



Australia's First Families of Wine

JAMES HALLIDAY'S 2012 AUSTRALIAN WINE COMPANION

AWARDS FIVE STARS TO AUSTRALIA'S FIRST FAMILIES OF WINE

August 2011 – for immediate release

All of ***Australia's First Families of Wine (AFFW)*** members have received the most prestigious five red stars rating in expert Australian wine critic, James Halliday's, *Australian Wine Companion 2012*. Indicative of their leadership position in the industry, the wineries have yet again showcased their extensive ability in winemaking to consistently produce exemplary quality wines.

With more than 1200 years of collective experience, the impressive accolades reflect the depth and diversity of the **AFFW** members, which help represent the heart and soul of Australian wine. The 12 families continue to draw on their heritage and produce some of Australia's best varietal and regional wine from Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales.

Launched in Sydney in August 2009, **AFFW** was cultivated after 12 multi-generational family-owned wineries recognised a common need to raise the profile of Australia's winemaking heritage and image, whilst collectively pursuing global market opportunities. Following the domestic launch, the group then launched in the UK in May 2010 and further extended its global reach by travelling to Canada early this year.

"The five red stars rating from James Halliday in his 2012 *Australian Wine Companion* for all of our members ratifies our position as leaders in the industry. It is a wonderful achievement for AFFW and we are thrilled that we can all celebrate this achievement together," said AFFW Chairman, Ross Brown.

AFFW is proud of their individual, but more importantly, collective results; and the calibre and integrity of the wines they represent.

The most recent activity for **AFFW** will see the group's Next Generation or 'Next Genners' head to South Australia to experience each other's wineries, wines and hospitality to help cement the importance of being custodians of the soil now and for years to come.

Australia's First Families of Wine: the Heart & Soul of Australian Wine

**Brown Brothers, Campbells, d'Arenberg, De Bortoli, Henschke,
Howard Park, Jim Barry, McWilliam's, Tahbilk, Taylors,
Tyrrell's, Yalumba**



Australia's First Families *of* Wine

BACKGROUND- RESULTS

James Halliday rated the **AFFW** members as follows:

Brown Brothers – “Deservedly one of the most successful family wineries – its cellar door receives the greatest number of visitors in Australia”

King Valley Pinot Noir Chardonnay and Pinot Meunier NV – Rating 95

Half Dry Riesling 2010 – Rating 95

Limited Release King Valley Riesling 2008 – Rating 94

Limited Release King Valley Pinot Grigio 2010 – Rating 94

Cellar Door Release Single Vineyard King Valley Shiraz Mondeuse & Cabernet 2006 – Rating 94

Patricia Cabernet Sauvignon 2006 – Rating 94

Campbells Wines – “It is fair to say that the nigh-on half-century fourth-generation stewardship of Malcolm and Colin Campbell has been the more important in the history of the winery...”

Isabella Rare Rutherglen Topaque NV – Rating 97

Merchant Prince Rare Rutherglen Muscat NV – Rating 97

Grand Rutherglen Topaque NV – Rating 95

1870 Methode Traditionelle NV – Rating 94

Grand Rutherglen Muscat NV – Rating 94

d’Arenberg – “The quality of the wines is unimpeachable, the prices logical and fair.”

The Dead Arm Shiraz 2008 – Rating 96

The Little Venice Shiraz 2009 – Rating 95

The Coppermine Road Cabernet Sauvignon 2008 – Rating 95

The Blewitt Springs Grenache 2009 – Rating 94

The Derelict Vineyard McLaren vale Grenache 2009 – Rating 94

De Bortoli – “Famous among the cognoscenti for its superb Noble One...”

Noble One 2008 – Rating 95

Reserve Release Yarra Valley Chardonnay 2008 – Rating 96

Reserve Release Yarra Valley Syrah 2008 – Rating 96

Estate Grown Yarra Valley Pinot Noir Rose 2010 – Rating 95

Estate Grown Yarra Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2008 – Rating 95

Reserve Yarra Valley Riesling 2010 – Rating 94

Gulf Station Yarra Valley Sauvignon Blanc 2010 – Rating 94

Henschke – “Regarded as the best medium-sized red wine producer in Australia, Henschke has gone from strength to strength over the past three decades under the guidance of winemaker Stephen and viticulturist Prue.

Julius Eden Valley Riesling 2010 – Rating 96
Mount Edelstone 2008 – Rating 95
Tappa Pass Vineyard Selection Eden Valley Shiraz 2007 – Rating 95
Henry’s Seven 2009 – Rating 95
Keyneton Euphonium 2008 – Rating 95
Cyril Henschke 2008 – Rating 95
Green’s Hill Lenswood Riesling 2010 – Rating 94
Croft Lenswood Chardonnay 2009 – Rating 94
Tappa Pass Vineyard Selection Eden Valley Shiraz 2008 – Rating 94
Lenswood Abbott’s Prayer 2008 – Rating 94

Howard Park – “The Margaret River flagships are the Leston Shiraz and Leston Cabernet Sauvignon...”

