

AUTUMN 2015

Dear "Pfriends" of Pfeiffers,

I have given myself a new title. I am **The "Matriarch"!**

I used to wear a badge that said under my name, "Chief Cook and Bottle Washer". It was a fairly true statement, like being "Jack of all trades" to which I always added "and Master of Most"! (We could get into political correctness here but politics is on the nose, so we won't bother).

I have always been used to being called "Chris", which is easy enough if you are familiar with AA Milne's, Christopher Robin stories and poems. After all Chris and Robyn (my spelling) are names which can be used for both sexes, so that never bothered me.

In more recent times, I have been called "Jen", not that I could possibly be confused with being Jen, but she has become so famous, it is her name that firstly springs to mind. It is flattering for me but for poor Jen...NO! When this happened I would gently correct the person by saying that I was "pfamous" too as I was the wife of one winemaker and mother of the other! What a mouthful. It is much easier to be called... The Matriarch. I know it sounds a bit old (I am getting there bit by bit), but I think it has quite some status of which I am very proud. And that is why my picture is on the **front cover** of this **Autumn Newsletter**.

I am standing outside Sarti which is where we have hosted our long, lazy Melbourne lunches for the last 2 years and where we are again holding this year's Sunday lunch. Red is the theme of this newsletter, not just because it is a "pfavourite" colour of mine but because it is one of the beautiful Autumn colours in our glorious trees around the winery and more importantly, it also evokes warmth of gathering together with friends and family.

We are having a wonderful time going to **your capital cities** (sorry Perth and Darwin) and meeting our dedicated "Pfeiffer Pfriends and Pfamily" at our **lunches and dinners THERE**. Please look inside this newsletter to see when and where we will be near you. I have included the number of seats available so you don't leave it till the last minute to book and miss out. I hate, hate, hate, turning people away.

Then there are the events **HERE at our winery**. Our **Markets** are always a treat with fresh produce of each season being showcased. **Winery Walkabout** is such a "Pfun" time for me and this year, even I am dressing up. I want to be part of this **Giant Adult Party** and seeing I will be working, I am joining in as best I can and having "pfun at Pfeiffers"! Please come and join us. You don't have to dress up but it is great "pfun" seeing those who do. Sit back and relax in our **Lounge Bar** and enjoy our **"pfamous" wine cocktails**. Our Wine Cocktails were first developed for the Bridge Bar in January, then enjoyed immensely at our hugely successful and inaugural Food, Wine and Music Festival and now, the warming, **Winter Wine Cocktails** will be served this Winery Walkabout. Definitely don't miss out.

As I think back to the success of our Wine Cocktails I also glance back at the success of the various activities we have enjoyed this year. The Bridge Bar which Chris and I hosted on our Sunday Creek Bridge last December/January was a huge success so you can expect to see a permanent bar by next Summer. Member's weekends (yes two weekends) followed as I couldn't turn so many away and so I enjoyed all our food and wine delights twice! It was here that we forged a wonderful relationship with Emily Leishman from **Riedel Glassware**. Have a look in the newsletter for another amazing experience with Riedel here at the winery but only 38 lucky people can come. On this occasion I can't expand the walls or have another weekend so be quick with your booking.

Then the excitement (which I am still riding on a "high") of our inaugural **Food, Wine and Music Festival** was just "THE BEST". We are now on the music circuit so mark these dates, **19th and 20th March, 2016**, in your calendar for next year and book your accommodation NOW. It is the weekend between Tastes of Rutherglen and Easter next year so busy times ahead. Bring it on!



PFEIFFER WINES

ABN 42 269 441 486

PO BOX 35

167 DISTILLERY ROAD
WAHGUNYAH VICTORIA
AUSTRALIA 3687



TEL: (02) 6033 2805

FAX: (02) 6033 3158

CELLARDOOR@PFEIFFERWINES.COM.AU

WWW.PFEIFFERWINES.COM.AU

And of course in amongst all of this, we have had **harvest and vintage**. There wouldn't be any point being a Winery without grapes to harvest and wine to make. Chris and Jen have been busier than ever before. The season of such steady ripening over our mild summer, has delivered all the fruit in perfect condition but in a very busy time frame, with some varieties ripening earlier than usual and others later than expected. It is hard to work out why and at the moment, there is no time to analyse it. When the various grape varieties are ready to harvest, they are picked, some by machine and smaller quantities, by hand. It has been a juggle in the winery for Jen, creating fermentation space, storage space and now the pressure is on to also get ready for bottling, the pristine whites and lighter reds, which don't see barrel maturation. Phew! Who would be a winemaker?

Well, **Jen has an amazing team** with her this year who are already winemakers or who want to become winemakers. **Jamie**, her partner in life, has a calming influence, an essential characteristic under the pressure of Vintage. **Mick**, our new Viticulturist has risen to the challenge and done a "pfabulous" job producing high quality fruit in both Sunday Creek and Carlyle Vineyards. **Reece**, her new Cellarhand is finding out what his first Vintage is all about. He will be an old hand by next year. Viktor from Austria and 2011 trainee winemaker, has returned for a few weeks to help us out while he waits for his girlfriend to arrive for their Australian holiday in May. **Owen** who is having a 6 week stint with us from the UK has learnt what the difference is between his Aunt's vineyard and winery in France where they have time for lunch and siestas, compared to a Rutherglen vintage which is known as being the longest vintage in the world! After all, which other region can provide a dinner party of wines?

Shshh! This next part is yours and my secret. You know how you are not supposed to have favourites with your children. Well, I shouldn't have favourites amongst our workers...BUT...**Luca**, from Piedmont in Italy is my favourite. Every morning he kisses me twice, first the right cheek and then the left. Every night after dinner, he thanks me and again I get two kisses. I also get a warm hug, morning and night, following the kisses. I love it! He has kept a smile on my dial all Vintage. They say all this lovely touchy feely stuff releases endorphins. I don't care what it does but it certainly makes me feel good every day. Every Matriarch needs a gorgeous Italian man in her life! Some would say "Watch out Chris", but of course, Vintage wouldn't be Vintage without **Chris**.

So much has happened and so much is happening. We look forward to it all and hope that you can share some of it with us. Eventually you will get to share the wines from the **AMAZING 2015 Vintage**.

Enjoy our bright red Newsletter. As you know we have "pfun" **HERE** at Pfeiffer Wines and we are bringing the "pfun to you", hoping to see you **THERE**.

Warmest regards,



Robyn Pfeiffer