



Twice Lost a tall tale



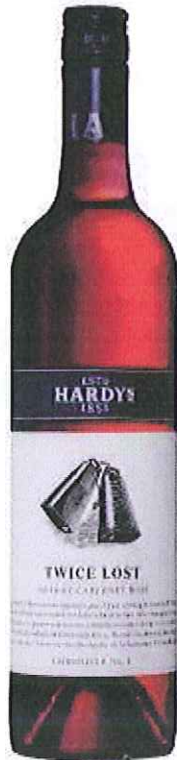
**Cellar
Press**
David Cumming

Hardys Twice Lost Shiraz Cabernet Rosé 2008

THIS is part of the new Chronicles range of Hardys wines that have quirky names such as Twice Lost and Butcher's Gold. The beauty of these is that it helps to conjure a story and history behind the brand, a brand that is entrenched in the Australian wine industry. In this case, Thomas Hardy spent time herding cattle and managed to lose them twice.

The wine shows lovely fresh raspberry, violet and spice flavours with a crisp finish. It is light and easy to drink, but you'd better be quick as it's probably more suited to the warmer weather. The wine is good; the story may need some work.

Price: \$15
Cellar: 2009



Tulloch Hunter Valley Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2008

THE Tulloch brand has had a very colourful history, having been established around 1895 when John Younie Tulloch, owner of the Branxton General Store, accepted 43 acres of vineyard in the Hunter Valley as payment for a debt. By the 1920s Tulloch was one of the largest vigneron in the Valley. The brand was sold in the 1990s however in 2001, Jay Tulloch purchased the brand back, now running it alongside his daughter Christina.

The 2008 Semillon Sauvignon Blanc displays abundant citrus, grapefruit and grassy aromas. This follows through on to the palate with added passionfruit and tropical fruit flavours. There is good balance and ample length. Good value.

Price: \$16
Cellar: 2009-2010

Xabregas Great Southern Shiraz 2007

Xabregas, pronounced X-ab-bre-gas, is a small winemaker located in the Great Southern region of Western Australia. The vineyards were planted in 1996 and comprise 140 hectares of different varieties including Shiraz and Riesling.

This particular wine was short listed for the Jimmy Watson Trophy at the Melbourne Wine show last year, which puts it in some very classy company. It is a lovely dark, inky black purple colour, with aromas of blackberries, toast and plum fruits.

It is a textural wine; well balanced with nice oak treatment and soft, approachable tannins. At \$17 a bottle, it's a bargain, however it may take a bit of finding, so try their website for more information.

Price: \$16.99
Cellar: 2009-2012

