

TYRRELL'S



*Private Bin*

2022 WHITE RELEASE



# BRUCE TYRRELL'S 2022 VINTAGE REVIEW



The 2022 whites are in many ways similar to the 2021s. A longer, cooler and wetter summer without excessive heat. The advantage of a cooler summer meant the skins were in good condition, which helped with disease control. We purchased, during the year, a new under vine cultivator, which leaves that area clean of grass and weeds and gives us better airflow through the vineyard for improved disease control. I was amazed at how clean the fruit was for the conditions. The 2022 season was later, by a couple of weeks, than 2021, which was expected, as the season was a late one.

We started picking in the usual vineyards. Chardonnay and Pinot Noir for the sparkling,

followed by three days of all of the Verdelho. Normally we would go to Chardonnay and then onto Semillon but both ripened simultaneously so there was a lot of moving of pickers from block to block. We started with around one hundred pickers on our books. The Covid surge after about a week dropped us down to nearly thirty so like last year we had to pick a few blocks with machine that we would normally pick by hand, but with no real reduction in quality. We were lucky enough that one of our contract growers had his own picking team and we could borrow them when he was not picking. The conditions were also scattered across the district. The third Tuesday night in January we had 8mm of rain while the Stevens

vineyard had 50mm. We had four bites to get all the Stevens Semillon off.

The whites always had great flavour from New Year's onward. The cooler season meant higher acids and so we waited to get the acid right. The slower ripening of the fruit gave us an opportunity to pick around the rain and have clean fruit.

The whites, in general, show more vintage character than vineyard character. They all have finer fruit on the palate, ample acid and amazing lingering flavour on the finish. The structure on the palate is the same for all the whites.

The best looking vineyards, and the best quality fruit this year, came from the old Chardonnay and the old Semillon on HVD. The 'Old Vines' Chardonnay, we believe, is the oldest producing Chardonnay vineyard in the world and the HVD Chardonnay has always been my favourite white. It has a style all of its own with amazing freshness and balance, and the ability to live and develop a long bottle age. There is still a small amount of this Sacred Sites wine unallocated. My other favourite wines are Vat 1 Semillon and Belford Chardonnay.

With the wine show circuit interrupted by Covid we had a lot less entries this year, but the most important results for us were the

'Consistency of Excellence' in Melbourne with 2018, 2019 and 2021 Belford Semillons. The Vat 1 Semillon 2016 was awarded the 'Best Semillon' in the Decanter World Wine Awards. In late August this year, Vat 1 has been invited to be one of the four 'feature tastings' at Texsom in Dallas. Texsom brings together Sommeliers from west of the Mississippi in America. We will be showing eight vintages from 2021 back to 1998 all

under screw cap. This is a great honour for us to be invited and I look forward to running the tasting.

We will have a full round of outside tastings, the same as the reds, and I look forward to seeing as many of you as I can.

Pricing will rise this year between \$2 and \$5 per bottle. There is a Semillon six pack for \$226 and a white tasting dozen for \$468. We have also released magnums

of Vat 1 Semillon and Vat 47 Chardonnay at \$121 each.

These are going to be whites to put away for a while from a high quality vintage.

Regards,

Bruce Tyrrell, AM  
Managing Director

*"The whites, in general, show more vintage character than vineyard character. They all have finer fruit on the palate, ample acid and amazing lingering flavour on the finish."*



# CHRIS TYRRELL'S 2022 VINTAGE REVIEW



It was only 12 months ago that we were talking about how vastly different 2021 was to the drought and smoke affected 2020. This year it is opposite, with 2022 being almost the same vintage as 2021, which certainly is something to get excited about. An abundance of rain over winter, which continued into spring, certainly kept our vineyard team on their toes, but when we needed some luck, the weather gods smiled in our favour. As Dad (Bruce) mentioned, once we began testing our first samples we loved how much flavour the Chardonnay and the Semillon had, all we really waited for was for the acid to come into balance with the sugar and flavour. Many of the blocks were picked at least a week later than 2021, and the resulting wines all have wonderful elegance with subtle power and long lasting flavours. They will taste great on release, but will all be serious long termers in the cellar.

