



**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WINE INDUSTRY
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

Newsletter

20 June 2008

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Message from the Chief Executive

Over the next few months SAWIA will be offering regional workshops to help prepare the industry for major changes in industrial relations and workers' compensation, plus Responsible Officer training required by Occupational Health Safety & Welfare legislation. Members are strongly encouraged to attend these seminars, as this information will be vital to ensure your business continues to meet its obligations.

The highly successful launch of the regional branding project last month is being followed by presentations in the regions. These presentations will allow participants to intimately explore the functionality of the website, and identify the value that using the materials will bring to the compelling proposition of a regional sense of place. I encourage each region to take this opportunity to maximise use of the materials for your individual and regional benefit.

With the ink now dry on the Wine Industry Sector Agreement (dealing with climate change and greenhouse gas emissions and more) the real work of implementation begins. The steering committee has already met on two occasions, with recruitment for the project to occur shortly.

Members are encouraged to promptly complete and return the membership subscription forms and member surveys which were recently distributed. The latest member services brochure is available [here](#).

With the start of winter bringing some rain, catchments and flows into our river system remain at record lows. In July the Council of Australian Governments will again meet to deal in part with the ongoing management of the Murray Darling Basin.

Given the importance of water and associated issues, I am pleased to announce that the Hon Karlene Maywald MP, Minister for the River Murray, has agreed to present a keynote address at the association's annual luncheon on 29 August – place the date in your diary now and plan to attend.



Brian Smedley

FEATURE ARTICLES

Vintage Reports – Harvest Above Expectations

2008 Vintage Survey Report



The 2008 vintage has come in above expectations in both size and quality, increasing 31% over the 2007 vintage to an estimated total of 1.83 million tonnes. The vintage estimate, contained in the Winemakers' Federation of Australia (WFA) 2008 Vintage Survey, is almost double some early predictions.

Red grapes accounted for 53% of the total intake in 2008 with a rise of 45% over 2007, while white grapes, representing 47% of the crush, recorded a much smaller volume increase of 18%. Aromatic

varieties continue to increase in popularity, with Pinot Noir intake rising 63% to just over 47,000 tonnes (2.6% of the total crush) and Sauvignon Blanc intake rising 74% to over 66,000 tonnes (3.6% of the total crush).

Overall, quality was assessed as good to excellent in most regions, with some very high quality outcomes.

WFA Chief Executive, Stephen Strachan, highlighted that the production result is testament to the resilience and adaptive nature of growers and wineries in meeting the supply requirements of the domestic and international markets. However, he also noted that the increasing pressures around water shortages, a strong Australian dollar, and a tough international market mean Australia needs to focus on high quality wines. He also indicated that the high production figure raises some concerns regarding the future sustainability of the lower-priced sector of the industry, with some structural changes required.

The full 2008 Vintage Survey Report is [available here](#). For further comment on the vintage report, contact Penny Boothman of WFA on 8222 9255 or penny@wfa.org.au. For further information about wine industry supply and demand issues, contact James March of the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation on 8228 2016 or james.march@wineaustralia.com.

ABARE Wine Grape Production Forecast

Prior to the release of the 2008 Vintage Survey Report, in May 2008 the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) had released a three year winegrape production forecast for the period from 2007/08 to 2009/10.

The ABARE report, commissioned by the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation, called for an increase in wine grape production to 1.67 million tonnes for 2007/08. The ABARE forecast also called for water constrained wine grape production of 1.78 million tonnes for 2008/09, and 2.0 million tonnes in 2009/10 assuming a return to average seasonal conditions.

It appears reasonable to expect that the higher than expected 2007/08 production will impact on the ABARE forecasts going forward. For the full 50-page ABARE report, [click here](#).

