

Philip Rich, Chairman of Judges



Melbourne born and bred, Philip Rich has more than 20 years' experience as a passionate educator, wine show judge and wine writer. Philip was the founder and a partner in Prince Wine Store (1996 – 2015) and Bellota Wine Bar (2013-2015). Philip has judged at numerous wine shows in Australia and New Zealand, most recently as chair of The Yarra Valley Wine Show and James Halliday Chardonnay Challenge and was founding chair of the MPVA (Mornington Peninsula) Wine Show. Philip is Director of Wine for The Lucas Group in Melbourne, responsible for developing a wine culture within the renowned group, as well as working on new restaurant concepts.

Jim Chatto, Judge



With more than 20 years of winemaking experience, Jim Chatto is McWilliam's Chief Winemaker based at Mount Pleasant in the Hunter Valley, and owner and winemaker of his own label Chatto Wines in Tasmania, with his wife Daisy - where they craft pinot noir from their Isle vineyard in Huon Valley at Glaziers Bay. A Len Evans Tutorial graduate and senior wine show judge with over 18 years of experience across both regional and capital city shows, Jim is currently the Chairman of Judges for the National Wine Show of Australia.

Sarah Crowe, Judge



Sarah is Winemaker and General Manager at Yarra Yering in the Yarra Valley, Victoria. After 12 years winemaking in the Hunter Valley at Brokenwood and Bimbadgen she made the move south in 2013 to satisfy her interest in cool climate wine styles in fitting with international harvests in Oregon and the Rhone Valley. A Len Evans Tutorial scholar and 2017 James Halliday Winemaker of the Year, Sarah is a regular wine show judge and panel chair and in 2018 will take up the position of Chair of Judges at the Hunter Valley Wine Show.