

PRESS RELEASE

PERTH, AUSTRALIA – November 20, 2008
EMBARGO UNTIL 11PM FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2008



WINNERS OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY WA WINE INDUSTRY AWARDS 2008

Touted as the wine industry 'night of nights' the who's who of the WA Wine Industry gathered to celebrate their own at the Chamber of Commerce & Industry WA Wine Industry Awards 2008 on November 21, held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. The yearly event, hosted by Gerry Gannon, aims to recognise the best of the best in all aspects of the wine industry.

WIAWA Chief Executive Officer Sue Vidovich said the awards succeed in recognising excellence in all aspects of the wine industry, from viticulture through to tourism and exporting.

"We are delighted at the standard of entries received this year, and love to celebrate our own at this event," Mrs Vidovich said. "These awards aim to recognize excellence in all aspects of the wine industry and are reflective of what we aim to achieve – premium quality and excellence at every stage of the winemaking, marketing and selling process."

For the second year, the Best Estate Grown White Wine and Best Estate Grown Red Wine were hotly contested. This award seeks to celebrate regionality and distinctive regional flavours, by limiting the wines judged to a single vineyard or estate from which the grapes are sourced.

"We were delighted to announce also the recipient of 'Best WA Wine From 2008 Wine Shows' as this award recognises the best of the best of all WA wine." Mrs Vidovich said, "The winning Western Australian wine from each of the WA wine shows run in the 2008 Wine Show year in WA were invited to participate, and were judged against each other, and the best wine for 2008 selected. The winner, Houghton Gladstones Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2004, was the best in show at the Margaret River Wine Show held in December 2007."

Finalists for this Award Category were as follows, along with their 'Best in Show' qualifiers:

Windows Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2007
- Blackwood Valley WA Boutique Winemakers Show

Ferguson Hart Estate Shiraz 2007
- Geographe Wine Show

Houghton Gladstones Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2004
- Margaret River Wine Show (November 2007)

Western Range Julimar Limited Release Chardonnay 2006
- Perth Hills Wine Show

Continued Over

The Growers Dedication Series Riesling 2004
- Perth Royal Wine Show

Houghton Wisdom Chardonnay 2007
- Qantas Wine Show of WA

Kalgan River Wines Ciprian Shiraz 2007
- Sheraton Wine Awards

John Kosovich Liqueur Muscat (Limited Release)
- Swan Valley Wine Show

Rosenthal Wines Cabernet Shiraz 2005
- Timber Towns Wine Show

Hotham Ridge Shiraz 2006
- Wandering Wheatbelt Wine Awards (December 2007)

The winner of the Di Cullen Award for Outstanding Contribution by an Individual to the WA Wine Industry this year was John Hohnen.

John is one of the pioneers of the Margaret River and Marlborough wine regions. He was the first in Margaret River to produce a labeled semillon – sauvignon blanc blend, and for almost 20 years worked on the development of single-vineyard cabernet sauvignon, benchmarking it against other great wines of the world in his annual cabernet tasting. He once said ‘I want to make one of the defining styles of Margaret River cabernet, a great Australian cabernet, a wine that outlasts me and helps consolidate the region as a premium wine producer for future generations’

He is one of the founders of the Margaret River region, establishing Cape Mentelle in the 1970’s. In the 1980’s he discovered the magic of New Zealand and sauvignon blanc, and set up Cloudy Bay, arguably New Zealand’s most high-profile wine success story. His passion made both of these wine regions into the classic wine regions that they are regarded as today.

He is a winemaker’s winemaker – true to wine origin, utterly focused on quality, and deeply concerned about the environment. His passion for the land combines brilliantly with his sense of adventure and enjoyment, giving rise to his current family-based project, Mc Henry Hohnen Vintners.

Full Details of all recipients awarded are:

Di Cullen Award for Outstanding Contribution by an Individual to the WA Wine Industry
Sponsored by Galaxy Displays
David Hohnen

Young Achiever Award
Sponsored by Jason Mazda
Gavin Cahill

Best Western Australian Wine (From 2008 Wine Shows)
Sponsored by Griffith Hack Intellectual Property Firm
Houghton Gladstones 2004 Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon

Continued Over

Best Estate-Grown White Wine

Sponsored by the Wine Education Centre

Ferngrove 2008 Cossack Riesling

HIGHLY COMMENDED - Watershed Awakening Margaret River Chardonnay 2007

Best Estate-Grown Red Wine

Sponsored by Export Solutions

Merops 2005 Shiraz

Outstanding Contribution to a Region by an Individual, Winery / Vineyard or Regional Association

Sponsored by Australia Post

Watershed Premium Wines

Best Winemaking Facility

Sponsored by MargaretRiver.com

The Vintage Wineworx

Most Outstanding Vineyard

Sponsored by the Wine Industry Association of Western Australia

Brookhampton Estate

Most Outstanding Wine Brand (Crushing Less Than 300T)

Sponsored by Portavin Integrated Wine Services

Clairault

Most Outstanding Wine Brand (Crushing More Than 300T)

Sponsored by Supa Stik Labels

Watershed Premium Wines

Most Outstanding Cellar Door Facility / Wine Tourism Facility

Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce & Industry Western Australia

Sandalford Wines

Outstanding Wine Promotion / Wine Festival / Wine Event

Sponsored by REB Design

The Brookhampton Estate Annual Vineyard Concert

Excellence in Wine Exporting

Sponsored by Grant Thornton

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

Celestial Bay Wines

For further details, please contact:

Aymee Mastaglia

Member Services Manager

Wine Industry Association of WA

Phone +61 8 9226 1188

Email aymee@winewa.asn.au