State Budget 2008/09

On 5 June the State Government announced its 2008/09 Budget, which includes the following key points for the regions and wine industry:

- § Major investment for the state's arterial road network, Northern Expressway, Sturt Highway and Dukes Highway
- § Funding to provide improvements for rural freight transport - particularly road widening and shoulder sealing, intersection improvements, railway level crossing upgrades and overtaking lanes
- § Expansion of the government's programme of attracting and retaining skilled migrants, with a particular focus on good matches for the skills needed and settlement potential in regional South Australia
- § Funding for implementing Chain of Responsibility laws
- § Expansion of water re-use with a major re-scoping of the Christies Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant
- § Further money allocated to protect and improve the health of the River Murray

- § Funding allocated to assist regional communities recover from the drought - particularly relief from fees (incurred to "top up" water allocations) and levies for irrigators in the River Murray catchment area
- § Rebuilding the Berri Hospital to expand capacity and increase services provided
- § Increases to fees and charges by 3.5%, except compulsory third party premiums which will rise 7.2%
- § The Natural Resource Management Act and Environment Protection Act (1993) to be reviewed in 2008/09.

Important changes to payroll tax

In relation to wages paid or payable on or after 1 July 2008, the Budget also included:

- § An increase in the payroll tax threshold from \$504,000 to \$552,000
- § Payroll tax rate of 5% (a measure announced in the 2007/08 budget and already passed by Parliament).

In relation to wages paid or payable on or after 1 July 2009:

- § A further increase in the payroll tax threshold to \$600,000
- § A reduction in the payroll tax rate from 5.00 per cent to 4.95 per cent.

The legislation required to implement the payroll tax initiatives may not be passed by Parliament prior to 1 July 2008, however RevenueSA will accept payroll tax returns using the increased threshold of \$552,000 for wages paid or payable on or after 1 July 2008. In the event that the legislation is not passed by Parliament, any underpayment of payroll tax will be adjusted as part of the Annual Reconciliation process.

STOP THE PRESS - National Employment Standards to Shape the Future

NB: The following article applies only to constitutional corporations covered by the Federal Industrial Relations system (Workplace Relations Act 1996).

The ten National Employment Standards released on 16 June by the federal government will shape the future of industrial relations in Australia. The final version of the standards was released in time for inclusion in the first wave of awards to be modernised by the Australian Industrial Relations Commission later this year.

In her media release, Workplace Relations Minister Julia Gillard, said the Government would issue a "revised" award modernisation request to the Australian Industrial Relations Commission, attaching the standards to "...assist in its task of modernising awards". The final version of the standards will take effect on 1 January 2010 when Fair Work Australia becomes operational.

The ten standards will apply to all employees in the federal system, regardless of industry, occupation or income, and cover:

- § Maximum weekly hours of work
- § Requests for flexible working arrangements
- § Parental leave and related entitlements
- § Annual leave
- § Personal/carer's leave and compassionate leave
- § Community service leave
- § Long service leavePublic holidays

- § Notice of termination and redundancy pay
- § Fair Work Information Statement.

It is important for all employers to understand the specific requirements of the standards, which will have a far reaching impact on both wine producers and grapegrowers. Employers need to understand and apply concepts such as "reasonable additional hours", and the respective rights of employers and employees with regard to leave, redundancy and a wide range of other matters.

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Members are strongly encouraged to attend the Forward with Fairness seminars (*refer to article below*).

For more information contact Egon Schwidder (8222 9273 or egon@winesa.asn.au) or Sarah Hills (8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au).

Register Now for Important *Forward with Fairness* Seminars!

NB: The following article applies only to constitutional corporations covered by the Federal Industrial Relations system (Workplace Relations Act 1996).

Don't miss this chance to "get your head around" the recent amendments to industrial laws, and the other important changes expected to follow in the near future. SAWIA's regional Forward with Fairness seminars will help you to understand how the changes will impact on your business, and allow you to start planning for the future.

If you don't understand important matters such as the ten new National Employment Standards, the "No Disadvantage Test", what is happening with Awards and the types of agreements that can be used instead of Australian Workplace Agreements, then you need to attend this important seminar!

The new federal Government's Workplace Relations Amendment (Transition to Forward with Fairness) Act 2008 was the first legislative phase of its Forward with Fairness policy platform, taking effect on 28 March 2008. The second phase is being drafted and will introduce substantial amendments to the industrial relations system, likely to become operational from 1 January 2010. This seminar will clarify the changes and provide employers with a roadmap for the new industrial relations landscape.

Seminars are scheduled for the Barossa (23 June), McLaren Vale (25 June), Coonawarra (26 June) and Adelaide (2 July). [Click here](#) to download the seminar registration form, and fax the completed form to 8222 9276.

Members requiring further information or advice should contact Sarah Hills (8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au) or Egon Schwidder (8222 9273 or egon@winesa.asn.au).

