

# PM visits Hills wineries



*Prime Minister Scott Morrison with winemaker Simon Tolley*

Three Hills-based wineries affected by the Cudlee Creek bushfires were able to tell their story directly to Prime Minister Scott Morrison when he visited the region last week.

The owners of Barristers Block Wines, Simon Tolley Wines and Golding Wines, and the prime minister all gathered at the former's winery in Woodside to talk about their various stages of recovery.

The prime minister posted a video of the visit on social media in which he said there was still a lot of work to be done.

Owner of Barristers Block Jan Siemelink-Allen said her family were very grateful for the prime minister's visit and his concern for their wellbeing.

"For any prime minister who takes the time to personally check in on us means a lot to us from our

perspective – it makes us feel like we're more than just a number," Jan said.

"He was genuinely concerned and interested in our vineyard's recovery as well as me and my family's mental wellbeing after what we had gone through."

Simon Tolley described the visit as "very personal" and thanked the prime minister for taking the time to check in on Hills vineyards affected by the fires.