The only exception was Johnno's Semillon. We decided to not bottle it after a few months of deliberation here in the winery. Whilst it looked fine, we didn't think that it stood up to the class that the rest of the wines had in terms of depth of flavour and concentration. As you all know, we live and die by the fact we won't bottle these wines if they aren't up to our own high standards, and Johnno's was close, but in the end, just wasn't good enough.

As Dad noted in his piece earlier in this booklet, I would like to make special mention of HVD Chardonnay. The old vines parcel of Chardonnay at HVD was planted in 1908, and to the best of our knowledge, is the oldest producing Chardonnay vineyard in the world. It is hard not to get excited about this fruit every time it comes into the winery, it truly is one of the most important vineyards there is, and every bottle we produce is a piece of Australian wine history. These pre-phylloxera, dry-grown vines have lived through many a good, and bad season, yet each year they always stand tall and produce some of the best fruit there is. Dad has always said to us kids *"when I die, you better spread my ashes on the old Chardonnay at HVD"*, which sums up what this vineyard means to him. We have a small amount of this wine left for you to add to your standing order allocation, which I would suggest doing so that each year you can follow the journey of this Sacred Site.

Whilst on the topic of important vineyards, sustainability continues to be a focus for all areas of the business, particularly our vineyards. We are now members of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia and by the second half of 2023, our winery, and all of our vineyards, will be fully certified. This program focuses on all aspects of running the winery and vineyard from our inputs such as mulches, manures, and cover crops, to our water

usage and diesel. Dad has mentioned earlier the new under vine cultivator we have purchased. This will help minimize, and potentially eliminate, the need to spray under vine. Many of the parts of the sustainability program we have always undertaken here, however the certification will help us be more accountable. Another important piece of the puzzle is reducing our overall greenhouse gas emissions. Since we formed our Environmental Management Systems in

2009, we have reduced our greenhouse gas emissions per bottle produced by a whopping 32%, and we still believe there is lots more to go in this area. As our closest customers, I look forward to sharing more wins with you in the coming years.

*"Many of the blocks were picked at least a week later than 2021, and the resulting wines all have wonderful elegance with subtle power and long lasting flavours."*

We are now more or less back in the full swing of things in regards to our events calendar and I look forward to catching up with you all when I see you. Our 2022 white release tastings this September will be an exceptional lineup of whites, and we are all very much looking forward to sharing them with you all. If you cannot make those tastings, then we look forward to seeing you here at the winery in our newly renovated Private Bin room.

Chris Tyrrell

## STORY OF SINGLE VINEYARD

Our Single Vineyards celebrate the best single blocks that produce wines of distinct character unique to that site and the Hunter Valley. The redefinition of the vineyard source of our top wines has been the major change at Tyrrell's over the past 35 years. For most of our history, Tyrrell's has produced its wines by blending parcels from different vineyards. However, in 1983, we created the HVD Semillon, our first formally recognised single-vineyard wine. Throughout the 1980s, we continued to investigate how the location and soil of each individual vineyard influences the unique flavours of the wines they produce. Then, in 1992, Bruce Tyrrell struck a deal to buy grapes from the Stevens family, sealing it with a handshake. This key move was a shift in direction to focus on the intrinsic quality and uniqueness of the great single vineyards of the Hunter Valley and beyond. Since then, we've set out to lease, purchase or enter into grape-buying arrangements with the very best vineyard sites in the Hunter Valley. Today, our Single Vineyard wines celebrate those truly great vineyard blocks, which produce wines with a distinct character that's unique to that site and to the Hunter.

### SINGLE VINEYARD WINES:

*Stevens Semillon, HVD Semillon, Belford Semillon, Pokolbin Hills Semillon, Belford Chardonnay, Mother's Shiraz, Old Hut Shiraz, Stevens Shiraz, Old Hillside Shiraz, NVC Shiraz.*



## SINGLE VINEYARD: 2022 STEVENS SEMILLON



Stevens Semillon comes from the now Tyrrell's owned Stevens Vineyard on Marrowbone Road, our southern-most Semillon vineyard. This vineyard features a combination of light, sandy loams and darker, heavier transitional soils. The oldest plantings on this vineyard are from 1911.