Important Changes to Workers' Compensation

NB: This article applies to all South Australian wine industry employers.

On 17 June 2008, the South Australian parliament passed a range of important changes to Workers' Compensation laws, affecting both the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986 and

WorkCover Corporation Act 1994. The changes are far reaching, covering areas such as payments, entitlements, lump sums for non economic loss, dispute resolution and self insurance. There are also a number of important initiatives for employers, including rewards for early reporting.

Employers need to be aware that some changes affect existing claims, while others affect only new claims from 1 July 2008. To further complicate matters, some of the more complex changes will not come into effect until as late as July 2010, with transitional provisions for some of these changes.



To find out the details, register to attend one of the regional seminars SAWIA and its Industry Partner, WCD Workers' Compensation Solutions, will be offering to help members understand and apply the new laws. Put the following dates in your diary: Barossa (11 August), Coonawarra (12 August), McLaren Vale (13 August) and Adelaide (14 August)!

Registration forms, including full details of the seminars, will be sent to members in the near future and will also be available for download from SAWIA's web site. If you have any questions or comments please contact Sarah Hills on 8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au.

SAWIA to Provide Responsible Officer Training

NB: This article applies to all South Australian wine industry employers.

SAWIA is pleased to advise that the association has been approved to provide OHSW Responsible Officer training for the wine industry, with regional sessions to be offered around South Australia.

The responsible officer training, which is of 4 hours duration, covers the duties and the pivotal role of a Responsible Officer under Section 61 of the South Australian Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act.

Attending a course of training is mandatory for all Responsible Officers appointed:

- § before 15 August 2005, by 14 August 2008 unless the person has already attended a course of training delivered by an Approved Training Provider since they were appointed
- § between 15 August 2005 and 14 August 2006 the training was necessary within 12 months of appointment
- § from 15 August 2006 training is necessary within 3 months of appointment.

Non-compliance with the training requirements is an offence under the Act.

SAWIA will be sending further information to members in the near future, including dates and locations of the regional training courses. Registration forms will also be found on the Industry Training page of our website. In the interim, for more information contact Sarah Hills on 8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au.

2008 Wine Industry Salary & Benefits Survey Report Now Available

NB: This article applies to all South Australian employers.



In which state were Sales Managers paid up to 24% more than the rest of the country? What is the average gross base salary for Sales Representatives or Winemakers?

The 2008 Wine Industry Salary & Benefits Survey Report can help you answer these and many other questions. This wine industry specific report includes salary data on a national and state basis for 50 positions involved in winemaking, viticulture, warehouse, sales, accounting, marketing, human resources and administration - typically those positions not covered by any industrial award. In addition to job salary information, the report covers how and when pay is reviewed, salary movement percentages (actual for 2008 and forecast for 2009), pay policy and practices, superannuation benefits, employer provided car practices, "at risk" incentive payments and share schemes.

Many businesses are undertaking performance reviews and salary negotiations in the lead up to the new financial year. With the competition for labour becoming increasingly difficult in many wine regions, the survey will help you to structure remuneration packages that attract and retain employees without paying "above the market".

Order your copy of the 2008 Wine Industry Salary & Benefits Survey Report by [clicking here](#), and faxing the completed order form to 8222 9276.

Irrigators Begin 2008/09 with 2% Opening Water Allocation

Irrigators will begin the 2008-09 water year with a 2% opening allocation and access to 50% of their approved carry-over water volume, in accordance with an announcement by Karlene Maywald (Minister for the River Murray) on 16 June 2008. The opening allocation reflects the extremely serious drought conditions across the Murray-Darling Basin, with only a slight improvement noted in the month of May.

The Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation has completed projections for flows to SA, based on data provided by the Murray-Darling Basin Commission. The projections show that, depending on how water is allocated, there is a:

- § 75% chance allocations will be 32% by the end of 2008/09, the same level as in 2007/08.
- § 50% chance allocations will be higher than 32% by the end of 2008-09.

With respect to carry-over water, the Minister noted that once the final meter readings for 2007-08 are completed, it is anticipated that up to 80% of carry-over water will be available from 1 September.

For more information, refer to the [Drought page](#) of SAWIA's website.

