Barossa Glass -Honouring Heritage

> Text by Tim Roberts, Photography Seppeltsfield, Dragan Radocaj Photography and Nicole Semmler

The AGGA SA Design Awards for the Best Use of Glass and Glazing Under \$50,000 Commercial was won by Barossa Glass in 2016, for their inventive redevelopment of the historic Seppeltsfield Winery's cellar door and restaurant. Jerome Semmler, General Manager of Barossa Glass, explains how his company handled this seamless union of heritage and innovation.

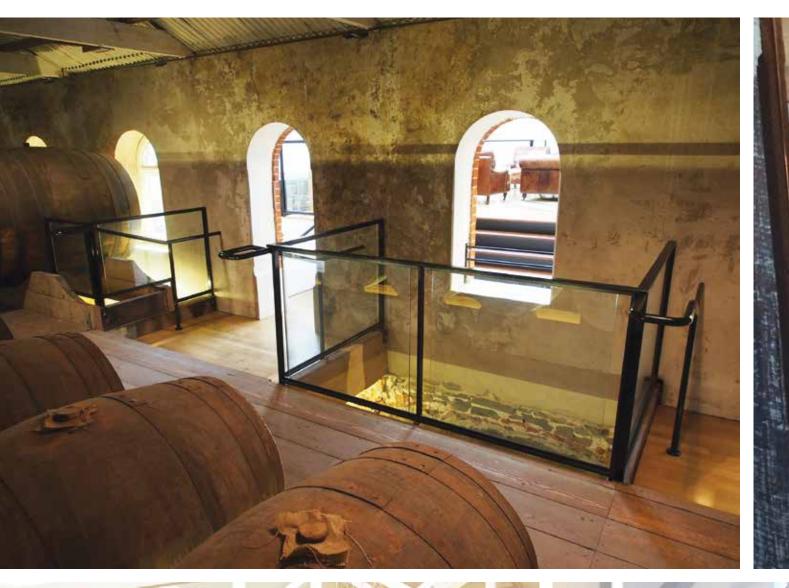
It all started when Bartsch Homes, the company chosen for the redevelopment, approached Barossa Glass to provide the glass balustrade and internal glass partition dividing the cellar door from the restaurant. 'The balustrade is a standout component of the restaurant's internal glazing and fitout,' says Jerome. 'We worked closely with the engineers to devise a solution that reflected the architect's original concept. As the winery was heritage-listed, we treated the project with great care.'

It was a complex brief. 'The architect envisaged a balustrade constructed from powdercoated 50mm x 12mm flat steel bar, with 10mm toughened clear glass infill supported by a U-channel on its top and bottom edges,' says Jerome. 'When this proved impractical, I proposed altering the design to a narrow 50mm x 20mm hollow steel section. This offered the same slimline effect, while concealing all fixings and providing a much neater, minimalist

Each steel section was fabricated in the Barossa Glass workshop, constructed from toughened glass to meet Australian Standards and customised to reflect the winery's varying dimensions and changing levels. 'We designed and prefabricated every balustrading panel, before powder-coating and assembling them neatly onsite,' Jerome recalls.

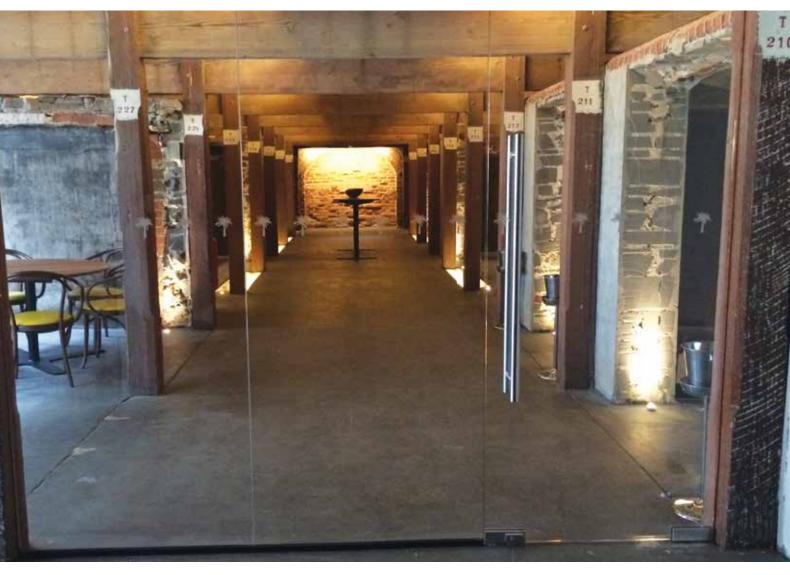
CASE STUDY (SEPPELTSFIELD WINERY)













(Seppeltsfield Winery, continued)

The renovation's visual centrepiece is a striking glass-headed wine barrel with laser-cut logo, placing the vineyard's defining product on full display. 'The cooper approached us to assist with constructing a custom barrel to sit on the restaurant countertop,' explains Jerome. 'This unique barrel houses a sample of the vineyard's renowned fortified wine, showcasing its long tradition of wine tastings dating to 1878.'

Designing the composite barrel presented significant challenges. 'It had to be watertight without the use of sealant, so the timber had to be tightly compressed against the glass,' Jerome explains. 'We worked closely with the cooper during construction to make sure all components fitted together as snugly as possible. We precisely matched the profile of a timber barrelhead, then bevelled two 10mm glass circles to the correct thickness. This created a watertight seal when the hoops were pressed over the oak staves.'

For Jerome and Barossa Glass, receiving the award for this inventive work came as an unexpected surprise. 'One day, one of my suppliers suggested that the work we did on this project was worthy of the nomination,' he remembers. 'I was thrilled to make it into the finals, and even more honoured when our project won on the night.'

Multiple elements of the project have been acclaimed. 'We have received very positive feedback regarding our collaboration with Seppeltsfield Winery, and we're more than happy to show off our work to clients,' Jerome concludes. 'This was a detailed and demanding job, and we're very proud of the results.'

The Seppeltsfield Winery project is a perfect example of a glazing company showing respect for a heritage building while adding an inspiring modern twist.