



Dear all,

It is now a year since I left Deloitte and looking around, it is incredible how much has changed, especially as three extra people have just started.



Gyro cages in operation

I am delighted that Rob, our Australian winemaker, has confirmed that he will stay on. His wife Pia, who is also a winemaker, visited over New Year and the family will move over in the Spring. Rob will be the Head Winemaker, with Pia running the lab, quality control and new developments. Poppy, who helped out over the harvest, has started as our Assistant Winemaker, with Owen continuing to advise as the Consultant Winemaker. We also have a second Peter. He has a background in bottling and sales for craft beer companies and will run the disgorging, riddling, bottling and storage, along with Matti, who also worked here over the harvest. Which leaves Carole and I running the

office.

Our disgorging line will be installed at the beginning of February, labelling line next week along with two extra 'gyro cages' for riddling and the bottling line in the spring. We will be getting these up and running as quickly as we can, as we already have a number of clients whose wine was made elsewhere who want us to riddle and disgorge for them. (As a reminder 'riddling' is the process of rotating the bottles onto their caps, so that the spent yeast from the secondary fermentation (which gives sparkling wine its fizz in the bottles) collects in the neck. During 'disgorging' this is ejected, the bottle is topped up and a cork and wire hood fitted).



Riddled stock

In the winery, the focus is on looking after the wines and in due course preparing them for bottling. And in the brief interlude before disgorging starts, we have been doing all the snagging jobs that there was not time for last year, so busy as ever.

Regards,

Henry



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