

Winery Candidates

MARLBOROUGH WINEGROWERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL ELECTION 2021



**Josh
Barclay,**

**WHITEHAVEN WINE
COMPANY**

Through my career of environmental management and advocacy I have had the opportunity to undertake wide variety of roles. From ministerial advisory and multisector working groups to research and policy development. My aim was to develop innovative solutions to industry problems, these solutions had to be realistic and achievable for businesses of all sizes while still being ambitious enough to make a real difference. I would then advocate for and support the ongoing development and implementation of these solutions. I was lucky enough to work with governments, universities, and representative organisations from around the world who are facing similar challenges.

In 2019, after 10 years in the big smoke, my wife and I decided it was time to come home and put our skills to good use in the family business, Whitehaven. I love Marlborough and its wine industry and want to see its continued sustainable development and the communication of that message across the world to ensure it gets the recognition it deserves.

The world has changed a lot in the last 18 months, we need to be ready to find innovative solutions to these challenges. I hope that my problem solving, and analytical thinking combined with a unique set of skills and experiences will make a meaningful contribution to this.



**Drew
Ellis,**

**MARLBOROUGH
GRAPE GROWERS
COOPERATIVE**

Originally from Long Island, New York, I arrived in Marlborough in 2003. I have held various roles in both viticulture and winemaking, before taking up an opportunity to work directly with growers in 2007 including working with the Marlborough Grape Growers Cooperative from its inception in 2012. Looking back on 18 years in Marlborough, I've seen the district go through drastic change, and have been at the coal face for most of it. In my current role as Winemaker for the Cooperative, I have daily interactions with several local wineries, shipping and logistics, and international clients. This experience has given me a keen understanding of international markets and their changeable nature, and how this impacts our businesses back here.

From my work I have a good understanding of both grower and winery issues, and it would be a privilege to serve on the Wine Marlborough board in assisting with these.

I'm passionate about Sauvignon Blanc and the Marlborough region. I feel that now more than ever we, as a region, need to work together to protect Marlborough and our place in the world of wine.

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**Beth
Forrest,**

FORREST WINES

I come from a smaller family owned and operated winery here in Marlborough, Forrest Wines, where I currently operate as our General Manager. I studied a BSc at the University of Otago before completing my Masters in Oenology at the University of Adelaide. I am the second generation at Forrest Wines, and I have a passion for making great wines and sustaining the land in which we do this.

I have a true belief that the Marlborough wine industry could be world-leading, but we need to learn how we sustainably grow our industry and protect our premium reputation so that everybody benefits and is still here to tell our story through to the next generation. I would like to remain on the Marlborough Winegrowers Association Board to enthuse and enhance our regional partnerships so that Marlborough wine maintains its status on the global stage.



**Deni
Macdonald,**

BLADEN WINES

I am very proudly a Marlborough girl. I grew up on a wee vineyard on Conders Bend Road that my parents planted, pursuing a dream they shared. As I grew, the vines did too. I watched Marlborough transform from a town that had a few vineyards amongst apple and cherry orchards to the region that is now - creating world class wines and offering world class experiences to match.

After completing my studies at Massey University, I headed overseas, first living in London before basing myself in Dubai, as a freelance photographer. I spent the next 7 years enjoying the very best the Middle East and the world has to offer, working throughout Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain, Singapore and France.

With my return to New Zealand hurried along by the global pandemic I am yet to remove my rose tinted glasses. We truly do have something very special here and I am passionate about presenting Marlborough to the world as the young powerhouse wine growing region it is.

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**James
Macdonald,**

**HUNTER'S WINES
(NZ) LIMITED**

At age four I decided to become a winemaker and have never looked back. Growing up at Hunter's provided me with a diverse range of experiences across viticulture, winemaking, bottling and sales. I am now Senior Winemaker at Hunter's and this year we proudly bottled our 40th vintage of Sauvignon Blanc.

Prior to returning to Marlborough, I worked as a winemaker in Bordeaux and Australia. These roles gave me an appreciation of the vast scale of the global wine industry and the unique position that our region holds.

More recently I have become a director of the Lower Waihopai Irrigation and Dam companies. These positions have taught me a great deal about governance and industry participants working cohesively.

The Marlborough wine industry has already achieved so much. While this success has created unprecedented demand for our products, it has also created a few challenges. I hope that by joining the Wine Marlborough board, I can continue the hard work of others and contribute to the development of a long term, sustainable strategy for collective success.



