Media Release

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Newsflash for all Riesling lovers:

Pewsey Vale 2003 - "the best Riesling year in decades for Eden Valley"

In a year declared by Pewsey Vale Proprietor, Robert Hill Smith as “the best in decades” for Eden Valley Riesling, comes the release of two exceptional wines - Pewsey Vale Eden Valley Riesling 2003 and Pewsey Vale The Contours Eden Valley Riesling 1998.

"2002 was seen as one of the greatest ever Riesling years in Eden Valley, yet the low pH and high natural acids seen in the 2003 wines, combined with tight and concentrated citrus lime flavours, are delivering aromas showing even greater finesse than the 2002 vintage wines," Robert said.

Pewsey Vale Eden Valley Riesling 2003 marks the return to screw-cap closures for all Pewsey Vale releases, after pioneering the screw-cap concept for premium Riesling in Australia during the 1970s. The wine offers all the renowned Pewsey Vale characters - delicacy, finesse and intense lemon and lime characteristics with high levels of well-balanced acids that contribute to their extraordinary ageing potential. Louisa Rose, Pewsey Vale's Winemaker is excited about this release, "it’s an exceptional wine which is intensely flavoured with lime and lemon flavours and offers good length and depth. We’re thrilled with its quality and I’m confident it will be remembered as one of the great wines from Eden Valley."

Pewsey Vale The Contours Riesling 1998 - Australia’s most awarded Riesling of 2003

With no less than seven Trophies and nine Gold Medals already under its belt, Australia’s oldest individual vineyard Riesling, Pewsey Vale The Contours Eden Valley Riesling 1998, is this year’s most awarded Australian Riesling. Following considerable success earlier in the year in renowned wine shows across Australia - including The Malaysian Airlines Trophy for Most Outstanding Barossa Wine, Premium classes, at the Barossa Wine Show 2003 - Pewsey Vale The Contours Eden Valley Riesling 1998 was recently presented with the Zerutti Glassware Trophy for Best Table Wine, Museum Classes, in the 2003 Canberra Wine Show, plus The Bayleys Viticulture Trophy for Best Wine of the Show at the Canterbury A & P Show of 2003, in New Zealand.

The judges of the Canterbury A & P Show felt this wine provided an exceptional benchmark for local Riesling producers. "This wine embodies an outstanding example of the Riesling variety. Still tasting incredibly youthful, the bone dry style has no bitterness and wonderful balance of fruit flavours, scented citrus and mineral/turpine complexity," says Judge Terry Copelend. "Clearly a typical example of the Australian style, the sheer quality of the wine should serve as a beacon for all Riesling makers.”
Pewsey Vale The Contours Eden Valley Riesling 1998 is light straw in colour with green hues. A hint of toast overlies the still intense ripe lime fruit aroma. The palate is dominated by citrus flavours, lime peel and marmalade, and finishes with a lemon drop crispness. “Just showing the first signs of bottle age after 5 years, indicates there is still a long future for this wine”, says Louisa.

As one of the pioneer vineyards of Eden Valley, Pewsey Vale has become a classic Australian Riesling success story.

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