

Chair's Report – AGM November 2025

It is my pleasure to present the Chair's Report for the past year. Our Society continues to demonstrate great strength and stability, and I am pleased to report that we remain in a leading position among wine and food societies across the state and beyond. The quality of our functions, the depth of our cellar, and the continued enthusiasm of our members all serve as testament to our reputation for excellence and friendship.

Strength and Standing of the Society

Membership remains strong and engagement across our events has been exceptional. Attendance levels have been consistently high, and feedback shows that our functions continue to meet the highest standards of quality and enjoyment. Our Society is recognised not only for the calibre of its wine and food experiences, but also for the professionalism and friendship that underpin all we do.

Functions and Events

Over the past year, we have conducted a series of outstanding events that have upheld and advanced our traditions. Each occasion — from our Annual Dinner, Luncheons and Christmas Functions — have been thoughtfully planned and executed with precision. The balance of innovation and respect for classical style has been evident in every function, reflecting both the expertise of our committee and the ongoing curiosity of our members.

Recognition and Awards

This year we were delighted to acknowledge outstanding contributions.

- Our *Winery of the Year*, Best's Wines Great Western, was recognised for its commitment to excellence, innovation, and consistency of quality.
- Our *Chef of the Year*, Michael Ng, demonstrated exceptional skill and creativity, providing a memorable dining experience at our September luncheon.
- Our *Apprentice of the Year*, Phyl Randall, whose enthusiasm, emerging skill, and dedication to the craft promise a bright future.

These awards continue our tradition of celebrating and encouraging excellence in wine and food.

Magazine

Our magazine remains an integral part of the Society's identity, documenting our activities with clarity, style, and professionalism. It not only serves as an historical record but also as a reflection of the quality and spirit of our Society. My thanks go to all involved in its production, particularly Robyne Somerville who oversees production and distribution.

Thanks

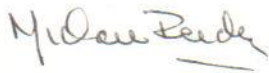
My sincere thanks go to the members of our Committee for their dedication and service throughout the year. Their collective effort ensures that the Society operates efficiently and continues to provide memorable experiences for all members. In particular, thank you to Robert Oliphant, Ian Maguire, Robert John, Michael Ellis and Andrew Mason who spend many unseen hours in ensuring our monthly functions run at such a high standard. Thanks also to the team at Delaware and Elissa Cohen, from the MCC, without whose support we would not be able to deliver great functions.

At the conclusion of today's AGM Ian Maguire retires from Committee having served as Cellar Master, Assistant Secretary and Secretary over a period of 17 years. Ian's contribution has been amazing and we thank him for his contribution to our Society.

Closing

Finally, I extend my gratitude to our members for your continued loyalty, enthusiasm, and support. Your participation and friendship are the foundation of our success. We can look back on the year past with pride on another highly successful period in the Society's history and we can look forward with confidence to the continued prosperity of our Society.

As this is my final year as Chair, I would like to thank members for your support over the past 4 years, I have found it very rewarding contributing to the ongoing growth of our Society. I congratulate David Thwaites on his appointment as Chair, thank him for his support as Deputy Chair, and wish him well in his new role. I look forward to continuing to enjoy Society functions for many years to come.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Reidy", with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Michael Reidy – Chair