

Marc Allgrove – candidate profile

I am a Director in Evans + Ayers (strategic advisory) and have significant experience in the wine and agriculture industries locally and abroad. Prior to joining Evans + Ayers I was the CEO of McLaren Vale winery Chapel Hill from 2009-2013. Over 25 years within the Australian wine industry with Constellation Wines, its predecessors and Chapel Hill, has developed my expertise with particular focus on strategy development, management, marketing, sales, and exports. I am currently on the boards of Olivers Taranga, Jericho Wines and the David Roche Foundation and I am a former chair and board member of the McLaren Vale Grape Wine and Tourism Association and the South Australian Wine Industry Association executive . In addition I have held seats on the Vinehealth Australia Board, Winemakers Federation of Australia Future Leaders Selection Committee, Fleurieu Art Prize Board, the Art Gallery of South Australia's Contemporary Collectors Committee, Industry Leadership Fund Scholars Committee, Holdfast Assets P/L and the UNESCO Mt Lofty Ranges World Heritage Bid Economic Advisory Group. I advise clients in several leading Australian wine regions, and I am a strong believer that many opportunities persist for the industry to continue to evolve and prosper especially when supported by world class research, comprehensive market knowledge, good governance and insightful strategic thought. I believe in outcomes, collaboration and people, and through my experience and independent voice I would welcome the opportunity to continue to positively contribute to the Australian wine community through a seat on the Australian Wine Research Institute board.



“For over 60 years the AWRI has been Australia’s industry-owned wine research organisation. It is recognized and envied worldwide. As a current AWRI director I believe that in addition to generating world-class research, the AWRI is great story with which to enhance the wider reputation of Australia’s winemaking credentials.

Over recent years, concerted effort from management, staff and the Board has reframed the way the AWRI interacts with industry and funding providers. Stability and continuity are important and with your help, I hope to retain my position for third term of three years.

I’ve been fortunate to experience most facets of the wine industry over 25+ years; student, employee, viticulturist, General Manager, grower, consultant and wine business owner. I believe I possess a valuable mixture of academic, technical and practical wine business experience that could be put to continued use on the AWRI board for the benefit of the organisation and its levy-payers. The industry has invested in me via the Future Leaders program and a Nuffield Scholarship and I ask for your vote of confidence so that I may continue to repay that investment.” Toby Bekkers

Toby Bekkers is a viticulturist, consultant and wine business manager with over 25 years of relevant experience. He holds a Bachelor of Applied Science, Agriculture (Hons.) from the University of Adelaide and a Graduate Certificate in Management from the University of South Australia.

He and his wife, Emmanuelle, own and operate Bekkers Wine and vineyards in McLaren Vale.

Toby is a graduate of the 2009 ‘Future Leaders’ program and is a 2017 Nuffield Farming Scholar.

He has presented at numerous events, including the Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference.

He has served on many industry committees including three terms on the Board (one as Deputy Chair) of the McLaren Vale Grape Wine and Tourism Association. He is currently serving his second term as an AWRI director.

Most importantly he remains directly invested in viticulture and wine; and connected to the wine marketplace.

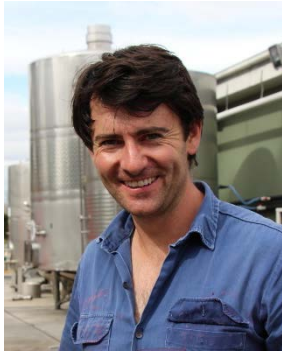
Greg Clack – candidate profile

Greg Clack has over 15 year's experience in the wine industry as a winemaker, winery manager and more recently winery owner as director of Clackers Wine Co Pty Ltd and wine brand XO Wine Co. Greg has worked in both medium and small wineries with a focus on McLaren Vale and the Adelaide Hills wine and from here has great enthusiasm on premium wine production.

Greg is currently employed by Chain of Ponds a small winery in in the Adelaide Hills and has also worked abroad in Burgundy. Greg is also currently chair of the Adelaide Hills Wine Show committee.

Greg's experience in the industry and the various roles has allowed him to develop a broad range of skills ranging from viticulture through to wine production, finance, marketing and business development.

Rory Lane – candidate profile



Rory Lane BA(Dean's Scholars Prog), MWineTechMktg

I am pleased to nominate for a position representing small levy payers on the board of AWRI. I have spent over 15 years in the wine industry with my own small brand The Story Wines, producing high-end Grampians wines for domestic and international markets, and well understand the needs of smaller producers. In that time I have continued to work as a consulting winemaker for several other successful small brands.

