

Geoff Merrill

# Henley

## 2001 SHIRAZ

*Henley is a strict barrel selection of our best of vintage McLaren Vale Shiraz and is named in honour of Geoff's Grandfather, who passed away at the ripe old age of 102. This wine is the best of the best of our McLaren Vale Shiraz and only 10 barrel of the Vintage are set aside for Henley.*

### **TASTING NOTES:**

The colour is a deep brick red with cherry red hues. The aroma displays distinct blackberry fruit, chocolate and mint and made more complex by well-integrated oak showing cedar, toast and creamy notes. The palate is firm and tightly structured, currently showing a toasty vanillin oak character with powerful fruit in the background waiting to burst forth. A rich blend of red berries and spices can be found entwined throughout the length of the palate growing in intensity as the wine opens up.

### **WINEMAKERS COMMENTS**

The 2001 "Henley" blend is taken from 3 vineyard sites in McLaren Vale, with an average vine age of 45 years. The largest portion of fruit comes from vineyards planted on sandy pale coloured limestone with abundant marine fossils; the balance of the blend (around 10 %) is off 65 year old vines planted on the flood plains which typically vary in character from silty clay to sandy gravel. A rare blend of creamy McLaren Vale Shiraz, the pinnacle of what we do. Only 200 dozen were made.

**WINEMAKERS:** Geoff Merrill & Scott Heidrich

### **TECHNICAL DETAILS:**

Alc / vol 15.0 %, RS 2.35 g/l, TA 7.06 g/l, pH 3.40

