Homegrown triumph
All Heggies Vineyard success comes from making high expectations a reality. As a result, the shared passion and commitment of the vitivit team drove a triple trophy haul at the Barossa Wine Show for Chardonnay, Riesling and Botrytis Riesling.

“...to be recognised with trophies for three individual wine styles is testament to the commitment we have all made to identify Heggies Vineyard’s capabilities,” says winemaker Peter Gambetta.

October
Sparkling Genius
Nick Stock releases The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide for 09/10 and announces Jansz Tasmania Premium Cuvée 2004 as ‘Best Vintage Sparkling Wine of the Year’. “...The Jansz project is a steep trajectory to greatness, and this, their latest instalment in the vintage department, is the jewel in the crown of across-the-board quality.”

Redbank makes Shiraz A List
Redbank is evidence Beechworth is on the A List for Shiraz in Australia. With the release of ‘The Anvil’ Beechworth Shiraz 2006 earlier in the year the praise begins to roll in, including being named third in the World’s Greatest Shiraz Challenge IV (Winestate Magazine, Oct/Nov issue). “...it’s a big step for both The Anvil and the rising reputation for Beechworth Shiraz” writes leading Australian wine scribe, Jeni Port. It was also a successful year for ‘The Anvil’ on the Australian Wine Show circuit, winning two trophies and three gold.

November
The finest and bubbliest
James Halliday reviews his TOP 100 Australian wines for 2009 in The Weekend Australian, with three standout reviews from the Hill Smith Family Vineyards folio of aromatic and sparkling wines.

Pewsey Vale The Contours
Eden Valley Riesling 2004 - 96 points: “The grapes come from the oldest vines on the vineyard... palate brilliantly fresh.”

Heggies Vineyard Eden Valley Riesling 2008 - 95 points: “Heggies has been one of the most consistent producers of high-quality Riesling. An expressive bouquet... excellent acidity.”

Jansz Tasmania Premium Cuvée NV - 94 points: “...from vineyard sites specifically designated to growing grapes for sparkling wine for this sparkling wine-only producer.”

Never too old
The Hill Smith family recognise 160 years and six generations of family winemaking with an official birthday celebration on November 17. For fifth generation Robert Hill Smith, his vision is clear, and that is “to remain innovative, and to be internationally recognised as the finest independent winemaker in Australia.”

December
What’s not to love about Riesling?
Gourmet Traveller Wine magazine’s leading scribes - and their lauded palates - swirled their way through 40+ Australian Riesling’s in its annual tasting, with Pewsey Vale Eden Valley Riesling 2009 announced TOP STAR performer at 97 points. “Highly expressive” raved Sophie Otton. “Concentrated, pure and driven with great control” wrote Andrew Caillard MW.

Pewsey Vale The Contours Eden Valley Riesling 2004 came in a close third at 95 points, and Heggies Vineyard Reserve Riesling 2004 placed in a cozy fourth spot with 94 points.

“What’s not to love about Riesling? The ever-popular Eden Valley’s are raising the bar even higher as there is a bevvy of fine drops emerging from other regions to compete for your affection. What’s not to love?” Nick Bulleid MW.

“Poised and elegant”
The Age Epicure’s “Wine of the Week” takes a look at Smith & Hooper Wrattonbully Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot 2008. Ralph Kyle-Powell writes “...cabernet blend has a charming nose... poised and elegant in the mouth, it has an even, silky texture and the fresh, intense flavour is long lasting and aromatic”. They go on to report “Robert Hill Smith has a policy of over-delivering in value terms, putting his wines among Australia’s most reliable.”
proved that white wine, at least, could age perfectly well
remember a number of thought-provoking moments.
"I critic Robert Joseph had with Pewsey Vale Riesling.
Decanter Magazine (UK) runs an dalliance leading wine
Encountering Pewsey Vale