As always, Stevens Semillon was one of the first Semillon blocks that we picked. This year, picking took place on 27 January, then 9 and 11 February. The fruit was then lightly pressed before the free-run juice was fermented at cool temperatures in stainless steel tanks. The wine spent approximately six weeks on fine lees before being prepared for bottling in mid-July.

The nose shows a wet stone, mineral and talcy aromatic profile. The palate is lighter framed with upfront, pure citrus fruit flavours. The talcy, chalky finish keeps the palate tightly focussed with great length.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$29

Alcohol: 11.0%

Cellaring: 10 - 15 years



## SINGLE VINEYARD: 2022 HVD SEMILLON



The Single Vineyard HVD Semillon is sourced from the 'Sign Post' block in our HVD Vineyard, which was planted in 1908. This vineyard is situated between two dry creek beds and features free-draining, sandy soils over coarse river sand.

The fruit was picked over two days on 7 and 8 February in near-perfect condition. The fruit was lightly pressed before the free-run juice was fermented at cool temperatures in stainless steel tanks. The wine spent approximately six weeks on fine lees before being prepared for bottling in mid-July.

An appealing, intense lemon sherbet aromatic lift. Tightly coiled lemon flavours on the entry that expands across the mid and back palate. A wine of great power that retains a degree of elegance and soft round acid, which is classic HVD.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$29

Alcohol: 11.5%

Cellaring: 10 - 15 years

## SINGLE VINEYARD: 2022 BELFORD SEMILLON



The Tyrrell family leases the Belford Vineyard. It is our northern-most Semillon vineyard and was planted in 1933. Situated furthest away from the Brokenback range, it has the most broken-down soil of all our vineyard sites, with a consistency similar to that of talcum powder.

The last of the Semillon to be harvested, picking took place on 14 and 15 February. The fruit was lightly pressed before the free-run juice was fermented at cool temperatures in stainless steel tanks. The wine spent approximately six weeks on fine lees before being prepared for bottling in mid-July.

Belford Semillon, this year, shows its typical ripe citrus aromatics, with hints of white stone fruit. The palate is dense and robust with a touch of honey that sits behind the riper citrus flavours. More phenolic texture than the other wines gives this year's Belford another layer of flavour.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$29

Alcohol: 11.7%

Cellaring: 10 - 15 years

## SINGLE VINEYARD: 2022 POKOLBIN HILLS SEMILLON



The Pokolbin Hills Vineyard was planted in 1970 and is located at the base of Pokolbin Mountain. Featuring ideal sandy loam soils, this vineyard is one of our top Semillon sites and has been bottled as a stand-alone wine released with our Private Bin Semillons since 2019.

The fruit was picked on 7 February in near-perfect condition. The fruit was lightly pressed before the free-run juice was fermented at cool temperatures in stainless steel tanks. The wine spent approximately six weeks on fine lees before being prepared for bottling in mid-July.

The nose shows a wet stone, talcy vintage character with also a hint of lime zest. The palate is laser focused with stunning line and length. Powerful citrus fruit wrapped around the spine of bright acidity in a similar way to Vat 1.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$29

Alcohol: 11.0%

Cellaring: 15+ years

## SINGLE VINEYARD: 2022 BELFORD CHARDONNAY



The Tyrrell family leases the Belford Vineyard. It is our northern-most Chardonnay vineyard and was planted in 1933. Situated furthest away from the Brokenback range, it has the most broken-down soil of all our vineyard sites, with a consistency similar to that of talcum powder.

The fruit was handpicked on 14 February and immediately basket pressed. The juice was then cold settled for two days before fermentation began in stainless-steel tanks. The fermenting juice was transferred to French oak barriques for eight months' maturation.

