

LIFE OF RILEY

MARCH 2011



MOUNT RILEY
MARLBOROUGH WINEMAKERS



17 VALLEY IN WINE ADVOCATE

Each of the wines in our reserve 17 Valley range received **over 90 points** in Robert Parker's Wine Advocate publication in the USA. This is an outstanding result for a range that has already starred in local wine shows, 17 Valley Chardonnay for example was the top NZ wine and trophy winner at the International Chardonnay Challenge and received a gold medal at the Air NZ Wine awards. Well done to Matt & his team.

CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE

Michelle, who manages Mount Riley's sales in the South Island and is based in Christchurch, and her family were not hurt in last month's quake in Christchurch and there was no damage in the Marlborough region. Our thoughts are with all Christchurch residents at this time.

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

We have set up a Mount Riley page on facebook just in time for the 2011 vintage. If you'd like to keep up to date with what's happening at Mount Riley as the 2011 vintage progresses visit our Facebook page (or even better mark us as a company you like). Find us by searching "Mount Riley Wines" on Facebook.

MOUNT RILEY SAUVIGNON BLANC LISTED BY SAINSBURY'S

Mount Riley Sauvignon Blanc has been ranged in Sainsbury's supermarkets in the UK. To date Mount Riley has only been available through independent wine shops & restaurants in the UK. This listing will take Mount Riley into mainstream retail in the UK overnight with our Sauvignon Blanc to hit shelves for the first time in May. We expect the listing to increase our sales in the UK by over half a million bottles this year which is a fantastic outcome in a very difficult market. The result makes all those hours on planes and time in London during their freezing winters (while friends at home are at the beach) worthwhile!

VINTAGE 2011

The start of the 2011 vintage is just days away. In time for vintage we've completed an extension to the winery with a new lab, tasting room, lunch room and winemakers office and we've renovated our existing office complex to include a new meeting room. The 2011 vintage crew have started and we welcome Romaine from France, Simon from Germany, Tyson and Belinda from Canada, Emily from the USA and Dobrin and Dimitar from Bulgaria. We also welcome Suzanne to our permanent winery team, she is originally from France and comes to us from Cloudy Bay in Marlborough. We farewell Katie, who has been part of our cellar team for over 2 years and wish her well. In the vineyards everything's looking good with canopies in great condition and even ripeness / berry development. Fingers crossed we don't get too much rain over the next few weeks!



Harvesting our Renwick vineyard during the 2010 harvest with the mountain of Mount Riley in the background