

## HISTORY

**Meshach William Burge (1843 – 1942)** was Grant's great grandfather and a central figure in establishing the Burge family's winemaking tradition. He was 11 when his family moved from Hillcot, in Wiltshire, England, to the Barossa Valley and established what has grown into a thriving viticultural, wheat and sheep property near Lyndoch. In tribute, Grant has selected his finest Shiraz to bear his name and be his flagship wine. Since the first vintage in 1988, Meshach has won several of Australia's top trophies and many medals. It is generally regarded as one of the country's best dry reds.

## THE FRUIT

The fruit for this wine was handpicked from my Filsell Vineyard, where the vines are almost 100 years old, along with a small portion of fruit selected from even older premium vines in the Barossa. The age of these vines means Meshach is made from fruit with tremendous concentration and intensity, especially when allowed to ripen to the desired Baumé of 14.5°. The 2003/04 growing season experienced perfect growing conditions with warm days and cool nights, ideal weather for the slow ripening of premium fruit.

## THE WINEMAKING

After crushing, the juice was fermented down to a Baumé of approximately 1°, then pressed before being transferred to barrel, mainly American and a small portion of French oak hogsheads, to complete primary and secondary fermentation. After the wine was racked and the barrels cleaned, the wine was returned to the same oak for 22 months maturation. The wine was then bottled and aged for another three years before release.

## *(2004 Meshach Shiraz)*

*The 2004 Meshach is purple in colour and shows an intense fruit nose; plums, prunes and red berry fruits exude from the glass and are intermingled with mint and subtle new oak characters.*

*The palate shows more of the intense fruit characters, ripe juicy plums and prunes with hints of eucalypt, subtle mocha and leather tones adding to the complexity. The tannins are long and soft and the good acid gives the wine great structure, balance and will ensure the longevity of this stunning wine.*

*This elegant Barossa Shiraz, with its intense aromas and palate, and excellent structure should be reserved for special occasions and will appeal to the collector in you. The 2004 Meshach will cellar for 20 years or more.*