A cut above the rest
Nautilus Estate Pinot Noir 2007 is featured by leading
Hill Smith Family Vineyards is recognised as a leader in
Ever Reliable
The dependable Oxford Landing Estate Chardonnay
July
Vino-Lok, a fitting tiara
Huinook Hooke crowns Pewsey Vale Prima Riesling 2008
Cool climate conquers in QLD
The precious, cool climate wine growing region of Eden
Halliday
"The Hill Smith family has passion
Success for Serious Sauvignon
Nautilus Sauvignon Blanc 2008 scooped a sought-after
can be a single vineyard site."
These are just some of the words scribed by James
February
A fitting start to the '09 Show Season
Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 is awarded 'The Dan Murphy's Perennial Trophy' for Best Varietal Wine, Cabernet Sauvignon at the 2009 Sydney Royal Wine Show, and later in the year will go on to claim Trophy and Top Gold for Best Cabernet Sauvignon (2007 and older vintages) at the 2009 National Wine Show, Canberra.
Winemaker ‘Night of Nights’
Knowledge, service and friendship takes top gong
A brand new addition to the Samuel Smith & Son portfolio in late 2009 is a fresh, lively and fun wine – Running with Bulls Tempranillo. The wine demonstrates confidence, is innovative, exciting, stylish and contemporary, and remains a focus for the Hill Smith family.
Three Birds with One Stone
Pewsey Vale, Jansz Tasmania and Heggies Vineyard are trailblazers of cool climatic, aromatic white and sparkling winemaking. Behind each of these single-vineyard estates is a woman recognised as a leader in her field. These “three birds” – winemakers Louisa Rose and Natalie Fryar, and viticulturist Amanda Mader, visited Sydney to launch the new vintages from each estate, joined by Australia’s leading wine critics and sommeliers.

Winemaker ‘Night of Nights’
Finalists for ‘Winemaker of the Year 2009’ with Gourmet Traveller WINE are released with Jansz Tasmania winemaker Natalie Fryar announced a finalist. This is Natalie’s first nomination for the prestigious Award, and just the second time a specialist sparkling winemaker has been named in the final eight (Joining Ed Caris) since the establishment of the Awards in 1998.

The wine, as expected, were all superb … these women know their stuff and they love talking about wine” writes Huon Hooke in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living. “It’s cool to be cool … Pewsey and Heggies Rieslings have never looked better… Fryar has a magical touch with bubbles” writes Peter Forestal in the Sunday Times Magazine.

A cut above the rest
Nautilus Estate Pinot Noir 2007 is featured by leading Australian winemaker Huon Hooke as the ‘Best Imported Wine’ in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living – “This serious New Zealand pinot is deep and layered … its structure is out first-rate red wine reviews, high scores and exceptional quality ratings for Smith & Hooper Wattonbury Cabernet Merlot, Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon, ‘classy, a little beauty’, and Nautilus Estate Pinot Noir which was selected in the TOP10 Pinot Noir wines of the year.

Top of the Rots
As a vineyard dedicated to consistency, “one-off” wines are not a priority at Heggies Vineyard. The 2007 Eden Valley vintage, however, turned the tables with a combination of factors producing a ‘perfect’ parcel of botrytis Riesling, resulting in the June ‘09 release of Heggies Vineyard Reserve ’242’ Eden Valley Botrytis Riesling. This extraordinary wine will go on to be much praised by Australia’s leading wine writers, being named “Best Sweet White” by Nick Stock in The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide – “this shows just how precious our greatest vineyards are – Heggies Vineyard is true grand cru material” … a sensual joyride to sweet wine nirvana!”

“Over delivers”
The Age Epicure Uncooked Top wine for Under $18 is Oxford Landing Sauvignon Blanc. “The Oxford (Landling) enterprise is an industry leader. Even this simple, young sauvignon blanc over delivers at the price”, writes Ralph Kyte-Powell

A fitting start to the ‘09 Show Season
Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 is awarded ‘The Dan Murphy’s Perennial Trophy’ for Best Varietal Wine, Cabernet Sauvignon at the 2009 Sydney Royal Wine Show, and later in the year will go on to claim Trophy and Top Gold for Best Cabernet Sauvignon (2007 and older vintages) at the 2009 National Wine Show, Canberra.

But it didn’t stop there for the 2004 Cuvée, which went on to beat the French at their own game, taking home the prized ‘Best Sparkling Wine of the Competition’ award at the ‘07 Prima.”

