

# STEPHEN CHAMBERS

Chambers Rosewood Winery,  
Barkly Street, Rutherglen  
Victoria 3685



Having worked in the industry for over 25 years with the last 20 at Chambers Rosewood I have come to appreciate the work the AWRI performs for the industry. Not only in research and seminars, but also the commercial services and help desk. I have an interest in trying to further my knowledge in both the winemaking and viticulture sphere. With this in mind I also want to aid the AWRI and the greater Australian Wine Industry in continuing this work

## Matthew Davis

Bachelors of Engineering (Mechanical), Honours, Monash University



Director/Owner and Vigneron at Steels Gate Wines, Matthew has 15 years leadership and management experience in the wine industry. Matthew is responsible for the viticulture across their two 'blocks' that make up Steels Gate Wine estates and manages all the operations of the their winery.

Under Matthew's leadership, Steels Gate Wines maintains a focus on strengthening environmental sustainability across all facets from vine to final wine production. Both vineyards have been converted to dry-grown with a "minimal intervention" approach being taken, which includes majority organic fungicide spraying and no herbicides or pesticides being used. Matthew's research into alternative measures to combat

undervine weed growth and suppression have led to a transformational change in the way both blocks are maintained. In addition to organic fertilising, green manure crops have been planted to naturally bring essential minerals to their vines.

Outside wine and agriculture operations, Matthew has over 20 years experience in automotive design, engineering and manufacturing, with 11 of those years as an executive with General Motors working in the USA, South Korea and Australia. Matthew has a strong track record as a highly experienced global operations leader, with a demonstrated ability to establish new global functions, downsize/right-size businesses, drive cultural change and lead new innovative global process development and implementation in various corporate environments.

Matthew's current interests include researching into the short and long term economical and environmental impact to the wine industry and provide input and support.



**Paul Hotker**

*BAGSc (Oen)*

Senior Winemaker at Bleasdale Vineyards since 2007; leading a focused winemaking and viticulture team that has won over 200 gold medals and 50 trophies including: The Jimmy Watson Memorial, Max Schubert AM and Dr Gilbert Phillips Memorial Trophies. Over 18 years of wine industry experience in winemaking, viticulture and consultancy around Australia and New Zealand. Professional Member of the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology and graduate of the Professional Management Program (Uni of Adelaide). Len Evans Scholar (2017) and experienced wine show judge and member of Langhorne Creek Wine Show committee. 2018 Halliday Wine Companion Winemaker of the Year and 2018 Gourmet Traveller Winemaker of the Year finalist.

Engaging with the AWRI, particularly through extension programs has benefited both myself and the businesses I represent in my pursuit of growing and crafting world class Australian wines. Innovative research communicated to industry is critical for continuous improvement in wine quality and maintaining relevance to consumers. I am excited by the opportunity to work closer with the AWRI to promote and support its mission and values. With years of leadership experience and diverse wine industry background, I hope to provide additional industry perspective to the AWRI in a rapidly evolving, dynamic and increasingly diverse grape & wine industry.



## **David Lowe**

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 more than ever needs to find a way to communicate to interested grape growers and winemakers. The last 6 months with smoke issues drought and restricted movement of people across states has necessated new forms of communication. I believe this is vital to improve the industry. Many isolated regions can not afford to fall behind so this would be a mission of mine if successful. My experience in working with all the states and regions during my time with other organisations, can help the AWRI.

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

## Dr Mary Retallack

*BAppSc., PGradDip (NRM), BEd., GradDip (Viti), PCert. (Arb), PhD (Viti/PlantProt), CPAg, MAIA, GAICD, ARLF*  
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/maryretallack/>

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As an experienced board director (including a past Director of the Australian Wine Research Institute), agricultural scientist and third-generation viticulturist, Mary brings a wide range of skills and experience from practical, research, R&D investment, teaching, and consultancy roles. These skills have been gathered over the past 25 years along with a PhD in Viticulture and Plant Protection and tertiary qualifications in Conservation and Park Management, Natural Resource Management, Education, Viticulture, and Arbitration.

Mary is the Managing Director of Retallack Viticulture Pty Ltd which offers a broad range of viticultural consulting services throughout Australia and overseas. She is also a Director of Wine Australia (Chair, Remuneration Committee and RD&A Committee member), a Director of the Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia (Audit and Risk Committee member), a member of the International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV) Viticulture Commission, Enviro and Protec groups, Food Agility CRC Strategic Investment Council, AgriFutures™ Australia Rural Women's Award Alumni Advisory Panel, and The Australian and New Zealand Grapegrower and Winemaker Journal Editorial Panel.

Mary's leadership and excellence in science have been acknowledged via AgriFutures™ Australia Rural Women's Award (national winner), as an inductee on Emerald Grain's list of 100 Women in Australian Agribusiness, and the Businesswomen's Hall of Fame, a Women in Innovation finalist, and as an inaugural participant in the National Farmers' Federation inaugural Diversity in Agriculture Leadership program. Mary is an ambassador for PIRSA's Women Influencing Agribusiness and Regions, and Great Wine Capitals Knowledge Exchange initiatives, and is a Stepping into Leadership program mentor.





## **Beck Richardson**

With over 20 years' experience in the wine industry both domestically and internationally I now own and operate Wine Ingenuity, a consulting business that works with wineries on how make the most of their resources from vineyard through to final consumer. Wine Ingenuity was created in 2019 as my next step in a career that had seen me working with businesses such as Pernod Ricard, Treasury Wine Estates, E&J Gallo, Korbel and Irvine Wines. My interest now is working with small to medium businesses to create adaptable solutions with focus on long term sustainability. With an undergraduate degree in Oenology and an MBA, I like to take a holistic approach across the complete business framework.

My passion for research and innovation has led me to interweave a strong R&D focus into my production and executive-level winemaking. My personal highlights include roles as the President of the Californian Enological Research Association, ASEV journal reviewer, Wine Innovation Cluster industry member, Wine Australia/AGW 2020-2050 strategy advisory committee member, and my current role as Chair of the R&D Advisory Committee for Australian Grape & Wine. I believe in research for measurable and deliverable outcomes and particularly understanding how our research models can become more agile to better meet our rapidly evolving environment. I see research as an integral way to future proof our businesses so that we can hand on a vibrant and energised industry to the next generation and I would like to continue to be an active part of making that happen.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rebekah-richardson/>



### **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.

## **Corrina Wright**



Corrina is winemaker and director at the helm of sixth generation family business, Oliver's Taranga, nestled on 300 acres of vines in McLaren Vale. She was most recently awarded the ASVO Winemaker of the Year 2019 for her contribution to the wine community. She graduated from the prestigious Len Evans Tutorial in 2005 and continues to judge and chair numerous wine shows around Australia. Her commitment to the wine industry in Australia was rewarded with a position on the inaugural 'Future Leaders – Succession for the Australian Wine Industry' program in 2006. Passionate about her home, her vocation and local community she has also served on the boards of the McLaren Vale Grape, Wine & Tourism Association, the Australian Society of Viticulture & Oenology, Family Business Australia, and the Winemakers Federation of Australia. She is currently part of the Australian Women in Wine Awards advisory board. She dabbles in writing in her spare time as a regular contributor to Fleurieu Living Magazine, and Grapegrower and Winemaker Magazine.