

MEDIA RELEASE

31 October, 2011

Fiesta's Best of Show

The esteemed winners of the 9th Fleurieu Peninsula Olive Awards were announced on Sunday October 30 at a dinner at the Victory Hotel, Sellicks Beach.

Hugo again took out the coveted title of "Best of Show" for its olive oil, while Brian's Gourmet Olives received the equally high accolade for its olives.

Chief Judge of the Fleurieu Peninsula Food Olive Oil Awards Zannie Flanagan, who last year was named as a Member of the Order of Australia for her services to food in SA, said the Fleurieu's olives and olive oils were among the best in the world.

"Our olives and oils are well regarded in the gastronomic international market and are an attractive drawcard for foodies to the region," Zannie said.

"The Mediterranean climate, the rich soil and a passion and heritage with the ancient fruit enables us to grow premium olives and produce sumptuous olive oils which we refer fondly to as our liquid gold," she said.

Last year's trophy winner, Diana, also received a gold medal for its Extra Virgin Olive Oil.

Brian Swanson of Brian's Olives said he is thrilled to receive the Best of Show award for his premium quality olives.

"We were honoured to win this award and are now over the moon at how well our olives are being received in the Fleurieu and across the country," Brian said.

"The Fleurieu is an olive grower's paradise and olives are celebrated across the region as part of our staple diet and permanent fixture on our gourmet tables.

"These awards, acknowledges the Fleurieu Peninsula's contribution to a world-wide food culture that is thousands of years old," he said.

The Punter's Pick gives the people a chance to vote for entries in the Olive Awards. During October visitors to the Willunga and Victor Harbor Farmers Market blind-tasted the four top medal winning oils and rated them in order of preference.

Judges described the winning oil as grassy, green nose gorgeous, complex, long palate, good palate and bouquet. Punters described the oil as – Rich, full flavoured, grassy on the nose and wonderful.

The contest was close but punters at Victor chose Serendipity (early harvest) as their favourite and Hugo was chosen by the Willunga Punters.

Bountiful gourmet hampers, lunches, dinners and other fabulous prizes for the winners were sponsored by Jetty Food Store, Spice Girlz, Victor Harbor Farmers Market, Olive Grower and Processor Magazine, Our Place @ Willunga Hill and Rio Coffee.

For photos or to speak to winners please contact:

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