Finlaysons' Wine Roadshow XVI – Getting the Blend Right

FINLAYSONS

Is your small wine business operated as a partnership between two families or branches of the one family? Is it a family company with an external investor? Or are you thinking of taking a private investor into your wine business?

Running a company with 2 or more shareholders is very different to operating a wine business owned solely by your family.

Finlaysons, Australia's specialist wine lawyers, are dedicating this year's Wine Roadshow XVI to focus on operating a small or medium sized wine business, ownership of which is shared. Topics will include:

- § Your legal obligations and getting the structure right
- § Managing the workforce where both family and non-family employees are involved
- § Ensuring appropriate financial disciplines are in place
- § The process of getting an investor in, or of one branch of the family buying the other out.

The three-hour regional seminars will be held in the Barossa (13 August), McLaren Vale (20 August) and Coonawarra (1 September).

To register (\$98 per person plus GST) or obtain more information, contact Patricia Huish of Finlaysons on 8235 7450 or patricia.huish@finlaysons.com.au.

Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize Winner



L-R: Hon Rory McEwen, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Marcia Burnett, SAWIA, Stuart Rusted, winner of the Gramp Hardy Smith Prize, Associate Professor Mike Keller, School of Agriculture Food and Wine. Marcia Burnett congratulates Stuart Rusted.

SAWIA is delighted to announce that Stuart Rusted is the winner of the Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize for the most outstanding student graduating from the University of Adelaide-Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Oenology) or the Bachelor of Agriculture Science (Viticultural Science) in the 2007 academic year.

Stuart was also awarded the David Bradley Memorial Prize (for the graduating student whose personal qualities, enthusiasm and aptitude indicate the promise of an outstanding contribution to the wine industry), the St Hallett's prize, the Hyatt Regency/Advertiser Newspapers award and the RH Martin Memorial Prize for best sensory evaluation. What more can we say other than "Well Done Stuart!"

Stuart has been a wine educator for the last three years with SAWIA's National Wine Education & Training Centre (NWETC). We are delighted to report that Stuart will continue sharing his skills with NWETC participants at a Sensory Evaluation for Grapegrowers course, which Stuart helped to develop, planned for the Barossa this spring.

Please also join us in congratulating Kelly Jane Wellington, the winner of the South Australian Wine Industry Association silver medal for second aggregate Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Oenology) or the Bachelor of Agriculture Science (Viticultural Science). Kelly had very high grades across all of her courses.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS & OHSW

New PAYG Withholding Tax Tables From 1 July 2008

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has issued new withholding tax tables that take effect for payments to employees and other workers from 1 July 2008. For the new financial year, the 40% threshold will increase from \$75,001 to \$80,001, and the 45% threshold will increase from \$150,001 to \$180,001.

The Government has also announced that family tax benefit can no longer be claimed through the tax system from 1 July 2008.

If you have not yet received your copy of the tax tables, phone the ATO on 1300 720 092.

Changes to "Ordinary Time Earnings" Could Increase Superannuation Payments

NB: This article applies to all South Australian wine industry employers.



Superannuation payments will change for certain employees from 1 July 2008. Under Australian superannuation guarantee legislation employers must contribute 9% of an employee's "Ordinary Time Earnings" (OTE) as the minimum contribution – called the Superannuation Guarantee. For most employees, OTE include normal working hours (excluding overtime), shift loading, commissions, most bonuses and casual loadings, however for historical reasons some employees' earning bases (on which their superannuation is calculated) has been different.

For these employees, the earnings bases are contained in awards, industrial agreements, laws of the Commonwealth, States or Territories, or in pre-existing trust deeds or other rules of applicable employer sponsored superannuation schemes. This has resulted in these employees receiving a lower superannuation entitlement than if superannuation was calculated on their OTE. This means that two employees in similar circumstances may receive different Superannuation Guarantee amounts – for example, commissions might be excluded from the Superannuation Guarantee calculation for one employee but included in the calculation for another.

In order to rectify this anomaly, legislation has been amended so that from 1 July 2008 the term OTE will be standardised for all employees. This means that that all employees earning the same amount will now get the same Superannuation Guarantee.

The only definition of OTE that will apply from 1 July 2008 is as follows:

“Ordinary time earnings are simply the salary or wages you pay your employees for ordinary hours of work, not including overtime. It includes over-award payments, shift allowances, commissions, and paid leave up to the maximum contributions base for the quarter.”

