

17 November 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

John Hart to take the Chair at Australian Grape and Wine Incorporated

Australian Grape & Wine held its Annual General Meeting last night, where Mr John Hart OAM was appointed as its new Chairman. Mr Hart will succeed Mr Sandy Clark AO, whose term concluded on 16 November 2021.

Mr Hart is the Executive Chair, Australian Chamber – Tourism, Board member of the Australian Business Register, Food Standards Australia and New Zealand, Tourism Australia and The Angus Knight Group. He has served previously as Chair of the Vocational Education and Training Advisory Board, as a member of the Prime Minister’s Business Advisory Council, and as Chair of the Service Industry Skills Council.

When handing over to Hart, Mr Clark said ‘I have greatly enjoyed my time as both President of the preceding Winemakers’ Federation of Australia (WFA), and as Chairman of Australian Grape & Wine following the amalgamation of WFA and Australian Vignerons. It has been a very worthwhile experience and I am pleased to see that such a qualified individual as John Hart is taking the reins’.

Australian Grape & Wine Chief Executive, Tony Battaglione paid tribute to Mr Clark. ‘Sandy has devoted an enormous amount of time to WFA and Australian Grape & Wine. His leadership has been instrumental in ensuring that the Australian Grape and Wine sector is understood and respected by the Australian government’.

Mr Battaglione went on to say ‘I look forward to working with John, and we are delighted he has accepted this role. The current difficult economic climate requires Australian Grape & Wine to advocate strongly, for the sector and I look forward to working with John to promote the sector’s interests’.

In accepting the invitation, Mr Hart expressed his delight at becoming the next Chairman of Australian Grape & Wine noting ‘I am looking forward to working with the Board and the Australian Grape & Wine team on key issues and challenges confronting the industry’.

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

About Australian Grape and Wine Inc

Australian Grape and Wine Inc is the national association of grape and wine producers. We address issues across the supply-chain that impact on the profitability and sustainability of the sector. We lead and advocate public policy that enhances the ability to responsibly produce, promote and enjoy Australian wine in moderation.

Australian Grape & Wine is recognised as a representative organisation for winegrape and wine producers under the Wine Australia Act 2013, and is incorporated under the SA Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We work in partnership with the Australian Government to develop and implement policy that is in the best interests of winegrape growers and winemakers across Australia.