Jansz Tasmania
Jansz Tasmania Premium sparkling winemaking. Behind each of these single-vineyard estates is a woman recognised as a leader in her field. These “three birds” – winemakers Louisa Rose and Natalie Fryar, and viticulturist Amanda Mader, visited Sydney to launch the new vintages from each estate, joined by Australia’s leading wine critics and sommeliers.

The "three birds" – winemakers Louisa Rose and Natalie Fryar, and viticulturist Amanda Mader, visited Sydney to launch the new vintages from each estate, joined by Australia’s leading wine critics and sommeliers.

The BIG RED Wine Book by Campbell Faulkner, The Age Epicure.

A cut above the rest
Nautilus Estate Pinot Noir 2007 is featured by leading Australian winemaker Huon Hooke as the ‘Best Imported Wine’ in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living – “This serious New Zealand pinot is deep and layered … its structure is out first-rate red wine reviews, high scores and exceptional quality ratings for Smith & Hooper Wattonbury Cabernet Merlot, Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon, ‘classy, a little beauty’, and Nautilus Estate Pinot Noir which was selected in the TOP10 Pinot Noir wines of the year.

Top of the Rots
As a vineyard dedicated to consistency, “one-off” wines are not a priority at Heggies Vineyard. The 2007 Eden Valley vintage, however, turned the tables with a combination of factors producing a ‘perfect’ parcel of botrytis Riesling, resulting in the June ‘09 release of Heggies Vineyard Reserve ’242’ Eden Valley Botrytis Riesling. This extraordinary wine will go on to be much praised by Australia’s leading wine writers, being named “Best Sweet White” by Nick Stock in The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide - “this shows just how precious our greatest vineyards are – Heggies Vineyard is true grand cru material” … a sensual joyride to sweet wine nirvana!”

“Over delivers”
The Age Epicure Uncooked Top wine for Under $18 is Oxford Landing Sauvignon Blanc. “The Oxford (Landling) enterprise is an industry leader. Even this simple, young sauvignon blanc over delivers at the price”, writes Ralph Kyte-Powell

A fitting start to the ‘09 Show Season
Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 is awarded ‘The Dan Murphy’s Perennial Trophy’ for Best Varietal Wine, Cabernet Sauvignon at the 2009 Sydney Royal Wine Show, and later in the year will go on to claim Trophy and Top Gold for Best Cabernet Sauvignon (2007 and older vintages) at the 2009 National Wine Show, Canberra.

Winemaker ‘Night of Nights’
Finalists for ‘Winemaker of the Year 2009’ with Gourmet Traveller WINE are released with Jansz Tasmania winemaker Natalie Fryar announced a finalist. This is Natalie’s first nomination for the prestigious Award, and just the second time a specialist sparkling winemaker has been named in the final eight (Joining Ed Caris) since the establishment of the Awards in 1998.

The wine, as expected, were all superb … these women know their stuff and they love talking about wine” writes Huon Hooke in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living. “It’s cool to be cool … Pewsey and Heggies Rieslings have never looked better… Fryar has a magical touch with bubbles” writes Peter Forestal in the Sunday Times Magazine.

A fitting start to the ‘09 Show Season
Ringbolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 is awarded ‘The Dan Murphy’s Perennial Trophy’ for Best Varietal Wine, Cabernet Sauvignon at the 2009 Sydney Royal Wine Show, and later in the year will go on to claim Trophy and Top Gold for Best Cabernet Sauvignon (2007 and older vintages) at the 2009 National Wine Show, Canberra.

Winemaker ‘Night of Nights’
Finalists for ‘Winemaker of the Year 2009’ with Gourmet Traveller WINE are released with Jansz Tasmania winemaker Natalie Fryar announced a finalist. This is Natalie’s first nomination for the prestigious Award, and just the second time a specialist sparkling winemaker has been named in the final eight (Joining Ed Caris) since the establishment of the Awards in 1998.

The wine, as expected, were all superb … these women know their stuff and they love talking about wine” writes Huon Hooke in Sydney Morning Herald Good Living. “It’s cool to be cool … Pewsey and Heggies Rieslings have never looked better… Fryar has a magical touch with bubbles” writes Peter Forestal in the Sunday Times Magazine.