

# BROKENWOOD

AUSTRALIAN CRAFT AT ITS FINEST

9<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Press Release, for immediate distribution

MANY THANKS, P-J!

Brokenwood Wines announced today that, after 12 years at Brokenwood, P-J Charteris is moving to other pastures.

P-J joined Brokenwood in 1999 after several years of experience with Southcorp Wines Pty Ltd. He soon made a considerable contribution to the complexity and quality of Brokenwood's Chardonnays, particularly the 2002 Forest Edge Vineyard Chardonnay from Orange and later the 2007 vintage of that wine which was chosen, in 2009, as *Wine of the Year* at the New South Wales Wine Awards. The Indigo Vineyard (Beechworth) and 'standard' Chardonnays have also showed greater quality from his skills.

The full range of Brokenwood's wines benefited from P-J's touch including, most importantly, Graveyard Shiraz – now rated *Exceptional* in Langton's Classification of Australian Wine - and particularly the 2005 ILR Semillon, which won the Regional White Wine Trophy at the 2011 Decanter World Wine Awards in London. More recently, he has extended his experience to Central Otago, in his homeland New Zealand, with his own *Charteris* Pinot Noir.

While at Brokenwood, P-J's humour and casual demeanour concealed a sharp, analytical palate and serious approach to wine quality. He also brought to Brokenwood a rigour and clear focus on occupational safety in the winery.

In May 2010 P-J's skills were recognized by his peers in the Hunter Valley when he was voted *Winemaker of the Year* at the Hunter Legends & Wine Industry Awards.

P-J's tasting ability has seen him progress to be a valued judge at many Australian wine shows, including his chairmanship of the Barossa Wine Show for the past three years.

Managing Director Iain Riggs said "P-J has made a real contribution to Brokenwood for which we're all grateful. We wish him a resounding success with *Charteris* and all of his endeavours in the future. He's one of Australia's greatest winemakers, so it's great he can put his name and energy into his own brand".

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