

## **PRESS RELEASE:**

### **Martinborough wineries Gold success at prestigious wine show**

New Zealand's most prestigious wine competition, the Air New Zealand Wine Awards has awarded Martinborough wineries Gold, Silver and Bronze medals. In total Martinborough won 30 medals at the show (3 Gold, 6 Silver and 21 Bronze) for wines across 6 different varieties – Sparkling, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot noir, Pinot Gris, and Riesling. A record number of entries were received this year and the judges commented that the overall standard was higher than in previous years.

Gold medals were awarded to Palliser Estate for both their Methode Traditionelle 2001 and their Pinot Noir 2004 and to Craggy Range for their Strugglers Flat Pinot Noir.

“This illustrates the great range of wines that Martinborough can produce. The GOLD medal for the Palliser Pinot noir is a great tribute to Allan Johnson and his winemaking/viticulturist team. 2004 would not be described as an easy vintage” said Richard Riddiford, Managing Director Palliser Estate.

With less than 2% of the national production coming from Martinborough these are great achievements. They highlight the success of this small wine village which concentrates on handcrafted boutique wines. Success across a broad range of the varietals is a special feature of the region.

Gold and Silver Medals awarded to Martinborough:

Three Golds:

- Palliser Estate Methode Traditionelle 2001
- Palliser Estate Pinot Noir 2004
- Strugglers Flat Pinot Noir 2004

Six Silver:

- Palliser Estate Riesling 2005
- Alana Estate Chardonnay 2003
- Alexander Vineyard Pinot Noir 2004
- Burnt Spur Vineyard Pinot Noir 2003
- Margrain Vineyard Home Block Pinot Noir 2004
- Te Hera Estate Pinot Noir 2004