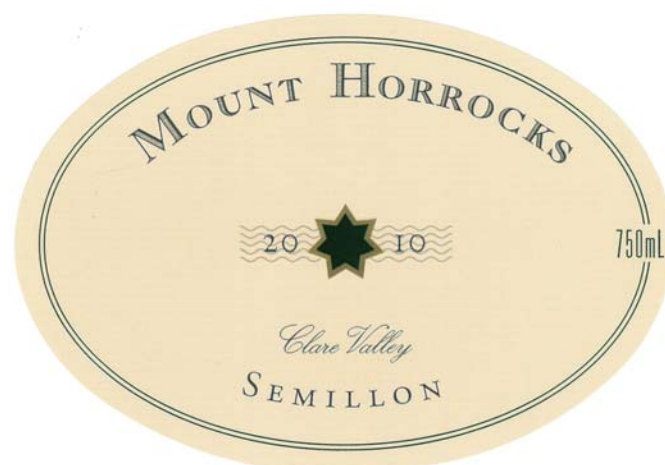
United Kingdom-based Jukes has been a long term fan of Stephanie's Rieslings. This year he selected the 2009 Mount Horrocks Semillon for a change:

*"Imagine my surprise when a wine made from something other than Riesling makes the grade from the Mount Horrocks portfolio. This extraordinarily beautiful, dry Semillon has staggering depth and smart fruit and it provides a daring counterpart to the lighter, unoaked versions from the Hunter."*

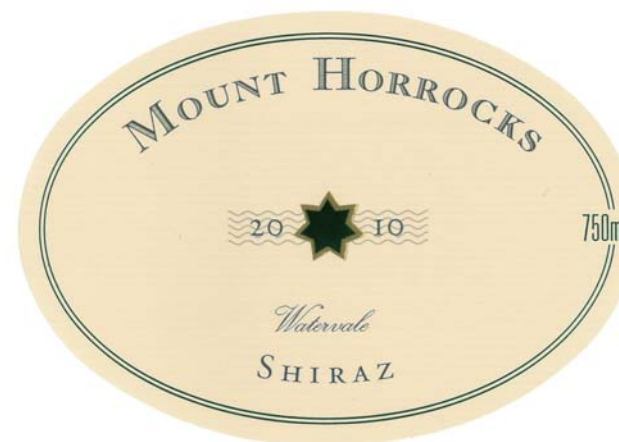
*"Without the weight of a full bore Chardonnay this cunning wine allows you to dine accurately (and less expensively) and so you ought to reward chicken and serious fish with a grape that rarely have the pleasure of accompanying - it will provide you with a delicious swerve in your wine diet."*

*"I have given Steph's Cordon Cut Riesling a year off in this 100 but I can assure you that the 2010 vintage is up to its usual stellar standard."*

[www.matthewjukes.com](http://www.matthewjukes.com)



## AUTUMN-WINTER 2012 RELEASES FROM MOUNT HORROCKS



### 2010 WATERVALE SHIRAZ

A single vineyard wine from its first vintage in 1996, this is the fourth release from estate-grown fruit.

Thanks to the high altitude of the vineyard, and her more enlightened European-influenced winemaking approach, this has a distinct 'cooler region' feel and taste.

Stephanie's rigid approach is practiced only in the most famous Shiraz vineyards in the world, or those owned by producers aspiring to make the best without compromise, due to extraordinary amount of labour (and cost) involved. With this much work, including fruit thinning to a single bunch per shoot, producing less than 2 tonne per acre, and practicing organic farming - the wine should be more than \$40 a bottle. But of course, Mount Horrocks Shiraz is not. *"It's a low profile wine"* says Stephanie *"and it has taken years for the effort to really show through. The quality gets higher every year but I've left the price the same"*.

With just 500 cases produced each year we have to wonder how long this price will remain so low.

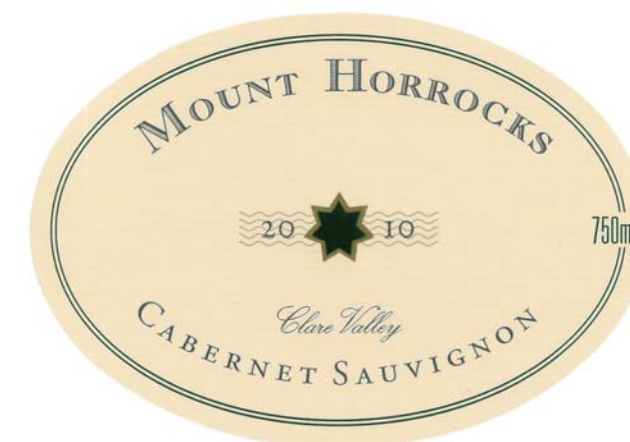
*"Deep bright black cherry.*

*Very attractive plush dark fruit aromas, plum and star anise spice.*

*Silky smooth and elegant in the mouth, with oodles of dark fruit and spice, fine-grained tannins and very smart French oak influences.*

*A wine of great purity and focus, generous yet sophisticated, delivering an identifiably Australian shiraz yet in the very modern mould.*

*Will cellar well for over a decade yet provides an enormously satisfying drink right now."*



### 2010 CLARE VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

This single vineyard estate-grown wine, made in open top fermenters, is described by Stephanie as *"a wine of purity"*.

A wine that consistently receives 93-95 point reviews from the critics, this third release of 100 per cent cabernet admirably continues the line.

Aged 18 months in French oak barriques - 35 per cent new, the remainder one and two year old.

*"This wine is about purity of fruit, focus and length"* says Stephanie, which she achieves through fastidious attention to detail in the vineyard and winery, high quality oak and careful barrel selection at the time of blending.

Mount Horrocks Cabernet has double appeal: it drinks beautifully upon release and will age comfortably for a decade or more.

Extremely limited production of 250 cases - get in quick!

*"Deep, dark crimson.*

*Distinctive cabernet aromatics of red berry and leaf, generous and appealing, with restrained underlying oak.*

*A finely crafted, very pure expression of cabernet. Focussed and long, a supple, elegant cabernet with luxurious forest fruits, cedar notes, ripe silky tannin and incredible length.*

*Fruit and oak are smartly balanced.*

*Eminently drinkable upon release, it walks that fine line of drinkability and cellarability - will reward ten to twelve years, at least.*