

# ANGOVE

SINCE 1886

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FAMILY WINEMAKERS

## MEDIA RELEASE

*February 2, 2011*

### **100<sup>th</sup> Vintage at Angove Family Winemakers**

As the sun rises this morning over South Australia's Riverland the Angove family will be taking a moment to celebrate the first grapes crushed on their milestone 100<sup>th</sup> vintage at the historic Renmark winery.

The oldest winery in the region and one of the first in Australia to crush fruit for the 2011 vintage, Angove Family Winemakers will also celebrate 125 years of operation in 2011 since humble beginnings at Tea Tree Gully in the foothills north east of Adelaide in 1886.

Fourth generation Chairman and Managing Director of Angove Family Winemakers, John Angove, was at the winery this morning to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> crush with family and staff.

"It's a big milestone for the company, to think that four generations before me have stood right here at the start of harvest and made wine is really quite amazing," John said.

"I'm personally very proud to have maintained and built the business so that I can now share it with my daughter Victoria and son Richard as we continue to grow and look forward to the next 100 years.

"2011 is going to be a challenging season with heavy Spring rains fuelling disease pressure in the vineyards but after years of drought and seeing the river really struggle to stay alive we're not complaining, it's great to see the mighty Murray back to its best.

"That's agriculture for you though, sometimes we're up and sometimes we're down, the wine industry is having its challenges at the moment but we'll actually be crushing an estimated 18,500 tonnes of fruit this year, the most we've processed for more than three years. Our 100<sup>th</sup> vintage will not be our biggest, but if we achieve our planned intake it will rank as our third biggest vintage over the 100 years span.

"The Angove brand has never been stronger and our sales team feel very confident that we can continue to grow sales both and home and abroad with improvement in the industry and the global economy over the next year."

**For more information contact:**

Will Fuller, FULLER, 08 8363 6811, 0437 651 095, [will.fuller@fuller.com.au](mailto:will.fuller@fuller.com.au)

## **Angove Family Winemakers - 2011 Vintage Statistics**

- Estimated 18,500 tonnes to be crushed at Renmark facility
- More than 100 employees will work full time for the whole vintage
- Vintage will run from Early February to Late April
- Angove will crush 23 different grape varieties in 2011

## **Angove Family Winemakers - History**

The Angove family's connection to the Riverland began in 1910 when second generation Angove winemaker Thomas Carlyon Angove built the first winery in the region.

At the time many in the wine industry thought the move was tantamount to lunacy, as the region was better known for its dried fruit and table grape production, but since then all of the major wine producing companies have followed the lead set by Angove and the region became the driving force of the wine industry's recent export success by producing flavour filled varietal wines.

Since the humble beginnings at Tea Tree Gully in 1886, through to the move to Renmark in 1910 the winery and company have changed immensely. Originally built to process grapes from the local area for brandy and fortified production, whilst the Tea Tree Gully cellars looked after small batch premium wine making, it quickly became apparent that the region could produce good quality varietal wine and the intake of grapes gradually moved towards the "noble" grape varieties.

During the 1950's and 60's the winery and company undertook massive change with the third generation Thomas William Carlyon Angove developing many of the premium winemaking facilities that are still in use to this day. One of the most notable is the small open concrete fermenters that are used for small batch regional wine making from regions including McLaren Vale, Coonawarra, Adelaide Hills and Clare.

The Angove family's Renmark winery can now process in excess of 20,000 tonnes of grapes from regions right across South Australia's premium growing areas in state of the art facilities

Angove Family Winemakers remains proudly independent and family owned and is now under the guidance of the 4<sup>th</sup> Generation with John Angove at the helm as Managing Director. Two of John's children, Victoria and Richard represent the 5<sup>th</sup> generation to work in the company and both are actively involved in the daily decisions required to run a successful wine company in today's competitive environment.