Mark Bourne: Nominee for Elected Director Small Wine Grapes Levy Payers, AWRI Board



I am seeking election to the AWRI Board to support an important institute that has been central to the success of the Australian wine industry, so it continues to deliver practical and measurable value to the wine growers and businesses of Australia.

I bring extensive governance and leadership experience across the Australian wine sector at regional, state and national levels. I am President and Board Chair of the NSW Wine Industry Association, a Board Director of Australian Grape & Wine, and founder of the Southern Highlands Vignerons Association. These roles have keet me close to the realities producers: tight margins, climate pressure, shifting markets and the need for research that translates quickly into practice.

In a previous role at Charles Sturt University I led the Vineyard of the Future program and, as Director of the Global Digital Farm, agricultural technology, data infrastructure, digital agriculture research and industry partnerships, including the Australian Agricultural Data Exchange. This work grounded me in how research is designed, governed, delivered and adopted, and how science and data create real outcomes in vineyards and wineries.

As a Director I would contribute

- an industry perspective on AWRI's research, development and extension priorities
- a sound understanding of the scientific and digital capability the sector requires
- independent judgement and experience in governance, strategy and performance oversight
- a commitment to strong returns on levy payers' investment

I would welcome the opportunity to help AWRI remain the trusted, practical science partner the Australian wine industry needs.

Corrina Wright – Nominee for Elected Director small Wine Grapes Levy Payers, AWRI Board



Having served two terms on the AWRI Board, including as a member of the Personnel Committee, I am seeking re-election to provide continuity and an informed small-winemaker perspective to the Board's strategic direction and priorities.

As a sixth-generation family member at Oliver's Taranga Vineyards in McLaren Vale, I bring a long-term, hands-on understanding of the industry, shaped by more than 180 years of family grape-growing history and the realities of running a small, family-owned vineyard, contract wine facility, branded wine business and tourism-based cellar door. My time on the Board has reinforced the importance of independent, industry-led research and the role AWRI plays in supporting the future of Australian grape and wine production.

Beyond AWRI, my governance experience includes serving as President of the Australian Alternative Varieties Wine Show, on the Australian Grape & Wine Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Charter committee, and on the boards of Australian Women in Wine, Winemakers Federation (now AGW), Family Business Australia and McLaren Vale Grape, Wine & Tourism. Alongside my business experience, these board roles have shown me the value of collaboration, practical knowledge-sharing and delivering meaningful outcomes for producers.

Small winemakers need research and innovation that is technically sound, commercially relevant and accessible to businesses with limited resources. I will continue to bring that perspective, with a knowledge of the business through six years on the board, to help ensure AWRI delivers value across the diversity of Australia's grape and wine community. I am passionate about the future of our wine community and committed to helping it remain resilient, innovative and globally respected.