



For immediate release

Tasmanian couple's sixty dollar donation for flood victims nets them thousands in exclusive, rare wine

A Tasmanian couple's gesture to buy two raffle tickets to help those affected by the devastating Queensland floods, has seen them secure more than \$13,000 in extremely rare and exclusive wine.

Their full prize, which is so extensive it is enough to fill a commercial wine cellar, includes a timber box of four bottles of Wild Duck Creek Duck Muck Shiraz, one of Victoria's most highly sought-after cult wines with a price tag of A\$330 a bottle, and a magnum of Diana Madeline, one of Margaret River's best cabernets, not yet available elsewhere.

Launched by Hobart-based online Australian wine and food travel guide, VisitVineyards.com, with Brisbane based wine writer and author Tyson Stelzer, the Australian Wine Trade Flood and Cyclone Relief Raffle raised \$277,000 for flood and cyclone victims.

Tickets were purchased from every state of Australia, New Zealand, the USA, UK, Germany, Italy, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan.

First prize, fittingly, went to a Brisbane-based winner who has applied to study viticulture next year.

Tasmanian couple Phillip and Krystyna Littlehales took out third prize and 13 other Tasmanians scooped rare wines, as part of the 200 prizes up for grabs.

Krystyna says the couple bought the tickets after experiencing the 1974 floods first hand, and helping with the clean up.

"Fortunately, we didn't suffer any great loss in the floods then, and were in a position to help out with the clean up."

"This time we had given some money directly and then heard about this raffle and thought what's another sixty dollars."

Suffering from multiple sclerosis, Krystyna, who loves her wine, says she had a wine storage room purpose built in their home which they'll now be able to more than fill it up.

"We love our wine and couldn't be more grateful to all of those involved in this great initiative."

VisitVineyards CEO and founder Robyn Lewis who provided the 'online raffle ticket generator' and backend services, and donated memberships to its online wine and food travel guide, says it is great to see the prizes go to those who really deserve them.

"We are really thrilled with the outcome."

"Not only did the prizes go to people who have been directly impacted by floods themselves, or had family and friends impacted, but some of those who donated wines had themselves lost everything in the floods."

The raffle was believed to be the largest united charitable fund raising initiative in Australian wine history.



In total more than \$240,000 in exclusive wine, memberships, books and travel packages was donated as prizes.

You can view the list of winners at www.VisitVineyards.com/winners

For more information, high res images and interviews contact:

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Image attached:

ANZ North Hobart manager Lee-Anne Spinks, who drew the winners, with Robyn Lewis, CEO of VisitVineyards.com.