Pale, bright green colour, the nose is intense with white peach, some citrus, dry straw and powerful oak in the background. The palate is not unlike the Belford Semillon in that there is a dense and robust nature to the fruit weight, with plenty of peaches and cream, and bright acidity. These rich flavours are balanced nicely by the textural elements from the solids ferment, and extended time on yeast lees.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$45

Alcohol: 13.5%

Cellaring: 3 - 10 years



# STORY OF WINEMAKER'S SELECTION

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Murray Tyrrell created the Winemaker's Selection wines back in 1965, when, with the assistance of Len Evans, he set out to determine the best wines from each vintage. He named these wines after the casks in which they were matured. In 1974, having discovered that we had up to six casks from the same vineyard block that all tasted much the same, we brought the selection down to about 12 wines in total - a mixture of whites and reds. The early 2000s saw a further consolidation with the inauguration of the Sacred Sites range and the expansion of our Single Vineyard program. Today, the Winemaker's Selection wines are estate-grown on the various blocks that form the wines that we believe best represent our land and house style. These wines are only bottled in years when we believe that the quality is high enough to meet our exacting standards.

## WINEMAKER'S SELECTION WINES:

*Vat 1 Semillon, Vat 63 Chardonnay Semillon, Vat 47 Chardonnay, Vat 9 Shiraz, Vat 8 Shiraz Cabernet.*



Tyrrell's Short Flat Vineyard on Broke Road

# WINEMAKER'S SELECTION: 2022 VAT 1 SEMILLON

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Vat 1 Semillon is only ever made from our best old blocks of Semillon. The centerpiece of this wine is always our Short Flat Vineyard, where the oldest plantings date back to 1923. The soil profile in this dry-grown vineyard is unlike that of any of our other vineyards, which gives Vat 1 its amazing length and depth of fruit.

The fruit was picked between 5 and 11 February, which is approximately 7 to 10 days later than 2021. The fruit was then lightly pressed before the free-run juice was fermented at cool temperatures in stainless steel tanks. The wine then spent approximately six weeks on fine lees before being prepared for bottling in mid-July.

A delicate aromatic showing only a hint of citrus with a mineral and sherbet profile. The palate is lively and bright, with a powerful core of fruit intensity. The best balance of all the wines from 2022 with a length of fruit only seen in great vintages and a length of flavour that stays with you.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$55

Alcohol: 11.0%

Cellaring: 15+ years

## WINEMAKER'S SELECTION: 2022 VAT 63 CHARDONNAY SEMILLON



Vat 63 Chardonnay Semillon is arguably the most unique wine Tyrrell's produces, made purely because the family and staff love the wine style so much. It is made entirely with fruit from the Pokolbin Hills Vineyard. This vintage, the grapes were picked on 7 February and consists of 65% Chardonnay (planted in 1980) and 35% Semillon (planted in 1970).

Both of the varieties were vinified separately before being blended in June. The Chardonnay component spent its time in mostly older French oak barriques and the Semillon was made in a traditional unwooded style.

The result is a wonderfully balanced white wine, with the nose showing rich Chardonnay fruit characters and touch of solids complexity. The palate is textural, with plenty of rich Chardonnay fruit curbed by the elegance, length, and acidity that Semillon brings. Very much a Hunter Valley white more than anything else, which will pair with food perfectly.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$42

Alcohol: 12.5%

Drinking: now - 7 years

## WINEMAKER'S SELECTION: 2022 VAT 47 CHARDONNAY



Vat 47 Chardonnay comes entirely from our Short Flat Vineyard, where the original Chardonnay vines were planted by Murray Tyrrell in 1968. The soil profile, in this dry-grown vineyard, is unlike that of any of our other vineyards, which gives Vat 47 its unique character.

All of the fruit was handpicked between 2 and 12 February, which is approximately two weeks later than 2021. The fruit was immediately basket-pressed, then the juice was then cold settled for two days before being racked to stainless steel tanks to begin fermentation. The fermenting juice was then transferred to French oak barriques to complete fermentation and maturation before bottling in October.

The nose is classic Vat 47 with delicate citrus and white stone fruit with a hint of creaminess and oak spice. The palate is medium-bodied and shows tightly focussed Chardonnay fruit that is balanced by textural elements derived from the solids ferment and extended time on yeast lees. The purity, intensity, and length of fruit is quite similar to 2021, if not a touch better.