I have been involved in many industry committees at a regional level with the Grampians Winemakers Association and as president of the Western Victorian Wine Challenge, and at a state level through Wine Victoria's regional council and Future Leaders program.

In 2013 I was selected by Monash University for their John Bertrand Leadership Series, for outstanding young alumni in their chosen field. I have been a finalist for the Wine Society Young Winemaker of the Year, twice finalist in the Young Gun of Wine Awards (where I was winner of the People's Choice award in 2011), and won numerous show medals and accolades for my wines.

I believe I have the technical expertise and industry experience to add value to the AWRI board and welcome the opportunity to continue to help the organisation deliver greater value to the Australian and global wine industry.

Peter Leske – candidate profile

Peter Leske is a winemaker and vigneron with experience gathered over more than 40 vintages. In that time he has enjoyed roles encompassing all technical aspects of grape and wine production, through hands-on positions in Australia at Mitchelton, Grosset, Nepenthe, La Linea and Revenir; in France at Domaines Dujac, L’Arlot, Alain Graillot, Mayrac and Chateau Lagarde; and in California with E&J Gallo.

As well as making wine for a diverse range of clients at Revenir Winemaking in the Adelaide Hills (including La Linea, in which he is a partner), he is active as a consultant in both winemaking, and business strategy and management, to clients in several viticultural regions. He has a degree in Oenology and a Master in Business Administration. He is an experienced company Director, and a Graduate and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is also involved in several charitable organisations.

He has worked for and with industry bodies including the AWRI and former AWBC, SAWIA, WFA, and Wine Australia, all of which has given him considerable insight into the organisations that support, promote and regulate our industry.

From years of interaction with and involvement in the activities of the Institute, he has extensive knowledge of its role, purpose, and challenges. His experience and skills, primarily gathered in the small/medium sector of our industry, will ensure that he can add further value to the Institute and the industry it serves, through a position on its Board.

Peter Leske

July 2019

David Lowe – candidate profile

Degree in winemaking at Roseworthy class of 1977

Memberships

ASVO, WCCA (life member), AGW, NSW WIA, Adelaide University alumni

Research

ARC Training Centre for innovative wine production, Advisory board and sponsor

Experience

41 years winemaking and 47 vintages

CEO, Grapegrower, Winemaker Lowe Wines 27 years

Ownership winery vineyard and farm at Mudgee NSW 20 years

President NSW WIA 7 years

Chair small winemakers WFA now AGW 4 years

Vice President WFA now AGW 4 years

If elected I can bring a two way exchange between the producers and the researchers. As a winemaker who has invested in research with the AWRI and ARC I have first hand knowledge of where the needs of the industry lay and what are the practical outcomes necessary to stay at the forefront of the Australian wine industry.

My experience at board level with WFA and the statutory authorities has given me insight into how best to achieve a balanced but speedy result. The AWRI extension work is not a popularity contest where results are measured only in financial terms. Those at the fringes deserve an institute that communicates and receives input as well as those with facilities immediately available. My proven ability to work with all the states and regions during my time with other organisations should I be elected will assist in improvement of the AWRI.

Still a practising winemaker and grapegrower I have all round experience in every part of the industry.

Mark Slade – candidate profile

Mark Slade is the CEO and Co-owner/director of Purple Hands Wines, a boutique wine label from the southern Barossa region. Mark and business partner Craig Stansborough started Purple Hands Wines in 2006 and it has grown to achieve red 5 star status with the James Halliday Wine Companion. Purple Hands Wines has grown significantly over the past 10 years and has distribution throughout Australia and exports into China, Hong Kong and the UK. Mark has also worked at Saab Australia for the past 25 years and in recent years in a General Manager and Director role. In this role Mark has successfully developed new lines of business, new products and conducted business across Australia and internationally. Mark has a strong interest and passion for the wine industry with experience in sales, finance, marketing and distribution, and is seeking to broaden his involvement and engagement in the wine industry by joining the AWRI board. With an engineering background, he has a keen interest in how science and innovation can help maintain and enhance Australia's position as a premium grape growing and wine making country as we face the challenges of climate change and other biosecurity threats facing the industry. Mark would bring a broad range of skills and expertise to the AWRI board, with both wine industry knowledge and experience as well as a strong business and governance background.