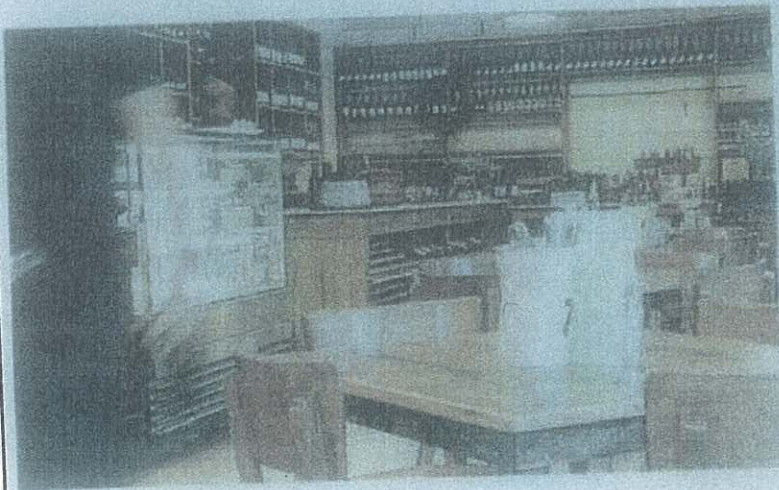


Vino and victuals

Merricks General Store has a long history on the Mornington Peninsula, much like its new owners: pinot gris queen Kathleen Quealy, viognier pioneer "Bails" Myer, and



Samantha and Charlie Baillieu. With more than 20 wines "on tasting", you can swirl, sniff and savour your way through Italian-style super whites, voluptuous viognier and elegant, cool-climate shiraz. And it's the perfect pinot noir pitstop, from the bold — Quealy 17 Rows — to the beautiful — Baillieu Vineyard. Local chef Janine Richmond, behind the Flinders Hotel's one-hat status, brings the rustic charm to the plate with her French-inspired bistro fare. Share some charcuterie, tuck into leek and gruyere tart or crispy-skinned ocean trout, and finish off with chocolate flan.

MICHELLE POTTS

Merricks General Store — bistro and cellar door — 3460 Frankston-Flinders Road, Merricks, open 9am-5pm daily for breakfast, lunch and snacks. Phone: 5989 8088.