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Chalmers Vineyard Enters a New Phase

The Chalmers Vineyard, an industry leader in sustainable viticulture and alternative varieties and the home of Chalmers Nurseries, The Murray Darling Collection and Chalmers wines, has been acquired by a major Australian, environmentally conscious financial institution as its first viticultural investment.

Bruce and Jenni Chalmers have spent years honing their viticultural techniques to create a state of the art vineyard which consistently produces high quality fruit using considerably less water than the regional average. These efficiency standards are one of the many factors which attracted the purchasers to the property and to ensure they are maintained Bruce Chalmers has been contracted as a consultant, on a long term basis, to advise on management of the vineyard.

Bruce Chalmers said "We're really pleased to have the opportunity to continue to be a part of Chalmers Vineyard. The fact that the sustainable practices we've developed will continue to be implemented was a critical factor in making our decision. We see this as the beginning of a new phase for the vineyard – one which has enormous potential."

Chalmers Vineyard houses one of the most diverse private repositories of varietal and clonal grapevine material in Australia, thanks to the ten year importation and propagation project of Chalmers Nurseries. The new custodians of this unique resource are excited about the prospects of these varieties and are keen to produce and promote them along with the Chalmers Family.

"The future of our Chalmers wine label, producing hand-made Italian variety wines, is still here at Chalmers Vineyard where it began. We've made our varietal selections according to the soil and climate conditions of this site so our wines will continue to be grown here with the same care and attention, under Bruce's watchful eye, as they always have been" said Kim Chalmers, director of Chalmers wines.

Chalmers wines and the Murray Darling Collection are still owned by the Chalmers family who have an ongoing agreement with the new owners to continue to grow, and further develop, their Italian variety vineyard at the Euston site.

Although Chalmers Nurseries will no longer be operational, propagation of the alternative varieties held at Chalmers Vineyard will continue through an affiliate, Binjara Nursery, with consultancy by Bruce Chalmers.

Importantly the buyers have agreed to continue to maintain the conservation strategies put in place over the large part of the property which the Chalmers family have declared a private flora and fauna reserve. This area includes 1500ha of forests along 14km of picturesque Murray River frontage. 200ha of this forest is rare old growth red gum which has never been logged and is a major breeding ground for the endangered Regent Parrot.

"The ancient forests, woodlands and native flora and fauna on the property are just as important to us as the vineyards" said Bruce Chalmers. "The preservation of these environments and creatures are a key concern for us so we're happy that our successors will uphold their protection."

A shared commitment to sustainability, environment, innovation and excellence will see Chalmers Vineyard flourish under new ownership and the continued guidance of Bruce Chalmers.

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