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$55

Alcohol: 13.3%

Cellaring: 10 - 15 years



## STORY OF SACRED SITES

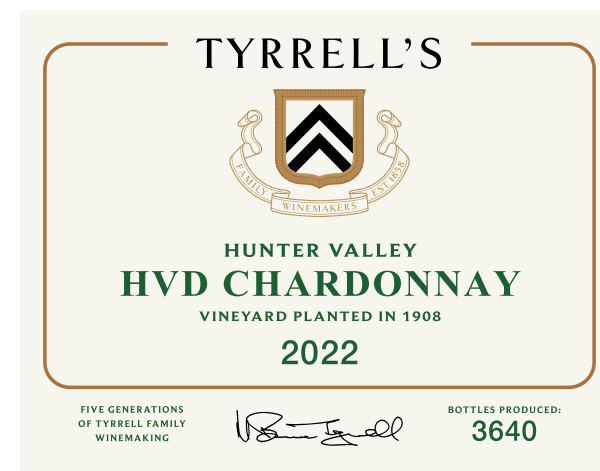
Our long history in the Hunter Valley has enabled us to identify the region's best vineyards, twelve of them more than a century old; to ascertain the best blocks within those vineyards; and to craft wines from those blocks that clearly reflect their origins. In 2004, we decided that if the vines were still healthy and producing great wine after 100 years, then those wines deserved to be made and bottled individually, and so the Sacred Sites collection was born. The Tyrrell family owns eight of the 11 oldest vineyards in NSW and uses fruit from these ancient vines to craft the wines that make up our Tyrrell's Sacred Sites. Among those wines is our Old Patch Shiraz, which has been awarded a perfect 100-point score for four releases in a row - 2014, 2017, 2018 and 2019 - by influential US wine journalist James Suckling. (Note: Old Patch was not made in 2015 or 2016). Having survived the test of time these ancient vines consistently make exceptional wines that have their own distinct character and unique qualities. Vineyard size limits production to 250-300 dozen from each site, which combined with their intrinsic quality, unique flavour profiles and ability to age, turns the wines into instant collectors' items.

### SACRED SITES WINES:

*Johnno's Semillon (planted 1908), HVD Chardonnay (1908), 4 Acres Shiraz (1879), 8 Acres Shiraz (1892), Johnno's Shiraz (1908) and Old Patch Shiraz (1867).*



## SACRED SITES: 2022 HVD CHARDONNAY



The 'Old Vines' Chardonnay block on HVD was planted in 1908, and is believed to be the oldest producing Chardonnay vineyard in the world. This vineyard is situated between two dry creek beds and features free-draining, sandy soils over coarse river sand.

The fruit was handpicked on 31 January and was immediately basket pressed. The juice was cold settled for two days before fermentation began in stainless steel tanks. The fermenting juice was then transferred to French oak puncheons for eight months' maturation.

Like HVD Semillon, there is always softness and openness to the wine that shows the vineyard character as much as the grape variety. The palate shows plenty of soft and round Chardonnay fruit characters and secondary flavours derived from the minimal solids ferment and extended yeast lees contact. The softer acid profile in this 2022 adds to its drinkability upon release. To secure your allocation of this historically significant wine, please email [private.bin@tyrrells.com.au](mailto:private.bin@tyrrells.com.au).

Private Bin Pre-Release Price | \$55

Alcohol: 13.0%

Cellaring: 5 - 10 years

## 2021 PRIVATE BIN REDS AVAILABLE:

### *Single Vineyard and Winemaker's Selection*



#### 2021 SINGLE VINEYARD MOTHER'S SHIRAZ

The Mother's Vineyard was planted in 2010 with cuttings from 4 Acres, Johnno's, and Old Patch ensuring that our best Shiraz clones are preserved. This wine shows a red fruited, savoury spice aroma typical with the vintage from this part of the Estate. A bright, pretty wine that is light to medium bodied with only a hint of oak. Lively red fruit, with a crunchy acidity that gives the wine great drinkability at this early stage of its life.

Alcohol: 13.0% | \$35

#### 2021 WINEMAKER'S SELECTION VAT 9 SHIRAZ

Vibrant purple in colour, a regal nose showing lifted spice, dark fruits and subtle hint of oak. The palate is medium-bodied showing great intensity and the velvety texture that is seen in the best wines from this vintage. The palate structure is effortless with no rough edges showing wonderful balance of fruit, acid, oak and tannin.