Howard Park Scotsdale Great Southern Shiraz 2009 - Rating 96
Howard Park Abercrombie Cabernet Sauvignon 2009 – Rating 96
Howard Park Great Southern Riesling 2010 – Rating 95
Howard Park Sauvignon Blanc 2010 - Rating 95
Madfish Gold Turtle Flint Rock Chardonnay 2009 – Rating 95
Howard Park Great Southern Chardonnay 2009 – Rating 95
Madfish Gold Turtle Frankland River Shiraz 2009 – Rating 95
Howard Park Scotsdale Great Southern Cabernet Sauvignon 2009 - Rating 95
Howard Park Porongurup Riesling 2010 – Rating 94
Howard Park Museum Release Great Southern Riesling 2006 – Rating 94
Howard Park Leston Margaret River Shiraz 2009 – Rating 94
Howard Park Leston Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2009 – Rating 94

Jim Barry Wines – “There is a full range of wine styles across ore varietals, but with special emphasis on Riesling, Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon.”

The Armagh Shiraz 2008 - Rating 96
The Lodge Hill Clare Valley Riesling 2010 – Rating 95
The Florita Care Valley Riesling 2010 – Rating 95
The PB Reserve Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon 2006 - Rating 95
Watervale Riesling 2010 – Rating 94
The McRae Wood Shiraz 2007 – Rating 94
The McRae Wood Museum Release Shiraz 1999 – Rating 94
The PB Reserve Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 – Rating 94

McWilliam’s Wines – “As McWilliam’s viticultural resources have expanded, it has been able to produce regional blends from across Australia of startlingly good value.”

Mount Pleasant Maurice O’Shea 2009 - Rating 97

1877 Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2009 - Rating 96
Mount Pleasant Elizabeth 2006 - Rating 95
Mount Pleasant Elizabeth 2005 - Rating 95
Mount Pleasant Original Vineyard OP&OH Hunter Valley Shiraz 2009 – Rating 95
Morning Light Riverina Botrytis Semillon 2008 – Rating 94
Mount Pleasant Original Vineyard Rosehill Hunter Valley Shiraz 2009 – Rating 94
Mount Pleasant Original Vineyard OP&OH Hunter Valley Shiraz 2006 – Rating 94
Mount Pleasant Original Vineyard Rosehill Hunter Valley Shiraz 2006 – Rating 94

Tahbilk – “A winery steeped in tradition (with National Trust classification), which should be visited at least once by every wine-conscious Australian...”

1860 Vines Shiraz 2005 – Rating 94
Eric Stevens Purbrick Shiraz 2005 - Rating 94

Taylors – “The family-founded and owned Taylors continues to flourish and expand...”

St Andrews Clare Valley Riesling 2010 – Rating 95
Jaraman Margaret River Adelaide Hills Sauvignon Blanc - Rating 94

Tyrrell’s – “One of the most successful family wineries, a humble operation for the first 110 years of its life that has grown out of recognition over the past 40 years”

Museum Release Vat 1 Hunter Semillon 2005 - Rating 97
Single Vineyard Old Patch 1867 Hunter Shiraz 2009 – Rating 97
Vat 9 Hunter Shiraz 2009 – Rating 97
Belford Reserve Semillon 2006 - Rating 96
Museum Release Vat 1 Hunter Semillon 2004 - Rating 96
Johnno’s Shiraz 2009 - Ratings 96
Winemaker’s Selection 4 Acres Hunter Shiraz 2009 - Ratings 96
Single Vineyard Stevens Hunter Shiraz 2009 - Ratings 96
Johnno’s Basket Pressed Semillon 2010 – Rating 95
Single Vineyard HVD Hunter Semillon 2006 – Rating 95
Vat 8 Hunter Valley Hilltops Shiraz Cabernet 2009 - Rating 95
Vat 1 Hunter Semillon 2010 – Rating 94
Single Vineyard Stevens Hunter Semillon 2007 – Rating 94
Vat 47 Hunter Chardonnay 2008 – Rating 94
Single Vineyard Canberra District Shiraz 2008 – Rating 94

Yalumba – “Family-owned and run by Robert Hill-Smith, Yalumba has long had a commitment to quality...”

The Octavius Old Vine Barossa Shiraz 2006 - Rating 96
The Signature Barossa Cabernet Shiraz 2006 - Rating 96
The Reserve 2005 - Rating 96
The Virgilius Eden Valley Viognier 2009 - Rating 95
Hand Picked Barossa Shiraz Viognier 2008 - Rating 95

FDR1A Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2006 - Rating 95
Eden Valley Shiraz Viognier 2008 – Rating 94
The Reserve 2004 – Rating 94
FSW8B Wrattenbully Botrytis Viognier 2009 – Rating 94

ENDS

Go to www.affw.com.au for more information

Interviews and images available on request

For media enquiries contact:

Kathy Lane

FireWorks PR, Promotions & Events

Phone: 03 9525 3111 Mobile: 0419 392 183

Email: kathylane@fireworkspr.com.au