There are penalties for employers who don't comply with these changes. Visit the ATO website at www.ato.gov.au/super for more information.

You can call 1300 HOSTPLUS (1300 467 875) or visit <http://www.hostplus.com.au/> for more information or a copy of the latest HOSTPLUS Employer Guide Product Disclosure Statement.

The information contained in this article is general advice only and has been written without taking your personal situation into account. You should consider seeking professional advice before acting on the information provided here. Provided by Host-Plus Pty Limited ABN 79 008 634 704, AFSL No. 244392, RSEL No. L0000093, RSE No. R1000054.

South Australian State Wage Case

NB: The following article applies only to non-constitutional corporations covered by the State Industrial Relations system (Fair Work Act 1994).

Hearings commenced on 17 June with respect to SA Unions' application for the 2008 State Minimum Wage Case, which seeks a \$26 per week increase to adult award wages in all South Australian State Awards (from the current \$522.15 per week to \$548.15 per week) and also to the State's minimum wage (for non-award employees).

SAWIA has been representing wine industry members in this matter, in conjunction with other employer bodies. Apart from arguing for an equitable increase, employer parties principally want parity in terms of the operative date with the Federal wage increase expected sometime in October 2008. The Wine and Spirit Industry (South Australia) Award is one of the first awards in the State system to have its anniversary date for wage increases, falling on 7 July each year.

Once the outcome is known, SAWIA will advise the new rate(s) to those non-constitutional members who have registered for the SAWIA automatic award update service. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Sarah Hills (8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au).

Australian Government Inquiry into Paid Parental Leave

NB: This article applies to all South Australian wine industry employers.

The Australian Government is considering the introduction of a paid parental leave scheme for Australia, which could have a significant impact on wine industry employers. The Government has asked the Productivity Commission, an independent research and advisory body, to inquire into the economic and social costs and benefits of a paid maternity, paternity and parental leave scheme ("paid parental leave"). The Productivity Commission will also identify potential models of paid parental leave that could be adopted in Australia.

In response to an invitation from the Commission, SAWIA consulted with its Employee Relations committee and then prepared and lodged a submission. In broad terms, the industry supports the introduction of a paid parental leave scheme, subject to a range of very important qualifications and

restrictions. In particular, it opposes any prescription that requires employers to fund parental leave. To read SAWIA's submission, visit the Noticeboard of the [Federal IR page](#) of SAWIA's website.

The Commission's final report to the Government is due for release by 28 February 2009.

For further information or advice please contact Egon Schwidder (8222 9273 or egon@winesa.asn.au) or Sarah Hills (8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au).

National Review into Model Occupational Health and Safety Laws

NB: This article applies to all South Australian wine industry employers.

In April 2008, Julia Gillard (federal Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations) appointed an independent advisory panel to review OHS legislation in the State, Territory and Commonwealth jurisdictions, with the objective of developing a model Occupational Health and Safety Act that could be adopted in both federal and state jurisdictions.

The review panel will provide interim reports to the Government in October 2008 and January 2009, before a final recommendation is provided to the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council in September 2009.

SAWIA is reviewing the public Issues Paper that has been released. Following consultation with SAWIA's OHSW committee, the association will make a submission to the review panel on behalf of members.

A full copy of the issues paper can be found on the SAWIA website on the [OHSW home page](#).

If you wish to provide any comments / examples, or just want further information please contact Egon Schwidder (8222 9273 or egon@winesa.asn.au) or Sarah Hills (8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au).

A National Industrial Relations System for Australia?

NB: This article applies to all South Australian wine industry employers.

In late 2007 the New South Wales state government received a report it had commissioned from constitutional expert Professor George Williams, which identified the options available for creation of a national industrial relations system. The report was subsequently passed on to the Rudd Government, and is now being used as the basis for ongoing discussions between the federal and state governments.

The options under consideration are:

- § Full referral of powers to the Commonwealth, consistent with what Victoria did in 1996
- § A text based approach with only certain specified powers agreed for referral to the Commonwealth
- § Implementation of uniform (identical) laws between all States and the Commonwealth
- § Implementation of harmonised laws, which are largely consistent but not identical, between the States and Commonwealth.

