

TOURISM

I am pleased to introduce Clare and Ben Anderson who operate a great family run and family friendly winery/cellar door Anderson Hill near Lenswood. Bill Nehmy

BN: Welcome Clare and Ben. Please can we have a snapshot of your early years, where you were born, went to school, your early plans and aspirations?

C&B: Ben grew up in Crafers and Clare in Carey Gully, Hills people for all their lives. They both attended Stirling East Primary and Heathfield High.

Ben bought the property in 1993 and planted grapes the following year with his dad Brian (who sadly passed away in 2001).

In 2001 James was born, followed by Matthew in 2004. James has dreams now he has finished school of studying wine making and being involved in the business someday.

BN: The recent fires have been challenging however I understand you have received amazing community support and regeneration is positive.

C&B: The support we have received is heart warming and overwhelming. On the Sunday after the fire we used facebook to rally together volunteers to remove burnt dripper lines and posts (most of which were still smouldering or on fire!). We had about 30 volunteers turn up to give their time and skills, the following weeks we have had many skilled people help us to knock posts and put in new irrigation. It brings a tear to my eye when I think how kind and generous people are in situations like this. We have a strong local community but this event has made us stronger. Words can't express how thankful we are.

BN: If you have visiting friends or relatives and you want to give them a memorable Adelaide Hills day, what do you recommend?

C&B: There is so much to do in the

Hills, picnics in parks, walks, mountain biking, cheese cellars, chocolate factories, cherry trails, roadside apple sales, Hahndorf, wildlife parks, weekend markets, distilleries and so many beautiful cellar doors.

Really you would need weeks to explore it all and it is so close to Adelaide for the day trippers it is an ideal destination.

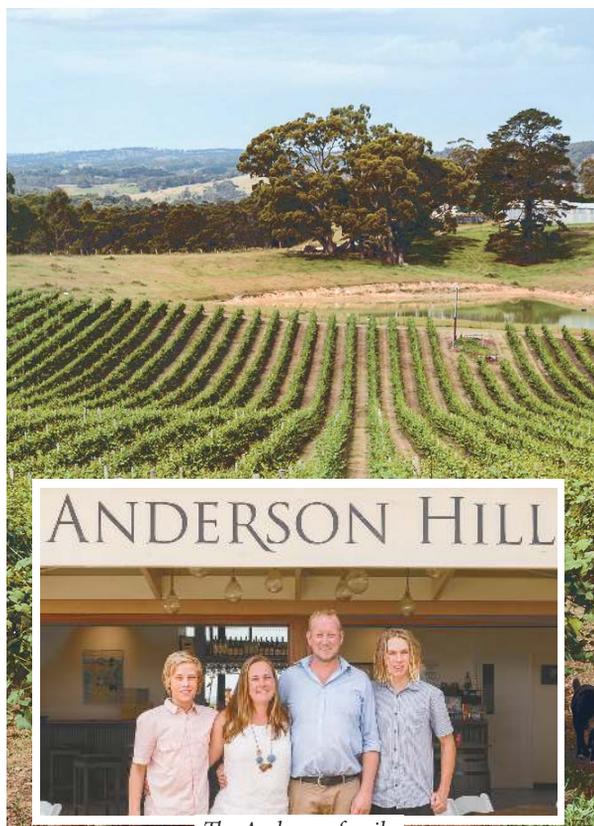
BN: What do you think is the most significant tourism opportunity waiting to be realised in the Adelaide Hills?

C&B: Accommodation experiences. Although this is definitely changing with new B&Bs and Airbnbs popping up all over, so people can really experience the beauty of the Hills.

BN: Please share any other key interests/activities that might surprise us!

C&B: Mountain biking and walking in the Fox Creek forest across the road is something fun to do.

Unfortunately due to the fires this is closed for a while, but when it does reopen to the public there will be opportunities to make it better, with revegetation and weed management and trail building. It is a special place and it has world class tracks. So keep



The Anderson family

your eyes and ears open for groups who will be involved and get dirty!

BN: What advice would you give a young person in respect to finding the right career and to have an enriching life?

C&B: Go with your heart and do something that makes you happy. Be willing to start at the bottom and work hard, we all have to do things we don't enjoy! Remember that respect and a willingness to perform are great qualities and will get you far. Smile and look busy all the time!

Thanks Clare & Ben for giving us the opportunity to get to know you and Anderson Hill better. I love your view into the Piccadilly Valley and your family friendly environment including yummy pizza!