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MEDIA RELEASE

Vale Brother John May SJ

It was with much sadness that we heard the news of former Clare Valley winemaker, Brother John May SJ AM, passing away, aged 92.

Largely self-taught, Br John's career began in 1963, when he arrived in the Clare Valley as an assistant winemaker at Sevenhill. He was the last in line of seven Jesuit winemakers in Sevenhill's 158 year history, where winemaking tradition has been passed down from one brother to the next.

Br John spent more than 50 years at the winery, producing red wines which became acclaimed throughout Australia. A well-known and greatly respected figure within Clare Valley, he ran a retreat for Catholic priests at Sevenhill, and when he was not making wine, looking after priests or taking care of his beloved St Aloysius Church, Br John was involved in numerous industry and community groups, including the Clare Valley Winemakers Association.

Br John was inducted into the Clare Valley Hall of Fame in 2014 and was made a Life Member of the Winemakers' Federation of Australia (now Australian Grape and Wine Incorporated) in 2004. He received a member of the Order of Australia in 2016.

Vale Brother John!

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About Australian Grape and Wine Inc

Australian Grape and Wine Inc is the national association of grape and wine producers. We address issues across the supply-chain that impact on the profitability and sustainability of the sector. We lead and advocate public policy that enhances the ability to responsibly produce, promote and enjoy Australian wine in moderation.

Australian Grape & Wine is recognised as a representative organisation for winegrape and wine producers under the Wine Australia Act 2013, and is incorporated under the SA Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We work in partnership with the Australian Government to develop and implement policy that is in the best interests of winegrape growers and winemakers across Australia.