



July 3, 2015

Australian Chardonnay's star continues to rise

A Hunter Valley 2014 Chardonnay from First Creek Wines has taken out the Courier-Mail Grand Champion Wine of Show at this year's Royal Queensland Wine Show Awards.

"This wine shows great balance and finesse, while revealing layers of underlying complexity" explained Chief Judge PJ Charteris.

"It shows its fruit character clearly while fulfilling the definition of the contemporary style of Australian Chardonnay."

Chardonnay and Shiraz continue to go from strength to strength with the historic Stodart Trophy, for Best Young Red of Show, going to the 2014 Bandit Shiraz from Houghton Wines in Western Australia.

"I'm also enthusiastic about Australian Riesling," Mr Charteris said.

"Riesling continues to perform well, but is somewhat under-appreciated by consumers.

"This variety represents seriously great value for money for what is a high quality product, so there are some real wins there for consumers who are in the know."

The Brisbane Club Best Riesling of Show went to Orlando Wines for its 2015 St Helga Eden Valley Riesling.

The judges were also impressed with the Grenache and Rhone style blends which showed 'great varietal characters, vibrancy and drinkability'.

"Consumers should embrace these blends for their food-matching versatility," he said.

"It's also terrific to see Queensland wines performing well, particularly with red varieties like Tempranillo."

Golden Grove Estate took out two trophies for its 2014 Joven Tempranillo – Best Queensland Wine of Show and the John Chandler Memorial for Best Other Single Varietal Red of Show, highlighting the potential of this variety in Queensland.

"I am extremely pleased, particularly with the increase in exhibitors," he said.

"It's not so much about the number of entries we receive (which increased by 7.5 per cent this year), but the increase in wineries choosing to enter their wines.

"This is exciting because we had 25 more Australian wineries enter this year, bringing the total to 291 and 2,186 entries."

The introduction of a sixth panel of judges was also well received.



2015 Royal Queensland Food & Wine show

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“This simply allowed our judges more time to dedicate to each wine and more time for critical review, with each judge tasting no more than 110 wines per day.”

The public will have the chance to be the judge tonight at the 2015 Royal Queensland Wine Show Grape Grazing by Night Event. For tickets and details, visit www.rqfws.com.au

Following are the 2015 Trophy Winners. For the full results catalogue [CLICK HERE](#)

TROPHY AWARDS

THE MALDWYN AND IAN DAVIES BEST SPARKLING OF SHOW

Heemskerk Wines - Heemskerk Chardonnay Pinot Noir Sparkling 2010

THE BRISBANE CLUB BEST RIESLING OF SHOW

Orlando Wines - St Helga Eden Valley Riesling 2015

BEST SAUVIGNON BLANC OF SHOW

Rosemount Estates Pty Ltd - Rosemount Diamond Label Sauvignon Blanc 2014

BEST SEMILLON OF SHOW

Mount Pleasant - Mount Pleasant Lovedale 2009

THE AO FLEMING BEST CHARDONNAY OF SHOW

First Creek Wines - Winemaker's Reserve Chardonnay 2014

BEST PINOT GRIS OF SHOW

Hungerford Hill Wines - Hungerford Hill Classic Pinot Gris 2014

BEST OTHER SINGLE WHITE VARIETAL OF SHOW

Topper's Mountain Wines - Topper's Mountain barrel ferment Gewurztraminer 2014

BEST OTHER WHITE BLEND OF SHOW

Levantine Hill - The Coldstream Guard 'Albus' 2014

BEST SWEET WHITE OF SHOW

Lillypilly Estate Wines - Noble Blend 2011

BEST YOUNG WHITE OF SHOW

First Creek Wines - Winemaker's Reserve Chardonnay 2014

BEST MATURE WHITE OF SHOW

Mount Pleasant - Mount Pleasant Lovedale 2009

BEST SINGLE VINEYARD WHITE OF SHOW

Mount Pleasant - Mount Pleasant Lovedale 2009

RNA BEST WHITE OF SHOW

First Creek Wines - Winemaker's Reserve Chardonnay 2014

BEST ROSE OF SHOW

Robert Oatley Vineyards - Wild Oats Sangiovese Rose 2014

BEST PINOT NOIR OF SHOW



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Yabby Lake - Yabby Lake Single Vineyard Pinot Noir 2014

BEST GRENACHE & RHONE STYLE RED OF SHOW

Rosemount Estates Pty Ltd - Rosemount Estate GSM 2013

THE ALAN COOK MBE TROPHY BEST BORDEAUX BLEND OF SHOW

Brookland Valley - Estate Cabernet Merlot 2012

THE WINE GUILD OF AUSTRALIA INC (QUEENSLAND) BEST SHIRAZ/CABERNET BLEND OF SHOW

W Salter & Son - Pepperjack Shiraz Cabernet 2013

THE JOHN CHANDLER MEMORIAL BEST OTHER SINGLE VARIETAL RED OF SHOW

Golden Grove Estate - Golden Grove Estate Joven Tempranillo 2014

ACCOR BEST CABERNET SAUVIGNON OF SHOW

Dandelion Vineyards - Dandelion Vineyards Pride of the Fleurieu Peninsula Cabernet Sauvignon 2014

THE BRISBANE CLUB BEST SHIRAZ OF SHOW

Houghton - Bandit Shiraz 2014

BEST OTHER RED BLEND OF SHOW

Houghton - Red Classic 2013

BEST MATURE RED OF SHOW

Brookland Valley - Estate Cabernet Merlot 2012

BEST SINGLE VINEYARD RED OF SHOW

Yabby Lake - Yabby Lake Single Vineyard Pinot Noir 2014

RNA BEST RED OF SHOW

Houghton - Bandit Shiraz 2014

BEST FORTIFIED MUSCAT OR WHITE OF SHOW

Baileys of Glenrowan - Baileys Winemakers Selection Rare Muscat NV

BEST FORTIFIED RED OF SHOW

Hardys - Rare Show Tawny

BEST BRANDY OF SHOW

St Agnes Distillery - St Agnes XO

BEST QUEENSLAND WINE OF SHOW

Golden Grove Estate - Golden Grove Estate Joven Tempranillo 2014

THE JOHN G MARCHANT MEMORIAL MOST SUCCESSFUL QUEENSLAND EXHIBITOR OF SHOW

Symphony Hill Wines

THE DAN O'CONNOR TROPHY MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITOR OF SHOW

Wolf Blass Wines

THE STODART TROPHY BEST YOUNG RED OF SHOW

Houghton - Bandit Shiraz 2014

THE COURIER-MAIL GRAND CHAMPION WINE OF SHOW TROPHY

First Creek Wines Winemaker's Reserve Chardonnay 2014



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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Veronica Carew
General Manager Communications
Ph: 07 3253 3930/ 0408 323 631
Email: vcarew@rna.org.au

Kelly Hawke
Media and Communications Officer
Ph: 07 3253 3931/ 0438 340 989
Email: khawke@rna.org.au