



Welcome to our Winter 2014 newsletter - we have got a lot to update you on!

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## 2014 Harvest

2014 will definitely go down as the most complex and challenging vintage we have had since we started working with Swartland fruit back in 2004! Full details can be found [here](#) but in summary:

After 3 dry years, the winter and spring of 2013 was very wet, and we had to be extra vigilant to protect against Downy Mildew. On the up-side, the cooler conditions lead to a longer than normal growing season which meant the grapes built complex flavours while retaining good acidities.

On average we harvested our early vineyard parcels 2 to 3 weeks later than normal, but in the middle of harvest we finally had a couple of warm spells that sped up ripening and the later parcels needed to be picked much closer than normal to the early parcels.

This meant it was a harvest where logistics suddenly became super important. We had to purchase an additional 400 picking crates, hire a second cold truck and work straight through the night a few times just to ensure we could pick all the parcels in time!

The earlier parcels have complex flavours, lower alcohols and elevated acidities, while the later parcels have on average 1,5% higher alcohol and much lower acidities... so it's definitely a vintage where blending will be important to create balance.

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## Press

We have seen a considerable increase in interest in our wines since being awarded **Platter's 2014 Winery of the Year**, and receiving favourable reviews from various renowned wine critics. As a result, we've sold out of all the wines mentioned in Platter 2014.

**Tim Atkin** visited our cellar earlier this year and had the chance to taste most of our new vintages. He recently released his [2014 South Africa Report](#) and once again our wines were well received. We were awarded "First Growth" status, and his ratings are:

2012 Mullineux GRANITE Syrah – 95/100	2012 Mullineux Syrah – 95/100
2012 Mullineux SCHIST Syrah – 96/100	2012 Mullineux White – 95/100
2012 Mullineux IRON Syrah – 94/100	2013 Mullineux Straw Wine – 96/100
2012 Mullineux SCHIST Chenin – 94/100	

2012 Kloof Street Rouge – 89/100

2013 Kloof Street Chenin – 89/100

**Jancis Robinson** recently attended a tasting at the South African embassy in London and wrote in the [FT](#) and on her [website](#) about the "exciting new wave" wines from South Africa. She rated our wines



amongst the highest in the tasting and here are some of her comments:

2012 Mullineux White – 18. “... lively, very fine and subtle. Long and beautifully balanced.”

2011 Mullineux Syrah – 17. “...very convincing....Admirable!”

2012 Mullineux Straw Wine – 17.5. “SO much better than Vin de Constance! Peachy and toffee and gorgeous ... Wonderful.”

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### New Team Members

We recently welcomed Samantha Suddons and Jeandre Schreudre to our team. Samantha comes to us from Reyneke wines in Stellenbosch and has been appointed our office manager. Jeandre brings years of experience working with old bush vines in the Swartland and has been appointed farm manager at Roundstone.

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### New Releases

This year we have released new vintages of our Mullineux Syrah (2012), Straw Wine (2013) and Kloof Street Rouge (2013). This month we'll be releasing our Mullineux White 2013 and Kloof Street Chenin Blanc 2014. Information sheets for all our wines can be found [here](#). To order any of our wines, please click [here](#) or contact [Nicola](#).

The next vintages of our highly regarded **Single Terroir** wines will be released in early October. In addition to the SCHIST and GRANITE Syrah and SCHIST Chenin, we will be releasing 2 new wines – an IRON Syrah and QUARTZ Chenin.

With this range we aim to produce wines that are the ultimate expression of the different terroirs of the Swartland, in a pure and balanced way.

These wines sold out in a few months last year and demand is even higher this year. Production is still limited to 1000 bottles of each (to ensure only the highest quality wine makes it to the bottle) and the wines are on allocation, limited to 6 bottles per customer. Please email [Nicola](#) to be put on the allocation list.

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### Cape Winemakers Guild

Andrea will launch her debut wine at the CWG auction this year! She has produced a wine that is very rare and rather unusual – a dry-farmed, old vine Semillon Gris.

