

Hunter wine industry honours best

31 May 2010



Brokenwood Wines winemaker PJ Charteris has been hailed as the Hunter Valley's best.

Charteris has been named 2010 Winemaker of the Year at the annual Hunter Valley Legends and Wine Industry Awards, selected from a field of finalists that also included Neil McGuigan from Australian Vintage Limited and Mark Richardson from Tyrrell's Wines.



The organisers said the award recognises and celebrates the outstanding unique wine styles produced by Charteris who has more than 26 years experience in winemaking and has held many wine judging positions, including Chairman of the Barossa Show and Panel Chair in at least four other major wine shows.

Amongst his accolades are many Gold Medals and Silvers for wines in the 2009,

2010 Sydney, 2009 Adelaide, and 2009 Hunter Wine Shows.

He also produced the NSW Wine of the Year, and Penguin Wine of the Year for 2010. He has been a Wine Technical Committee member for the Hunter Valley Wine Industry Association for the last two years.

Other awards at this year's event included:

2010 Hunter Valley Living Legend—Christopher Barnes

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 Vineyards "Old Vats".