



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lorraine Raguseo
(646) 484-6411 – phone
(914) 882-4285 – cell
lorraine@quintessentialwines.com

**KAY BROTHERS CELEBRATES 125 YEARS
OF FINE WINEMAKING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

McLaren Vale, SA – While there are quite a few European wineries that can lay claim to making wines for more than a century, it is a much rarer occurrence in what is called wine’s “New World” (North and South America, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand).

That makes the milestone reached this year by Kay Brothers in McLaren Vale, South Australia that much more unique. At 125 years, not only is it the oldest same family-owned winery in South Australia, it also is one of the most honored, for crafting some of the finest Shiraz and Cabernets in the country.

Established in 1890 by brothers Herbert and Frederick Kay, the vineyards border St. Vincent’s Gulf, 40 kilometers south of Adelaide, among the rolling foothills of the Southern Mt. Lofty Ranges in McLaren Vale. The winery itself is located at the top of a hill 5 kilometers from the McLaren Vale Township and its cellar door, which is part of the original winery complex, boasts stunning panoramic views of the surrounding picturesque valleys and

- more -

hillsides. The original parts of the winery, as well as a homestead that was built in the early 1850s, are now “Heritage Listed” by the government as important historic sites in Australia.

The winery celebrated its first grape crush in 1891. Today, the third and fourth generations of the Kay family – Herbert’s grandsons Colin and Bill, granddaughter Alice, and great-granddaughter Elspeth – continue in the family winemaking tradition, utilizing grapes from their own 22 hectare vineyards to produce approximately 12,000 cases per year of a variety of wines, including the Block 6 Shiraz (with grapes from the original vines planted in 1892), Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Grenache, Mataro (Mourvedre) and Muscat Blanc. The family’s winemaking philosophy is to make rich, full-bodied, fruit-driven wines (using the original open fermenters and basket press) with a minimum of 18 months maturation in small American oak casks.

All Kay Brothers wines are favored by wine media around the world, with most of the wines consistently receiving high praise. They are a “Five Star” Winery in Australian wine authority James Halliday’s Wine Companion, and nearly every one of their wines, in every vintage, has received a 90 rating or higher from Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate, including 95+ points for the 2010 vintage of Block 6 Shiraz.

The Kay family kicked-off the year-long 125th Anniversary festivities this past Easter Sunday in McLaren Vale with a “High Tea Party” and a unique opportunity for invited guests to

tour the aforementioned family homestead, which is filled with rare antiques and not usually open to the public. Other events scheduled for 2015 include the release of Kay Brothers first Sparkling Shiraz that will announce the milestone anniversary on its label; the publication of a coffee-table book about the history of Kay Brothers, and a tour in the fall with family members traveling throughout Australia, and to the US and China, to treat the wine media and select retailers, restaurateurs, sommeliers and buyers to a vertical tasting of their finest cellared shiraz, going back two or three decades.

For more information on Kay Brothers wines now available in the US, call or e-mail their sole distributor in the US, Quintessential, at (707) 226-8300 or info@quintessentialwines.com.

#

Founded in 2002 by father and son, Stephen D. and Dennis Kreps, Quintessential is a family owned-and-operated import, marketing and sales company headquartered in Napa, CA. It is dedicated exclusively to representing multi-generational, family owned-and-operated producers who have the same passion for winemaking as Quintessential has in strategically marketing and selling their wines. These producers, from most of the top wine regions around the world, create wines that offer the best, most authentic expression of the grapes from their respective vineyards.

Quintessential's roster of "top-quality" family producers include Bodega Valentin Bianchi and LTU from Argentina; Henry's Drive/Pillar Box, Shirvington, Paringa, 3 Rings, Kay Brothers and Frankland Estate from Australia; California's Ironstone Vineyards, Eponymous and Two Angels; the Chilean wines of Matetic Vineyards, Vina Koyle and Terrapura; Gustave Lorentz, Cachette and Esprit du Rhone from France; Villa Huesgen from Germany's Rhone Valley; the Karolyi Estate

wines from Hungary; Italy's La Mannella, Attilio Ghisolfi, Paolo Manzone, Luca Bosio, Ascevi Luwa, Tenuta di Vignole, Agricola Vallone, La Mannella, Vino dei Fratelli and Villa de Varda Grappas and Fruit Liqueurs; the Portuguese wines of Quinta do Vallado and Casa de Vila Nova; Spain's Bodegas Muriel, Vina Eguia, Conde de los Andes, Marquis de Elciego, Real Compania de Vino, Bodegas Navarro Lopez, Bodegas y Vinedos Garcia Figuero and Vallformosa Cavas, and South Africa's Simonsig Estate.

#