Discussions are currently progressing, with most States (including South Australia) giving "in principle" support for a national Industrial Relations system for the private sector. Consultation is taking place with business and union groups, as part of an ongoing process that is expected to lead to a decision around October / November 2008. Draft legislation is then expected to be released by the end of 2008.

SAWIA will keep members informed of developments in this area. In the meantime, members can direct any comments or questions to Egon Schwidder (8222 9273 or egon@winesa.asn.au) or Sarah Hills (8222 9212 or sarah@winesa.asn.au).

EXPORT, PROMOTION & MARKETING

SAWIA Welcomes Export Assist as New Sponsor



The challenges faced by exporters are many and varied, and SAWIA is pleased to welcome Export Assist as a new sponsor focussed on helping the wine industry to overcome some of these challenges.

Export Assist was established earlier this year to assist small to medium exporters with all aspects of export management. Its founder, Darren White, has over 10 years experience working with exporters, shipping lines and freight forwarders. New exporters within the wine industry can benefit from this experience in a practical way, ensuring their initial export sales are a success.

For growing exporters, Export Assist's advisory services can provide an outside perspective to ensure best practice is implemented in your export operations. Jim Moularadellis of Austwine Exports, recently commented that "...Darren has vast experience within the export industry. The services offered by Export Assist are invaluable for wine exporters to ensure the effective management of their exports."

For more information on the services offered by Export Assist, visit <http://www.exportassist.com.au/> or contact Darren White on 0418 885 380 or darren@exportassist.com.au.

Touch & Taste "Down Under" in Prague

Touch & Taste "Down Under" will take place in Prague on 13-14 September 2008. This event follows on from a successful Touch & Taste Australia event organized in Prague in 2006, which included 50 exhibitors, approximately 3,000 visitors and saw the initiation of 11 successful business partnerships.

Both Australian and New Zealand products will be featured at the 2008 exhibition, with an emphasis on wine, food and cosmeceuticals. Visitors will be able to touch, taste and buy displayed products, as well as familiarise themselves with Australian and New Zealand lifestyle and culture.

To register your interest or obtain more information, [click here](#) or contact Petr Vodvarka of Austrade Prague on +420 602 220 474 or petr.vodvarka@austrade.gov.au.

Wine Export Approval Report – May 2008

The Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation (AWBC) has reported that the volume of Australian wine exports declined 9% to 724 million litres in the year ended May 2008. Value declined by 7% to A\$2.8 billion on an average price increase of 3% to A\$3.83 per litre.

The decline in overall volume resulted from reductions in bulk and soft-pack shipments, which were partially offset by an increase in bottled shipments. Bulk shipments declined by 33% (down 76 million litres) and soft-packs by 41% (6 million litres) due primarily to lower exports to the US, China, Germany, New Zealand and the UK. Bottled shipments grew 1% (up 8 million litres), driven by strong value growth to Canada, Denmark, Netherlands and China.

For more information, visit the [AWBC Winefacts website](#).

Exporting to North America - Free Workshop

The Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation's (AWBC) Wine Australia will be running a workshop in Adelaide for wineries currently exporting, or interested in exporting, to Canada and the USA.

The interactive two hour workshop forum has no presentations, and instead invites participants to ask everything they want to know about two of Australia's key export markets. The panel includes a range of people such as Paul Henry (AWBC General Manager - Market Development) and Wine Australia's North American representatives, amongst others.

The workshop is being held Monday 23 June (3 - 5pm) at the National Wine Centre. There will be an informal BYO tasting between 5 - 6 pm with attendees invited to bring a bottle to share. Please note availability is limited and seats will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. [Click here](#) to register.

For more information, contact Leeanne Caldecott of the AWBC on leeanne.caldecott@wineaustralia.com.

2008 South Australian Tourism Awards – Nominations Now Open

Nominations under 27 categories are now being called for the 2008 South Australian Tourism Awards. Nominations close on 11 July and submissions are due by 18 August, with the winners to be announced at a Gala Dinner on 22 November at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

For more information, [click here](#).

Wine Competitions

The Great Australian Red Competition

Tyson Stelzer and Matthew Jukes are inviting entries to The Great Australian Red 2008, a wine competition for blends of Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz with a minimum of 15% of each varietal in the blend. The closing date for entries is 11 July.