Alcohol: 13.5% | \$72

#### 2021 WINEMAKER'S SELECTION VAT 8 SHIRAZ CABERNET

In 2021, we decided to go back to our historic roots and make Vat 8 Shiraz Cabernet as a multi-regional blend. The Shiraz is sourced from some of the best parcels on the Ashmans property, with the Cabernet Sauvignon coming from McLaren Vale. The 2021 vintage blend is 60% Shiraz and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. A modern interpretation of the 'Great Australian Red' that respects the tradition of varietal blending to make a more rounded wine. The wine shows intense plum fruit sweetness from the Shiraz with dark berry and chocolate characters. The Cabernet component adds to the density and structure of the wine.

Alcohol: 14.0% | \$55

## 2021 PRIVATE BIN REDS AVAILABLE:

### *Sacred Sites*

*As a result of 2021 being a high yielding vintage, we have a limited quantity of two of our 2021 Sacred Sites reds still available for purchase, while stocks last.*

#### 2021 SACRED SITES 8 ACRES SHIRAZ

*(Small number of allocations remain)*

The 8 Acres Vineyard was planted in 1892. The most vivid, almost electric purple hue, with more density of colour compared 4 Acres. It is a rounder, darker fruited style with a wider shape on the palate. Fleshy and juicy up front, followed by an underlying core of spice that runs through the palate and with a fresh acidity and savoury tannin, that gives the wine its length.

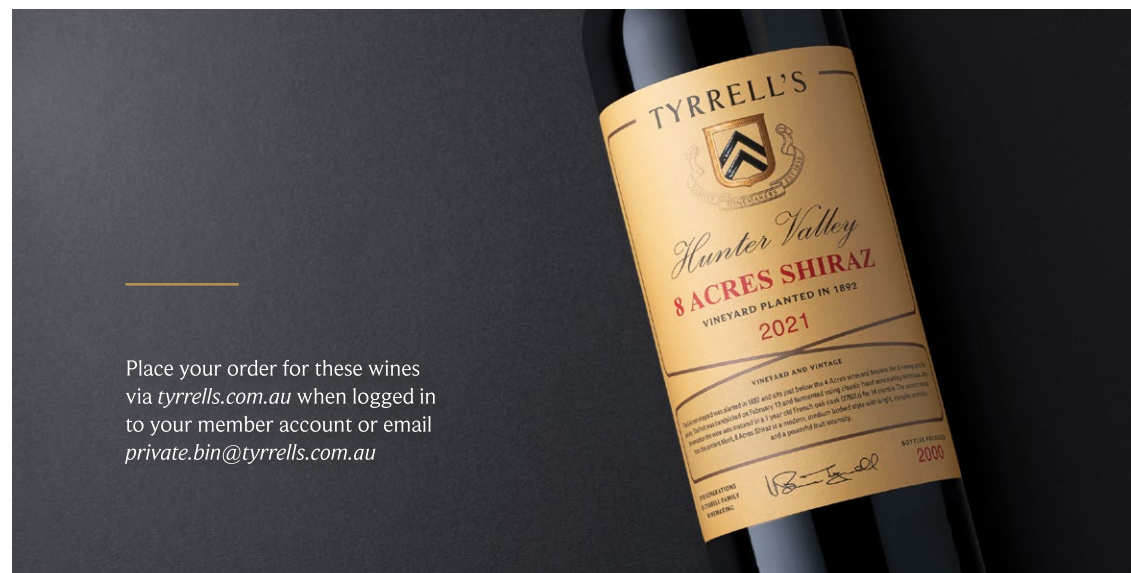
Alcohol: 13.3% | \$98

#### 2021 SACRED SITES JOHNNO'S SHIRAZ

*(Stock only purchases, wine is fully allocated)*

The Shiraz on Johnno's was planted in 1908. Medium-bodied, with a bright colour. The nose is complex, showing dark fruits, with some spice and forest floor like characters, similar to a Pinot Noir. Like always, Johnno's has a different character and complexity that the sandy site provides. Medium intensity with dark fruits, supported by the sandy tannins with a wonderful freshness and length.