This variety is natural mutation of white Semillon, with the grapes having a bronze pink colour and giving lots of concentration and character. It is a variety that is hardly found anywhere else in the world. More information can be found in [this](#) article by Tim James.



The wine can be tasted at the CWG Showcase tastings in Cape Town and Gauteng in August (see Events and links below)

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### **Mullineux & Leeu Family Wines is born!**

Our company changed name and logo late last year, following our partnership with respected businessman Analjit Singh. Singh is the Sanskrit word for lion, which in Afrikaans is Leeu.

Mullineux & Leeu Family Wines incorporates our exclusively Swartland-based Mullineux and Kloof Street labels, and we will be setting up a second base at the exciting hospitality estate that Analjit is creating in Franschoek. The estate will be opening in 2015.

There will be no changes to our Mullineux and Kloof Street ranges in terms of their branding and philosophy and they will remain firmly entrenched in the Swartland. From the estate in Franschoek we are working on a new and exciting wine to be released under the Leeu label.

**Please note:** Our email addresses now end in [@mlfwines.com](mailto:info@mlfwines.com) rather than [@mullineuxwines.com](mailto:info@mullineuxwines.com)

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### **Roundstone Farm**

We are also excited to announce that after years of patiently searching we have finally secured a farm from where we can base our Swartland vineyard and cellar operations.

From December, our Swartland activities will be based at Roundstone Farm, on the western slopes of the Kasteelberg Mountain between Malmesbury and Riebeeck Kasteel. Roundstone will be the home of our Mullineux and Kloof Street labels.

The farm has the most amazing schist soils, and for the past 6 years the property has been supplying some of our very best fruit for our Mullineux Syrah and Schist Syrah. Andrea and Chris are planning an exciting 5-year vineyard planting program with our viticulturist, Rosa Kruger.

There will be a period of transition as we set up a tasting facility on the farm, so please note that from November for approximately 6 months, tastings will continue to be by appointment but only on Fridays and will be at the farm.

To make an appointment for a tasting please contact **[Samantha](#)** .

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### **Wine Club**

Our Wine Club continues to grow, with the attraction of access to exclusively produced wines, special member pricing and free delivery. We still have some Tinta Barocca left from our April delivery and this



is available exclusively to club members until October. Some interesting Wine Club wines coming up include a Cinsault Rose, skin-contact Chenin, and our soon to be sold out 2012 Syrah. In October we'll be holding Pick-up parties in Gauteng and Cape Town for the next delivery.

To join the Wine Club, click [here](#).

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## Events

Over the next few months we will be taking part in the following events and hope to see many of you at them:

**CWG Showcase**, Cape Town – Thursday 21st August

**CWG Showcase**, Johannesburg – Wednesday 27th August

**Big Bottle Festival**, Cape Town – Saturday 30th August

**CWG Auction** – Spier, Stellenbosch, Saturday 4th October

**Mullineux Wine Club** Pick-up Party – Roundstone Farm, Saturday 11th October

**Single Terroir Tasting** - Hosted by **Wine Cellar**, Gauteng, Monday 13th October

**Mullineux Wine Club** Pick-up Party – Gauteng, Tuesday 14th October (venue t.b.c.)

**Single Terroir Tasting** - Hosted by **Wine Cellar**, Cape Town, Wednesday 15th October

**The Swartland Revolution** - Riebeek Kasteel, 7th - 8th November

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Thank you all for your support by drinking our wines and **tweeting**/telling others about them! We love making beautiful wines and it's great to know they are being enjoyed around the world.

If you're in the Northern Hemisphere, enjoy the rest of your summer, and if you're in the South, hopefully winter won't last too much longer! We're already seeing the first of the spring flowers on Roundstone!

For a full list of importers, click [here](#)

For a list of retailers and restaurants in South Africa and the UK, click [here](#)

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