



MEDIA RELEASE

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PO BOX 31 MOUNT BARKER WA 6324

Wine Show (Secretariat)

T: (08) 9851 1516 F: (08) 9851 2102

ABN 27 345 195 254

Wine and wisdom celebrated as Houghton again dominates the 31st Annual Qantas Wine Show of Western Australia Awards Dinner

It was an all round celebration of wisdom last night when the [31st Annual Qantas Wine Show of Western Australia](#) announced the Houghton 2007 Wisdom Chardonnay as the winner of the Qantas Award for Best Wine of Show.

Western Australia's premier wine awards judging exclusively WA wines, the show saw more than 1100 wines assessed by an esteemed panel of judges headed by wine-wise Chairman of Judges, James Halliday in what was his final show judging appearance in Western Australia.

A wine industry luminary, James Halliday has shared his wisdom, experience and wine knowledge with up and coming judges over many decades, and will leave a lasting legacy on the reputation and character of the Qantas Wine Show of Western Australia, now in its 31st year and judged in the south-west town of Mount Barker.

The Houghton Wine Company's win was its second successive Qantas Best Wine of Show Trophy, after taking the top award last year for the 2004 Jack Mann Cabernet Sauvignon, which this year won two trophies – *Best Older Dry Red* and the JS Glastones Trophy for *Best and Most Distinctive Regional Character*.

The 2007 Wisdom Chardonnay also received the Best Chardonnay and Best White Wine of Show trophies, rounding out a very good night for the Houghton Wine Company with six trophies to follow up on last year's successful haul of the same number.

The other major winner on the evening was relative newcomer to the Margaret River wine scene, Flametree Wines for its 2007 Cabernet Merlot, which took home the Best Red Wine and Best Red Blend Trophies. Howard Park was given best 2008 Riesling and boutique Great Southern label, Old Kent River was awarded Best Pinot Noir.

Celebrated WA winemaker and Senior Judge of the Show, Vanya Cullen, said the depth of the wines in the show was impressive after a bumper 2008 vintage in WA. Ms Cullen said the 2008 vintage brought a depth of flavour to WA wines that seemed to have been absent in recent years.

"It has been a delightful show to judge because we've had a few really good seasons," she said.

"In general, the reds have been better than the whites, but the rieslings have been fantastic, as have the sauvignon blancs."

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Ms Cullen said ageing vines had given WA wines that depth of flavour, which boded well for the State's reputation as a maker of premium wines.

"WA produces 4 per cent of the nation's wine but 20 per cent of its premium wine, that is one of the great things about WA," she said.

Ms Cullen said the Houghton Wisdom was a clear winner in the 2007 chardonnay class this year.

"The 2007 chardonnay class was very strong," she said. "I think Houghton is doing fantastic things with their white wines, and their chardonnays in particular."

The 2008 Qantas Wine Show of Western Australia saw a total of 1,186 entries assessed from 203 producers around WA. 63 gold medals, 112 silver and 416 bronze were awarded, an increase in all areas on the 2007 show. 17 trophies were handed out in total.

Wine enthusiasts will now have an exclusive opportunity to sip and sample all of the trophy-winning wines from the 2008 show, as well as many other gold medal winners, when the Hyatt Regency Perth holds the annual [Qantas Wine Show Top 50 Tasting](#) in its Terrace Ballroom on Wednesday 29 October.

Tickets are \$39 which includes canapés, and are still available on 9225 1220 or by emailing Marketing.Perth@hyatt.com.au. Further details on the 31st Annual Awards Dinner Trophy Winners and the upcoming Top 50 Tasting are available from the website, www.wineshowwa.com.au.

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Trophy Winners Attached.

Images Available.

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2008 TROPHY WINNERS QANTAS WINE SHOW OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

QANTAS AWARD

Best Wine of Show

Houghton Wine Company
2007 Wisdom Chardonnay

AUSTRALIA POST TROPHY

Best Red Wine

Flametree Wines
2007 Margaret River Cabernet Merlot

PORTAVIN TROPHY

Best White Wine

Houghton Wine Company
2007 Wisdom Chardonnay

ANZ CORPORATE BANKING TROPHY

Most Successful Exhibitor Overall

Evans & Tate

SHIRE OF PLANTAGENET TROPHY

Most Successful Exhibitor Processing Under 250 Tonnes Grapes For Own Label

Harewood Estate

LANDMARK TROPHY

Winery With The Highest Aggregate For Their Three Top Pointed Wines

Houghton Wine Company

THE QANTAS WINE SHOW OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, MOUNT BARKER IS ORGANISED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD/ JS GLADSTONES TROPHY

Best and Most Distinctive Regional Character

Houghton Wine Company

2004 Jack Mann Cabernet Sauvignon

Great Southern

IAN TYRER TROPHY

Sponsored by the Great Southern Wine Producers Association

Best Cabernet Sauvignon

Goundrey Wines

2005 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

VINTAGE CELLARS TROPHY

Best Shiraz

Sandalford Wines

2004 Estate Reserve Shiraz

GREAT SOUTHERN REGION MARKETING ASSOCIATION TROPHY

Best Pinot Noir

Old Kent River

2007 Pinot Noir

COSPAK WA / O-I TROPHY

Best Older Dry Red Wine

Houghton Wine Company

2004 Jack Mann Cabernet Sauvignon

NEALE WARNEFORD TROPHY

Best Red Blend

Flametree Wines

2007 Margaret River Cabernet Merlot

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LA VIGNA LIQUOR MERCHANTS, MT LAWLEY TROPHY

Best Fortified Wine

Sandalford Wines

Sandalera Pedro Ximines

WRIGHT FELDHUSEN ARCHITECTS TROPHY

Best Chardonnay

Houghton Wine Company

2007 Wisdom Chardonnay

SILVERLOCK PACKAGING/ O-I GLASS TROPHY

Best 2008 Riesling

Howard Park

2008 Riesling

BUCHER VASLIN / SWAT WINERY SUPPLIES TROPHY

Best White Blend

Karribindi

2008 Semillon Sauvignon Blanc

PAM MCGREGOR TROPHY

Sponsored by Labelmakers Group WA

Best Aged Riesling

Oranje Tractor

2003 Albany Riesling

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