



September 26, 2017

## A toast to Australia's best winemaker

Our Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS) Chief Judge David Bicknell has taken out the prestigious title of Gourmet Traveller Wine's Winemaker of the Year 2017, at an awards night in Adelaide.

The Chief Winemaker at Oakridge Wines in the Yarra Valley was honoured with what's considered to be one of the Australian wine industry's most famed awards, at the National Wine Centre last Friday.

The title tops Mr Bicknell's long list of already impressive credentials - he was Dux of the 2005 Len Evans Tutorial, co-founder of the Victorian Pinot Noir Workshop and has more recently been creating award-winning Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs at Oakridge.

The gifted winemaker said he's thrilled to receive the Winemaker of the Year award and is looking forward to once again taking the helm at the RQWS.

"It's a real honour to receive an award that is judged by a group of industry peers," Mr Bicknell said.

"Next year will be my third year as Chief Judge of the RQWS and as the first capital city wine show of the season I'm excited to see the new vintage wines."

Entries for the 2018 RQWS will open this December, with judging taking place in June.

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