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From the pruner's point of view, the pear is the most domesticated of fruit trees. It will stand a good deal harder cutting than the apple. It will respond to the maddest caprice, and grow and fruit in any whimsical shape the pruner desires.

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Pruning Fruits and Vines in Australia **Charles W. Smith 1958**



BOB MCLEAN

*He gave  
nothing away,  
and came  
with nothing  
but wine.*



TRUE STORIES

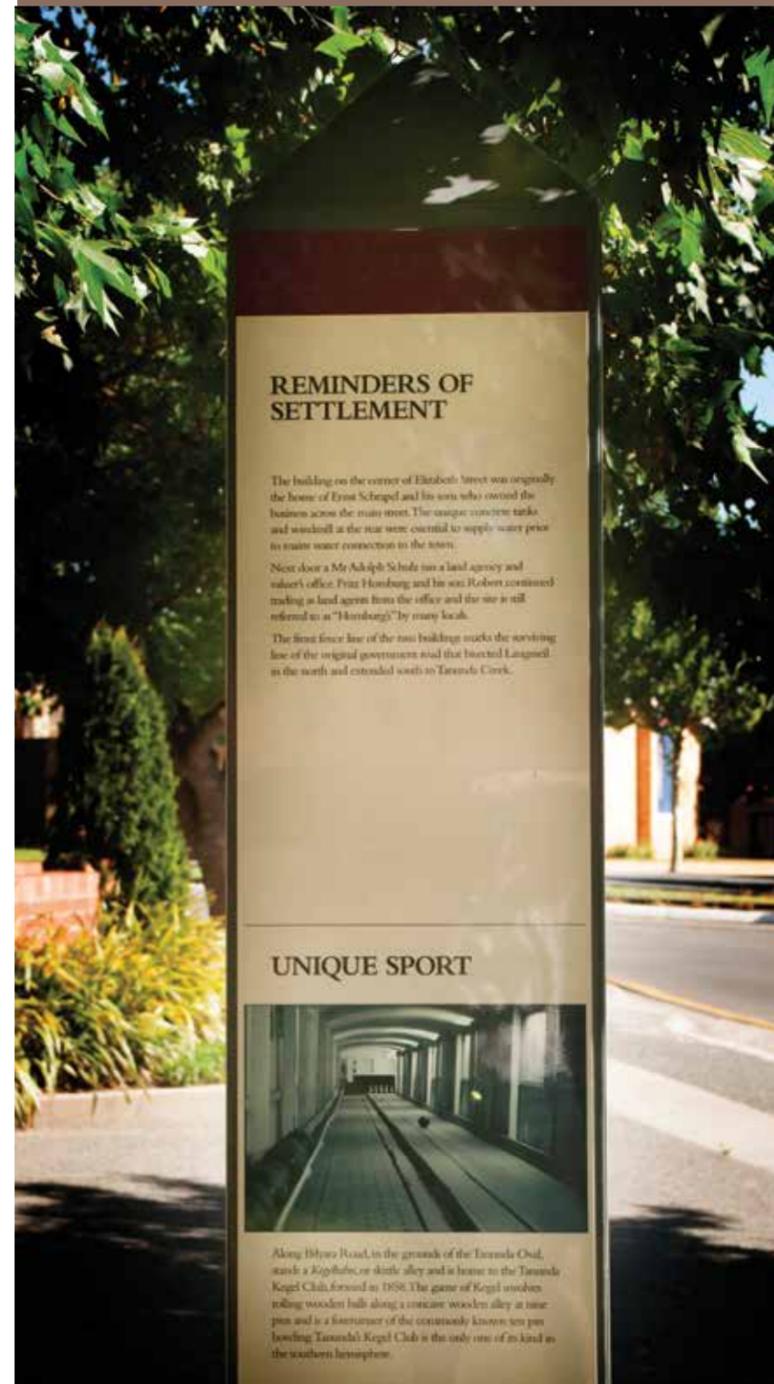


**barr-Eden**  
The Winemaker's Vineyard

Menglers Hill, Angaston

## BOB MCLEAN *barr-Eden*

**T**he interesting thing about Bob is that he is naturally a very good talker, but he's also an extremely engaged listener. It's always a two-way conversation. So it's not surprising to discover that he has mentored many young and not-so-young winemakers over the years. He is always helping people who are extending themselves to support the wine industry. This is why he is so highly respected by his colleagues. Bob has been in the wine industry for many years and thinks there aren't too many in the Barossa still working from when he started. In his early days, Bob use to knock around with Bob Francis. Being a radio personality, Francis told Bob that he would always insist on having his microphone in his portraits because it was part of his identity. Bob took his advice and has always tried to hold a glass of wine in portraits. So, under his instruction I poured him a glass of wine. He had no intention of drinking, it was just for the photo. Having poured what I thought was a reasonable amount he turned to me and said, 'That's not enough, you have to pour more. No one will believe that I would have a glass with so little in it!' Now life is a tiny bit slower for Bob. He enjoys time with his family, grandchildren, curly coated retrievers and horses. Bob was on board straight away when I asked him to participate in my portraiture series of winemakers with their hobbies. But he brought no props with him, just a bottle of wine. So we sat down and he proceeded to talk for more than 40 minutes without a break. I pretty quickly worked out that his hobby was talking.



### *In Bob's words:*

For many years as I worked in corporate wine ... the point that struck me was that wine enthusiasts could never experience the full picture that we wanted to show "just my ability to fix others' work." Now if you drink the wines from my wife and myself from the barr-Eden vineyard, and winery or the cellar door, it is all of our own work and belief. From our position along Menglers Hill Road, visitors come and can see and experience everything – the vineyard, the winery, the wine are all in this one little space. We love the fact that people are immersed in everything we have to offer from our little business all in the one spot.