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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **From Tribulation to Triumph: Kate Goodman Wins Winemaker of the Year**

On this date last year, Kate Goodman was awaiting advice from her oncologist to understand if she was clear of breast cancer; one year on Kate Goodman has been awarded the Australian Women in Wine Awards, Winemaker of the Year.

The head winemaker of Penley Estate in Coonawarra, South Australia and the Owner/Winemaker of Goodman Wines in the Yarra Valley, Kate has established a career across two states making the styles of wine she loves, while also fulfilling her obligations as a mother, partner and survivor of breast cancer.

Kate was presented with the award at Quay Restaurant, Sydney on Friday, 16 November by Garry King of Tonnellerie Saint Martin, sponsor of Australian Women in Wine Awards, at which time Kate was acknowledged for her deftness and agility to create a new generation of Penley Estate wines while simultaneously establishing her own wine company in a few short years.

Kate is a founding member of Yarra Valley Wine Women and her career spans nearly 30 years across familiar wine brands such as Wirra Wirra, Seppelt, Tim Knappstein and Punt Road Wines.

“While gender doesn’t necessarily make you a better winemaker, it is heart-warming to feel the support of other women in the industry and to use this award to encourage young women to achieve what they set out to do in the wine industry,” said Kate.

“It can be a tough industry for anyone. It’s physical and can be dirty work but there is an active and strong community of women who make it easy for us to share, learn and acknowledge the challenges we can face so others find it easier to forge a rewarding career in wine.

“Importantly awards like this also demonstrate anything is possible; it’s not just about being the loudest voice in the room.”

Kate lives in the Yarra Valley with her partner and seven year-old son and chose to start her own wine company when she required more flexibility to juggle her responsibilities as a mother and continue a career she loved.

Goodman Wines became a reality in 2014 and in 2016 Kate’s long time friend Ang Tolley asked her to join the Penley Estate team as their chief winemaker to help them turn the company into a shining new light in Coonawarra.

Ang said, “I knew Kate would bring something special to the Penley brand, owing to her love of cabernet and her desire to push the boundaries. Bec and I are thrilled for Kate in receiving this award.”

Bec was similarly impressed by Kate’s achievement, stating: “This award is well-deserved recognition of Kate’s incredible talents, we are so proud to have her as part of our Penley team.”

Ang and her sister Bec Tolley took the reigns of Penley Estate from their brother Kym in 2015.

As direct descendants of the Penfold family with lifelong ties to the South Australian wine industry they recognised the heart, talent and expertise of Kate to transform their wines into more bright, contemporary and universally attractive wines.

Kate travels fortnightly to Coonawarra during the year and weekly over the harvest period from February to April.

She has worked with their heritage vineyard to create a more fresh and vibrant expression of Penley Estate cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc and shiraz.

Kate’s battle with breast cancer in 2017 was not known to judges for this year’s Australian Women in Wine Awards, yet the award has reassured Kate of her rightful place in the industry and to never take for granted the help and support of her industry colleagues.

ENDS.



**Additional and Background Information:**

Kate Goodman began her career as a bio-medical scientist however the prospect of a life in a laboratory became increasingly less attractive, prompting her to find other ways to apply her love for scientific pursuits.

Kate's winemaking career spans the following roles:

- 1992-93: Cellarhand, Wirra Wirra Wines, McLaren Vale South Australia
- 1993-94: Cellarhand, Tim Knappstein, Clare Valley South Australia
- 1994-2000: Winemaker, Seppelt, Great Western Victoria
- 2001-2014: Chief Winemaker, Punt Road Wines, Coldstream Victoria
- 2014-present day: Owner/Winemaker Goodman Wines, Healesville Victoria
- 2016-present day: Chief Winemaker, Penley Estate, Coonawarra South Australia

Goodman Wines includes both the Goodman Wines label and the Nikkal Wines range. For more information, please go to <http://www.goodmanwines.com>

**Penley Estate**

- The first release of Penley Estate wines produced by Kate Goodman and the winemaking team were extremely well received.
  - 2015 Penley Estate Helios Cabernet Sauvignon received 98 points, James Halliday
  - 2016 Penley Estate Helios Cabernet Sauvignon received 97 points, James Halliday
  - 2016 Penley Estate Eos Cabernet Shiraz received 97 points, Campbell Mattinson and 94 points, Wine Enthusiast
- The Penley Estate Phoenix Cabernet Sauvignon completely turned the US market around for Penley Estate. This was a market which was in steady decline, when suddenly it became an overnight success when the 2015 Phoenix was selected for the Wine Spectator Top 100.
- The US market became more established for Penley Estate, when the 2016 Phoenix was awarded 93 points from Wine Spectator. This led to an order of 5000 cases the next morning.
- In 2017, Kate made a young, juicy, fresh cabernet franc without any oak influence. She made this wine to reflect what Coonawarra is capable of producing, a very different approach to traditional Coonawarra wine styles. We made 200 cases, which sold out in just thee months.
- Kate made the same style of cabernet franc again this year and on release it won a trophy for best alternative red at the Limestone Coast Wine Show.

**Australian Women in Wine Awards**

The Australian Women In Wine Awards acknowledges and rewards the work of women in the Australian wine industry. The awards seek to support and mentor women, to share experiences, to encourage and inspire and highlight, where there is a need for change.

It is the first and only awards platform of its type in the world and is now four years young. The awards arose from the knowledge that the industry is made of of only 8-10% women, yet women make up approximately 50% of all winemaking, viticulture and wine business study graduates in Australia.

You can find out more about the awards, the three other finalists for the Winemaker of the Year 2018 and othe award winners at: <https://womeninwineawards.com.au/>

**Breast Cancer Statistics**

- On average 50 people are diagnosed with breast cancer in Australia every day
- On average eight people die from breast cancer in Australia every day
- Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in Australian women. Breast cancer will account for approximately 28.4% of all new cancers in Australian women in 2018
- You can access more current statistics regarding breast cancer in Australia online at <http://www.bcna.org.au/media/6945/stats-infographic2018.pdf>