McLaren Vale is home to some of the most treasured old vine plantings in the world today, with the earliest known plantings dating back into the 19th century. We affectionately refer to them as "The Old Faithful". They are a resource we treasure dearly.

The Old Faithful, founded by wine mates in 2005 is an artisan producer of small quantities of exceptional wines from older, exceptional single vineyards. We look for vineyards that are expressive of McLaren Vale, the vintage and the variety and only release our wines when the wines display these finest characters. With the Rhone as its inspiration - Shiraz and Grenache grace our portfolio. Made to age gracefully, we believe in our wines and hope you can enjoy the magic of 'The Old Faithful'.

This 11th release Shiraz ('Red Tip') from a single vineyard in McLaren Flat and captures select barrels from this eponymous vineyard. This vineyard has anchored the Old Faithful project since its inception in 2005 by wine 'mates'— Nick, John and Warren.

After harvesting, the grapes undergo open tank ferment slowly over a week or more. On pressing the wine was transferred to new French oak puncheons to complete fermentation and add structure to the wine and then slowly mature for complexity and tertiary expression.

Only the best barrels were selected for the final wine. Bottled with light filtration, no fining.



2017

SHIRAZ

'Café Block'



Vintage: 2017

Region: McLaren Vale

Variety: Shiraz from Café Block in McLaren Flat Oak: French oak puncheons for 40 months

Closure: We use DIAM5 cork to provide taint free cellaring.

Bottles made: 1665 in December 2020.

Analysis: 14.5% Alc/vol, pH 3.54 TA 6.0

Winemaking: Nick Haselgrove

Winemaker's Notes at December 2020:

Colour: Deep magenta with a purple hue.

Nose: Spices and light black pepper with layered

blueberry and currant fruit. Verging Chinese five spice with hints of cinnamon. Fresh plums

and violet flowery lift.

Palate: More elegant but still with firm grip and crisp

acidity. Even and milky with long persistent

after palate.

2017 Vintage: Whilst technically a wetter and better yielding

vintage the season allowed a long 'hang time'

which has produced wines of distinction.