**Jamie
Marfell,**

**PERNOD RICARD
WINEMAKERS NZ**

Having spent the last three years on the Marlborough Winegrowers Board, I am seeking re-election for another term. This short tenure, and my industry knowledge gives me the experience for positive balanced governance.

I entered the wine industry in 1990 fresh out of University, joining Montana as a trainee Winemaker. I spent a couple of years in Marlborough, followed by twelve years in Auckland at our winery and bottling facility, then returned to Marlborough to start a family. Now with thirty-two vintages behind me, I hold the position of Pernod Ricard Group Winemaker, working in most wine regions in New Zealand.

Throughout this time, I have witnessed an industry that has shown unprecedented growth, in both volume and value. With my experiences in winemaking, understanding of our global markets, and a personal passion for the industry, I want to ensure that Marlborough grows in a sustainable way, ensuring our winemaking community is supported and well informed.

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**Pierre
Vienings,**

**GLOVER FAMILY
VINEYARDS LTD**

I've been involved in winemaking roles for various family-owned wine companies for over 15 years and I'm currently the Winery Operations Manager for The Coterie / Glover Family Vineyards. The Coterie is a small batch, organic, premium contract winemaking facility, with an emphasis on innovation and sustainability.

I have a real passion for working with family-owned business, helping both established and newcomers to our industry build their brands and grow, showcasing the diversity Marlborough has to offer.

I'm proud to be part of the Marlborough wine industry, with what we have achieved in our short winemaking history as well as the world class product we produce and I want to contribute, and get even more involved, to make sure our industry prospers and grows, and that we keep on building on the premium status and diversity of Marlborough wine.

As Covid has highlighted, we will need good governance to overcome any unforeseen challenges ahead and to keep on building on our reputation for world class wine, focusing on developing future industry leaders, as well as growing and making wine in an innovative and sustainable way.



**Veronica
Williams,**

**FRAMINGHAM
WINES**

Veronica Williams is originally from Sweden where she studied Chemistry and Biology. She then moved to Wales for 3 years and in 2003 her family moved to Marlborough, and they haven't looked back!

Veronica started a bachelor's degree in Winemaking and Viticulture at NMIT through Lincoln University. 2007 she did her first vintage at Framingham Wines, where she is still working as a valuable part of the winemaking team. Veronica also spends time in a small vineyard she owns and manages with her husband.

After more than a decade in winemaking, she is hoping to make a difference and give back to the industry she loves being part of. Veronica has supported the Marlborough Wine Show for many years, firstly as a steward and lately as an Associate Judge.

Sustainability is very important, and she will endeavor to support the industry with providing initiatives to help minimize its carbon footprint. With the world changing, it is necessary to explore new avenues to continue to promote and grow Marlborough and its reputation internationally. This is another goal Veronica would strive to help achieve.

Veronica is extremely capable, with fresh ideas and enthusiasm for the industry, she is an ideal candidate for the election to the Marlborough Winegrowers Board.

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Daimen Yvon,

CLOS HENRI LTD

Born and raised in the Loire Valley of France, I have been the

Winemaker and General Manager of Clos Henri for the past 15 years. I feel extremely privileged of the opportunity I have been given to grow my professional and personal life in the Marlborough region. Arriving here, we were quickly adopted by the local wine industry and community. Since then, my wife Muriel and I have met great people who became friends and family and we have been raising our young family in this supportive environment, which we dearly value.

Marlborough is our home.

As a member of the Marlborough Winegrowers Association board, I would immensely value the opportunity to further build on the great work the board and associated staff have achieved over the years.

The size and rapid development of our successful wine region coupled with global uncertainty consistently brings new challenges that we are all wanting to resolve to ensure our respective businesses from vine to wines continue to thrive over a long future. Our industry has also the duty of serving for its local community. The local young work force needs to feel inspired by our industry where they can see clear training and career paths and that working in the wine industry is more than a job; it can be a lifestyle and a passion.

Our Marlborough region has the crucial task of perpetuating the great international reputation of its wines. As a collective, we need to continue defining the long-term vision for Marlborough Wines in the interest of all producers.

Our continued success will also rely on our engagement as Growers and Winemakers to evolve our environmental practices to improve the quality of our soils, plants and preserve the health of our people - our most important assets - to build the great future our region aims for.