Results of The Great Australian Red 2008 will be published in Taste Food & Wine 2009. For full details and an entry form, visit <http://www.thegreataustralianred.com/> or contact Tyson Stelzer on 0402 821 230.

Hyatt Advertiser South Australian Wine of the Year

SAWIA members are invited to enter the Hyatt Advertiser South Australian Wine of the Year competition, now celebrating its 22nd year. The closing date for entries is 11 July, with winners to be announced on 29 August.

For further information contact Mardi Tucker on mardi.tucker@hyatt.com or 8238 2349.

2009 Sydney International Wine Competition

Entries close on 12 September 2008 for the 2009 Sydney International Wine Competition. Entries are limited to 2,000 on a "first come" basis, so interested members are encouraged to act quickly. Awards will be announced on 28 February 2009, with a public exhibition of Top 100 and Blue-Gold award winners on 4 April 2009.

For more information and to enter online visit <http://www.top100wines.com/>.

Interwine China Rescheduled to 27-29 November

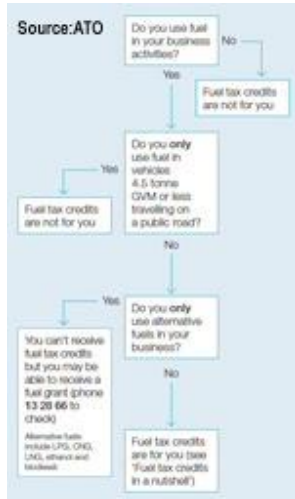
Interwine China has been rescheduled from June to 27-29 November 2008 in Guangzhou due to a request from the China security bureau to hold the event after the Olympics.

Interwine is offering preferential pricing for exhibitors who pay a deposit before 30 June.

For more information, contact Terry Lee on 0086-20-34072597/98/99 or interwine@faircanton.com, or [click here](#). Further information is also available on the SAWIA [Export Events page](#).

OTHER

Many More Businesses Can Now Claim Fuel Tax Credits!



From 1 July 2008 many more businesses will be able to claim fuel tax credits under expanded eligibility criteria.

To date, businesses have been able to claim for fuel used in heavy vehicles (a gross vehicle mass greater than 4.5 tonnes) travelling on a public road, or for specified activities such as primary production or mining.

After 1 July 2008, you can potentially claim fuel tax credits for the diesel and petrol used in a whole range of activities that weren't eligible before, including machinery, plant and equipment (e.g., blower vacuums, tractors and chainsaws) used in activities such as construction, wholesale, retail, property management and landscaping. **The only exceptions are aviation fuels, alternative fuels and fuels used in light vehicles (of 4.5 tonne GVM or less) travelling on a public road.**

Fuel tax credits in a nutshell

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has advised there are three different rates of fuel tax credits depending on the way you use fuel in your business activities:

Activities	Rates as at 1 July 2008
Do you use fuel in heavy vehicles (with a GVM greater than 4.5 tonne) travelling on a public road?	Claim this at 18.51 cents per litre
Do you use fuel in specified activities such as agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining, marine and rail transport, electricity generation and non-fuel uses that have been eligible since 1 July 2006?	Claim this at 38.143 cents per litre
(After 1 July 2008) Do you use fuel in other activities, machinery, plant and equipment, such as a wide range of construction, wholesale, retail, property, management and landscaping activities?	Claim this at 19.0715 cents per litre

For more information, consult your accountant, refer to the ATO's comprehensive guide [Fuel tax credits for business](#) or phone the ATO on 13 28 66.

Oliver's Taranga Win Family Business Award



Please join SAWIA in congratulating Oliver's Taranga Vineyards as winner of the 4th Generation & Beyond Category of the 2008 Family Business Awards (SA Chapter).

The Family Business Awards recognize family business best practice, as well as celebrating the business achievements and contributions to our way of life, economy and culture. As a family owned and run business for 6 generations, Oliver's Taranga Vineyards was deemed an excellent candidate for the 2008 Award.

Oliver's Taranga Vineyards began in 1841, when William and Elizabeth Oliver settled the Taranga property after emigrating from Scotland. The next generations of the Oliver family continued to farm the same 100 Ha of McLaren Vale land, while contributing in many ways to the local community, becoming councillors and intimately involved in various regional sporting clubs.

