

More names for wine legend list

By **MARTIN DINNEEN**

THOSE who bring the Hunter's most delightful drops to the tables of the world were honoured at the Hunter Valley Wine Industry Awards last night.

Christopher Barnes was inducted as a Hunter Valley living legend in recognition of his 40-year involvement with the region's wine industry.

Mr Barnes joins other industry legends Max Drayton, John Tulloch, Perc McGuigan and Brian McGuigan.

Brokenwood Wines winemaker PJ Charteris was named winemaker of the year and young-gun winemaker Matt Burton, of Wandin Valley Estate, was crowned rising star of the year.

Mr Burton was awarded two trophies and eight gold medals in the 2009 Hunter Valley Wine Show, while Mr Charteris has produced the NSW wine of the year and *The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide* wine of the year for 2010.

Brett Keeping, of Two Rivers, a 22-year veteran of the Hunter wine industry, was named viticulturist of the year. Brokenwood Wines was



MATT BURTON

THE WINNERS

■ **2010 Hunter Valley living legend**

Christopher Barnes (AM)

■ **Hunter Valley winemaker of the year**
PJ Charteris, winemaker, Brokenwood Wines

■ **Hunter Valley rising star of the year**
Matt Burton, winemaker, Wandin Valley Estate

■ **Hunter Valley viticulturist of the year**
Brett Keeping, Two Rivers

■ **Hunter Valley cellar door of the year**
Brokenwood Wines

■ **2010 heritage award**
Drayton's Family Wines' "Old Cellar", and Audrey Wilkinson Vineyard's "Old Vats"

named cellar door of the year. Drayton's Family Wines' "Old Cellar" and Audrey Wilkinson Vineyard's "Old Vats" both won the heritage award.



NICE DROP: PJ Charteris accepts his award for Hunter Valley winemaker of the year last night. - Picture by Stuart Quinn