Alcohol: 13.0% | \$98



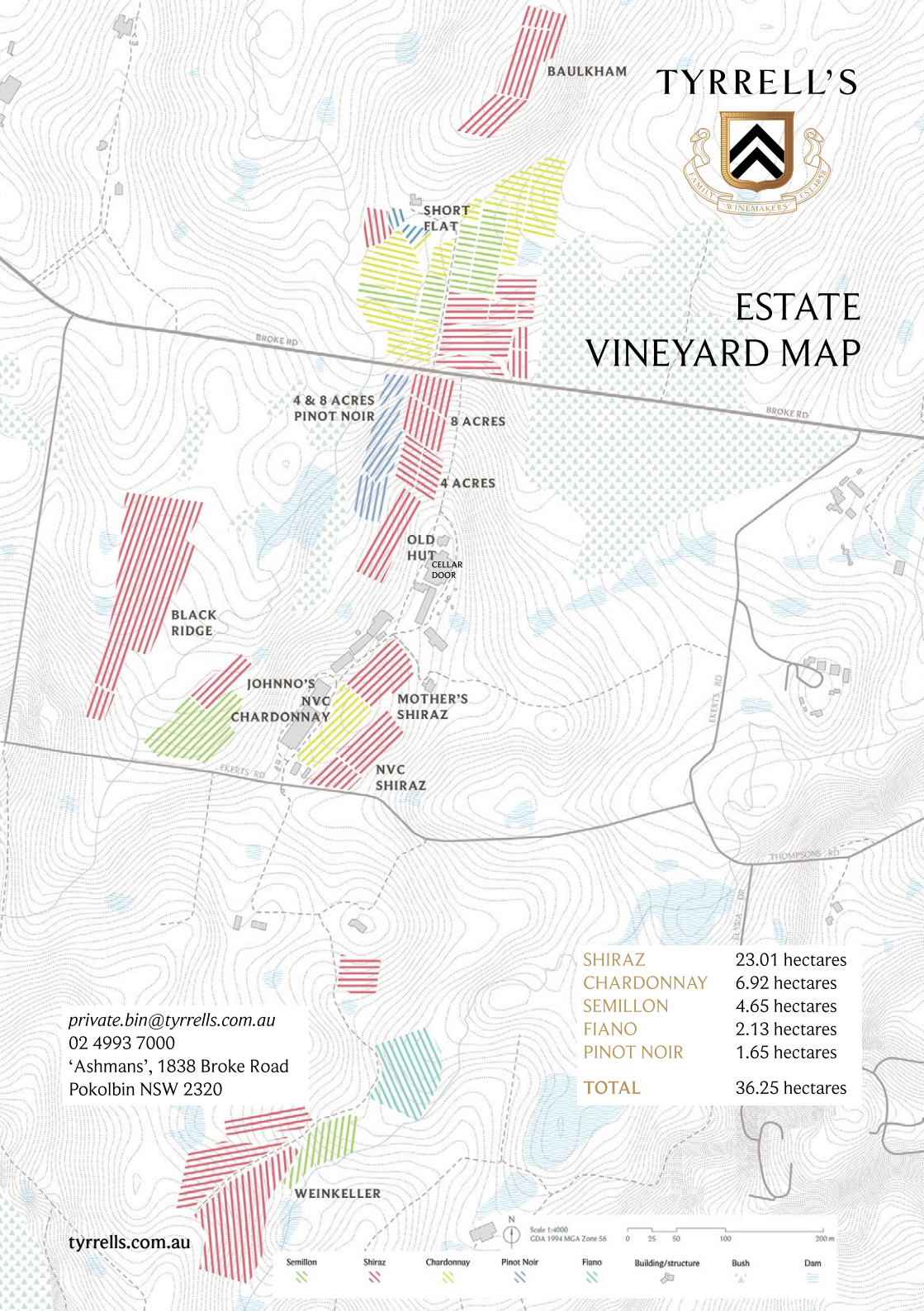
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TYRRELL'S



## ESTATE VINEYARD MAP



SHIRAZ	23.01 hectares
CHARDONNAY	6.92 hectares
SEMILLON	4.65 hectares
FIANO	2.13 hectares
PINOT NOIR	1.65 hectares
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36.25 hectares</b>

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