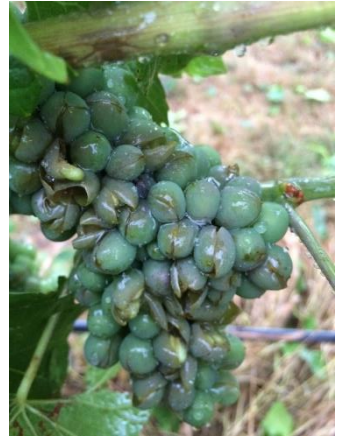


VALLEYFIELD VINEYARD PHOTO GALLERY



We established our vineyard here at Valleyfield at the end of 2013, with our first planting of just under a hectare of Pinot Noir vines.

Hail is not welcome in vineyards! This storm clipped a corner of the vineyard, smashing the formed bunches.

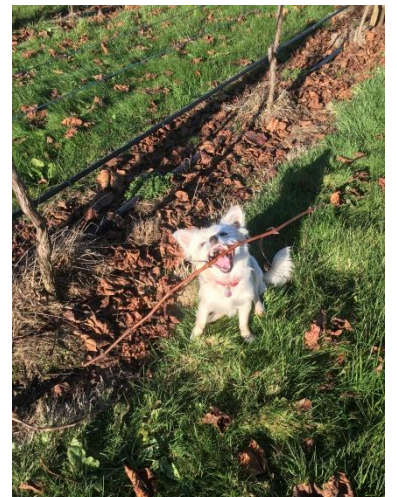


Luckily it didn't smash the whole vineyard, so in 2016 we had a lovely vintage of hand-picked fruit to send to the winery, for our first small bottling of Bell & Gong Pinot Noir, released in 2017 along with a Riesling from Coal Valley grapes and a Sauvignon Blanc from a block at Relbia.



For our kids, they might have had mixed feelings about growing up in a vineyard... Winter weekends helping with pruning sometimes took a bit of bribery - helps being a "One in, all in" family!

Every body helps in the vineyard here... even Charlie the cat! He loves being out there with us, whatever the weather – although he tends to complain a bit when it's windy! He and Pearl make a great team, with Pearl being the "Malchi Muncher"





In 2017 we had a cracker of a vintage, our Pinot started to travel and in December we planted another hectare of Pinot Noir grapes.



We opened our cellar door, including hosting some lovely guests for their long table lunch.



Our 2017 Pinot Noir won three Gold Medals in major wine shows, including a Top Gold at the National Cool Climate Wine Show... and Pearl had puppies!



In 2019 we switched from hand picking to machine – bringing in the mighty Pellenc – the advantage being it can sort and grade the grapes, leaving anything behind that isn't ok, plus saving a step in the Winery as it picks berries not bunches – so no destemming required.





Vineyards can be a handy place to grow up when you play bagpipes! Although our son has now left home for University, he still brings his pipes home and helps out in the vines.



For our daughter, growing up meant changing from one horsepower to many! We had her at home for a couple of years longer, but she has also now left home for University – but still comes home at times when there's work for the tractor.



Even the puppies grew up – but they all still live at Valleyfield, and, as typical Chihuahuas, have very different personalities. They are always ready to greet anyone coming to visit. Meet Pearl and her children Nala, Milly, Toby and Jack.



In 2024 a new chapter began with hand picking the first buckets of fruit from young Pinot Gris vines, planted in 2020. Next year we will also be harvesting Chardonnay from another young block now expanding the vineyard at "Valleyfield".