Oliver's Taranga Vineyards will now go on to represent South Australia at the National Family Business Awards held in Cairns in August 2008. For more information, contact Brioni Oliver on 8323 8498 or brioni@oliverstaranga.com.

New Educators for Wine Courses / Brilliant Wines of South Australia



Jason Barrette



Alex Copper

SAWIA's National Wine Education & Training Centre is delighted to welcome two new wine educators to the team.

Jason Barrette works for Penfolds Magill Estate where he is involved in all aspects of wine production, and works in close association with Chief Winemaker Peter Gago. Jason brings to the NWETC his enthusiasm and international experience hosting dinners and presenting master classes. Jason will also be assisting with program development and regional presentations.

Alex Copper is currently in the final stages of his Bachelor of Agriculture Science (Oenology) degree. Alex, formerly a trained podiatrist, is following his passions for wine, food and education. In between studying and teaching, Alex manages his own vineyard and dabbles in wine production with Peter Kelly, another former NWETC wine educator.

You are invited to join Alex Copper for **Brilliant Wines of South Australia (8 July, 7-9.30 pm)** an evening of fine wine with a focus on varietal and regional characteristics plus food and wine matching. Participants will enjoy 12 delightful wines including Oliver's Taranga Shiraz, Majella Cabernet Sauvignon and Rockford GSM to name just a few. To register (\$55 per person) or obtain further information, contact Paula Overy on 8222 9277 or paula@winesa.asn.au.

[Click here](#) to view the full 2008 wine course program.

2008 Wine Industry Outlook Conference - *Striking a Sustainable Balance*

Striking a sustainable balance is the theme of the 2008 Wine Industry Outlook Conference being held on 13 November 2008 in Sydney. The theme reflects the importance of working towards a future for the industry that is both environmentally and financially sustainable, and balanced in terms of supply and demand.

New to this year's conference is the panel debate session in the afternoon, in which leading representatives of the grape growing, winemaking, finance and environmental fields will be given the opportunity to discuss the optimal size and dynamics of the Australian wine industry from their differing perspectives.

Other sessions throughout the day will investigate such important issues as a macro-economic overview of supply and demand in the sector, and the future challenges for a regional winemaker. The Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation's Lawrie Stanford will also present the annual overview of the wine sector.

Registrations for the 2008 Wine Industry Outlook Conference will open in July. For more information contact Deb Clarke at the Winemakers' Federation of Australia on 8222 9255 or deb@wfa.org.au.

Dates for Your Diary

2008

- § 23 June, [Forward with Fairness](#), Barossa
 - § 23 June, [Exporting to North America Workshop](#), Adelaide
 - § 25 June, [Forward with Fairness](#), McLaren Vale
 - § 26 June, [Forward with Fairness](#), Coonawarra
 - § July, [Cellar Dwellers](#), Coonawarra
 - § 1 July, [Operational Excellence Workshop](#), Adelaide
 - § 11-13 July, [Good Food & Wine Show](#), Perth
 - § 14-17 July, [Sustainable Agriculture](#), Yandina
 - § 11 August, [Workers Compensation Seminars](#), Barossa
 - § 12 August, [Workers Compensation Seminars](#), Coonawarra
 - § 13 August, [Workers Compensation Seminars](#), McLaren Vale
 - § 13 August, Finlaysons' Wine Roadshow XVI, Barossa
 - § 14 August, [Workers Compensation Seminars](#), Adelaide
 - § 14-16 August, [Hong Kong International Wine Expo](#), Hong Kong
 - § 20 August, Finlaysons' Wine Roadshow XVI, McLaren Vale
 - § 29 August, SAWIA AGM and luncheon, Adelaide
 - § 1 September, Finlaysons' Wine Roadshow XVI, Coonawarra
 - § 5-7 November, [Wine & Gourmet ASIA 2008](#), Macau (China)
 - § 7-9 Nov, [Good Food & Wine Show](#), Brisbane
 - § 10-14 November, [Sustainable Agriculture](#), Yandina
 - § 13 November, Wine Industry Outlook Conference, Sydney
 - § 23-28 November, [Symposium on Grapevine Physiology and Biotechnology](#), Adelaide
 - § 27-29 November, [Interwine China 2008](#), Guangzhou (China)
 - § 11-13 December, [India International Wine Fair](#), Mumbai
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