

6 January, 2019

MEDIA RELEASE

Wine Sector mourns the passing of a pioneer

The death of Hazel Murphy AM in the UK on 1 January 2020 was greeted with great sadness from many in the Australian Wine Sector.

Hazel was Chief Executive (Europe) of the Australian Wine Bureau, part of the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation (now Wine Australia) for 17 years from 1985 and oversaw the transformation of Australia from a domestic focused industry to a major wine exporting country.

Hazel's significant contribution to the Australian wine sector was recognised in 1996 when she was made a Member of the Order of Australia and received the Maurice O'Shea Award for outstanding contribution to the Australian wine industry.

For over 17 years, from 1985, Hazel was Chief Executive (Europe) of the Australian Wine Bureau, part of the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation (now Wine Australia).

Australian Grape & Wine Chief Executive Tony Battaglione said, 'Hazel Murphy almost single-handedly put Australian wine on the map in the United Kingdom. Her energy, enthusiasm and persistence was a byword and we will miss her dearly. She was respected by all and was a major part of Australia's wine export success story'.

Robert Hill-Smith expressed it well, when he said 'She was a star and a great friend to many of us who were there at the beginning of good things. She deserves a radiant salute from the whole sector'.

Tony Battaglione went on to say 'I would like to express my sympathy to her family from all her friends in the Australian wine sector'.

- Ends-

Available for Interview: Tony Battaglione, Chief Executive – 0413 014 807 / tony@agw.org.au